

THE COLUMBIA REGISTER

VOL. I.

HOULTON, COLUMBIA COUNTY, OREGON, FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 9, 1904.

NO. 20.

WEEK'S DOINGS

Newsy 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.

Kuropatkin's column is 15 miles long.

Viceroy Alexieff has moved his headquarters from Vladivostok to Harbin.

General MacArthur recommends that a cavalry post be established in the Willamette valley.

The government asks for a deed for the right of way of the canal and portage road at The Dalles.

The salmon pack of the Columbia river for the spring and summer is larger than that of last year.

Republicans carried Vermont in the state election by a slightly increased plurality over the election of 1900.

Three hundred more men have been asked for to repair the warships at Vladivostok. The work will take three months.

Shippers have been notified that, effective October 1, a war duty of 10 cents a sack will be taxed on flour entering Japanese ports.

Owing to the discovery of considerable defects in some of the vessels which recently underwent their trial trips, the Russian Baltic squadron will not be able to leave for the Far East before November.

Crown Prince Frederick William is betrothed to the Duchess Cecelia.

A tented city has been erected at Duner for the treatment of consumptives.

Fourteen regiments have gone from Japan to replace losses sustained around Port Arthur.

A Chinese merchant has been urged to accept the office of mayor of a Mexican town, but has refused.

Five men from Cleveland, Ohio, were drowned in Lake Erie by the capsizing of their naphtha launch.

The federal government has men looking over the Yakima valley for a suitable irrigation project.

A premature explosion of nitro-glycerine at Upper Sandusky, O., killed five and injured a number of others.

The report submitted by engineers on the irrigation of the sections dependent on the Columbia and Snake rivers for water is not bright.

An insane woman at Boston stood off a squad of 10 policemen for five hours. She was finally overcome by injecting gas through a hole in the door of her room.

Princess Louise will start divorce proceedings at once.

The striking butchers are now determined to force a meat famine on the public.

German military experts regard Russia as being in a very serious position in the Far East.

The 1904 wheat yield is estimated at 45,000,000 bushels as against 10,000,000 bushels in 1903.

America has sent a strong protest to the Russian government in reference to the seizure of the steamer Salchas.

Three painters were killed at Lethbridge, N. W. T., by a scaffold giving way. They fell from the top of an eighty foot standpipe.

C. C. Clark, the murderer of Leila Page at Olympia, Wash., in March, 1903, was hanged at the Walla Walla penitentiary at 5:15, Friday, Sept. 2.

The whereabouts of Princess Louise is still unknown, although a vigorous search is being made.

Four-year-old John Conrad, of Redding, Cal., accidentally shot and killed his sister Clara, aged 5.

A fire at Gem, Idaho, caused the loss of \$125,000 worth of property. The insurance carried was \$20,000.

George B. Gamon, of Portland, was badly injured in an auto wreck while taking in the sights in New York City.

Police officer Ole Nelson, of the Portland force, was fatally shot while trying to arrest a bandit who was holding up a street car. The hold-up artist was caught.

While the Russians were clearing the channel at the entrance to Port Arthur, one of their vessels struck a mine and went to the bottom. A number of lives were lost.

Senator Hoar's condition remains unchanged.

Over \$2,000,000 of the new coinage of Philippine gold has just been shipped to Manila on the government transport Thomas.

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

HARRASS HIS REAR.

Japanese are Close Upon the Heels of Kuropatkin.

London, Sept. 8.—The dearth of immediate press and official dispatches from the recent actual seat of the Far Eastern struggle continues. It is admitted by the Russian war office that no telegrams whatever were received from General Kuropatkin bearing Tuesday's date, the last message to the emperor from the general being dated September 5, and briefly telling that the army was advancing northward; that it had extricated itself from a dangerous position; that there was constant cannonading of the rear guard, and that the losses on that day were about 100. The situation, in the light of the latest information, may be summed up as follows:

The Russians are pushing on to Mukden, greatly impeded by heavy rains and floods, conducting an orderly retreat, and followed step by step by the Japanese. Details of the fighting and of the exact position of the opposing armies are lacking.

The report that Kuropatkin's rear guard has been annihilated, and that the Russian forces are in danger of being surrounded, is denied by the Russian general staff. The Russian war office is entirely confident that the retreat is slowly, but surely, being effected.

From Tokio comes the official report that the bulk of the Russian forces is still at Yentai. The Japanese field marshal, in an extended report of the fighting up to September 4, says the Russians burned all the railroad bridges over the Taits river, and predicts that, while the Japanese list of casualties is not yet completed, the losses will prove heavy.

