

EVENTS OF THE DAY

Comprehensive Review of the Important Happenings of the Past Week, Presented in Condensed Form, Most Likely to Prove Interesting.

Officers have a bandit rifle for a clew in search for Oregon express robbers.

Japan will face big odds on the Yalu river as the Russian force is the largest.

Russians believe that the Chinese of Manchuria are secretly aiding the Japanese.

Wichita, Kan., women show their disapproval of Smoot by hanging him in effigy.

Circulation of counterfeit Japanese money in Corea is causing great annoyance.

Japan expects a long war and urges all her citizens to come to the defense of the country.

Russia will let China make protests, if any are made, against the British advance in Thibet.

The Santa Fe is building stockades around the Topeka shops preparatory for the expected strike.

Kouropatkin is willing that the Japanese shall win a few victories in the hope of luring them on to Harbin.

Secretary Hitchcock has assured Oregon entrymen that filings made in good faith will stand, even if the timber and stone act is repealed.

Japan has finally allowed war correspondents to proceed to the front.

The house has voted down the senate amendment to build a military road in Alaska.

St. Marys, Ohio, reservoir, one of the largest in the world, is in danger of breaking.

Odesa gave a warm welcome to the Russian survivors of the battle of Chemulpo.

Russians captured a Japanese steamer, seized maps, telegrams, etc., and then sunk her.

Semi-official advices give the number of Russian troops in the Far East as nearly 200,000.

Russia is too busy with Japan to follow or make any objection to British advance in Thibet.

Another attempt has been made on the life of Pope Pius, this time by two men disguised as clergy.

It is reported that Japan after bombarding Vladivostok, dropped a number of floating mines in that vicinity.

The three bandits who held up the Oregon express and killed a messenger got no loot from the wrecked express car.

Rains make the flood situation in Indiana more grave.

French court decides the Panama canal case against Colombia.

The Botkin murder trial has been resumed with the cry alleged to have been bribed.

William J. Bryan has been decided against in contest for \$50,000 in the Bennett will contest.

Plans of the Jamestown exposition prove an obstacle in the passage of the Lewis and Clark fair bill.

Senator Clark, of Wyoming, says land ring boasts of spending money to secure repeal of present laws.

F. A. Henze and superintendents of his mines have paid fines of \$20,000 for contempt of court in Montana.

The Oregon express was held up at Copley, Cal., and Express Messenger O'Neill killed. The treasure box was carried away.

Bell, of California, created a sensation in the house by declaring that veterans in the soldiers' homes in his state are robbed by the canteen system.

Russia is found, technically, to have fired the first shot of the war.

John Mitchell will come to Colorado to conduct the miners strike.

The Lewis and Clark exposition bill received a setback in the house.

It is estimated that the damage from floods in Michigan will reach \$6,000,000.

Admiral Makaroff is expected to resume the offensive at the first opportunity.

Foreigners believe martial law at Niu Chwang will cause all save the French to vacate.

The Servian government will remove from office all who were implicated in the assassination of the late king and queen.

Many towns in Indiana along the tributaries of the Ohio and Wabash rivers are still suffering from the floods.

The Cunard Steamship company's report for 1902 shows a profit of \$1,359,630.

Ten deaths are reported as a result of the storms in Northwestern Arkansas.

Colorado militia has thrown three miners and two business men in the bullpen.

French deputies have passed the bill to suppress teaching by religious orders.

NOW WAIT ON IDAHO.

Engineers Are Ready to Report on Great Irrigation Project.

Washington, April 5.—The Boise-Payette irrigation project in Idaho has reached the stage where, having received the endorsement of the engineers of the reclamation service, it is ready to be reported to the secretary of the interior for his approval, as soon as the state land board has designated what disposition it will make of the 60,000 acres of land belonging to the state and lying under this project.

