

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.

Bryan has tacitly admitted his candidacy for president.

Yaqui Indians have killed eight Mexicans in Sonora.

Spokane favors the Alaska-Yukon-Pacific exposition at Seattle.

Harriman's criticism of Roosevelt is said to have caused the merger inquiry.

Heavy snow storms throughout Austria-Hungary have resulted in several deaths.

The bishop of Madrid has offered an asylum to all sick or aged French priests.

Firemen on the Big Four railroad will receive an increase in pay after January 1.

A blizzard in Great Britain has blockaded trains in many places and rural villages are temporarily cut off from communication.

A grand nephew of the Pullman car magnate has been found in the New York tenement district poor and hungry. He is heir to a fortune.

At the 57th annual meeting of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, held at Washington, it was learned that Rockefeller is too poor to afford oysters.

Figures on the business transacted at the Union stock yards, Chicago, show the valuation of the livestock handled to be the largest on record. The receipts for the year were slightly in excess of 16,000,000 head valued at \$314,300,000.

India will demand home rule of Great Britain.

China will appeal to the world for aid to the famine sufferers.

The Southern Pacific declares the strike of its firemen has been broken.

Japanese in America clamor for Admiral Togo to command the squadron sent to this country.

District Attorney Jerome, of New York, wants to inquire into the recent election of insurance officers.

The Interstate Commerce commission continues to receive many protests from the Northwest on account of shortage of coal.

Sidney Sloane, the Spokane boy who shot his father, has been sent to the penitentiary for an indefinite time as incurably insane.

PORTLAND MARKETS.

Butter—Fancy creamery, 32½@35c.

Eggs—Oregon ranch, 35c per dozen.

Poultry—Average old hens, 10@11c per pound; mixed chickens, 10@11c; spring, 10@11c; old roosters, 9@11c; dressed chickens, 12 @ 13c; turkeys, live, 17 @ 18c; turkeys, dressed, choice, 20@22c; geese, live, 12@13c; ducks, 15@16c.

Fruits — Apples, common to choice, 50@75c per box; choice to fancy, \$1 @ 2.50; pears, \$1 @ 1.50; cranberries, \$11.50@12.50 per barrel; persimmons, \$1.50 per box.

Vegetables — Turnips, 90c@1 per sack; carrots, 90c@1 per sack; beets, \$1.25@1.50 per sack; horseradish, 9 @ 10c per pound; sweet potatoes, 2½ @ 2¾c per pound; cabbage, 1¼@1½c per pound; cauliflower, \$1.25 per dozen; celery, \$4@4.25 per crate; lettuce, head, 30c per dozen; onions, 10@12½c per dozen; pumpkins, 1¼c per pound; spinach, 4@5c per pound; squash 1 @ 1½c per pound.

Onions — Oregon, 75c@81 per hundred.

Potatoes — Oregon Burbanks, fancy, \$1@1.10; common, 75@85c.

Wheat — Club, 65@66c; bluestem, 67@68c; valley, 66@67c; red, 63c.

Oats — No. 1 white, \$25@26; gray, \$24.50@25.

Barley — Feed, \$21@21.50 per ton; brewing, \$22.50; rolled, \$22.50@24.

Rye — \$1.40@1.45 per cwt.

Corn—Whole, \$26; cracked, \$27 per ton.

Hay—Valley timothy, No. 1, \$11@12 per ton; Eastern Oregon timothy, \$14@16; clover, \$7@8; cheat, \$7.50 @8.50; grain hay, \$7.50@8.50; alfalfa, \$11.50; vetch hay, \$7@7.50.

Veal—Dressed, 5½@8½c per pound.

Beef — Dressed bulls, 1@2c per pound; cows, 4 @ 5c; country steers, 5@5½.

Mutton — Dressed, fancy, 8@9c per pound; ordinary, 6@7c.

Pork—Dressed, 6@8c per pound.

Hops—11@15c per pound, according to quality.

Wool—Eastern Oregon average best, 13@18c, according to shrinkage; valley, 20@23c, according to fineness; mohair, choice, 26@28c.

WRECK ON INTER URBAN

Tacoma-Seattle Passenger and Work Trains Meet on Curve

Tacoma, Wash., Dec. 27. — Interurban train No. 3, bound from Seattle to Tacoma, and a work train consisting of a motor and five flatcars, collided head-on in a cut about a mile east of Milton Wednesday morning. Two persons were killed, one probably fatally hurt, and 14 more or less badly hurt. The first coach of the interurban passenger was telescoped, and two of the flatcars piled on top of it.

There were about 20 passengers in the telescoped smoker, some of whom strangely escaped with only slight injuries. The car was entirely demolished, and some of the passengers were hurled 20 feet in the flying wreckage.

