

**NEWS OF THE WEEK**  
 A Condensed Form for Our Busy Readers.  
**APPENINGS OF TWO CONTINENTS**  
 Resumes of the Less Important but Not Less Interesting Events of the Past Week.

Thomas A. Edison is slightly improved.  
 Six accomplices of Alito murderer in the Denver priest have been arrested.  
 Harriman has declared an extra dividend of \$75 per share on O. R. & stock.  
 An explosion in a mine at San de Sabina, Mexico, 76 men were killed.  
 Investigation into the Pennsylvania capitol graft is bringing further light to light.  
 The president has asked the Oregon delegation in congress to choose another district attorney.  
 The bombs thrown at the shah of Persia killed three attendants, but the shah escaped unhurt.  
 An attempt was made to assassinate the president of Argentina, but a bomb failed to explode.  
 The Northern Pacific railroad has dropped for the present the idea of giving pay of its telegraphers.  
 The British house of commons has passed the woman suffrage bill. The date of action will now be transferred to the house of lords.  
 Thomas A. Edison's recovery seems doubtful.  
 The senate committee may revive the Brownson-Rixey controversy.  
 Northern Pacific telegraphers have rejected reduction of wages.  
 Roosevelt has called for a new recommendation for Oregon district judge.  
 Heavy buying of merchants from New York wholesalers shows a return of prosperity.  
 Los Angeles police have arrested three men and a woman who had planned to dynamite a bank.  
 A tobacco warehouse near Frankfort, Ky., containing 100,000 pounds of tobacco has been burned.  
 Railroads are pleading with the interstate commerce commission for delay in enforcing the nine hour law.  
 Charges against Jerome, district attorney for New York, cause many demands to be made for his removal.  
 The president has submitted a number of treaties to the senate that were approved by The Hague peace conference.  
 Governor Toole, of Montana, whose resignation, on account of ill health takes effect April 1, is in Los Angeles.  
 It is estimated that over \$2,000,000 will have been paid by New York patrons of opera before the present season ends in April.  
 The senate committee has approved the dismissal of the negro troops engaged in the Brownsville riot in August, 1906.  
 Having been left an annuity of \$5,000 a year as long as he remains a college and lives in a college dormitory, W. C. B. Kemp has contrived to remain at Columbia university, New York, 27 years without graduating.  
 Four mail clerks were injured in a train wreck near Flovilla, Ga.  
 Work is about to begin in New York on a building for the various Irish societies.  
 New York hotel clerks have organized a club under the name of the Greeters.  
 Dr. Emil G. Hirsch, in an address at Chicago, denounced Germany as a menace to the peace of the world.  
 Sixteen persons were injured, five seriously, by the derailment of a car on the scenic railway at one of Denver's amusement parks.  
 Mrs. Yerkes, widow of Charles T. Yerkes, intends to devote a portion of her \$10,000,000 estate to the erection of a hospital in New York.  
 A man disguised as a girl obtained employment in the St. Louis telephone office and was only discovered when he proposed to one of the girls.  
 First-class west bound ocean travel is at its lowest ebb at the present time. Four big liners have just arrived with their cabins practically empty.  
 That there is less graft and business dishonesty in America today than there was in Washington's time, is the opinion of Dr. R. H. McArthur, of New York.  
 American naval officers were banished at Lima, Peru.  
 A Frenchman has invented a wireless electric power system.  
 The sale of ex-Minister Conger's Chinese curio collection has realized \$26,000.  
 Japan has asked for a larger appropriation for the Tokio exposition in 1912.  
 Russian authorities have captured plotters against the life of Grand Duke Nicholas.  
 Fire for a time seriously threatened a large part of the business district of New Orleans.

**TRAP FOR TERRORISTS.**  
 Russia Provides World-Wide System of Secret Service.

St. Petersburg, Feb. 25.—The skilful performance of the police in the roundup of the great band of plotters has won praise throughout the city, bearing witness to the thoroughness of the methods evolved for fighting terrorists. The secret police are spending unlimited sums in bringing the terrorists to justice and have drafted agents of international experience who are thoroughly familiar with the by-ways of Western anarchists and who will introduce an improved technique here. The police department has entered into relations with detective agencies abroad, and has organized an extensive service in all the centers where Russian emigrants congregate, particularly in New York, Paris and Switzerland, and are making a special effort to penetrate within the innermost councils of the Social Democratic and Social Revolutionary organizations.