It is doubtful if the secretary of the interior will pass on this project until a clear and explicit statement has been received from the state authorities as to the policy which will be followed by them in disposing of these lands. Under the provisions of the reclamation law of June 17, 1902, the right to use water of lands in private ownership cannot be sold for a tract exceeding 160 acres to any one landowner, and such landowner must be an actual bona fide resident on such land, or occupant thereof residing in the neighborhood. It is within the discretion of the secretary to set the limit of area for each homestead, which limit shall represent the acreage which, in his opinion, may reasonably be required for the support of a family. Under the terms of this law the farm area under the Boise-Payette project will probably be set at 40 to 80 acres, according to the locality and character of the soil.

GOVERNMENT AID ONLY HOPE.

Taft Says Philippines Cannot Get Necessary Railroads Without It.

Washington, April 5.—Secretary of War Taft was before the senate committee on the Philippines today to go over the Lodge and Cooper bills for the amendment of the act providing for the civil government in the Philippines. Great interest was manifested in the section providing for aid in railroad building by authorizing the Philippine government to guarantee an income of not exceeding 5 per cent on capital invested in the construction and equipment of such roads. Referring to the sections of the bill providing for the government building of railroads in the event willing capital was not found to undertake the projects, Secretary Taft said that he did not favor government ownership of the system, but he had offered it as an alternative, after having investigated thoroughly the experiences of the British government in India and the Dutch government in its colonies.

Senator Burrows inquired if it were not possible to interest capital in railroad building in the Philippines without government aid. Secretary Taft said he believed a few links of a system might be constructed, but not the general railroad building needed for the progress of the islands.

TAKING ADVANTAGE OF WAR.

Diplomats Confident Britain Is Moving Because Russia Is Busy.

Paris, April 5.—The British advance on Thibet is attracting widespread attention, the general view being that it is due mainly to Russia's preoccupation in the Far East. Government officials are inclined to share this opinion. An ambassador said today: "It is manifest that Russia's hands being tied gives Great Britain an opportunity to advance in Thibet. As part of the same diplomacy, Great Britain is re-establishing friendly relations with France, thus neutralizing any French opposition to the Thibetan program."

In this connection the ambassador related a conversation with Foreign Minister Delcasse regarding the Fashoda incident. It was pointed out during this conversation that if the incident had occurred while Great Britain's hands had been tied by the Boer war, the future of Central Africa would have been entirely different. It was the conclusion of those taking part in the conversation that the time to settle minor scores was due to the preoccupation of your adversary elsewhere, and it is the diplomatic view that Great Britain is now adopting that principal and advancing in Thibet while Russia is elsewhere engaged.

100,000 Men Have Crossed the Lake.

Berlin, April 5.—One hundred thousand men and 6,000 horses, besides considerable artillery, have crossed Lake Baikal since the outbreak of the war, according to the Tageblatt's military expert. Writing from Lake Baikal under date of March 19, he says that he found that the authorities had done everything imaginable for the comfort of the soldiers on the railway and the lake, and that the railway equipment was admirable. All the bridges are steel, with stone abutments and are carefully guarded.

Damage Will Be \$2,000,000.

Cincinnati, April 5.—Floods in Northwestern and Central Ohio today broke all previous records, but dispatches indicate that the waters are receding, especially along the Miami valley. The damage from Findlay south through Troy and other points as far as Hamilton is estimated at \$2,000,000. Four lives have been lost. Twenty towns are without natural gas. Several cities are without power or waterworks.

Working Hard to Get Fleet Ready.

Paris, April 5.—According to a St. Petersburg correspondent of the Echo de Paris, work is carried on night and day at Cronstadt in order to prepare a fleet to leave there at the end of July or the beginning of August for a war port in the Far East, which is expected to be free from ice in three weeks.

TIME IS PRECIOUS

TAWNEY MAKES PLANS TO TEST 1905 FAIR BILL.

Will Try to Bring Matter Up Under Suspension of Rules—House Leaders Hesitate About Granting a Special Rule and the Session Is Drawing to a Close.

