

LIDLAW CHRONICLE

VOL. I.

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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.

Railroads have voluntarily reduced grain rates in Minnesota.

The governor of Warsaw has been seriously injured by a bomb.

Activity of the police frustrated a plan to assassinate King Alfonso.

It is said the sultan of Turkey has decided to recognize Leishman as an ambassador.

Many immigrants who would be refused admittance at a port of entry are being smuggled in through Mexico.

Bookbinders in the government printing office threaten to strike on account of the action of a foreman toward the men.

A San Francisco woman refugee feels greatly insulted because she was given a pair of No. 8 stockings when she wears No. 3 shoes.

The Chilean disaster will be a hard blow to English insurance companies, as they carry more South American risks than any others.

Union printers at their recent international convention decided to erect a new building at their Colorado Springs home to be used by the wives of aged inmates.

Police in all parts of the Russian empire are flooding the minister of the interior with resignations since the revival of terrorism directed especially against these officers.

A massacre of Jews is expected in Warsaw, Russia.

A cave-in at Clinchport, Va., entombed 50 miners.

Roosevelt is said to have declared for Cannon for president.

Labor leaders have declared war on Cannon's candidacy for re-election to congress.

Portland police are looking for Paul Stensland, president of the wrecked Chicago bank.

The president has appointed James S. Harlan, of Chicago, a member of the Interstate Commerce commission.

During the fiscal year just ended our exports to Porto Rico, Hawaii and Alaska increased about 20 per cent.

Russian terrorists continue the slaughter of police. The government has begun wholesale arrests and exile.

A tidal wave is reported from the Hawaiian islands. The general height was five feet and but little damage was done.

The Valparaiso earthquake will complicate the bankruptcy of many insurance companies which lost heavily in San Francisco.

The First National bank of Chelsea, Mass., has been closed by the bank examiner because too much money was loaned to its president.

The murder of policemen in Poland continues.

Japanese goods have supplanted all others in Korea.

Many officers are involved in a navy scandal at San Francisco.

Another Chicago bank has failed as a result of Stensland's crimes.

Ex-United States Senator Turner, of Washington, is mentioned as Bryan's running mate.

France has resolved to make no concessions to the Catholics and may confiscate churches.

A member of the late Russian parliament has been arrested as a leader of agrarian disorders.

R. B. Brown, of Zanesville, Ohio, has been elected commander-in-chief of the National G. A. R.

Diego Mendoza, ex-Colombian minister to the United States, declares that President Reyes is a traitor.

A second grand jury has been called at Chicago to inquire into recent rebates given the Standard Oil company.

The Milwaukee Avenue State bank, of Chicago, has declared a 20 per cent dividend for depositors. More will be paid later.

Secretary Root has arrived at Buenos Ayres.

Mad Mullah has received a disastrous defeat.

Negotiations looking to a Russo-Japanese fishing treaty have been commenced.

It is likely that the War department will concentrate all colored troops at one post.

Many Republican state conventions are declaring in favor of Roosevelt for a third term.

VALPARAISO A WRECK.

Loss of Life and Property Are Heavy, Though Statements Conflict.

There continues to be confusion of statements as to the magnitude of the disaster at Valparaiso caused by the earthquake shocks which began Thursday, August 16, and continued at frequent intervals throughout that and the next two days. Dispatches from Valparaiso to the Associated Press dated August 19 state that a moderate estimate of the fatalities is 2,000, and that the property loss may be as high as \$250,000,000, which latter is as great as the loss sustained by San Francisco in consequence of the earthquake and fire which devastated that city last April.

A refugee who has arrived at Santiago places the known dead at 100 and other messages indicate that the first reports of damage and casualties were greatly exaggerated.

The dwellings in the State department at Washington place the fatalities at about 500. These conflicting statements cannot at this time be adjusted. It is evident that even yet confusion and panic prevail at Valparaiso and until order is restored it will be impossible to ascertain with accuracy the loss of life and property.

