

The Argus.

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PACIFIC COAST NEWS

Important Information Gathered Around the Coast.

ITEMS OF GENERAL INTEREST

A Summary of Late Events That Are Boiled Down to Suit our Busy Readers

Mayor Clark of Sacramento has introduced another ordinance prohibiting pool-selling, bookmaking, etc. It will come up for passage next Monday.

It is estimated that there are now 175,300 sheep in Lake county, Or., though the assessment rolls give but 90,000; and that net returns for the wool of these will reach about \$159,430.

Laborers digging a sewer trench in Oakland, Wednesday, found a piece of quartz containing several pieces of free gold. It is believed to have been washed down from the mountains.

The ladies of San José who are planning the Mardi Gras ball in aid of the O'Connor art fund, promise to make it as nearly as possible like the famous Mardi Gras ball at New Orleans.

A meeting of fruit growers will be held in Visalia on the 8th, one in Hanford on the 9th, and one in Bakersfield on the 10th, to consider the question of signing the contracts of the California Cured Fruit Association.

On account of excess of demand for fruit trees over local supply, and the impossibility of importation, in Santa Clara county, the San José Mercury says young trees of all kinds are selling for 20 cents that in former years could be had for 3.

A contract has been entered into between the government and the Old River Dredging Company of Stockton for the dredging of 90,000 cubic yards in Stockton channel and 10,000 cubic yards in Mormon channel; work to commence forthwith.

A unique dry dock performance has successfully been consummated at Mare Island dry dock. The torpedo boat destroyer Farragut and two torpedo boats the Fox and Davis, were floated into the dock at one time. Constructor Hibbs effects a large saving to the navy department by the triple docking.

Spokane, which is suffering great loss of trade through the smallpox scare, maintains that the situation has been overdrawn. Of the 117 cases reported for the last month only two have died, and only ten have been at all severe. The most of the cases have been so mild as to be taken by the laity for chicken pox, or even hives.

Physicians at the Napa Asylum have practically refused to accept the reductions in their salaries by forwarding the monthly estimate to the Lunacy Commission with the old figures and reentering these figures when the estimate was returned to them altered. The Lunacy Commission will pay the salaries according to the new schedule and leave the physicians to apply to the courts for redress.

The citizens of Niles, Alameda county have raised funds by popular subscription for a jail and are now having this erected. The San Francisco Chronicle says that this move is in view of the fact that the Spring Valley Water Company is about to camp a gang of men near the place, the experience of Sunol with a similar gang, last year, having demonstrated the necessity of a jail as a restraint and preventive of lawlessness.

The proposed tariff on freight from Los Angeles to Bakersfield and adjacent points will not go into effect. The following telegram has been received by A. A. Watkins of the board of trade of Los Angeles, from J. C. Stubbs: "Proposed tariff to San Joaquin valley points will not be adopted. Publication was a mistake." A joint dispatch was also received from Messrs. Bissell and Sproule which read: "Proposed tariff to which you object will not be put in force." Similar dispatches were sent to the Chamber of Commerce and the Manufacturers' and Producers' association.

FULLY RECOVERED.

Former United States Senator Stephen M. White has entirely recovered and is himself again. A letter which reached Los Angeles states that Senator White has regained his old-time vigor and former mental activity. He may take a short salt water trip before settling down to active business duties in Los Angeles.

Pensions for Californians.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 10.—[Exclusive Dispatch.] Pensions were granted to Californians today as follows: Renewal and reissue, James K. Piersol, Fort Bragg City, \$6; Increase, John McGraw, San Francisco, \$6 to \$8; John H. Young, Hollister, \$6 to \$8. Original widows, etc. Frank O. Dewitt, Los Angeles, \$8; special account, January 31, Perfecta Prickett, Concord, \$8; Mary M. Gambel, Bakersfield, \$8.

LONG TERMS FOR ROBBERS.

SACRAMENTO, Feb. 9.—This morning in the Police Court A. B. Spellman and Harry Spellman were held to answer for holding up and robbing a citizen named John A. Mills last Sunday night. They confessed the crime and were brought up before Judge Hart of the Superior Court this afternoon for sentence. Judge Hart gave A. B. Spellman thirty years and Harry Spellman thirty-five years in the pen-

tentiary, remarking that he considered highway robbery but little less serious than murder.

