

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.

Russians have kidnapped the Chinese governor of Manchuria.

Secretary Morton and a congressional party are visiting in Havana.

Mrs. Maybrick says failure to receive money due her caused her conviction.

President Roosevelt has accepted a plan for receivers of Dominican revenues.

China is arming 500,000 men for the defense of the country against foreign nations.

The United States will help President Morales, of Santo Domingo, maintain the present government.

Castro denies that there is cause for attack on Venezuela, as he is paying off the national debt as fast as possible.

Admiral Evans has taken command of the North Atlantic fleet, succeeding Admiral Barker, who retires from active service.

A report that he would investigate the general land office is denied by Hitchcock, who says affairs in that department are all right.

An entire absence of news from its army causes Russian officials at St. Petersburg to fear communications have been cut and possibly the army itself cut off.

Renewed disturbances in Russia cause great alarm.

President Castro is threatened with revolution and foreign war.

The Japanese fleet has sailed from Borneo to meet the Baltic squadron.

Mrs. Chadwick has been sentenced to ten years' imprisonment. She has appealed.

An American warship will carry home the body of the late Senor Aspiroz, Mexican ambassador to the United States.

Russian officials believe now that the pressure on Linievitch has been relieved, the Japanese will next be heard from in front of Vladivostok.

President Roosevelt and President Diaz, of Mexico, may meet on the international boundary when the former makes his Southern trip early in April.

A report from Japanese sources says that a large part of Harbin has been burned. Great quantities of reserve supplies intended for the Russian army are also reported to have been burned.

The Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul has completed surveys to the Pacific coast, touching all the principal cities. Construction will commence at once and \$60,000,000 is placed as the amount of expenditures to put the line in working order.

Hostilities in Manchuria are suspended while the armies reorganize.

Thousands of locked-out workmen in St. Petersburg threaten an outbreak.

Santo Domingo may ask the United States to act as receiver for that country.

Castro's attitude continues menacing. France and the United States may combine to discipline him.

Violent storms throughout Oklahoma have caused four deaths and numerous injuries besides a heavy property loss.

Contracts for rock for the jetty at the mouth of the Columbia have been let and deliveries will begin next month.

The two big ocean liners Parisian and Albano collided while entering the Halifax, N. S., harbor, and both were badly injured.

A Pennsylvania oil authority says nothing has ever been seen to compare with the oil territory of Kansas and Indian Territory.

A man has confessed to pulling the spikes and rails loose from the Rock Island track in Iowa to see what would happen when a train passed.

Work on the Tacoma public building will be delayed another year in the hope of securing an addition to the \$300,000 already appropriated.

Julius Verne, the noted French novelist, is dead.

Santo Domingo may ask protection of the United States.

The Oregon City land office will be removed to Portland.

Mrs. Chadwick admits of debts amounting to \$750,000.

Senor de Aspiroz, the Mexican ambassador at Washington, is dead.

RUSSIA HAS OFFERED TERMS

Official Admission at St. Petersburg—Bluffing on Indemnity.

St. Petersburg, March 29.—After a meeting of the council of ministers, which lasted until after midnight, the positive information was given out through an official channel this morning that Russia has outlined the terms under which she is prepared to negotiate peace. It was asserted on the same authority that, thanks to the good offices of the United States and France, the question of bringing about the termination of the war had assumed tangible form and that preliminary steps in the negotiations would be taken in the immediate future.

Of the terms upon which Russia would be willing to begin negotiations, enough was known tonight that Russia will maintain to the eleventh hour an absolute opposition to any Japanese proposal to impose a direct indemnity upon her conquered foe. It is also intimated that a demand for the cession of Russian territory would meet with the same vigorous opposition.

It is apparent, however, that the czar himself is convinced of the Russian situation in the Far East and of the inability of the Russians to resume hostilities with any chance of success in the event of a suspension of preliminary negotiations.

The opinion was expressed yesterday by all exceptionally well informed foreign diplomats here that the demonstrative declarations of the ministers of territory are intended as a balloon d'essai to draw out opinion on the subject in Tokyo. Eventually, this diplomat asserted, Russia is prepared to accept peace on any terms that Japan may be willing to offer.

FIXING A WITNESS.

Charge Placed Against Armour's General Superintendent.

