

THE COLUMBIA REGISTER

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.

A ferryboat in Poland capsized, drowning 70 persons.

A hail storm at Prineville, Oregon, smashed most of the windows in the town.

Bids on the Grand Ronde, Oregon, Indian lands are found to be over twice the minimum fixed by law.

The Japanese are believed to have cut the Russian line of communication between Liao Yang and Mukden.

Japanese military experts declare that General Kuropatkin is cornered so effectively that escape is impossible.

Chicago employers, now that the packers appear sure of winning their strike, are considering a general campaign against unionism.

Senator Clark, of Montana, was threatened by a maniac who ran after the senator declaring that he had broken the state game laws.

The fighting at Port Arthur continues to be of the most desperate character. Positions are repeatedly taken, lost and retaken by the Japanese with a heavy loss of men.

The Russian vessels at Shanghai have been disarmed.

The rush incident to the opening of land near Lewiston, Idaho, is setting in early.

A cloudburst in Montana caused considerable damage to the Northern Pacific railroad.

Snow has fallen near Duluth, Minn., and crops have been damaged greatly by heavy frosts.

A Laramie, Wyo., mob took a negro, who attacked a white girl, from jail and hanged him.

Russia denies that she is discriminating against British ships in searching for contraband of war.

General Stoessel has informed the czar that the Port Arthur garrison cannot hold out over six weeks longer at the most.

The city of Binang, on the island of Luzon, P. I., has been wiped out by fire. One hundred lives were lost and 5,000 people are homeless.

St. Petersburg deems a crisis at hand in the Liao valley unless Kuropatkin can retreat. Continued rains, it is feared, will greatly impede the movement of heavy ordnance, which may have to be abandoned.

The battleship Nebraska will be launched at Seattle October 7.

The Russians lost about 2,500 men in the recent battles in the Liao valley.

Cloudbursts in Southern California have washed out much railroad tracks.

Generals Kuroki and Oku have combined their armies to cut the Russian line near Anshan.

The Japanese have captured more forts at Port Arthur and are now within the very city at one point.

General Funston has notified the war department that he will relinquish the command of the department of the Columbia on October 1.

Investigations of the navy department have shown that our warships must dock often than once a year to have their bottoms cleaned.

France holds that powers like America should act together to avert increasing danger of Japan becoming the dominant power in the Far East.

The general land office has withdrawn 80,840 acres in the Durango land district, Colorado, on account of the Las Anamas, N. M., reservoir site and irrigation works.

The Russians have repulsed the Japanese at several points in the Liao valley.

The Japanese are preparing for a great battle at Liao Yang and heavy guns are on the way.

AR is quiet at Shanghai and the incident of the disarmament of the Russian ships is closed.

Georgia militiamen declare the sheriff was in collusion with the mob which lynched negroes.

The efforts of the Chicago aldermanic committee to end the packers' strike has come to naught.

It is stated that the Korean government has agreed to engage Japanese advisors and borrow money to carry out much needed reforms.

Plandards are being scattered in Tsinanfu Province, China, urging the massacre of the "foreign devils." The native Christians are fleeing.

The Japanese war office has concluded that Port Arthur cannot be taken by direct assault and has ordered that no attacks be made which would entail heavy loss.

ARMIES ARE ABOUT EQUAL.

Russia Has All Confidence Kuropatkin Will Be Victorious.

St. Petersburg, Sept. 1.—The great battle of Liao Yang, which began early Tuesday morning, raged throughout the day with increasing intensity, but up to this hour no further official details beyond two brief telegrams given out in the afternoon, have been received by the war office. Every confidence is expressed in General Kuropatkin's ability to meet the Japanese assault on ground of his own choosing, but the city is hungrily awaiting further news of the progress of the fight.

The Japanese forces engaged in this battle can only be estimated here, but they are believed to number about 200,000 men.

General Kuropatkin is known to have six army corps, besides 147 squadrons of cavalry, in which great confidence is reposed, bringing the Russian total up to about the same number that the Japanese have. How the armies compare with regard to artillery is not definitely known, though throughout the war the Japanese have shown great preference for this arm and great skill in its use.

Reports from the front credit the Japanese with having about 200 guns and many mountain batteries, and it is known that they recently shipped 24 heavy guns to Yinkow. Four of these guns already have been mentioned in these dispatches as being in action.

