

THE COLUMBIA REGISTER

VOL. I.

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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.

Kuropatkin is reorganizing his army at Tle pass.

Assistant Secretary Loomis denies friction with Hay.

President Castro has seized and cut the French cable in Venezuela.

The Colorado legislature is in a deadlock over the governorship contest.

The president will reorganize the Panama canal commission soon and drop a number of useless officials.

The American steamer Tacoma, from Seattle to Vladivostok with a cargo of beef, has been captured by the Japanese.

Arrangements are nearly completed for the erection of a large oil refining plant at Kansas City in opposition to the Standard Oil.

Kuropatkin must now take with him the supplies at Tle pass if he retreats from that place, as there are none between Tle pass and Harbin.

St. Petersburg dispatches say that Kuropatkin's resignation has been accepted and that Grand Duke Nicholas Nicolaievitch has consented to take chief command in Manchuria.

It is stated that Secretary Loomis will be appointed ambassador to Mexico in succession to Edwin H. Conger, when the latter retires next summer to become a candidate for the governorship of Iowa.

Japan accuses Russia of violating Chinese neutrality.

Menominee, Michigan, has been shaken by an earthquake.

The Porto Rican legislature has adjourned after passing 40 bills out of 198 introduced.

Mexican rural police have run down the band of Yaquila which robbed the Mazatlan stage of \$15,000.

Some of the war party of Russia favors the raising of a new army to fight Japan, to be personally commanded by the czar.

The Russians are fortifying Tle pass while the Japanese are preparing another turning movement similar to that of Mukden.

From latest reports of losses it is believed that Kuropatkin cannot have more than 100,000 effective fighting men with him at Tle pass.

A caucus of the Republican members of the Missouri legislature has resulted in an agreement to vote for A. P. Spencer, of St. Louis, for United States senator.

The Colorado supreme court has ruled that the legislature must seat either Adams or Peabody, and cannot adopt the report declaring that neither was elected. Twenty-two members have signed a pledge not to seat Peabody, which means a final victory for Adams.

Many arms are being smuggled into Russia for use by strikers.

Mrs. Chadwick has been found guilty of swindling the Oberlin, Ohio, bank.

An extradition treaty has been signed between the United States and Uruguay.

The senatorial deadlock in the Missouri and Delaware legislatures continues unbroken.

Twenty lives were lost as the result of an explosion which occurred in a Cardiff, Wales, coal mine.

St. Petersburg advises say that as soon as the Baltic squadron receives reinforcements it will again start for the Far East.

The sale of very young girls as wives is common in Chicago. The largest per cent of them are Italians, but many are Americans.

Two men found guilty of stealing ballots in Denver at the November election have been sent to the penitentiary for five years.

A theory has been advanced that Mrs. Stanford's death was accidental.

In a final conference with Heney in regard to the Oregon land frauds the president instructed him to go to the very bottom and spare no man who is guilty.

Rumors of peace proposals by Russia are again current.

It is reported that a national uprising against the czar will start May 7.

But little is known in Russia of the turn of affairs in the Far East.

DOINGS IN CONGRESS.

Wednesday, March 8.

The Santo Domingo treaty was practically perfected today by the senate committee on foreign relations, so far as phraseology is concerned and without regard to the principle involved in the procedure proposed by the treaty. A number of amendments have been presented and some of them already adopted.

The president today sent a message to the senate giving his reasons for wanting the treaty ratified.

A large batch of consular and diplomatic appointments were confirmed and an additional lot received.

Thursday, March 9.

The senate committee on foreign relations today agreed to report favorably the Santo Domingo treaty as amended.

The senate was in session but seven minutes today and adjournment was taken out of respect to the memory of the late Senator Bate, of Tennessee. A committee of 12 senators was appointed to make preparations for the deceased senator's funeral in the chamber at 2 p. m. tomorrow.

Friday, March 10.

The Santo Domingo treaty was today reported favorably to the senate.

The only legislative business transacted was in relation to the death of Senator Bate, of Tennessee. Gorman introduced a resolution providing for the payment of the funeral expenses of Senator Bate, which was immediately adopted. At 12:50 the senate took a recess until 1:50, when the funeral services of the late senator took place.

At the conclusion of the Bate funeral ceremony the senate adjourned until Monday, when discussion of the Santo Domingo treaty will commence.

Monday, March 13.

