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Toilers of the Columbia

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CHAPTER XXI—Continued.

The clash finally came. The boats came together like so many battering rams. Curses arose loud and clear. The boats surged back and forth like living animals. The grim dark forms of the fishermen writhed and contorted with each other like serpents of the sea.

"Back you gillnetters! You destroyers of the fish!" shouted the northsiders.

"Away with you, you trappers! You cause our families to starve!" replied the men from the southside, with bitter oaths.

The resistance on the part of the northsiders was short lived. The overwhelming numbers against them soon began to tell. By sheer force they were driven toward their traps. The prow of the southsiders' boats were against theirs, and they were swept along like driftwood before a huge raft.

The red in the east was making things more visible on the water. It was easy to see that the northsiders were losing ground at every point. But suddenly a volley of shot rang out down the river. Another followed. The curses of the fishermen rose above these.

"The soldiers!" shouted the northsiders.

"Curses upon the head of Gabe Jarvi!" shouted the southsiders.

Then the steamer carrying the militia appeared dividing the contending fishermen like chaff. They fired volleys occasionally above the heads of the retreating belligerents in order to hasten their departure.

"Bang!" rang out a rifle shot from a retreating party to the south.

"Take that!" exclaimed a murderer looking southward as the smoke cleared from the muzzle of his gun.

Old Seadog fell back into the arms of his sons. The bullet had found its mark.

"Take this!" said another southsider as he raised his rifle to his shoulder. "You have betrayed us, Gabe Jarvi, and you shall pay the penalty!"

"Don't shoot, fool, it is a woman!" exclaimed a man as he seized the muzzle of the woman's assassin's gun.

It was Dan Lapham. He had been overpowered and taken a prisoner. As he grabbed the southsider's gun it discharged. Lapham looked in the direction the bullet had gone and saw in the pilot house of the steamboat which had come to their rescue the form of Sankala!

The girl was pale as death, but she clung to the wheel in a spirit of desperation, and the boat continued upon its course, plunging through the craft of the contending fishermen, the southsiders retreating with all possible speed.

CHAPTER XXII.

Hazel Snubs Sankala.

"It is simply a shame—it is a baring shame!"

"That it is, but it is the way of the Seadogs. They were always hard-hearted wretches. The girl takes after her father and is not to blame so much after all."

carrying the command of Captain Budlong had kept up a constant patrol of the river day and night and no attempt had been made on the part of the southsiders to renew hostilities.

In fact committees had been appointed consisting of fishermen from each side of the river to arrange duplicate bills governing the fishing industry of the river which were to be passed by the respective legislatures of the two states. Dan Lapham was a committee man from the north side.

It was the night of the day upon which the agreement had been reached. Peace was at last declared between the toilers of the Columbia. The northsiders were not to extend their trawling any farther south and the southsiders agreed not to cross a certain line with their nets which was settled upon as the center of the stream through the fishing waters.

The active and exciting life of the fishermen had its influence upon their manner of obtaining pleasure and recreation. They did not cultivate the intellect as a whole. In fact only a few turned their attention to books. Athletes by nature the men devoted much time to athletics. They had their ball grounds, tennis courts and club rooms. Indoor sports were as much in favor as their outdoor sports.

As hand-ball players the village team stood ready to challenge any of the cities. Foot-ball and baseball playing, in their respective seasons, found these fishermen in the field opposing the best teams in the country.

Aside from athletics, dancing was the magic means of amusing both young and old. No week ever passed during the season that the fishermen did not engage in this pastime. It was an occasion in which all took a part and the large hall provided for the purpose was always crowded. A fisherman is never too young or too old to dance.

Dancing was the means of celebrating all important events. No higher tribute could be paid an individual or event than by giving a ball. It was the zenith point in the social life of the fishermen.

The settlement of the dispute between the northsiders and southsiders occasioned the greatest ball in the history of the northside village. They were weaker in numbers but had won out in a measure and were determined to celebrate the occasion in a fit and proper manner.