General Kuropatkin, in addition to his field batteries, has a number of very heavy guns emplaced at important positions at Liao Yang, where the Russians have been strongly fortifying for some time. The Japanese profess to have captured two field batteries during the past two days. Russian official accounts admit the loss of only six guns.

It is stated a Japanese battery was captured south of Anshan during the preliminary fighting, and that several Japanese guns have been destroyed since then.

Little of the strategic situation has developed so far. Official news from the front says there was desperate fighting in the southern center, while from information from other sources it appears the Japanese are endeavoring to turn the Russian right from the neighborhood of the junction of the Taitze and Sakbe rivers. The fighting on the western flank appears to have approached within three miles of Liao Yang.

WILL TRY TO SPREAD STRIKE.

Union Will Attempt to Call Out Every Affiliated Trade.

Chicago, Sept. 1.—A strong effort is to be made by the leaders of the unions now on strike at the stockyards to spread the scope of the strike so that it will include every trade which is affiliated in even a remote degree with the packing industry. The first step in this direction was taken tonight, when the stockhandlers now employed at the yards voted to go on strike at 10 o'clock in the morning. There are about 1,000 of these men, and their duties are to look after and feed the cattle in the pens between the time of their arrival and the time of killing. Their action tonight, therefore, will make it incumbent upon the packers to provide other men to take their places.

President Donnelly, of the Butchers' union, declared tonight he would also be able to call out all the switchmen employed on the railroads which do business at the stockyards, and possibly to extend the strike to other departments of the railroads. A mass meeting of the strikers is to be held tomorrow afternoon at Watita hall, near the stockyards, an addresses are to be made by a number of labor leaders.

After a conference with members of the executive committee of the strikers' national organization, President Donnelly refused to divulge what had taken place. He admitted that means of securing money for the strikers had been discussed, but he refused to say what else had been talked of at the conference.

Russian Army Confident.

Berlin, Sept. 1.—A dispatch from Liao Yang to the Lokal Anzeiger, timed 9:25 a. m. today, says: "What appears to be the deciding battle began at 4 a. m. The Japanese began the attack east of Liao Yang along the Taitze river, but were repulsed. The firing is now especially heavy south and southwest of Liao Yang. One can no longer distinguish individual detachments. The Wyberg regiment, of which Emperor William II is honorary chief, is deploying upon the battlefield. The Russian army is full of confidence."

May Search for British Ships.

Madrid, Sept. 1.—The Russian auxiliary cruiser Don has left Vogo without waiting for her bill of health. Her commander was in receipt of a telegram from the Russian government which presumably ordered him to resume the search for British colliers destined for Japan. It is stated here that ten other Russian cruisers are engaged in this work on the coasts of Spain, Portugal, France and Africa.

OREGON NEWS OF INTEREST

TESTING STATION AT EUGENE.

Bureau of Forestry Has Matter Under Consideration.

Salem.—The United States bureau of forestry has under consideration the establishment of a testing station at the University of Oregon at Eugene, and it is learned from a reliable source that the officials who have the matter in charge are very favorably impressed with the need of such a station here. The work of such a station would be to make careful and accurate tests of the strength, durability, elasticity, etc., of all kinds of building and construction material, such as lumber, stone, brick, cement. Such a station would require an initial investment of \$5,000 for machinery with which to make the tests. The custom of the government has been to require the state to furnish the testing laboratory, while the government employs the expert to take charge of the work. After the laboratory has been provided there would be no further expense to the state.

The advantage to the state in the establishment of a government testing station would be in the advertising Oregon material would get as a result of the tests. A report of all tests would be published in government bulletins, and an official record would be kept showing the merits of Oregon building material. The nearest government test station is at Berkeley, Cal., where the bureau of forestry maintains a station similar to that proposed for Oregon. In addition to setting before the world reliable information regarding the merits of construction material, these stations afford an opportunity to ascertain whether materials being used in construction work are of the character called for by contracts or whether they are suited to the purpose for which used.

COMPANY MAY BUILD PORTAGE.

Presumed Object of New Portland Contract Corporation.

Salem.—The Portland Contract company, of Portland, filed articles of incorporation in the office of the secretary of state last week with Daniel Kern, Robert Wakefield and J. N. Teal as incorporators. The amount of the capital stock is \$10,000. While it is not so stated in the articles, it is believed around the capital that this is the corporation which will undertake the construction of the portage railway between The Dalles and Celilo.

