

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.

A cholera epidemic prevails at Madras, British India.

Norway and Sweden will not favor making the Baltic a closed sea.

Germany is suspected of bad faith by France in the Morocco matter.

The court of inquiry into the Bennington disaster has begun its sessions.

Suit has been commenced against the directors of the Equitable to make them return their ill-gotten gains.

Fire in Swift & Co.'s packing plant at South St. Joseph Mo., destroyed over \$250,000 worth of property.

According to reports made by the county assessor Portland has a population of 110,500. This is 20,000 more than in 1900.

Britain and Japan have nearly completed a new treaty. The new alliance will be decidedly more comprehensive than the present one.

Great Britain will press its claim for pay for a number of steamers sunk by Russian auxiliary cruisers after the battle of the Sea of Japan.

While a few new cases are appearing in New Orleans, the health authorities believe they have the yellow fever situation in hand and that in a few days its spread will have been stopped.

The Chinese boycott has caused large orders from a San Francisco firm to be cancelled.

All of the peace envoys are now in Washington excepting M. Witte and his party.

The kaiser and czar are said to be contemplating declaring the Baltic a closed sea.

The Japanese now have an army between Vladivostok and the main Russian army.

Germany and Britain are at daggers' point about sending the British fleet to the Baltic.

Europe regards Roosevelt as arbiter in case Japan and Russia deadlock in their peace conference.

Louisiana is quarantined on all sides and new cases of fever have broken out despite the efforts of the health authorities.

In a row in the city council of Springfield, Illinois, the mayor came off victorious by calling in police, who used their clubs freely on the city fathers.

Warren, Pa., was visited by a cloud burst which did thousands of dollars' worth of damage to property. The people escaped drowning by staying in second stories of buildings.

Sweden is negotiating for a war loan.

A national bank is to be organized at Nome, Alaska.

France and Germany are again quarreling over Morocco.

Huarriman wants to gather the Illinois Central railroad into his system.

Japan will not cease hostilities pending the outcome of the peace conference.

A new plot has been discovered against the life of the sultan of Turkey.

Germany is furious at the proposed cruise of British war vessels in the Baltic.

Great Britain is planning to store an immense amount of food for home use in case of war.

Police has unearthed a counterfeiters outfit in Portland and arrested six people in connection.

District Attorney Jerome of New York is now taking a turn at the tricky lawyers of that city.

Revenue officers in New York are seeking men who have used internal revenue stamps a second time on cigar boxes.

At the end of the eighth week of the fair the total admissions aggregated nearly 900,000.

George T. Moore, connected with the Agricultural department, has resigned on account of connection with graft in that department.

Native bankers of China have decided to boycott foreign banks doing business in the Flowery Kingdom.

Great Britain will send several warships to the Baltic to discount the effects of the kaiser's visit to the czar.

Southern Pacific property to the extent of \$100,000 is endangered near Los Angeles by the overflow of water at Salton Sink.

TO CONSIDER CANAL.

President Desires Congress to Decide What Type Shall Be Built.

Washington, Aug. 1.—It is true, as reported from Oyster bay, that the president intends to call an extra session of congress early in November, it is not probable any attempt will be made to force the prompt consideration of a railroad rate bill. That would be out of the question; at least it would be impossible to secure final action on such a bill within a month.

The probabilities are, and observing officials here believe, that the president intends, at the early session, to have congress take up and settle once for all the question of whether the Panama canal shall be built, as originally planned, with locks, or shall be a sea-level canal, as advocated by so many prominent engineers. This is a question that congress must decide, and the sooner it is out of the way the better the men in charge of the canal can operate.

The president has not taken the public into his confidence; he has not announced what his object may be in calling an extra session, but it is difficult to figure out how anything could be gained on a railway rate bill at a session convening only three weeks in advance of the regular session. It takes that long for the house to organize, elect a speaker, and for the speaker to appoint committees, and the senate consumes almost as much time in its organization.

STANDS BY ALLY.

Japan's Peace Conditions Will Receive Endorsement of Great Britain.

Washington, Aug. 1.—Japan comes to the Washington conference assured that, whatever her peace terms, they will have the sympathetic approval of Great Britain. Several suggestions from Washington to London that the cause of peace would be served by an explanation to Japan from her ally favoring moderation in her demands upon Russia have not availed to change the British government in its apparently unalterable determination to stand by Japan, however severe she makes her conditions of peace. Nor has the British government seen its way clear to render assistance to Washington in the efforts which this government is making to obtain an armistice.

