

KLAMATH REUBLICAN.

VOL. VI.

KLAMATH FALLS, KLAMATH COUNTY, OREGON, APRIL 25, 1901.

NO. 3.

NEWS OF THE WEEK

From All Parts of the New World and the Old.

OF INTEREST TO OUR MANY READERS

Comprehensive Review of the Important Happenings of the Past Week in a Condensed Form.

Salem, Or., is to have another flouring mill.

Mascardo, the insurgent, is expected to surrender.

Lord Roberts praises wagons of American make.

Bench show of the Portland Kennel Club opens today.

An expedition leaves Pekin to chastise a boxer chief.

The powers are reducing their indemnity demands.

Russia and Japan may come to an agreement on Corea.

The strike at the American sheet steel plant is becoming serious.

Colonel Woodruff may clear himself of the Manila commissary scandal.

Ex-Congressman Baldwin, of Minnesota, committed suicide at Seattle.

An Idaho company will develop oil prospects in Malheur county, Oregon.

An announcement regarding the disposition of Aguinaldo will be made soon.

At Mason City, Ia., Mrs. H. B. To sure shot and killed her husband, and then shot herself through the heart.

Captain J. H. Coghlan has been ordered to relieve Captain G. E. Ide from duty as captain of the Maine island navy yard.

A cage filled with natives fell down a deep shaft of the Goldenhuis mine, at Johannesburg. Twenty-six of the natives were killed.

In the best-informed circles at Lisbon it is declared that the story that the Queen of Portugal will enter a convent is absolutely fantastical.

August Provost, deputy governor of the Bank of England, has been appointed governor of the Bank of England for the ensuing year, to succeed Samuel Stuart Gladstone.

The student has decided to appoint William B. Jenkins to be governor of Oklahoma territory, to succeed the present governor, Barnes, whose term will expire soon.

In the Westminster county, England, court, an order for committal to prison was made against Sir Robert Peel for nonpayment of a judgment debt. The warrant was suspended for a week.

Turkey is attempting to conclude extradition treaties with the powers with the object of getting hold of members of the young Turkish party, who are seeking refuge in various parts of Europe.

Two transports are overdue from Manila.

Archbishop Martinielli becomes a cardinal.

Kitchener will soon resume active campaigning.

Minister Wu wants the Chinese negotiations settled.

Morgan is not seeking control of the British iron market.

Dr. Kinyoun has been transferred from San Francisco to St. Paul.

There are sensational developments in the army scandal at Manila.

The territory of Hawaii is made a part of the ninth judicial circuit.

A man was murdered while walking up main street of Gem, Idaho.

President Schurman says the Cubans should have civil government.

A strong flow of natural gas has been located near Colorado Springs, Col.

The transports Logan and Thyra sailed from San Francisco for Manila.

There is an unconfirmed rumor in London that the Boers captured French.

A banquet was tendered President Tucker, of Dartmouth college, at San Francisco.

About 200 boiler makers, helpers and heaters struck in Buffalo for higher wages.

There is grave doubt as to the constitutionality of Oregon's new direct primary law.

The British ship Monterey cleared from New Orleans for Cape Town with 1100 mules.

Fishing season on Columbia opened with more gear in water than ever before on first day.

China has thanked Japan for what aid that country has already rendered and asks for further assistance.

A house was raided in Sioux Falls, S. D., and a counterfeiter arrested. The officers secured a complete counterfeiter's set.

Daniel C. French, a sculptor, of Philadelphia, will receive a commission from the Lawton Monument Association to construct a memorial to General Lawton, who died in the Philippines.

There are 120 different languages or dialects in the Philippines.

The postoffice department is making plans to obviate the necessity of rebanding European mails at New York.

Autograph letters of famous men will be far rarer in the future than themselves with signing their names, often with rubber stamps, to typewritten documents, and it will be hard to get much sentiment from typewritten manuscripts.

INDEMNITY CLAIMS.