The senate will do its utmost to complete the Santo Domingo treaty and adjourn this week. This was manifested when the treaty was taken up in executive session today. For more than an hour the senators discussed ways and means and finally agreed to meet at 11 a. m. daily in order to give time for a full discussion of the measure and still adjourn by Saturday. It is conceded that, if the vote were delayed beyond that time, a quorum of the senate could not be maintained. One amendment was presented today, providing that such expenses as may be incurred by the army and navy shall be paid from the revenues of Santo Domingo. No decision was reached.

Tuesday, March 14.

The discussion of the Dominican treaty in executive session of the senate today resulted in the drawing of party lines. The Republicans have counted on some Democratic votes, and, losing these, it will be impossible for the treaty to pass. There was some talk today of postponing action until a commission could investigate the affairs of Santo Domingo, including the character of the claims and the stability of the Dominican government. This is not likely, however, as it is not believed the president will approve the plan.

Vote on Treaty Soon.

Washington, March 13.—Many senators are indulging in speculation as to the length of the session required to take action on the Santo Domingo treaty, and whether party lines will be drawn that when the treaty comes to a vote. Thus far it has not developed that either party will caucus, and, in fact, so much difference as to the fate of the treaty has been manifested that it is not believed there will be any attempt to line up the forces.

Few senators were at the capital yesterday, but nearly all of those who were in their committee rooms expressed the opinion that, if there should not be a line-up, and they are agreed that one is not likely, the treaty will be brought to a vote by the end of the week, and that the special session may be adjourned sine die on Saturday.

Whole Army is Surrounded.

Niuchwang, March 10.—The Russians have not been reinforced from the direction of Harbin since March 1. General Nogi's army made a forced march of 25 miles daily, and, acting in conjunction with General Oku's army, surrounded 80,000 Russians in the direction of Tle pass and cut off their supplies. The hurrying Japanese armies passed a division of Russians without giving it any attention until the enveloping movement was completed, when they crushingly attacked the Russians on all sides.

Attempt to Kill Governor.

St. Petersburg, March 10.—Colonel Progonibitsky, governor of the province of Kutta, has been the object of an attempted assassination by two men at Sukhum. The would-be murderers fired six shots from revolvers at the governor, but he was not struck. The motive of the attempt is believed to have been political.

Russia Pays North Sea Claims.

London, March 10.—Count Benckendorff, the Russian ambassador to Great Britain, today paid \$325,000 to Foreign Secretary Lansdowne in settlement of the North Sea claims, and the incident was thus closed.

ONE MUST LEAVE

Secretary Hay and His Assistant Don't Agree.

DOMINICAN TREATY THE CAUSE

Loomis Its Chief Promoter—Action on Ratification Will Decide Which Must Go.

Washington, March 14.—Unless some conciliatory bird of peace shall perch itself in the State department soon, either Secretary Hay or his first assistant, Francis B. Loomis, will resign within a month. That there has been a ruction in the department has been known for some time, but that it had reached a serious point is just manifest.

The whole trouble is said to be due principally to the fact that Secretary Hay is not in thorough accord with President Roosevelt in his policy toward Santo Domingo, as emphasized by the much criticized treaty now under consideration in the senate, while Secretary Loomis is the power behind it in the State department. It is well known that Secretary Hay has a large following in the senate and much of the opposition to the treaty, as sent to the senate, is due not only to the objections of the senators to the treaty as it stood, but because of their desire to uphold the hands of Mr. Hay.

By those closest to the parties concerned about three weeks is the time given within which one or the other will resign. Much will depend upon the action of the senate on the pending treaty and still more on the success of the president and his friends in healing the breach between Hay and Loomis. Among the leaders of congress here the loss of Secretary Hay to the cabinet is regarded as impossible.

Mr. Adee is acting secretary of state today. Secretary Hay being in attendance at a meeting of the Carnegie institute and Mr. Loomis having left for a trip to California.

HUGE BOOTY AT SINKING.

Japanese Capture Outfit of an Army and Annihilate a Division.

Tokio, March 14.—The following report was received today from the headquarters of the Japanese armies in the field:

"It is estimated that the spoils which fell into our hands in the direction of Sinkiang (Yenden), since the occupation by us of Tsinkentchen on February 24 has been as follows:

"Rifles, 22,000; machine guns, 6; small ammunition, 320,000 rounds; shells, 11,500; entrenching tools, 6,000; wire, 1,200 bundles; materials for a light railway of 33 miles; wagons for the latter, 450; garments, 10 cartloads; coal mining machinery for eight pits; timber, 4,000 pieces.

