

NAVY CONSIDERS TORPEDO ATTACK

Officials Turn to the Torpedoes as the Best Method of Modern Naval Warfare.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 9.—The feverish struggle for naval supremacy which has up to the present time centered upon the construction of fast battleships of the Dreadnaught type may shortly veer to the problem of torpedo attack as the next best method of destroying the big vessels which are being launched from the shipyards of the world powers. The present large battleships will probably be outdone in size by those now being designed, but it is the opinion of naval constructors that the limit has been nearly reached. Military experts are now devoting themselves to other qualities which may make them still more formidable or less formidable as the case may be.

There is still something to be done in the way of big guns. To this end the United States navy is making ready for its experiments with the new 14-inch rifle, which is to be tested at Indian Head, the naval proving grounds. This huge piece of armament is now due at the naval gun factory at Washington, where it is to be rifled and where the breech mechanism is to be attached. At a steel plant near Washington the huge 1600-pound projectiles it will fire are being finished.

The particular value of the new gun is not in its increased range or increased size essentially. Its muzzle velocity is less than that of the present 10 and 12-inch guns. Its trajectory, the line of flight of the shell, will therefore be much higher. The higher the shell goes the less likely it is to ricochet when it strikes the water. On the contrary, it is more likely to continue its downward flight through the water with the possibility of striking the ship. It is aimed at below the armor belt. To offset this possibility, the United States has recently followed the practice of other nations in building longitudinal bulkheads the entire length of the ship to prevent sinking in case the side were penetrated.

TRONSON HEARS NEWS OF SELF

Since Winning Title "Apple King of America" Papers Have Told Many Stories

"Spokane, Wash., Nov. 30.—H. B. Tronson of Eagle Point, Oregon, a native of England, born in Devonshire was designated quality apple king of America, by Professor H. E. Van Deman, of Washington, D. C., head of a board of five judges and experts of international reputation, at the second national apple show in Spokane, Washington, November 15 to 20, when he won the sweepstake of \$1,000, and a first class prize of \$250 and sold the prize winning fruit at \$5 a box, or \$3,150 for the entry.

"Mr. Tronson came to America about 25 years ago, settling first in Montreal, afterward going to Winnipeg, Manitoba, where he served with the 90th battalion, Winnipeg Rifles, during the Riel rebellion, later removing to Oregon."

The above is from the Montreal (Canada) Star of November 30th. Mr. Tronson was amused when his attention was called to the item and said: "How they made me a resident of Montreal, I can't imagine, as I have never been in the city, except passing through it. However, I have a number of warm friends there. I am getting marked papers from everywhere mentioning the winning of the Spokane prize, and some of the comments are really amusing, one of them in particular, I have really forgotten the name of the paper, says that after taking five ears of apples from five acres, the sweepstake ear was selected from what was left. Now, I believe that the editor of that paper is capable of holding down a situation as a booster, even in southern Oregon. He certainly has a fine imagination and here the facts would keep him so busy that he would not be compelled to strain it."

Here is a snort: 160 acres one mile from railroad station; 100 acres good red soil, several thousand cords good wood which has a ready market. Price, \$1750; one-third cash, long time on balance. P. O. box 544. 231*

WHEN AND WHY IS A WHITE MAN?

Bureau of Immigration Would Like Very Much to Have That Question Cleared Up.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 9.—What is a "white man?" The bureau of immigration would like very much to have this mooted question cleared up. To all intents and purposes a white man is a white man—but when it comes to separating the peoples of the world into the four great racial subdivisions—white, black, yellow and red—a man may be white, and yet not be a white man—or at least that is the way it is at present.

The perplexing question comes up in connection with the citizenship laws of the country. Unfortunately the laws covering the subject are not lucid or comprehensive, and courts have to consider legal opinions by other tribunals in administering them. Wherefore it comes to pass that a Syrian or Turk, who is as white as a native born American is denied citizenship and classed as an "Asiatic." A Spaniard, with swarthy skin and black hair, is given citizenship papers, but a Hindu, with skin as light as the free born American, is held not to be a "white man" and denied participation in the privileges of American citizenship.

