

NEWS OF THE WEEK

Condensed Form for Our Busy Readers.

OPENINGS OF TWO CONTINENTS

Summary of the Less Important but Not Less Interesting Events of the Past Week.

There is an outlook of plague in many of the West Africa colonies. The report is again current that the government is trying to float a loan in London. General Franco has reached Lisbon badly worn out by his flight from Madrid. Garrison at Fort Yellowstone has been increased to four troops of 100 men each. Five men were killed while walking on the railroad near Billings. They were too drunk to notice the approaching train. A house committee on military affairs has agreed to recommend a pay for enlisted men. Pierpont Morgan has an interest in the pending currency bill. The key is withdrawing her troops from the Russian frontier of Persia. The outlook seems to be for a change. Senator Conrad, of the New York, has resigned and will be succeeded by a famous director from Italy. The bank is in the hands of receivers for eight years the assets of the New York bank shrank from \$100,000,000 to \$36,000,000. Don de Castillane was fined for his recent assault on his wife. Prince de Sagan, and the late prince given 20 cents damages. Secretary Shaw deprecates the fact that most of the ships tending the fleet carry some foreign crew and urges the building up of a merchant marine. A speech before the Lincoln of Kalamazoo, Mich., Senator of Pennsylvania, said federal regulation of railroads had been unjustified and was not an attempt to nationalize the industry. The miners were killed by an explosion of gas in a Kentucky coal mine. New York grand jury has returned two indictments against Ice Morse. Hugh Hargis, the young man who shot his father, a Kentucky feudist, is without bail. Five,000 men have been put to work by the National Tube Company, Cleveland, Ohio. New York labor leaders want to make labor candidates for president and vice president. Baker insists that President Taft is using political patronage to help the Taft boom. The Columbia Northern railway merged with the other Hill roads under one management. The papers demand the punishment of one of the guards who shot one of the king's assassins. Illinois Steel Company's mills at Chicago are resuming work. The company will employ about 5,000 men. The arbitration of any difficulty between the United States and France. United States court of appeals has decided that railroads are responsible for the safety of their employees. Nevada laborers, while lost in a storm, found a rich ledge of silver quartz under the snow making a camp for shelter. Portuguese nation will provide for the care of the families of the slain who were killed, and healthy families are contending for the privilege of adopting the orphans. A battleship fleet has passed the straits and is now in the ocean. Swift Packing Company has set plans for a \$3,500,000 plant in Portland. A graduate and athlete has been found to possess a complete set of burglar's tools. General Franco, dictator of Portugal, did not leave his room since he arrived in Bordeaux, France. Hevelt says the charges that he is his influence to help Taft are false and malicious. The alleged illegitimate heirs of Alfonso XII are creating considerable trouble for the Spanish government. A child was killed and many injured in the crush at the funeral of the dead king and prince. Members of the royal household that the Portuguese crown prince and fired twice at the assassin before he himself fell dead. A railroad commission has been set up to convict the Southern of rebating on about 4,000 accounts, the fines for which amount to \$80,000,000. Edward and Queen Alexandra, Princess Victoria and many other officials attended the funeral services for the late King of Portugal and the Crown battleship fleet has turned to the

LIABLE TO FINES OF \$80,000,000

Clear Case Against S. P.—Paid Rebates for Years.

San Francisco, Feb. 11.—Penalties unprecedented in the history of the prosecution of corporations in California, or a complete revision and vitalizing of the laws applicable to railroads, will be the outcome of the investigation to be instituted this week by the State Railroad Commission, in the rooms of the Chamber of Commerce, in the Merchants' Exchange building. Assistant Attorney-General Raymond Benjamin said today that 4,000 cases of rebating have been perfected against the Southern Pacific Company, practically through its own admissions. These cases will be presented to the Railroad Commission by Attorney-General U. S. Webb, Mr. Benjamin and O. K. Cushing, special counsel for the California Traffic Association. Should convictions be obtained on each of these cases, and the maximum penalty of \$20,000 be imposed for each violation of the law, the Southern Pacific will face an aggregate fine of \$80,000,000. In each case the evidence practically is conclusive, from bills of lading to the indorsed checks issued by the company to the shipper, in reimbursement. When the State Board of Railroad Commissioners requested the Southern Pacific to submit its books to Mr. Benjamin, Peter F. Dunne, counsel for the railroad, replied that the railroad's books would be available at any time. The compliance with which the railroad corporation greets the investigation foreordains that it will not fight the action of the Railroad Commission on merits but rather upon the law involved. Section 222 of the state legislation which creates the State Board of Railroad Commissioners, with their power to fix rates, provides: "Any railroad corporation or transportation company which shall fail to conform to such rates as shall be established by such commission shall be fined not exceeding \$20,000 for each offense." In 4,000 cases the railroad company failed to conform to the rate set by the Commissioners. The practice is of long standing, but the only records available are those subsequent to May, 1906. In some of these rebates the railroad refunded 53 per cent of the original charge to the shipper.