There were honors due to many of the fishermen not slow to bestow these upon the deserving ones. The occasion of peace came on for its share. In fact, it was called the great peace ball. While there were individuals who shared the honors, Captain Budlong and his men were the honored guests. Dan Lapham had distinguished himself on the water and as a commissioner in settling the trouble and Sankala was the heroine of the hour. To Captain Budlong and his men she was the most conspicuous personage at the mouth of the Columbia.

The fishermen so accustomed to the excitement of river life, the act of the girl in saving the boatload of soldiers was not looked upon as a much out of the ordinary, though they all recognized in Sankala a remarkable young woman.

The hall was decorated as it had never been decorated before. The floor was waxed with greater care, and musicians had been employed from the nearest town. The rude fisher-folk were decked out in their best garments. The women took unusual care with their toilets. When the ball room was filled at an early hour, the people of the fishing village presented a very good appearance. The soldiers, many of them from the city, were surprised to see the presence of change from the rugged men of the fish-traps, and the careless girls of the beach to the gallant and gay figures of the ball-room.

Human nature is much the same among all classes, and it was not materially different among the fisher-folk. Many of them had gathered early. The women were seated in groups, and commenting on those who entered later. Young girls and boys were skipping across the hall in a frolicsome, aimless manner. Old men sat in the corners and looked on in silence.

A faint cheer rose over the room. Captain Budlong entered accompanied by Hazel Seadog. The applause was for the captain.

"Is Sankala coming?" asked one of the women of another.

"She promised after long persuasion to come. But she only agreed to remain a short time. Ringwold is about exhausted from his work with the wounded and Sankala does not think it right anyway to celebrate while the wounded are so low. She thought it wrong to give the ball while Old Seadog is lying at the point of death."

"It doesn't seem to worry Hazel, his daughter," remarked another woman who was watching the rich fisherman's child, wreathed in smiles, while she entertained the captain of the militia.

The crowd had gathered and the grand march and quadrille that followed were over. All were seated again when a slight sensation near the door caused the pleasure seekers to look in the direction. The soldiers commenced to applaud, and continued until the house fairly shook. Dan Lapham and Sankala had just entered. Sankala was very pale. She was

dressed very plainly but neatly, and carried her left arm in a strip of white silk which pended from her neck. The soldiers looked at her and were prodigal with congratulations.

"Excuse me, there is Sankala, our brave little heroine!" said Captain Budlong and left Hazel and rushed to grasp the hand of the orphan.

The men broke away at the approach of the commander. Captain Budlong was full of praise for the girl, inquired about her wounded arm and was very attentive.

"May I have the next waltz after this one—pardon me Mr. Lapham!" said the captain turning to Sankala's escort after making the request of her.

"I don't want," replied Sankala.

"Then may I have this one—I will be careful with the arm?" said the captain for the music was just starting up and the dancers were beginning.

"Certainly," replied Sankala as Dan nodded his approval.

When the waltz was over Captain Budlong escorted Sankala to a seat near Hazel Seadog. Sankala spoke to Hazel but the latter took no notice of her. Captain Budlong saw it but thought Hazel did not hear Sankala speak.

"I have just had a nice dance with my little heroine," remarked the captain. "Don't you think she is pretty and good?"

"She is only one of our employees and I do not recognize her as a social equal," replied Hazel with all the venom expressed in her voice and eyes.

Captain Budlong looked sharply at his companion. His first lieutenant relieved Sankala's embarrassment by leading her to another portion of the room. Dan Lapham was engaging a number of fishermen at another portion of the house by telling them of the result of the peace commission's labors.

The dance continued until nearly midnight when further music when a messenger rushed in, almost out of breath, and announced that Old Seadog was dying.

"Ringwold, too, has collapsed and is at the house of Seadog," said the bearer of bad news.

Captain Budlong hurried away with Hazel and Dan and Sankala followed.

(To be continued.)

Chilian Miners Powerful.

Perhaps the greatest weights borne for any distance on men's backs are the loads of ore brought up from the mines of the Andes by the miners of Chili. Darwin visited a copper mine in a ravine leading from the main range of the Cordilleras, where the work was carried on by such primitive means that, though the mines had been worked in the mountains for at least two centuries, the water was removed in some way by carrying it up-saifs in leather bags on men's backs.

