

COLUMBIA REGISTER

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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.

Mount Pelee is in eruption.

A smallpox epidemic prevails in Chile.

Norway will send a special envoy to all the powers to ask recognition.

Yellow fever cases continue to be reported from the Panama canal zone.

Two bombs were found in one of the public school buildings of Pittsburg.

The quarantine service at Nome has been abolished, despite the protests of citizens.

The biggest trust company on earth is to be organized to handle the Eutaw funds.

Sherbourne, England, has just celebrated the 1,200th anniversary of its foundation.

Near Warsaw, Russia, 24 Jews have been killed and 38 others injured in riots in the past few days.

Russia and Japan are considering choice of envoys and place of meeting to conduct peace negotiations.

Frank G. Bigelow, the defaulting Milwaukee banker, has been sentenced to 10 years in the Federal prison. He is a nervous wreck and has been taken to the prison hospital.

The Pennsylvania road now has a train running from Chicago to New York in 18 hours, an average of 60 miles an hour. One stretch of three miles has been made in 85 seconds.

Attacks on Chicago strikebreakers have again caused rioting in the streets.

Germany is drafting a new commercial treaty for submission to the United States.

An automobile in Chicago went through an open draw, drowning three persons.

All Europe joins in praise of Roosevelt over his success in bringing about peace negotiations.

A collision between trolley cars near Princeton, New Jersey, resulted in the injury of 16 persons.

In the case of the state of Kansas vs. the Standard Oil company, the state has won the first point.

London papers believe that the large money indemnity Japan will ask of Russia will break off peace negotiations.

Both Russia and Japan have accepted President Roosevelt's aid in making peace. Negotiations will be carried on in Washington.

The French government has called home its governor of French Indo-China, to confer on plans for the defense of the colony.

A test is to be made of the effectiveness of the defenses at Fort Monroe and Old Point Comfort, conceded by army and navy officers to be the chief defense to Washington.

Attorneys in the beef trust inquiry have disagreed.

Japan's terms of peace have been stated to Russia.

Bowen wants to continue the Loomis investigation in Venezuela.

American troops have killed a band of 40 rebels in the island of Samar.

The kaiser and czar will not recognize the disunion of Norway and Sweden.

Deadly riots continue throughout the interior of Russia and hundreds of people are being killed.

The business of the Portland post-office for April shows an increase of 35 per cent over that of April, 1904.

Paul Morton, now secretary of the navy, has been elected chairman of the Equitable Life Assurance society.

Admiral Enquist's report to the czar on the naval battle says Rojstvensky's fleet was defeated in the first hour.

The National Editorial association in its convention at Guthrie, Oklahoma, adopted resolutions favoring immediate statehood for the territory.

Swedish and Danish princes have refused the Norwegian throne and Norway is preparing to establish a republic. Great Britain urges the choosing of Prince Arthur for king. His sister is to marry the crown prince of Sweden.

The Russian warships at Manila have been disarmed.

The Japanese are said to have cut off Vladivostok.

TORRENT FLOODS SUBWAY.

Electric Current Short-Circuited and Traffic Stopped for Hours.

New York, June 13.—A break in the 48-inch high-pressure water main in Park avenue, near Forty-second street, today resulted in the flooding of the block just below the Grand Central station, the street-car tunnel and the Subway, the stoppage of traffic in the Subway for many hours, serious damage to the underground road and great danger to many passengers. The damage is estimated at \$100,000. Incidentally it resulted in the caving in of Park avenue over an area of 20 feet, from which ran cracks that meant danger to adjacent buildings. Water was first seen trickling between the paving blocks near the entrance to the Park-avenue tunnel, through which the surface cars run. Almost immediately there came a heavy explosion underground, and a moment later the water gushed forth in a cataract, pouring into Forty-second street, which was soon covered to a depth of several inches.

The rising water in the Subway soon made connection between the third rail and the outer rails, short-circuiting the electric current, which was attended by a series of explosions that endangered the lives of those who were in the cars. The air was pungent with the smoke of burning insulation, and bright flashes from wheels and rails were continuous. One train got to within a block of a station and then came to a final stop. The passengers got out and waded through the water to the station. They avoided the third rail and nobody was injured. Gradually the entire service south of Seventy-second street and to Fourteenth street was shut off, and later the entire service was discontinued.