Washington, April 4.—The leaders of the house hesitate to invoke the power of a special rule to secure consideration of the Lewis and Clark exposition bill, if it can be avoided, and Chairman Tawney has decided to try to bring the measure up under suspension of rules. He will call the bill up today, unless the Oregon men do not deem the time opportune. Those in charge of the bill believe it will be better to find out just what strength the bill has in the house, and this will be shown on a suspension vote, even if two-thirds of the members of the house necessary to suspend the rules do not vote for the measure. The time is drawing so near the end of the session that further delay may be dangerous.

WINS CANAL CASE.

Panama Company Has Perfect Right to Sell Its Property.

Paris, April 4.—The first civil tribunal of the Seine today decided the case of the Republic of Colombia against the Panama Canal company in favor of the defendants. The decision holds that the complaint of Colombia is not receivable, and condemns the plaintiffs to pay the costs of the action. This decision has the effect of removing the legal obstacles in the way of the transfer of the canal concession from the company to the United States.

The decision is a long document, fully reviewing all circumstances of the commission and reviewing the articles of the treaty, etc., principally articles 20, 21 and 22 of the treaty of March 20, 1888, whereby the company acquired its rights.

"These rights," the decision says, "have the manifest purpose of assuring the full exercise of sovereignty over the canal. It results from what is established before this tribunal that Colombia is not in possession of the territory traversed by the canal. By coming before the French court in order to obtain its rights over the canal, Colombia tacitly admits its inability to itself control the canal. It therefore follows naturally that it has lost sovereignty over the territory traversed by the canal. It also appears that this sovereignty is maintained by the new republic of Panama, which is in actual possession of the authority and power and administration and its policing. Under such circumstances it only remains for the Panama company to accept the actual situation of authority and the facts relative to the territory embraced by the concession. Therefore the action commenced by Colombia is not receivable."

Although no formal notice of appeal was given, it was stated at the close of the court that Colombia and Bonaparte Wyse, the original concessionaire, would appeal. It is said that an appeal will not cause delay, since today's decision is held to confirm the company's full right to transfer to the United States.

AMERICA WILL RESPECT IT.

Consul Miller Gives Notice Regarding Martial Law at Niu Chwang.

Niu Chwang, April 4.—United States Consul Miller today informed the citizens of his nationality of the United States' acquiescence in the proclamation of martial law by the Russian authorities here. The United States gunboat Helena will leave Niu Chwang tomorrow. The British gunboat Epsiegle is awaiting additional instructions.

Russian authority has been established here without friction. There is no apparent alarm, although movable property is being partly removed. It is understood that immediately after the 11 ships now here are loaded, the port and river will be closed, as the work of providing for a system of defense at Niu Chwang is progressing.

Nation Wins Point in Land Frauds.

San Francisco, April 4.—The government won its second important point in the technical battle over the alleged land fraud case today, when Commissioner Heacock denied the motion of the defendants, F. A. Hyde and Henry P. Dimond to dismiss the complaint and discharge them. Commissioner Heacock is deciding against the contention of the defendants, said that the certified copy of the indictment established a prima facie case against Hyde and Dimond and that the competency of the Washington court had been proven.

Factory Girls are Killed.

Seranton, Pa., April 4.—Six persons were killed and five fatally injured by an explosion in the factory of the Dickson Squib company, at Priesburg, near here, today. Twenty girls were employed in the factory. What caused the explosion is not known, but it is said that one of the girls threw a squib into the stove and that the force of the explosion was so great that it wrecked the building and set fire to it. The squibs are used in coal mining.

Draft of River and Harbor Bill.

Washington, April 4.—The house committee on rivers and harbors today completed its draft of an appropriation bill carrying approximately \$3,000,000 to continue existing contracts for river and harbor work.

BRIBES STOP TRIAL.

Botkin Jurors Approached to Clear the Alleged Prisoner.

San Francisco, April 2.—The second trial of Mrs. Cordelia Botkin on the charge of having caused the death of Mrs. J. P. Dunning by means of poisoned candy virtually ended in a sensational manner late this afternoon.