Viceroy Alexieff is on his way from Harbin to Mukden. The heads of Kuropatkin's long commissary trains have passed through Mukden, and are continuing northward.

The attack on Port Arthur continues, and Chinese arriving at Chefoo say the Russian garrison expects a general land and sea attack today.

RUSSIA INCLINED TO YIELD.

Modification of Rules Regarding Contraband Expected Soon.

London, Sept. 8.—The preliminary representations made by Count Benckendorff, the Russian ambassador to the foreign office, indicates that Russia is on the point of making substantial concessions to the United States and Great Britain regarding the question of contraband of war, as a result of the submission by Foreign Minister Lamsdorf of the report of the general commission to Emperor Nicholas today, together with the information transmitted by Ambassador Benckendorff showing the views of the British government.

The Russian foreign minister is expected to present to the British government, through Sir Charles Harlinge, the British ambassador to Russia, tomorrow, the formal reply of the Russian government. It is understood in official circles here that Russia, while not acknowledging herself at fault for the capture made by her ships in the past, will more specifically describe the conditions under which certain goods, such as foodstuffs, and cotton, become in her view contraband.

WIND UP CAMPAIGN.

Evacuation of Mukden Also Means Losses Greater Than Anticipated.

St. Petersburg, Sept. 7.—It is impossible at this hour to obtain any statement from the authorities regarding the reported preparations for the abandonment of Mukden.

The advices from Mukden give the first intimation that such a course is contemplated. If it turns out to be true, it means the abandonment of the whole of Southern Manchuria and the winding up of the present campaign. In fact, should Mukden be evacuated, there would be no point for wintering the army of 250,000, with its many wounded, short of Harbin.

On the other hand, the evacuation of Mukden would give Field Marshal Oyama commodious winter quarters and the practical control of two lines of railway. The Kinchou-Sinmintin line, tapping rich Chinese territory, stops little short of Mukden, with which it is connected by a good wagon road.

Desire for Peace Growing.

St. Petersburg, Sept. 8.—Peace is being eagerly discussed by thousands of Russians in this city and in Moscow, notwithstanding what is deemed the military splendor of Kuropatkin's retreat. The Novos Vreyma, sounding public opinion suggests a basis of agreement whereby Japan would receive Sakhalin Kamschatka, the Kuriles, the Simidore islands, the Liao Tung peninsula and supremacy in Korea. The government is not likely immediately to favor the idea of peace, but may yield later.

Great Force Soon to Reach Front.

St. Petersburg, Sept. 8.—It is stated that by the end of October, the Fourth, Eighth and Thirteenth army corps, totaling 192,000 men, will reach the front, and that before the end of September 1,100 guns will have been dispatched to General Kuropatkin.

TO END STRIKE

Negotiations Begun Through Medium of Middleman.

UNIONS ARE CALLED TO MEET

Packers Will Submit New Offer and It Will Be Considered at Once by the Employes.

Chicago, Sept. 7.—The indications tonight are that the stockyards strike, begun two months ago, will be called off within 24 hours. Through the medium of a middleman, negotiations were begun today in an effort to secure an understanding with the packers on which the striking unions can rely as a basis for abandoning the strike tomorrow afternoon. It was admitted tonight by Secretary Tracy, of the Allied Trades Council of the unions on strike, that a message opening up such negotiations had been delivered today to representatives of the packing firms by W. E. Skinner, agent of the Union Stockyards & Traction company, acting as middleman.

Michael Killian, president of the Livestock Handlers' union; Nicholas Gier, president of the Packing Trades council; John Floersch, secretary of the council and President Donnelly were the men to confer with Mr. Skinner.

According to the plans tonight an answer is to be submitted tomorrow by the packers in time for it to be reported at a special meeting of the Allied Trades council. This meeting has been called for early in the forenoon.

Special meetings for all the local unions involved in the strike have been called for tomorrow. If the packers give encouraging answers to the strikers, messengers will be sent at once to the gatherings of the local bodies. The unions, it is said, will then vote on discontinuing the strike, and their referendum vote will be reported at once to the meeting of the Allied Trades council.

TO QUIT MUKDEN.

Russians Are Preparing for Evacuation of the City.

Mukden, Sept. 7.—The forces of Kuropatkin and of Oyama are racing for Mukden. This much stands out in the dispatches from the seat of war, and is indicated in a report forwarded by Kuropatkin, who says his retreat is being conducted in perfect order, though the Japanese on Sunday repeatedly attacked his rear and continued the attack until Monday. The result of the race is in doubt.

