

THE SEATTLE STAR.

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SEATTLE'S INTEREST IN THE ORIENT.

The rapid development of the commerce between Seattle and the Orient, which promises to attain to enormous proportions before another decade has passed away, naturally excites local interest in the progress which Asiatic nations are now making in the adoption of Western ideas and inventions.

But China is also awakening from the sleep of ages, and thousands of miles of railway will soon be constructed throughout the empire, to the end that commerce may be developed and the various provinces knit together in a stronger union.

With the opening up of the interior districts of China through the medium of the railroads, an immense export trade will be quickly developed, which will call for returning imports of equal value.

It was as late as 1876 when the first railroad was opened in China. It was only 14 miles long. To the Chinese it was the death-knell of their peculiar civilization. The natives between Shanghai and Wusung were so fearful of their near perdition that they bought the road, tore up the rails and destroyed all possible traces of it.

Up to the present time Americans have taken little hand in railroad development in China, although they really have greater commercial interests there than have any other people.

China is a country of magnificent physical geography as well as immense figures of population. Although Hankow, at which city the new road begins, is 600 miles from the mouth of the Yang-tse-Kiang, or Mississippi of the East (navigable for 2,000 miles), it can be reached by ocean steamers of the deepest draft.

The proposed road is a connecting link between the vast interests involved in the Carr's new railway projects in the north, and the new systems laid out by Great Britain, Germany and Belgium, which contemplate ultimate connections with the whole of Eastern Asia.

America exports about \$7,000,000 worth of cotton domestics to China annually. We send great shipments of flour. We have really greater trade interests in China than all Europe combined, and will soon have the satisfaction of securing railway facilities that assure us the most valuable transportation situation in the kingdom.

The suggestion of the Venezuelan statesman that there is likely to be an alliance of the countries of South America against the United States is hardly worthy of serious consideration. But the remark comes with poor grace from the citizen of a country which owes so much to the United States.

What is true in this case is true in all such cases. We have never interfered in any way with our South American neighbors except to help them. It may be doubted whether there would today be an independent government south of the Isthmus if it had not been for the stand of the United States against the European Alliance, which proposed to help Spain recover her revolted colonies.

There is one important household instrument of universal use in maintaining domestic cleanliness which may be an unsuspected agency in promoting the growth of dangerous germs. A late number of the Scientific American declares the broom to be, in its ordinary condition, a fertile breeding place for bacteria.

The reports from the Yaqui Indian country are far from reassuring. The Mexican troops sent out to quell the uprising appear to have suffered defeat, and Yaquis in all parts of the State of Sonora, where they have been employed in the mines and on haciendas, are slipping away to join the tribe on the wargah.

General Gomez seems to have more than his share of the revolutionary burdens of this world. For many years he fought gallantly for the freedom of Cuba, and now the Dominicans send for him to turn the government of their island upside down.

GUN EXPLODES IN A TEST

WASHINGTON, D. C., Aug. 10.—The fears which certain officers of the ordnance bureau of the war department have expressed concerning the merits and usefulness of the Brown Segmental wire-wound gun for use in the army seem well founded.

Dynamite Monopoly Stands JOHANNESBURG, Aug. 10.—It is reported that the dynamite commission of the Volksraad will not recommend the cancellation of the monopoly, for the alleged reason that foreign shareholders—Germans and Hollanders—are interested in it.

THE SINGLE GOLD STANDARD

WASHINGTON, D. C., Aug. 10.—Secretary Gage and the other administration champions of complete legislation next winter for the maintenance of the gold standard and an unequivocal declaration in favor of its perpetual maintenance, without any silver compromise, regard the gold standard plank in the Iowa Republican state convention platform as significant and encouraging.

They believe it indicates the sentiment of the West and that it shows that President McKinley has correctly interpreted the sentiment of the Republicans all over the country and that his wishes in regard to legislation and to a national platform declaration will be carried out.

