

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 sultan of Morocco has removed foreigners and will take charge of his own army.

There has been a great increase in the number of accidents on railroads during the past year.

The Federal grand jury is now in session at Portland behind closed doors, investigating various land frauds.

The Smoot investigation continues before the senate committee on privileges and elections, but nothing new is being developed.

Many hundred Chinese youths are in Japan taking instructions in the art of war. Many are also at the front where a practical view can be had.

It is probable that the North sea incident will be put down as an unfortunate blunder, whereby the Russian commander mistook two of his own vessels for an enemy.

The United States supreme court has granted the motion to advance the hearing of the Benson-Hyde-Diamond conspiracy cases and they were set down for February 20. The cases involve the question of removal from one jurisdiction to another.

Oregon expenses for 1905-1906 are estimated at \$2,000,000.

The complete election returns give Roosevelt a plurality of 2,526,470.

The members of the North sea commission are gathering in Paris to enter upon their work.

Russia is assembling a third Pacific squadron, and it is believed it will be sent to the Far East.

The Colorado supreme court has thrown out the entire vote in three Denver precincts on account of fraud.

While particulars are not obtainable, it is believed that General Soessel's latest report to the czar is couched in a despairing tone.

Senator Mitchell and Representative Hermann are on their way to Portland to appear before the grand jury in connection with the land fraud cases.

The first and second sections of the north bound Oregon express collided near Marysville, Cal. A brakeman lost his foot and five passengers were injured.

E. Morton White, chief of the department of admissions at the St. Louis fair, has declined to accept a similar position at Portland. Frank B. Davidson will be tendered the position.

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.

Kuropatkin, 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 Yungching 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.

Brigadier General S. M. Whiteside 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.

DOINGS IN CONGRESS.

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 put 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, of the capitol, be made a special order for January 21.

The house adjourned until Monday.

Monday, December 19.

No business of importance was transacted in either house today, the entire time they were in session being taken up by discussion of minor measures. Many senators and representatives were absent. Adjournment was taken until Wednesday.

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 he has been told that Washington's representatives bought a consignment of Oregon cherries from a dealer and exhibited them as Washington product. Thus 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.

Land Withdrawn in Washington.

Washington, Dec. 21.—The general land office has ordered the temporary withdrawal of 17,920 acres of public lands in the Vancouver, Wash., land district from all forms of disposal except under mineral laws.

BIG EXHIBIT AT FAIR

Missouri Will Make a Fine State Display at Portland.

WILL MEAN OUTLAY OF \$300,000

Special Commissioner Is Now Actively At Work—Nation Boxing Exhibits—Nebraska's Part.

St. Louis, Mo., Dec. 19.—"Missouri is to be splendidly represented at the Lewis and Clark exposition at Portland," states M. T. Davis, president of the Missouri State World's Fair commission today.

"We will send out there an exhibit that could not be duplicated for \$300,000," he continued.

The displays for the western fair will be selected and prepared for shipment by E. S. Carver, special commissioner from Missouri to the Lewis and Clark exposition. He is now actively at work.

The work of boxing the government exhibits that are to be shipped from the World's fair to Portland for the Lewis and Clark exposition has been commenced, and by January 1 they will be ready to be sent away. They will not be shipped until March 1, however, according to the present plans. Portland is to get about 65 per cent of the government's exhibits. The remainder will be returned to Washington, D. C.

The machinery in the money coining display will be sent as soon as possible to Denver, Colo., where it will be used to enlarge the United States mint. The great ordnance which proved such an attractive exhibit here may be returned to the East. Its disposition has not been definitely decided upon as yet, on account of the possibility of obtaining great rifles and other guns on the Western coast so much closer to Portland.

Nebraska to Have Big Exhibit.

Lincoln, Neb., Dec. 19.—J. B. Dinsmore, Nebraska commissioner, and in charge of the livestock exhibit of the St. Louis fair, and ex-president of the state board of agriculture, said today that Nebraska would have a big exhibit at Portland.

MUCH FEELING AGAINST CHILE

Japan Still Fears She Will Sell Her Warships to Russia.

Tokio, Dec. 19.—The Japanese are watching with great interest the alleged plan of the Russian government to purchase warships from the governments of Argentina and Chile. In response to a diplomatic inquiry, the government of Argentina frankly disavowed any intention to sell warships to Russia, but the answer received from Chile is said to be evasive. The correspondence on the subject is still in progress.