Train No. 3 from Seattle was late and had orders to sidetrack at Edgewood to let No. 6, the passenger for Seattle, pass. The work train was given orders at Milton to follow No. 6 to Edgewood. C. R. Foss, a brakeman on the work train, was sent to Edgewood on No. 6 with orders to flag No. 3 and hold it on the sidetrack until the work train cleared. He either failed to place the flag or there was a misunderstanding of orders. Foss disappeared and cannot be found.

No. 3 pulled out on the main track as soon as No. 6 passed and being late, started down the grade at a good speed. Half a mile this side of Edgewood on a curve that runs through a deep cut, it met the work train. The curve is so short that it was impossible for the crews of either train to see the other until too late to stop.

The trains came together with a crash that was heard half a mile. The two forward cars of the work train went over the platform of the first car of the passenger, striking it at an angle on account of the curve. To this fact alone is due the escape from death of every passenger in the car.

THEY ALL "CINCH" UNCLE SAM.

Railroads Gst Three Prices for Carrying Mails.

Chicago, Dec. 28. — Statistics compiled by the representatives of the United Typothetae of America and the American Weekly Publishers' association, organizations which are vigorously fighting the movement to increase the postage for second-class mail matter, show that the government is paying the railroads three times as much on the average for the transportation of mail matter as the express companies pay the railroads for like service.

On the basis of the postmaster general's statistics, the publishers assert that the government during the fiscal year ended June 30, 1907, will pay the roads almost \$23,000,000 more than the express companies would pay them for hauling the same tonnage. The printers and publishers compile the statistics to show that the government, for the purpose of reducing the annual postoffice deficit, rather should reduce its outlay for the transportation than increase the rate for second-class matter.

"One of the chief needs of the government is an expert traffic manager," said W. D. Boyce, a Chicago publisher. "It then would get as good rates as the express companies."

IT DENIES JURISDICTION.

Standard Raises New Technical Point Against Government Suit.

St. Louis, Dec. 28.—The Standard Oil company of New Jersey and 60-odd other corporations and individuals allied with it, as defendants in the government's suit to break up the alleged oil monopoly, today filed a motion in the United States Circuit court attacking the jurisdiction of that court to bring in nonresident defendants by process, and petitioning the court to vacate the order of service issued by Judge Sanborn November 15.

All of the defendants join in the motion except the Waters-Pierce Oil company, which is a resident of the eastern division of the Eastern Judicial district of Missouri. Henry S. Priest filed the motion as counsel for all the parties. Accompanying it was the affidavit of Charles T. White, assistant secretary of the Standard, who certifies that all the petitioners are non-residents of this district.

Hanrahan Will Take Charge.

Peoria, Dec. 28. — At the offices of the Brotherhood of Locomotive Firemen this morning, it was stated that there was nothing to be given out relative to the strike on the Southern Pacific other than Grand Master John J. Hanrahan would probably leave before the latter part of the week to take personal charge of the strike. Mr. Hanrahan has left for Galesburg to be gone a few days, and it was stated that he had left directions to say that he did not think the situation at this time called for any public statements.

Pioneer of Alfalfa Growing

Topeka, Kan., Dec. 28.—Harrison Parkman, the man who first brought alfalfa from South America and planted it in the United States, died at Emporia, Kan., aged 73 years.

FEAR INSURRECTION

New Elections in Cuba May Not Settle Troubles.

WHAT MAY MEAN ANNEXATION

Further Intervention Would Bring On Inevitable—Annexation Wanted by Few People.

Washington, Dec. 29.—Occasional rumbling or rumors of little sideshow insurrections popping up in certain provinces of Cuba are tending to keep the United States from forgetting the problem it has to deal with down there. There are some angles in this problem that have received little attention as far as the public is concerned, but which have occupied and are now occupying much attention on the part of high government officials and administration advisers among the members of congress.

It is a fact not generally known that our government entertains grave fears regarding what may happen following the Cuban elections in January. A great many have believed that intervention by the United States will have accomplished its purpose as soon as a new government has been chosen by the Cuban people; that our forces would withdraw after inaugurating this new government with tranquility established. That is the rosy view of the situation, and everything would be lovely if our high officials were sure it would work out just that way.

But they are not sure. President Roosevelt, it is understood, has grave doubts about the effect of the coming election on the defeated party.

If we be forced to do any more intervening there will be an effort by a certain element to force annexation, which some of our ablest statesmen insist is something that comparatively few people in this country want. The administration recognizes the embarrassing situation that may confront it, after President Roosevelt's warning to Cubans to "be good" in the future or take the consequences, the question is just what course shall be pursued if the Cubans don't stay good.