The government is doing all it can to bring in relief. The crippling of the railroads into Valparaiso constitutes a serious factor in the situation, as for an indefinite period relief supplies can only be ordered through other means of transportation, the seaboard affording the best of these.

At Santiago many of the best public and private buildings were wrecked. The loss of life there is augmented by the panic which seized the people, many of whom threw themselves from balconies of their homes. The destructive force of the earthquake was experienced over a large extent of the country, many towns sustaining serious damage.

EXTEND ALASKA CABLE.

Government Requires Duplex System and Branch South.

Washington, Aug. 20.—Commercial receipts from the Alaskan cable and telegraph lines amounted to \$24,000 in July, which is \$2,000 in excess of the amount collected by the United States in any previous month. The official dispatches sent during the month would have cost \$12,000 had they been paid for at the commercial rates. This rapid increase in the demands upon the Alaskan cable and telegraph system will be met by the government by the duplicating of the cables.

The cableship Burnside, which is to install the duplexing apparatus at the Alaskan end of the cable, will probably leave Seattle about September 15. It will carry 200 miles of new cable, which has just been shipped from New York for the extension of the cable service south of Ketchikan. This extension will be effected by tapping the line from Sitka to Juneau at Cape Fanshawe. From that point a branch line will be extended down to Wrangell, then to Hadley, on Prince of Wales island, and then to Ketchikan, which is only about 60 miles from Port Simpson, the English town which is to be the terminus of the Grand Trunk Pacific railway.

It is believed that this additional 200 miles of cable will result in a great increase in cable receipts, as the Federal system taps a country which is rich in mines and fisheries and already has many large carrying factories, which stand greatly in need of daily communication with the United States. In case the cable ship does not encounter bad weather, the line will probably be completed before November 1. Captain Henry W. Stamford, of the Signal corps, will direct the laying of the new cable.

Byerly Gets Good Job.

New York, Aug. 20.—Samuel Byerly, chief clerk of the American Express company, who recently gained notoriety by his bid for \$5,800,000 of the Panama canal bonds, has become vice president of a new bond company, under the name of the Abram White Bond company. Mr. Byerly made about \$25,000 by disposing of his allotment of Panama bonds. After closing up the deal, Byerly is said to have \$200,000 and is now establishing branches and European connections for the new firm.

Execute Naval Mutineers.

St. Petersburg, Aug. 20.—Seventeen of the sailors of the cruiser Famyat Azova, who mutinied August 2, and an agitator were executed at Reval today. Twelve other sailors were sentenced to hard labor for periods varying from six to ten years, 18 were drafted to the disciplinary battalions, 15 were condemned to various disciplinary penalties and 34 were acquitted. Three civilians implicated in the mutiny are handed over to the civil authorities for trial.

Functions for Root All Off.

Santiago de Chile, Aug. 20.—One third of the city of Valparaiso was destroyed and 500 lives were lost by the earthquake. Quillota, Vico del Mar and Limache are completely destroyed. The functions arranged for the entertainment of Secretary of State Root will be abandoned on account of the universal mourning in Chile.

OREGON STATE ITEMS OF INTEREST

HOP CROP INJURED.

Drouth and Poor Cultivation Will Put Yield Below 120,000 Bales.

The long continued drouth and the poor cultivation in many sections are beginning to tell on the Oregon hop crop. Last year the state produced about 112,000 bales. It is beginning to look now as if this figure would not be exceeded this year, notwithstanding an increase in acreage of about 10 per cent. Estimates made by reliable dealers of the coming crop range all the way from 100,000 to 120,000 bales. At one time in the spring it was thought about 140,000 bales would be produced, but two months with practically no rainfall anywhere in the hop belt has had a telling effect on the vines. Scanty cultivation in many of the yards has caused even more damage than the drouth. Prices were so low last year that some of the growers lost heart and neglected to cultivate their properties. They will be rewarded this year with less than half the production of their neighbors who attended to this important matter. An immense quantity of hops was sold on contract in the spring at the bare cost of production, and these sellers, almost without exception, failed to cultivate their yards.

