

THE COLUMBIA REGISTER

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NEWS OF THE WEEK

In a Condensed Form for Our Busy Readers.

HAPPENINGS OF TWO CONTINENTS

A Resume of the Less Important but Not Less Interesting Events of the Past Week.

Russia scouts all talk of making peace.

The czar gave General Stoessel a free hand at Port Arthur to do as he thought best.

More charges of land frauds implicate Idaho citizens, including Senator Heyburn, also Senator Clark, of Montana.

An Ohio river steamer blew up near Huntington, W. Va., killing 16 people and injuring 12 others. The steamer and 20 barges burned.

More than 500 delegates were present at the opening session of the American Forestry congress in Washington. Secretary Wilson welcomed the delegates and in his address advocated needed changes in present laws to protect the forests and water supply.

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The Oklahoma statehood bill will come before the senate immediately after the holiday recess.

Several torpedo boats escaped from Port Arthur and took refuge at Shanghai just prior to the surrender of the fortress.

Before surrendering Stoessel sunk the damaged warships in Port Arthur harbor. The Japanese severely criticize this.

Now that Port Arthur has fallen the bulk of the besieging army will be sent north, but some of them will go home. The army before Port Arthur is variously stated as being between 70,000 and 120,000 men.

If Senator Mitchell follows the inexorable rule of senatorial etiquette, he will not appear on the floor of the senate again until the courts have taken final action in the matter of the indictment against him.

The cotton mill strike at Fall River, Mass., continues with both sides determined not to give in.

The grind of the Federal grand jury goes on, and another report for the expectant public will soon be made.

Silver is growing scarce. The price has advanced, and the market is such that the consumer waits on the producer.

Chicago held memorial services December 30 in remembrance of the Iroquois chieftain disaster, the occasion being the first anniversary.

Preparations are being made at Vladivostok for the reception in the dry docks of any of the Baltic squadron that may need docking when the fleet reaches that port.

The London city police have arrested two members of an international gang which for two or three years is alleged to have been conducting extensive forgeries in 25 Bank of England notes.

Boston's submarine tunnel is open for business. The tube is a mile and a half long, and connects Boston and East Boston, running under the harbor. The cost was three million dollars. About three and one-half years was consumed in constructing the tunnel.

Owing to the crisis in Morocco, the French navy yards show great activity.

The Japanese attempts to raise the Russian cruiser Varieg have been discontinued. It will be impossible to recommence work before spring, by which time the steel plates forming the hull will be useless.

England is again enveloped in a heavy fog and all ships are detained at the mouth of the Thames, unable to proceed.

Admiral Kazankoff has been recalled as Russian commissioner in the North sea inquiry and will be replaced by Vice Admiral Doubaroff. Sickness is given as the reason.

The Montana agricultural exhibits at St. Louis are being packed for shipment to Portland. The mineral exhibit will leave Butte for the Lewis and Clark fair shortly.

SUMMARY OF THE TERMS.

Russian Officers Go Home on Parole, Privates Remain Prisoners.

London, Jan. 5.—The Japanese legation yesterday published the terms of the agreement which served as the basis of the capitulation of Port Arthur. The agreement was signed by the Russian and Japanese commissioners, representing Generals Stoessel and Nogi respectively, and later by the commanders in chief themselves, the final consummation of it taking place in the evening of January 2.

The agreement consists of 11 articles. Several of them are of a purely technical nature. The essential points of the others are as follows: The entire fortress, with its surrounding fortifications, the ships still afloat in the harbor and the wrecks of those sunk and partly sunk, all arms and ammunition, the military buildings in the fortress and forts as well as in the old and new towns, together with all other government property, are to be surrendered to the Japanese. The latter agree to respect and duly investigate all private rights and claims.

The Japanese reserve the right of free action relative to their claims for restitution and indemnity in the event of it becoming established that any forts, ships or other property were destroyed after the signature had been affixed to the agreement. A detailed investigation of the facts relating to such violation of the agreement is to be made by the Japanese.

The forts still standing, and the stock of torpedoes and mines, the date exacting information in reference to the placing of mines on land as well as in the waters of Port Arthur, as well as the lists with the names of all military and naval officers engaged in the late defense, are to be delivered without deductions and encumbrances to the Japanese.