There is a growing feeling of resentment here against Chile. Discussing the question with the Associated Press correspondent today, an official said that in the event of Chile selling warships to Russia, Japan will unquestionably take the first opportunity to settle the score.

PROTECT FLOODED VALLEYS

Engineers Have Scheme to Redeem One Million Acres.

Sioux City, Ia., Dec. 19.—A committee of distinguished engineers chosen by California to solve the problem of protecting the valleys of the San Joaquin the Sacramento rivers from regular floods made its report today. If successful their plan will redeem 1,000,000 acres.

The floods were caused primarily by deposits from hydraulic mines filling the channel. The project will cost \$1,000,000 at least. While the report is not made public, it is understood it recommends the construction of dykes to confine the water to the channel, and thereby carry out the debris.

Conservative Reforms for Russia.

St. Petersburg, Dec. 19.—A special council was held this afternoon at Tsarkoe-Selo, under Emperor Nicholas, at which President of the Ministerial council C. Witte, Minister of the Interior Sviatopolk-Mirsky and Minister of Justice Muraviev discussed the question of reforms. It is understood that the emperor advised with them on the question of a manifesto which will be published today. This document, it is believed, outlines a policy of careful conservative reform.

Federal Building for Honolulu.

Washington, Dec. 19.—Senator Perkins introduced a bill today to make an appropriation of \$1,400,000 to acquire a site to construct a Federal building at Honolulu, Hawaii. Representative Cushman, of Washington, introduced the same bill in the house.

PLANS FOR CANAL.

Four Schemes Before Chief Engineer of Isthmian Canal Commission.

Washington, Dec. 21.—John F. Wallace, chief engineer of the Isthmian canal commission, has given the house committee on interstate and foreign commerce the benefit of his investigations so far as made regarding the engineering tasks to be performed in the construction of the Panama canal. The testimony was taken aboard the army transport Sumner in Colon harbor on the occasion of the recent visit of the committee to the canal zone. It is to be printed for the use of congress.

Asked by members of the commission for an estimate of the cost of the various plans, Mr. Wallace said the best estimate that could be made at present would be based on the estimate of the former commission of \$200,000,000 for a 90-foot level canal. Figuring with this as a basis, the 60-foot level canal would cost \$225,000,000, could be open for traffic in 10 years, and fully completed in 12 years; the 30-foot level canal would cost \$250,000,000 and be open for traffic in 12 years and completed in 15 years; the sea-level canal would cost \$300,000,000, could be open for traffic in 15 years and completed in 20 years.

Chairman Hepburn's questions developed that the estimate of time to build a canal was based on a 10-hour day, and that with the construction of the Gamboa dam and the operation of the power plant, electric light sufficient to illuminate the whole of the Culebra cut might be had, thus making practical the working of two or more shifts and shortening the time of construction.

Mr. Wallace stated that the excavation of this cut was the feature of the construction of the canal that took the time. He said:

"Upon the economical and efficient handling of material from Culebra depends the cost and time it would take to complete the canal. Every other question and every other problem connected with the entire work is subordinate and inferior to the problem of excavation and disposal of the material from the Culebra cut; that is the principal problem of this work."

Work is now going on in the cut, one American steam shovel and some of the French machinery being on the operation. Fourteen American steam shovels have been purchased, one of which is being set up. The others are to be delivered at the rate of one a month. During October 3,185 men were on the payrolls of the commission. Of those 2,165 were laborers. More laborers are to be employed in the immediate future.

Answering a question about the operation of a sea-level canal, Mr. Wallace said:

"A sea-level canal would be less expensive to maintain and less expensive to operate, save time in passage through it, and could be widened and deepened when required without interfering with traffic."

RIOT IN MOSCOW.

Students and Police Battle for Hours in City's Streets.

Moscow, Dec. 21.—This city was the scene of a revolutionary demonstration today from noon until nearly evening. Probably 5,000 persons actually participated. Fortunately the agitators did not succeed in drawing the workmen from the factories into the disturbances, and after many collisions the police firing blank volleys and charging with their sabers, the crowds finally were dispersed.

Many were wounded, and more were arrested. As far as known none of the rioters were killed. One policeman is reported fatally injured. Many on both sides were roughly handled.