Sir Francis Head, when visiting a similar mine, found that all the ore was carried up to the surface, a vertical climb of 450 feet, by the miners, and that the average weight carried was 250 pounds. This load was not carried up a winding stair, but up notched trunks of trees, set almost upright, one touching another.

The food of the Chilian miner, according to Darwin, consisted of rations of sixteen figs and two small loaves of bread for breakfast; for dinner boiled beans, for supper wheat crushed and roasted. They scarcely ever tasted meat.

Pose as Dressmakers.

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.

The bandit Raisuli is again active. A number of Alaskan bills will come up in the senate soon.

Carnegie has given Boston \$540,000 for an industrial school. Both armies in Manchuria are seriously hampered by cold weather.

New York is inquiring into the matter of building a city light plant. Kropotkin, when he receives more troops, may try to relieve Port Arthur.

Traffic has been considerably delayed in South Dakota and Nebraska by snow. Stoessel has again been wounded, this time by a rifle bullet, but not seriously.

Fire destroyed property at the Silver Lake mine, Silverton, Col., valued at \$100,000. The remains of Kruger have been laid in the tomb at Pretoria with imposing ceremonies.

The crown prince of Denmark, who is very anxious to meet Miss Roosevelt, is looking for a wife. An American captain just home from the Orient says he saw General Kuroki in November. The general was reported killed early in October.

A Japanese cruiser is reported ashore in Yuncheng bay. The Oregon land fraud case has been postponed until April.

A Japanese wing of Oyama's army driven back recently is again advancing. The Japanese are fearful lest the Russian government buys a number of warships from Chile.

The suspension bridge at Charleston, W. Va., collapsed, drowning three school girls and injuring five people. Brigadier General F. M. Whitehead is dead. He had command of the department of Santiago during the Spanish war.

Four men were scalded to death and four others badly injured by an explosion on the battleship Massachusetts. The new Portland postoffice will be the largest one and the architect has been asked to provide for the construction of another wing.

A number of prominent rural mail carriers who were too active politically during the recent campaign, have been removed. They were all in New York and New Hampshire.

Wireless telegraph messages have been sent from Kansas City to Cleveland, Ohio, 725 miles, without relay. This is said to be the longest distance overland messages ever covered.

Fire destroyed an immense coal bunker at Buffalo. The real work will not begin until early in January.

John D. Rockefeller has given Chicago University \$300,000. The nomination of Governor Brady, of Alaska, has been held up by the senate.

The national convention of Traveling Passenger agents will meet in Portland in 1905. The international commission to inquire into the North sea incident is expected to meet in Paris December 23.

Barbed wire stretched in front of the Japanese trenches is proving the worst foe of the Russian army in Manchuria. A number of Boxer leaders in Northern China have been placed in prison and it is thought probable that the intended uprising has been nipped in the bud.

At the last cabinet meeting Secretary Hitchcock spoke briefly of the land fraud cases, indicating that some startling developments in them might be expected in the near future.

The second trial of the Oregon land fraud case is in progress in Portland. The Rough Riders will have a place of honor in the inaugural parade. A Chinese capitalist declares that he knows Port Arthur has provisions for three months. Of the 100 locomotives ordered for the Harriman line, 65 are for the Southern Pacific. Dowie has paid the last installment on his debts and Zion City is again on a sound financial basis. The Russian battleship Sevastopol at Port Arthur has not been sunk and is adopting defensive measures. A Russian captain has been arrested for criticizing the admiralty. A dispatch from Mukden says the Japanese have driven the Russians on the right bank of the Hun river westward. The president has sent the nomination of C. P. Nell to succeed Wright as commissioner of labor to the senate for confirmation.

DOINGS IN CONGRESS.

Monday, December 12.

The senate committee on privileges and elections has taken up the Smoot case. Three witnesses were examined and several new points brought out. Senator Stewart has introduced a bill to raise the salary of the president to \$100,000 a year, of the vice president and speaker of the house to \$20,000 each, and each senator, representative and delegate to \$13,000. It is provided that the bill shall take effect March 4, 1909.