The soldiers, sailors and volunteers, as well as the officials under Russian jurisdiction, will become prisoners of the Japanese. The officers and officials will retain their arms and private property, however, in accordance with the expressed wish of the mikado, as a recognition of their gallantry in defending the fortress. These officers and officials are to be sent on parole to Russia.

As a guarantee of good faith, the forts at Ileshan and Antushan, together with other fortifications still standing, are to be surrendered to the Japanese not later than noon of January 3.

DOES MUCH DAMAGE.

Disastrous Fire in Plant of Union Meat Company at Portland.

Portland, Jan. 4.—Fires raged in the plant of the Union Meat company, Fourth and Glisan streets, from 11 last night to 3 this morning, completely gutting the building. Loss on the structure, which was a three-story brick, is estimated at \$100,000, and on the contents \$150,000. This is partly covered by insurance.

Heated lard is believed to have started the fire. The flames burst out on the third floor, directly over the engine room. When the fire was first discovered by Night Engineer John Sleight, the flames were leaping in every direction above and streams of ammonia from the cold storage plant were dripping to the floors below.

Close to the Fourth street side of the building, on a track of the Southern Pacific, stood several freight and refrigerator cars.

There was also a car of fuel oil. It stood where the flames were the hottest and for more than an hour it was the fear of the police and firemen that it would explode and deal death in every direction.

The flames leaped and burned furiously over and around the oil tank, but after an hour of heroic work the firemen succeeded in averting the danger and saving the car of oil. Those who had to fight close to the danger ground breathed a sigh of relief when they drove back the flames and were able to turn their attention to the building proper.

Ready to Mediate.

Washington, Jan. 5.—President Roosevelt has decided that he will offer his good offices to bring about peace between Russia and Japan whenever either party to the conflict shall request him to do so. He has heretofore insisted that both parties must request his good offices before taking any action. This view has been modified so that either can secure his interposition by asking it. The president does not think any step in the direction of peace will be taken in the immediate future, probably two or three months.

Japanese Occupy Forts.

Tokio, Jan. 5.—The Japanese took possession of a number of the forts of Port Arthur today. The Russian officers are to be permitted to return to Russia upon parole, the officers retaining their side arms.

IN HANDS OF JAPS

Port Arthur Gives Up After Fighting Eleven Months.

CAUSES GREAT JOY IN TOKIO

Stoessel Confesses He Found Further Resistance Was Only a Useless Sacrifice of Lives.

New York, Jan. 3.—Port Arthur, whose hills for months have run red with the blood of the bravest of two world wars, has at last succumbed to the fierce tenacity of the Japanese attack. General Stoessel, most stubborn in carrying out the will of his sovereign, has seen the advance of the besieging army gain in momentum and energy, until to hold out longer would have been a crime against humanity.

The conditions of the surrender are not yet known, but in all quarters it is anticipated that they are such as an honorable soldier may accept from a brave and victorious enemy.

At 9:45 of clock last night the commissioners signed the capitulation agreement. Both armies suspended hostilities five hours earlier. The city of Port Arthur will be occupied by the Japanese today.

The anti cities at St. Petersburg, in the absence of direct official notice from General Stoessel that Port Arthur has surrendered, have not permitted the news to become public. Emperor Nicholas is in the south of Russia, and his minister are for the time being in the dark as to what dispatches have been sent to him from the front. Tokio is the scene of rejoicing, people finding in the outcome compensation for all the sacrifice of life and money that was entailed in the ten months' siege.

What is the extent of the fall of Port Arthur will make for a restoration of peace is an open question. There is an encouraging note in the expression of Baron Hanyu, Japanese minister to London, of the "hope that in some way it will facilitate final peace."

Both in Paris and London it is believed that the squadron under Vice Admiral Rozhdestvensky, which started from Liban for the Far East three months ago, will have to retrace its way home, as an adherence to the original plans would invite disaster without probability of effecting a juncture with the warships at present in the harbor of Vladivostok.

HALL IS REMOVED.

Summary Action by the President in Land Fraud Cases.

