

THE COLUMBIA REGISTER

VOL. I.

HOULTON, COLUMBIA COUNTY, OREGON, FRIDAY, AUGUST 5, 1904.

NO. 15.

WEEK'S DOINGS

News Items Gathered from All Parts of the World.

OF INTEREST TO OUR READERS

General Review of Important Happenings Presented in a Brief and Condensed Form.

Railway telegraphers on Texas roads are on a strike.

The government statement for July shows a large deficit.

Large receipts of livestock are being received and handled at the Chicago stockyards.

Special efforts will be made at San Francisco by the government in the land fraud cases.

The battleship Ohio fell below the required speed in the first trial trip in Santa Barbara channel.

The New York Building Trades alliance has caused work to cease on a number of large buildings.

The "Diamond Special" on the Illinois Central was held up near Chicago by four masked men who went through the coaches and secured \$10,000 in booty and escaped.

General Count Keller was killed by a Japanese shell July 29 while resisting the preliminary attack of General Kuroki's army. He is the first high Russian officer to be killed in the Manchurian campaign.

A cloudburst in Nevada flooded several towns.

The assassin of Von Plehve still refuses to talk.

Packers and strikers both claim victories at Chicago.

Relations between France and the Vatican have been broken off.

The Japanese are said to have made great gains around Port Arthur.

Count Ignatieff will succeed to the Russian ministry of the interior.

The Santa Fe tracks were washed out for 12 miles by a flood in Arizona canyon.

Thirteen passengers on a Rochester, N. Y., trolley road were injured in a collision.

Clash between Russians and Japanese armies is soon expected. The Japs have 120,000 men and 100 guns and the Russians 100,000 men and 120 guns.

The steamer Arabia and her cargo may yet be confiscated. Much of the flour aboard was unconsignee. The Russian government has no official notice of her release.

Packers say they can now afford to ignore the strikers.

A rupture between France and the Vatican seems inevitable.

A Japanese cruiser and a gunboat were lost off Port Arthur by striking mines.

President Golden, of the packing teamsters' union, has been arrested for picketing.

Russia has fled a protest with Great Britain on shipping of contraband of war to Japan.

Russia will assist the United States in the protection of seals at the Kommander islands.

Peace promotes from Iowa failed in their effort to settle the Chicago strike and have returned home.

The Portland & Asiatic steamer Arabia has been released at Vladivostok. All contraband cargo was removed.

The principal in the assassination of Von Plehve was a Little Russian, but the instigators of the deed have not yet been identified.

Leaders in the Benson-Hyde-Diamond land ring will probably escape punishment. United States Judge Lacombe has declared the indictments invalid as the crimes were against states and not the government.

A general attack is believed to have begun on Port Arthur.

A Spanish war veteran drew the first homestead in the Rosebud agency in South Dakota.

The question of payment for Portland flour seized by Russian vessels will probably go before a prize court.

The steamer Korea, from San Francisco, has dodged the Russian fleet and arrived safely at Tokyo.

Other attempts at assassination are expected in Russian official circles.

Russian officials had been warned of the plot by which Minister von Plehve was slain. The assassin, believed to be a Finn, was perhaps fatally injured.

The German steamer Arabia, from Portland with a cargo of flour, has arrived in Vladivostok in charge of a prize crew.

The state department's note on the seizure of the Arabia's cargo is couched in courteous language and no rash demands will be made.

HOLD-UP THAT FAILS.

Rock Island Is Boarded by Seven Masked Men.

El Paso, Aug. 3.—The Rock Island passenger train, which left El Paso Saturday morning, north-bound, was held up Saturday night at 11 o'clock at Logan, N. M., a station 30 miles north of Tucumcari and 99 miles north of Santa Rosa, the division point. Seven masked robbers boarded the train just as it was leaving Logan, uncoupled the baggage and express cars and went on with the engine.

Conductor John York resisted and was shot in the leg. The engine was run ahead a short distance, when it was stopped and dynamite applied. The small safe was placed on top of the large one and then the charge was fired, but the only effect was to blow the small safe through the roof of the car, the larger one not being injured.

The smaller safe was replaced and the second charge of dynamite put between the two safes with the same result, except that the small safe this time was blown through the side of the car. The robbers then mounted their horses and rode away in the darkness.

Officers were advised this morning of the hold-up and are on the trail of the men who are believed to be the "Evans gang."