HAVOC WROUGHT BY TUESDAY'S HURRICANE

Two Hundred People Lose Their Lives ---Ships Driven Ashore and Towns Destroyed.

PONCE, Porto Rico, Aug. 10.—This city and port was completely wrecked by the terrible hurricane of Tuesday. It is estimated that 200 persons were killed by falling buildings and flying debris, while many more were seriously injured.

TO STAMPEDE CONVENTION

Anti-McLean Democrats Hope to Aid Jones.

SPRINGFIELD, O., Aug. 10.—There is a plot being concocted in Toledo to stampede the Democratic state convention at Zanesville and make Cleveland Rufus Sam Jones, mayor of that city, the Democratic gubernatorial candidate.

With Kilbourne and Sherwood and Rice and Lenta and a few other favorite sons in the field it is believed that the McLean strength will develop in the early ballots, but the most zealous of Kilbourne's boomers admit privately that the nomination of the Cincinnati will be the inevitable result of the convention if the question is allowed to work out its own solution.

A Relic of an Alaskan Forest

The section of birch log taken from a forest once covered by the Muir glacier, Alaska, which L. L. Hawkins secured from Mr. Cowell of the Harriman party, for the city museum, has quite an interesting history. Some time in the dead, dim past a section of the Muir glacier receded for several miles.

The Water Front.

The steamer Humboldt will sail for Lynn canal ports August 13. She will carry up a large cargo of Dawson freight.

The steam collier Mackinaw, which arrived from San Francisco yesterday, is loading Black Diamond coal at the bunkers. She will probably take out about 3,500 tons.

The P. C. S. A. company's steamer Queen, which returned from Alaska today, will not go north again. She will resume her old route between British Columbia, Puget sound and California in a day or two.

Work on the steamer Lakme, which was recently partially burned, is being pushed vigorously as she will be sent to St. Michael and Cape Nome by the S. Y. T. company. In fact, the bulk of her freight will go to Nome, as it is considered almost too late to send much of it through to Dawson.

The steamer Charles Nelson arrived in port from San Francisco last evening with about 110 tons of freight, which is being discharged at the Schwebacher dock, owing to dockage room all being taken up at the Arlington. She will go to St. Michael and Cape Nome on Saturday evening, having been chartered by E. E. Caine.

Diver Baldwin went through 23 fathoms of water yesterday and made a survey of the ship Andelma, which lies at the bottom of Tacoma harbor. To raise the vessel by divers' work, he says, will be practically an easy matter.

The 75-ton schooner Columbia got away last night for Cook Inlet with the Howser-Giffen expedition. People who have become interested in the petroleum fields which the party will work at the Inlet, think that a mistake was made in staking nearly 5,000 acres under the placer mining act. The staking was also done under power of attorney.

Kelly's expedition to search for gold on Norton bay, Alaska, will also go north on the schooner Bayard this week. Some of the members have decided not to go, but Kelly says he will start this week even if he has only five men with him.

THE REPORTS ARE IMPERFECT

County School Superintendents and Clerks Careless.

OLYMPIA, Aug. 9.—The state superintendent of public instruction, having received several imperfect reports from county superintendents and clerks, has issued a circular letter calling attention to sections 160 and 164 of the code, which provides that in the case of a county superintendent he should forfeit \$50 of his salary for a failure to make a full and correct report to the state superintendent. The clerk forfeits \$5 of his salary for each and every such failure.

MESSENGER SERVICE.

The United States Civil Service commission will hold an examination for messengers for the Weather bureau service at Spokane, September 5. The subjects of the examination are: Spelling, arithmetic, letter writing, penmanship and copy- ing. The applicant must be between the ages of 14 and 20, and the position will carry a salary of \$30 a year.

RAILWAY NOTES.

John F. Stevens, chief engineer of the Great Northern, is in Seattle in his private car, "A 3," on a tour of inspection. He reports the road in good condition.