Chicago, March 29.—The Federal grand jury tonight returned an indictment against Thomas J. Connors, general superintendent of Armour & Co., on a charge of interfering with a witness summoned to appear before the jury investigating the beef trust. Mr. Connors, who is J. Ogden Armour's most confidential employee and the active head of one of the largest packing companies of the world, was arrested on a bench warrant by a deputy United States marshal and taken to the grand jury room, where he was released on \$5,000 bonds. After his release Mr. Connors refused to discuss the matter.

The indictment charges that John Edward Shields, of Brooklyn, a former employee of Armour & Co., who testified before the grand jury, was approached, favored and entertained by Mr. Connors, and specifically states that on March 25 the offense upon which Mr. Connors was indicted occurred. It is also charged that Shields was given the use of Armour & Co.'s offices at 205 La Salle street to transact his business while in Chicago and also the use of a private telegraph wire in the office of the packing company.

WAITING FOR CASTRO'S LETTER

Government Will Continue Negotiations Unless It Is Insolent.

Washington, March 28.—It has been decided to await the reception of the exact text of President Castro's refusal to accept Minister Bowen's arbitration proposition before proceeding further with the negotiations in this line. It is realized that there may only be a fair difference of opinion as to whether or not the Venezuelan response was couched in discourteous language, and it may be that at this distance from the seat of negotiations and after the lapse of a few days the words which appeared to Mr. Bowen to be insolent will admit of a different construction. The disposition is to move circumspectly at least at this end, and, unless President Castro chooses to force an issue by another move at Caracas, it is believed that some time will be consumed in reaching a settlement.

No Big Game Hunting in Alaska.

Washington, March 29.—As the result of representations by Secretary of Agriculture Wilson, it was determined by the cabinet today that no permits should be issued this year for big game hunting in Alaska, except for authorized representatives of museums. Similar action was taken last year because of the knowledge that game in Alaska was rapidly being destroyed and it was desired to preserve it so far as possible for the benefit of the natives, although they are required to comply with the local game laws.

Try Again in Wisconsin.

Madison, Wis., March 29.—Unfavorable action on a bill for an exhibit at the Portland exposition was reconsidered by the Wisconsin assembly today, and a new bill appropriating \$24,000 was introduced.

HAY MAY MEDIATE

Suspected Purpose of Hay's European Trip.

OPINIONS OF THE DIPLOMATS

Whenever Hay Has Been Reported Ill, a Great Stroke of Diplomacy Has Quickly Followed.

Washington, March 28.—Several prominent diplomats in Washington believe that John Hay, secretary of state, during his trip to Italy, will make an effort to see what can be done in the way of mediation and settlement of the war in the Far East. The news from the Azores that Mr. Hay's health was improved, and that he expected to return to Washington by May 12 adds color to this theory.

The diplomats attach great importance to the news that Henry White, the new United States ambassador to Italy, was ordered to hasten his arrival at his post. Mr. Hay and Mr. White are warm personal friends, and the secretary has great confidence in Mr. White'sadroitness in diplomacy.

It has been figured out in the diplomatic corps here that Italy is practically the only country of importance in Europe that might be expected to take part in friendly mediation without being suspected by either Russia or Japan of ulterior motives or hostile intent.

Mr. Hay has come to be regarded almost as a fetch by diplomats stationed in Washington. They recall that he frequently has been ill, confined to his house, and inaccessible to diplomats, and half a dozen times after these illnesses something of great importance has happened bearing on diplomatic affairs.

MUST GIVE SPAIN HER GUNS

Secretary Taft Calls on Cuba to Carry Out Terms of Treaty.

Washington, March 28.—Spain has never been able to secure from Cuba the ordinance left there at the termination of the Spanish-American war, and Senor Ojeda called on Secretary Taft today to learn the position of this government in the matter.

Under the terms of peace it was held that Spain was entitled to all movable ordinance in Cuba and Porto Rico, and in the latter case its claim had been recognized and the ordinance transferred. But in the case of Cuba there appears to be some difficulty in securing the recognition by the Cuban government of the obligation entered into by the United States.

Secretary Taft caused a cablegram to be sent to Minister Squiers in Havana instructing him to notify the Cuban authorities that the ordinance in question remains the property of Spain, that it was never possessed by the United States and should be returned to Spain.

STEP TO HOME RULE.

Census of Philippines is Completed—Legislature in Two Years.