Washington, Jan. 3.—President Roosevelt has directed the absolute removal of John H. Hall, United States district attorney for the district of Oregon. The action was taken at the request of Francis J. Heney, who has been conducting, as the nominal assistant of Mr. Hall, the land fraud cases in Oregon.

The announcement of this action was made by Attorney General Moody as he was leaving the White house after a conference with the president. Mr. Moody declined to say what the charges against Mr. Hall were, if any, but did say that it was for the good of the service to dispense with him, particularly in regard to the conduct of the land fraud cases now being investigated.

Mitchell and Hermann Indicted.

Portland, Jan. 3.—The Federal grand jury fulfilled the expectations of the public when it returned indictments against Senator Mitchell, Binger Hermann and George Sorenson. Mitchell and Hermann were indicted jointly and are charged with having conspired with all of the defendants heretofore indicted to defraud the government out of land situated in township 11 south, range 7 east. Sorenson is indicted for having offered a bribe of \$5,000 to District Attorney Hall on March 28 last, when the indictment against the conspirators who were convicted in the recent trial was pending in the Federal court.

New Navy for Russia.

St. Petersburg, Jan. 4.—With reference to the report published in the United States under a St. Petersburg date that Emperor Nicholas has petitioned the expenditure of \$80,000,000 for rebuilding the navy, the fact is that Russia's naval program has not yet been definitely decided or promulgated. All that is positively known is that the plan covers a long period of years. The absolute necessity of a sea power is one of Russia's latest lessons of the present war.

Cold Suspends Mobilization.

St. Petersburg, Jan. 4.—The intensely cold weather which prevails in the north of Russia has caused a temporary suspension of the mobilization and movement of troops. Today the temperature is -10 degrees below Fahrenheit.

FIND THE TRUTH.

Denver Election Frauds to be Probed to the Bottom.

Denver, Jan. 4.—Stretching its hands so as to cast a shadow over every man and woman in any way implicated in election frauds in the city and county of Denver, on, before or after November 8, the supreme court has ordered an investigation so sweeping in its scope that every phase of the election may be scrutinized and everything that bears upon it in any way may be made known by judicial inquiry.

Alva Adams, Democratic candidate for governor, who appeared from the returns to have been elected, but who has declared that he does not want the office tainted with fraud, asked the court to open every Denver ballot box, but the order of the court goes beyond the mere examination of the ballots and provides for an investigation of the registration lists, the campaign expenditures, and, in brief, all election matters. Samuel W. Belford, attorney for Adams, and Henry J. Hersey, attorney for the Republicans, asked the court to make its order of such breadth that the court need not stop at anything in the investigation. The court said that was what it meant to do, and instructed the lawyers to agree upon the wording of the order, and present it to the court for approval.

Chief Justice Gabbert said that while the petition did not state facts entitling the petitioner to such an investigation as proposed, the court had decided that an investigation might ensue in discovering the guilty persons who were responsible for the commission of the gross frauds that had been revealed in the contempt proceedings. There must have been some persons behind the election officers and others who committed frauds, the court believed.

GUILTY ONES DISCHARGED.

Ball Cartridges Among Blanks Are Traced to the Packers.

Washington, Jan. 4.—As the result of an investigation made by direction of General Crozier, chief of ordnance, it has been ascertained that among the 1,750,000 blank cartridges issued last summer to the regular and militia troops which took part in the maneuvers at Manassas, Va., and in California, two ball cartridges were found, one at the Virginia camp and the other in California. The person who packed the California cartridge was traced by the initials on the box and was promptly discharged. In the Virginia case it was impossible to find the offender.

As an additional precaution, all the blank cartridge cases at the Frankford arsenal have been overhauled and weighed, with the result that one ball cartridge was found. In that case the person who packed the case was discharged.

To guard against the possibility of such an occurrence, General Crozier has directed that each box of blank cartridges shall be weighed before sealing. The presence of a ball cartridge can be easily detected by this method.

WHIP WIFE-BEATERS.

Washington Grand Jury Adopts the President's Suggestion.