Advices reaching here show that London is opposed to an armistice until Japan has been satisfied that Russia's plenipotentiaries are prepared to do more than discuss means of ending the war. If Russia is ready to conclude peace and has so empowered her plenipotentiaries, Great Britain, it is said, might favor an armistice, but even in this event she would, it is said, not be willing to offer Japan advice on the subject.

EDISON'S NEW BATTERY.

Inventor Says It Will Be Cheaper and Lighter Than Present Ones.

New York, Aug. 1.—Thomas A. Edison has made the declaration that he has solved the problem of providing cheap and serviceable electric traction for vehicles.

"By October my light battery will be ready for the market, and we will be ready to equip automobiles of all descriptions," he said. "To reach the goal for which I aimed and keep down the cost to a trifling portion of what present batteries cost to keep alive, I determined upon a simple combination of iron rust, potash and nickel rust. For a time it failed me, but now I have accomplished the result with these ingredients, and a new light battery is an accepted fact. It will weigh one-half of the present batteries in general use, and will be about the same size, although it stands somewhat higher in its proportion than the other. As to its power, there can be no question. A new factory where the cell batteries are to be manufactured is being erected in Orange, and automobiles will be built and equipped there."

Milling Wheat for Mexico.

San Francisco, Aug. 1.—The Kosmos steamer Theben, which sailed today for the southern coast on her way to Europe, carried 1,000 tons of milling wheat for Guaymas, Mexico. For several months past the Mexican government has abolished the duty on wheat, owing to the short crop in the Hermosillo district and steamers sailing from here have received consignments of wheat sufficiently large to warrant them in calling at Guaymas, far up the Gulf of California. The duty will be imposed again on August 31.

War Party Has Upper Hand.

St. Petersburg, Aug. 1.—News of the utmost importance is daily expected from the army in Manchuria. At army headquarters there are evidences of great activity, and there is no doubt that word for a general engagement is looked for. The war party still has the upper hand and there is little talk of peace.

AFTER BIG FELLOWS

One Millionaire In Jail Worth a Thousand Others.

STATEMENT OF ATTORNEY HENEY

Does Not Believe in Convicting Man Who Has Been Bought and Letting Buyer Go Free.

Portland, Aug. 1.—Scathing in his denunciation of graft in public life, merciless in his arraignment of the motives of the defendants, severe in his charges against the attorneys for the defense, dramatic in his earnestness of speech and effort, Francis J. Heney made his argument yesterday in presenting the case of the government in the Williamson-Gesner-Biggs trial to the jury.

Those high in public life who used their offices for private gain and for the practice of illegal business were held up before the jury as men worse than thieves and robbers.

"It has been intimated by the defense in this case," said Mr. Heney, "that I have told the witnesses when they came before the grand jury as witnesses that I was not after the little fish, but after the big ones. It has been insinuated that back of my movements lurked a political motive, but I need only to bring this to mind for you to know how false it is. Though the defense has never been able to get a witness to say that I told him I was after the big fish, I will say it myself. I am after the big fish, and as long as there is a hook and a line or a bit of tackle in the government box I will keep after them. Graft is ruining Russia today; graft ruined Rome, the ancient empire of the world, and, unless the juries of the nation sustain the laws of the United States, graft will ruin this country."

Turning to the defendants and their motives, the attorney held that when a guilty man attempts to prove defense for himself he always hews as close to the truth as possible. "But crime leaves its scar upon the conscience and the mind," said Mr. Heney, "until if we open wide enough the windows of the soul we can see the markings left. It is this consciousness of scar that has led the defendants in this case to plan the defense they have. I am after the big fish I do not want the poor devils who have been seduced through the influence of power and wealth. I want the big fish. One millionaire in the penitentiary is worth one thousand of the poor devils he bought, as an example to the world."

WAR WITH BRITAIN IMMINENT.

German Paper Says German Navy is Ready for Action.

Berlin, Aug. 1.—A very considerable sensation has been caused by the publication in the Tegel-Zeitung of a statement that a war between Germany and Great Britain is imminent. The paper says:

"According to the most reliable information furnished to the editor, war between this nation and England may not be averted. All German warships have been fully prepared for prompt action, having received secret instructions that war is considered inevitable."