"Besides these we took large quantities of cereals, fodder, tents, beds, stoves, maps and telephones, as well as a great number of bullocks and horses.

"The enemy left about 1,200 dead on the field. We took 80 prisoners.

"It is estimated that the enemy's casualties were about 20,000.

"Prisoners say that the Seventy-first division was almost annihilated."

NOT YELLOW FEVER, MALARIA.

Secretary Taft Says That is Health Problem of Isthmus.

Washington March 14.—Secretary Taft, after a brief talk with the president today, said it was a mistaken report that yellow fever was on the increase in the American zone of the Isthmus of Panama. "In fact," said the secretary, "it is not yellow fever that will give us the most trouble on the isthmus, but malaria, which is very prevalent. Eventually, while there are some cases of yellow fever in the American zone, we shall be able to stamp out that disease. It will be a hard fight, however, to reduce trouble arising from malaria."

Millions for Great College.

Montreal, March 14.—Sir William C. MacDonald, the millionaire tobacco manufacturer, today laid before the Protestant committee of the council of public instruction a proposition to endow an agricultural training college and a college for the training of school teachers in the sum of from \$2,000,000 to \$4,000,000. Sir William has selected Professor Robertson, the man who developed the Canadian dairy business, as the director of the scheme. The college will be located at Stanne de Bellevue, 30 miles from Montreal.

Mankato Loses Large Building.

Mankato, Minn., March 14.—The Glass block, one of the largest buildings in the city, was entirely destroyed by fire tonight and a number of adjacent buildings were damaged. Loss, \$150,000.

ROASTED TO DEATH.

Nineteen Persons Perish in New York Tenement House Fire.

New York, March 15.—Nineteen persons were burned to death in a fire which destroyed the five-story tenement house at 105 Allen street early today. More than 40 are injured and only a few of the sleeping inmates escaped unhurt. Several of those who perished were roasted to death in plain view of the thousands in the streets.

Coroner Goldenkrans declared after an investigation that he had reason to believe the blaze was the work of an incendiary. He issued subpoenas for the fire marshal, tenement house commission and building owners and health and police officials to appear before him at the inquest Thursday.

The fire started in the basement occupied by Isaac Davis, his wife and three children. Davis had been out last night, and returned early this morning, going into his store upon the same floor just in time to see the kerosene lamp in the rear explode.

He says he woke his wife, and both tried to put out the flaming lamp, but without success, and then gave all their attention to getting their children out of the building. A policeman who heard the cry of alarm rushed to the scene, and every effort was made to rouse the sleeping persons in the house.

In the meantime the flames had spread with startling rapidity, and when the persons who had been asleep in the upper floors awoke they found themselves confronted by a wall of flames on every side. The panic-stricken people, fighting for their lives, rushed to the fire escapes, only to find them littered with rubbish of all descriptions and almost impassable. Down through these narrow passageways flowed a stream of humanity.

WHOLE LAW DEAD.

Congress Unintentionally Abolished Lieu Land Selections.

Washington, March 15.—Without intending to do so, congress has apparently repealed the lieu land law in its entirety. It doing so it has erased from the statute books the law which has been responsible for more fraud than any other public land statute; it has put an end forever to a system of exchanges by which the Federal government has actually been cheated out of millions of dollars' worth of valuable timber land.

In the closing hours of the last congress, the senate passed a bill that had long been on its calendar, intended to restrict lieu selections to non-timbered lands. It was a bill that had previously been passed by the house, but which had been amended by the senate committee. Because of this amendment, the bill was sent to conference, and there it was again altered until it was amended out of shape and accomplished a very different purpose from what it did as it passed the house and senate.

Although the bill retained its title, "An act prohibiting the selection of timber lands in lieu of lands in forest reserves," its text was so changed that it not only prohibited the selection of timber lands, but all lands in exchange for lands in forest reserves.

FINANCIERS MAY BRING PEACE

Refusal of French Bankers to Lend Money is a Blow to Russia.

London, March 15.—The revolt of the French bankers is considered by the London newspapers as the most hopeful and important news of the day, promising an early conclusion of peace between Russia and Japan. Apparently the proposed loan has not been absolutely refused, but only "postponed." This, however, is regarded here as being tantamount to a refusal, and is expected to speak louder to the Russian war party even than Kuropatkin's reverse at Mukden.