Acting upon information that four jurors had been bribed to favor the prisoner, Judge Cook ordered the jury into the custody of the sheriff until tomorrow morning, when he will formally dismiss the jury and begin the impelling of a new one. It is alleged that besides four jurors who are said to have been influenced, an attempt was made to bribe the fifth one.

When the denouement came in court today, Mrs. Botkin's attorney made a passionate speech, disclaiming that Mrs. Botkin or any one connected with her case was implicated. He also said that he would not continue with the present jury. The state's attorney concurred in a motion to discharge the jury. A brief investigation was held by Judge Cook after the jury left the room.

Chief of Police Wittman testified that one of the jurors had followed him to his office after the noon adjournment yesterday and said that on the previous evening a strange man had called upon him and said:

"We have secured four jurors for the defense and want a fifth; we will give you \$50." The juror told the chief that he turned down the offer, asserting:

"I am no such dirty man. I would not take \$50 or \$50,000." Continuing, the chief of police said that when the juror left the court room yesterday afternoon he was shadowed by a detective, who saw him secretly meet a woman with whom he talked for several minutes.

Judge Cook declared that the man had violated his duty in talking with anybody about the case.

TERMS AMERICA MUTUAL FOB.

Lending Russian Paper Now Urges an Alliance With Britain.

St. Petersburg, April 2.—The Novoe Vremya today executed a faceabout, strongly supporting the idea of a Russo-British understanding in an editorial entitled "The Blindness of England," in which the paper argues that the success of the Japanese would be more injurious to Great Britain than any other European nation, and points to the United States as the common rival of both. It describes Japan as "America's sharpshooter," and says:

"Remember that nation, in the person of the commander of one of its men-of-war at Chemulpo, refused to join in the collective protest of the other foreign commanders before the Japanese destroyed the Varig and Korietz. "Remember whose flag alone among all did not take on board the crews of our perishing ships. To the honor of England, the ally of Japan, it was not her representative, but the commander of an American ship.

"The Americans wish to convert the Pacific into an American Mediterranean. Would that be to the advantage of England? Does England not understand in her blind policy and hatred toward Russia that she is turning this ocean into an American Mediterranean? Sooner or later the European countries will recognize that America is their mutual enemy. Why should not Russia and England, in view of their possessions outside of Europe, combine?"

Mine in River.

Niu Chwang, April 2.—The Russians have improvised mines and anchored cables across the Liao river. This is expected to prevent the Japanese from coming up the river past Yinkow. The Russian officials here are disappointed at the news received of the engagement between the Japanese and Russians in the vicinity of the Yalu river. Trustworthy details, however, are still unattainable.

Mine Exploded by a Whale.

Vladivostok, April 2.—One of the mines in Possiet bay has been exploded by a whale. The mangled carcass subsequently was washed ashore. It bore evidence of the destructive qualities of the mines laid by the Russians in expectation of a Japanese landing at Possiet bay.

Alabama Makes a Record.

Pensacola, Fla., April 2.—With the arrival here today of the gunboat Newport and Castine from Colon, the largest fleet of United States warships ever assembled in target practice, includes seven battleships, five cruisers, seven gunboats, five monitors, two torpedo-boat destroyers, besides a number of tenders, colliers and supply boats. The fleet includes more than 25 vessels of various classes. The battleship Alabama has established a new world's record for rapidity and accuracy in firing all classes of guns.

Will Make Channel for Warships.

Cronstadt, April 2.—The ice-breaker Ermaek is bound here from Revel to cut a channel for the warships which are awaiting their armor at the St. Petersburg yards. Lights will be burned to help the Ermaek steer a straight course through the ice at night. A correspondent of the Russky Viedmosti writes from Port Dalny that the Russian cruiser Boyarin sank two hours after striking the mine there. Six of the crew were lost.

Request American to Return.

Seoul, April 2.—The military authorities have requested Brigadier General Henry T. Allen, United States military observer with the Japanese army, to return to Seoul from Ping Yang until they are able to provide fitting accommodations.

HAPPENINGS HERE IN OREGON

GRANT CATTLE ARE DYING.

