

LEXINGTON WHEATFIELD

S. A. THOMAS, Publisher

LEXINGTON, OREGON

NEWS OF THE WEEK

In a Condensed Form for Our Busy Readers.

A Resume of the Less Important but Not Less Interesting Events of the Past Week.

The Illinois Central will spend \$2,000,000 elevating its tracks in Chicago.

One day recently 4,650 steerage passengers arrived in New York from Europe.

There is a coal shortage in San Francisco and the price has been boosted \$3 per ton.

At its next session congress will be asked to pay for entertainments by our foreign ambassadors and ministers.

It is alleged that an attempt has been made to poison one of the Twitwesses in the land fraud trials now on at Salt Lake.

Tenement house residents of New York's East Side have begun a war on butcher shops for raising the price of meat.

Realty in Victoria, B. C., has increased 25 per cent in value on the announcement of improvements by the Canadian Pacific.

A new all-Canadian mail service record has been established by the trip from London to Vancouver, B. C., being made in 11 days.

Investigation has shown that large amounts of money intended to relieve Russian famine sufferers has been pocketed by those intrusted with the funds.

British Columbian Indians are in the habit of selling their girls as soon as they are old enough to find a buyer. An effort is to be made to stop the practice.

With the thermometer standing near the zero mark a large number of prominent citizens of Payette, Idaho, held up a coal train and took two cars for their own use. They were prevented from taking more by a promise of relief by the railroad company.

Helena has voted to own her own water plant.

The use of tobacco in any form is being driven from the university at Lincoln, Neb.

The Canadian government has agreed to place a lifeboat service on the southern portion of Vancouver island coast, the marine graveyard.

The Alabama Great Southern railroad has given an increase of 5 per cent in wages to all its employes receiving less than \$200 per month.

In the Interstate Commerce hearing at Salt Lake a witness declared the Union Pacific railroad prevented opposition from acquiring coal lands by the use of dynamite.

Dr. D. P. Barrows, director of education in the Philippines, says the islands are in good condition generally speaking. There is no market for sugar and tobacco.

The Japanese government said to understand the recent school situation in San Francisco. While she may punish the Bay City a bit, nothing more will come of the affair.

An international committee has been appointed in China to secure relief for the hungry. An appeal will be made to Europe and America. Ten thousand people are on the point of starvation.

Booker T. Washington, leader of the colored race, says Andrew Carnegie wears shoes made in a negro industrial school.

The United States government has been asked to furnish protection to the leader of the street car strike now on at Hamilton, Ont.

The president, vice president and counsel of the Mutual Reserve Life Insurance company are on trial in New York on a charge of grand larceny.

While holding up passengers on a Chicago & Alton passenger train near Kansas City a bold robber was captured by the conductor and later turned over to the police.

Advices have just been received of a disastrous tidal wave which followed an earthquake at German New Guinea. Many natives were drowned and the property loss is enormous.

Mrs. Stowell, head of the Salvation Army rescue work in Chicago, believes the best way to cure vice in that city would be to take pictures of the frequenters of notorious places and publish them in the newspapers.

The American Insurance company has been barred from doing further business in Massachusetts and the justice of the State Supreme court says companies must show that they can protect before they will be allowed to continue writing policies.

EVIDENCE OF MORE CRIME.

No Influence Can Protect Plunderers of Coal Land.

Salt Lake, Nov. 30.—Powerful influence is being brought to bear at Washington to prevent threatened prosecutions of corporations and individuals in connection with the land frauds which have been disclosed by the Interstate Commerce commission. These efforts, however, have been unavailing and the course which the government has mapped out will be pursued unflinchingly.

When the Interstate Commerce commission resumes its hearing here today, evidence will be produced by J. T. Marchand and E. E. Thomas to prove that the Utah Fuel company, ever since its organization six or seven years ago, has received rebates from the Denver & Rio Grande and Rio Grande Western systems. It is expected to prove this by William O. Williams, auditor for the Utah Fuel company, and it will be shown, it is said, that by means of these rebates the fuel company, and also the Pleasant Valley Coal company, were better able to maintain the monopoly, which they are charged with having, of the coal business in Utah. It is alleged that both of these coal companies enjoyed a blanket rate of 1/2 cent a mile per ton on all of the commodities which the railroad company mentioned transported for them. These preferential rates were enjoyed upon both state and interstate traffic.

BRING GRAFTERS TO JUSTICE.

Stolypin Starts Vigorous Inquiry Into Famine Fund Scandal.