The expressed purpose of the company is to take contracts for and to construct buildings, railroads, canals, bridges, etc., and to deal in lumber and logs, and transact other business such as construction companies often engage in. The incorporators named are authorized to open stock books and receive subscriptions to the capital stock.

Building for Medical College.

Salem.—There is a movement on foot to secure for the Willamette university an exclusive building for the use of the medical college of that institution. It was announced by Dean W. H. Byrd, of the medical college of the university, that Hon. A. Bush had started the subscription list toward the realization of the \$17,000 required for the building, with a donation of \$2,500, and that a subscription of \$1,000 had been added thereto by the faculty of the university. Dr. Byrd says that a vigorous campaign will now be made.

Eugene's Carnegie Library.

Eugene.—At a recent meeting of the city council arrangements were made for the purchase of a lot on Willamette street, between Tenth and Eleventh, for a site for the Carnegie library. The price to be paid is \$4,000. A gift of \$10,000 from Mr. Carnegie is to be used in erecting a library building and equipping the same with heating and lighting apparatus, fixtures, etc., and under the terms of the gift the city is to maintain a free library at an annual expense of \$1,000.

Electric Road Is Assured.

La Grande.—W. E. Davidson, president of the Eastern Oregon Development company, in speaking of the proposed electric railway for Union county, says that the road will not only connect all the towns in the county, but will connect Wallows county with Union county, and it is though it will ultimately be extended to Lewiston, and thus establish a railroad between the Hill and Harriman lines.

Wheat Market.

Portland—Walla Walls, 79c; bluestem, 82c; valley, 83c.
Tacoma—Bluestem, 83c; club, 78c; Albany—75c.
Salem—80c.
Colfax—Club, 68c; bluestem, 70c.
Pendleton—Club, 68½c; bluestem, 72c.
La Grande—Club, 30; bluestem, 68c.

ELECTRIC ROAD IN UMATILLA.

Will Be Built If Portage Road Is Constructed.

Pendleton.—In the event of the construction of the portage railway between Celilo and The Dalles, which now seems assured, an electric railroad may be built between Pendleton and some point on the Columbia river. This rumor is current on the streets, and it is believed that something tangible lies behind it. It is understood that the promoters of this scheme are prominent residents of Umatilla county and that they will carry the project to a successful termination, provided the portage road is built, seems certain. The promoters will not talk for publication, refusing to give any information at all concerning the project. "It is too soon to announce our intentions," said one of the interested persons, "for the portage road has not been built as yet." It is understood that two objective points are now under consideration, the one being Umatilla and the other Wallula. The latter point will probably be chosen, as a road between that junction and this city would open up unlimited traffic out of Pendleton. Wheat raisers are anxious that the road be built, as the saving in grain freight rates will be enormous.

FARMERS ARE PANIC PROOF.

Umatilla County Assured of a Prosperous Year.

Pendleton.—The financial depression and the business stagnation which usually precedes a presidential election has not and will not affect Umatilla county or any other community in the Northwest this fall. The immense crops and the general prosperity have stimulated trades in all lines so much that there is no likelihood of such a period. Although the deposits in the banks are no larger than is usual for this time of the year, money is more plentiful. Toward the middle of September, when farmers begin to get their money or their crops, the deposits will increase and outstanding paper will be paid off. As it is, few have received the money for the wheat sold, and only a few are drawing more than enough to pay off their help. Later they will draw their money and the general prosperity of the year will be felt more generally.

OVER 10,000 ACRES IN WHEAT.

W. J. Furnish Has Land Rented to 29 Tenants.

Pendleton.—W. J. Furnish, probably the largest land owner of Umatilla county, has over 10,000 acres of wheat land rented on shares this season. The land is situated north and north-west of Pendleton, in the wheat belt that extends from Pendleton to the Columbia river. This acreage is apportioned out to some 29 renters, from whom Mr. Furnish is to receive one fourth of the crop on the better land and on third from the light yielding lands. So vast are his holdings that it is with difficulty that he can figure up the number of acres in wheat this season. Mr. Furnish does not attempt to farm any himself, and he said, "I don't even own a plow, but let other people do the farming."

Salem Mill Uses Oil for Fuel.

Salem.—The Salem Woolen mills have commenced the use of fuel oil in the place of wood, believing it to be a cheaper material for generating steam. The state authorities have been considering for some time the question of using oil for fuel at the state institutions, and the experience of the woolen mill company will be watched with interest. The substitution of oil for fuel in the large manufacturing establishments and in the state institutions will greatly relieve the scarcity of wood, of the last three or four years.

