

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.

Lord Curzon threatens to resign the vice royalty of India.

Germany has assumed a more peaceful tone toward France.

The Japanese are said to be engaged in a great turning movement.

Generals Linievitch and Kuropatkin appear anxious to continue fighting.

A heavy gale in the outskirts of New York wrecked several buildings under construction.

A foreign diplomat at Washington says Germany desires Russia to continue the Far Eastern war.

Secretary Taft says trial by jury in the Philippines could not be wisely adopted at the present time.

A Danish training schooner and a British schooner collided near Copenhagen. The cadet ship sunk and carried 22 cadets with her.

The president has been informed that M. Nelidoff, Russian ambassador at Paris, and Baron Rosen, the newly appointed ambassador at Washington, will be two of Russia's peace plenipotentiaries.

Reports of strikes and demonstrations against the government pour in from all over Russia. Red flags fly from barricades in the streets of Warsaw and Cossacks and police charge the crowds, killing and wounding.

War fever in Sweden may overturn the present ministry.

Agitation has commenced for a separation of Hungary from Austria.

Ex-President Alexander, of the Equitable, has returned \$25,000 to the company.

Oyama's advance is making the Russian positions untenable, and months of labor will be lost.

The mining town of Ophir, near Auburn, California, has been entirely wiped out by fire.

He will then investigate the business methods of the various diplomatic posts of the United States in Europe.

The illness of Count Lamsdorff, Russia's minister of foreign affairs, has brought peace negotiations to a standstill.

Colombia is trying to sell the Galapagos islands to the United States. Financial difficulties are given as the reason.

The outbreak in Lodz, Russia, has spread to Warsaw, and other cities. Hundreds of men, women, and children have been killed. The wounded will number over 2,000.

Assistant Secretary of State Loomis has sailed for Europe. He will act as special ambassador of the United States and formally receive from the French government the remains of Paul Jones.

President Roosevelt has small hope of securing an armistice in time to stop the general engagement now imminent.

The feeling aroused by King Oscar's proposition to recognize the independence of Norway is causing much uneasiness in the Swedish capital.

The latest reports from Oyama show that he will soon have the entire Russian army surrounded. Several small engagements have proven victorious for the Japanese.

Paul Morton, chairman of the Equitable Life Assurance society, is preparing to make those who have accumulated millions from the society in a few years, disgorge.

France's reply to Germany's Morocco demands is unsatisfactory and negotiations are again deadlocked. A peaceful solution of the difficulty seems further off than before.

Castro has created several new custom house ports in Venezuela in order to dodge his creditors, who are to receive 30 per cent of the receipts of the regular ports of entry.

The czar has abolished offices in the Far Eastern territory.

The torpedo boat destroyer Perry, at Portland, has established a new record for fast time on the Columbia, having made 11 miles in 16 minutes. This is at the rate of 41 miles an hour.

Roosevelt will renew his efforts for an armistice.

The United States has been officially notified of Norway's separation from Sweden.

Oyama's army is enveloping the Russians and they must retreat or be surrounded.

FAIR TREATMENT.

President Will See That Courtesy is Shown Chinese Exempt Classes.

Washington, June 27.—By direction of President Roosevelt action has been taken by the administration which not only facilitates the landing in this country of Chinese of the exempt class, but will also eliminate from the Immigration bureau such administrative features as have been the subject of criticism by Chinese. It is the declared intention of the president to see that Chinese merchants, travelers, students and others of the exempt classes shall have the same courtesy shown them by officers of the Immigration bureau as is accorded to citizens of the most favored nations.

Representations have been made to the president that in view of alleged harsh treatment accorded to many Chinese seeking a landing in the United States, the commercial guilds of China have determined to institute a boycott on American manufacturers. The representations, backed by the authority of the American Asiatic society and commercial bodies throughout the country, induced the president to make an investigation of the situation with a view to remedying the evils complained of, if they were found to exist. The subject was discussed thoroughly with Secretary Metcalf, of the department of Commerce and Labor, who has supervision of the Immigration bureau.

As the result of the inquiry orders have been issued to the diplomatic and consular representatives of the United States in China by the president himself that they must look closely to the performance of their duties under the exclusion law and see to it that members of the exempt classes coming to this country are provided with proper certificates. These certificates will be accepted at any port of the United States and will guarantee the bearer against any harsh or discourteous treatment.

BIG FIRE AT NASHVILLE.