Tegel is a Berlin suburb, where are located the extensive works of Messrs. Borsig, the well-known machine and gun manufacturers. This firm controls the newspapers and the assumption is that the "reliable information" emanated from that firm.

Distress Among Italians.

New Orleans, Aug. 1.—Much distress is beginning to appear among the Italian population growing out of the practical suppression of the fruit business from Louisiana on account of the quarantines, and relief work is one of the tasks which the Italian societies and citizens' committees will now have to address themselves to. While the six-day detention order of the board of health lasts, all the lines which have been operated from the steamers into New Orleans will divert their ships to Mobile.

Rojstvensky is Recovering.

Tokio, Aug. 1.—Rear Admiral Rojstvensky's condition has made satisfactory progress since the operation that was performed on his forehead. He was able to leave his bed and sit in a chair yesterday. Pains in one foot, however, prevent his walking freely, but no cause for uneasiness exists. The admiral has expressed his sincere satisfaction with the treatment accorded him.

Taft Party at Nagasaki.

Nagasaki, Aug. 1.—The steamer Manchuria arrived here at 7 o'clock this morning. The governor, mayor and other officials went aboard and extended official welcome to Secretary of War Taft and Miss Roosevelt.

WAR PARTY GAINS RECRUITS

Claim of Indemnity Causes Vigorous Action in War Office.

St. Petersburg, July 31.—The intimation of Mr. Sato, Baron Komura's secretary, that Japan will claim full indemnification for the cost of the war beside the Island of Sakhalin, has gained recruits for the war party from among the class which had hoped Russia would be able to offer the railroads to Port Arthur and Dalny, the island of Sakhalin, and other valuable considerations in lieu of a direct cash indemnity.

The war office is not slackening preparations for continuing the war in case the peace negotiations are unsuccessful. The gap in general Linievitch's army caused by the losses at Mukden has been filled and the railroad is working to its full capacity, carrying reinforcements to form fresh corps.

A dispatch from Irkutsk announces the completion of work on the trans-Baikal line. In order to relieve the traffic on the railroad, Prince Hilko, minister of railroad communications, has sent three steamers loaded with rails and a flotilla of river steamers by way of the Arctic ocean to the mouth of the Yenisei river, whence they will be transported by that river to Krasnoyarsk, which is within 400 miles of Lake Baikal.

CHINA WANTS INDEMNITY TOO.

Russia Must Pay for Illegal Occupation of Manchuria.

Berlin, July 31.—The Lokal Anzeiger prints an interview with a prominent Chinese diplomatist, evidently the Chinese minister at Berlin, who says that the dowager empress and the emperor have sent a circular letter to all viceroys and governors and to Chinese ministers abroad, asking them to state fully their views as to what attitude China should take in the settlement of the Manchurian question.

The diplomatist further states that China, in determining what indemnity to demand from Russia, will include not only the reduction in public revenues during the war, but a sum sufficient to cover damages suffered through years of illegal occupation of that country. He assumes that Japan will keep her word and hand over Manchuria to China, but thinks it will be impossible for China to install the old form of government there, since the improvements the Russians and Japanese have introduced make a modern system of administration necessary. The diplomatist concludes:

"China will not longer play the role of a mere spectator, but will assert her claims with energy in the Portsmouth negotiations and interesting developments will certainly follow."

INSPECT ON OTHER SIDE.

Proposed That Chinese Be Scrutinized Before They Start.

Washington, July 31.—A new way out of the perplexing difficulties surrounding the enforcement of the Chinese exclusion law is being considered by the department of Commerce and Labor. It is proposed to put the regulations into more practicable form and at the same time throw a sop to Chinese susceptibilities by having the inspecting and regulating done on the other side.

This can be managed by establishing representatives of the state and immigration services at ports in China with a view to examining the claims of Chinese desiring to come to America, and if the examination proves that they are exempt, to issue credentials to them, which will be accepted without question at American ports. By this plan the investigation will be much more simple and satisfactory.

Defense of Columbia River.