The united Russian forces are now north of Yentai, a station on the railway about ten miles northeast of Liao Yang. They are pushing on to Mukden, to which the bulk of Japanese forces is marching direct, after having swarmed across the Taits river. A strong Japanese flanking column is about 30 miles northeast of Liao Yang and is trying to get between the Russian forces and Mukden.

With this race in progress there comes a brief dispatch from Mukden saying that preparations for the evacuation of that place are proceeding. This report, if well founded, as is pointed out in the Associated Press St. Petersburg dispatch, would mean the abandonment of the whole of Southern Manchuria and the winding up of the present campaign.

It was reported in St. Petersburg at a late hour Monday night that Kuropatkin's rear guard had been almost annihilated and that the main Russian army was in danger of being surrounded. Kuropatkin, in his report, makes no mention of the abandonment of 200 guns at Liao Yang, rumor to which effect is in circulation.

Advices from Port Arthur, by way of Chefoo, bring the fighting there up to September 2, and say the Japanese losses were very heavy.

No Hope of Intervention.

London, Sept. 7.—Careful inquiry in official and diplomatic quarters here today established the fact that no hope prevails of the termination of the war at this moment as a result of the series of victories obtained by the Japanese at Liao Yang. There has been no interchange of official views by the neutral European governments. What discussion has occurred has been entirely personal and has led to no results, even to the extent of paving the way to mediation. There is no thought of international intervention.

Odesa Corps to the Front.

St. Petersburg, Sept. 7.—The new mobilization decided upon is expected to be announced in the latter part of this week. It will include the eighth army corps stationed at Odesa. The emperor today inspected the battleship Orel and the cruiser Oleg of the Baltic fleet, which is now ready to sail.

PENNED IN BY FIRE.

Fourteen People Killed in a New York Tenement Fire.

New York, Sept. 7.—Fourteen persons were killed and nearly a score injured in a five-story double tenement in Attorney street early this morning. The dead include four women, one man and nine children, ranging in age from 3 months to 12 months.

Many of the injured were taken to hospitals, and it is thought that several will die. Among the injured were five firemen who were in a fourth-floor balcony when it fell with them. The small number of men among the killed and injured was due to the fact that most of the men who lived in the building, following the Attorney street custom in hot weather, were asleep on the roof, while but few of the women and children were there.

Those on the roof were unable to escape by descending through the burning building, and made their way to safety over neighboring roofs. Meanwhile the members of their families who had remained in their rooms found escape cut off and panic reigned throughout the structure.

The fire started about 3 o'clock in the morning, and there was much delay in sending in an alarm, although the district is one of the most thickly populated in the crowded East Side of New York. When the firemen reached the scene some of the tenants were jumping from the windows and from the ends of the fire-escapes that reached only to the second floors. Others were crouching in the smoke in the small rooms and narrow halls.

The fire is supposed to have been caused by the explosion of a lamp that had been left to light the hall on the second floor, and the sleeping tenants were not aroused until the hallway was ablaze and escape through the building cut off.

The fire was soon extinguished and the search for the dead begun. Most of the dead were found on the two upper floors.

While the search of the building was going on four firemen were at work on a fourth-floor balcony when it gave way.

Another fireman on the balcony floor above was carried down and was probably fatally injured. The other four were badly hurt, but will recover.

Leon Sober, owner of the building; Morris Levine, the agent, and Henry Breitman, the superintendent, were arrested today and were charged with criminal negligence.

MARKING THE BOUNDARY.

How the International Boundary is Being Indicated.

Parties from the Coast and Geodetic Survey are now at work in connection with similar bodies from Canada in marking the Alaskan boundary line according to the determination of the tribunal which met in London last Summer. It will take several years to complete the work, for the physical difficulties in the way are enormous, says the New York Evening Post.

Some of the country is so boggy that it can be properly covered only when the ground is frozen, while for most of the rest of it, especially the mountain section, only a few months in the Summer are available. In addition, there is a considerable stretch for which no determination was made by the Alaskan tribunal, as noted in these dispatches a year ago. It passes through a piece of mountain country of no seeming value, even remotely, to either nation. Until something arises to make the land worth something, which is rather improbable, no attempt will be made to apply to it the principles agreed upon at the tribunal.

In certain respects boundary markers have a harder task than any class of workers who push through the unbroken wilderness. The civil engineer who lays out a railroad line is on the lookout for the easiest possible course. The route which would have the fewest difficulties for him to travel over would have the fewest obstacles for railroad. When he comes into sight of a region which is impassable by all human standards he steps one side and looks for the next best stretch of country. With the boundary-marker this is different. He has to follow the marching orders of the treaty which he is to execute, and no matter where the line which it describes in degrees, minutes and seconds of earth's measurements lies, he is expected to follow.

