

# THE COLUMBIA REGISTER

VOL. I.

HOULTON, COLUMBIA COUNTY, OREGON, FRIDAY, JUNE 24, 1904.

NO. 9.

## EVENTS OF THE DAY

### GATHERED FROM ALL PARTS OF THE TWO HEMISPHERES.

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

The Vladivostok squadron has returned to Port.

Japanese artillery is using lyddite shells extensively.

Russia believes Japan is tiring of the war and would welcome mediation.

The coroner's inquiry into the wreck of the General Slocum has commenced.

The release of captives Perdicaris and Varley has again been delayed for a week.

According to Russian advice the Standard Oil company has absorbed the Russian oil trust.

The Russian army at Mukden is now able to take a much needed rest as the Japanese advance has stopped.

The Portland mine, in Cripple Creek, the former stronghold of unionism, will hereafter employ nonunion help.

The Connecticut court has ruled that W. J. Bryan must turn over to Mrs. Philo Bennett all the money from the estate of her late husband.

The Transcontinental Passenger association is in session at St. Paul. The most important matter to come before the meeting for consideration will be rates to the Lewis and Clark exposition.

A big battle is imminent in Southern Manchuria.

The British battleship Prince of Wales is at Tangier.

All the Russian ships at Port Arthur are repaired and ready for sea.

Representative Tawney is sure the Lewis and Clark fair will be a success in every way.

The city of New York will raise the wreck of the General Slocum to make sure it contains no bodies.

The fourth of the transports which met with the Russian Vladivostok squadron is now known to have been sunk.

Fanatical Mongols are being urged to revolt by alleged apostles of the god Arvol and may cause the Russians much trouble.

Lieutenant General von Wahl, formerly chief of police of St. Petersburg, is likely to be appointed governor general of Finland.

The directors of the Portland mine will dismiss the damage action begun by their superintendent against the state of Colorado for closing the mine.

It is believed that the Japanese fleet has met the Russian Vladivostok squadron near Sasebo.

The Teamsters' union, of Chicago, and their employers are expected to have trouble shortly.

Many of the Japanese on the transports sunk by the Russians committed suicide rather than be captured.

The number of vessels in the Port Arthur harbor at present is 15, including merchantmen and warships.

Authorities at Cripple Creek claim to have the man in jail who blew up the Independence depot platform.

Great Britain and Russia are said to be on the eve of reaching an understanding regarding the yellow peril.

The big break in the Sacramento river near Stockton has been closed and the flow of water checked. The loss to farmers, however, will be extensive.

The train robbers who held up the Northern Pacific train in Montana secured \$50,000. Kid Curry, the former Montana bandit is leading a posse in pursuit.

Cuba has been swept by a hurricane which caused many deaths and great damage.

The sultan of Morocco has alarmed Tangier by sending troops of the worst type there.

The Portland mine will sue the state of Colorado for \$100,000 on account of being closed by the military.

The Vladivostok squadron is now known to have sunk two Japanese transports, which carried about 1,000 men down with them.

General Stalkeberg, badly beaten at Vafangow, may yet save his army by retreating. Two batteries of artillery have been literally ut to pieces by the Japanese and of their 16 guns, 13 were so badly damaged as to be rendered utterly worthless and were abandoned.

Two masked men held up the North Coast Limited Northern Pacific passenger train near Bearmouth, Montana. The safe in to express car was blown open and the contents taken. It is not known how much was secured, but it is believed the sum was large.

## CANADA MAY COME.

Appropriation of \$50,000 for Lewis and Clark Fair.

Portland, June 22.—Canada may conclude to take an active part in the Lewis and Clark exposition. While that government has in the past seemed disinclined to participate, a change has been wrought in the eleventh hour. A bill making an appropriation of \$50,000 is to be introduced at once in the Canadian parliament.

Telegraphic communication to this effect was received at Lewis and Clark headquarters yesterday morning. The telegram was received from Colonel H. E. Dosh, commissioner general, who recently went to Ottawa to interest the Canadian officials in the fair. It was addressed to Director General Goode, but, as Mr. Goode has been out of the city for a week past, the message was received by Secretary Henry Reed. The message is as follows:

"After many consultations and interviews, outlook for Canada's participation is favorable. Ministers will ask parliament for \$50,000."

This news was a pleasant surprise to fair officials, who had all but given up hope of getting the Canadian government interested. All communications sent to Ottawa and to Canadian officials had been courteously replied to, but the tone of the replies was not encouraging. There seemed to be a disposition on the part of the Canadian people to concentrate their efforts on making a fine exhibit at the fair in Belgium, which takes place next year, almost simultaneously with the Lewis and Clark exposition.