St. Petersburg, Nov. 30.—Prompt steps have been taken by Premier Stolypin to deal with the famine relief contract scandal in which Lidval and M. Gurko, assistant minister of the Interior, are involved. The premier has called a special meeting of the council of ministers for tomorrow to discuss the affair.

M. Gurko has resigned. When he presented his resignation, the premier told him he should not quit office, but that, for his own sake at least, he must face the court.

The premier is expected to appoint an inter-ministerial commission composed of assistant ministers to investigate the case. He will then bring it before the first department of the senate in public session. Orders have been given to collect evidence and cross examine all persons connected with the affair, and General Fredericks, governor of Nizhni Novgorod, has been summoned to St. Petersburg to answer to the charge of standing sponsor for Lidval. A certain Sotskikh, an assistant of Lidval in buying grain in the provinces, also has been summoned by the minister of the Interior, but has failed to answer and is thought to be in hiding.

GREAT FIND OF EXPLORERS.

Fragments of Gospel and Many Other Ancient Writings.

Chicago, Nov. 30.—A cable dispatch to the Tribune from London says: It now is possible to give further details of the remarkable find of papyrus as a result of the efforts of Drs. Grenfell and Hunt, of the Greco-Roman branch of the Egypt Exploration Fund at Oxyrhynchus. The find consists of no fewer than 130 boxes of papyrus, ranging in date from the second century, B. C., to the sixth century, A. D. They comprise all classes of literature, many fragments of the lost or even unknown classical works, and some most important fragments unknown to Christian literature.

The most important find is a vellum leaf containing 45 lines of gospel which has a variation from the authorized version. The subject is the visit of Jesus and his disciples to the temple of Jerusalem and their meeting there with the Pharisee, who rebukes them for their failure to perform the necessary ceremonial of purification. In the dialogue which follows, which resembles in some respects Matthew xxiii:25, the Pharisee describes with considerable fullness and detail the formalities he has observed, whereupon Jesus delivers an eloquent, crushing reply, contrasting outward with inward purity.

Send Colony to Africa.

London, Nov. 30.—A report was current in this city today that the South Africa company has offered the Salvation Army 1,000,000 acres of land in Rhodesia for colonization purposes, with the stipulation, however, that in the event of the colonizing scheme proving a failure, the land should revert to the company. General Booth said tonight that the plan had been prematurely disclosed. He declined to commit himself to any statement of details, because he said the plan might still fall through.

Czar Fixes Twelve-Hour Day.

St. Petersburg, Nov. 30.—The emperor has approved the resolution introduced by the council of ministers fixing 12 hours as a working day, including two hours for meals, in all industrial and other circles. This law will become operative six weeks after its promulgation.

FIVE ARE INDICTED

Union Pacific Railroad, Coal Company and Officials.

SENATOR'S BROTHER IS IMMUNE

Government Charges That Men Were Hired To File On Land for Railroad Company.

Salt Lake City, Utah, Dec. 1.—It is understood that the Federal grand jury now hearing testimony concerning the gigantic grab of coal and timber land by railroads and coal companies, has voted to return indictments against the Union Pacific Railroad company, the Oregon Short Line, the Union Pacific Coal company, and two officials of these companies will be included when the indictments are returned. It is said the bills would have been reported out before now, but the government officials are waiting to hear additional evidence at Pueblo and Denver next week.

The indictments will charge the defendants with fraud in obtaining government land by subornation of perjury in hiring persons to swear that they were making entry upon the land for their own personal use, and then turning them over to the companies.

A brother of a United States senator, who, it is said, was implicated in these dealings, was unwittingly permitted to testify, thereby securing an immunity bath.

CONTROL OF RAILROADS.

Issue Raised in Oklahoma Convention—State Rights Revived.

Guthrie, Okla., Dec. 1.—The actual formation of a constitution for Oklahoma was inaugurated this afternoon when propositions were introduced in the constitutional convention of two planks providing respectively for railway regulation and separate coaches for whites and negroes.

The railway regulation bill, introduced by Delegate Clint Graham, is summarized as follows: Railroad, express, sleeping car and oil pipe line companies shall be declared common carriers; to provide for stock inspection; to prevent consolidation and prohibiting free passes.

The "Jim Crow" resolution was offered by Judge Ledbetter, of Ardmore, I. T. Both propositions were referred to the committee on railroads.

A feature of this morning's session was the address of Delegate Ledbetter, who opposed the adoption of a resolution recognizing the Federal constitution as paramount to that of the state of Oklahoma. Mr. Ledbetter reiterated his view that state sovereignty should be strictly observed.

BONDS BY THE TON.