Department Store is Destroyed, with Adjoining Buildings.

Nashville, Tenn., June 27.—Fire in the retail shopping district caused damage estimated at between \$500,000 and \$600,000. The flames were located in the Palace, a big department store on the southwest corner of Fifth avenue and Union street. The fire spread rapidly and when it was at last under control the following damage had been done:

The Palace, occupied by Morris Bros., wholesale and retail millinery, and Jacobus Bros., owned by Norman Kirkman, burned. The Manix, six-story building, occupied by Nashville Dry Goods company, owned by Norman Kirkman; burned.

Two three-story buildings being fitted up for Kress & Co., owned by Browne heirs; wrecked by falling walls and burned.

Others who sustained losses are: Wright Bros., decorators; Cash Grocery store, R. W. Turner, Cumberland Baking Powder company; Alfred Steam Dye works.

DATE IS PROPOSED.

Peace Meeting Will Take Place Early in August.

St. Petersburg, June 27.—Negotiations for the peace conference have taken an important step forward, and a proposal for the date of the meeting of the plenipotentiaries at Washington has been submitted to Russia and is now under consideration. The exact date proposed has not been ascertained, but there is reason to suppose that it is some time during the first week or ten days of August, which is about the earliest period at which the Japanese representatives could be expected to reach Washington, allowing reasonable time for the acceptance of the proposal and the interchange of the nominations of plenipotentiaries.

The emperor's answer is not expected for a day or two, as the diplomatic mills of Russia grind slowly, and the foreign office, as one of the secretaries put it, "is not used to hustling American methods," but it is thought that the date will be satisfactory, as it will give ample time, for Nelidoff, the Russian ambassador at Paris, or other Russian negotiators to reach Washington, and there will be little preliminary work for them to do.

Valuable Furs from Alaska.

Seattle, June 27.—Garrett Busch, pioneer in the fur trade of the Lower Yukon, is here with \$25,000 worth of skins he has brought out from Alaska. Busch went to Nulato on a prospecting tour in 1897, but went into the fur trade instead. He built his cabin from whipsawed lumber made by himself on the present site of Nulato and waited for the Indians to visit him. His prospector's supplies were traded for the first fur stock and the fur trade grew slowly until he now practically controls it. Nulato is an important post.

Russian Vessels are Raised.

Rome, June 27.—A Port Arthur dispatch, received from an Italian engineer who is engaged in raising the Russian ships sunk in the harbor there, says that three ironclads have been refloated.

BLOW TO MITCHELL

Robertson Tells Vivid Story at Land Fraud Trial.

WAS ASKED TO COMMIT PERJURY

Senator's Former Secretary Tells the Court He Was Afraid to Face Tanner After Decision.

Portland, June 27.—Harry C. Robertson, former private secretary to Senator Mitchell, has told his story. The scene in the United States court room yesterday morning when Robertson took the stand was dramatic. Not a word told by the witness missed the ears of the defendant and the auditors present. Judge Tanner's testimony was a blow to Senator Mitchell. The testimony of Robertson was even heavier, for in many details it corroborates what Judge Tanner has already told the jury. The witness declared without reservation that he had been asked to commit perjury so that Senator Mitchell and Judge Tanner might evade the necessity of appearing in court. He told of the stormy interview with the defendant when the latter found that he would not be a tool and of his own fear of meeting Judge Tanner on his return to Portland from Washington because he thought that he would be too weak to resist Judge Tanner's attempts to get him to commit perjury. The witness stated that he delayed his visit to the senator's law partner for this reason. It was this delay that resulted in placing in the hands of the government that particularly damaging "burn this letter" document of Senator Mitchell, a letter which was given to Robertson by Max Pracht to deliver to Tanner.

DISAGREES WITH BOARD.

Chief Engineer of Panama Canal is Forced to Resign.

New York, June 27.—John F. Wallace, chief engineer for the Panama Canal commission, has resigned his position under pressure from President Roosevelt and Secretary of War Taft. This statement was made here today by Theodore P. Shonts, chairman of the commission.

Mr. Shonts declared that he was not at liberty to talk, and that the announcement would have to come from President Roosevelt direct. He declared also that the forced retirement of the chief engineer would in no way affect his (Mr. Shonts') position with the canal board, nor would it lead to a reorganization of the board. On the other hand, the rumor is strong that there will be a reorganization of the board at an early date.