In the event parliament makes the appropriation asked for, it is thought the province of British Columbia can be brought into line. It is known that British Columbia has been holding back to see what reception the exposition will get from the general government before taking any action. Favorable action from the general government will, therefore, it is believed, insure the participation of British Columbia as a province.

## RAID STILL ON.

Russian Vladivostok Squadron is Again Sighted Off Japan.

Tokio, June 22.—The Russian Siberian squadron from Vladivostok was sighted again at noon yesterday off Main island in the sea of Japan, but was apparently following out a prearranged plan, as the vessels steamed at about 11 knots' speed slowly toward the northwest, paying no attention to the shores.

Judging by their position in the water, they are heavily laden and it is supposed that before leaving Vladivostok on this last trip they filled all of their reserve bunkers with coal, so that they can keep out of port for not less than three weeks.

In spite of the menace to their transport fleet the Japanese officials here declare that their original plans will be carried out, no matter what the cost. They declare that there is no chance for the Port Arthur squadron to make a sortie to join Admiral Skrydloff, as Admiral Togo has so disposed of his ships about the harbor mouth that any vessels putting out will be sunk before they are even clear of the roadstead.

## WORRYING THE JAPANESE.

Skrydloff's Squadron's Work Appreciated at St. Petersburg.

St. Petersburg, June 22.—Vice Admiral Skrydloff's message to the emperor from Vladivostok, in which he details the operations of the squadron, indicates that he has accounted for at least three of the Japanese transports besides a suspected collier. The message does not indicate the present whereabouts of the squadron. The fact that the collier was sent to Vladivostok under a prize crew might indicate that the news of the operations of the squadron was brought there by her and that the cruisers are still at sea.

The destruction of an aggregate of 15,000 tons of shipping besides troops and crews and a valuable cargo of supplies is considered here as being a good showing for the raid made by the cruisers. It is thought that it will have a moral effect and will besides necessarily divert a considerable section of Vice Admiral Togo's fleet.

## Strategy is Criticized.

Liao Yang, June 22.—For the first time since the beginning of the war, General Kuropatkin has taken personal direction of the operations, and in consequence of his having assumed the offensive results different from those following recent events are anticipated. The tactics of the Japanese are admired here, but their strategy is criticized, especially with regard to the battle of Vafandien. During the battle the infantry extended over the field further than the eye could reach, one division covering six miles.

## Liner Australia Wrecked.

Melbourne, June 22.—The Peninsula & Oriental liner Australia, inward bound, struck on the rocks at Point Nepean today, and it is feared she will be a total loss. The passengers and crew were landed safely. She was of 3,700 tons net.

## SHOT BY RUSSIANS

### NEW YORK NEWSPAPER MAN MISTAKEN FOR A SPY.

Colonel Edward Emerson, Jr., Cabied Last Month That He Would Leave Japanese Army, as He Could Get Into Lines of the Enemy—Report Gives No Details.

New York, June 22.—A cable dispatch to the World today, which is not signed, and which the World says was probably forwarded by the American legation at Pekin, announces the shooting of Colonel Edward Emerson, Jr., one of the World's correspondents in the Far East, and conveyed the impression that he had been killed. The cable stated that it was reported that Emerson had been shot by Russians, who mistook him for a spy.

A letter was received from Emerson by the World shortly before the receipt of this cable, dated May 14, containing these expressions:

"Mukden is muzzled; no news can get out from there. I find I can get into the Russian lines."

Emerson left the Japanese army some time ago, and pushed on to Mukden.

### SAYS RUSSIA LOST 7,000 MEN.

Wounded Officer Says No Troops Could Have Withstood Japanese.

Niu Chwang, June 22.—A Russian officer who was wounded in the battle at Vafangow (Telisu) told an Associated Press correspondent that the losses on both sides were severe. He places the Russian casualties at least at 7,000. He says no soldiers in the world could withstand the Japanese as they have been fighting lately. Their artillery fire, he asserts, is marvelously effective. The Russians fought stubbornly, desperately, but were unable to withstand the enemy's dashing persistency.

Several hundred wounded Russians have been sent north, owing to a lack of hospitals and surgeons. All the available transportation has to be used for supplies at the expense of the sick and wounded. The Japanese buried most of the Russian dead after the battle.

