

COLUMBIA REGISTER

Published Every Week

HOULTON.....OREGON

NEWS OF THE WEEK

In a Condensed Form for Our Busy Readers.

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

European statesmen all compliment Secretary Hay.

King Oscar has vetoed the Norwegian consular bill and brought on a crisis.

Wilkesbarre, Pennsylvania, women boycotted the show Nan Patteson appears in.

Land operations in Manchuria have been suspended awaiting the final outcome of the naval battle.

Chief Signal Officer Greeley will go to Alaska in July to inspect the signal corps and telegraph stations.

The several unions involved in the Chicago strike have quarreled among themselves. Rioting continues.

American steamship lines are not anxious to secure contracts for government business, claiming there is no money in it.

Officers of the International Typographical union and the United Typothetae of America will confer on an eight-hour day for the entire United States in the printing business.

A Nebraska criminal will spring the trap at his own phanting. The warden showed the white feather, but the condemned man offered to do the job. He says he is guilty and ought to hang.

An east bound Northern Pacific passenger train was held up about 40 miles east of Missoula by three men and the express car blown to pieces. No details are known. The express messenger is missing and may have been killed.

Secretary Hay has started for home.

Martial law in Warsaw has stopped rioting.

King Alfonso has approved the plans for a new navy for Spain.

The belief is general in Japan that a naval battle has been fought.

Natives in East Siberia are in a starving condition and whole tribes are dying.

A killing frost throughout Germany has done much damage to fruit and vines.

Russian warships at Woosung have been ordered to leave and China is prepared to use force.

A San Francisco firm secured the contract just let for furnishing lumber for the Panama canal.

Baron Alphonse de Rothschild, head of the Paris branch of the great banking firm of Rothschilds, is dead.

The Russian Vladivostok squadron has left that port and is supposed to be on its way to join the Baltic fleet.

John Barrett, late minister to Colombia, says yellow fever cannot be entirely stamped out in the canal zone.

A number of French anarchists have been arrested in Paris for plotting against the life of King Alfonso, who will visit France.

The Russian government is willing to do almost anything to raise money for the war. Three of the most lucrative railway lines in the empire are to be sold.

Warsaw, Russia, is in the hands of riotous Jews.

Bulgaria has purchased Argentine warships for Russia.

Heavy rains in Central Kansas have washed out railway tracks.

The railroads have opened a campaign against government rate regulation.

William Ziegler, the millionaire baking powder man, left a fortune of \$25,000,000.

The steel rail pool has dissolved to avoid anti-trust law after fixing price for Panama road.

Skirmishes in Manchuria continue and both governments expect any day to hear of a general engagement being on.

Norway is preparing for war with Sweden on the consular question.

One man was killed and 50 injured as a result of a collision between trolley cars near Baltimore.

The Turkish government is rushing troops into Arabia, parts of which have been in a state of revolution for some time past.

A heavy wind, almost reaching the proportions of a tornado, has swept Northern Texas, damaging crops and many houses. Three people were injured.

CHEAP RATES FOR CANAL ROAD

Manufacturers Convinced That Canal Zone is Foreign Territory.

Washington, May 30.—In view of the published intention of the Isthmian Canal commission to buy in the cheapest market, there have been a great many inquiries as to the price of steel rails, one of the principal articles of supply which figured in the commission's determination.

Colonel Edwards, administrative officer of the Canal commission, addressed an inquiry to Secretary Drake, of the Panama Railroad company, intended to elicit information on this point. He received a reply which in substance is that the price of steel rails in the United States for the past 12 months has been uniform at \$28 per ton, while in foreign markets the price was \$24 per ton. The exceptions were where rails were sold in the United States for export, when the prices were established by direct negotiation and were matters of private record.

The Panama Railroad company convinced the manufacturers that its rails were purchased for export to foreign territory (which, Mr. Drake says, Colonel Edwards was able to get in June last 70-pound rails for \$22.50 for first quality and \$21.75 for second quality.

Last January it bought 1,200 tons at \$25 for first class and \$24 for second class, and more recently purchased 2,500 tons for the Canal commission and 3,500 for the railroad at \$26.45, all three contracts being made in competition with foreign bidders, whose list price was \$25 for f. o. b. at New York or \$27.75 c. i. f. at Colon, exclusive of wharfage and port charges.

END NOT IN SIGHT.