The resignation of Mr. Wallace came after several stormy sessions of the canal board, and after several conferences between the president, the chief engineer and Mr. Shonts. Disagreement was entirely over the policy to be pursued in the construction of the canal. It was found after Mr. Wallace left for Panama that there was a serious difference between his ideas and those of President Roosevelt and Chairman Shonts of the commission.

ANXIOUS TO FIGHT.

Linievitch Appears to Regret that End of War is Near.

Gunshu Pass, June 27.—Many dispatches reaching here through the official paper, which is edited for the army, make the conditions under which the proposed peace is to be reached very indifferently understood.

In consequence of events at Washington a military initiative for an armistice has been expected, but although Generals Linievitch and Kuropatkin express the conviction that Russia is drifting toward peace, no action looking to an armistice has yet been taken. On the contrary the commanders appear to regret that at the time when the army has reached its maximum strength it is likely to be deprived of victory.

Big Gun is Too Expensive.

New York, June 27.—The ordnance experts of the United States army are said to have practically decided that the 16-inch gun, from which so much was expected, is not practicable as a weapon, and a decision of the War department to abandon the type is anticipated. Only one of these guns has been made so far, and that one is now at Sandy Hook. The experiments, while showing that the guns could do what was expected in one way, have nevertheless convinced the experts that as a weapon it is too costly.

Pure Water for Isthmus.

Panama, June 27.—The system of aqueducts which will give the isthmus a supply of pure water was inaugurated today. It will be officially inaugurated on the Fourth of July, when there will be great rejoicing all over Panama.

A FAIR WITNESS.

Judge Tanner Hides No Fact Favoring Senator Mitchell.

Portland, June 25.—Senator Mitchell had his day in the trial before Judge De Haven yesterday. The cross-examination of ex-Judge A. H. Tanner, who was turned over to the defense late Friday afternoon, was taken in hand by Judge Bennett. During the 3½ hours he was bombarded by questions from the attorney several admissions favorable to the senator were brought to the attention of the jury, causing a gleam of satisfaction in the aged senator's eyes. There were those present who had anticipated a rough journey for ex-Judge Tanner, but they were doomed to disappointment. Judge Burnett handled the former business partner of his client with a velvet tongue, and only once or twice was caustic with the witness. When ex-Judge Tanner finished his redirect examination ex-Senator Thurston moved to have his testimony stricken out. This was denied.

Ex-Judge Tanner passed through the ordeal better than his friends anticipated. He was little short of a perfect witness, apparently holding nothing back. His testimony favorable to the defendant was given in the same distinct and positive manner as that given by him under direct examination. Several times Judge Bennett sought to lead the witness, and once or twice the attorney for the defense made his own ingenious interpretation of some of the answers given under the questioning of Mr. Heney. Each time ex-Judge Tanner corrected his interrogator, and, once or twice, when Judge Bennett became overpersistent, the witness became curt in his denials of having answered questions in the manner put to him by the attorney for the defense.

Mr. Heney announced that he would rest his case on Monday. Ex-Senator Thurston stated after the court was adjourned that he expected that the defense would be through by Tuesday evening. While nothing has been said by counsel for the defense, it is almost assured that Senator Mitchell will take the witness stand in his own behalf.

FRANCE HAS WAR FEVER.

Despite Minister's Denials, People Expect to Fight Germany.

Paris, June 26.—For the first time since the Fashoda incident the French public is in the throes of the war fever. Whether it will result in anything serious depends on Germany's response to the French note on Morocco, but without considering the exact status of the diplomatic negotiations a considerable element of the public and press seriously discuss the possibilities of a resort to arms. Army circles are particularly active, and at the military clubs the officers are mainly engaged in making comparisons of the forces of France and Germany. While the financial leaders scout the idea of war, the speculative element has been quick to seize the opportunity to raid French rentes, which showed a fall of 1 franc and 8 centimes within a week. The official view is that the situation, while delicate, does not present any aspect of danger or a crisis involving a rupture of relations. This is the government view, and naturally presents the most favorable aspect of the controversy. However, the ambassadors of the leading powers express impartial opinions fully sustaining the view of the government.

It is pointed out in diplomatic quarters that the worst aspect of the Moroccan question does not present a casus belli. An analysis of the controversy shows that the sultan of Morocco invited the powers to a conference. Germany urges the powers, including France, to accept. Premier Rouvier's latest note shows the willingness of France to consider a conference, if Germany explains her purposes, but, even should France decline to accept these, refusal of the invitation does not constitute a cause for war.