In connection with the latest plot the men of the secret service were absolutely trusted by comrades of the revolutionists, who attended the meetings held in Finland, where the final plan for the assassination of Grand Duke Nicholas Nicholavitch and Judge Tcheglovitch, minister of justice, was elaborated. Two hundred plain clothes men were called in by heads of the police department and given precise instructions as to what action should be taken and apparently they arrested without error the persons involved. Thus far the police have failed to extract a confession from any of those arrested as to their identity, but several undoubtedly are members of aristocratic houses. It is certain that numbers of the conspirators have managed to evade arrest, and a careful watch is being kept for these.

**BLACK HAND BUSY.**

Threaten to Blow Up Government Powder Stores.

New York, Feb. 25.—In a letter signed "Black Hand" and addressed to Commander Braunstrueter, in charge of the United States naval magazine at Iona Island, the threat has been made that the enormous stores of smokeless powder on the island will be blown up unless the married men discharged from employment on the island January 1, 1908, be put back to work at once. There are 3,000,000 pounds of smokeless powder and other explosives stored in the numerous magazines.

Secret service men are working to discover the identity of the writer of the letter. Printed by hand, the letter was mailed at the Haverstraw postoffice two weeks ago. It was as follows: "If the married men that were discharged from Iona Island are not taken back again at once all the magazines on the island will be blown up. The writer does not fear death."

On January 1 between 30 and 40 men, who had been employed on the island, were discharged, owing to delay in forwarding funds from Washington to continue work. This delay was looked upon at the time as temporary, and it was understood the men would be taken back as soon as the money arrived.

Among the men discharged, most of whom were laborers, were many Italians.

Since the receipt of the letter every approach to the island has been guarded day and night by marines, it is said, and the civilian employes have been kept under the strictest surveillance.

Iona Island is about seven miles south of West Point.

**Death at Grade Crossing.**

Spring Valley, N. Y., Feb. 25.—A foam specked pair of horses that tore through the streets early today, dragging with them a splintered wagon pole, brought to the village the first news of a grade crossing accident in which nine members of its most prominent families were either killed outright or frightfully injured. Four of the party were instantly killed, two died while being removed to the Hudson county hospital at Hoboken N. J., and the other three lie in a serious condition at that institution tonight.

**Operate on Edison.**

New York, Feb. 25.—Thomas A. Edison, the inventor, is a patient at the Manhattan hospital, where last night he underwent an operation intended to relieve him of trouble in the left ear. The operation, which was not considered especially serious, was performed by Dr. Arthur D. Deull, the ear specialist, who opened an abscess in the middle ear. The operation was seemingly wholly successful and a prompt recovery is anticipated.

**Repair at Puget Sound.**

Seattle, Feb. 25.—The Colorado and the Pennsylvania, armored cruisers of the first class, arrived at the navy yard today for dry docking and repairs. The Colorado will be equipped with a new main battery of four eight-inch breech loading rifles. The two vessels will be followed by eight other warships which will be repaired by April 26.

**Main Water Pipe Bursts.**

Paris, Feb. 25.—The main water pipe of Paris, under Tuilleries street, burst last evening and converted the street into a torrent. The water flooded cellars in various side streets, extinguishing fires and stopping the dynamo in at least one large hotel, putting the building in darkness.

**Russia Backs Down.**

Copenhagen, Feb. 25.—It is understood in diplomatic circles that as a result of pressure from other powers Russia has abandoned her plan of fortifying the Aland islands and that an entente will soon be arranged.

**DOINGS OF THE SIXTIETH CONGRESS**

Friday, February 20  
 Washington, Feb. 20.—Long Winters spent in isolated sections of Alaska have so greatly increased the percentage of insanity that the senate today passed a bill authorizing large expenditures for the maintenance of the Alaskan insane. The 5 per cent of the license moneys collected outside of the incorporated towns for road building, schools and the care of the insane has been found insufficient for the demands.