Heavy Snow Falling and Temperature Drops to Zero.

John Day—A snowfall of more than a foot occurred last week in the higher valleys of this county. The storm is quite general, but the fall is not so great in the larger valleys. The temperature fell to 14 below zero at this place. It is almost zero in the colder sections. With very few exceptions this is the coldest weather of the year.

In some of the higher valleys the stock situation is decidedly serious. Bear valley stockmen are entirely out of feed. Although cattle are generally strong, grave fears are entertained.

A disquieting rumor has been growing, started by messages over the telephone. In some places, herds being moved to better feeding grounds, have been overtaken by the storm and are now strung along the public roads, staggering and falling dead. In one instance the road supervisor found it necessary to give orders to owners to remove carcasses from the road.

Stockmen are grimly whetting their skinning knives, preparing to save the hides. Only a speedy raise in the temperature can save enormous losses. Sheep and horses have not suffered much loss yet.

BAKER GETTING OUT OF DEBT.

Economy in Expenditures Brings Warrants Nearly to Par.

Baker City—Baker county is fast getting out of debt. Four years ago the bonded and floating debt of the county was over \$250,000. County warrants were way below par and the county burden was increasing fast.

By practicing economy and calling a halt on reckless expenditure, the floating debt has been almost wiped out. At the present rate the entire indebtedness will be discharged next year. County warrants are now worth 90 cents on the dollar, which makes them practically as good as cash, because investors do not care to handle them on such a small margin.

Last week the indebtedness of the county was reduced about \$30,000 by the payment to Union county of the amount due on account of the "Panhandle" annexation. A portion of Union county, known as the "Panhandle" was annexed to Baker county by the legislature four years ago. Baker county had to pay Union county about \$40,000 in settlement of various claims. All this debt has now been paid.

DISEASED HORSES TO BE SLAIN.

Domestic Animal Commission Orders Slaughter in Umatilla.

Salem—Six hundred horses, afflicted with contagious diseases, will be killed in Morrow county in pursuance of an order made by the domestic animal commission. The horses are owned by Indians living on the Umatilla reservation and are afflicted with mange. The state board has made repeated efforts in the last two or three years to induce government authorities in Washington or at the reservation to take steps to stamp out a disease that threatens to spread to all parts of the state. All efforts proving fruitless, the board has at last determined to take radical measures, and the state veterinarian has been ordered to kill the diseased animals and bury them. The horses are declared to be valueless because of their diseased condition.

Warner Settlers Prepare to Sue.

Salem—J. L. Morrow and other settlers in Warner valley, Lake county, are in Salem perfecting their papers preparatory to bringing suit to regain, if possible, the lands which were awarded to the Warner Valley Stock company by the department of the interior. The suit will be brought in the federal courts and will raise the question whether the lands were swamp in character in 1860. The Warner Valley Stock company holds under deeds from the state, while the settlers claim as homesteads.

Fallen Trees For the Fire.

Salem—The heavy wind storm last week is likely to increase the amount of cordwood cut in this vicinity this year. Timber enough to make many thousand cords of wood was blown down and the farmers will cut much of the fallen timber into cordwood. A thousand cords of fallen timber on single farms has been reported in a number of cases. So far as timber is concerned, the wind was an advantage to farmers.

Change Union County Seat.

La Grande—A petition has been filed with the county clerk by Recorder William Miller, to be presented at the next meeting of the county court, asking the court to make the petition a issue for the June election that the county seat be removed from Union to La Grande, its former site. This petition was signed by 2,570 of Union county residents.

GOOD ROADS FOR LANE.

Association Formed at Eugene to Forward the Work.

Eugene—A meeting was held at the courthouse which was well attended and had for its object a consolidation of interests and energies in the direction of road improvement in this vicinity. About 150 interested citizens were present, and the meeting organized by the selection of M. Svarverud chairman and F. M. Wilkins secretary.

Professor J. M. Hyde of the university, who has long made a study of road engineering, made the first address on the subject and gave much valuable information for consideration. President Campbell also made a good address, as did a number of others.