Russia Heads the List With Ninety Millions.

BERLIN, April 16.—The correspondent of the Press hears tonight from an authoritative source that the Chinese indemnities for war expenses, exclusive of claims of private individuals and missions, have been fixed as follows: Russia, 260,000,000 marks (about \$90,000,000); France, 250,000,000 marks (about \$85,000,000); Germany, 240,000,000 marks (about \$80,000,000); England, 90,000,000 marks (about \$22,000,000). France will also present claims for the indemnity of the Italian mission.

The Amount Too High.

Washington, April 16.—The last advice to the state department from Mr. Rockhill contains further details respecting the amount of indemnities claimed from China by the powers. It appears that these claims have been much exaggerated in some statements, although the sum total is still far in excess of the amount of money it is believed here that China can raise. It is the belief of the state department that the total claims should not be allowed to exceed \$150,000,000 or \$200,000,000. According to the information received here, the British claim, so far as formulated, is reasonable in amount, as compared with other claims. In fact, the United States and Japan represent, in these negotiations, the moderate element, whose desire is to prevent the imposition of charges that shall destroy the Chinese government and result in the division of the empire. None of the claims exceeds \$100,000,000, and even the largest is something less than this amount. This is believed to be the Russian claim, which is fixed at \$90,000,000. The German claim is flexible, ranging between \$50,000,000 and \$80,000,000, but is nearer the former mark at present, though it, doubtless, will grow. As already stated, the claim of the United States is \$25,000,000, and, with these few facts, it will be seen that if the remaining powers are to be allowed a proportionate share, the aggregate will be beyond China's ability to pay, which has been tentatively placed at \$200,000,000. Nothing has yet been determined respecting the method of raising the indemnity fund, even after an agreement is reached.

VERMONT BANK WRECKED.

Cashier of a Vergennes Institution Deceived the Officers.

VERGENNES, Vt., April 16.—The Farmers' National bank went into the hands of John P. Sullivan as receiver at the close of business this afternoon. The exact amount of the shortage is not made public here, but it is intimated that the entire stock will be wiped out and in addition the stockholders will be heavily assessed. It is not thought likely the depositors will lose. Special Examiner Cunningham was asked for particulars tonight, but he declined to say a great deal, merely remarking that Cashier Lewis had deceived the officers of the bank and that he alone was responsible for the wreck. Mr. Lewis is very well known throughout the state, has been a member of both branches of the state legislature, and in 1886 was a candidate for state treasurer. He remains at home and has turned over to the officers of the bank his entire holdings of stock and negotiable property. His assets are equal to \$30,000, and the men who have signed his bond are believed to be good for the full amount.

\$350,000 Fire in Blower Works.

Boston, April 16.—The main building of the extensive blower works of the B. F. Stetevant Company, in the Jamaica Plain district, was burned early this morning, causing a loss of \$350,000. The concern manufactured various kinds of machinery and electric goods, as well as blowers. All patterns and plans were destroyed. The company had recently added \$75,000 worth of tools and machinery, and had a large amount of electrical work ready for shipment. It also had a big number of engines and blowers for the government use on battleships and cruisers in course of construction, all of which were destroyed.

Russia Laying Mines.

London, April 16.—Joseph Chamberlain's organ, the Birmingham Post, learns that the Russian ministers of war and marine have issued joint orders for the laying of an extensive system of submarine mines at Port Arthur, Vladivostok and elsewhere in those seas. The apparatus leaves Odesa early in May.

Run Down by a Train.

Wilkesbarre, Pa., April 16.—A party of four people, while crossing the tracks of the Lehigh Valley railroad at South Wilkesbarre early this morning, were run down by the Buffalo express going north. Three of the party were killed, and one injured.

Missionary Statements Exaggerated.