Chicago Labor Unions All Planning for a Long Struggle.

Chicago, May 30.—Nothing developed today that would indicate an immediate settlement of the teamsters' strike, which has been in progress for nearly two months. That the labor unions are of the belief that the fight will be a long one was demonstrated at the meeting of the Chicago Federation of Labor today, when arrangements were made for holding a strike demonstration July 5. According to the present plans it is the intention to hold a monster parade of the strikers and the affiliated unions unless the controversy has been ended before that date.

At the meeting today each union affiliated with the central body was represented by three delegates at the request of President Dold. The strike situation was discussed in all its details and the sentiment of the meeting was that the teamsters should continue the fight until the seven express companies should offer some sort of a compromise. The officials of the express companies are still obdurate in their declaration that no concessions need be looked for from their side, so the matter of settlement through this channel seems as remote as ever.

ELKINS IS OPPOSED.

He Tells President Why Extra Session is Unnecessary.

Washington, May 30.—Senator Elkins, chairman of the Interstate Commerce commission, in a conference told the president that his commission would reassemble two or three weeks before the next session of congress, whether it be extraordinary or regular, and report on the recent hearings on railroad rate legislation. At that session of the commission the nature of the bill to be submitted to the senate will be determined.

Senator Elkins urged the president not to call congress into extraordinary session, maintaining that, as the session beginning on the first Monday in December would be the long session, congress would have ample time to consider all questions of importance without a special session. He expressed to the president the opinion that senators and representatives generally hoped the president would not call them into extraordinary session.

Senator Cullom, of Illinois, who talked briefly to the president, expressed the same wish.

The president has not indicated definitely his purpose as to calling an extraordinary session, although he has considered seriously the fixing of the date about the middle of October.

Opinion on Calchas Case.

St. Petersburg, May 30.—The written opinion of the Superior Admiralty court in the case of the cotton found on the British steamer Calchas captured by the Vladivostok squadron is expected to be handed down some time this week. There appeared to be a division of opinion in the court, M. Demartens, in behalf of the foreign office, holding to the view that the principle of the conditional contraband for cotton should be enunciated, while the representatives of the admiralty contend that this principle is absolute.

Sinking Confirmed at Washington. Washington, May 30.—Confirmation has been received here from Shanghai of the press report that the Russian warships have sunk an unknown American merchant ship off the Chinese coast. Heavy gun fire is plainly heard to the northward.

RIOTING IS RESUMED

Chicago Police Resort to Clubs to Preserve Peace.

BUILDING TRADES ARE INVOLVED

No Prospect of Immediate Settlement and Mayor and Peace Committee Give Up Hope.

Chicago, May 27.—Rioting broke out afresh today in the teamsters' strike, and although nobody was seriously hurt, there were a number of vicious fights in the lumber district, during which the police were compelled to use their clubs, and in one instance revolvers, in order to disperse the mob.

The strike today spread in a small degree throughout the building trades. There were a number of instances where woodworkers refused to receive the material delivered by non-union teamsters and walked out. This move in every instance was made by the men as individuals only. No official action was taken by any of the trades unions looking to the active sympathetic support of the teamsters' strike. Several of the labor leaders in the ranks of the material trades have declared within the last 24 hours that there is no prospect in their opinion, of any complete tie up of the building trades by a strike of the men.

There is no movement at present looking towards a settlement of the strike. Mayor Dunne today for the first time since the commencement of the teamsters' strike declared that he knew of no contemplated plans for peace. The mayor talked as though he had abandoned hopes of a settlement. Dever, chairman of the City Council Peace committee, appointed a week ago, said tonight that he had practically ceased work, as the committees could see no avenue in the controversy looking toward an adjustment of the differences between the teamsters and the employers.

NEW GOVERNOR IN OFFICE.

Magoon Tells Plans of Commission for Canal Zone.

Panama, May 27.—Hezekiah A. Gudger, judge of the canal zone, this morning administered the oath of office to Charles G. Magoon, governor of the canal zone, in the Ancon district. The ceremony took place in the presence of President Amador and the cabinet, the diplomatic and consular corps and prominent native and foreign residents.

Governor Magoon, in his inaugural speech, said the reorganization of the canal commission had resulted in the centralization of authority and transfer of power from Washington to Panama, permitting the putting of more energy into the work. Regarding the work of sanitation, the governor said that no effort and no expense would be spared to make the zone healthy. He said that the number of judges in the zone will be increased, that a jurist of Panama will be appointed a member of the Supreme court and numerous schools will be opened.