Frenchmen Purchase Securities of the Pennsylvania Railroad.

New York, Dec. 1.—Fifty million dollars in bonds was unloaded at the French line pier yesterday and at once put aboard the La Provence, of the French line, for shipment to Paris. The bonds filled 140 mud-splashed boxes and furnished loads for 12 trucks.

The shipment consisted of Pennsylvania railroad bonds covering a loan to the railroad taken by Paris investors. A special express train bearing the bonds left that city at 9 o'clock and arrived in Jersey City at 10:50. Thirteen special service men acted as guard. In all there were 400,000 bonds of 5,000 francs denomination and 230,000 of 2,500 francs denomination. The issue required for execution 1,260,000 signatures and the affixing of 1,260,000 seals, 10 specially appointed secretaries having continually signed their names each day for two months. If the total number of sheets in this issue were laid lengthwise in one continuous line they would reach 296 1/2 miles. The bonds weighed 14 1/2 tons.

Crusoe's Island Lives.

Mexico City, Dec. 1.—Eugene Metz, Chilean consul to Mexico City, received an official notice from his government last night to the effect that the report circulated last August, at the time of the disastrous earthquake, saying that Juan Fernandez island had sunk into the ocean, was untrue. The doctor said that the report of the disappearance of the island was at first credited everywhere. A short time ago, however, warships were sent out by the Chilean government, and the island and its inhabitants were found uninjured.

Will Not Pay American Claims.

Tangier, Dec. 1.—The American minister, Mr. Gummere, is said to have left Fez, the capital, without obtaining satisfaction from the sultan in regard to the claims for indemnity made by citizens of the United States for alleged outrages, or assurances regarding the safety of American citizens resident in Morocco.

COAL TRAIN HELD UP.

Mob of Law-Abiding Citizens Take Measures to Relieve Famine.

Ontario, Or., Nov. 28.—The coal famine was temporarily relieved here by a mob of about 250 men, among them some of the best citizens and business men of the town, who held up a west bound freight train on the Oregon Short Line, containing 35 cars of Rock Springs coal consigned to the O. R. & N., and demanding that four cars be sidetracked. The train was a through train and was flagged by members of the hold-up party. The officials of the company were notified by wire that the train could not leave until the request was complied with. They in turn telegraphed the train crew and station agent to consign four of the cars to J. H. Farley, a local coal dealer. The four cars were sidetracked at Farley's coal bunkers and the train proceeded to Payette, Idaho, the next station, where it is reported a similar hold-up occurred. There was not a ton of coal in town at the time the hold-up occurred here. The train was stopped at Nyssa, Ore., 12 miles east of here, the previous evening and two cars were taken from the train. There had not been a car of coal shipped to Nyssa since last May. The mobs at each town were orderly and well behaved, but determined.

SUGAR TRUST FINED.

Rebates Received From New York Central Prove Expensive.

New York, Nov. 28.—The American Sugar Refining company was fined \$18,000 today for accepting rebates from the New York Central. The railroad was fined the same amount last week for giving rebates to the company.

The claims for a rebate of 5 cents a hundred pounds on all sugar shipments to Detroit were made out in the office of Lowell M. Palmer, traffic manager of the trust. They were sent to the Buffalo office of the Fast Freight lines operating over the Vanderbilt roads. They were not paid openly by check. The cashier of the Buffalo office would go to the Bank of Buffalo and buy a draft on the Chemical National bank of New York. This draft, which on its face bore no mark of the railway corporation or any of its officials, was mailed to Palmer, who deposited it to the credit of one of the sugar trust accounts.

THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE.

Will Touch Every Phase of the Panama Canal Question.

Washington, Nov. 28.—President Roosevelt, bronzed and invigorated in health from his long sea trip to Panama and Porto Rico, was in his office early today. Secretary Loeb took to him a large amount of correspondence, which had accumulated since the president's departure, and was with him until the time of the cabinet meeting, at 11 o'clock.

The president's special message on the Panama canal, it is now said, will be sent to congress probably about a week after it convenes on Monday. It will deal with every phase of the question and give a graphic and detailed description of conditions on the isthmus as the president found them. There will be recommendations for the betterment of conditions, which suggested themselves during his visit.

DOUBLE-DECK BRIDGE.

Disgraceful Scenes at Rush Hours Call for Relief.

New York, Nov. 28.—The daily crush of the Brooklyn bridge is receiving the earnest attention of Mayor McClellan and other city officials. At a conference yesterday important plans for temporary and permanent relief were discussed. Longer trains and increased headway, it is expected, will bring temporary relief.