Pekin, April 16.—Prince Ching says all his reports go to show that the missionary statements regarding a rebellion in Mongolia are not supported by the facts. Neither does he believe that the rebellion of General Tung Fah Siang amounts to much. "It is the object of certain elements," he asserts, "to make it seem that China is in a condition of constant broil, rendering it unsafe for the foreign troops to be withdrawn. Those who have this in view will magnify a village quarrel into a big rebellion."

OREGON STATE NEWS

Items of Interest From All Parts of the State.

COMMERCIAL AND FINANCIAL HAPPENINGS

A Brief Review of the Growth and Improvements of the Many Industries Throughout Our Thriving Commonwealth.

Lawton—The Lawton Townsite Company has been reorganized.

Grants Pass—The Josephine county court has extended time for payment of taxes to June 3.

Grants Pass—The Southern Pacific Company has its repair crew working on the bridge across Rogue river last week.

Pilot Rock—A Pilot Rock correspondent writes that it is feared the recent cold weather seriously injured the fruit crop in that section.

Island City—Williams Bros. sold 135 head of hogs to Kiddle Bros. of Island City, at \$5.40 per 100 pounds. This is the highest rate reached for some time.

Weston—W. J. Wilkinson, at Weston, purchased from Alex Walker, for the Pacific Elevator Company, 5200 bushels of wheat, which is stored at Downing Station. He paid 46 cents per bushel.

Pendleton—John Bradburn took to Pendleton two wagon loads of 22 sacks of wool from Charles Cunningham's home ranch above Pilot Rock. The wool was from thoroughbred ewes and the 22 sacks weighed 8500 pounds.

Salem—Oregon Christian Endeavorers are looking forward with much enthusiasm to the 14th annual convention, which will be held at Salem, May 16-19. The convention will open with the evening session, Thursday evening, closing Sunday evening.

Toledo—A committee of the Toledo fire department is investigating the probable cost of a system of water works and a storage reservoir on the hill east of the city. Another committee is figuring on the cost of fire engines, and a third is investigating hook and ladder.

Hudson—A \$10,000 sawmill is to be established near the mouth of Rock creek just north of Hudson.

Cable Cove—Work has been resumed at the Goldbar mine, in Cable Cove district. Two shifts are employed.

Grants Pass—Prospects are favorable for the resumption of active work at the Pacific pine needle factory at Grants Pass.

Paisley—The Lake County Telephone & Telegraph Company is the name of a new company, just organized at Paisley.

Cool City—The shaft at the Cool City mine is now down over 300 feet, and it is expected coal will be found in the next 100 feet.

Cool City—Work has stopped in one of the tunnels in the Beaver hill mine, Cool city, pending installation of new machinery.

Baker City—The Bonanza mine, in Baker county, is making preparations to install considerable new machinery. Some of the buildings will be re-modelled.

Arlington—The Arlington Warehouse Company has made the purchase of about 7000 sacks of wheat stored on the Heppner branch at prices ranging from 43 to 45 cents per bushel.

Grants Pass—The Grants Pass Water, Light & Power Company has received 700 feet of seventeen-inch steel pipe for an extension to a point above the place where the water is now taken out of the river.

PORTLAND MARKETS.

Wheat—Walla Walla, 56½@57; Valley, nominal; bluestem, 59c per bushel.

Flour—Best grades, \$2 70@3 40 per barrel; Graham, \$2 60.

Barley—White, \$1 25 per cental; gray, \$1 20@1 22½ per cental.

Barley—Feed, \$16 50@17; brewing, \$16 50@17 per ton.

Millstuffs—Bran, \$16 per ton; middlings, \$21 50; shorts, \$17 50; chop, \$16.

Hay—Timothy, \$12@12 50; clover, \$7@9 50; Oregon wild hay, \$6@7 per ton.

Hops—12@14c per pound; 1899 crop, 6@7c.

Valley, 13@14c; Eastern Oregon, 9@12c; mohair, 20@21c per pound.

Butter—Fancy cream, 20@22½c; dairy, 15@18c; store, 10@12½c per pound.