And so it happens that something over half of the people in the United States at this moment aren't eligible to naturalization.

Some of the weird anomalies of the law and court decisions on the citizenship statutes make it possible for the blackest African—no matter how uncivilized or obnoxious he may be—to become a citizen, while the well educated Japanese, Chinese, Burmese, Turks, Hindus and Syrians are denied this privilege. The African gets the privilege because of a special "enabling provision" tacked on to the statute books soon after the civil war.

Several carloads of granite from the Gold Ray quarry were unloaded in Medford this week for use in the foundation of the hotel building at the corner of Central avenue and Eighth street.

HEAVY DOCKET DECEMBER TERM

One Hundred and Twenty-Seven Cases Are Down for Trial.

The docket for the December term of circuit court is a big one, comprising one hundred and twenty-seven cases of all kinds.

Thirty-six of these are actions at law, seventy-five equity, and sixteen criminal. Several of the latter appear on the docket, being carried over from last term, which will be dismissed at the opening of court.

W. T. Grieve is attending the meeting of assessors in Salem. Mrs. Grieve accompanies him.

ALLEGED BOOTLEGGERS ARRESTED AT EUGENE

EUGENE, Or., Dec. 9.—Harry Jackson, Harvey Jones and three other men designated as Richard Roe, John Doe and John Dick, their true names unknown, were arrested yesterday charged with bootlegging. They were arranged before Judge Bryson of the justice court, and each entered a plea of not guilty, and their trial was set for Thursday forenoon at 9:30 o'clock and their bail was fixed at \$250 each, but none of them is able to furnish it.

All of the men are laborers and the three whose names are not given are transients, having recently come here. Jones has figured a number of times in police and justice court circles on various charges. The men are accused of selling liquor by the bottle on the streets, and they have no regular place of business.

These are the first arrests for liquor selling for several months, the practice having been pretty well stamped out by the vigorous prosecutions in the past.

NOTICE.
Members of First Methodist choir: Every member and those who kindly assisted are asked to again help in singing West's anthem, "The Lord is Exalted" next Sunday evening. On account of Dr. Young's lecture there will be no regular practice this week. FORREST EDMANDES.

PREPARING FOR TRUST ATTACK

Treasury Department Getting in Shape to Resist All Attacks Which May Be Made Upon Corporation Tax.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Dec. 9.—The treasury department is already preparing to resist the forthcoming assaults by the big corporations on the new corporation tax. There isn't any doubt but that this measure will be assailed and that the courts must in the end pass upon its provisions. For this reason Secretary MacVeagh is interested personally in seeing that his officials make no errors in legal way in the administration of the measure.

Millions of dollars will pour into the treasury next June from the new law. How long it will remain there is another question. Presumably the measure will be attacked through suits for recovery of money paid by corporations. It will probably take a good many months to settle the question of its validity once and for all—and the supreme court of the United States will undoubtedly have the final word.

It is this very likelihood that brings up an interesting question. Nobody doubts that the corporation tax law will be attacked on the ground that it is an income tax within the meaning of the constitution rather than an excise tax, despite the fact it is distinctly labelled the latter. In this view, consideration of the law may give the supreme court a chance to pass anew on the income tax question and perhaps reverse itself.

Secretary MacVeagh is anxious that the square question of constitutionality shall be the one yone to be aired in the courts, and not small matters of administration of the law. For this reason he is proceeding with exceeding care and caution in the preparation of the blanks on which the returns from the various corporations will be made to the department. He doesn't want to give the corporations a chance to find any flaws in these blanks.

O. Harbaugh of Jacksonville was in Medford on business Thursday.

SEAMEN MISSING BURNING VESSEL

Six aGin Shore But Captain and 12 Members of Crew Are Still Unheard From.

CLEVELAND, Ohio, Dec. 9.—Two seamen are dead and twelve missing following the burning of the Anchor line steamer, Clarion, at midnight.

Six members of the crew, who were taken from the burning ship by the steamer Hanna, brought the news of the disaster to Cleveland at daybreak. The survivors suffered severely from exposure but are expected to recover.