The house passed a bill to give the agricultural department control over forest reserves. The senate discussed the pure food and Philippine government bills.

Tuesday, December 13.

The house passed a resolution impeaching Judge Swayne, of the Northern district of Florida, for "high crimes and misdemeanors." A committee was appointed to notify the senate. The senate passed a bill to throw open for settlement 800,000 acres in the Yakima Indian reservation.

Nothing of any importance was developed in the Smoot case today. Five witnesses were examined. The house resolution for an adjournment from December 21 to January 4 was adopted by the senate.

Senator Mitchell is sure of securing the chairmanship of the committee on canals. Wednesday, December 14.

The senate has appointed a committee to arrange for the trial of Judge Swayne, of Florida. A bill was passed in the senate appropriating \$25,000 for the improvement of Mount Rainier national park.

In the house the urgent deficiency bill and several other bills of a public nature were passed. Thursday, December 15.

The senate spent practically the entire day discussing the Philippine administrative bill. A number of amendments were made. Under unanimous agreement the vote on the bill will be taken tomorrow and the disposal of all amendments will occur at the same time.

The urgent deficiency bill was passed without debate. In the house an attempt was made to call up the bill to improve currency conditions. This matter occupied almost the entire day, only a few minor items coming before the house.

Friday, December 16.

The senate by a vote of 44 to 23 passed the Philippine government bill. As passed it exempts from taxation all bonds issued by the Philippine and Porto Rico governments; authorizes municipalities to incur a bonded indebtedness amounting to 5 per cent of the assessed valuation of their property; authorizes the Philippine government to incur a bonded indebtedness of \$5,000,000; establishes a system for the location and patenting of mineral, coal and saline lands, and gives the civil governor the title of governor general.

The greater part of the day was spent in discussing and voting on amendments on the Philippine bill. At 5:05 p. m. the senate adjourned until Monday.

Today's session of the house was given over almost exclusively to consideration of the bills on the private calendar, a dozen or more being passed. The senate amendments to the urgent deficiency bill were agreed to.

A resolution was adopted providing that the exercises appropriate to the reception and acceptance from the state of Kansas of the statue of the late John J. Ingalls, erected in Statuary hall in the capitol, be made a special order for January 21.

The house adjourned until Monday. OREGON WINS MANY PRIZES.

W. H. Wehrung Says State Made Fine Showing at St. Louis. Portland, Dec. 17.—After several months in St. Louis, where he had charge of the Oregon exhibit at the Louisiana Purchase exhibition, W. H. Wehrung returned to Portland yesterday. He reported wide interest among Easterners in the Lewis and Clark exposition and predicted there will be heavy westward travel next year for the purpose of seeing the Western World's fair.

Mr. Wehrung speaks highly of the showing made by Oregon at the St. Louis fair, saying that the state held up well against states with much larger appropriations. He also says that the representatives bought a consignment of Oregon cherries from a dealer and exhibited them as Washington product. This Oregon competed in the cherry contest against her own product.

Men on Battleship Quarrel. New York, Dec. 17.—George Washington, a negro seaman, shot and wounded two others of the Illinois crew, on the United States battleship Illinois, in the New York navy yard today. Henry More, an apprentice, received a bullet in the arm and Seaman Shap, another in the back. More and the colored man occupied adjoining hammocks and Washington was said to be inoffensive until More's tantalizing actions caused Washington to lose his temper today, and he shot More. Shap interfered and was shot.

To Favor Army Officers. Washington, Dec. 17.—Senator Dietrich has introduced an amendment to the Philippine bill proposing that all officers of the United States army, navy and marine corps or constabulary officers of the Philippine government shall have the privilege of free entry of all articles, including used household goods, uniforms and articles of equipment and service, imported for their use and benefit and not for barter or sale.

OREGON STATE ITEMS OF INTEREST

DEVELOPMENT OF LINN.

Object of Club That Has Organized Recently at Albany.