The passengers were not molested by the robbers, and many did not know the robbery was in progress, as most of them were asleep. Owing to the remoteness of Logan, the details of the hold-up were not obtained until tonight, when a south-bound Rock Island passenger train arrived here.

The Wells Fargo officials say there was only \$7 in the safe when it left here.

TO BRING MINERS BACK.

Western Federation Is Working for Cripple Creek Deportees.

Denver, Aug. 3.—Attorneys H. N. Hawkins and John H. Murphy, counsel for the Western Federation of Miners, are devising ways and means to enable the deported Cripple Creek miners to return to their homes. Papers are being drawn and application will be made to some court, possibly the federal court, for an injunction restraining the Citizens' alliance and Mineowners' association from interfering with any deportees who return to the Cripple Creek district.

The Western Federation officials are also making arrangements to reopen the union stores in Cripple Creek and Victor that were raided and looted by mobs June 6 and 7.

Sheriff Edward Bell, of Teller county, has advised against the reopening of the stores or the return of deportees, fearing that such action will lead to violence.

NEW YORK SUBWAY STRIKE.

Effort to Patch Up Quarrel of the Rival Unions.

New York, Aug. 3.—It is said here today that if the members of the union who are held responsible for the strike in the subway do not adjust matters promptly, a general lockout may be ordered by the Building Trades Employers' association to be followed by an attempt to establish an open shop.

At the meeting of the Central Federal union a more conciliatory attitude was adopted. At the close of the secret session it was announced that a committee had been appointed to bring about an amalgamation of the two painters' unions—the Brotherhood of Painters and the Amalgamated Painters' society, whose fight, one against the other, led to the subway strike.

THREE DESTROYERS CRIPPLED.

Japanese Flotilla Makes Safe Get-away in the Bay.

Tokio, Aug. 3.—The Japanese naval department asserts that in the attack made by the Japanese torpedo boat flotilla on the Russian Port Arthur defense squadron, July 24, which was previously reported without details, resulted in the crippling of three Russian destroyers so badly as to render them useless for any future fighting.

The attack took place in East Haicheng bay and the Japanese destroyers discharged three fish-model propeller torpedoes and then made their escape in the fog without waiting to see if the machines reached their mark.

Outposts are Engaged.

With the Japanese army in Manchuria, at the headquarters of General Kuroki, July 29, via Antung and Seoul, Aug. 1.—The conditions on the right remain practically unchanged, although numerous engagements between the outposts of the two armies are of constant occurrence. There has been severe fighting in the center, although no details have as yet reached here. The Russians are strongly entrenching their secondary position five miles west of Liao Yang and are expected to make a stand there.

Philadelphia Fire Loss.

Philadelphia, Aug. 3.—The group of four buildings of the ornamental Terra Cotta works at Wissackon avenue and Bristol streets was entirely destroyed by fire tonight. Loss, \$150,000.

FULL RETREAT

The Russian Army Is Hurrying to Harbin.

JAPANESE ARE VERY ACTIVE

Empty Cars Being Rushed South—Liao Yang Troops to Be Removed as Fast as Possible.

Tokio, Aug. 3.—After two days' fighting, General Kuroki has defeated the Russian forces in two separate sections fought at Yushuliku and the Yangsee Pass.

St. Petersburg, Aug. 3.—A report from an apparently reliable source late last night was to the effect that General Kuropatkin's main force had been rapidly moving north for several days.

According to this report no troops proceeding to the front from Russia had gone past Harbin in the past three days. They will be detained there and every available piece of rolling stock will be rushed south empty for the removing of troops to Liao Yang and other points to the northward, leaving a skeleton force to contest the Japanese advance on vital positions.

If it is true, as pointed out in the foregoing, it leaves the Russian forces in an exceedingly serious position. Lacking definite information, and if the Russian information has not been broken by the capture of Simoucheng, the authorities here say that if Kuropatkin accepts a general engagement, they believe it will occur near Anshan-shan, half way between Haicheng and Liao Yang, in which case the Haicheng force will fall back on the Simoucheng force under General Mitschenko, on the northward road to Yanzalin, which is already fortified, with a view to such a contingency.