According to the story they told Captain E. J. Bell of Ogdenburg, N. Y., with twelve members of the crew, left the doomed vessel in a light steel lifeboat. The seas on the lake were running high, and it is feared they were lost. Seven men were left on the Clarion when the larger party took to the boats. They endeavored to escape in a yawl, but the frail craft capsized.

Six of the men succeeded in regaining the Clarion's decks, but the seventh was drowned. They then took refuge on the burning ship, retreating before the advancing fire until they were discovered by the Hanna's lookout.

JOE BROWN CANDIDATE FOR COUNCIL

(Continued from page 1.)
Feeling that he should continue in that he should continue in that office and carry the work through to completion, the people declining to "swap horses while crossing a stream." If Mr. Merrick consents to run there is little doubt as to his re-election.

Regret Wortman's Refusal.
Much regret has been expressed in regard to Mr. Wortman's declining to run again in the second ward as he has done much good work while a member of the council.

In the third ward Mr. Eifert is being urged to run but so far has declined. It is stated that he has given more time than he can afford to the city. His many friends however are urging that he consent to become a candidate.

OWNERSHIP MAPS NEARLY COMPLETE

Abstract Company Completing Contract For County Which Calls for Sum of \$15,000.

The present ownership books contracted for by the county from the Jackson County Abstract Co., are being rapidly completed and delivered. Seven volumes have already been delivered and the others will follow.

This service will cost Jackson county \$15,000, but will be worth the money in the saving of time of officials and in property being found which has escaped assessment for years.

"I believe," said Judge Neil, "that the county will be reimbursed for this expenditure within two years from the property placed on the assessment roll which has heretofore been overlooked, or wrongly assessed. The books will enable the assessor to tell at a glance to whom every parcel of land in the county belongs, and will furnish a check on his assessment, so that it may be readily determined whether any particular parcel has been assessed. A short time ago I received a letter from a non-resident owner inquiring about his taxes, and found by looking at these books—the volume in which his land in question was listed having been delivered—I found the property, traced it back and discovered that it had not been assessed for three years. Of course, that is not an isolated case, there are others."

KING LEOPOLD DOES NOT IMPROVE IN HEALTH
BRUSSELS, Belgium, Dec. 9.—The condition of King Leopold of Belgium who is said to be suffering from paralysis, is not improved today and fears are expressed that he will not recover.

The monarch was unconscious for two hours this morning and was revived only by the application of stimulants. The court physicians are in constant attendance at his bedside.

CARELESSNESS IS CAUSE OF WRECK

Argo's Captain Charged With Gross Negligence for Wreck of Steamer.

PORTLAND, Dec. 9.—Carelessness and negligence in attempting to cross Tillamook Bar in the half ebb tide November 26, is the reason given by the local inspectors of steam vessels for suspending the license of Captain Levi Snyder, master of the wrecked steamer Argo, for twelve months.

The decision was made public this morning and for the next year Captain Snyder will not be allowed to take command of another steamer.

On her return trip from Portland to Tillamook the Argo arrived off the bar at the entrance to Tillamook Bay, November 26, and according to the evidence in the hands of the inspectors, Captain Snyder made the attempt to cross at the time the time was at the half ebb. Shortly after starting over the bar the steamer struck and was rendered helpless, drifting out with the tide.

Forty acres first-class pear, peach or grape land, 4 1/2 miles from railroad station, close to school, daily mail, phone and main county road; easily cleared. Price, \$2000; \$800 cash; long time on balance. 231*

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If you miss this early Xmas sale you will not only miss an opportunity to save, but you will miss seeing the larger assortments. Hundreds of people are picking out their presents now and laying them aside. Our force of clerks will take care of all who come and we won't keep you waiting—and we will be glad to help in any way. We invite you here this week.

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It pays to deal with the "Man Who Knows." When the Rogue River Land Company sold the Tronson & Guthrie orchard at Eagle Point to the prize winning owners, four years ago, the salesman, W. M. Holmes, assured the purchasers those Spitzenberg trees would produce the world's best apples, and subsequent events prove the soundness of his judgment. By the way: Did it ever occur to you that most of the men who have won out in the Rogue River Valley, bought their winning orchards through the Rogue River Land Company?

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