Eggs—Oregon ranch, 13@13½c per dozen.

Poultry—Chickens, mixed, \$1@1 50; hens, \$5@5 50; dressed, 11@12c per dozen; springs, \$3@5 per dozen; ducks, \$5@7; geese, \$6@7 per dozen; turkeys, live, 10@12c; dressed, 13@15c per pound.

Cheese—Full cream, twins, 13@13½c; Young America, 13½@14c per pound.

Potatoes—Old, 50@60c per sack; new, 2½@3c per pound.

Mutton—Lamb, 10@11c per pound gross; best sheep, \$8; wethers, \$5; ewes, \$4 50; dressed, 7½@7¾c per pound.

Hogs—Gross heavy, \$5 75@6; light, \$4 75@5; dressed, 7c per pound.

Veal—Large, 7c per pound; small, \$8 50c per pound.

Beef—Gross, top steers, \$5@5 25; cows and heifers, \$4 50@4 75; dressed beef, 7@8¼c per pound.

Granite—The Climax group of quartz claims, three miles north of Granite, was purchased last week by C. R. Aldrin. The property was formerly owned by John Hardie, E. J. Cross and Adam Christie. The Climax vein is about 10 feet wide.

The Egyptian reed, which was used for making the pens found in Egyptian tombs, is a hard variety growing to about the diameter of an ordinary goose quill. Pens made from it are said to last for a day or two and do excellent work.

IN NINTH CIRCUIT.

Decisions of Hawaiian Courts Are Not Final.

WASHINGTON, April 17.—The United States supreme court, through Chief Justice Fuller, today issued an order granting leave to file a motion for a rule against the circuit court of appeals for the ninth circuit to permit the filing of an appeal in that court from a decision of the supreme court of Hawaii in the Wilder Steamship Company case. The rule was made returnable May 13. Previous to this action, a rule was promulgated attaching the territory of Hawaii to the ninth circuit with headquarters at San Francisco.

The action of the court in assigning Hawaii to the ninth circuit and at the same time issuing a rule to the circuit court of appeals to show the cause why it should not take jurisdiction of an admiralty case originating in Hawaii, involves an interesting general question relating to our new territorial acquisitions. The application in this case was made by Judge E. Fox, in behalf of the Wilder Steamship Company, of Hawaii, against Hind, Spreckels et al. Under the act of 1891, organizing the circuit court of appeals, was given jurisdiction in appeals from the supreme court of territories and the supreme court was given authority to assign the territories to the several circuits. But the courts in the territory of Hawaii were organized by the act of April 30, 1900, on a different basis from other territories, and the same distinction was made in its courts of a state as to writs of error and appeals, and the supreme court of the United States made no order assigning that territory. The act also provides that cases pending at the date of the organization of the territory should be carried on to final judgment and execution in the corresponding courts of the territory. It also established a district court, having the jurisdiction of United States circuit and district courts. The supreme court of the territory rendered judgment for \$5,000 against the Wilder Steamship Company, and when the company attempted to appeal, the circuit court of appeals on April 1, 1900, refused to entertain the appeal, holding that the judgment of the territorial court was final.

CONFERENCE OF TAXATION.

Several Governors Have Named Delegates—Object of Meeting.

CHICAGO, April 17.—The governors of the various states are beginning to announce their appointments of delegates to attend the conference of taxation, called to meet at Buffalo, May 23 and 24, by the National Civic Federation. At the headquarters, notice of the appointment of the delegates has been received from the governors of Missouri, Maine and Montana. The call for the conference is signed by leading economists, tax experts and public men representing all portions of the country and all interests. The letter of invitation says: "For many decades the states have been building up independent systems of taxation without reference to each other, and the result is a state of affairs bordering on chaos, where each state is practically fighting nearly every other state. Some property is taxed three or four times, while other property is not taxed at all. Corporate activity has largely changed the character of individual investments. Industry has overstepped the boundaries of any one state, and commercial interests are no longer confined to mere local limits. This conference will be the first attempt in this country to work out some uniform principles. It is not expected to settle any of the problems in the two days' discussion, but it will be a beginning, and may result in the appointment of a permanent committee to work out some basis for future action."