Consideration of the Indian appropriation bill and a speech by Smoot, of Utah, on the currency bill, consumed nearly the entire time in the senate today. The Indian bill was passed.

Washington, Feb. 25.—Without a dissenting voice the house early in the day, under a special rule restored to the army appropriation bill the provisions to increase the pay of non-commissioned officers and men and to prohibit the private employment of army musicians for pay, both of which yesterday went out on points of order.

The house took up an amendment offered by Foster, of Illinois, appropriating \$1,500,000 for joint maneuvers of the militia organizations of the several states and the regular army. It provoked extended debate, Hull and Tawney leading in opposition.

The amendment was altered so as to limit the amount to \$1,000,000 and as modified was agreed to, on division, 56 to 48, but on the vote being taken by tellers it was lost, 59 to 60.

Thursday, February 27.  
 Washington, Feb. 27.—One of the most dramatic scenes in the senate was enacted today when Owen, of Oklahoma, insisted, in tragic tones and with face showing much emotion, that the five civilized tribes of Indians were dead and that he, as a member of the tribe of Cherokee Indians, was not under the control of the secretary of the interior. The event was rendered all the more interesting by the fact that Owen was sharply engaged in controversy by Curtis, of Kansas, himself a Kaw Indian.

It was the first time that two men with Indian blood in their veins had ever locked horns as senators in the senate chamber. The controversy arose in connection with the consideration of the Indian bill and was precipitated by a motion on the part of Owen to have the bill, so amended as to recognize the citizenship of five civilized tribes of Indians by putting the word "late" before this designation, calling them the "late five civilized tribes."

After further debate, in which Owen, Curtis, Clapp, McCumber and Lodge participated, Owen's proposition to designate the Indians as the "late five civilized tribes" was voted down. Owen's vote was the only one in its support.

Washington, Feb. 27.—Representative Lilley, of Connecticut, today introduced a resolution calling on the secretary of the navy to inform the house of representatives of the physical condition at the present time of the various submarine torpedo boats owned by the United States government, together with full information of reports relating to the performance of each, submarine accidents thereto and repairs thereon. Mr. Lilley said: "I am informed that the dozen or so submarines purchased from the Holland Boat Company by the Government are practically all sick, broken and tied up at wharves, out of commission, and that the Octopus which outstripped its competitors in the trials off Newport last year, is in such a shape of dilapidation that acceptance by the navy department has been refused."

Wednesday, February 26.  
 Washington, Feb. 26.—There were two speeches in criticism of the Aldrich currency bill in the senate today.

The currency bill was, on motion of Aldrich, made the unfinished business.

The bill to revise the criminal laws of the United States was passed after adoption of Culberson's amendment penalizing the improper giving out of information by government officials affecting the market value of products of the soil, except upon proper authority.

The senate today adopted a resolution introduced by Senator Lodge requesting the president to send to the senate correspondence with Venezuela in relation to pending controversies concerning alleged wrongs done to Americans in that country by the Venezuelan government.

Washington, Feb. 26.—The climax in general debate on the army appropriation bill in the house came today, when Daizeil, Pennsylvania, recognized as one of the foremost protectionists of the country, delivered an exhaustive speech in defense of the republican party and its policies, in which he upheld the principle of the protective tariff system and said that under it the United States had become the greatest of manufacturing nations.

The army appropriation bill was read for amendment and its consideration was not concluded when the house adjourned.

May Have Salaries Now.  
 Washington, Feb. 26.—Benito Legarda and Tabo Coaracho, recently appointed resident commissioners, who have arrived here to represent the Philippine islands in congress, today visited the senate committee on the Philippines and were later taken to the floor of the senate, where they were interested observers. The senate today passed the house joint resolution authorizing the payment of the commissioners' salary.

**DENATURED ALCOHOL.**  
 Farmers May Make It Future Fuel of the West.

By Fred W. Lewis, Secretary Washington State Grange, Tumwater, Wash.