WILL CONFER ON JAPANESE.

Bonaparte to Consult Devlin on San Francisco Case.

Washington, Dec. 29.—United States District Attorney Robert F. Devlin, of San Francisco, who was called to Washington by Attorney General Bonaparte for a conference regarding the exclusion of Japanese pupils from the public schools of San Francisco, arrived last night and will be at the department of Justice today. Mr. Devlin refused to discuss his mission, declaring that the matter is in the hands of the attorney general.

"Two weeks ago I had a conference with the San Francisco board of education, at the request of Attorney General Moody," he said, "when a statement of facts was agreed upon and forwarded to the attorney general. A few days later I was called to Washington and I do not know officially that I am here to discuss the Japanese question."

STOCK TOO LONG ON JOURNEY

Railroads Will Be Prosecuted Under Thirty-six-Hour Law.

Washington, Dec. 29. — Secretary Wilson, of the department of Agriculture, today transmitted to the department of Justice the nine additional cases of alleged violation of what is popularly known as the "36-hour law," which provides that railroad companies shall not detain stock on cars for a longer period than 28 hours without food and water, except with the consent of the owner of the stock, and then no longer than 36 hours.

The cases were one each against the Great Northern, the Oregon Short Line, the Southern Pacific, the Union Pacific, the Lake Shore & Michigan Southern, and the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy and three against the Santa Fe.

Greatest Year Since 1888.

Chicago, Dec. 29. — More miles of railroad were constructed in the United States during the last year than have been built during any year since 1888, according to the Railway Age. Since January 1 last, 6,067 miles of track have been laid on 388 lines in 44 states and territories, making the country's total railway mileage 223,319. The largest amount of railway building during the year was done in Texas, where 701 miles of track were laid. Louisiana and South Dakota are almost tied for second place.

Eager to See Roosevelt.

Manila, Dec. 29.—The Filipino people are elated over press reports that President Roosevelt contemplated visiting the islands next summer. The native press received the announcement with enthusiasm.

EDUCATION IN PHILIPPINES.

Director Says Schools and Pupils Constantly Increase.

Washington, Dec. 26.—The sixth annual report of the director of education in the Philippines concerning the activities of the educational work in the islands for the year ending June 30, 1906, shows that there are now 3,166 primary schools in the islands, with an average of 375,554 pupils. Seven hundred American and 6,224 Filipino teachers are employed. All of the school divisions, the report says, conducted teachers' institutes, varying from four to six weeks in the different provinces. The instruction given was divided between the common branches of the intermediate course and special topics of instruction, such as school gardening, domestic science, primary industrial work and methods of teaching.

There are 2,454 primary school buildings in the islands owned by the municipalities and, in addition, a number of buildings belonging to the provinces but not constructed originally for school purposes are used. Private instruction, the report says, plays a large part in the intellectual condition of the islands. Many of these schools are supported by the Catholic church, with a history reaching back several decades. Some of these institutions teach English, although in practically all of them Spanish is the basis of instruction. The Filipino teachers, Dr. Barrows says, continue to gain in reliability, strength of character and moral purpose.

SENT TO DUNGEON.

Many Russian Officers Receive Penalty of Surrender.

St. Petersburg, Dec. 26.—The court martial which has been trying Rear Admiral Nebogatoff and 78 officers of his squadron for surrendering to the Japanese in the battle of the Sea of Japan handed in its decisions tonight. Vice Admiral Nebogatoff, Commander Lichino, of the coast squadron; General Aprin, Rear Admiral Gregorieff, of the coast defense ship Admiral Seni- vien, and Lieutenant Smirnov, who succeeded to the command of the battleship Nicolai, were sentenced to death, but in view of extenuating circumstances and the long and otherwise blameless careers of these officers, the court will petition the emperor to commute the sentences to 10 years' imprisonment in a fortress. Four other officers are sentenced to short terms of imprisonment in a fortress, while the remainder are acquitted.

The trial of Rear Admiral Nebogatoff and the officers of his squadron began in St. Petersburg December 5. The accused were divided into three categories — First, Rear Admiral Nebogatoff and the commanders of the battleships; second, the officers who advocated the surrender, and third, the officers who did not endeavor to prevent the surrender.

MAY TIE UP HARRIMAN LINES.

Firemen on Sunset Route Threaten Extreme Measure.

Houston, Tex., Dec. 26.—The new feature of the strike of the Southern Pacific firemen was the assertion made by Second Grand Master Shea, of the brotherhood, that unless an adjustment of the differences with the men now out on this division is made, the order is to be given that the entire Harriman system of railroads shall lose the services of the Brotherhood of Firemen, including those engineers who are members, he asserting that 86 per cent of the switch engineers and a goodly number of the road engineers will end their services on the road.