The authorities knew in advance that trouble was impending, and many houses along the Tverskaia street were specially guarded. Several squadrons of mounted gendarmes were concealed in the courtyards of houses, ready for an emergency.

Snow Is Two Feet Deep.

Newport, R. I., Dec. 21.—As a result of the worst blizzard that has visited Newport in many years, all local traffic is practically at a standstill. The storm began at midnight last night and abated at noon today. On a level the snow is more than two feet in depth, while a strong wind has piled up drifts that block the streets. The first train from Boston was five hours late. The Fall river line steamer from New York was caught in the storm and reached here five hours late.

Dummy Ships on Guard.

London, Dec. 21.—A report from Chefoo that a portion of the Japanese fleet has left for Singapore and that a number of Japanese merchantmen have been lightly armed to maintain the blockade of Port Arthur is published today in a Chefoo dispatch to the Daily Telegraph.

REFORM IS DELAYED

Land Laws Will Not Be Changed At Present Session.

DELAY WAS RATHER EXPECTED

Commission Appointed by Roosevelt to Decide on Needed Changes Has Not Yet Made Final Report.

Washington, Dec. 16.—The house committee on public lands today voted to postpone indefinitely the bill to repeal the timber and stone act. This action means there will be no land-law reform this session. This result was expected, especially in view of the fact that the public lands commission has not yet made a final report. The bill passed on was by far the most important of the land reform bills pending, but when it was passed by the senate last session there was a distinct understanding with the members of the house committee that it should not be reported to the house during the present congress.

The house committee turned the bill down by a vote of 10 to 4, those voting for repeal being: Chairman Lacey, of Iowa; Miller of Kansas, Needham of California and Volstead of Minnesota. In turning down this bill the committee stated that the repeal of the timber and stone act would shut off the source of the greater portion of the reclamation fund, and would seriously handicap irrigation work begun by the government. Furthermore, it was said that the repeal of this law would be of immeasurable benefit to railroad companies and other large holders of forest reserve lands, as it would cause a considerable rise in the value of scrip, which would be the only remaining way of getting large tracts of government timber land. There was, moreover, a general belief that the timber and stone act, if properly administered, is not a bad law.

ROOSEVELT URGES ACTION.

Anxious Interstate Commerce Commission to Have Greater Power.

Washington, Dec. 16.—President Roosevelt considered today with several friends his recommendation that increased powers be conferred by legislation upon the Interstate Commerce commission. Those to whom he talked were not only members of congress, but men in other walks of life. To all he indicated his earnest desire that action of a definite nature—action that would bring results to the people—should be taken as soon as practicable.

A day or two ago he considered the question with Judge Grosscup, of Chicago. Today he discussed it with Judge William W. Morrow, of the United States court at San Francisco.

By invitation of the president, a special committee of the Commercial Travelers' Protective association called on him today to consider his recommendation that the powers of the Interstate Commerce commission be extended so as to enable the commission to pass upon questions of railroad freight rates, subject only to review by the courts.

MITCHELL MUCH GRATIFIED.

He Wins Important Committee in Face of Much Opposition.

Washington, Dec. 16.—Senator Mitchell was highly gratified today to receive the appointment as chairman of the committee on interoceanic canals, which will handle all legislation hereafter enacted affecting the Panama canal and the canal zone. He succeeds the late Senator Hanna.

A very strong fight was made to keep Senator Mitchell out of his position, and it was only when all endeavor to force Senator Platt to accept the place failed that the position was given to the Oregon senator.

Friends of Panama really wanted to make Kittredge, of South Dakota, chairman of this committee, but could not consistently jump him over Mitchell.

Senator Mitchell was fought because he was an earnest advocate of the Nicaragua route.

Dredge for Oregon Harbors.

Washington, Dec. 16.—Representative Hermann appeared before the rivers and harbors committee in support of his bill asking an appropriation of \$100,000 for a dredge to be used on Oregon coast bars. Representative Hermann has received assurances from Chairman Burton and other members of the committee which lead him to believe the committee will incorporate in the river and harbor bill a provision for the dredge. The committee is unwilling to make further appropriations for the coast projects.

Canada Will Not Come to Fair.

Ottawa, Ont., Dec. 16.—The Dominion government decided today not to send an exhibit to the Lewis and Clark exposition.