It is estimated that up to the present time about 30,000 bales of the coming crop are tied up by contracts. Although the crop will fall short of early expectations, it will still furnish employment for all the pickers that can be secured. It will be what the growers call a "top crop," and will be easy to pick.

Much Hay in Tillamook.

Tillamook—Tillamook had another bumper hay crop this year and with fine weather the past month it has been harvested in good shape. Most every barn in the county is filled to its full capacity, and there will be an abundance of feed next winter for the dairy herds, with the probability that it will not all be used before the next crop is harvested. The dairy business in Tillamook is increasing every year, and the dairymen are very prosperous, as they do not have to buy feed for their cows, but grow enough on their farms, and this with the green pasture keeps the cows in good condition.

To Meet at Hood River.

Pendleton—Judge S. A. Lovell, president of the Oregon Irrigation association, has set October 11 and 12 as the date for the holding of this year's convention of the association. Hood River is to be the place of meeting. By holding the convention on the above dates the meeting will take place during the biennial fair which, which is to be held at Hood River during October. Arrangements for the holding of the convention are now being made by the people of Hood River, and it is expected that a large delegation will be present from Eastern Oregon.

Dynamite Made Hay Grow.

Pendleton—J. B. McMill, superintendent of the county poor farm, has harvested the second crop of alfalfa, and the yield will amount to about 180 tons. A portion of the land on this place was underlaid with a limestone crust about a foot beneath the surface, which detracted from the strength of the soil. Breaking up with dynamite was tried as an experiment upon some of the land, and has proved successful. The limestone crust beneath the surface prevents the crops from taking deep root, or the soil from retaining moisture.

State Aids Pendleton Fair.

Pendleton—President Leon Cohen, of the District Fair association, has received word from Salem that the formal application for \$1,500 appropriation had been favorably acted upon and the money was available. The fair is to be held here in September and \$1,500 was appropriated by the legislature for cash prizes for educational, agricultural, horticultural and stock exhibits. In addition \$250 worth of printed matter for advertising purposes will be turned out by the state printing office.

Coke for Taklima Smelter.

Grants Pass—The first load of coke for the Taklima smelter has left here. Captain J. M. McIntire, who has the contract for hauling, states that he has been offered more terms than he can use, as the teamsters would rather haul coke and matte than lumber. From now on until the rains put a stop to hauling the big freight teams will be kept busy taking coke to the smelter and returning with matte. It takes five days to make a round trip.

Large Deal in Sheep.

Pendleton—One of the largest and most important sheep deals that has been consummated in this locality for some time took place recently when A. Smythe & Sons, of Arlington, sold to C. Oxman, the well known Chicago buyer, 18,000 head of mutton sheep at \$3.50 a head, which is the maximum price. The amount involved in the transaction is \$63,000. Smythe & Sons will winter over about 25,000 head the coming winter.

Wants Cement Factory Site.

Oregon City—The Oregon City board of trade is in correspondence with a cement manufacturer of Kansas City, Mo., who is looking for a location on the coast with a view to establishing a plant. He represents that the plant will employ more than 250 men, with a monthly payroll of about \$25,000. An effort will be made to secure the factory for this city.

PLAN TO IRRIGATE.

Extensive System Planned for Grand Ronde and Indian Valleys.

La Grande—Two big irrigation systems, which will cover the entire Grand Ronde and Indian valleys and a portion of land in Walla Walla county, are being projected by local companies. The organization to be known as the Grand Ronde Water company, is a corporation which will promote a \$2,000,000 irrigation project and besides furnishing water for irrigation on a large scale, the company expects to provide power for lighting where it is wanted. The water will be taken from the Big Miam, which forms the boundary between Union and Walla Walla counties. The preliminary surveys for the big canal were made last year, and at the present time the engineers are engaged in making the final surveys and doing the cross sectioning.