This makes his task one of the most adventurous man has to perform. He has to carry boats, prairie wagons, mountain-climbing mules and a great variety of appliances for swinging chasms, scaling ledges and crossing streams. His party must also keep communication open with a base of supplies, almost as much as an army.

Statue of Washington.

New York, Sept. 7.—The United Hungarian societies of New York City tendered a reception here today to Count Albert Apponyi and other members of the Hungarian parliament, who have come to this country as delegates to the Inter-Parliamentary Peace Conference, to be held in St. Louis, and announcement was made that subscriptions to the amount of \$2500 have already been received to start a fund to be raised among Hungarians in this country for the erection of a statue of George Washington in the City of Budapest.

Diana Ordered to Disarm.

Saigon, French Indo-China, Sept. 7.—The commander of the Russian cruiser Diana has received orders from the Russian Admiralty to disarm his vessel.

OREGON NEWS OF INTEREST

FLAX CROP SHORT.

Seed Yield in Willamette Valley Will Not Go Over 10 Bushels.

Salem.—All of the flax of the crop of 1904 has been harvested and the threshing thereof has just been finished. As was the case with all other agricultural crops this year in the Willamette Valley, for the first time in a decade, the yield was unusually light, that is so far as seed is concerned, and not to exceed ten bushels of flax was realized per acre this year. Mr. Bosse, however, considers this a pretty good yield, taking all things into consideration, and he is in nowise disappointed as a result. The average yield of flax seed per acre, in Oregon, so far as the experience of Mr. Bosse goes, is about 20 bushels.

Mr. Bosse, however, says that he places no dependence whatever upon the seed yield of his Fall crop, as the most important item in the business is the culture of the flax seed for the fibre. He can get all of the seed he wants, and, if the quality of the fibre or the quantity would be materially increased by harvesting the flax before the seed was ripe, he would not take the seed question under consideration, as the fibrous portion of the Oregon flax plant is the most valuable part of it, and that is what he is looking for. Taking all else into consideration he is well pleased with the outcome of this year's crop and is satisfied that he has obtained an excellent grade of fibre-producing flax this year, although the quantity is not all that he desired.

WATER STOPS COAL MINING.

John Day Anthracite Believed to be of Great Richness.

Prairie City.—The development of the John Day coalfields, near Mount Vernon, are disclosing a large deposit of anthracite coal. A United States analysis states that it has no equal except in the Pennsylvania hard coal. The work done so far has been made under the management of Robert Hines, of Canyon City, and consists of three incline shafts of a depth of 74, 62 and 55 feet, of which all struck the coal beds, and with it a large flow of water, which stopped the work thereon for lack of pumps. A 66-foot crosscut tunnel has been run, where they also had to stop work on account of water, when they encountered the coal deposit.

One tunnel crosscutting the coal beds to ascertain the width of the coal deposit, is in 64 feet, and has five veins of coal with a 16-inch solid sandstone wall between each vein, and there may be many more of such veins. This tunnel is only 16 feet below the surface.

James Smith has drilled 144 feet down on the coal deposit, the capacity of the machine—all is coal. It is now the purpose of the coal prospectors to get a drilling outfit of a 1000-foot capacity to prove the depth of the coal deposit.

Pendleton's New Schoolhouses.

Pendleton.—The Pendleton School Board has awarded the contract for the construction of three school buildings to H. E. Cook, a contractor of this city. For the construction of two eight-room buildings, Mr. Cook agrees to do the work for \$34,709. Spokane pressed brick will be used and if Weston pressed brick is agreed upon the cost is to be \$1000 lower. For the four-room building, Cook's figures are \$11,033. provided Spokane pressed brick is used. With Weston brick the building will be constructed for \$10,033. Work on the buildings will begin at once, but it is not believed the schoolhouses will be completed and ready for occupancy before the first of the year.

Willamette Falls Fishway.

Oregon City.—Contractor E. P. Rands has completed the construction of the state fish-ladder at the Willamette Falls in this city. By means of the improvement the Fall run of salmon will be enabled to reach the upper Willamette River and establish spawning grounds in the Molalla, Santiam and McKenzie and other streams tributary to the Willamette. The fishway consists of a succession of 12 pools that have been blasted out of solid rock, the basins being located at intervals of about three feet and extending to the crest of the falls.

Displays for State Fair.