It is the general belief that by the death of M. Germain, the late governor of the credit Lyonnais, Russia lost her strongest financial friend in France, and that, had he been still alive, no difficulty would have been experienced. With the American and English markets closed to her, it is thought that Russia can only turn to Germany, which is not likely to be much more responsive than France, and the only alternative would seem to be to make peace.

Contract Let for Great Dam.

Washington, March 15.—The secretary of the interior has awarded a contract for the construction in Salt river valley, Arizona, of what, when completed, will be one of the largest dams in the world. It will cost \$1,100,000. In addition to overflowing about 350,000 acres of land, the dam will supply waterpower for hundreds of places throughout the territory. The dam, which will be known as the Roosevelt dam, will be 225 feet high, and at its base will have a thickness of about 200 feet.

Nebraskans Will Keep Passes.

Lincoln, Neb., March 15.—The house today, by a vote of 42 to 40, agreed to indefinitely postpone the bill making it a crime to give or accept railroad passes. Today's action disposes of all the anti-pass measures, every one being defeated.

OREGON STATE ITEMS OF INTEREST

TO SPEND \$50,000.

Fast Development on New Quartz Property on Applegate River.

Grants Pass—The Michigan Mining and Milling company, composed largely of Michigan mining men, of which W. T. Perry, of Portland, is manager, is preparing to spend some \$50,000 or more within the next few months in the development and equipment of its quartz mines on Applegate river, eight miles south of this city. A large crew is employed at present building a mill, shops, quarters and in development of the mine. A large boiler, engine and other machinery will arrive this week and will be hauled out at once and placed in position. The mill, which will be one of the Pratt type, will be of a capacity equal to ten ordinary stamps, and will also be supplied with riffles, separators and vanners, by which at least 90 per cent of the assay values of the quartz will be saved.

There are three large ledges on the Michigan company's grounds, of which there is 500 acres, all highly mineralized and well timbered. The Applegate flows just below, from which water can be derived for all purposes. The quartz carries an average of \$25 a ton in free gold and sulphurets, and occurs in a constant vein between porphyry and slate.

A broad avenue is being cleared from the camp down to the road, leaving the big oaks, laurels and fir standing, and by this avenue the camp dwellings and cabins will be built. A number of the Michigan people interested in the mine will make their homes at "Michigan City," the name that has been given the new and fast growing camp.

OUT OF THEIR OWN POCKETS.

Regents of Weston Normal School Will Pay Its Expenses.

Pendleton—The regents of the Eastern Oregon normal school held a meeting here for the purpose of devising ways and means for the maintenance of the institution. The board was unanimous against the idea of closing the school, and will hold themselves personally responsible for its needs, believing that in any event no future legislature will refuse to reimburse any indebtedness that economical management may incur. The action of the board seems to meet the approval of the people of Eastern Oregon, who are greatly interested in the institution, and say that it should not be closed in any event.

Jackson Citizens at Work.

Ashland—The county court of Jackson county has appointed a long list of citizens as a committee to have charge of arrangements in securing an exhibit at the Lewis and Clark fair. A meeting of this committee has been called to take place at Medford Saturday, March 18, for the purpose of taking definite methods of collecting a representative display of the county's resources for exhibition. While the county court has appropriated no definite amount for a county exhibit, it will have charge of the same.

Umatilla Irrigation Project.

Pendleton—John J. Whistler, engineer in charge of the Oregon reclamation work, says that Thomas H. Mean, the government soil expert, will arrive in the city soon to make an investigation as to the feasibility of winter irrigation in the lands of the Umatilla irrigation project. Mr. Means will be in the district only a short time, but the samples of the soil will be forwarded to the government station at Berkeley, Cal., for complete analysis, and the results returned to this city.

Log Scarcity is Felt.

Eugene—The big sawmill of the Booth-Kelley Lumber company at Coburg has been closed down for several weeks. This is partly on account of the scarcity of logs and partly to give an opportunity to overhaul the plant. The indications are at present that there is going to be great difficulty in getting logs to the mills this summer, as the streams are now very low and as there is no snow in the mountains, they will be very much lower later on.

May Build Logging Road.

La Grande—Owing to the light fall of snow in the Blue mountains the past winter and the uncertainty of the volume of water in the Grande Ronde river and its tributaries, the Grande Ronde Lumber company at Perry is contemplating building a narrow gauge logging road some 30 miles up the river, where the company has a large amount of logs cut, and which it will be unable to float to their mill. The road will be built solely for the use of the mill.