A. E. Cronenwett, of the Phillips-Judson Excursion company, has left for a trip to the Warrior General mine, located at Bluff, near Spokane. He expects to be gone three or four days.

DAMAGED BY BLASTING

Houses Near the Cedar River Water Line Struck.

Several complaints were made at police station and the City hall this morning against the Pacific Bridge company, which is blasting on the Cedar river pipe line near Thirtieth avenue north. W. J. McClelland, a resident, reported that several pieces of rock and wood had struck his house, tearing large holes in the side of it and breaking many windows.

PERSONAL MENTION

E. Van Zandt, a shingle manufacturer of New Whatcom, is stopping at the Butler.

Lester W. David, a banker, mill operator and capitalist, of Blaine, is stopping at the Butler.

Mr. Fred D. Gagen, who is now with the Southern Pacific, is enjoying a vacation at his old home in Seattle.

Mr. Peter Loagie, a mill man of Whatcom, is stopping at the Seattle.

R. A. Chisholm, formerly a well known restaurant man of this city, returned from Alaska on the steamer Queen this morning. Mr. Chisholm has been in Alaska for two years, and he has several claims of considerable value.

STATE NEWS...

During the electrical storm at Hill-yard Sunday evening, a bolt of lightning struck the ground just east of Z. Colby's house, on the line of the Sprague avenue water pipe. An immense cloud of dust was sent upwards, mingling with the rain. The spot struck is but a short distance from five powder magazines.

J. P. Reed, who resides one mile from the Samish lake salmon hatchery, turned out three million young salmon this year. The hatchery is now closed, but will resume operations with the beginning of the approaching season, late in September or early in October. Rev. J. C. Wright, formerly of Fairhaven, is at present in charge.

There will be a sham battle in Cheney on Saturday Aug. 12, a baseball game and probably some bicycle races. Friends of company P, which was organized August 12, 1898, have secured the fair grounds and are pushing the entertainment.

H. C. Darnell, of Lakeside, has been appointed to look after the Lake Chelan mineral exhibit at the Spokane exposition.

Miss Jean Goldie Amos, one of the charming daughters of Whitman county, is to have that honor in October, and the friends of the young lady assert that the fair will have the prettiest queen this year of any who have presided over the ceremonies here.

Hears are so thick on the Nemah that it is considered a mighty poor day when four or five are not seen in the proximity of the logging camps.

Ernest Kincaid was seriously hurt at the farm of Henry Rock, near Diamond, 10 miles west of Colfax, Saturday afternoon. He was handling a derrick fork putting hay into a barn. The fork became detached from a hook which was being drawn up when Kincaid grabbed it. His glove caught in the hook and he was drawn up quite a distance, when the hook tore out of the glove, allowing the young man to fall back on the derrick fork, one prong of which pierced his left cheek, penetrating it and cutting an ugly gash besides knocking out a tooth.

A proposition is before the council of Wenatchee to raise saloon licenses from \$600 to \$1,500, and prohibit the saloons from locating on Wenatchee and Orondo avenues.

ATTEMPTS TO BURN SALEM

Firebugs Make Five Unsuccessful Trials.

SALEM, Or., Aug. 9.—At least five attempts have been made in the last few weeks to start a disastrous fire in the toughest part of Salem's ten-district district. The last attempt was made Saturday night or early Sunday morning, a gunnysack saturated with kerosene being found against a house occupied by Japanese. Some excellent work was done. The would-be incendiaries also made a practice of breaking windows in the district. The police have no clue, but are watching the district closely. It has not yet been necessary to call the fire department to the district, but if the attempts continue a disastrous fire may be the result.

The steamer Dirigo will arrive from Lynn canal points next Tuesday.

Bicycle Club's Excursion TO VICTORIA Barge "Skookum" Saturday Evening Aug. 12

Good Sleeping Accommodations Refreshments Served at City Prices Fare: Round Trip \$1.50 Children ... 75 cts Bicycles Carried Free.

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