

LEXINGTON WHEATFIELD

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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.

Honduras has declared war on Nicaragua.

The survivors of the steamer Berlin number eleven.

Cleveland says the only thing to do with ex-presidents is to turn them loose and let them fish.

Senator Fulton proposes that no more forest reserves be created without the consent of congress.

At a Washington birthday speech Governor Higgins, of Rhode Island, criticised the first president.

Over 40 persons were injured and a dozen unaccounted for in a wreck on the Pennsylvania railroad, at Mineral Point, Pa.

Russian terrorists attacked the Warsaw postoffice and after killing five persons secured all the money on hand and escaped.

The State department has about concluded that blood letting is the only cure for the trouble between Central American republics.

It is said that Japanese laborers now in Hawaii, who desire to enter the United States, propose to do so by going through Mexico.

Mayor Dunne has carried the Chicago Democratic primaries.

Slight earthquakes are still felt in San Francisco occasionally.

Taft is going to Cuba in April to investigate conditions there.

The Japanese minister and Secretary Root are working on a new treaty.

A Kentucky woman has just given birth to five children. All are doing well.

Senator Bailey, of Texas, says all charges are false and he would like to shoot accusers.

Tawney says the present session of congress will appropriate more than one billion dollars.

Frederick T. Gates, Rockefeller's business representative, says the oil king's income is about \$20,000,000 per year.

Trainmen of the West are demanding increase of wages and as the railroad companies are inclined to refuse, trouble may follow.

An association has been formed in Chicago for the purpose of holding the largest corn exposition next fall ever attempted in the United States.

The Connecticut tax commissioner offered to sell an appointment and now he is out.

The Alabama railway commission has ordered a 2-cent passenger rate on all railroads.

A Northern Pacific train was ditched near Paha, Wash. Floods had weakened a trestle.

Wisconsin railroads are complying with the order of the railroad commission for a 2½ cent passenger rate.

The Great Northern announces that all blockades in the Northwest from the recent storms have been cleared.

Sickness of a juror in the Hermann trial has caused the selection of a new man and started the case at the beginning again.

The Nebraska legislature has passed a 2-cent passenger rate bill. The governor openly favors the measure, so it is likely to become law.

The National Red Cross society has sent 7,500 bushels of seed wheat to famine districts of China. The Pacific Steamship company carries it free.

Melting snow has again caused serious washouts on the O. R. & N. The main line is not seriously affected. The Pendleton-Walla Walla and Shaliko branches are not yet open from former troubles and what work has been done will have to be built over.

The British cabinet stands firm for greater Irish liberty.

The church crisis in the French cabinet has been staved off.

The trouble which caused a suspension of all Butte papers is far from an end.

Four separate investigations are being made of the Brewster, New York, railroad wreck. The death list has now reached 21.

An explosion in a coal mine near Monterey, Mexico, caused 30 deaths.

Register Nolan, of The Dalles land office, has been removed.

HUNDREDS LOST.

Big Steamer Wrecked and Passengers Washed Overboard.

London, Feb. 22.—The worst disaster for many years in the history of the busy cross-channel traffic between England and the continent occurred during a violent gale shortly before 6 o'clock this morning, when the Rotterdam mail steamer Berlin, from Harwich to Hook of Holland, having satisfactorily weathered the hurricane, was wrecked as she was entering port.

Altogether 143 persons are either dead or clinging hopelessly to the wreck. The terrific seas broke upon the steamer with such awful suddenness that attempts to save life appear to have been utterly hopeless. Late tonight it is reported that a few survivors were clinging to the wreck, but as the heroic efforts all day of the lifeboat crews had failed to reach them, little hope that they will be saved remains.

The cause has not yet been assigned for the disaster and it probably never will be known how the steamer came to miss the channel. It is conjectured that some derangement of the engines or steering gear may have rendered the vessel uncontrollable. Captain Precious has a good record of 14 years' service.

The list of passengers was lost, and all the names of those who were on board have not yet been learned, but as far as has been ascertained there were no Americans among them.

A terrific southwest gale was blowing inshore, and drove the steamer on a sand bank close to the northern jetty as she was trying to enter the new waterway. Heavy seas quickly pounded the vessel to pieces. She broke in two, her fore part sinking immediately, while the doomed passengers and crew clustered upon the after part.

PLAYGROUNDS FOR CHILDREN.

Roosevelt Endorses Movement to Acquire Them in Cities.