Trees in Bloom at Dallas.

Dallas—Warm weather has brought forward the fruit blooms remarkably early this season. Some varieties of prunes and plums are blooming. Pears and cherries are coming on very fast. Considerable fear is felt that late cold rains or frost may do damage.

LIVESTOCK FAIR AT WOODBURN

Marion and Clackamas County Raisers Organize for Business.

Woodburn—The livestock association of North Marion and South Clackamas counties has been permanently organized in this city. The following officers were chosen: Fred Doss, president; W. F. Pennebaker, secretary; Harry Cole, treasurer. It was decided to hold a livestock fair in Woodburn on Saturday, April 1. The stock on which premiums will be awarded will be stallions, brood mares, colts, roadsters, teams and saddle horses. Other stock, it is expected, will also be exhibited. The stallions will be divided into classes—draught and roadsters—with \$5 entrance fee and an additional entrance fee of \$2.50 for sweepstake prize.

G. L. Shryder, M. S. Shrock, Dr. W. A. Leonard, F. J. Miller and J. F. Plank were chosen an executive committee to fix prizes, solicit funds and make all other necessary arrangements. The judges will be selected on the day of the fair. The horsemen and farmers are enthusiastic over the proposed fair and an immense crowd is expected here on that day.

INSURANCE RATES HIGH.

Hood River Men Hear Proposition for Decrease of 15 Per Cent.

Hood River—Hood River business men held a conference in the rooms of the Commercial club with Mr. Stone, of Portland, representing the board of insurance underwriters, to find out just what would be required of the water company in order to secure a reduction of insurance rates if a system of fire protection were installed. Stone stated that he would recommend a reduction averaging 15 per cent from the present almost exorbitant rates, provided the water company would maintain a reserve supply of water in a reservoir with a capacity of 750,000 gallons, and lay certain size pipe for the mains. Brick buildings were promised a further reduction of five per cent.

As the water company recently secured \$50,000 on the sale of bonds, it is expected that the city of Hood River will soon be given an adequate system of hydrants for fire protection. A volunteer fire department has already been organized, and a \$1,200 chemical engine purchased by the city.

Newell to Meet Water Users.

Vale—F. H. Newell, chief of the government reclamation engineers, accompanied by several consulting engineers, will arrive here in April. Mr. Newell is making this trip for the purpose of meeting with the Malheur Watersusers' association and to arrange matters so that active operation can commence on the Harper basin project during the approaching summer. It seems to be now generally understood that little difficulty will be encountered in getting the various owners of the water ditches to "sign up" their land under the agreement recently arrived at, leaving the appraisement of values to arbitration.

Old Stampmill Found.

Medford—What is believed to be the first stampmill that did service in the Oregon gold fields has been brought into Medford. It is a crude machine, being hand made throughout, but the principle on which it operated is identical to that of the orthodox and modern stamp and battery, the stamp, the mortar, mesh and feeder all being present. The old machine, bramble-covered and going to decay, was found on a deserted prospect in the Willow Springs district, Jackson county. It will be sent to the Portland fair.

Water is Scarce.

Sumpter—The outlook for placer mining in this section is not so favorable this season as in former years. Snow is rapidly disappearing from the mountain ranges under the influence of warm sunshine during the past three weeks, but cold and freezing nights have a tendency to check the flow of water that should result. Placer miners as a rule along small waterways are uneasy for fear that all the snow will be gone before they will be able to take advantage of its benefits as formerly.

PORTLAND MARKETS.

Wheat—Walla Walla, 85c; bluestem 92c; valley, 87c per bushel.

Oats—No. 1 white, \$1.35@1.40; gray, \$1.40@1.45 per cental.

Hay—Timothy, \$14@16 per ton; clover, \$11@12; grain, \$11@12; cheat, \$11@12.

Eggs—Oregon ranch, 18c per dozen.

Butter—Fancy creamery, 27¼@32¼c; Potatoes—Oregon fancy, 90c@91; common, 70@85c.

Apples—4-tier Baldwins, \$1.25@1.50; Spitzenbergs, \$1.75@2.

Hops—Choice 1904, 24@25c per pound.

Wool—Valley, 10@20c per pound; Eastern Oregon, 12@17c per pound; mohair, choice, 25@26c per pound.