Washington, July 31.—A board of army officers, including Lieutenant Colonel Arthur Murray, Artillery corps; Major Langfitt, of the engineers, and the district artillery officer on the Columbia river, will meet and collect data for the submarine defense of the fortifications at the mouth of the Columbia river, and also report on existing mines, buildings and structures in connection with harbor defense and recommend new works deemed necessary to complete submarine work at the entrance to the river.

Yaqui Will Surrender.

Nogales, Ariz., July 31.—After six years of continuous fighting, the Yaqui Indians in Mexico are suing for peace. A peace conference is being arranged for, and if there is no hitch in the present plans, Yaqui leaders will meet representatives of the Mexican government at Urez, Solano, Mexico. No date for meeting has been made public, but the Indians are already reported to be gathering in the vicinity of Urez.

British Ship is Seized.

Seattle, July 31.—The British ship Josephine, Captain J. P. Heffler, from Vancouver, B. C., has been seized by the United States marshal at Ketchikan, Alaska. The captain and crew are in jail. The vessel landed a cargo from a Canadian port at an American port without a permit.

IS UNDER CONTROL

Yellow Fever Situation Said to Be in Hand.

QUARANTINE CONCERNS PEOPLE

All Surrounding States Have Established Strict Regulations Against the Fever Infected City.

New Orleans, July 29.—The health authorities who are handling the yellow fever situation here have now so thoroughly perfected their organization that they feel confident every case of fever, though not thoroughly developed, will be promptly reported, and will go upon the official records. So thorough has been the inspection of the city that it is believed that every existing case has been found, and is now included in the 206 cases which have been announced. Many of these are on the road to recovery, and it is expected that with the perfect scientific treatment that has been arranged for there will be a reduced mortality rate which in the early stages of the disease has been admittedly high.

The most annoying feature of the situation now is the disposition of practically every town in adjoining states to tighten the quarantine against the city. That is due to the feeling beyond the city that 200 cases means a serious situation, and the fact that the escape of Italians from the infected French market center has resulted in the appearance of cases of fever at various points.

ANOTHER CHARGE OF GRAFT

Scientist Recommends Material in Which He Has Personal Interest.

Washington, July 29.—In a hearing today at the department of agriculture, at which Secretary Wilson, Assistant Secretary Hayes, Prof. B. J. Galloway, chief of the bureau of plant industry, George T. Moore, of that bureau, and two representatives of an agricultural publication, were present, the last two named made charges that the wife of one of the scientists in the bureau of plant industry owned a block of stock in an eastern concern manufacturing a culture for soil inoculation, while the scientist was preparing and revising bulletins regarding enrichment of farms and portraying the culture as containing virulent forms of bacteria for making poor land.

It was alleged that the publications revised by the official tended to direct the farmers to a commercial concern supplying the material because of the exhaustion of the supply by the department.

At today's hearing the scientist involved in the allegations admitted that his wife owned stock, that stock was to come to him in the event that he severed his connection with the department and became the bacteriologist of the concern, but that in the latter part of April he decided to stay.

DENIES DOING WRONG.

Gesner Takes Stand for Defense at Land Fraud Trial.

Portland, July 29.—Defense in the case of the United States vs. Congressman Williamson, Gesner and Biggs, charged with subornation of perjury, yesterday made a complete denial of the charges of the prosecution by putting Gesner on the stand. He denied ever having made a contract with the entrymen to buy land, although he admitted lending them money, and said he had stated to certain entrymen that the claims would be worth, upon final proof being completed, \$500 to him.

Dr. Gesner is old and feeble. He leans heavily on his cane, which is his constant companion. Twenty years of the practice of medicine in the Prineville country has broken his health. Long rides to widely scattered patients at all hours of the day and night over poor roads have ruined his physique.

Shonts Inspects Canal.

Panama, July 29.—President Shonts and a party of canal officers went today to inspect the route from Panama to Culebra. Among the subjects which Mr. Shonts has discussed with Governor Magoun was the construction of quarters and places for the recreation of employes to which much importance is attached. Definite plan will soon be adopted along this line. The great demand for cars for the transportation of material for the canal has caused a serious congestion at both terminals of the railroad.

Yellow Fever Case at Tampa.

Tampa, Fla., July 29.—Dr. Joseph Porter, state health officer, has issued an official statement to the effect that Victor Vitello, an Italian who arrived here last Saturday from New Orleans, is suffering from a mild attack of yellow fever.