Washington, Feb. 22.—Municipal playgrounds within easy walking distance for every boy and girl in the large cities were advocated tonight by President Roosevelt in a letter, and by Representative Boutell, of Chicago; E. E. Brown, United States commissioner of education; Henry S. Carlis, superintendent of Washington playgrounds, and other speakers at a "playgrounds banquet" given under the auspices of the Washington Playgrounds association. Mr. Boutell explained the object of his bill now pending in congress.

The president in his letter expressed hope that Mr. Boutell's bill for playgrounds in Washington will pass congress, that sites may be secured before prices become prohibitive, saying: "I regard this as one of the most important steps toward making Washington the model city which we all feel that the capital should be."

He praises the work in this direction done by Chicago and the High School Athletic league of New York, and calls attention to the inclusion of games in the curriculum of German and English schools and several noted private schools in America.

GREAT REJOICING IN UTAH.

State Legislature Congratulates Senator, Smoot and Sutherland.

Salt Lake City, Feb. 22.—Among the active Republicans and the leaders of the Mormon church there was great rejoicing when the news came from Washington that Senator Smoot had been sustained. By unanimous standing vote the lower house of the Utah legislature adopted the following joint resolution, which was also introduced in the senate:

"Be it resolved by the legislature of the state of Utah, that, in determining that Hon. Reed Smoot is entitled to his seat, the United States senate has stood for constitutional rights against powerful influences and has avoided a dangerous precedent.

"Therefore, the thanks and the congratulations of the state of Utah are hereby extended to the senate for its final action in this case.

"Personal congratulations are sent to Senator Smoot and his colleague, Senator Sutherland, and to the other senators who spoke and voted in protection of the rights of the state of Utah."

Committed to the Asylum.

Seattle, Feb. 22.—Esther Mitchell, who since July last has been confined in the county jail here, was sent to the state asylum for the insane at Steilacoom today. Superior Judge Frater, who called a lunacy commission to examine into the girl's mental condition, signed the commitment this morning. The killing of George Mitchell by his sister was the result of the reign of Holy Rollerism in Oregon. George Mitchell killed Franz Edmund Creffield, the Holy Roller leader, in this city last May.

Chamberlain a Physical Wreck.

London, Feb. 22.—An interesting authoritative statement concerning the health of Joseph Chamberlain is published here today. Although it does not confirm the worst rumors, it shows that Mr. Chamberlain is completely broken physically, although he is mentally alert.

IN THE NATIONAL HALLS OF CONGRESS

Friday, February 22.

Washington, Feb. 22.—The senate at tonight's session passed the bill making appropriations of \$1,947,383 for the support of the military academy. The bill was passed just as it came from the committee.

A discussion lasting throughout the entire day, to which was added a futile night session, failed to secure final action on the amendments to the agricultural appropriation bill proposing to make an increase of \$1,000,000 in the item for the support of the forest reserve. Forceful speeches were made by Burdett, Depew and Beveridge in defense of the work of Chief Forester Pinchot, and opposed to the extension of the forest service by Heyburn, who went into the entire subject.

Washington, Feb. 22.—The house in committee of the whole placed itself squarely on record today in favor of limiting the power of special agents of the department of the interior by a vote restricting the use of the appropriation of \$250,000 covered by the sundry civil appropriation bill to pay the salaries of such agents.

At 6:15 the committee rose, having completed 119 pages of the sundry civil bill.

Thursday, February 21.

Washington, Feb. 21.—It was conceded today by senators in charge of the agricultural bill that the grazing lease provision will be eliminated on a point of order. The reading of the bill was completed after most of the day had been spent in debate on the forestry system and the grazing measure, and it will again be considered tomorrow for final action.

An amendment was agreed to, at the suggestion of Nelson, which will add \$500 each year to the appropriation for agricultural colleges until the total amount for each state for these colleges shall be \$50,000 annually, instead of \$30,000, as at present.

Washington, Feb. 21.—The sundry civil appropriation bill was considered by the house today. By a vote of 165 to 41 general debate was closed and the bill was taken up under the five-minute rule.

Mann of Illinois offered an amendment, which was adopted, appropriating \$5,000 to enable the Interstate Commerce commission to investigate block signal systems and appliances for the automatic control of railway trains.

The house passed a number of bills and resolutions, including one calling on the secretary of the navy for information regarding repairs being made on the battleship Louisiana, and another enlarging the act relating shanghaiing.

The river and harbor bill was sent to conference.

Wednesday, February 20.

