

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.

Virgil Gavin, who played ball with the Chicago Nationals and New York Giants, is dead.

The first steamers from Seattle this season have reached Nome, after a hard battle with the ice.

There will be held next year under the auspices of the U. S. Signal Service between balloons and aeroplanes.

Denver police were enjoined from interfering with race track gambling, and bookmaking is carried on freely.

The American auto has overtaken and passed the German machine in the New York-to-Paris race. They are now crossing Siberia.

James J. Hill says the crop prospects for the year are good, and as the crop will not be an unusually large one, it will bring good prices.

E. G. Bethel, the English editor arrested for sedition, has apologized for the publication, and says he was misinformed.

Max Mary Baker Eddy says that during the past year new Christian Science societies have been formed at the rate of one every four and one-half hours.

A federal grand jury in New York indicted the heads of the New York Cotton Exchange and the Manila Paper and Fiber Manufacturers' Association.

An English editor is on trial for sedition by Japanese authorities in Korea.

Havana authorities do not credit the rumors of a well-organized insurrection.

A dining car will be added to the A. & C. trains between Portland and Seattle.

Governor Dawson, of West Virginia, has a well-developed case of tuberculosis.

The transport Sherman will be quarantined at Astoria. She has smallpox on board.

Hurry and Evelyn Thaw have become reconciled, but Thaw must remain in the asylum.

A runaway automobile jumped off the docks into the river in New York and drowned four persons.

It is estimated that the spring crop-up in the Tanana district of Alaska will reach \$15,000,000.

The rivers have begun to fall at Kansas City, and it is believed all danger from the flood is passed.

A Venezuela war vessel fired on a Dutch sailing vessel and took from them all mail not in regular mail boxes.

Four thousand of the sultan's troops are in revolt.

A Seattle man was robbed of \$10,000 by pickpockets in St. Paul.

Hibonic plague has made its appearance in Caracas, Venezuela.

Senator Bailey, of Texas, is recovering from his attack of bronchitis.

Samuel Gompers, president of the American Federation of Labor, is ill in Chicago.

Frederick Arthur Stanley, Earl of Derby, and ex-governor general of Canada, is dead.

American warships are gathering at San Francisco, preparatory to their move around the world.

A Southern Pacific gatekeeper committed suicide because his gates had accidentally injured a woman.

The German kaiser cordially received the American ambassador, David Jayne Hill, and talked with him for half an hour.

Mr. S. C. Lapham says women are more than men in supporting permissive laws, including free love. He says that is taking the place of the Gospel in the modern pulpit, and that social conditions are much the same as before the flood.

Left leaders claim he will receive the votes on the first ballot.

There will remain in jail because he claims the asylum attendant.

Leading English steel manufacturers deny the story of a new trust.

Infantries of all nations are to join in a monster parade in London.

The British Columbian government has decided to deport 1,000 Hindus who are paupers.

Rapid progress is being made on repairs to the Northern Pacific roadbed in Montana.

Bank democrats have instructed their delegates for Bryan, but paid a tribute to Cleveland.

Railroad commissioners of five states in Chicago to decide on some uniform measure of doing away with the daily grade crossings.

The plant of the Continental Oil company at Albuquerque, N. M., has been destroyed by fire. Nearly 100,000 gallons of oil were burned.

Over 20 Japanese women who have arrived at Seattle to meet intended husbands will be detained until each individual case is investigated.

The British ship Haddon Hall and the German ship Hamburg collided in the North Sea. Both were damaged, but were able to reach Montevideo. Roosevelt threatens to intervene in Panama to secure a fair election.

IRRIGATION FLUME DESTROYED

Hood River Strawberries Perish for Want of Water.

Hood River, Or., June 16.—Giant powder was successfully used Saturday night in an effort to cause the growers composing the Farmers' Irrigating Company the loss of a large portion of their strawberry crop. Disgruntled laborers are suspected.

About 150 feet of flume on a hillside on the west side of Hood River was destroyed, and the water in the big irrigating ditch is shut off. As a result, the crop of two-thirds of the valley, about 400 acres, is without water until such time as the flume can be repaired, which will take at the least estimate three or four days.

The growers stand to lose at least 10,000 crates of berries, worth \$30,000, and if the flume cannot be repaired before Wednesday, the loss will be far greater. The damage to the ditch will not amount to more than \$500.

The point where the ditch was destroyed is high on a hillside. The members of the company state that it must have taken considerable work and three or four boxes of powder to produce such disastrous results. This is the ditch from which all of the water is taken to irrigate the big strawberry crop on the west side of the valley.

Although 25 men were hurried to the scene of the trouble as soon as it was known today, it is estimated that it will take three days, working day and night, to repair the damage.

