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PACIFIC COAST NEWS

Important Information Gathered
Around the Coast.

ITEMS OF GENERAL INTEREST

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

Recent reports from Cape Nome district are most flattering. The steamers City of Seattle and Cottage City lately landed at Seattle with \$500,000.

The San Francisco papers, headed by the Call, have announced the withdrawal of Col. Dan Burns from the senatorial race, and placed M. H. De Young of the Chronicle as the possible candidate.

Edward F. Searles will expend \$500 additional in the Mark Hopkins Institute of Art in San Francisco. The new addition will be completed about January 1st, when the artists will arrange for a grand art exhibition.

The large warehouse of the Sutter Development Company at Chandler Station, below Yuba City, was burned last week. It contained 3000 sacks of barley and 140 tons of baled alfalfa hay. The loss was \$6000, with no insurance. The fire was probably set by tramps.

Hop picking in the Pleasanton yards was finished last week, 1,653,551 pounds having been picked. About one thousand persons were employed in the yards, and 600 acres were picked over. Pickers are now leaving for different parts of the state or are going to pick grapes. The yield is the largest known in years.

San Francisco is once more enjoying the blessing of lighted streets. The city treasury now having funds with which to pay for the expense of light, the company has turned on its gas. An appropriation of \$20,000 a month has not been sufficient to meet the recent expense of furnishing light for the metropolis.

San Jose—The Supervisors have officially indorsed the proposed celebration of the fiftieth anniversary of the inauguration of California's state government. The board will send invitations to all state and county officers to be here, and especially urgent invitations to all boards of supervisors. The proposed celebration is assuming a broad scope.

Dr. Spongie has brought a libel suit against Governor Gage for his communication to the state lunacy commissioners in which he alluded to various unpleasant incidents in the life of the late superintendent of Agnews asylum. It must come as a singular sensation to the governor to be defendant in a libel suit instead of counsel for the defendant, but he may be expected to show Spongie considerable about the law of libel before the case is ended.—L. A. Express.

The Southern Pacific company and its feeders into San Francisco are determined not to permit the Santa Fe to alone make the showing with its limited winter train service during the coming tourist season. As a result a schedule is now made way for a 72-hour run between San Francisco and Chicago, which is the time made last year by the Santa Fe Limited between Chicago and Los Angeles. The Santa Fe may, however, see its northern competitors and still further reduce its time. Its winter schedule is now under consideration.

The first murder in Tehama county since 1890 was committed last Tuesday at Vina. William Devin, an old and respected citizen, was struck over the head with a piece of scantling 2x3 inches in size and five feet long, in the hands of a half-breed Indian named Harry Dumphrey. The deceased leaves a widow and three children. The trouble was brought on by a quarrel between the victim and murderer over a question by one Hickey to the former whether he (Devin) was a union man or a "scab." The murderer was arrested and placed in jail at Red Bluff.

The boiler makers who quit work at

San Francisco on the government transports last week on account of the notification from their employers that they would be required to work nine hours per day instead of eight, as they had previously been doing, and all the men employed in the Risdon and Fulton shops who walked out this week in sympathy with the strikers on the transports, are still out. The men are determined to hold out for the eight-hour working day, and double pay for overtime, these being the terms granted them by the federal law on all government work.

Hop picking has commenced in Salinas county in four of the principal yards, and before the week is over all of the hop yards in the Pajaro valley will be hives of busy labor. The quality of hops is better than usual, and the aggregate yield promises to be considerably larger than that of last year. About all the labor is being done this year by white people, and it will not be long before the Asiatic will be a thing of the past in the Pajaro hop yards. White labor proves the most satisfactory and the work of picking is entered into by all the members of a family.

The Gonzales Water Company has filed a claim in the office of the county recorder in Salinas for 16,000 inches of water to be taken from the Salinas river. The company proposes to irrigate a large tract of land in the vicinity of Gonzales, a small town south of Salinas, and to do so will build a dam in the river at a point on the east bank thereof, on the Rancho Ripon de la Punta del Monte, and run the water about ten miles. That rancho and the San Vincente are the principal tracts which it proposes to irrigate. The ditch is to be twenty feet wide at the bottom and forty feet at the top.

There is a fair prospect that passenger traffic on the Santa Fe to San Francisco may be inaugurated before January 1st. Track is now laid four miles west of Antioch and men were on Monday set to work running it toward the east. From Stockton to the San Joaquin the rails are all down. The bank across the tules and reclaimed lands west of Stockton is all finished for a distance of fourteen miles and ready for the track work, which is progressing on the bank toward the hard lands and when this is finished the grade will be all completed and ready for the rails from Stockton to Antioch. This part of the work it will probably take about three weeks to complete.

PROFESSOR WHEELER ON EXPANSION.