Two years ago the Grange, assisted by some other organizations, went to work to try and pass a law that would allow alcohol to be manufactured and used for light and fuel, without having to pay the prohibitive revenue tax, that had been required by the government, so as to free the people of the country from the tyranny of the Standard Oil Co., which has gradually raised the price of fuel oil from a low price to an amount that is paying the monopoly extremely large dividends, thereby levying an unreasonable tax on the consumer of the products of petroleum.

After a long and hard fight in congress in which the Standard Oil Company did their best to prevent the passage of the bill, we conquered and now a farmer, or several of them may erect a still, and make alcohol in any quantities, the same to be denatured, or poisoned, by officers appointed by the government, and may then be used or sold to any one under a permit which may be obtained from the government.

It is now our duty to get the appliances for the use of the product into general use, so that there will be a demand for the alcohol, so that there will be distilleries installed all over the west, so as to use the waste products of our farms to make fuel for our engines, stoves, both heating and cooking, and to give us one of the best lights that you ever saw.

I wish that it were possible for me to show the lamp with its beautiful light, so that you could realize the value of it as a light producing fuel. Wherever I have demonstrated the light, it has met with an enthusiastic reception and it is only a question of letting people see the value of denatured alcohol, to insure a demand that will fill our land with distilleries, making our own fuel out of the small potatoes, sprouted wheat, small, and imperfect apples, and fruit of other varieties, and in fact, anything that is composed of sugar or starch.

A corn-field, with its stalks filled with sweet-ness, will make large quantities of alcohol, and a small amount of land will raise enough fuel to keep our homes well heated and lighted for the year.

Another good quality of this alcohol is that it is perfectly clean and healthful. There is no dust, smoke, soot, or gas, developed in the burning of it for either light or heat, and it does not vitiate the air in the room, as it contains oxygen, in itself and does not have to use the oxygen out of the air in the room, so much as any other fuel.

There is no wick-trimming to be done, as the wick is never on fire, and as far as smoke is concerned, the lamp chimneys will never need any washing, so the lamps are much easier to take care of.

You can turn it off until there is a very small light, and so makes a perfect night lamp, as there is no gas, as there is from a kerosene lamp, to make the bed room a hot-bed of disease.

There is another great boon to the housewife in the alcohol flat-iron, which will burn only about a cent's worth of fuel, rather than ten or fifteen cents worth as when you have to use a stove of any sort. You can take this flatiron into any room of the house, out onto the porch, out under a shade tree, or anywhere else that you want to, as you have no "string" attached to you as in the electric iron, and you do not have to travel back and forth between the ironing board and the stove, as you have always had to do, nor do you have to stand near a hot stove while you are doing your ironing.

Write to me and I will tell you how you may procure these splendid improvements, as the Grange is anxious to get people to know of the advantages to be derived from the introduction of denatured alcohol.

**Agricultural Club Formed.**  
 By J. H. Frandson, Department of Dairying, Idaho Experiment Station, Moscow.

A sudden impetus was given the agricultural interests of the University of Idaho on the 19 of December, 1907 when the students of that department organized an agricultural club. It consists of students deeply interested in agriculture, who are doing all in their power to build up a strong agricultural college in the university. It is with a keen sense of the needs of Idaho that the movement is begun. Idaho is one of the most rapidly growing states of the union. Over 700,000 acres of land have been added within the last year or two to the grants covered by the irrigation companies. This will furnish room for thousands of beautiful homes in the near future. It is obvious that scientific skill will be in demand under the conditions brought about by this extended system of intensive farming.

A publication known as the Idaho Student Farmer will be the club's main method of interesting the farmers of the state in the work of the agricultural college, and it is hoped by this method to get a great many students from the farms. It is probably the only student agricultural paper published in the colleges of the northwest. The first and only number of the present scholastic year will come out in a week or ten days.

The people of Idaho should respond with the true spirit of an energetic commonwealth. Send in your name and address to the Idaho Student Farmer, University of Idaho, Moscow, and receive the first copy free.

**Miscellaneous.**

One quart of chopped bottled beef, 2 quarts of chopped apples, 1 pint of molasses, 1 pint of sugar, 1 teacup of vinegar or cider, 1 quart of chopped raisins or currants, 2 tablespoonfuls of cloves and cinnamon, 1 nutmeg, 1 gill of butter; cook until scalded through, seal in glass jars until wanted, or pack in an earthen jar and cover with melted lard.