Inspection of Philippine Craft.

Washington, April 17.—The inferior condition of many of the craft sailing in Philippine waters has led to arrangements for an examination in any part of the United States having postal free delivery of candidates for appointment as inspectors of boilers in the Philippines. The examination will be held May 21 by the civil service commission at the request of the Philippine civil service board. Back of the plans for establishing this office lies an ardent desire to avoid any serious accidents, for which the Philippine government might be held responsible.

Is Rightfully Theirs.

Washington, April 17.—The millions and tens of millions of dollars which the government has received from the West through the sale of its public lands, give that half of the continent the right to expect liberal assistance from Uncle Sam in the reclamation of its remaining arid lands, which only require the building of storage reservoirs to make fertile and populous.

Transport for Manila.

San Francisco, April 17.—Two transports sailed for Manila today—the Logan and the Thyra. The Logan carried a battalion of the Tenth cavalry, companies I and M, First infantry, and the First battalion of the Eleventh infantry.

The Thyra was to have taken the horses of the Ninth cavalry, but it was found at the last minute that glanders had broken out among the horses of the Ninth at the Presidio, and horses of the Sixth cavalry, which were brought here, the disabled Arab, were substituted.

Proceeds of Arid Land Sales.

Washington, April 17.—The proposition to devote the proceeds from the sale of the arid public lands to the construction of irrigation works is one which should commend itself to every support. The West should of course interest it as a unit, and there can certainly be no reasonable opposition in the East to allowing the West the use of its own funds in the improvement of its property.

Forest Reserves.

Washington, April 17.—The secretary of the interior has announced his intention of turning over the administration of the national forest reserves to the forester of the department of agriculture. This great body of lands embraces some 48,000,000 acres, and its scientific and practical administration is a matter of national importance, since the area includes the sources of hundreds of rivers and streams.

SCANDAL AT MANILA

Captain Read, Formerly Depot Commissary, Arrested.

OTHER OFFICERS ARE ALSO IMPLICATED

Manager of a Firm of Government Contractors is in Jail—How Uncle Sam's Money Was Squandered.

MANILA, April 17.—The trial of Commissary Sergeant John Meaton, charged with complicity in the commissary frauds, is finished. No verdict is announced and Meaton's conviction is uncertain. Other trials of those implicated with follow. Captain J. C. Reed, formerly depot commissary at Manila, has been arrested. It is alleged that entries upon the books of Evans & Company, government contractors, indicate that the commissary officers received the following sums: Major George B. Davis, upwards of \$1000; Captain J. C. Reed, \$750; B. L. Tremaine, Colonel Woodruff's chief clerk, \$700. It also appears that Evans & Company furnished the handsome residence of Colonel Woodruff.

Mr. Pitt, manager of Evans & Company, was arrested. He is notoriously lavish in entertaining commissary officers, while the depot commissary, a frequenter of the tendor district, occasionally spent days at Pitt's house in questionable society. Pitt's house is a bacchanalian rendezvous and prominent officers frequently visited it, drinking champagne and playing poker. Women of doubtful reputation are known to have been brought to the depot commissary by Pitt had the inside track in securing government contracts and it is also asserted that he was the prime mover in the scheme to re-establish the schooner Able in Manila, which came near foundering in a storm at Nome last summer. The vessel was rescued by a tug, which seized her for salvage, and the resulting litigation, which is yet pending in the courts, is supposed to have been contributed to the despondency under which Mr. Baldwin was laboring.

GIVE CHINA A SHOW.

Minister Wu Urges That Some Consideration Be Shown.