Finally, after the flood had continued for four and a half hours a foreman for the construction company, who has supervision of the installation of the mains in Park avenue pointed out a gate at Third avenue and Forty-second street which, on being closed, shut off the torrent. Traffic was not resumed until after midnight.

Success of Japanese.

Tokio, June 13.—The following report has been received from the headquarters of the Manchurian armies: "June 9, at 4 in the morning, we drove the enemy from the northern heights of Liangshuchuan and Nanchengtan and occupied those positions. On the same day we occupied the vicinities of Erhiliba, ten miles northeast of Changtu, Shufangtai and Tungchiatzu, ten miles north of Changtu and Hoingtungshan, 13 miles northwest of Changtu. Otherwise the situation is unchanged."

Russian Shells Were Worthless.

St. Petersburg, June 13.—The St. Petersburg Telegraph agency has received a dispatch from its Shanghai correspondent, who asserts that not only were the Russian ships so short of shells that they could indulge in only three large practices on leaving Liban, but that during the battle of the Sea of Japan many projectiles either fell short or failed to inflict damage on the Japanese vessels. A number of mutinies occurred during the voyage of the Russian squadrons, especially on the battleship Orel.

Loss by Fire and Flood.

New York, June 13.—Nearly 100 automobiles belonging to various department stores were destroyed tonight in a fire in the garage of the Rainier Vehicle Equipment company at Ninth avenue and Twenty-seventh street. The loss on machines is estimated at \$350,000, in addition to which the plant of the garage was damaged to the amount of \$75,000. The premises of the Corbett Chair company and the Suto Braid company, occupying the upper floors of the building, were also damaged to the amount of \$100,000.

Sweden Not To Recognize.

Stockholm, June 13.—Premier Bamstedt, in an interview, says the Swedish government will refuse to recognize the revolution in Norway and will submit to the riksdag motions conformable to this standpoint. The premier thinks that the riksdag will adopt this view and is convinced no foreign power will recognize Norway as an independent country against the will of Sweden.

Packing House Plant Destroyed.

Fort Worth, Tex., June 13.—What is known as the old packing house plant in Fort Worth, comprising eight buildings, seven of which were built of stone and one of brick, and ranging from one to two stories, was destroyed by fire today. The plant cost something like \$450,000. The insurance is \$85,000.

DISCONTINUE WAR

Roosevelt Sends Messages to Russia and Japan.

SUGGESTS DIRECT NEGOTIATIONS

Offers to Help in the Preliminary Arrangements if Wanted by the Warring Nations.

Washington, June 10.—An identical note, the text of which, by authority of the president, was made public late tonight at the White house by Secretary Loeb, has been forwarded to the governments of Russia and Japan by President Roosevelt. In the interest of humanity, the president urges the warring nations to conclude peace. It is suggested by the president that the negotiations for peace be conducted "directly and exclusively" between the belligerent nations. The note indicates the president's belief that an intermediary may not be necessary to effect conclusive negotiations, but likewise expresses the president's willingness to do all that he properly may do to promote the preliminary arrangements for a time and place for the meeting of representatives of the Russian and Japanese governments. A formal reply to the note may not be received for several days, but, as already made clear, informal assurances that it would be welcomed are already at hand. In view of the significant character of the document and of the attitude toward it which both Russia and Japan have assumed, it is regarded in official and diplomatic circles as the first firm and decisive step toward ultimate peace. At a late hour tonight Mr. Takahira, Japanese minister, had not been advised from Tokio of the delivery of the president's message to the emperor, but he was expecting a cable dispatch to that effect at any moment. The minister was able yesterday to transmit to the president a message from the mikado that Japan was, with Russia, desirous of peace, provided it could be obtained under proper conditions.

Aware of the preference of Japan to communicate her peace terms to Russia directly, the president in the last few days has been active in counseling moderation to Japan rather than in endeavoring to draw from Tokio some statement of probable terms.

At the Russian embassy tonight Count Cassini remained without advice from St. Petersburg, and he was unable to comment on any phase of the situation.

EIGHT-HOUR LAW ON CANAL.

Moody Holds It Applies to Laborers and Mechanics.

