

HAPPENINGS HERE IN OREGON

PLAN FOR GOOD ROADS.

Linn Supervisors Will Work Together on a Common Plan.

Albany—Pursuant to the call of Judge Palmer, the road supervisors of the county met with the county court, now in session, and the question of general road improvement was discussed in all its phases.

As a result of the meeting a uniform system of road building and improvement was adopted for use all over the county. The grades will be of a uniform width, the gravel covering of uniform depth, etc.

Every district will be given \$75 of this money at the start, provided the district contributes a like sum. In this way it is thought the people of every district will be encouraged to spend some time and money in the improvement of their roads.

SIGNATURES ARE ALL COUNTED.

Local Option Petition Had 8,816 Names Direct Primaries, 8746.

Salem—Secretary of State Dunbar has finished counting the signatures on the initiative petitions and finds that there are 8,816 names on the local option petition and 8,746 on that for the direct primary law.

The secretary of state has officially notified the governor that the petitions have been filed and the governor will issue a proclamation setting forth the substance of the proposed laws and notifying the voters that the measures will be submitted at the June election.

Creamery for La Grande

La Grande—Arrangements have been perfected for a creamery in La Grande, which will be in operation about the middle of March. The machinery has been sent for and a car load will arrive here March 1.

Biggest Spruce on Earth.

Astoria—W. S. Linkhart, of Nehalem City, has discovered what is believed to be the largest spruce tree in the world. The monster tree is located in God's valley, on the south fork of the Nehalem river, about 12 miles from Nehalem City.

Strike Big Ledge of Cinnabar.

Cottage Grove—Three pioneer prospectors of Bohemia, Ed Jenks, Ben Curry and George Kerns, while out from Bohemia for a vacation, heard of a large ledge of some character up Mosby creek, some five miles east of here.

Wood is No Cheaper.

Pendleton—Notwithstanding that there is a good supply of wood on hand, prices remain the same as they were when the cry went up last fall that there would be a scarcity.

Coming Events.

Oregon Christian Endeavor convention, Pendleton, February 19-22. College oratorical contest, Pacific university, Forest Grove, March 13. Dog show, Portland, April 26-23. State convention, Knights of the Maccabees, Portland, March 22.

CATTLE STARVING ON RANGES.

Forehanded Ranchers Alone are Saving Stock by Dry Feed.

Eugene—Stockraisers in this county are beginning to realize that winter feeding is necessary even in an unusually mild winter like the present. This month and next are the months when the greatest losses occur on the ranges, and from all reports the losses will be almost as great this winter as in those winters when we have had snow and freezing weather.

Until a few weeks past cattle have been getting along fairly well without dry feed, but now feeding is general, except in cases where the farmers have no reserve supply, and in such cases stock is being lost.

Enter Large Body of Base Ore.

Cottage Grove—The Veuvius mining company, of Bohemia, reports that an immense body of ore has just been entered in the lower working tunnel.

Big Nuggets are Common.

Grants Pass—The Grants Pass banking and trust company received this week from the Oscar creek mines a handsome bunch of nuggets, the largest of which weighs nearly 40.

Look to the Rogue River.

Jacksonville—Indications are that the year 1904 will witness the largest immigration ever known to the Rogue river valley. More immigrants have come in this winter than in usual for the time of the year and houses are in demand in every town in the valley.

Cattle Deal at Pendleton.

Pendleton—Max Jackson, a prominent cattle man of North Yakima, has just closed a deal with Receiver Taylor for C. B. Wade's cattle aggregating nearly 700.

PORTLAND MARKETS.

Wheat—Walla Walla, 75c; bluestem, 80c; valley, 79c-80c. Barley—Feed, \$20 per ton; brewing, \$20-20.50; rolled, \$21. Flour—Valley, \$3.75-3.85 per barrel; hard wheat straight, \$3.90-4.10; clears, \$3.55-3.75; hard wheat patents, \$4.20-4.50; graham, \$3.75; whole wheat, \$4; rye flour, \$4.50-4.75.

Butter—Sweet cream butter, 32 1/2c per pound; fancy creamery, 30c; choice creamery, 25-27 1/2c; dairy, 20-22 1/2c; store, 12-14c. Butter Fat—Sweet cream, 31c; sour cream, 29c.