Washington, March 28.—Secretary Taft today notified President Roosevelt that the census of the Philippine islands had been completed and published, and under the law of July 1, 1902, two years from this date the president shall direct the Philippine commission to call a general election for the choice of delegates to a popular assembly.

All legislative power on the islands will thereafter be vested in a legislature consisting of two houses, the Philippine commission and the Philippine assembly. The condition on which the election is to be called is that complete peace shall have continued in the territory of the islands not occupied by Moros or other non-Christian tribes. The popular election is not to extend to the Moro tribes.

Two resident commissioners to the United States will be elected when a legislature is chosen.

Would Federate with Canada.

Toronto, Ont., March 28.—M. Fillian, a member of the Dominican legislature, now here, says the sentiment in the British West Indies is strongly in favor of federation with Canada. "There are among us," said he, "hardly any but would be glad to see some scheme inaugurated for bringing the two more closely together. I think a union would be helpful to both." Mr. Fillian has seen Premier Laurier on the subject and is hopeful of good results, and will also interview the Ontario premier.

Call to Jamestown Exposition.

Washington, March 28.—Before President Roosevelt starts on his Southwestern trip next week he will issue a proclamation inviting foreign nations to participate in the exposition to be held in the summer of 1907 in the vicinity of Hampton Roads in celebration of the settlement of Jamestown, Va.

SINK AT DOCKS.

Damage to Ocean Liners in Collision Worse Than Thought.

Halifax, N. S., March 28.—The two ocean steamers, the Parisian and the Albano, whose 1,800 passengers were saved from possible death at sea after the collision between the two vessels off the harbor's mouth yesterday by a thrilling 15-mile race for shallow water, showed plainly today how serious was the accident, the Parisian resting on the bottom at her dock and the Albano's fore peak being full of water.

The Parisian, which came up the harbor at 6 o'clock last night with a gaping hole in her starboard side from the Albano's sharp prow, filled gradually during the night, and at dawn her engine room had been flooded, her fires extinguished, her lower deck was awash and her keel resting in the mud. A large part of her cargo is damaged by water, but the bulk of the mail, consisting of 400 sacks, was recovered in good condition.

The statements of the two commanders of the vessels as to the probable cause of the collision are conflicting, and the courts will be invoked to place the responsibility. Proceedings have been begun in the Admiralty court against the Hamburg-American company, owners of the Albano, and today that steamer was libeled for \$150,000 damages in behalf of J. & A. Allan, owners of the Parisian. Later it was announced that a counter suit would be brought by the German company.

MEXICO ON GOLD BASIS.

President Diaz Issues Decree Authorizing by Congress.

Mexico City, March 28.—President Diaz has issued a decree for the reform of the monetary system authorized by congress in December last. The decree establishes the 2-peso, or silver dollar, at a value of 50 cents gold, and the theoretical unit of the Mexican currency is defined to be the dollar or peso of 75 centigrams of gold.

An important feature of the decree is a provision for a reserve exchange fund, which, at first, will consist of \$18,000,000 or \$15,000,000, and may be increased. The original plan did not provide for the immediate establishment of this fund, but it is now deemed wise to start with one simultaneously with the beginning of the new monetary system.

The mint will be closed April 16 to the free coinage of silver and the new monetary system will go into effect May 1. The publication of the decree gives general satisfaction in business and financial circles. It assures business men against losses in importing.

STANFORD CASE IS DROPPED.

Every Clew Known to San Francisco Police is Run to Earth.

San Francisco, March 28.—It was announced at police headquarters today that every known clew in the Stanford case had been run to earth, and that the complexion of the matter had not changed in the least. Barring a confession or something "turning up," the police admit that they will never solve the mystery of how, January 14, in this city, strychnine poison was placed in the Poland water used by the late Mrs. Stanford.

That portion of the mystery connected with her tragic death at Honolulu, the police say, has been solved on the theory that Mrs. Stanford died by natural causes and that the powdered strychnine found in the bicarbonate of soda was placed there by some druggist and intended as a tonic.

The police detectives working on the case have all turned their attention to other matters, and while nominally men are detailed on the case, in reality the department has entirely dropped it.

CORTELYOU TO SUCCEED SHAW

Will Become Secretary of Treasury in Another Year.