Protest Against Colonization.

SAN FRANCISCO, Feb. 9.—Acting Immigration Commissioner Schell at this port has forwarded to National Immigration Commissioner Powderly at Washington a protest against the intended colonization of a large tract of land in California with 1500 Russian emigrants now in the Northwest Territory.

AMY MURPHY'S BETRAYER.

POULIN ESCAPES PUNISHMENT. SAN FRANCISCO, Feb. 10.—Horace L. Poulin, the self-acknowledged betrayer of Amy Murphy, who was found dead in Golden Gate Park on Friday afternoon, a week ago, is not to be punished. The charge of adultery lodged against him by the police was dismissed today in Judge Morgan's department of the Police Court. The District Attorney, after thoroughly reviewing the matter and examining the law relating to it, could not advise the drawing of a complaint, nor did he feel justified in engaging in a prosecution where there seemed so little chance of securing a conviction.

METHODIST THANK-OFFERING.

WORK PROGRESSING SMOOTHLY. SAN FRANCISCO, Feb. 10.—Regarding the intention of the Methodist Episcopal Church in this country to collect \$20,000,000 as a "twentieth-century thank-offering fund," Dr. Thomas Filben today stated that the work was progressing smoothly and that the entire sum will doubtless be collected by the end of 1901. It is expected that England will raise a similar fund, amounting to \$10,000,000, and Canada \$5,000,000. This immense sum will be used for educational, charitable and church purposes and a convention will be held in this city next June to devise a proper method for its distribution.

PUGILISTIC TOURNAMENT.

SAN FRANCISCO, Feb. 8.—The managers of the National Athletic Club which, according to advices from the East, has secured the Jeffries-Corbett prize fight, state that they will at once put up the \$5000 forfeit. They propose to make the contest the chief feature of a pugilistic tournament which they are confident will draw thousands of people to this city from all parts of the United States. The place for holding the fight has not yet been decided upon, but the prices of admission will range from \$2 to \$10.

The California Club of San Francisco has voted to erect a woman's clubhouse in that city for the use and benefit of all the clubs that will cooperate in the undertaking.

DRINK-CRAZED ATTENDANT.

DRIVES SMALLPOX PATIENTS OUT INTO THE SNOW.

DENVER, Feb. 9.—This evening a nurse from the city smallpox hospital on Sand Creek, about eight miles northeast of the city, came to police headquarters and reported that this afternoon Frank Conkling, an attendant, while crazed with drink, attacked the other attendants with a poker, knocking two of them down. He then proceeded to demolish the furniture. Five patients at the hospital became frightened and fled from the place, clothed only in their bed garments. A posse of officers, who are immune to smallpox, left at once to arrest Conkling and return the patients to the hospital. The ground is covered with snow, and it is feared the exposure will prove fatal to the patients. One of the latter is the wife of Conkling.

DASTARDLY ATTEMPT TO KILL AN OLD SOLDIER.

SANTA CRUZ, Feb. 11.—A cold-blooded attempt was made early this morning to murder G. D. Louck in his saloon in East Santa Cruz. The motive is supposed to have been robbery, as Louck, who is an old soldier, received his pension a few days ago, a fact known to patrons of the saloon.

Louck, who is 63 years old, was playing cards with Joe Trechera and Manuel Amaya, two young men residing in the neighborhood. While the game was in progress they made some excuse, and went to a yard at the rear of the saloon leaving Louck sitting in a chair by the table. They soon returned, and Trechera, without the least provocation, struck Louck on the head with a club, which he had procured in the yard. Louck, half stunned from the blow, arose to defend himself, and the men backed to the front entrance. As Louck advanced, Amaya drew a pistol. Trechera exclaimed: "Shoot and shoot to kill."

Amaya fired four shots at Louck. All of them took effect, one lodging in Louck's arm, another in his neck, a third in his left breast, and a fourth in his stomach. Louck fell in the doorway of the saloon, while his assailants ran away. A passer-by heard him calling for help, and procured medical aid. Trechera and Amaya were arrested soon afterward at their homes. Both were in bed, and appeared surprised, feigning ignorance of the shooting. They were brought before Louck, who positively identified them, although they strenuously denied committing the crime. The prisoners were cool and self-possessed. They are now in jail awaiting the result of Louck's wounds. Louck is in a dangerous condition, although resting comfortably tonight. It is doubtful if he survives.