"I am not an imperialist, but I am an expansionist," declared Professor Benjamin Ide Wheeler a few days ago at the Auditorium in Chicago. Professor Wheeler is on his way to the coast to assume the presidency of the University of California. Continuing, he said: "The year of 1898 was the greatest year we have ever seen. It saw Russia break her way to the ocean at Port Arthur; it saw Dewey open up the Far East to America; it made England realize the task before her, teaching her that the Pacific is now the seat of empire. We cannot undo the events of 1898; we do not want to. America is not inspired with the dream of empire, but she is a missionary carrying outside her borders the gospel of freedom and law. America, since 1898, realizes her nationality and her position as a world power. We may divide opinion, hereafter concerning the final disposal of our new possessions, but no excuse for division now exists, and we must stand behind the president like men and like Americans.

"I am going out to California, which fronts the Pacific. California looks across the sea to China and Japan and Australia, and she discerns that there her future wealth and glory lie. The question of China is the great question of the time, and America cannot have it decided adversely to her interests.

"America needs to realize her history that she is a nation with a past and future and not a mere aggregation of struggling individuals. The west is where America will come to her own. I want to see New England ideals realized, those ideals so noble and distinguished, but I believe the broad west is the place where best to realize them and I am glad to have come west."

GENERAL NEWS ITEMS

News of the State, Nation
and the World

MOST INTERESTING HAPPENINGS

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

The first snow of the season fell in Wisconsin on the 25th ult. The thermometer registered below the freezing point and farm products are damaged.

Under the recent ruling of the treasury department at Washington, Chinese ministers, preachers and missionaries are declared to have no place in the exempt class. The question was raised by Collector Jackson of San Francisco.

Lyman J. Gage, secretary of the treasury, has retired as a director and stockholder of the First National bank of Chicago. It is rumored that upon his retiring from the cabinet he will live in New York city and become identified with one of the large financial institutions of the metropolis.

The ex-queen of Hawaii is being rapidly reconstructed in her politics. She now calls herself an American. Her present home is in Washington, where she said to a recent caller: "I am a thorough American. I love the history of the country. It is the heir apparent of all that former nations have had to fight and perish for."

One of the first remarks Admiral Dewey made to an Associated Press correspondent after the Olympia's anchors were down was that he had arrived, but not officially. The sunny humor of our fighting admiral has not suffered from his long ocean voyage, and it is one of the things that endears him to the American people.

All the talk about precedence, which has troubled some of Admiral Sampson's excited friends sounds very funny in view of Rear Admiral Howison's explanation that all possible situations are prescribed absolutely and inflexibly by the regulations of the navy. The anxious gentlemen must find something else to be troubled about, which they no doubt will do.—Los Angeles Express.

United Australia will have a population of about 4,000,000 and its area will be almost as large as that of the United States. It is estimated that it will have room for a population of 150,000,000 when it is all settled and its manifold resources are developed. New South Wales, South Australia and Victoria have so far voted to come into the federation, and the other colonies will soon follow.

The Transvaal is a land-locked country with an area of 120,000 square miles, or less than half the size of Texas, and the total Boer population is less than 100,000. They could not at the utmost assemble an army of more than 20,000. Unaided, their resistance of Great Britain would be simply ridiculous, and even if assisted by sympathizing adjoining lands the result would be inevitable.

Venezuelan revolutionists are sweeping everything before them under the leadership of General Castro. What a familiar sound that has. If the general is successful he will head a new government until revolutionary sentiment gathers strength again, and then a new general will arise and sweep everything before him. South American revolutionists are a kind of endless chain.—Los Angeles Express.

The breaking out of hostilities in the Transvaal has been deferred from week to week, and now from day to day, but in the very nature of things the tension cannot last much longer. The formal announcement that the Orange Free State has elected to stand shoulder to shoulder with the Transvaal makes the crisis so acute that news of the popping of Mausers may be expected at any moment.

American horse flesh is looking up. An order has been received from London by a Chicago firm to buy up all the 1200-pound "gunners" the western

market afforded and make arrangements for immediate shipment. Stress was laid upon the fact that the animals are wanted for service in the impending South African campaign, and the commission was marked "rush" and "imperative." The demand has created a flurry in the horse market.

The owners of the large cattle ranches on the peninsula of Cosignonia, separating the bay of Fonseca from the Pacific report that the cattle are dying from the ravages of ticks which attack in great numbers and cause a fatal sickness known as "Texas" cattle fever. Cattle from these ranches, it is pointed out, are supplied as beef to the steamship companies, and their hides are shipped to San Francisco and New York City and also to Hamburg.

The war department officials are much pleased with the returns received during the present week from the recruiting stations of additional volunteer regiments. Already the aggregate of 11,067 men have been secured for the twelve regiments, including two, colored organizations. Two regiments now have their full quota. They are the Thirty-eighth infantry, with 1389 men, and the Thirty-ninth infantry, with 1320 men. The next highest regiment is the forty-sixth infantry with 1182 men.