The canal will take the water through a deep canyon. Its head is in section 35, township 3 south, range 42 east. After cutting through the high divide in township 1 north, range 41 east, it will be an easy matter to cover the Indian valley country and swing into the Grand Ronde. The main canal to the divide will be 34 miles long. The lateral distributing canals as planned will be 60 miles in length.

The promoters estimate that it will take four months' time for the large force of engineers now at work to complete the final survey. Construction work will be commenced as soon as the survey is finished.

Teachers Scarce in Lane.

Eugene—The regular quarterly examination for teachers' certificates was held in this city last week by County Superintendent W. B. Dillard, assisted by Professor M. H. Arnold, Professor D. C. Baughman and W. G. Martin. There were 61 applicants for county certificate and several for state papers. This is a smaller class than the average, and Superintendent Dillard thinks there will be a scarcity of teachers in the county this fall. Several outlying districts were unable to secure teachers for the spring term, and the outlook for the fall term seems even worse.

State Losses \$1,000,000.

Salem—That the state school fund would be \$1,000,000 better off if the purchasers of school sections in the Blue mountain forest reserve could be induced or compelled to relinquish their claims to the land, is the conclusion reached by State Land Agent Oswald West after a careful examination. The land was bought from the state at \$1.25 per acre. If the state now had it, it could be used as base and would bring \$7.50 per acre.

Fortune in Five Years.

Baker City—The largest land deal made in Baker county in a quarter of a century was closed a few days ago when Earl F. Crans sold 720 acres in Powder valley within ten miles of Baker City, to Brown, Phillips & Geddes, owners of the Baker Packing company, for \$35,000, reserving this year's crop estimated in value at \$5,000. Five years ago this land was bought from the government at \$2 an acre and was a sage brush desert.

PORTLAND MARKETS.

Wheat—Club, 68@69c; bluestem, 70@71c; valley, 71@72c; red, 66@67c. Oats—No. 1 white feed, \$26; gray, \$25 per ton; new crop, \$22 per ton. Barley—Feed, \$23 per ton; brewing, \$23.50; rolled, \$24@24.50. Rye—\$1.50 per cwt. Hay—Valley timothy, No. 1, 411@12.50 per ton; clover, \$7@7.50; cheat, \$6.50; grain hay, \$7; alfalfa, \$10. Fruits—Apples, common, 50@75c per box; fancy, \$1.25@2; apricots, \$1.25@1.35; grapes, \$1.75@2 per crate; peaches, 75c@1; pears, \$2; plums, fancy, 50@75c per box; common, 50@75c; blackberries, 50@60c per pound; crab apples, 75c per box. Melons—Cantaloupes, \$2 @ 3 per dozen; watermelons, 1@1 1/4c per pound. Vegetables—Beans, 5@7c; cabbage, 1@2c per pound; celery, 85c@1 per dozen; corn, 15@20c per dozen; cucumbers, 40@60c per box; egg plant, 10c per pound; lettuce, head, 25c per dozen; onions, 10@12 1/2c per dozen; peas, 4@5c; hot peppers, 12 1/2@15c; radishes, 10@15c per dozen; rutabaga, 2@2 1/2c per pound; spinach, 2@3c per pound; tomatoes, 60@90c per box; parsley, 25c; squash, \$1.25 per crate; turnips, 90c@1 per sack; carrots, \$1 @ 1.25 per sack; beets, \$1.25@1.50 per sack.

Onions—New, 1 1/4@1 1/2c per pound. Potatoes—Old Burbank, nominal; new potatoes, Oregon, 75@90c. Butter—Fancy creamery, 20@22 1/2c per pound. Eggs—Oregon ranch, 21@22c per dozen. Poultry—Average old hens, 13@23 1/2c per pound; mixed chickens, 12 1/2@13c; springs, 14c; turkeys, live, 16@22c; turkeys, dressed, choice, 20@22 1/2c; geese, live, 8@10c; ducks, 11@13c. Hops—Oregon, 1905, nominal, 13c; olds, nominal, 10c; 1906 contracts, 16 @17c per pound. Wool—Eastern Oregon average best, 16@20c per pound, according to shrinkage; valley, 20@22c, according to fineness; mohair, choice, 28@30c per pound.