WASHINGTON, April 17.—The Chinese minister was at the state department today in conference with Secretary Hay, on the status of the negotiations at Peking. The minister is somewhat concerned over the delay in bringing about a final adjustment and also on the current reports that the indemnities reach a very large figure, which, he fears, will be beyond the ability of China to meet. Minister Wu said in response to inquiries on these subjects: "We have been accustomed to hear that China was very slow. But in this case many weeks and months are going by without any delay attributable to China, so far as I have heard, and yet without definite prospects of bringing the negotiations to a close. This unsettled condition is very injurious to China, but it also is an injury which affects the whole world. Take, for instance, the cotton industry of the South. The shipments to China are very large, but they have been falling off owing to the unsettled condition of affairs, and the trade is seriously affected. The same may be said of many other branches of trade, in fact, the commerce of all the commercial nations of Europe, as well as America, is injuriously affected by the political conditions in China. What we need, and what the commercial world needs, is stability, and some definite understanding of what conditions are."

Unguarded Valuables.

Phoenix, Ariz., April 17.—The death of Mrs. Robin Iche reveals the fact that she was a woman of great wealth in her house was great wealth in jewels and precious stones. The husband of the woman is in jail awaiting trial for insanity, and the sheriff has taken care of the jewelry. The estimated value of which is not less than \$50,000. Mrs. Iche has a sister in Birmingham, England, the wife of a great coal operator.

Postoffice Robbed.

Salem, Or., April 17.—Chief of Police Gibson received a telephone message from Turner this afternoon, saying that the postoffice at that place was robbed at noon today, while the postmaster was at dinner. The burglars secured \$300 in cash and stamps. At last reports there was no clew to the guilty parties. This bold piece of work, taken in connection with the robberies at McCoy and Lincoln last Wednesday and Thursday, leads to the conclusion that this section of the valley is being worked by a gang of professional crooks.

The Sunken Transport.

New York, April 18.—Forage in the hold of the submerged Rawlins is giving trouble to the wreckers who are trying to raise the transport out of the mud of the East River bottom. Several hundred bushels of grain and many bales of hay and straw for the army in Cuba and Porto Rico have swollen so that the divers at work have difficulty in moving them. The Rawlins was sunk at 1st pier last Wednesday in an attempt to extinguish a fire in her hold amidships.

TOOK HIS OWN LIFE.

Ex-Congressman Baldwin Shot Himself at Seattle.

SEATTLE, Wash., April 18.—In a fit of despondency over business reverses, aggravated by the depressing effects of an attack of la grippe, Melvin R. Baldwin, ex-congressman from Minnesota, and ex-state superintendent of Indian affairs under President Cleveland, this afternoon ended his life by self-destruction. The ex-congressman's body was found lying on his bed in his apartments at 2013 Fourth avenue, with a bullet hole through his brain at 7:30 o'clock tonight, and from the condition of the body it is estimated that death had occurred fully two hours before. Tightly gripped in his hand was a 38-caliber Smith & Wesson revolver.

D. McKinley, a friend and a former business associate of deceased, discovered the body as a result of a visit paid to the ex-congressman's apartments to ascertain his condition. Entering the room, McKinley spoke to his friend, the outline of whose body could be seen in the darkened chamber. Receiving no response, he summoned assistance, only to find that Baldwin had sent a bullet crashing through his brain, and lay in a pool of blood, which had accumulated upon the bed clothing, and which was yet flowing freely from the wound in his right temple.

Melvin R. Baldwin, who was 62 years of age, came to this city about three years ago from Duluth, Minn., after having relinquished his position as Minnesota superintendent of Indian affairs, to which office he was appointed by President Cleveland after the expiration of his term in congress. He was elected to the lower house from the Duluth district as a demagogue in 1892, and served one term. He secured the position of superintendent of Indian affairs a few months later, and was one of the few Cleveland appointees who refused to resign, necessitating his removal by President McKinley.

COMMISSARY FRAUD.

Latest Developments in the Scandal at Manila.