It is estimated on the information obtainable that the force moving northward is 70,000 strong, with 90,000 men in the aggregate engaged in the operations at Port Arthur. Several Japanese spies have recently been captured a few miles south of Niu Chwang.

The Russians are becoming more vigilant and are watching newspaper messages closely.

### JAPANESE LOSSES ONLY 1,000.

Tokio Believes Vafangow Battle Cost the Enemy 10,000 Men.

Tokio, June 22.—Further reports received here show that the blow inflicted by General Oku on the Russians in the fighting at Telisu (Vafangow) on June 15, was more severe than at first was believed. The number of Russians killed in this battle probably will exceed 2,000, and their total losses, including prisoners, is estimated at 10,000. The Japanese losses are less than 1,000, or about one-tenth of the Russian total.

Up to June 17, General Oku had buried 1,516 dead and he reports that many more dead have been found.

Chinese who witnessed the fighting from the Russian side report that the Russians removed many dead men from the trains with their wounded, and that they buried or cremated many corpses in the village of Huanungkou before they retreated.

The number of prisoners and trophies taken by the Japanese is increasing. General Oku is not yet able to report the total number of prisoners.

### Four-Story Brick Collapses.

Kansas City, June 22.—One person was killed, another probably is dead, buried under tons of debris, and seven others were injured, one fatally, here today by the collapse of the four-story brick building at Third and Delaware streets, occupied by the Block preserving company. The collapse was caused by the explosion of ammonia on the fourth floor. One side of the structure, extending its whole height, fell in. There were 50 girls on the upper stories at the time, and a panic prevailed among them.

### Large Fire at Utah Mine.

Park City, Utah, June 22.—The big No. 2 hoist of the Ontario mine, located near this city, was totally destroyed today, throwing 200 men out of employment and causing a nominal loss of \$400,000. The actual loss, however, will not greatly exceed \$600,000, the loss otherwise being an immense Cornish pump, which has not been used since the completion of the Ontario tunnel, which drains that district, several years ago.

## DEATH LIST GROWS.

Total Loss of Life in Steamer Disaster Now Put at 700.

New York, June 18.—With unceasing effort search is going on for the bodies of those who perished yesterday on the steamer General Slocum. What the list of victims will total scarcely anyone dares venture to guess, but whatever the number may be, there is hardly a parallel in the history of disasters where death came to so many in so brief a period of time. Police and health department officials have placed the number at a figure as high as 1,000 and more, but tonight it would seem that the maximum figure will not largely exceed 700.

All day long, until darkness shut off even the melancholy satisfaction of watching for the dead, anxious searchers kept up their vigilance and at dusk there had been recovered 536 bodies, for the greater part women and children—mothers who, weeks ago, had planned that fatal outing for their children, and little ones who had longed for the coming of the happy day.

Up to dusk 499 bodies had passed through the morgue and of these more than 300 were unidentified. The East Side had its sympathy aroused to the fullest extent, and down by the river, where the boats unloaded their dead, thousands gathered throughout the day. Streets leading to the morgue were blocked, and only with difficulty could the police clear the passages leading to the long rows of coffins for those who came in search for the missing.

Up the sound, where the bulk of the General Slocum lies submerged, showing only a paddle-box, scores of small craft aided the tugs in grappling for the victims. Divers went down time and time again, and when the work ended for the day they declared there were no more bodies in the wreck. A score of times a diver reappeared after his plunge with the body of a woman or a child. Two of them coming to the surface together on one occasion had in their arms two little girls, sisters, clasped in each other's embrace, and their mother, it was thought, whose dead hand tightly clenched the skirt of one of them.

As far as they could, the divers searched the wreck from stem to stern. The wreck lies about 200 feet off Brestons Point. At this point the water is deep and the current is swift, and beyond a doubt many bodies have been borne along with the tide to be given up on a later day at some distant point.

## HARBOR FREE TOO LATE.

Japanese Have Already Landed Men to Attack Port Arthur.

Tokio, June 18.—A flotilla of torpedoboats and torpedoboat destroyers, under command of Captain Tsuchiya and co-operating with the army, made a reconnaissance in force near Siau Ping island yesterday and bombarded the Russian outposts on the coast to the west of the island. Siau Ping island is 12 miles to the west of Port Arthur.

At noon the Russian cruiser Novik, conveying ten torpedoboat destroyers, steamed out from Port Arthur. The Russian shore batteries protected these vessels with a heavy cannonade. The Japanese flotilla retreated slowly, firing as it went, for the purpose of decoying the enemy to sea. At 3 o'clock in the afternoon the Russian ships returned to the entrance of Port Arthur.