LEWISTON GOES LAND MAD.

Railway Projects Make Real Estate Values Soar.

Lewiston, Idaho, May 27.—In anticipation of favorable news for immediate railway construction in this territory, people of Lewiston have been struck with a frenzied fever to buy real estate, and while no deals have come to the surface today, it is known that transactions involving over \$100,000 have been made.

This excitement was strengthened this evening by rumors to the effect that the O. R. & N. Co. will begin construction Monday, under a joint arrangement with the Northern Pacific, the Riparia-Lewiston branch. Railway officials here will not confirm this report, but from other sources it is known that the reports are practically true.

Decision in Fraternal Insurance.

Jefferson City, Mo., May 27.—According to an opinion by the Supreme court of Missouri, fraternal life insurance companies have not the right to revoke policies upon which three or more annual payments have been made. In the case upon which the decision was rendered a policy was taken out in May, 1896. After three payments the payment due in June, 1899, was not met, and the insured died in January, 1900. The lower court held that there was a net value to the policy sufficient to carry it beyond the date of death.

Antwerp Will Be Fortified.

Brussels, May 27.—A bill has been submitted to the Belgian parliament providing the complete reorganization of the defenses of Antwerp, at a cost of \$21,000,000, and for harbor works, which will increase shipping facilities, at a cost of \$36,000,000.

RUSSIAN FLEET ANNIHILATED

Long Expected Battle in Far East a Victory for Japs.

Tokio, May 29.—It is officially announced that Admiral Rojestvensky's fleet has been practically annihilated. Twelve warships have been sunk or captured and two transports and two torpedo boat destroyers have been sunk.

London, May 29.—No details of the fighting between the hostile fleets have been received here as yet and none are likely to be until one of the Russian ships reaches a neutral port or the Japanese government releases the censorship on messages from Tokio. This latter is not likely until the fight is over.

Only the barest bulletins are printed in the morning papers here, but they all point to a sweeping Japanese victory. In fact, the correspondent of the London Mail at Tokio, who is generally most conservative, makes the bold statements that the Russian Baltic fleet as a fighting force has been completely wiped out, that some of its best vessels are sunk, others are prizes of war, and the remainder fleeing before the Japanese vessels. He adds no details, which is not surprising, inasmuch as the censor apparently got in his work on his message, which reached this city unfinished.

Just what has taken place is hard to say, but the naval experts think that Togo attacked the Russians Sunday morning with his destroyers, which have already scored heavily in the past, and then he followed up the fighting with his whole fleet.

GRAZING IN NEW RESERVES.

No Restrictions This Year Pending Study of Conditions.

Washington, May 29.—The secretary of agriculture today issued an order directing that no restriction be placed upon the grazing of stock within new forest reserves that have been or may be created this year.

There has been considerable concern among the sheep and cattlemen of the West on account of the creation of new reserves, which include considerable areas of what has heretofore been public range. Many letters received by the department indicate that stockmen fear they are to be deprived of their range on short notice. In justice to these stock interests, Secretary Wilson, on recommendation of the Forestry bureau, decided to impose no restrictions within the new reserves this summer. However, investigations are now being made to determine how many sheep and cattle may safely be admitted, and, based on these investigations, restrictions will be imposed next year, and a grazing season will be set for each individual reserve, to be regulated by climatic and range conditions. Today's order applies to new reserves in Oregon and Idaho, and will apply to new reserves soon to be established in these states and in Washington.

TITLE IS CLEAR.

Government Accepts Right of Way to Celilo Canal.

Washington, May 29.—The United States government today formally accepted title to the right of way for The Dalles-Celilo canal, and early this week Major Langfitt will be instructed to advertise for bids for construction of the upper lock and approaches, for which \$300,000 was appropriated last session. Title to the right of way was examined and approved some weeks ago. Today the attorney general examined the deed from the state, and, finding it regular, advised the secretary of war that he could, under the law, proceed with construction of the canal.

This means that the work of construction will commence early in the summer, and there is money enough on hand to continue it until congress has an opportunity to make a further appropriation. If the original intention is carried out, the Oregon, Washington and Idaho delegations will attempt next session to have The Dalles canal made a continuing contract, in order that appropriations may be made annually until the total cost of \$4,000,000 has been appropriated.