Washington, June 10.—The opinion of Attorney General Moody regarding the application of the eight-hour law on the Isthmus of Panama was made public today. He holds that the act of August 1, 1892, which limits and restricts to eight hours the daily service of laborers and mechanics employed by the government of the United States or by any contractor or sub-contractor upon the public works of the United States, applies to the employment of laborers and mechanics in the construction of the Panama canal.

That act, however, the attorney general holds, does not apply to the office force of the Isthmian Canal commission stationed on the Isthmus, or to any of the employees of the government who are not within the ordinary meaning of the words "laborers and mechanics." Also that the scope of the act is not limited by the territorial jurisdiction of congress.

In answer to the request of the secretary of war for an opinion on the additional question of whether the provisions of the act mentioned apply to the hours of labor of "mechanics and laborers" employed in the construction, maintenance and operation of the Panama railroad and steamship line, the attorney general decides in the negative.

Will Agree on Morocco.

Paris, June 10.—Herr von Flotow, counsellor of the German embassy, who was among the callers on M. Rouvier on the occasion of his first reception yesterday, says he informed the latter that Germany welcomed the opportunity to take up the Moroccan question with France in a conciliatory spirit. He added: "I congratulate myself on the fact that the existing disposition of both parties augurs good results." Prince von Radolin, the German ambassador, is to return here at the end of the week.

Russian Loss May Be 15,000.

Gunshu Pass, June 10.—According to reports received by General Linievitch from naval officers who have arrived at Vladivostok, the losses of Admiral Rojstvensky's fleet were from 9,000 to 10,000 officers and men killed or drowned, and about 5,000 prisoners.

CALIFORNIA LAND FRAUDS.

Heney Says They are Worse Than Those of Oregon.

San Francisco, June 12.—Grave charges have been made against the officials of the state land office by Francis J. Heney. The government attorney has reported to Washington that conditions in California are even worse than those in Oregon, in connection with which United States Senator Mitchell and Representative Hermann were indicted by a Federal grand jury. He has made accusations against men in state offices, asserting that they have been in league with the speculators, such as John A. Benson and Frederick A. Hyde, who have fraudulently acquired vast tracts of the public lands in California.

"The trouble lies in the state land office itself," said Mr. Heney. "The office has been hand in glove with the ring and any pretense of ignorance in regard to the schemes of graft which have been carried out is absurd. The ring has received favors from the office ever since the last election, and as a result two-thirds of the state's valuable timber lands have been stolen. The speculators have been in possession all along of advance information. This has been especially noticeable in the matter of the creation of forest reserves. Two superintendents have confessed that they were bribed to make the reserves cover as much vacant school land as possible. This land was practically worthless, all the good school land having been taken up. Some of it lies on the top of crags and was useless for any purpose except the creation of scrip. But those who filed on the land for \$1.25 an acre could dispose of their holdings for \$4.50 an acre as soon as they were included in a forest reserve. And they often could do even better than that, by taking up lieu lands in the best part of the timber belt."

WILL ASK GUARANTEE.

Japan Would Bind Russia to a Strict Observance of Treaty.

Tokio, June 12.—On the ability of Russia to offer a sufficient guarantee that she will live up to any treaty of peace arranged hinges Japan's willingness to bring the war to an end. This statement is made on the authority of one of the best known Japanese statesmen, on condition that his identity be kept unknown.

"Japan wants peace," he said, "but she will not be made a fool of by Russia. That nation must agree to keep her hands off the Far East for a long term of years, and her treaty must contain some clauses which effectively preclude her resuming hostilities when her army and navy are rehabilitated, and such clauses must be of such character that they cannot lightly be disregarded. Even at the present time, when her navy has been entirely wiped off the face of the waters and her army has been disrupted and placed on the defensive at all points, we hear from our secret agents in St. Petersburg that the advocates of a war policy urge the czar, if he feels that he must subscribe to peace terms, to refuse to commit Russia to any policy of disarming that would prevent the execution of contracts for new warships of all classes which were made with German and American firms of shipbuilders."

SWEDISH ANGER RISING.

Norway Accused of Ignoring Rights of Sweden by Her Action.

Stockholm, June 12.—It is impossible to forecast Swedish policy in relation to the Norwegian rebellion but signs are lacking of any willing acquiescence therein. The king, crown prince and many others, official and unofficial, are disposed to regard the acts of Christiania as those of a rebellious coterie of politicians which cannot be considered as necessarily representing the will of the Norwegian people. However, it is difficult to see how an official protest can be made, since nothing short of a successful war is likely to restore the situation. In all, responsible men hesitate to command such a course. That this hesitation will survive the heat of a parliamentary session may be slightly doubtful.