Rich Specimen From Blue River.

Eugene.—Development work has been very active in the Blue river district of late and some excellent ore bodies are being uncovered. A number of specimens of very rich ore from the Cuba and Oriental mines have just been brought down. The specimens were obtained from near the surface and bristle with gold which can be seen with the naked eye.

Indians and Japs for Beechfields.

La Grande.—A large number of Umatilla Indians and Japanese imported from near Portland will arrive in the city this week to work in the vast beet fields this fall, pulling and hauling them for the sugar factory in La Grande. There will be over 20,000 tons ground this fall, more than any previous season.

Brush Fire Burns Good Timber.

Sumpter.—A brush fire a few days ago communicated with a large lot of sawlogs belonging to the Oregon Lumber company and before the flames were checked 500,000 feet of good saw timber were destroyed. The fire occurred at the logging camp near Whitney.

TRADE OF THE PHILIPPINES.

Large Increase in Imports and Decrease in Exports.

Washington, Aug. 31.—According to a statement given out today at the bureau of insular affairs, the Philippine import trade advanced nearly \$2,000,000 in value during the nine months ended March last, and a slight falling off is shown in the exports as a result of decreased shipments in copra and sugar, although hemp and tobacco are exported in larger amounts than for the corresponding three-fourths of the previous year. Excluding gold and silver and United States government purchases, the custom-house returns, the total value of merchandise imported for the nine months ended March, 1904, at \$25,927,024, and the exports at \$22,256,169, a 7 per cent increase in imports and 2 per cent decrease in exports. The rice-growing sections of the British and French East Indies have enjoyed most of the increase in trade, the latter territory sending three-fourths of the \$10,000,000 worth of rice received.

Except for those countries from which rice is obtained the statement says that for the first time since American occupation, the United States leads in the amount of merchandise sent to the islands and that the out-going trade with the principal countries shows a decline in the value of shipments to the United States, more than \$700,000 of the loss being credited to sugar exports and \$600,000 to hemp. More than one-half of the imports consisted of food and animals, while the exports were chiefly agricultural products, hemp exports amounting to \$16,000,000 in round numbers. The figures on the carrying trade show an increase in volume of business done under the American flag, the amount carried to the islands being \$1,535,027, while \$2,237,806 of the exports left the islands under the American flag. The British vessels took \$18,172,819. The sugar trade declined from \$2,479,001 to \$1,827,074, the entire output being sent to Japan, Hong Kong and China, no portion being exported to the United States. Americans made up more than one-half of the total arrivals, the greater portion being classed as professional men.

CABLE TO ALASKA.

The All-American Line to Far North Is Working.

Seattle, Wash., Aug. 31.—Alaska was brought into communication with the rest of the United States this afternoon, amid the cheers of hundreds of Americans, the tooting of steamboat whistles and the crash of bands playing the "Star Spangled Banner."

The cable between Seattle and Valdes was spliced at a point about ten miles north of Seattle at 4:40 o'clock in the afternoon, though for several hours before the final joining of the two ends messages had been sent from Seattle men, guests on board the cable-ship Burnside, to Sitka and responses had been received.

The steamship Queen carried 300 of Seattle's prominent citizens out to meet the cable ship and witness the splicing of the cable. The Burnside was met about six miles north of the buoy where the Seattle end rested. Cable was being laid at the rate of four miles per hour, and the two ships proceeded to the buoy, within easy hailing distance.

The splicing of the cable took two hours and 20 minutes. Finally the work was completed and the spliced part was held aloft over the side of the Burnside while the bluejackets scampered aloft and manned the yards. A band on the Queen, which lay about 300 feet away, swung into the "Star Spangled banner," and the cable struck the water with a mighty splash. It sunk into about 300 feet of water.

The cable line is 800 miles long and cost \$1,000 per mile. Colonel Allen is one of the oldest cable experts in the United States. He helped to lay the cable to Vancouver island 20 years ago. The Burnside will be overhauled here and in about six weeks the work of laying the line to Valdes will be taken up.

Confident of Holding Out.