Chinese Did Not Understand.

Chefoo, May 29.—W. W. Rockhill, who succeeded Mr. Conger as American minister at Peking, arrived here today, en route to Taku. Minister Rockhill stated that he was informed, at a conference with Chinese at Shanghai, that it developed that the stories given wide circulation by the Oriental press, to the effect that the Chinese were contemplating a boycott on American goods as a retaliation for contemplated American legislation against Chinese immigration, were the result of a misunderstanding.

American Steamer is Sunk.

Tokio, May 29.—News has been received here that Admiral Rojestvensky's fleet sunk an American steamer off Formosa about May 21. The name of the steamer is unknown. Her crew was saved.

CHEAPEST AT HOME

Shonts' Experience in Buying Canal Supplies.

CONGRESS DID NOT TAKE ACTION

Chairman of Commission Says Supplies Are Bought at Home in Open Competition.

Chicago, May 25.—Paul Morton, secretary of the navy, and Theodore P. Shonts, chairman of the Panama Canal commission, were the guests of the Chicago Bankers' club at a banquet here tonight.

Mr. Morton was asked to respond to the toast of "The President," and after expressing his pleasure at being able to meet the members of the Bankers' club, he said of President Roosevelt:

"He is, taken all in all, one of the most remarkable of all the great men who have occupied the White house. As earnest in his love of country as Washington, as far-seeing as Jefferson, as courageous as Jackson, and as much opposed to human slavery in all forms as Abe Lincoln, he stands robust in his integrity and sturdy in his determination that there shall be a 'square deal all around.'"

Mr. Shonts said: "Congress, for some reason unknown to us, although twice asked to declare its wishes, failed to limit the purchase of materials and supplies entering into the construction of the canal to the American markets. Whatever the absence of the instructions from congress, the commission feels it is its duty to make its purchases in whatever markets of the world it can buy cheapest. This policy it is pursuing, and, inasmuch as it is getting the great mass of its supplies in American markets, the inference is plain that, notwithstanding our protective laws and notwithstanding our high wages to labor, the American markets are in the main the cheapest markets in the world."

WATCH ONE ANOTHER CLOSELY

Both Armies Ready to Fight—Russian Raid Repulsed.

Gunshu Pass, Manchuria, May 25.—The situation is very tense, and the rival commanders are watching each other like hawks. Field Marshal Oyama has made no decisive move. Lieutenant General Rennenkampf, however, made a bold reconnaissance at the cost of several hundred casualties, but the correspondent of the Associated Press was not allowed to telegraph the results obtained. It is possible that it was Rennenkampf's cavalry which penetrated southwest of Fakoman.

A dispatch from Tokio dated May 22, said: "A body of the enemy's cavalry dismounted, attacked Tangshen, on the right bank of the Liao river, 13 miles southwest of Fakoman, on the morning of May 20. After an engagement lasting two hours the enemy retreated in disorder toward the southwest, abandoning 300 killed or wounded."

COMING WITH GREAT RUSH.

Kansas Farmers Swarm to Buy Tickets to Fair.

Kansas City, Mo., May 25.—The sale of special rate tickets to Portland, Or., opened so briskly as to astonish the local railroad officials. From the number of tickets purchased, it is apparent that passenger traffic to the Pacific coast will be heavier than was anticipated. One of the city ticket agents, in speaking of this today, said: "It indicates that this part of the country is exceptionally prosperous. We had men come in here today from little towns out in Kansas who are going to Portland and will take their whole families with them. This early rush for tickets is not only a big advertisement for the Lewis and Clark exposition, but a big advertisement for Kansas. Farmers are prosperous, and they know of no better way to spend their superfluous coin, apparently, than to visit Oregon."

Amnesty Given by Castro.

New York, May 25.—President Castro has signaled the opening of congress and the beginning of his constitutional presidency for six years, cables the Caracas correspondent of the Herald, by decreeing amnesty to all Venezuelans who, for political reason, have been expropriated, and they are permitted to return to their country. The amnesty also extends to political prisoners in Venezuela below the grade of colonel. There are about 1,500 political prisoners confined in the dungeons of the larger cities.

No Action on Rates Till Autumn.

Washington, May 25.—The senate committee on interstate commerce today held an executive session and adjourned subject to the call of Chairman Elkins. It is expected that the committee will meet early in the autumn.