Mr. Shea insists that 625 men on the Texas and Louisiana lines of the system obeyed the strike order Sunday, but General Manager Fay, of the road, declares that not more than 400 men quit work, and that practically all of the places have been filled. There is no interference with operation of trains, according to the statement of Mr. Fay, but a number of switch engines at division points are reported idle in the yards. No disorder of any kind has been reported.

Great Increase in Immigration.

New York, Dec. 26. — Figures just compiled at Ellis island indicate that at the present rate of increase 1,283,415 more aliens may be expected to enter this country through the immigration station on Ellis island next year. "The number of aliens who will land at New York this year," said Immigration Commissioner Wathorn, "will approximate 1,050,000 persons, as against a total of 859,010 who landed here in 1905. Using these figures as the basis for an estimate in 1907, we may expect 1,283,415 aliens to arrive in 1907."

Adopt New Pistol for Army.

Washington, Dec. 26.—Secretary Taft has appointed a board of officers to meet January 15 at the Springfield armory, Springfield, Mass., for the purpose of ascertaining a design of automatic pistol or revolver best adapted to fulfill the requirements of the military service.

TOO MUCH RED TAPE

Present Free Alcohol Law Useless to Help Farmers.

AMENDMENT WILL BE PROPOSED

Requirement as to Registration Makes It Impractical for Farmers to Have Stills.

Washington, Dec. 27.—For several years past there has been a very active movement in favor of the passage of a free alcohol law, which resulted last session in the enactment of a law removing the internal revenue tax on alcohol to be used for commercial purposes. The demand for legislation of this character came principally from farming communities, and was based upon the theory that if the tax were removed farmers would be able to manufacture from their surplus grain, vegetables and fruit sufficient alcohol to supply themselves with power, heat and light.

Congress responded readily to the demand, and when the law known as the free alcohol law was approved, the general impression was that the United States had entered upon a policy similar to that which is in vogue in leading European nations, and that the farmers of the country would reap a great advantage. It has transpired, however, that these advantages are not so widespread as was at first supposed. A close examination of the law shows that each distillery must be supplied with a distillery warehouse, from which the alcohol may be withdrawn and deposited in a bonded warehouse, where by a rather tedious process it is denatured and then relieved from tax. This would, of course, exclude what are known in Germany as agricultural and produce stills, where special apparatus is very generally in use which enables the small producer to manufacture alcohol for his own use.

In order to carry out the original intention of the law as understood throughout the country, Senator Hansbrough, of North Dakota introduced an amendment to the free alcohol statute. The amendment is as follows:

"That for the convenience of persons engaged in the distillation of alcohol in quantities that would not justify the additional expense of a distillery warehouse or a bonded warehouse for each establishment, and who employ approved apparatus with suitable alcohol tanks attached, designed to be locked and sealed by an authorized government officer, the commissioner of internal revenue, with the approval of the secretary of the Treasury, shall, under rules prescribed by him, arrange for the proper denaturing of any alcohol of the required proof so distilled, such distillation and denaturing to be under all the terms and conditions of this act applicable to such cases."

FORCED ON CONGRESS.

President Shows That Frauds Are Traceable to Bad Laws.

Washington, Dec. 27. — President Roosevelt has made it necessary for congress materially to modify the public land laws before the close of the present session of congress. His special message sent in last week indicates the reforms most needed, and in the main his recommendations are likely to be carried out. They do not differ materially from the recommendations made a year ago by the public land commission.

The president emphasized the fact that the obsolete or impractical land laws are largely responsible for the frauds that have been unearthed during the past year or two. The coal land frauds are due almost entirely to the impracticability of the existing law under which public coal land can be acquired. The extensive timber frauds are as largely due to the impractical timber and stone act.

Labor Scarce in Mexico Also.

Mexico City, Dec. 27.—The scarcity of labor is bothering the railroads as well as other enterprises just at present. It is reported that in the Laguna district, adjacent to Torreon, labor is so scarce that as high as \$4 a day is offered to cotton pickers and that even at that price it is difficult to secure all the labor necessary to pick the crops. The crops in that district are reported to be good, and unusually heavy, but the lack of labor prevents the work of securing the cotton in the usual time for that product.

Too Slow in Unloading Cars.

Tokpeka, Kan., Dec. 27.—Referring to the congested condition of the railroads at present, Mr. J. E. Hurley, general manager of the Santa Fe, says: "The car shortage is not to be charged to lack of equipment. Consignees might relieve the congestion if they would unload cars expeditiously. For instance, there are today 14,000 loaded cars in Galveston awaiting unloading."