FIRE IN CHECK.

After Thirty-Two Hours' Fighting Baltimore Believes Worst is Over.

Baltimore, Feb. 8.—When darkness fell tonight, the people of this stricken city knew the worst was over. The flames which for 32 hours had swept resistlessly through the heart of the city were checked. An army of firemen from many cities, working unweariedly, and aided by a muddy little stream, finally conquered.

Worn by a night and day of terror, the great crowds that watched the ruin of their city turned homeward, and at midnight the streets were deserted, save for the police and military, who guarded the burned area.

To the south, a red glow rises and falls, marking 140 acres of devastation, 75 squares of property that yesterday represented values to the extent of \$75,000,000 to \$125,000,000.

Not a single life has been lost, and not a human being has even been dangerously injured. The hospital lists consist of minor burns, with the exception of Jacob Hignit, a fireman from York, Pa.

There has been little or no excitement, and there has been no hysteria. There has been no looting or attempt at looting. Baltimore tonight is as orderly as a village, and only the throb of the laboring fire engines and the boom of dynamite, as it brings dangerous walls to the ground, disturbs the quiet.

WHEN FRANCE WILL BE CALLED.

Russia Must Be Attacked, and By Two Powers.

Paris, Feb. 10.—Officials have carefully considered just how far France is likely to become involved under the terms of the Franco-Russian alliance, which they say contains two distinct safeguards limiting French participation.

The requirement that Russia be attacked has been one of the chief causes for Russia's temporizing, as she has not wished to sacrifice the chances of French support. Officials here, however, have believed and hoped that Russia would strike the first decisive blow, as such action would in a measure relieve France from participating in a profligate war.

Concerning the condition in the alliance providing that two powers must attack Russia before France becomes involved, M. Delcasse has distinctly stated to members of the diplomatic corps that Core and China would not be considered such powers if either joined Japan against Russia.

SENATE MAY VOTE ON TREATY.

Some Fix the Day of Decision as Friday or Saturday.

Washington, Feb. 10.—The senate will proceed this week with the Panama canal treaty, both in open and executive sessions, and there are not a few senators who express the opinion that the week may see a vote on the treaty.

Senators Hopkins and Clayton will speak in favor of the treaty. The diplomatic and consular appropriation bill will be reported from the committee and taken up at the first convenient opportunity, when interference with the canal treaty will not result therefrom.

Great Sum for Irrigation.

Washington, Feb. 10.—The secretary of the interior has approved the setting aside of \$2,250,000 of the reclamation fund for the irrigation project on the north side of the Shoshone river, in the Big Horn basin, of Wyoming, provided that satisfactory rights to land and water can be secured.

New Custom-House Must Be Rebuilt.

Baltimore, Feb. 10.—As a result of an examination of the new custom house building, it is almost certain that the entire structure must be torn down and rebuilt. Nearly \$350,000 worth of work has been done on the building. The vaults have been found in good condition in several banks, where examinations were made.

To Report Naval Appropriation Bill.

Washington, Feb. 10.—Mr. Foss, chairman of the naval affairs committee, will report the naval appropriation bill in the house this week, and probably call it up for action late in the week.

WAR HAS BEGUN

JAPAN ATTACKS RUSSIAN SQUADRON AT PORT ARTHUR.

Two Battleships and a Cruiser Badly Damaged—Mikado's Forces Escaped Unharmed—Several Russian Merchantsmen Also Seized—Both Nations Sending Troops to Corea.

Berlin, Feb. 9.—A special telegram from St. Petersburg says three Russian ships at Port Arthur were severely damaged last night by torpedoes discharged from Japanese torpedo boats while the latter were passing the harbor.

Martial Law Proclaimed.

Port Arthur, Feb. 9.—In consequence of the attack by the Japanese torpedo boats, martial law has been proclaimed here.

Japan Seizes Russian Ships.

London, Feb. 9.—In a dispatch dated Nagasaki, February 6, and which was delayed by the censor, a correspondent of the Daily Telegraph asserts that Russia deliberately precipitated the crisis by secretly dispatching, a few days ago from Port Arthur, transports loaded with a full division of troops and escorted by a fleet and landing them near the Yalu river, thus occupying Northern Corea.

Japanese patience became exhausted, and today Japan moved her ships and took unresisted possession of certain merchant vessels, including the Shikha and Manchuria, the correspondent continues.