GENERAL NEWS ITEMS

The News of the State, Nation and the World

MOST INTERESTING HAPPENINGS

From Everywhere will be found in this Column. Items that Interest Everybody

SAN FRANCISCO, Feb. 7.—The largest half year in respect to gross earnings in the history of the Southern Pacific Company ended on December 31, 1899. A statement just issued shows the gross earnings were \$32,237,820. Earnings in excess of operating expenses were \$12,844,606.

GOOD NEWS FOR MINERS.

VICTORIA (B. C.) Feb. 8.—The government of British Columbia today brought in a measure which is promised general support by the Legislature, repealing the act of last session by which alien miners are excluded from provincial placer mines.

AGUINALDO MAY BE HEARD FROM IN EUROPE.

Chicago, Feb. 11.—A special to the Chronicle from Washington says: The war department believes that Aguinaldo has escaped from the island of Luzon. The department officials would not be surprised to hear from him next in London or Paris in company with Agoncillo.

LARGEST IN THE WORLD.

New York, Feb. 11.—The largest office building in the world is to be erected at the southeast corner of Broad street and Exchange place in the financial district of this city by the Alliance Realty Company. It will be twenty stories high and contain 360,000 square feet of space for rent. The land is worth nearly \$2,000,000 and the structure will cost \$4,000,000.

AMERICAN IN KOREA.

SOLDIERS SENT TO PREVENT HIM FROM MINING.

VICTORIA (B. C.) Feb. 8.—According to advices received by the steamer Empress of China, the Korean government, according to the suggestion of Russia, has dispatched 100 soldiers to Gensan to prevent the commencement of mining operations there by Pritchard Morgan, an American who has obtained a concession from the government.

HOT TIME AT A DANCE.

FOUR MEN PERHAPS FATALLY WOUNDED IN A FRACAS.

KANSAS CITY, Feb. 11.—A Times special from Caney, Kan., says four men were perhaps fatally wounded at a dance five miles from Caney, in Oklahoma last night. Bob and Carl Thomson attacked Joseph and James Michels and Frank Wise with knives inflicting ugly wounds. Len Cushman interfered, and Bob Thomson felled him with a blow on the head from his revolver. All four are in a critical condition. A posse is in pursuit of the Thomsons.

TURNED ON THEM.

SPANISH PRISONERS REVOLT AND DRIVE OFF GUARDS.

Manila, Feb. 10.—The insurgents have been driven out of Legaspi, on Albay bay, province of Albay. The rebels of Tayabas province were conveying some 300 Spanish prisoners to Libmanan, and on arriving the prisoners, exhausted and starved, revolted and dispersed their guards with stones and clubs. They also captured a few rifles and barricaded themselves at Libmanan, where they are awaiting the arrival of the American troops.

LOCKOUT OR STRIKE?

TROUBLE FEARED OVER ACTION OF CHICAGO WORKMEN.

CHICAGO, Feb. 10.—Seven thousand workmen employed by the building trades in this city quit work here today at noon, and it is asserted that this act is the beginning of a war between laborers and contractors. It has been the custom here for such workmen to have Saturday afternoons off, and at noon today they quit as usual.

The contractors declare, in the face of an ultimatum recently delivered by them, that this action constitutes a strike. The workmen claim it is a lockout and trouble is feared. Extra police have been detailed.

PLAGUE IN MANILA.

DISEASE REPORTED TO BE GAINING MUCH HEADWAY.

VICTORIA (B. C.) Feb. 8.—According to news brought by the steamer Empress of China, the plague is reported to be gaining much headway in Manila. Telegrams to the Japan Daily Mail under date of January 17 are to the effect that there were twelve cases on one street on that date. The outbreak is said to be causing great excitement.

The Manila Times of an earlier date says some excitement was caused by the reports of two cases of the disease believed to be bubonic plague. The victims were Chinese who came by steamer from Hongkong. The patients and the houses in which the cases oc-

curred were isolated. The plague is still raging at Hongkong.