Dewey is home. Dewey is happy and so are the American people. Dewey surprised the New York reception committee and has captured the hearts of every loyal American. What more is there for Dewey to do? If the country could spare him and the natural activity of the naval hero could be satisfied under the change, it might be well for him to accept that house in Washington and live in retirement; the remainder of his days. But this Dewey will not do. However, the American nation will accept without protest, any decision this most brave and modest hero may make as to his future. There is no likelihood of spoiling the gentleman, for he comes out of the great demonstration at New York, as he did out of the great naval battle in Manila bay for the honor of his country. Long live Dewey. His name and his honor will always be revered by his countrymen.

TO MEND DEWEY'S SHIPS.

NEW YORK—A special to the Herald from Washington says that it is already apparent to the naval experts that the government will have to spend several million dollars in refitting for active service the vessels which comprised Admiral Dewey's fleet when it destroyed Spain's naval power in the Far East. Secretary Long has approved the making of repairs to the cruiser Raleigh, which will cost approximately \$500,000. The report of the board of survey which inspected the cruiser Boston, lately returned to the United States, and now out of commission at Mare Island, shows that an other \$500,000 will have to be spent on that vessel in order to put her in condition for recommission. Reports received at the department regarding the condition of the cruiser Olympia show that she will have to be laid up for some time, and naval experts estimate that before she is again in service she will have cost the government not less than \$500,000 to repair.

There are three vessels still on the Asiatic station, which were under Admiral Dewey's command when he fought the battle of Manila bay—the Baltimore and the gunboats Concord and Petrel. The Baltimore was only placed in commission during the winter of 1898, and will probably not come home until 1901.

The Concord and the Petrel are not intended for service in blockading the island of Luzon. They were both thoroughly overhauled in 1896 and upon completion were sent to the Asiatic station. Their cruise in the Far East will cease next year, provided the situation in the Philippines is such as to permit their return home, though by that time it may be decided to refit them in the East and keep them permanently on the Asiatic station.

The repairs to the Boston will be thorough, and when completed she will be a modern ship. The repairs contemplated will cause her reconstruction, as in the case of her sister ship,

the Atlanta. She will be equipped with water-tube boilers, and be supplied with a new battery of the latest 8-inch and 6-inch guns.

It is understood that before final action is taken in the matter of the Boston's repairs, Rear-Admiral Hichborn will bring the report of the board of survey to the attention of the board of reconstruction. The board of survey estimates that a year's time will be necessary to reconstruct the Boston, but it is the belief of department officials that two years will have passed before she is again ready for service. When the board of survey has inspected the Olympia, which is now in port in New York, the report will be considered by the department.

AN IMPORTANT FOOD LAW.

Heavy Penalties for Selling Articles of
Food Containing Unhealthy Ingre-
dients.

The following law was passed at the last session of the Missouri Legislature, taking effect August 20, 1899:

Section 1. That it shall be unlawful for any person or corporation doing business in this state to manufacture, sell or offer to sell any article, compound or preparation for the purpose of being used or which is intended to be used in the preparation of food, in which article, compound or preparation there is any arsenic, calomel, bismuth, ammonia or alum.

Sec. 2. Any person or corporation violating the provisions of this act shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor and shall, upon conviction, be fined not less than one hundred dollars, which shall be paid into and become a part of the road fund of the county in which such fine is collected.

The operation of this law will be mainly against alum baking powders. But the manufacture or sale of any article of food or article intended to be used in food which contains any of the substances classed by the law as unhealthy—from Arsenic to Alum—is absolutely prohibited.

FROM SEAT OF WAR.

Aguinaldo has issued a decree inviting Filipino deserters to return in a month, in which case they will be pardoned.

A native officer has offered Maj.-Gen. Otis one thousand Maccabebe tribesmen to fight the Tagals of the Laguna de Bay district.

The insurgents are trying to incite the natives of Matabon, a city of 30,000 inhabitants, five miles from Manila, to rise against the American garrison.

The Tagals of the Island of Mindanao have expressed their readiness to accept American sovereignty in exchange for protection against the harassing Moros.

The gunboat Urdaneta has been captured and scuttled by natives of the town of Orani, which place it had bombarded. The crew was taken prisoners and removed to Porac.

American officers north of Manila tell the correspondents of the Associated Press that Aguinaldo is attempting to enforce good government after the American fashion, ordering his soldiers to suppress a band of robbers, three of whom were executed at Maraguina. He has also prohibited gambling in the villages under his control.

On Saturday, the 23d of September, the cruiser Charleston, monitor Monterey and gunboats Concord and Zafiro, bombarded the town of Olangapo and destroyed an insurgent cannon and entrenchments located at that place. Several pieces of field guns were captured. The Americans had but one man wounded. The town was riddled with shells and took fire at several points.

It is reported by a person who has just arrived from Tiarac that Naval Cadet Welborn C. Wood, who was in command of the United States gunboat Urdaneta, recently captured and destroyed by the insurgents in the Orani river on the northwest side of Manila bay, and five of the nine enlisted men forming the crew were killed during the fighting previous to the destruction of the vessel. The four other men and the captured cannon, a one-pounder, a rapid-fire gun a Colt machine gun and a Nordenfeldt 25-millimeter gun were conveyed to Malaca.