A committee on organization made its report, and the Good Roads association of Lane county took tangible and permanent form. A constitution was adopted and a good membership secured at once.

It is the intention of this association to take active steps toward the securing of first-class highways in all parts of the county, and to work in the direction of securing judicious and scientific returns for the money annually expended for road improvement. The association declared itself in support of the Brownlow good roads bill now before congress and will use its influence in its behalf.

Timbermen Must Pay Taxes.

Astoria—All the holders of large timber tracts in Clatsop county, with the exception of three, have paid their taxes on the 1902 roll. Representatives of these three syndicates were here and tendered the sheriff 60 per cent of the tax, but the tender was refused, although the sheriff said he would accept 50 per cent as a first payment, as is allowed by the state law. The timber men now assert that they will appeal to the county court for a reduction, although the chances of getting a rebate are small.

Fish Price Will Be the Same.

Astoria—Judging from present indications the opening price of fish the coming season will be the same as during the past few years—5 cents per pound for those under 25 pounds and 6 cents for those weighing 25 pounds or over. The cold storage men are now endeavoring to reach an agreement among themselves to increase the weight limit of what are known as "cold storage" fish from 25 to 30 pounds, but with little success.

PORTLAND MARKETS.

Wheat—Walla Walla, 75c; bluestem, 81c; valley, 81c.

Barley—Feed, \$23 per ton; rolled, \$24@25.

Flour—Valley, \$3.90@3.95 per barrel; hard wheat straight, \$4@4.20; clear, \$3.85@4; hard wheat patents, \$4.40@4.60; graham, \$3.50@3.90; whole wheat, \$3.65@4.05; rye flour, \$4.50@4.75.

Oats—No. 1 white, \$1.15@1.17 1/2; gray, \$1.10@1.12 1/2 per cental.

Millstuffs—Bran, \$18@19 per ton; middlings, \$24.50@26; shorts, \$19@20; chop, \$18; linseed, dairy food, \$19.

Hay—Timothy, \$15@16 per ton; clover, \$10@11; grain, \$11@12; cheat, \$11@12.

Eggs—Oregon ranch, 17 1/2c.

Butter—Sweet cream butter, 30c per pound; fancy creamery, 25@27 1/2c; choice creamery, 23@24c; dairy and store nominal.

Butter Fat—Sweet cream, 28 1/2c; sour cream, 26 1/2c.

Poultry—Chickens, mixed, 12 1/2@13c per pound; springs, small, 16@17c; hens, 13@14c; turkeys, live, 15@16c, dressed, 18@20c; ducks, \$8@9 per dozen; geese, live, 8c.

Cheese—Full cream, twins, 12@13c; Young America, 14@15c.

Vegetables—Turnips, 80c per sack; carrots, 80c; beets, \$1; parsnips, \$1; cabbage, 1 1/2@2c; lettuce, head, 25@40c per dozen; parsley, 25c; tomatoes, \$2@2.25 per crate; cauliflower, 75c@1 per dozen; celery, 65@80c; squash, 2c per pound; cucumbers, \$1.75@2.25 per dozen; asparagus, 8 1/2@11c; peas, 9c; rhubarb, 9c; beans, 10c; onions, Yellow Danvers, \$2@2.35 per sack.

Honey—\$3@3.50 per case.

Potatoes—Fancy, 90c@1 per cental; common, 60@80c; new potatoes, 3 1/2c per pound; sweets, 5c per pound.

Fruits—Apples, fancy Baldwins and Spitzenbergs, \$1.50@2.50 per box; choice, \$1@1.50; cooking, 75c.

Hops—1903 crop, 23@25c per pound.

Wool—Valley, 17@18c; Eastern Oregon, 12@15c; mohair, 32@35c.

Beef—Dressed, 5@7 1/2c per pound.

Mutton—Dressed, 6@7c; lambs, 8c.

Veal—Dressed, 7@8c.

Pork—Dressed, 7@7 1/2c.