Yanzalin would then become the advanced position for Anshan-shan, the natural strength of which is shown by the fact that it was the only position the Chinese successfully defended against the Japanese. It is possible that if Simoucheng is evacuated it may be in pursuance of the above plan and it is also possible in this case that General Stakelberg may get away north, but in any case his retreat will be a difficult operation, even with the railway to help him.

Kuropatkin's army crippled. Losses have been heavy during the past few days.

Tokio, Aug. 3.—It is reported at the war office that the result of the fighting which has been in progress in the vicinity of Haicheng since last Wednesday will be a sweeping victory. While a number of official communications from the commanding officers have been received, their contents are carefully guarded for the present.

It is believed, however that the relief columns have been divided by a successful outflanking movement on the part of General Kuroki's army, which turned the Russian flank. This movement is believed to have resulted in the isolation of Lieutenant General Stakelberg's divisions and they are now believed to be practically surrounded by the victorious Japanese.

General Kuropatkin is understood to be endeavoring to withdraw the remnants of his scattered army toward Mukden and Japanese officers, who should know exactly what the conditions are in Manchuria, declare that both Liao Yang and Mukden must fall within a very short time.

The Russians' losses within the past five days have been such as effectively weaken General Kuropatkin's army so that the Japanese combined force are now much more than a match for the crippled Russians opposed to them. At last accounts fierce fighting was still in progress with everything pointing to ultimate and complete Japanese success.

Search to Proceed.

St. Petersburg, Aug. 3.—The government has issued an official announcement of the release of the steamer Malacca, which was seized in the Red sea by the Russian volunteer fleet cruisers. It states that the liberation of the vessel was due to the declaration by the British government that the cargo was the property of the state, but says it must not be deducted from this fact that the imperial government abandons its intention of sending out isolated cruisers as well as warships generally to search for contraband of war.

Arabia's Trial in Progress.

St. Petersburg, Aug. 3.—The Associated Press is informed that the foreign office that the trial of the Arabia is now progressing at Vladivostok and that it will have to be completed before the question of her release can be determined upon.

WATERS OF THE ANA.

May Be Used for Irrigation in Southern Oregon.

Washington, Aug. 2.—The reclamation engineers have turned up another promising irrigation project in Oregon, this time in central Lake county, on the north shore of Summer lake. A tract of about 125,000 acres has been withdrawn from all save restricted homestead entry, pending further investigation to determine whether or not it will be practicable to irrigate a portion or all of the area with the waters of the Ana river, a small stream which feeds Summer lake. It is thought the Ana river is an outlet of Silver lake, which lies a few miles northwest.

This project will be under examination the remainder of the summer, to determine whether practicable means can be found of applying water to the land in such quantities and at such cost as will justify undertaking the project. The lands withdrawn for the Ana river project are included in township 29, ranges 17 and 18; township 30, ranges 16, 17 and 18; and township 31, range 17, all south and east.

A new project has also been found in Washington, known as the Priest Rapids project. Nine townships lying along the Cloumbia river in Yakima, Douglas and Kittitas counties have been withdrawn pending final determination of the feasibility of removing water from the Columbia river at Priest Rapids and bringing it down upon the Columbia valley lands lying below the rapids, on either bank of the river. The lands withdrawn are: Townships 13, 14 and 15, range 23; and townships 13 and 14, ranges 24, 25 and 26, all north and east.

This project, while adjoining the Big Bend project, is separate and distinct and will be made the subject of special study this summer. Its success depends largely upon the ability to get water upon the land at reasonable cost. A considerable portion of these lands are now under cultivation and the concurrence of farmers must be had before this work can be undertaken.

DIFFICULTIES WITH WIRES.

The Long Circuit Through Siberia Is Affected by Fire and Storm.

St. Petersburg, Aug. 2.—M. Durnovo, the minister of telegraphs, who is in temporary charge of the department of the interior, will place the department of posts and telegraph in the normal as well as virtual control of Under Secretary Sevastianoff, under whose administration the postal and telegraph systems of the empire have made great strides.

The greatest difficulties are due to the operation of 10,000 miles of overhead wires in the Far East. Thunder storms are of daily occurrence throughout this vast stretch of wires and the forest regions are subject in summer-time to continual fires. These facts are sufficient to explain why the dispatches from the front are sometimes delayed a couple of days.

The telegraph department makes a practice of holding up ordinary messages at Harbin and forwarding them by post, but in the meantime they are blocking the Siberian wires. It must be noted that official dispatches in cipher are not abbreviated and have to be repeated, and these take precedence over all other telegrams.