Beef—Dressed, 5 1/2@8c per pound. Veal—Dressed, 5 1/2@8c per pound. Cows, 4 1/2@5 1/2c; country steers, 5@6c. Mutton—Dressed fancy, 7@8c per pound; ordinary, 5@6c; lambs, fancy, 8@8 1/2c. Pork—Dressed, 7@8 1/4c per pound.

MOB IS SUPREME.

Russian Terrorists Wreak Vengeance on Hated Police.

St. Petersburg, Aug. 15.—Advised received from Liban state that the riotous demonstrations that began there Saturday night still continue and that the Hooligan element absolutely holds sway in the city, the police being powerless to check it. Law abiding citizens are unable to traverse the streets and a reign of robbery and rapine is in progress that will not be checked until troops are sent to aid the police.

So far all appeals to the government at St. Petersburg have fallen apparently upon deaf ears and this fact has emboldened the disturbing element to add murder to its other crimes. Five storekeepers have been murdered during the past 12 hours and hundreds of shops have been looted. The rioters raided the alcohol depot, and after filling themselves up on the fiery fluid, paraded the streets, shouting threats against the Jews and factory owners and storekeepers.

Three police officers have been murdered since Tuesday morning, the Terrorists apparently having seized upon the confusion as offering a magnificent opportunity to eliminate the hated members of the police who have been active in working against them.

There is one regiment of infantry in the local barracks at Liban, but it is mutinous and the officers some days ago took from the men all their ammunition, as it was feared that they intended to mutiny.

FIRST INSURANCE TRIAL.

Test Case Upon Earthquake Clause Set for Trial.

San Francisco, Aug. 15.—The first of the insurance cases involving the earthquake clause was set for trial today by Superior Judge Hebbard. The case is that of the Rosenthal Shoe company against the Williamsburg City Fire Insurance company. The attorney for the insurance people asked that the case be set for trial until opportunity could be given the judges mutually to arrange with the insurance companies for a test case. He said that the insurance companies would demand a jury trial in each case, and unless proper arrangements were made for a test case the courts would be occupied for years in hearing insurance litigation. The attorney for the plaintiff declared that there were points of fact in this connection that could not be settled by a test case. The court then asked the insurance attorney if he waived a jury trial, and answered, "No." The judge then asked, "Do you demand a jury trial?" but could not get a direct answer.

The attorney for the shoe company then announced that to save time he would formally demand a jury trial. The case was set for August 27.

HAD PREPARED FOR FLIGHT.

Stensland Took House Furnishings and a Woman With Him.

Chicago, Aug. 15.—Testimony indicating that extensive preparations for flight were made by Paul Stensland, president of the Milwaukee Avenue State bank, and that a woman entered into these preparations, were secured by Assistant State's Attorney Olsen today, through the cross examination of Miss Ellen McCracken, housekeeper for Stensland. It was learned that Stensland took with him in trunks and boxes shoes, carpets, rugs and a silver dinner set, and that a woman entered into these preparations, was secured by Assistant State's Attorney Olsen today, through the cross examination of Miss Ellen McCracken, housekeeper for Stensland.

The large trunk that is being traced is said to be three feet high and bound with iron. The box traced to Wisconsin weighed 375 pounds when it was placed on an express wagon at the Stensland home on the day of the flight. Telegrams have been sent all over the world to trainmen to look for the big trunk.

Another warrant charging Cashier Hering with forging a note for \$10,000 in the name of Marjorie S. Kirby was issued today.

Car Service Stopped.