LONE ROBBER SHOT DEAD.

MEETS WITH RESISTANCE IN A CHICAGO SALOON.

CHICAGO, Feb. 9.—A lone robber, well dressed, with ribbed silk mask to cover his features, was shot and killed in C. H. Woerner Park Pavilion, No. 1859 West Madison street, late last night by Frank Barum, an Oak Park lawyer, and Edward Sommerfeldt. When the robber entered the saloon he commanded the two men, who were alone, to throw up their hands. Resistance was offered, and the robber fired twice, one of the bullets taking effect in Sommerfeldt's arm. Barum managed to wrench the revolver from the robber. Sommerfeldt in the meantime had secured his revolver and Barum fired several shots at the robber, who fell dead at their feet. In the pockets of the dead man were found \$165.

INCREASE THE NAVY.

STILL OPPOSED BY SOCIALISTS.

BERLIN, Feb. 10.—[By Atlantic Cable.] The debate on the first reading of the Navy Bill was resumed in the Reichstag today. Herr Bebel, the Socialist leader, earnestly opposed the measure, declaring the Socialists were against the present and all similar demands because they tended to support a system antagonized by their party. It was evidently the intention of the government, he added, to make the German navy equal to any fleet in the world, but in the race Great Britain would always be ahead of Germany. Continuing, Herr Bebel said that when it was considered that a portion of German industry could not exist without British trade, the widespread hatred of Great Britain was incomprehensible. He concluded with saying: "We have every reason to cultivate the friendship of England. If we should ever be compelled to operate seriously with the whole of our resources, including the army, no one can foretell how it would end."

Secretary of the Admiralty Admiral Tirpitz, repudiated Herr Bebel's suggestions. He said no one doubted that war with Great Britain would be a great calamity. In the course of his speech, Herr Bebel said: "If the most unfortunate eventually should arise—that Germany should go to war with England—it would be probable that Russia and France would look on the conflict quietly and wait until both adversaries were exhausted in order to fall upon and definitely subjugate Germany."

EXPOSITIONS AND WARS.

Does a war always follow a big exposition? Read this list: International exposition, Crystal Palace, London, 1851, followed by the Crimean war, 1854-1855; Indian mutiny, 1857, and our civil war in 1860.

Vienna industrial exposition, 1865, followed by Austro-Prussian war in 1866.

Exhibition universelle, Paris, 1867, followed by Garibaldi's insurrection.

Berlin industrial exposition, 1870, followed by Franco-Prussian war, 1870.

Brussels industrial exposition, 1874, followed by Carlist war in Spain, 1874.

Moscow Russian Progress exposition, 1872, followed by the Ashantee war, 1873.

Vienna industrial exposition, 1873, followed by the Abyssinian war in 1875.

Industrial exhibition in London, 1873, followed by the Serbian war, 1876.

Philadelphia exposition of 1876, also the Paris electrical and Brussels industrial expositions, same year, followed by Russo-Turkish war, 1876.

Afghanistan war, 1878; Zulu war, 1879.

World's Fair, Chicago, 1893, followed by Greco-Turkish and Spanish-American wars. What will happen after the Paris exposition this coming summer?

Those who take note of curious historic coincidences are more than apprehensive of the war of 1901 as foreshadowed by the Paris exposition of 1900.

According to the workings of some mysterious law which cannot be explained, but which military and naval men think may exist, a great exposition is apt to be followed by a great war.

The notable coincidences illustrating the law are shown above. Passing such smaller affairs as the Zulu, Ashantee and Abyssinian campaigns, there are some startling coincidences in the list, and most startling of all is the first.

In 1851 Europe was in profound peace and prosperity. Business was good, reforms had been granted because of the outbreaks of 1848. The Prince Consort Albert of Britain, who was then at the height of his influence, believed that war was practically a thing of the past.

The Crystal Palace show was devised by him as a great peace jubilee of all nations. Scarcely had it closed before Britain, France, Italy and Turkey were combining in a bloody, indecisive, inglorious war against Russia in the Crimea.

CHARGES OF BRUTALITY.

TRANSPORT ENGINEER'S STORY.