Washington, Jan. 3.—The local grand jury in making its final report for the present term of the supreme court of the District of Columbia today recommended the establishment of whipping-posts in the district. The question has been much agitated ever since the president in his last annual message recommended corporal punishment for wife-beaters in the District of Columbia. The recommendation of the jury was as follows:

"The efficacy of establishing the whipping-post as a means of punishing wife-beaters and petty larceny offenses has been investigated by this body, and the majority of the members are of the opinion that it would prove very effective in reducing the number of these reprehensible crimes."

Bandits Are Supreme.

Paris, Jan. 4.—The measures contemplated by the French government for the security of the neighborhood of the towns in Morocco have not yet been completed, partly owing to the fact that there has not yet been the time necessary for the purpose since France first undertook the task, and partly because many matters of detail remain to be settled when the French representative, M. Saint Rebe Tallander, meets the sultan at Fez at the end of the month. Oriental dilatoriness also counts for something in the delay.

Two Cruisers Return.

St. Petersburg, Jan. 4.—A report that the cruisers Orel and Ismurd, of the second Pacific squadron, have been ordered to return is current here, but lacks official confirmation. If the report should prove true, Vice Admiral Rojestvensky may be obliged to await reinforcements from the Third Pacific squadron.

OREGON STATE ITEMS OF INTEREST

ALL ARE BUYING CATTLE.

Good Prices and Brisk Market Prevail in Grant County.

John Day.—Cattle buying among Grant county stockmen has been quite active since the heavy sales last fall. So many engaged in this rather unusual form of stock transaction that the home supply became practically exhausted some time ago, and they are reaching out into the surrounding territory. The bulk of the business was carried on very quietly, and resulted in a good many surprises. Growers who make a practice of selling off young stock were approached by local buyers, and asked whether they knew of any such for sale in their neighborhood. The reply was generally that they had bought up all to be found.

Conditions favor this demand. Prices have been down to bedrock, close sales of fat stock had been general throughout the county, and feed and pasture are unusually plentiful. Isee cattlemen have made the largest purchases of young stock and steers, and several large bands have been taken in to that section for wintering. Henry Trowbridge and Johnny Laycock have just driven 436 head of steers over to their pastures in that valley. They were purchased chiefly in the Burnt river country, at prices ranging from \$12 to \$25 per head.

Gold Found Near Mosier.

The Dalles.—Parties from Mosier, who were in the Dalles say considerable excitement has been caused in Mosier over the discovery of gold on the head of Mosier creek. A man named Thomas is reported to have come into Mosier a few days ago with a handful of gold that he stated he had dug out of the ground five or six miles south of the town. Thomas is said to be a responsible person, and his report of finding a valuable mine is given credence by the people who know him. Several residents of Mosier have gone to the vicinity of the reported find, intending to locate claims if the alleged mine proves to be what Thomas represents it to be.

New Company at Work.

Grants Pass.—The Michigan Mining & Milling company, which recently bought a large tract of mineral ground on Applegate creek, of Murphy district, near Grants Pass, has gone enterprisingly to work under the supervision of W. T. Perry, of Portland, in the development of the property. The land embraces much good timber, water right and quartz and placer diggings. The quartz ledges will be given especial attention by the Michigan company, as the veins give promise of unusual worth. Buildings and quarters for the workmen will be erected at once, and the opening up of the claims will proceed with the best possible dispatch.

Coming Events.

Inland Empire Sunday school institute, Pendleton, January 30.
Animal shows, Polk County Goat, Poultry and Sheep association, Dallas, January 18-20; poultry show, Newberg, January 10-13; poultry show, Albany, January, 18-21.
State Horticultural society, Portland, January 10-11.
Prohibition Oratorical League contest, McMinnville, April 14.
National American Woman Suffrage association, Portland, June 22-28.
Lewis and Clark Centennial exposition, Portland, June 1-October 15.

Diphtheria Under Control.

Grants Pass.—The health officers of the city have the diphtheria epidemic, manifest here for several weeks past, well under control. The original 13 or 14 cases have now been reduced to five or six, and most of these are on the way to recovery. Five deaths occurred. Strict quarantine regulations have been enforced upon those afflicted and upon the inmates of residences where the disease has been. Coming at Christmas time, the dread caused a considerable falling off in the anticipated holiday shopping.

Reserve Land Restored.