Forest Grove.—The women of the Washington County Lewis and Clark Club are preparing an excellent display of fruits, grains, vegetables and photographs of local industries for exhibition at the coming State Fair. This exhibition will form the nucleus of Washington County's exhibit at the Lewis and Clark Fair.

Northwest Wheat Markets.

Portland—Walla Walla, 77¢@78¢; bluestem, 83¢@84¢; valley, 83¢. Tacoma—Bluestem, 82¢; club, 77¢. Albany—76¢. Salem—80¢. Colfax—Club, 67¢; bluestem, 72¢. Pendleton—Club, 68½¢; bluestem, 72¢. La Grande—Club, 65¢; bluestem, 70¢.

NO FEED FOR CATTLE.

Grave Problem Faces Stockmen in Willamette Valley.

Salem.—"There will be hundreds of Willamette Valley farmers with cattle this Winter and with not enough feed for them," says J. K. Sears, of McCoy. "It would seem absurd to say that livestock in the Willamette Valley will starve this Winter because of the scarcity of feed, but I shall not be surprised if many cattle die this Winter of starvation. The farmers have more cattle than they want, there is no market for them and the hay and grain crops were so short there is not feed enough."

This statement, made by Mr. Sears, was repeated to a well-known wholesale butcher, and his comment was: "Mr. Sears has stated the situation just about as it is. The outlook is very bad for the farmer with beef cattle, and with feed as scarce as it is now, stock will be in pretty poor condition this Winter. The farmer can't sell his cattle, and there won't be feed enough for them unless it is shipped in. The price of feed is high and the price of cattle low. It won't pay to ship the cattle out of the Valley to Winter them. If farmers buy feed to Winter their cattle they must do so at a loss. I wouldn't like to say that cattle will starve in the Willamette Valley, but—well, Mr. Sears is not far from right."

This unfortunate situation arises from two causes, an oversupply of beef cattle and an unprecedented shortage of feed. Hay is now selling at \$11 to \$12 a ton, or about 30 per cent higher than usual. The oat crop was but a small part of what is usually harvested in the Valley, and many farmers are now buying for their horses. Pasturage has been very poor all Summer, and unless there are early rains there will not be much grass this Fall before cold weather stops its growth.

WILL EXTEND LINE.

Salem Business Men Aid in Building Road from Dallas.

Salem.—The plan for the construction of a railroad between Salem and Dallas took effective form when President L. Gerlinger, of the Dalles, Falls City & Salem Railway Company, submitted to the Greater Salem Commercial Club a proposition under which he offers to build the road. His offer is to extend the present Falls City-Dallas road to Salem. The present line is ten miles long. The 15-mile extension to Salem will cost \$120,000, and Mr. Gerlinger will build, equip and operate the road if the citizens of Salem will take \$100,000 bonds of the road. The bonds are to be a first lien, not only upon the new road but the present road and the equipment. The bonds will mature in ten years, and bear interest at 5 per cent.

The committee of business men having the matter in charge are satisfied that the security would be good and the club showed its approval of the proposition by directing the committee to proceed at once to secure subscriptions to the bond issue. This road, if constructed, will not only give convenient transportation between Dallas and Salem, but will provide means of hauling logs and lumber from the timber country around Falls City to the Willamette river. It is announced that the Falls City road will immediately be extended a few miles west to tap a larger belt of timber, and there is a very general opinion that the road will be extended westward across the Coast Range to the Siletz.

Thrashing Machine Burned.

Albany.—The thrashing machine of Lawrence and Samuel Hardman was destroyed by fire while operating on the Raymond Burkhardt place a few miles from Lebanon recently. The machine was in operation when suddenly flames burst from the interior of the machine in every direction. The separator was enveloped in the flames, and it was impossible to do more than prevent the fire from spreading to the grain and straw. The engine was hooked to the separator and the burning machine was dragged into the brush, beyond the reach of the grain.

Survey of Salem-Portland Line.

Oregon City.—The party of surveyors that is making the preliminary survey for the proposed Portland-Salem electric line are now at work in the vicinity of Canemah. This information was given by a member of the party. At Canemah the stakes are being set along the bluff to the south of this suburb, which confirms the belief of many that the proposed line will effect a juncture with the line of the Oregon Water Power & Railway Company at Canemah and prove but an extension of the Oregon City-Portland electric railway.

Harvest Season Near an End.

Pendleton.—Harvest will be completed in the next 10 days in this vicinity, with the exception of the hill land on the reservation. Quite a number of steam threshers and a few combines have pulled in for the season. A large portion of the grain is hauled in, and the hauling also will be complete in at least two weeks.