REMOVING THE MINES.

Japanese Search for Deathtraps at Niu Chwang.

Niu Chwang, Aug. 2.—The Japanese have just removed two large electric mines from the mouth of the Liao river, and they are searching for 16 other such mines known to be there. The people who left Niu Chwang before the Japanese came in are now returning, and confidence has been restored. The Japanese Specie bank will open next week.

General Oku has written a special letter from Ta Tohe Kiao, thanking United States Consul General Miller for having maintained order and protected public property here.

It is reported here that the Russian gunboat Sivouch has been destroyed at a point 30 miles up the Liao river.

Major K. Yokura has been appointed military administrator of Niu Chwang. Martial law regulations are being framed.

Continuous and heavy firing is heard from the direction of Hai Cheng.

Troops Will Go to Bonesteel.

Bonesteel, S. D., Aug. 2.—Troops have been requested by Sheriff Taylor, and Governor Herreid has agreed to send them. From August 8 until September 10, the filing period, this place will be under martial law. The militia will be on hand when the filing begins. The guards are considered necessary to protect \$300,000 which will be brought to town each day. Plans to meet every train have been made. Every passenger will be topped at the town gates and made to prove that his business is legitimate.

Raiders Going Home.

Tokio, Aug. 2.—The Vladivostok quadron passed Tsugar straits, on the way to Vladivostok, at 1 o'clock this afternoon.

ASSAULT IS ON

Japanese Commence General Attack on Port Arthur.

RUMOR OF FALL OF THE CITY

Ammunition Growing Scarce and the Big Guns in Belaguered Ports are Not Fired Often.

Chefoo, Aug. 1.—Refugees who have just arrived from Port Arthur confirm previous reports that a general assault has been begun by the Japanese on that fortress, and they declare that the Russians are sanguine that the Japanese could not succeed in capturing the place, even though they had twice as many troops.

The Russians, according to the refugees' stories, are still hoping for succor from General Kuropatkin. They are unwilling to believe the reports of his defeat at Ta Tohe Kiao. The refugees further confirm the reports that the Russian fleet is in a state of repair, but they say that the fleet is unwilling to attack that of Admiral Togo, on account of the mines which the Japanese place nightly at the entrance to the harbor.

It was believed at Port Arthur that if either the Vladivostok squadron or reinforcements from General Kuropatkin should arrive, the Russian fleet would take the risk of going out.

Ammunition is said to be growing scarce, and large fort guns are not often discharged. Attempts to manufacture ammunition in Port Arthur are reported to have been failures.

All of the public buildings are being used for hospitals. The sick and wounded are being well cared for by volunteer nurses. The wounds made by the Japanese rifles are dangerous only when vital spots are reached. Hundreds of badly wounded have quickly recovered from their wounds.

An American named Holt reports that Lieutenant Newton A. McCully, the American naval attaché, now at Port Arthur, is well.

LAWS NEEDED FOR ZONE.

Panama Domain Not Fully a Part of the United States.

Washington, Aug. 1.—Controller of the Treasury Tracewell, in an opinion today defining the authority of the Panama Canal commission regarding disbursements and the relation of the canal zone to the United States, holds that, while the "general spirit and purpose" of the constitution is applicable to the zone, that domain is not a part of the United States within the "full meaning of the constitution and the laws of the country."

He said that until congress by express legislation shall have prescribed the form of government of the zone, the will and sound discretion of the president and his commission will control, subject only to the general spirit and purpose of the constitution, and the local revenues of the zone shall be handled in accordance with such rules as they may authorize.

ADVISED TO STAY AWAY.

No Protection for Men Not Wanted at Cripple Creek.

Cripple Creek, Colo., Aug. 1.—Sheriff Edward Bell will not guarantee protection to any person who has been driven from this district because of his alliance or sympathy with the Western Federation of Miners. He made this plain today when he received a message from Patrick Carvel, one of the hundreds deported after the Independence depot dynamite outrage.

Carvel is now at Colorado City and notified Sheriff Bell that he wished to return to the district and resume his residence here, and would so if the authorities would guarantee to protect him from violence.

Sheriff Bell not only informed Carvel that he would not guarantee to protect him from harm, but strongly advised him never to return to the district.

Mineworkers Threaten Strike.