Albany.—Tom Richardson, of the Portland Commercial Club, delivered an interesting and instructive address before Albany's business men in the grand Opera house. Mr. Richardson displayed thorough knowledge of methods of municipal and state development, and gave a lucid explanation of the essentials of success in a commercial organization, and the address was productive of results.

At the close of his talk Mr. Richardson took charge of the organization of a local commercial body for the development of Albany and Linn county. A number of people pledged \$5 per month for the support of a push club, others smaller sums, and a committee of business men was appointed by Mayor Davis to take charge of the organization work and secure a membership sufficiently large to establish the club on a good financial basis.

It is the purpose of the organization to advertise the county and place men in the field to work for the development of Linn county's great resources. It was unanimously decided to join the Oregon Development League and cooperate with that body in the development of Oregon. The organization committee was authorized to find a name for the club and nominate officers, the nominations to be ratified at the next meeting, when organization will be perfected.

Mr. Richardson was given an informal reception at the Alco Club at the adjournment of the meeting.

Oil Spoils Water Supply.

Salem.—Farmers from the Waldo Hills report oil discovered in the vicinity of Pratum, where oil was discovered by Rice Brothers last spring. Many wells have been abandoned because the water cannot be used. No effort has been made to sink a deep well for the highest prices in eastern Oregon. The day of the cayuse is past, and the farmers have learned so much more work can be expected from a horse of good size than from a small cayuse.

Not only are the farmers demanding good horses, but are raising mules. The jacks owned by Mr. Ruby are from Missouri, and are much sought after by breeders.

To Bore for Artesian Water.

Baker City.—Manager Vinson, of the Ennis mine, six miles east of the city, has closed a contract with C. A. Fredericks, of Spokane, to bore for water on his property. Mr. Fredericks has the most extensive boring apparatus ever brought to Eastern Oregon, having a capacity of boring 5000 feet. The contract with Mr. Vinson calls for 2000 feet or less, boring to cease whenever a sufficient flow of water is encountered. He does not expect water under 500 feet. The work will be commenced at once. Mr. Fredericks also has a contract to bore for artesian hot water for the Hot Springs Natatorium Company of this city. The hot springs of the company are within the city limits.

Fewer Cattle Fed Than Usual.

Echo.—Five hundred head of cattle are being fed in the immediate vicinity of Echo. This is a small number compared with what are usually wintered at this place and is occasioned by the extremely low prices paid for beef. As large herds are herded upon small alfalfa fields, the pasturage afforded is eaten close, and hay feeding begins about the 1st of November. Cattle raisers are hoping for higher prices the coming season, believing that visitors to the 1905 fair will consume a great amount and bring up prices. Several small shipments have been made already this fall, and the highest price received is \$3.25 per cwt, live weight.

Anxious for Good Roads.

Grants Pass.—The good roads movement has struck Josephine county with greater force this season than ever before, and there is a more general desire to better the highways of the county than this section has ever before known. During the past two months nearly \$5000 has been paid out by mining companies and individual mining men for the improvement of roads in Josephine county, and as a result many of the camps that were almost completely isolated during the winter will be readily reached by wagon hereafter.

Will Not Enter Albany.

Albany.—The Independent Telephone Company will not put in a system at Albany, as intended. The company will operate in only a few Oregon towns the coming year, and as some other towns offer better opportunities in the franchises than did Albany, the company will allow the franchise given them by this city to lapse. The Pacific States Company is preparing to make a number of improvements in their Albany exchange this winter.

COMING EVENTS.

Inland Empire Sunday School Institute, Pendleton, Ore., January 30. Oregon State Dairymen's Association, Portland, December 26-21. Oregon State Horticultural Society, Portland, January 10-11. National American Woman Suffrage Association, Portland, June 22-28. Lewis and Clark Centennial Exposition, Portland, June 1-October 15.

Sell Land Near Helix.

Pendleton.—William Kupers and G. C. Schroeder, farmers, residing near Helix, have disposed of three quarter sections of land to Joseph Selvers of that locality for \$8000 a quarter. Mr. Kupers, who sold one of the sections, and Schroeder, who sold two, have purchased land near Nez Perce, paying \$4500 and \$5600 a section.