New York, Aug. 15.—Following the arrest tonight of three division inspectors of the Brooklyn Rapid Transit company on charges of assault, the company shut off entirely all of its surface lines leading to Coney island, taking the position that this was the only way to stop the rioting which has been in progress since Sunday morning at the points where a second fare was demanded by the company's employees. The elevated and express trains to the seashore were augmented. The inspectors were released on bail.

Come From the Antipodes.

San Francisco, Aug. 17.—The cry for labor sent out from San Francisco has been heard around the world. Forty skilled mechanics arrived yesterday from Australia, where they were paid \$3 a day. They will receive at least twice that pay here. Every day sees rapid progress in the work of rehabilitation. Already \$400,000 worth has been subscribed to construct the Young Men's Christian association building, and \$100,000 more is assured.

Freight Tunnels Under Chicago.

Chicago, Aug. 15.—The freight boxes of the Illinois Tunnel company will carry merchandise of all kinds in carload lots for the first time today. This movement will mark the practical completion of the Illinois Tunnel company's system of underground freight railroads, construction of which was begun five years ago, and which has cost its owners about \$30,000,000.

SLAUGHTER POLICE

Reds Throughout Poland Start Attack on Enemies.

WARSAW IS CENTER OF TROUBLE

Slaughter in Polish Capital Calls Forth Effective Volleys—Police Meet Simultaneous Assaults.

St. Petersburg, Aug. 16.—Acting apparently with a definite plan and a signal the terrorists and revolutionists today inaugurated a carnival of murderous attacks with bombs and revolvers on the police and troops in various cities in Poland, echoes of which are heard from Samara, Ufa, Yalta, Kiev and even far away Chita, where the acting chief of police was slain almost on his own doorstep.

The revolutionist campaign flamed out with special violence at Warsaw, where over a score were killed in the streets, and many more were wounded. Among the killed, according to the latest official advices, were two sergeants of police, eight patrolmen, three gendarmes, five soldiers, a Hebrew merchant and a woman. The returns are not all in.

Police and soldiers were shot down like rabbits in the streets. Their assailants, who traveled in small hands, almost all escaped among the terrorized but sympathetic populace. The only considerable capture was a band of three men who had invaded a grog shop and killed a soldier. These were taken by a passing patrol.

Bombs were employed in an attack on the police station at Warsaw, where a sergeant, two patrolmen and a soldier were wounded.

Other Polish cities singled out by the terrorists were Lodz, where six soldiers, three patrolmen and the wife of a police captain were wounded by the explosion of bombs in the police station and two soldiers and two terrorists killed in the streets; Radom, where a bomb was thrown in the police station, killing the wife and child of the police captain; Votelsk, where a captain was slain, and Plock, where at a given signal the policemen on all the posts were simultaneously attacked and several of them wounded.

On account of the agrarian disorders, especially several attacks on post trains, the railway between Samara and Zlatoust, which was already carrying guards on all its trains, was today placed under martial law. Two of these attacks occurred today near Ufa, revolutionists in each case flagging the train, bursting open the doors of the cars with bombs and rifling the registered pouches. The booty in one case amounted to \$15,000, in the other case the amount is not known.

FIRST PURCHASE OF SILVER.

Shaw Buys 50,000 Ounces at 66.62 Cents an Ounce.

Washington, Aug. 16.—Pursuant to the announcement of the secretary of the treasury that he desired to receive tenders of silver yesterday, four bids were made to Director Roberts of the mint. The bids were opened yesterday afternoon, and after being submitted to Secretary Shaw, it was announced that the government had purchased 50,000 ounces of silver, 999 fine, at 66.62 cents an ounce.

It is not the custom to announce the name of the individual or corporation through whom the silver is obtained. It is expected the government will require from 50,000 to 100,000 ounces of silver a week for an indefinite time. It is the purpose, therefore, of Secretary Shaw and Director Roberts to receive bids Wednesday of each week until further notice.

Bodies Hurling a Mile.