**ROADS LOSE APPEAL**

**U. S. Supreme Court Upholds Elkins Law.**

**DECIDES GREAT NORTHERN CASE**

**Attempt to Play Off One Law Against Another and Escape Penalties Completely Foiled.**

Washington, Feb. 25.—One of the main contentions by which the railroads which gave and the corporations which received rebates hoped to escape punishment was swept away today by a decision of the United States supreme court. This decision vitally affects the case under which the Standard Oil Co. was fined \$29,240,000 for the same point was raised.

The case upon which the decision was rendered was instituted in the United States District Court for the District of Minnesota, which court fined the Great Northern railroad \$1,000 each for 15 violations of the first section of the Elkins law.

The alleged offenses against the law were committed during the summer of 1905, and consisted in granting concessions to the W. P. Devereaux Company on its shipments of oats and corn from Minnesota to points in Washington. The company admitted the concessions and fought the prosecution on the ground that by amending the Elkins act so as to provide for punishment by imprisonment rather than by fines the Hepburn law had so modified the original law as to accomplish its repeal and render punishment under it impracticable. Today's decision was announced by Justice White and affirmed the finding of the District Court and the United States Circuit Court of Appeals.

**HEROISM ON MARYLAND.**

**Explosion Averted by Instant Obedience to Hurred Signal.**

San Francisco, Feb. 25.—An act of heroism performed by three blue-jackets on the United States cruiser Maryland during the recent target practice held at Magdalena Bay, was all that prevented a repetition of the Georgia disaster off the Massachusetts coast last year, when Lieutenant Goodrich, the son of Admiral Goodrich, and 13 of his shipmates, met death in the explosion of one of the big guns.

It happened while the Maryland was having her try at the navy record. After the second or third shot from No. 4, one of the Maryland's eight-inch guns, J. J. Donnelly, a seaman, acting as first loader, discovered that two balls of fire were spinning around within the screw-box. This fire should have gone out of the muzzle of the gun but it had failed to do so.

Without the loss of a moment, Donnelly hastily signalled J. C. King, the hoisting man, to lower the ammunition car into the handling-room, and King, with the assistance of J. Green, the rammer man, complied with the former's request upon the instant. Twenty-five seconds elapsed before the fire in the screw-box was put out, but in that brief time a great disaster was averted.

**TRYING TO GET ENOUGH MEN**

**Railroads Have Ten Days Before New Law Takes Effect.**

Los Angeles, Feb. 25.—With less than ten days until the new federal law limiting the hours of labor of certain railroad employes shall become effective, Los Angeles railway officials are preparing as best they can for the necessary changes which must be made. Approximately 140 new telegraph operators will be required in the territory governed by Los Angeles general offices. The Santa Fe will need the greater portion of these. If it keeps all its offices open it will require 81 men on its coast line in addition to its present force. There is a possibility that it will not be able to get that number at once. If so, it will be necessary to close a few offices all or a part of the time until the additional men can be found.

**Santa Fe's Cry of Misery**

Topeka, Feb. 25.—On the Santa Fe railroad 486 new operators will be required, the Gulf lines excepted, to comply with the provisions of the federal nine-hour law, to go into effect March 4. About 60 are required on the eastern grand division. The officials do not know whether they will be able to get the requisite number of new men or not.

Notices were posted in the Santa Fe shops at Newton today that employes need not report for work till Monday, March 2. About 200 men are affected.

**Black Hand Threats Terrorize.**

Seattle, Wash., Feb. 25.—Black Hand Society notices, sent through the mails and posted on doors and fences, with the object of frightening Italians who have offended the society in the mining village of Black Diamond, 25 miles from Seattle, reached a climax last Friday night when J. Vitero was shot at three times while making his way home. One bullet passed through his left arm and another cut his coat.

**Fabulous Strike is Made**

Rawhide, Nev., Feb. 25.—What is said to be the most wonderful strike in the history of mining in Nevada was made today on the Happy Hoolligan claim. Assays of the ore show values as high as \$79,600 to the ton. The ground has been purchased by E. W. King, a banker of Bozeman, Mont.