SAN FRANCISCO, Feb. 10.—F. S. Maguire, one of the engineers of the United States transport Mead, has preferred charges against Second Assistant Engineer Murphy, whom he accuses of having assaulted a coal passer named McHugh. Maguire alleges that on one occasion Murphy entered the fire room with a pistol in his hand and ordered the men to work faster and that he placed the weapon to McHugh's mouth in order to accelerate that individual's speed.

FARM AND ORCHARD

Some Interesting News for the Ruralist

SPOKEN OF IN THIS COLUMN

A Few Sensible Hints to Suit the Busy Agriculturist.—Items That May Benefit Our Readers

FORESTRY. THE LATEST MOVE.

The Department of the Interior has recently applied to the Department of Agriculture for complete working plans, to be prepared by the division of forestry, for all of the national forest reservations in the West. This is one of the most important steps taken in the administration of these reserves since their creation by the President, and will eventually transform them into a revenue-producing part of the national economy.

Several years will be required to execute the project. It will be necessary to determine the present condition of the forest, what merchantable timber occurs, and how it can be marketed to meet continuously the requirements of the people without injury to the productive power of the forest.

The Division of Forestry will begin work in a few weeks in the Black Hills reserve in South Dakota. This requires the earliest attention, because its timber supply is needed by a large number of settlers, miners and mill men. The extent of this demand will be investigated and plans devised for meeting it without exhaustion of the supply. An estimate of standing timber will be made, and the rate of growth will be studied. In order to provide a satisfactory basis for predicting the future yield of the forest.

Henry S. Graves, superintendent of working plans, and E. M. Griffith, an expert forester of the division, will begin the work, to be joined later by a corps of assistants. After a few weeks Mr. Graves will leave the work in charge of his assistants, and proceed to make reconnaissance surveys of several other western reserves, with a view of taking them up as soon as possible, and probably in the following order: Big Horn reserve, in Wyoming; the Priest River reserve, in Idaho, and the Olympic and Mt. Rainier reserves of Washington. During the ensuing summer the forester of the department will continue the reconnaissance in the remaining reservations.

COWS AND CALVES.

Some writers and farmers recommend that the cow be dried up at least six weeks or two months previous to freshening. This is an old idea, and whether or not it will be borne out by more recent developments is an interesting question. From personal experience I have not very much use for the cow that must go dry so long after calving. It does not seem at all necessary, either for the cow or for the dairy produce. Advanced feeling has made long periods of dryness unnecessary.

The fact that a cow will give milk up to time of freshening and requires to be milked does not of necessity imply that the milk should be taken into the dairy. The prime factor in owning the cow that will milk from calf to calf, or nearly so, is not so much the length of period as it is the probabilities of a better milker. The cow that will milk continually must milk well both in quantity and quality. The same treatment that will induce a cow to give milk through a long period will also increase the flow and amount of butter fat.

An important feature at calving is the treatment of the calf. I have observed that many farmers recommend that a calf be taken from the cow as soon as dropped. This is contrary to our practice and experience. We always allow the calf to suck until the milk is in condition for use. This may be three days or a week. As soon as the cow is ready for milking with the others the calf is taken away and taught to drink. We have very little trouble in teaching a calf, although I presume that the longer a calf sucks the harder it will be to get it to drinking. Nevertheless, the extra benefit to cow and calf makes it profitable.

BOGUS PARIS GREEN.

Prof. Woodworth's article relative to Paris green in a bulletin recently issued by the State University, has attracted considerable attention among fruit growers. Prof. Woodworth sets forth that the major portion of the Paris green sold in this State is comparatively worthless for insecticide purposes. He says that in many cases it is a bogus article. In some instances, when it is pure, the grade is so low that if it is used according to the formulae published by the State and counties, its use would be merely a waste of time, labor and money. One of its worst forms is declared to be where the standard of arsenious oxide has been obtained by the addition of free arsenic.

The formula for the use of Paris green as an insecticide, provides for the small percentage of free arsenic contained in pure Paris green. If the amount of free arsenic is greater than that contained in a pure article of Paris green, then the surplus of free arsenic will not be provided for by being neutralized, and the effects on the foliage will be very disastrous. Prof. Woodworth advocates legislative action to fix the standard of purity of Paris green sold in this State. He calls attention to the fact that California is about only fruit-producing State where such a law does not exist.