Irrigation Work.

Milton.—Workmen are building dunes for the Flins Irrigation ditch, which will water a body of land near the Hudson Bay section. Many other flames are being built under the railroad at different points, and an immense territory hitherto bare will be put under cultivation next season.

NORTHWEST WHEAT MARKET.

Portland—Walla Walla, 83c; blue-stem, 88c; valley, 87½c. Tacoma—Bluestem, 89c; club, 86c.

TO DEAL IN FINE HORSES.

New Industry Opened in Pendleton by Former Eugene Man.

Pendleton.—A. C. Ruby, formerly of Eugene, Ore., has purchased the Oregon feed yard of this city, and proposes to maintain a distributing depot for imported horses. He has at his establishment 27 horses and six jacksasses. The horses are Percherons, French draft, Belgian shire and coach stallions. Every horse was selected by him in Europe and shipped to this country from Germany and France. The animals are of the gentlest dispositions. Mr. Ruby not purchasing any that showed signs of ill temper.

The animals will be kept at Pendleton, and as the occasion requires, distributed over Oregon and Washington. The McLaughlin Bros., of Clackamas, proposed to establish a station here, but finally decided upon Ogden, Utah. Mr. Ruby will either purchase residence property or build and remove his family to this place, where he will have permanent headquarters.

This station means much to eastern Oregon and Washington, not only for the convenience of it, but for the settled improvement that will be made in the horses. Until the few years little attention to the breeds of horses was given. Of late years prices have increased until it pays handsomely to raise a grade of horses that command the highest prices in eastern markets. The day of the cayuse is past, and the farmers have learned so much more work can be expected from a horse of good size than from a small cayuse.

Not only are the farmers demanding good horses, but are raising mules. The jacks owned by Mr. Ruby are from Missouri, and are much sought after by breeders.

Improvements at Hood River.

Hood River.—It is estimated that the O. R. & N. Co. is expending \$10,000 in improvements to the depot grounds and track yards at this point. The passenger depot is being remodeled and enlarged, and a freight depot and warehouse has been erected three blocks west of the present location. The facilities for handling freight at this point have afforded very poor accommodations for the last three years, and the improvements now being made are a source of satisfaction to the shipping interests.

Golden Chariot Buys Plant. Sumpter.—Golden Chariot Gold Mining Company has purchased of the Golden Wizard its hoist, pumps and milling plant. The latter plant has never been operated as the Golden Wizard, since its purchaser has decided on other plans. The two properties are about nine miles apart, and the work of hauling the machinery to the Golden Chariot will commence as soon as possible. Two large boilers are also included in the consignment.

Claim Jumpers Busy.

Grants Pass.—Claim jumpers continue to pass their work in the Stucker Creek district. A claim owned by Sheriff Lewis, of this city, has recently been jumped, and as the claim is valued quite highly by the Sheriff and has had two years' assessment work done upon it, Mr. Lewis is anything but pleased over the usurpation of his right and has gone to discuss the matter at close range with the intruder.

Phone Line for Farmers.

Chemawa.—Chemawa is to be the center of a rural telephone line, to be established at once. Fifteen farmers in the vicinity of Chemawa met last evening at the residence of Frank Beatty and formed an independent rural company. Material has been ordered for the line, and will be here in about three weeks. The central office will be established at Chemawa.

Selling Sugar Plant Stock.

Milton.—Robert E. Frazier of this place, is in Portland selling stock of the Mexican National Sugar Refining Company, of which he is a member. The company will dispose of \$250,000 worth of preferred stock in order to install a sugar refining plant. The company is composed largely of Milton and Walla Walla capitalists.

Mohair Show January 19-20.

Dallas.—The committee of arrangements for the Polk County Mohair Association appointed to arrange for the fair, has named January 19 and 20 as the time for holding the fair at Dallas. This is primarily a goat fair, but poultry and sheep will also be an interesting feature of the show. Entries are open to all Oregon.