Washington, March 28.—Leslie M. Shaw, secretary of the treasury, has signified his intention of retiring from public office on February 1, 1906, at the end of a four-year term. It is reported in official circles in Washington that Postmaster General George B. Cortelyou will succeed him. No authorized statement has been made on this point, but the assumption is generally accepted as correct.

Kansas' Fight with the Trust.

Topeka, Kan., March 28.—The Kansas Natural Gas company, through its attorneys, has filed in the Supreme court an amendment to its answer to the suit brought to compel it to show cause why it is operating in Kansas. The petition asks that the suit be dismissed at the cost of the state. The suit was brought against the company last fall by the attorney general. It is alleged that the company had no authority to transact business in the state, the charter board having refused to grant a license.

Hit by a Bomb.

Warsaw, March 28.—A bomb was thrown into the carriage of Baron von Nolken, chief of police of Warsaw, at 8 o'clock this evening. It was reported that the Baron was severely wounded.

OREGON STATE ITEMS OF INTEREST

PROTEST TO GOVERNMENT.

Removal of Land Office to Portland is Bitterly Opposed.

Oregon City.—There will be vigorous opposition offered to the proposed removal of the land office from this city. The claim that the removal of the office to Portland is being made for economical reasons is not accepted as genuine by Oregon City people, who think they see in the plan a move preliminary to the consolidation of the government's land business in this state in a central office with headquarters at Portland. At present there are six land offices in the state, those other than in this city being located at The Dalles, La Grande, Lakeview, Roseburg and Burns. At any rate it is believed here that a consolidation of the Oregon City and Roseburg offices could be effected to the improvement of the service. But so far as the move being in the interest of economy, Oregon City people laugh at the idea. The Oregon City office now occupies a suite of five rooms, for which a monthly rental of \$30 is paid, and it is argued that similar rooms could not be had at Portland for several times that amount. In addition it appears that accommodations must be provided for the land office at Portland, all available room having been otherwise appropriated in the government buildings. In their present quarters the officials of the Oregon City land office have no extra room and could not transact the business of the office in more limited quarters.

The land office here is the first land office that was established in Oregon, and one of the first created west of the Mississippi river.

Relics From Jackson County.

Medford.—The curious and interesting relics found in an Indian grave on the farm of J. H. Ring, Jackson county, a few days ago, will be sent to Portland, as a part of the Jackson county display at the Lewis and Clark fair. In the grave, besides the skeleton of the brave, there was found a decayed plainsman's blanket, a U. S. army coat, the buttons of which bore the dates of 1837 and 1847. Three Mexican dollars of the stamp of 1840 were also found. Then there was a scalping knife, beads of all sizes and hues and other articles taken by the brave from unfortunate victims of Indians during the early days.

Bronze Statue of Sacajawea.

Portland.—The clay model for the statue of Sacajawea has been shipped from Chicago to New York, where the bronze casting will be made. Miss Alice Cooper, the sculptor, has achieved a most remarkable success in her work. After the exposition the statue will be presented to the city of Portland. The cost of the statue will be \$9,000, of which \$7,000 has been subscribed, all but \$200 of this amount coming from persons outside of Portland. July 6, Sacajawea day, all children under 15 years wearing Sacajawea badges will be admitted to the fair grounds upon payment of 10 cents.

Heavy Rains on Arid Land.

Irrigon.—This whole section has received such a drenching as the oldest inhabitant never heard of at this season. The precipitation of last week exceeds three week inches, and the entire section east of the Cascades and west of the Blues is soaked down to the gravel. This means wonders for the wheat belt in Morrow, Gilliam, Umatilla and the Horse Heaven countries, and to Irrigon it means that people need not resort to irrigation for many weeks. Settlers have already put out over 150,000 trees this spring.

Crawford as Grammarian.

Salem.—Attorney General Crawford holds that the tax exemption law operates to exempt personal property (household goods) to the extent of \$300 worth and no more. The question arose out of a mistake in punctuation in the exemption clause of the Shelley act, wherein several articles of property were set off with a semicolon and then numerous other articles of furniture and household goods were punctuated with commas, preceding this clause: "To the value of \$300 shall be exempt from taxation."

Fleeces Average 12 Pounds.

Pendleton.—Charles Cunningham has 35 men shearing sheep on his ranch south of here, near Pilot Rock. Thus far they have sheared 10,000 and have 11,000 to shear. His sheep are pure bred Merino and are yielding, on an average, fleeces weighing 12 pounds each. Mr. Cunningham contracted all of his clip to the Union woolen mills for 17 cents a pound early in the season.