Butte Canal Open.

Gridley, Cal., June 12.—With the opening of the headgates and the turning on of the water into the Butte county canal today, what is probably the most important irrigation enterprise in Northern California is now in working order. There were no hitches or accidents, the river pouring its water into the canal as the gates were raised. The canal is 14 miles long, 30 feet wide on the bottom and carries 25,000 inches of water, equivalent to 500 cubic feet, a second, and will irrigate 80,000 acres of fine land.

Gasoline Cars the Thing.

Chicago, June 12.—The management of the Harriman lines has ordered six additional gasoline motors to be used on their branch lines. The original motor has proved such an eminent success that it has been decided to use motors eventually on all branch line work.

DETHRONES OSCAR

Norwegian Storthing Dissolves Union with Sweden.

CONSULAR VETO IS THE CAUSE.

Ready to Elect a Bernadotte as Ruler—Prepared for War if Necessary.

Christians, Norway, June 8.—"Norway from today is a fully independent and sovereign state."

This is the text of the editorials in the Norwegian newspapers and it reflects the spirit with which the people of Norway accept today's action of the Storthing when it proclaimed King Oscar no longer king of Norway.

The Storthing will, if necessary, defend the step taken today by force of arms.

If a prince of the house of Bernadotte should consent to occupy the throne of Norway he must give up all idea of succession to the Swedish throne.

M. Anctander will be Norway's first foreign minister. He is now chief of the department of Commerce, Navigation and Industry.

It is learned that Crown Prince Gustav will return immediately from Berlin. It is understood that an extraordinary session of the Swedish Riksdag will be called June 26, if not earlier, as the result of today's action of the Storthing.

It is not anticipated that King Oscar will consent to any prince of the house of Bernadotte accepting the Norwegian crown. Should the king refuse, there is a possibility that the throne may be offered to Prince Waldemar, the third son of King Christian, of Denmark. The people of Denmark largely sympathize with the Norwegian demands.

The consular bill, while apparently of little importance, was designed to open the whole question of foreign affairs, which Norway desires to manage independently of Sweden.

One of the causes of the desire in Sweden and Norway for separate consular systems was the fact that Sweden is for protection and Norway is for free trade, and also because of Norway's more extensive sea trade and other divergencies of commercial interests.

TERMS OF PEACE.

Russia Has Asked What the Japanese Government Wants.

Washington, June 8.—Preliminary peace negotiations between Russia and Japan are generally believed to be under way, and it is conceded that President Roosevelt will in all probability act, not as a mediator, but as "the friendly channel of communication." There is as yet no official admission that Russia has accepted what Count Cassini in his cablegram to Count Lamsdorff last week described as "the offer of good will of the president," although instructions to the ambassador are believed to have reached here tonight in a long cablegram which was received at the Russian embassy quite late and was laid before the ambassador just before he retired.

Immediately after his return from a long conference with the president, Mr. Takahira, the Japanese minister, began the preparation of a dispatch to his government, upon which he was occupied until quite late. For the first time since the annihilation of the Russian fleet the minister did not feel at liberty to comment on any phase of the situation.

Pope Thanks the Mikado.

Rome, June 8.—The pope today addressed an autograph letter to the emperor of Japan, thanking him warmly for the liberty granted to Catholic missionaries in allowing them to enter the territory conquered by the Japanese, and helping them to establish their houses. The letter was sent through the Congregation of the Propaganda to Monsignor Alvarez, apostolic prefect at the island of Shikoku, who will deliver it to the Japanese emperor. There already existed in Manchuria two apostolic vicarates.

Warships will Intern.

Manila, June 8.—Rear Admiral Enquist received at 1 o'clock this morning the following cable from St. Petersburg:

"Remain at Manila at the disposition of the American government. Effect repairs as much as possible. Nicolai."

Governor General Wright has requested Rear Admiral Train to arrange for the disposition of the Russian warships and their officers and crews.

Three Thousand Men Idle.

Grand Rapids, Mich., June 8.—The flood situation in Grand Rapids is becoming more serious tonight, and the Grand river is rising at the rate of six inches an hour. Three thousand factory employees have been made idle.