Philadelphia, Aug. 1.—There is grave fear that the executive board of District No. 1, United Mineworkers, will order a strike involving approximately 75,000 men, when it meets in special session here Monday, to consider the question of the refusal of the coal companies to deduct check weighmen's wages. If the strike is ordered, it will probably affect the whole anthracite region, as the companies seemed to be combined in resisting the demand, claiming it is tantamount to a recognition of the union.

Sultan Takes the Field.

Tangier, Aug. 1.—The British cruiser Hermione arrived tonight. According to news from Fez the sultan is collecting a big army outside Fez. The imperial tent has already been pitched outside the walls of Fez, which is taken to indicate that the sultan will personally lead his forces against the pretender, who is active in the districts of Taza and Ujda.

INVESTMENT OF PORT ARTHUR.

Japanese Conduct a Slow Engineering Advance.

Liao Yang, July 30.—A Russian correspondent of the Associated Press, who has just arrived here after two months' stay at Port Arthur, gives an important and interesting narrative of the situation at the beleaguered fortress when he left there, July 14, which shows that the Japanese operations until then had not advanced so far as supposed. Several Russian successes are chronicled, but the report of a Japanese reverse, with a loss of 30,000 men, is definitely disposed of, not being even mentioned by the correspondent, who says:

"When I put to sea in a junk the land position on the Russian right flank, surrounding Green and Semaphore hills, which the Russians had lost, had been recaptured by assault. The heights of Huinsin, which the Japanese defended desperately, alone remained in their hands. But I am convinced that this position also has since been retaken. The very morning of my departure, July 14, the position was being bombarded by six-inch Howitzers and shells were falling repeatedly into the Japanese works, causing great disorder."

"To sum up, by the fighting of July 3, 4 and 5, when evidently the Russian forces were acting on the offensive, the Russians regained on the land side the positions they had held in front of the fortress previous to the battle of Kai Choo."

"The main forces of the besiegers are on the average at a distance of 20 miles from the perimeter of the fortress on the Russian right, but the Japanese have approached to within 12 miles on the Russian left. As far as Inchente station, 14 miles from Port Arthur, the railroad is working. Between 40,000 and 50,000 men are operating before Port Arthur. The troops maintain a constant exchange of skirmishing fire, but the field or other guns are usually silent. The Japanese are apparently conducting a slow engineering advance."

"Often in the morning the Russians discover fresh trenches. The Japanese are compelled to abandon this work in the daytime, as the Russians regularly open fire on them as soon as daylight discloses the work."

AID TO STRIKERS.

Freighthandlers May Take a Hand in Chicago Trouble.

Chicago, July 30.—After issuing a general order that would have involved all the Chicago railroads in the stockyards strike, Lawrence J. Curran, president of the Freighthandlers' union, tonight reconsidered his action and is now holding his order in abeyance pending a conference tomorrow morning with leaders of the Allied Trades unions, whose members are on strike.

It is said, however, that if President Donnelly, of the Butchers' union, and the other strike leaders express a desire to have the order enforced it will be put into effect at once. The executive committee of the freighthandlers was in session until late tonight and it is said that preparations have been made to put the strike order in force if it be deemed necessary.

President Curran's orders, if lived up to by the freight handlers, would work a severe hardship on the packers as it explicitly directs that union men shall handle no freight for the big packing companies, either outgoing or incoming. President Curran's order to the men follows:

"At a meeting with the business agents of the local Freighthandlers' union today it was decided that all men under the jurisdiction of our organization in the various railroads in Chicago be ordered not to receive or deliver any freight of the packers, whether this freight is delivered at the freighthouses by teams or in cars."

Duplicity of the Russians.

London, July 30.—Thomas Gibson Bowles, Conservative, will ask Premier Balfour in the house of commons if the government is aware that the Russian armored cruiser Demetri Donoski, after having been allowed to take 500 tons of coal at Port Said, and after her captain had given his word of honor that he would proceed at once and by direct route to Cadix, remained off Port Said and stopped and examined six vessels, which were about to enter the canal, and a few days later repeated the stoppage off Alexandria.

Friction at Panama.

Panama, July 30.—The establishment of a port at Ancon under the control of the authorities of the canal zone has created considerable friction between the steamship companies and the government at Panama, the latter asserting that the companies should get their clearance papers from the Panaman authorities.