Oregon City.—By the recent order of the Interior department there is reinstated for public entry substantially the same acreage in the Cascade forest reserve that was withdrawn about one year ago, pending an investigation by the department. Much of this land, having been restored to settlement, will be open to settlers within three months through the Oregon City land office.

Road to Sweepstake.

Cottage Grove.—John Brund and Alex Lundberg have built 600 feet of road from the Sweepstake group to a point near the Vesuvius mine. When completed the road will be two miles long and will be of great advantage to the Sweepstake locality.

ROAD TO SWEEPSTAKE.

New Railway From Medford Along Crater Lake Route.

Medford.—For several months past the Southern Oregon Development company has been engaged in running surveys, securing rights of way, and doing other preliminary work toward the building of a railroad to the big timber belt located about 20 miles east of Medford, on the Crater Lake road. The surveys have been made from the site of the Butte Falls Mining company's plant to a point on the desert some eight miles from Medford, and rights of way have been secured over most of the route. The Medford and Crater Lake Railroad company has been organized by A. A. Davis, B. F. Adkins, J. M. Keene, R. H. Whitehead, B. H. Harris, W. F. Entrop and W. L. Vawter. Articles of incorporation were prepared and filed with the secretary of state. The capital stock of the incorporation is placed at \$500,000, and its object is to construct and operate a railroad from Medford east to the timber belt and Crater Lake.

This company supersedes the Southern Oregon Development company, and takes over the rights of way, surveys, etc., of that company. A permanent organization, with election of officers will soon be made.

IRRIGATION FROM BIG WELLS

Scheme To Be Tried Out by Interested Parties Near Freewater.

Freewater.—A. C. Brannon and J. B. Twelliger, who reside west of this place, are sinking wells to irrigate tracts of hitherto unimproved lands to the west and north of Freewater. The water will be pumped with gasoline propelled pumps, for distribution over the land. There are at least 1,000 acres tributary to Freewater which are idle for the lack of water. The Walla Walla river has been appropriated by persons having riparian rights, and only by sinking wells can a supply be obtained.

The Freewater section seems to have once been the head of a lake, and the gravel has so accumulated that water percolates as though through a sieve. Winter irrigation seems to have the desired effects in soil of sufficient density to grow crops without summer irrigation, but this soil needs water through the hot months.

Line Into Nehalem.

Astoria.—While no information of an official nature can be obtained, there is an authentic report that the Astoria & Columbia River Railroad company has purchased the six miles of logging road built by the Benson Logging company at Clatskanie, and is preparing to extend it into the Nehalem valley, as an excellent grade can be found in that section. The road, which is of standard gauge, was built and equipped for conducting logging operations. Recently all the logging trains were taken off, and the line is now used exclusively by the railway in hauling freight to Clatskanie and vicinity.

Power for Trolley Roads.

Eugene.—Chief Engineer Diers, of the Willamette Valley Electric Railway company, is now preparing to put a force of men at work at Martin's Rapids, on the McKenzie river, where the waters are to be taken out by means of a flume and conducted to the site selected for the power station some distance below. The engineer estimates that 5,000-horsepower will be developed, which, he thinks, will be sufficient for operating the entire system of electric roads as planned at the present time.

Prize-Packed Fruit.

La Grande.—The Oregonian Produce company, of La Grande, has been awarded first honors by a committee of over 50 commission men and dealers in San Francisco, for the best packed fruit, competing with Colorado, California, Washington and Idaho. A. A. Gust, manager of the company in this city, has just returned from San Francisco.

Year's Work Shows Progress.

Cottage Grove.—The year that has just passed finds the Bohemia mining district in advance of the years that have gone by. There has been no boom, but lots of good hard work that showed when the books were closed at the end of the year. The quantity and quality of the ores are satisfying to the owners.

THE MARKETS.

Wheat—Portland—Walla Walla, 85c; bluestem, 88c; valley, 87c. Tacoma—Bluestem, 88c; club, 85c.
Eggs—Oregon ranch, 81c.
Butter—Fancy creamery, 25c; 27 1/2c.
Hops—Choice, 29c; prime, 27c; 28c.
Wool—Valley, 19c; 20c; Eastern Oregon, 10c; 17c; mohair, 25c; 26c.