Liao Yang, Aug. 13.—Numerous reliable reports which have reached here through a dispatch carrier and other persons are to the effect that despite the extreme Japanese measures of the past fortnight to perfect a blockade of Port Arthur by means of sinking all the junks near that place, the Russians outside Port Arthur are considerably underestimated, as is also the existing power of the fortress, which is likely to hold out for two months and possibly until January, even under such an assault as the Japanese are using.

Paraguay Revolutionists Active.

Buenos Ayres, Aug. 31.—Paraguay revolutionist vessels are extremely active. They are carrying men, horses and arms and are searching all passenger boats. An Argentine warship yesterday threatened to fire on the revolutionary squadron if it intercepted vessels flying the flag of the Argentine republic.

GIVE UP IDEA

Chicago Aldermen Cannot End Packers' Strike.

THEIR EFFORTS ARE AT AN END

Two Important Meetings Are Held by Labor Unions, but They Arc Without Fruit.

Chicago, Aug. 31.—"Absolutely nothing," in Mayor Harrison's words, summarized the result of the meeting of the aldermanic committee named to mediate if possible in the stockyards strike, after it had adjourned today. The committee does not expect to meet again. President Donnelly, of the butchers, Matthew Carr, Nicholas Gier and John Fitzpatrick met the aldermen in Mayor Harrison's office. They reported that the packers refused to make any concessions.

No evidence was offered as to violations of health laws in housing employees at the stockyards, Mr. Donnelly saying he had not yet prepared the data. The union leaders withdrew and not long afterward the committee adjourned.

Two important meetings were held by labor unions tonight to discuss the packing house strike, but no action was taken at either gathering.

The first meeting was held by the packing house teamsters, who went out on a sympathetic strike. The session was turbulent, but the sentiment was strongly against returning to work. Cornelius Shea, leader of the national organization of teamsters, was present. He asked the men to take a vote on the question of whether they would return to work, but they refused to take such a vote. Several speakers who advocated the vote were shouted down.

After the adjournment of the teamsters' meeting, the representatives of the allied trades employed in the stockyards, held a meeting. Nothing was settled at this gathering and the meeting will be resumed in the morning. The executive board of the Meatcutters' union and members of the Allied Trades council conferred today, but the peace proposition proposed was so complicated that their efforts came to naught.

MAY BOTTLE KUROPATKIN.

German Experts Believe Japanese Will Encircle Liao Yang.

Berlin, Aug. 31.—German military men are discussing the situation of General Kuropatkin with the keenest interest. They have information that the defenses of Liao Yang are of extraordinary strength. The fortifying of the town was entrusted to General Melnikoff, who enjoys here the reputation of being a master of military engineering. During the past two months he has fortified all the strategic positions around Liao Yang in a manner well nigh impregnable.

The German critics think Liao Yang's defenses about equalize the difference in numbers between the Russians—estimated at 180,000—and the Japanese, numbering 240,000.

The danger of General Kuropatkin's situation is recognized as being bottled up like Field Marshal Basaine, who surrendered Metz to the German forces in 1870. It is doubted by the experts if General Kuropatkin will be able to prevent the complete encircling of Liao Yang, which would mean probably the eventual loss of his army.

ASSAULT ON ARTUPUR RESUMED.

Report That Japanese Have Received Reinforcements Confirmed.

Chefoo, Aug. 31.—Severe fighting was resumed at Port Arthur on August 27, according to Chinese who left there on the evening of that day. One of the Chinese was arrested and compelled to carry the dead from the battlefield of Pa Li Chuang, which the Japanese attempted to capture on August 26. Thirty carts were used to carry the dead, numbering 400, from the trenches and outskirts to the city. A policeman told the Chinese that the efficient soldiers in the garrison at Port Arthur numbered over 10,000.

Arabia Arrives at Shanghai.

Shanghai, Aug. 31.—The German steamer Arabia, belonging to the Hamburg-American line, has arrived here from Vladivostok. This is the vessel that was captured by the Russian Vladivostok squadron in July. A prize crew was put aboard her and she was taken to Vladivostok. All the white men among her crew were well treated by the Russians. She was tried before a prize court which condemned 20,000 barrels of flour and 71 railroad car bodies. The remainder of the cargo and the vessel were released.

Boer Treasure Found.

Johannesburg, Aug. 31.—Mr. Kmep, a cousin of General Kemp, the Boer commander, has discovered beyond Spelonken, in the Northern Transvaal, the treasure removed from Pretoria before the entry of Field Marshal Roberts. The value of the treasure is \$1,250,000, of which the government will receive half.