MANILA, April 18.—A court-martial has been convened and will meet tomorrow to try Lieutenant Frederick Boyer, charged with the embezzlement of commissary stores. Captain Frederick J. Barrows, of the Thirtieth volunteer infantry, will be tried later. A civilian named Fletcher, accused of unlawful conversion of commissary stores, will be tried by the provost court tomorrow.

Speaking of the commissary scandal, a prominent army officer said to the representative of the Associated Press that he had every reason to believe that Colonel Woodruff, head of the subsistence department at Manila, was not implicated. He said that Colonel Woodruff was one of the ablest men in the service, and that his honesty was unquestioned. He asserted that Colonel Woodruff was ignorant of the fact that Harold A. Pitt, manager of Evans & Co., the army contractors who was leasing him the house in which he lived for much less rental than Pitt had paid therefor. Upon discovering this, Colonel Woodruff immediately vacated the house, and is alleged to have said that Captain Reed of the commissary department, deceived Colonel Woodruff, who thought Captain Reed to be thoroughly honest. The irregularities on commissary matters were first attributed to Captain Reed's unfamiliarity with commissary work. Colonel Woodruff was reluctant to believe that frauds were being perpetrated, but the facts disclosed caused him to give Captain Reed a most severe reprimand and to begin an investigation which may involve, according to the prominent army officer previously referred to, the examination of Major Davis, who was the depot commissary before Captain Reed, but who was sent home on sick leave.

The chief of staff of the insurgent General Mascardo has surrendered at the town of Marivales, in Bataan province, Luzon. He said that Mascardo's band of followers, now greatly diminished, are in a bad way. It is impossible for them to elude the Americans, and they are unable to obtain food and want to surrender. It is expected that General Mascardo himself will surrender shortly.

An American Navy.

Washington, April 18.—Secretary Long has had compiled, in response to an inquiry from the West, a table showing the proportion of native-born and foreign-born sailors in the United States navy. This shows that during the Spanish-American war, out of a total force of 22,828, the total of native-born sailors was 15,408, and of foreign-born 7422. The percentage of native-born sailors was 65, and including foreigners who had become Americans by naturalization, the percentage was 80. The statement also shows that of the foreign-born sailors more than one-half have become naturalized or have declared their intention of becoming citizens.

Conditions in Porto Rico.

Porto, Porto Rico, April 18.—The chamber of commerce met yesterday in response to a special call and discussed the commercial and general conditions of the island. The administration of Porto Rico was criticized. Several hundred bushels of grain and many bales of hay and straw for the army in Cuba and Porto Rico have swollen so that the divers at work have difficulty in moving them. The Rawlins was sunk at 1st pier last Wednesday in an attempt to extinguish a fire in her hold amidships.

BITTER FIGHT IS ON

Strike at the United States Steel Plant is Growing.

SITUATION AT MCKEESPORT IS SERIOUS

Amalgamated Association of Metal Workers Threatens to Shut Down Every Union Plant of the Company.

PITTSBURGH, April 18.—The close of the second day of the strike of the W. Deeweet Wood plant of the American Sheet Steel Company at McKeesport shows a condition of affairs that forebodes a stubborn fight between the company and the Amalgamated Association of Iron and Steel Workers, involving the possible shut-down of every union plant in the country controlled by the company. The fight is being made by the Amalgamated Association for the recognition of the union, and President Shaffer's announcement that all the company's mills would be called out may receive sanction at the meeting of the advisory board which has been called for tomorrow. Secretary Jarrell, in charge of the labor bureau of the company, will be present at this meeting to present the company's side, and may use every endeavor to avert a general strike. If the statement credited to the company that the McKeesport plant will be closed indefinitely rather than recognize the union is adhered to, President Shaffer's attitude will demand that the entire strength of the Amalgamated Association be pitted against the Sheet Steel Company as a whole. The status of the strike tonight is that only two departments of the mill are in operation—the steel mill and hammer shop. The knocking mill was working today, but its