Will Run a Long Tunnel.

Silverton.—The Lewis & Clark Mining & Milling company has let a contract for their 300-foot tunnel, to be increased to 500 feet, and the work will begin at once. Last year this company equipped the mine with modern machinery and now this new contract will thoroughly develop the ledge.

LITTLE WHEAT IN UMATILLA.

Only One Large Lot of 40,000 Waits Coming of Assessor.

Pendleton.—Assessor Strain reports but one lot of wheat of any consequence in the county to be assessed this year. This is 40,000 bushels belonging to the Balfour-Guthrie Warehouse company in this city. All other large lots have been disposed of long ago and most of it shipped from the county.

The Puget Sound warehouse reports the purchase of a small lot of 1,600 bushels of wheat from Oliver & Co., grocers of this place, but aside from that there are practically no sales. Some of the farmers who had seed wheat saved over from last fall, which they did not need to use, are offering that for sale, and some small purchases have been made.

Estimates are that not over 75,000 bushels remain in the county, and all those are in small holdings. Those who have not sold will likely hold over until another year, as the prices of late have been declining instead of advancing.

TO CONTROL FRUIT PRICES.

Growers' Associations Arrange for Single Selling Agents.

Hood River.—In order to prevent overstocking of the fruit markets, the fruit associations of Hood River, Puyallup and Yachon propose to unite in having one representative salesman each at Helena, Butte and Great Falls, and also at other points east.

At local points it is proposed that one broker shall act for the several associations. Fruitgrowers are determined as much as possible to fix prices in each of the different markets. Jobbers and commission merchants will handle the fruit on a fixed basis, and as soon as any market is likely to be overstocked, the representatives will advise the shipping associations to divert the shipments elsewhere.

Test Standard Ores.

Sampter.—D. L. Killen and E. F. Warner, of the firm of Killen, Warner & Co., mining promoters, are now at Denver, where a test is being made of the ores of the Standard group, in the Quartzburg district. This firm has financed the Standard, and expects large returns from the immense body of ore opened on the property. The object of the test is to decide upon the character of the reduction plant to be installed at the mine this season for the proper treatment of the ores. The Standard is one of the many properties shipping ore to the smelter here.

Cottage Grove Mill May Start.

Cottage Grove.—It is rumored that the Long & Bingham sawmill, which was recently sold to Eugene and other parties, will soon be started up. A few meetings have been held between the interested parties, and it is the expression that the mill will start up in the near future. This mill was run successfully for several months, as the timber was taken from the territory crossed by the O. & S. E. Railroad. George H. Kelly, of the Booth-Kelly Lumber company, and W. E. Brown, of Eugene, have been investigating the matter.

Electric Line Man Will Not Talk.

Salem.—Isaac W. Anderson, of Spokane, who is a representative of the Rhoades, Sinkler & Butcher syndicate, of Philadelphia, which recently bought a large interest in the Salem Electric Light Power & Street Railway system, is in Salem inspecting the plant. He declined to either affirm or deny the reports that it is the intention of his company to build interurban trolley lines in the valley. He gives the impression, however, that there is no present foundation for the stories that have been published.

Oregon Stock in Good Health.

Salem.—With the exception of mange in one band of horses in Eastern Oregon, in which case two head have been killed and the rest are being dipped, the general health of stock in this state is good. This is according to the verbal report made by State Veterinarian McLean to the Domestic Animal commission.

PORTLAND MARKETS.

Oats—No. 1 white, \$1.37½@1.42; gray, \$1.50 per cental.
Hay—Timothy, \$14@16, clover, \$11@12; grain, \$11@12; cheat, \$11@12 per ton.
Wheat—Walla Walla, 86@87c; blue-stem, 94c; valley, 87c.
Eggs—Oregon ranch, 18@18½c per dozen.
Butter—Fancy creamery, 27¼@32½c; potatoes—Oregon fancy, 85@90c; common, 65@80c.
Apples—Fancy, \$1.75@2.50 per box; choice, \$1@1.25.
Hops—Choice 1904, 23¼@24c per pound.
Wool—Valley, 19@20c per pound; Eastern Oregon, 12@17c per pound; mohair, choice, 28@30c per pound.