Washington, Feb. 20.—Senator Smoot retains his seat in the United States senate. This was decided today by a vote of 42 to 28, ending a long contest. Eighteen senators were paired, making the actual standing on the resolution 51 for and 37 against. Smoot did not vote and Wetmore was absent and not paired. Senators Fulton and Mulkey of Oregon, Piles and Ankeny of Washington and Heyburn of Idaho voted for Smoot, while Dubois of Idaho voted against him.

The naval appropriation bill, carrying \$100,727,607, was passed by the senate tonight in 52 minutes. All the committee amendments were agreed to. The only amendment adopted added \$250,000 to the appropriation for coal and transportation and \$130,000 for a powder plant at the Norfolk navy yard.

Washington, Feb. 20.—The postoffice appropriation bill, the largest ever reported by the committee on postoffices and post roads, passed the house today. All the provisions relating to increased pay affecting 90 per cent of the postal employees, which yesterday were stricken out on points of order, were today restored to the bill. This was accomplished by a rule presented by the committee on rules after the bill had been reported to the house by committee of the whole. Points of order were the feature of the day, the battle continuing throughout the session.

Tuesday, February 19.

Washington, Feb. 19.—Smoot's address to the senate today in defense of his position as senator was the feature of the session. He was supported by Dillingham of Vermont in an analytical

Says Pinchot Packed Hall.

Washington, Feb. 20.—Senator Heyburn, during a speech in the senate, flatly charged that the Forest service, on the occasion of his speech at the Irrigation congress in Boise last September, packed the hall with its employees, and, according to a prearranged plan, deliberately hissed him down when he was attacking Forester Pinchot and the administration. He said the hissing was done entirely by Forestry employees. Senator Carter, who presided at that meeting, promptly denied it.

speech on the evidence.

The senate spent several hours in further consideration of the forestry provisions in the agricultural appropriation bill, with the result that several amendments were agreed to which restrict the operations of the bureau in several respects. The section of the bill had not been completed when a recess was taken for the evening session.

The senate held a three-hour session tonight. Three hundred private pension bills and half a hundred private claim bills were passed.

Washington, Feb. 19.—After passing a number of bills under unanimous consent today, the house resumed consideration of the postoffice appropriation bill. During the general debate, which terminated at 4 o'clock, speeches were made by Gillespie of Texas, Murphy of Missouri, Robinson of Arkansas, Badgett of Tennessee, Lloyd of Missouri, Stonerson of Minnesota, Finley of South Carolina and Stafford of Wisconsin.

Monday, February 18.

Washington, Feb. 18.—After more than five hours consideration of the agricultural appropriation bill, the senate increased from \$3,500 to \$5,000 the salary of Gifford Pinchot, chief forester. The debate was devoted mostly to the methods of administration and general policy of the forest service, and at times broadened to include the public land question generally. Practically no progress was made on the agricultural bill.

Washington, Feb. 18.—The house today adopted a resolution presented by Overstreet, of Indiana, authorizing the clerk to insert a provision in the postoffice appropriation bill looking to the reduction of compensation to railroads for carrying the mail, to take effect July 1.

The amendment to the immigration bill, as passed by the senate Saturday, was agreed to in the house today. This will, it is believed, effectively bar Japanese coolies from the United States and settle the Japanese school question.

Saturday, February 16.

Washington, Feb. 16.—The Administration plan to settle the California-Japanese situation was approved in the senate today by the adoption of the senate committee report on the immigration bill. This report continues a provision which authorizes the president to exclude Japanese laborers from the United States at his discretion. The report will now go to the house for its approval, which is assured. The entire day was devoted to debate on the report.

Washington, Feb. 16.—In the discussion of the postoffice appropriation bill in the house today Overstreet said the committee had reached the conclusion that a reduction in the railway mail was absolutely necessary.

"The railroads are trying to stampee the house," he said, "yet there is not a scintilla of evidence to show that the reduction is excessive. The postal service will not be impaired in the slightest degree, and not a train will be cut off, notwithstanding the threats of the railroad companies. There has not been a telegram received by the members of this house from a business concern or a commercial body which has not been prompted by the railroads, and for one I refuse to be stampeded by their threats or deflected by their entreaties."

General debate on the bill was not concluded when the house adjourned.

Disregards President's Request.

Washington, Feb. 20.—The house committee on appropriations completely disregarded the president's request for an extra appropriation of \$500,000 for special agents to investigate public land entries and merely inserted in the sundry civil bill the regular appropriation of \$250,000. In view of the fact that the president greatly modified his order regarding the examination of entries, there is little necessity for an increased appropriation. It is very doubtful if the senate or house will increase this item.