DRAG OUT SKELETONS.

Alleged Illegitimate Heirs of Alfonso Making Trouble.

Madrid, Feb. 11.—The question of allotting a pension of 250,000 pesetas to the Infanta Alfonso, the son of Don Carlos of Bourbon and the Princess of Asturias, who recently married Princess Louise of Orleans in England, has received the approval of the Council of State and now goes before the Cortes. But it has raised many complications, not the least interesting of which are suits for similar allowances brought by the natural children of Alfonso XII by Elena Sanz, a former well-known Spanish actress, and a natural cousin of the king named Carlos Allen Perkins, a second-rate but popular actor in the music halls of the capital. Perkins claim goes back to his great-grandmother, the famous Infanta Carlotta, who provoked the Carlist war by obliging Ferdinand VII to admit the principle of the Salic law. It was she who slapped the face of Calomarde, the Premier, and drew from him the historic retort: "White hands are not offensive." Perkins' birth is not recorded in Gotha, but he insists that his real name is Don Francisco Carlos Pio Rose Alfonso Luis Fernando Allen Perkins Guerowsky Bourbon Luthierian Hossen Drichma Vrichna and Ottendorf" and consequently a blood relation of most of the reigning sovereigns of Europe.

Survey for New Tunnel.

Seattle, Wash., Feb. 11.—Surveyors and engineers in the employ of the Northern Pacific have for months been locating a new tunnel through the Cascades. The fact became known yesterday, when the men, driven from their work by the heavy snows, arrived at Green River Hot Springs on their way to St. Paul. From Hot Springs comes word that the big Stampede tunnel is to be abandoned as soon as the new bore is completed. The new bore is to be seven miles long and will cost upward of \$10,000,000.

Franco Excites Curiosity.

Bordeaux, France, Feb. 11.—Sunday passed with Senator Franco, the ex-Premier of Portugal, still in Bordeaux and still in seclusion. His privacy has remained unbroken; since his arrival Friday he has not emerged from the hotel where he is stopping, not even from his room. The former dictator has become a problem which the people are discussing with curious, wondering, even sympathetic interest, but no one has been enlightened as to the hour of his departure, or his destination, for it is certain that he is not to remain here long.

Wreck on Webash.

Detroit, Mich., Feb. 11.—The Continental Limited passenger train on the Webash railway, westbound, was derailed today by a broken rail at Delhi, Ont., 150 miles east of Detroit. None of the passengers nor train crew sustained any injuries, other than bruises. Mrs. J. W. Daniels, of Wallace, Idaho, was taken from the train at St. Thomas, suffering from nervous shock and with this exception all of the passengers continued to their destinations.

Temperance Worker Dead.

New York, Feb. 11.—John W. Oliver, editor and principal owner of the Yonkers Statesman, died at his home in Yonkers today, aged 92 years. Mr. Oliver was an early leader in the temperance movement, and with his brother, Isaac Oliver, founded the Sons of Temperance.

DOINGS OF THE SIXTIETH CONGRESS

Friday, February 14

Washington, Feb. 14.—Oratory in the house today gave way to legislation, with the result that material progress was made with the executive, legislative and judicial bills. The first attack upon the increases in the salaries of the assistant secretaries of several departments which the bill authorizes, was made by Macon, Arkansas and when the proposition affecting the treasury department salaries was read these increases went out on point of order raised by him. The proposed increase in the salary of the supervising architect of the treasury was rejected on a point of order by Macon. Macon made another point against the increase of the salary of the assistant secretary of war and it was stricken out. On a point of order by Mann the appropriation for a monthly pilot chart of the North Pacific ocean, published by the navy, was stricken out. Crumpacker, Alabama offered an amendment reducing the mileage allowed to senators, members and delegates from 20 cents to 8 cents, but on an objection by Inglebright, California, it was refused on a point of order.

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mitttee on banking and currency today, in explanation of the old Goshen system, which provides for a reserve of silver bullion to be held as security against trade silver paper, issued in denominations of \$2.50 up to \$10, not redeemable in gold, but in silver. Mr. Frewen said that all hope of international bimetalism had disappeared, and that the Goshen plan could be allied in this country without disrupting the present currency system. He declared that it would be more applicable here and in England now than it would have been years ago. His idea was to have the United States adopt it first and then let England take it up.

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