The Hood River berry season is now at its height, and no water to sustain the plants and ripen the berries during the present warm weather will cut down the yield to almost nothing. For the past few days from five to seven cars of berries have been shipped daily.

An investigation started this afternoon by M. H. Nickelsen, secretary, and A. C. Staten, manager of the company, in an effort to determine if possible who the ditch destroyers were, developed the fact that the noise of the shots was heard two miles away from the spot where the explosion took place, and that it occurred about 11 o'clock. Beyond this, nothing is definitely known.

It is said, however, that the officers of the company have under suspicion several men whom they had in their employ last year, and to whom they refused to give work this summer.

SMALLPOX ON TRANSPORT.

Sherman Reports by Wireless and Must be Quarantined.

Portland, June 16.—Wireless dispatches were received Sunday by the Oregonian from the transport Sherman while at sea that there was smallpox on board. The Sherman is bound for Portland from the Philippines with the First Infantry, 585 men in all, under command of Colonel McGonical.

Before the vessel reached Honolulu a navy man returning died of the disease and was buried at sea. Two days ago an enlisted man was taken ill with smallpox. The two men were in different parts of the ship, so the whole vessel is considered infected. This means that under the quarantine regulations each of the 1182 men on board must be vaccinated and quarantined for 14 days and the transport must be fumigated.

This process necessitates disembarking all the men, and owing to the lack of facilities at the Columbia River station, tents must be sent from some of the army posts of the district. Colonel Rogers, in command, fears that since the men have just returned from the Orient, camping out in this climate will be injurious to their health and he has requested the department to have the transport with all on board sent to the quarantine station at San Francisco. What will be done in this matter cannot yet be known.

The First Infantry is en route to Vancouver, where it will be stationed, succeeding the Fourteenth Infantry, which was transported a few weeks ago to Manila.

Refuse to Cut Salaries.

Manila, June 16.—After many extended and apparently hopeless conferences, the Insular Commission and the Philippines Assembly have finally arrived at an agreement upon the general appropriation bill, which, it is believed, both the commission and the assembly will ratify. The compromise measure appropriates 16,800,000 pesos, the assembly making a concession of nearly 1,500,000 pesos. The commission declined to assent to the reduction in salaries and the consolidation of some of the bureaus as proposed by the assembly.

Plague in Venezuela.

Caracas, Venezuela, June 16.—Several cases of bubonic plague have occurred here, within the past few days, indicating that the country has been widely contaminated with the disease. Great anxiety is felt because no measures have been taken to fight the disease in this city and there are no serums on hand. The railroad running from Laguayra opened today, passengers coming from that city being required to undergo a five days' quarantine.

American Horse Wins.

Paris, June 16.—Thousands of Americans Saturday saw W. K. Vanderbilt's bay colt, North East, with J. Childs up, capture the Grand Prix de Paris, the blue ribbon event of the French turf, which this year was worth about \$72,000. Beautiful weather favored the running of this classic, and fully 150,000 persons gathered at Longchamps to witness the race, which marked the close of the Paris season.

Kaw River Falling.

Washington, June 16.—The Kaw river is falling, but the Missouri at Kansas City continues to rise slowly. The stage tonight was 30 feet, with a further rise of possibly one foot indicated during Monday, from water now in sight.

NEWS ITEMS FROM WASHINGTON, D. C.

WILL RESIGN IMMEDIATELY.

Secretary Taft Plans to Leave Cabinet July 1.

Washington, June 20.—Secretary Taft's resignation as a cabinet officer will be received by President Roosevelt today. It will take effect July 1. This was learned last night following a conference of several hours at the white house, at which Mr. Roosevelt, Secretary Taft, Secretary Root and Assistant Secretary of State Bacon were present. After the conference Secretary Taft was greeted by a dozen newspaper correspondents who desired to learn of his plans.

"The president wants me to leave a clean slate for my successor," said the war secretary, "and it will take me at least ten days to settle all pending matters in the war department. I have no definite plans tonight as to when I will leave Washington."

Mr. Taft intimated that it would be within a few days. He will attend the thirtieth anniversary of the Yale class of '78, with which he graduated. He will be in New Haven Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday of the coming week.

Asked as to his views on the vice-presidential question, the nominee for the presidency was non-committal. He asked for the latest news from Chicago as to who would be his probable running mate. Upon being told that there was a movement in favor of Fairbanks, he remarked:

"Things seem to be in a chaotic state in Chicago with regard to the vice-presidency."

During the conference at the white house several telegrams were sent to Chicago and Mr. Taft intimated that he was expecting responses from these which would materially affect his plans for the immediate future.

LET VICE PRESIDENCY ALONE.

Taft Will Have Nothing to Say About It Until Nominated.