Two other Russian vessels were seized and escorted to Saseho, Japan. The Daily Telegraph says it supposes the foregoing seizures occurred at Masampo, but that the censor suppressed the location.

A special dispatch says a strong fleet of Japanese warships, reported to be on the way to Chemulpo, has seized several Russian trading vessels.

In a dispatch from Tokio, a correspondent of the Daily Mail says the Jiji Shimpo has received a telegram from Fusan, Corea, declaring that the firing of guns was heard to the east of Koje island.

FAIR BILL PASSES.

Senate Votes to Extend Aid to Lewis and Clark Exposition.

Washington, Feb. 9.—Without a dissenting vote the Lewis and Clark exposition bill passed the senate at 5:30 yesterday afternoon, carrying an aggregate appropriation of \$1,775,000. Section 16 of the bill, providing for the construction of a memorial building was stricken out; the number of national commissioners was reduced from seven to three; an amendment was attached absolutely closing the exposition and grounds on Sunday, and the franking privilege denied to the national and state commissions.

The Lewis and Clark bill came up unexpectedly at 3:15. The attendance at this time was slight, but as the debate proceeded, senators returned to the chamber, until, at the time the bill was passed, there was a fair average attendance. Twice during the afternoon it looked as if the bill would have to go over until some future time.

Later Senator Allison became critical of the phraseology of the bill, and but for the intervention of Senator Fulton would have forced the senate to adjourn without taking action on the bill. The committee amendments were mostly adopted without discussion, but the last committee amendment, relating to Sunday closing, provoked a protracted debate, and in the end resulted in the adoption of an amendment offered by Senator Platt, of Connecticut, closing both buildings and grounds on Sundays.

Japan Cuts Cable to Corea.

Paris, Feb. 9.—The French foreign office was advised this afternoon that the Japanese have cut the cable connecting Japan and Corea. The object of this action is believed to prevent news of the operations of the Japanese reaching the Russians, which was possible, no matter how closely censored the dispatches sent might be.

Russia Would Still Parley.

London, Feb. 9.—A dispatch to Renter's telegram company from St. Petersburg says: An authoritative statement from a Russian source regarding the contents of the Russian reply is as follows: "If the Japanese government is animated by the same pacific sentiments as the Russian government, there is reason to hope that it will give Russia's fresh proposals such favorable reception as to permit mutual accord being finally reached."

Executive Ability Counted.

Washington, Feb. 10.—It is said at the war department that Cameron Forbes, of Boston, who has been tendered the position of Philippine commissioner, was selected principally because of his executive ability and technical knowledge of engineering matters.

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State of Oregon. Governor: Geo. E. Chamberlain; Secretary of State: F. L. Dunbar; Treasurer: C. B. Morris; Attorney-General: A. M. Crawford; Supt. of Public Instruction: J. H. Ackerman; Printer: R. Whitney; Supreme Judges: F. A. Moore, C. E. Swerton; Clerk Board School Land Commission: Mart Chamberlain; Game Warden: Alpha Quimby; Fish Commissioner: F. C. Reid; Astoria Veterinary Surgeon: Wm. McLean, Portland.

Sixth Judicial District. Circuit Judge: W. R. Ellis; Prosecuting Attorney: T. G. Halliey.

Morrow County Officials. Joint Senator: Walter Pierce; Representatives: G. W. Phelps, County Judge: A. G. Bartholomew; County Commissioners: E. M. Griffin, E. C. Ashbaugh, Vester Crawford; County Clerk: E. M. Shuts; County Sheriff: M. Liechtenal; County Assessor: W. L. Baling; County Surveyor: J. Kethley; County School Superintendent: Jay W. Shipley; County Coroner: Dr. Kistner; Stock Inspector: S. C. Kirk.

Heppner Town Officers. Mayor: Frank Gilliam; J. J. Roberts; Geo. Noble; E. W. Rhea; Phil Cohn; Councilmen: Tom Quaid, G. E. Farnsworth; Recorder: J. F. Williams; Treasurer: L. W. Briggs; Marshal: D. C. Gurdane.

Heppner School District. Directors: T. J. Matlock, E. M. Shutt, J. M. Hagar; Clerk: L. W. Briggs.

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