Washington, Feb. 16.—The Navy department was informed today by cable that the cruiser Chicago had arrived at Acapulco, Salvador, whither she had been sent from Magdalena bay to look after American interests during the existing friction between Nicaragua and Honduras. The vessel will be kept within reach of cable connection with the department for a few days, ready to meet any demands upon her.

Not Drawing Two Salaries.

Washington, Feb. 19.—At yesterday's meeting of the senate committee on inter-oceanic canal, an effort was made to have reported on confirmation the names of the recently appointed canal commissioners, but it was frustrated by an objection from Culberson, who stated that he had heard it reported that Mr. Shonts is drawing a large salary from the Interborough Railroad company, in addition to his salary as canal commissioner. Mr. Shonts denied the report, but the denial was received too late to permit action.

BITTER FIGHT PROMISED.

House Will Endeavor to Pass Ship Subsidy Bill.

Washington, Feb. 20.—Ship subsidy will probably be considered by the house at night sessions late this week. Speaker Cannon and Representative Watson, the Republican whip, conferred with the president concerning the matter today and, although no positive agreement has been reached, Mr. Watson said that it now seems likely that the Littauer bill will be considered on the floor. In case the subsidy measure is taken up by the house it probably will be under a rule limiting the debate to two evenings, and the bill will be subject to amendment.

After the postoffice appropriation bill, which the house will dispose of today, the measure limiting the hours of railroad employes to 16 out of 24 will be taken up at the day sessions. The sundry civil bill will then be brought forward and, as there has been a general refusal to grant ship subsidy any time during the session, its friends asked for its consideration at night. They seem now about to win their point, although the general impression is that the subsidy bill will be bitterly attacked on the floor and amended in many ways, if not defeated entirely.

CONFER ON CANAL CONTRACT.

President Questions Oliver and Associates in Bidding.

Washington, Feb. 20.—The president told a number of contractors who are associated with W. J. Oliver in his bid for the construction of the Panama canal that a decision would not be reached before March 1. What will probably be the final conference preliminary to the decision was held today with a number of contractors associated with Mr. Oliver. Secretary Taft said that no conclusion had been reached today.

Those at the conference included, in addition to the president, Mr. Taft, Chairman Shonts and Mr. Rogers, counsel of the Isthmian Canal commission, and the following contractors and others associated with Mr. Oliver: Patrick F. Walsh, of Davenport; P. J. Brennan, of this city, Robert Russell, of Lynchburg; R. A. Chester, of the Commercial National bank, of this city, and L. C. Gunther, of Knoxville, Tenn. All of them were questioned by the president and his advisers as to their experience and as to the qualifications to do the work which they contract to do. All the contractors associated with Mr. Oliver have now been interviewed by the president except the dredgers. It has not yet been determined whether or not they will be required to come to Washington.

GREAT NORTHERN INDICTED.

Hill's Road is Accused of Rebating on Sugar.

New York, Feb. 20.—The Federal grand jury today indicted the Great Northern Railroad company on charges that in 1904 it paid \$10,000 in rebates on sugar shipments to Lowell M. Palmer, traffic agent of the American Sugar Refining company. A second count of the same indictment charges that \$554 additional rebates were paid to Mr. Palmer by various railroads in conjunction with the Great Northern.

The indictment charges that the Great Northern effected freight combinations with the Lehigh Valley, at the New York Central and the New York, New Haven & Hartford railroads, the through route of the last named being in combination with the Erie railroad, the Great Northern Steamship company and the Great Northern Railroad company, whereby sugar was transported from New York and Boston to Sioux City, Iowa, at less than the published tariffs.

The latter, the indictment charges, was 52 cents per 100 pounds, but through an agreement alleged to have been made by Alonzo W. Lake and A. W. Steel as agents of the Great Northern company, and Lowell M. Palmer, the agent of the American Sugar Refining company, it is charged that the sugar refining company was granted a through rate on sugar between the points named of 33 cents per 100 pounds.

Hawaiian Japanese Protest.

Honolulu, Feb. 20.—The following cablegram was sent to President Roosevelt last night by prominent Japanese: "The Hawaiian Japanese respectfully protest in the name of humanity and civilization against the prohibition of their emigration to the United States. It enslaves us permanently to Hawaiian capitalists." The Japanese Foreign office was cabled as follows: "The Hawaiian Japanese are unanimous in firm opposition to the action of the American congress in prohibiting them from emigration to America."

Great Cement Works Burned.

Alpena, Mich., Feb. 20.—The plant of the Alpena Portland Cement company was burned tonight. The loss is estimated at \$400,000.