The fact that the Novik came out of Port Arthur makes it certain that the Russians have succeeded in blasting a channel through the cement laden merchantmen sunk by the Japanese in the entrance to the harbor. This freedom of egress comes too late to permit of any effect upon the operations of the Japanese army, for men, guns and stores have practically all been landed, and Admiral Togo is capable of keeping the remnants of the Russian fleet imprisoned in Port Arthur.

Last Monday night Japanese vedette boats, protected by torpedo boats and torpedo boat destroyers, succeeded in reaching the entrance to Port Arthur and planting a series of mines there. The darkness of midnight favored the operation. The Japanese vessels were not observed and they returned to the rest of the squadron without having sustained any damage.

## Urges Fair Exhibit.

St. Louis, June 18.—Before departing for New York, Prince Pun Lun announced himself as a self appointed committee of one to secure China's participation in the Lewis and Clark exposition to be held in Portland, Or., in 1905. The prince remarked to Theodore Hardee, assistant to Secretary Walter B. Stevens, that he was very much impressed with the American idea of celebrating the anniversaries of great events with big expositions, and declared he would use every effort to secure Chinese participation.

## Russians Marching on Port Arthur.

Tien Tsin, June 18.—It has been learned here from a Russian source that 40,000 Russians passed Tashichow, 20 miles south of Niu Chwang, going south. It is supposed that this force is going to the relief of Port Arthur.

## 600 LIVES ARE LOST

### BIG EXCURSION STEAMER TAKES FIRE OFF NEW YORK.

Pot of Grease Overturned and Flames Spread to All Parts of Boat in Short Time—Women and Children Trampled Under Foot, Many Pushed Overboard, Others Leap to Escape Heat.

New York, June 17.—One of the most appalling disasters in the history of New York, tragic in its immensity, dramatic in its episodes, and deeply pathetic in the tender age of most of its victims, took place today in the East river, at the entrance to Long Island Sound, within a short distance of the New York shore, and within sight of thousands of persons, the majority of whom were powerless to minimize the extent of the catastrophe.

By the burning to the water's edge of the Slocum, a three-decked excursion steamer, one of the largest in these waters, more than 600 persons, the majority of whom were women and children, were burned to death or drowned by jumping overboard or by being thrown into the whirlpools by the lurching of the vessel and the frantic ruan of the panic-stricken passengers. Four hundred and eighty-five bodies have been recovered, and are now being tagged at the morgues of Bellevue hospital and Harlem.

Divers were still busy at a late hour taking bodies from the hold of the vessel, which, they say, is choked with the remains of human bodies, while the bodies of scores who leaped, or were thrown, into the river have not been recovered.

It is variously estimated that there were between 1,500 and 2,500 persons on board the General Slocum when she left the pier at Third street, East River, though the Knickerbocker Steamship company, which owns the Slocum, officially states that the number of passengers was 837, that being only one-third of the vessel's capacity. It is thought, however, that there were several hundred children in arms, for whom fares are not usually charged on these trips.

The General Slocum left Third street, East River, at 9:30 o'clock this morning, having on board the Sunday school excursion of St. Mark's German Lutheran church, located in Sixth street. Her destination was Locust Grove, one of the many resorts on Long Island Sound.

The Slocum had reached a point near the Sunken Meadows, off 135th street, Manhattan, which is at the extreme eastern end of Randall's Island, when the fire broke out. The headway of the vessel and the high wind almost instantly fanned the insignificant flame into fury. Efforts were at once directed to subduing the fire, but they were futile. The blaze spread aft with almost lightning rapidity. Captain Vanschaek then headed for shore. The great open decks, built for excursionists, with little obstruction from bow to stern, offered a clear sweep for the fire. As the Slocum dashed forward, the flames caught stanchion and cabin woodwork, eating and tearing their way across the vessel.

As the fire increased, the struggle to gain a point of vantage at the stern became frightful. Women and children crowded against the aft rail until it gave way and hundreds were pushed off into the river. After this there was a steady stream of persons who jumped or were thrown into the water. In the wake of the Slocum as she hurried upstream was a line of little black specks marking the heads and bodies of those who had sought to escape the roaring furnace on the ship by throwing themselves overboard.