El Paso, Tex., Aug. 16.—It is reported here that between 30 and 50 Mexican laborers and bystanders were killed this afternoon at 4:30 in Chihuahua, Mexico, by the explosion of a carload of dynamite on the Mexican Central railroad. The car was being transferred for transportation to the Robinson mine at Santa Fe. Bodies and pieces of human flesh were hurled into the air and picked up a mile distant. Windows were broken in almost every house in town and many walls were cracked. Several Americans are reported killed.

Strikers Charged With Rioting.

San Francisco, Aug. 16.—A number of former tracklayers of the United Railway company, who are on a strike, after following a number of cars which they supposed were carrying nonunion workmen, boarded a car on Devisadero street and attacked two men. They dragged them from the car and marched them down to Fillmore street, where they were met by two policemen. A fight ensued. The policemen dispersed the crowd and returned the men.

Gives Up Polar Trip.

London, Aug. 16.—A dispatch from Christiania to the Daily Mail says that private letters received there from Spitzbergen state that owing to the lateness of the season Walter Wellman, chief of the Chicago Record-Herald Arctic expedition, has abandoned the project of ballooning to the north pole this year.

INSURANCE MONEY HELPS.

Rebuilding Operations in San Francisco Begin With Vigor.

San Francisco, Aug. 14.—The rebuilding of San Francisco has begun in earnest. There is little talk, there is little boasting, but there is a vast amount of work. It may be observed on every hand. It has suddenly grown to large proportions, due to increased payments by the insurance companies. These payments now total \$50,000,000—enough to warrant a decided step in advance in reconstruction. But still the \$50,000,000 represents only 20 cents on the dollar of the amount due the policy holders of the city. The thirty days' grace allowed by law, after the three months allotted for the filing of proofs of loss, have elapsed and the insurance corporations must now pay or flatly refuse.

The \$50,000,000 has not been paid with the same cheerfulness with which the premiums were collected, in fact, it is not an exaggeration to say that a very large part of the amount has been "wrong" from the companies. It is still a question as to the sum which the policy holders will collect in the end. It is an organization that has carried them to the point already attained, and it will be organization that will carry them further. There is very little single handed fighting against the companies. Most of the individual suits filed are test cases to determine the validity of certain doubtful clauses and to decide how far the "earthquake clause" will prevail. The policy holders have been merged into a gigantic organization, which has employed a corps of lawyers and will either force the companies to do the "square thing" or else announce their privity to the world.

DOES NOT COVET TASK.

Nicholas Declines Post of Commander of Russian Army.

St. Petersburg, Aug. 14.—Grand Duke Nicholas Nikolaievitch, the Associated Press is informed by a member of his entourage, has declined to accept the post of commander in chief of all the troops of the empire, "where martial law exists," which was tendered to him August 4.

Whether this was decided before or after the attempt on the life of the grand duke at Krasnoye-Selo on August 10 is not known, but the ostensible reason is that Grand Duke Nicholas believes that such a post should not be given to a grand duke, but merely a military man. He advocates the appointment of General Linievitch, former commander in chief of the Manchurian army, but the emperor has not finally decided the matter.

The activity of the Terrorists in the provinces included, besides the usual harvest of assassinations in Warsaw, an attempt on the life of General Karatelev, chief of the gendarmerie of Samara province, and the wounding of Captain of Police Ivanoff, of Liban, by a youth who fired three times at him on the street.

WILL TALK IRRIGATION.

Expert Engineers Meet in Conference at Boise September 3.

Washington, Aug. 14.—The fourth annual conference of the engineers of the United States Reclamation service will be held at Boise, Idaho, September 3 to 8, the fourteenth irrigation congress also being in session at Boise at that time.

This conference is in continuation of the general policy of holding annually a meeting of the principal engineers of the Reclamation service for the purpose of discussing matters of administration and economics of work. The bringing together of these engineers and prominent citizens of the West makes possible an interchange of views and a discussion of data leading to results of very great value in the furtherance of the purposes of the reclamation act.

Each of the engineers,