Race Suicide Dying in New York.

New York, June 26.—Births in this city at the rate of one every five minutes are recorded by the Health department for the past week, during which period 2,011 were reported. It was announced at the department that the birth rate of New York has now risen to about 31 per 1,000, and is higher than any other city in the United States. Five or six years ago, when there was so much talk about race suicide, the birth rate here was only 26 per 1,000. Last year the rate was 30 per 1,000.

Throw Out the Miners.

Lawton, Okla., June 26.—The Interior department has instructed the custodians of the government forest reserves in Southwest Oklahoma to prevent further trespassing of miners and mineral prospectors on these lands and to eject those now conducting mining operations there. This will affect mining interests in the Wichita mountains.

THOUSANDS SLAIN

Soldiers Shoot Into Rioters in City of Lodz, Russia.

POPULATION RISES AGAINST ACT

Enraged at the Slaughter of Socialist Marchers, People Unite in a Desperate Outbreak.

Lodz, Russian Poland, June 24.—Yesterday, "Black Friday," in Lodz, surpassed all the horrors of "Red Sunday" in St. Petersburg. While it is not yet possible to ascertain the exact number of the victims, estimates place the killed and wounded as high as 2,000.

The troubles here were initiated by the Social Democrats and Jewish Bund, who determined to avenge their comrades killed in the rioting on Wednesday.

Thursday the feast of Corpus Christi passed off quietly, but during the night workmen attacked the patrols. In this fighting two officers and seven Cossacks were killed. One of the latter was shot by a girl of 13 years.

Friday was a day of terror. The city was given up to bloodshed. Anarchy and fierce street fighting prevailed all day. Barricades were hurriedly constructed in the Jewish quarter at dawn. Men climbed to the roofs of houses, cutting telephone and telegraph wires to use for entanglements in the streets, while others cut down telegraph poles and used them in strengthening their barricades which already had been constructed and in building others.

Early in the day two bombs were thrown from the crowd into the barracks, killing or wounding 20 soldiers.

TIME OF ITS LIFE.

Congressional Irrigation Committee is Won by the West.

Reno, Nev., June 24.—The congressional irrigation party has experienced one continuous round of pleasure from the time it left Kansas City on June 1 up to the present moment, and the stack of invitations on hand indicates that the last half of the trip will be crowded just as full of enjoyment as the first. Each city visited had endeavored to outdo the other and each rural district has attempted to demonstrate that it is the one "garden spot" of the country. There have been banquets galore, not dress affairs, but cordial meetings lacking in formality and pervaded by that spirit of hospitality which characterizes the entire West. The gates of the several cities have been opened wide, the liberties of the party have been unrestrained, and the result has been that everybody has had a bully good time. When the party enters a city, it becomes the city's guest, and in no instance has a city along the route failed to turn out to do honor to the visiting lawmakers.

The trip is necessarily hurried: little time is allowed for sightseeing. Everything is sacrificed to the cause of irrigation.

FINISHES WITH TANNER.

Prosecution Through with Star Witness and Defense Takes Him.

Portland, June 24.—Judge A. H. Tanner, the government's star witness against Senator Mitchell, in the land fraud cases, now on trial before Judge De Haven, is in the hands of the attorneys for the defense. For 11½ hours the former friend and business partner of the senator from Oregon has been on the witness stand. The things to which he has testified, the mass of documentary evidence to which he has sworn as having passed between himself and Senator Mitchell, has been damaging to a degree to the defendant.

Today ex-Senator Thurston and Judge Bennett will begin their determined effort to break down this mass of testimony and especially to draw forth admissions tending to show that the senator had no guilty knowledge when he received his share of the firm's fees in the Kriha transactions.

Wallace Arrives Home.

New York, June 24.—Among the passengers who arrived today on board the Orizaba from Colon was John F. Wallace, chief engineer of the Panama canal. Mr. Wallace comes here to complete arrangements, which were unfinished on his departure for the isthmus. He says that the work is progressing very satisfactorily. The force is increasing and settling down to steady labor. The engineering committee is preparing plans for the board of consulting engineers, and this is another reason for his return.

More Troops To Be Mobilized.

Moscow, June 24.—The governor of Moscow has postponed notices of the forthcoming mobilization of troops, to exhort the population to be calm. The mobilization is expected June 9.