### Reinforcements for Kuropatkin.

St. Petersburg, June 17.—The appointment of Lieutenant General Leonidas Dembowski as commander of the Fifth East Siberian army corps is evidence that larger reinforcements are to be placed at General Kuropatkin's disposal. The four corps originally formed of Siberian troops are mobilized in Manchuria and other drafts have been sent out to the Far East. The organization of the new corps, independent of the Russian corps ordered from European Russia shows that Kuropatkin now has 200,000 troops.

### Another of Bandit's Demands Met.

Tangier, June 17.—Two Sheiks of Ben M. Suar have been imprisoned by the governor of Tangier. This fulfills another of Raisuli's conditions for the release of his captives, Messrs. Perdicaris and Varley. The sheiks imprisoned are two of those who helped treacherously to capture Raisuli some time ago.

## FEAR TO PAY BANDIT.

Ministers Object Giving Him Gold Until Captives are Free.

Washington, June 21.—A cablegram received at the state department from Consul General Gummere at Tangier, in confirming the press report that the sultan has agreed to all of Raisuli's terms, adds the bandit requested that the money ransom, \$55,000, be paid over today. Mr. Gummere expressed grave doubts as to the advisability of making this payment before Perdicaris and Varley were actually released, and safely returned to Tangier.

In his cablegram the consul general states that Raisuli's negotiator returned to Tangier last night and reported that the terms had been accepted and the money as well as the prisoners released by the sultan today must be immediately turned over to Raisuli at Tarsadant, where he is now located, and the captives will be released.

Mr. Gummere and the British minister both objected to this plan, on the ground that they placed everything in Raisuli's hands and they had no assurance that he would carry out his agreement after he got hold of the money. Therefore they sent a special courier to Raisuli, suggesting that the exchange be effected through the sheriff of Wasen, who had a powerful influence over Raisuli. The answer is expected tomorrow.

Based on past experience, it is feared Raisuli is not to be depended upon, and once he has the money in hand and still controls the prisoners, he will make fresh demands. However, nothing more can be done at this stage, according to Mr. Gummere, and the state department will await the conclusion of this last attempt to free the prisoners.

## CURRENCY FOR PANAMA.

Commission Makes the Dollar of the United States the Standard.

Washington, June 21.—The commission charged with the preparation of a currency system for Panama today reached an agreement, which establishes a coin equivalent in fineness and weight to the dollar of the United States as the standard, and which also makes the United States dollar legal tender in Panama.

Under the terms of the agreement, the Panama government will receive or convert the Colombian silver into coins of the size of a silver dollar. The amount of this silver in Panama is now estimated at \$1,500,000.

At the request of Secretary Taft, it was agreed to coin more silver until a total of \$6,000,000 is reached. In order to retain a parity with gold, there will be deposited in some reputable bank in New York 15 per cent of the amount coined, and, in addition, there will be deposited all the seignorage which Panama will make in the coinage to meet the American government's requirements. The agreement provides for a joint arrangement between the government of Panama and the canal commission, under which, by selling drafts and drawing on the funds exchange can be kept down to a reasonable figure, not above 2 per cent and thus avoid large fluctuations of the rate.

## UNABLE TO BLOCK HARBOR.

Japanese Make Another Desperate Attempt at Port Arthur.

Liao Yang, June 21.—According to trustworthy news from Port Arthur, the Japanese, before June 14, made a fourth unsuccessful attempt to block the entrance to the harbor, using four fire ships, two of which were immediately sunk by shots from the batteries, the other two withdrawing. The Russian fleet, according to these advices, is intact, and the spirits of the garrison and inhabitants are excellent.

The soldiers are eager to fight and are confident of the impossibility of the taking of Port Arthur by the Japanese. Most of the inhabitants have enlisted in the volunteers and 600 women have offered their services. Perfect order is maintained and trade and industry are carried on as usual.

Provisions are plentiful, there being a sufficient supply to last six months on full rations and a year at reduced rations. The Japanese outposts are 18 miles from Port Arthur.

## Forces Now More Even.

Liao Yang, June 21.—The retirement of the Russians before a superior force from Vafangow and the advance of the Japanese east and north makes imminent a still more important engagement in the southern region. The Japanese have now arrived at a point where the forces are more equal, and where they must fight on more even terms. The loss of 2,000 men by the Russian divisions at Vafangow shows the courage and ability of the officers and troops to retain their position under a percentage of loss almost unprecedented.

## Japanese Loan in Great Demand.

London, June 21.—A dispatch to the Central News from Tokio announces that the total subscriptions to the second issue of exchequer bonds (\$50,000,000) amounted to \$160,246,782. The bonds are issued at 92, bear 5 per cent interest and are to run for seven years.