Plans for permanent relief include an almost entire rebuilding of the bridge. Double decking will probably be resorted to in order to make room for additional lines of railroad tracks. The engineers have informed the mayor that the stress on the anchor bars is only a third of their capacity and that the double decking of the structure is entirely feasible. This form of relief, however, will be a matter of years.

Irrigate Their Stock.

Indianapolis, Nov. 28.—The "watering" of railroad stocks or over capitalization by the large transportation lines is commented upon by the State Railroad commission in its first report which will be made to the governor of Indiana in the next few days. The report is the first the commission will have filed since its creation by the last general assembly two years ago. The report shows that 43 roads reporting to the commission state the value of the road and equipment, and give the value of each per mile.

Keeping Up Its Record

Wilburton, I. T., Nov. 28.—With a record of 19 horrible deaths during the past year, the Degnan & McConnell mine No. 19 at Wilburton blew up with frightful force last evening. Six men in the shaft miraculously escaped. It cannot yet be determined whether any lives were lost.

MUCH LAND STOLEN

Government Grip Tightens on Plunderer's of Domain.

MANY HIGH OFFICIALS INVOLVED

Machinery of Law At Work Against Men Who Ruled Land Office To Rob Nation.

Salt Lake, Nov. 29.—The grip of the government and of justice is tightening slowly about the organized gangs which, it is alleged, have for years, with the connivance of the Land department, robbed the public domain of coal, mineral and timber land valued at many millions of dollars. In the end, it is stated, every member of these gangs, whether he be a plain citizen of the United States or occupies high official position, will be made to answer in the criminal courts for his complicity in the most gigantic frauds said ever to have been perpetrated on the United States government.

Every agency of the government, including the Interstate Commerce commission, the secret service, the Federal grand jury and the court of equity, has been set in motion to accomplish the end desired. While the Interstate Commerce commission is taking testimony here tending to show that the Rio Grande railroad and its allied companies, the Utah Fuel company and the Pleasant Valley Coal company, have been securing by fraudulent means all of the coal land in the state of Utah and consequently building up their monopoly in this line, the Federal grand jury here is awaiting the outcome of the hearing with a view to gathering all of the guilty ones into its net.

The speculations of which the government complains have been perpetrated in Wyoming, Utah, Colorado, Montana, New Mexico, California, Oregon and possibly in other states. The robberies of the public domain have been almost as extensive, it is charged, in timber land as in mineral land.

That such enormous frauds, extending through a long period of years, could not have been perpetrated without the complicity of the Land department is said to be a patent fact.

During the hearing here yesterday a glimpse of the real power behind the throne was given when it was stated by government land agents that they had been compelled to see Senator Francis E. Warren regarding official business of the Land department. Senator Warren is charged with having ruled the land office for a number of years. It was his influence and that of Senator Clark which secured the appointment, during President McKinley's administration, of Willis Vandevanter to be assistant attorney general for the Interior department. Vandevanter was the legal conscience of the Land department, and Vandevanter had been attorney for the companies charged with stealing the land. It was Warren who made Congressman Frank W. Modell assistant land commissioner, who later put Binger Hermann in the position of commissioner, and who succeeded him by present Commissioner Richards. It is Warren, it is claimed, who still controls the land offices from Nebraska and the Dakotas to California and Alaska.

CALL FOR OIL TRUST PAPERS.

Texas Wants to Know All About Its Dealings With Bailey.

Austin, Tex., Nov. 29.—Attorney General R. G. Davidson and counsel associated with him in the prosecution of the suit of the state to oust the Waters-Pierce Oil company from Texas, yesterday served on former Attorney General George Clark, one of the attorneys for the oil company and filed with the clerk of the court a demand for the production of the books, records, vouchers, etc., of the oil company, showing agreements with other companies, correspondence between the attorneys of the oil company and J. W. Bailey, and purporting to show payments of money by H. C. Pierce and said oil companies on divers dates.

Copies of all letters passing between J. D. Johnson and George Clark, counsel for the oil company, or written by them to J. W. Bailey and to parties in New York during 1900 relating to the settlement of the cases pending in Waco, Tex., against said oil companies, letters written by or to said parties are called for. The other matters called for are copies of the original trust agreements, agreements with the Eagle Refining company and the Texas Oil and Gasoline company, agreement as to the division of territory and agreement with Attorney General Hadley of Missouri as to ownership of Waters-Pierce stock by the Standard Oil company.

Plans for New Sugar Trust. New Orleans, Nov. 29.—Louisiana sugar plantations and sugar houses are announced by a committee in charge of the project.