Washington, June 18.—This statement was issued from an authoritative source yesterday:

"An exchange of telegrams over night between Washington and Chicago indicates that there will be no developments, so far as the administration is concerned, in the matter of soliciting a candidate for vice-president here until after the platform shall have been disposed of and a nominee for the presidency shall have been named."

It is understood that the above statement was issued with the distinct purpose of avoiding complication of the vice-presidential with the presidential nomination.

Reflection over night has only strengthened the determination of the war secretary to insist upon the inclusion in the Republican party platform of the anti-injunction plank on the lines of that telegraphed last night.

Therefore, a long telegram went forward from the war department yesterday to Frank Hitecock, Mr. Taft's Chicago manager, instructing him to insist upon the anti-injunction plank.

Crops Worth Eight Million.

Washington, June 16.—Crops of 1908 will be worth nearly \$8,000,000,000, according to figures prepared by the department of agriculture. It is expected there will be sufficient funds to move the crops from the farms to tide-water.

In discussing the outlook today, Chief Statistician Clark of the agricultural department, said:

"Indications at the present time are for great crops. For eight years the American farmer has enjoyed unprecedented prosperity and now the ninth promising harvest is practically assured. Never in the history of the United States have there been nine such years of big yields and high prices."

Battleships to Panama.

Washington, June 19.—Reports received here today as to the conditions on the isthmus of Panama state that the situation there is growing graver every hour, and President Roosevelt today directed the navy department to order the battleships New Hampshire and Idaho at once to Colon. The cruisers Tacoma and Prairie are already en route. There will be approximately 1,500 marines on the isthmus when the elections are held.

Preparing New Currency.

Washington, June 16.—The department of engraving and printing started to turn out the new notes authorized by the currency act of the last congress. The notes are similar to the old United States bank notes with one exception. Where the inscription "Secured by bonds of the United States," appears on the old notes, the following legend appears on the new:

"Secured by bonds of the United States and other securities."

Battleships at Honolulu.

Honolulu, June 20.—The special service squadron, consisting of the battleships Maine and Alabama, which sailed from San Francisco June 8 in advance of the Atlantic fleet, has arrived here, one day ahead of schedule time. Secretary of the Interior Garfield, who was a passenger on the Alabama, was received by Governor Frear and other territorial and federal officials.

Metcalf Goes Home.

Washington, June 17.—Secretary Metcalf called on the President today prior to leaving for his home in California. He will leave Washington this evening, and will not stop late this evening, and will not stop at Chicago for the convention. He said that he was not and would not be a candidate for the senatorship or for any other office.

Hyde-Benson Case to Jury.

Washington, June 20.—Counsel for both sides have made their closing arguments in the Hyde-Benson-Diamond-Schneider land conspiracy trial. Justice Stafford will charge the jury today.

Kaiser Greets Ambassador.

American Cordially Received at German Court.

Berlin, June 17.—The emperor today received in audience the new American ambassador to Germany, David Jayne Hill, who succeeded Charlemagne Tower. The audience was fixed several days before Dr. Hill anticipated it, but the emperor's greeting was none the less hearty.

The emperor's master of ceremonies, Baron von de Knesbeck, called at the hotel yesterday where Dr. Hill was stopping, and informed him that an audience with the emperor had been granted for today in the old palace, his majesty coming in from Potsdam for the purpose. Three court carriages called for Dr. Hill today, and accompanied by his staff, he proceeded to the palace. On his arrival there he received a message from the emperor that the presentation would take place in the garden which recently was planted in one of the palace courts.

TEST CRUISERS.

Maryland and West Virginia Make a Good Showing.

Washington, June 17.—Rear Admiral Dayton today reported that the armored cruiser Maryland on a four-hour full speed, forced draught trial off the California coast, averaged 13.1 revolutions of her engines per minute, and the armored cruiser West Virginia, under similar conditions, averaged 13.18 revolutions. The average speed obtained with a slight adverse current was 22.25 and 22.1 knots respectively.

The revolutions may exceed those of the records of the contractors' trials, and opinions of the naval officials speak well for the work on the machinery of the vessels, which have been now in commission for three years.

PROTECT TIMBER.

Timber Owners and State Will Work Together.

Olympia, Wash., June 19.—Arrangements have been made between State Fire Warden J. R. Welty and D. P. Page, Jr., chief fire warden for the new Washington Forest Fire association, for co-operation in fighting forest fires during the dry season this year. Mr. Page will put 100 deputies immediately into the field, who will be paid by an assessment upon the big timber companies composing the association. These deputies will be appointed state fire wardens at large, with power to make arrests and further enforce the forest protection laws. The state fire warden will issue no permits to burn slashings without sending duplicates to the deputies above referred to, and these deputies will have power to stop the burnings if a personal inspection convinces them that forest fires might result.

The organizers of the fire protection association control 2,500,000 acres of timber land in western Washington and have been assessed 1 cent an acre for the season's work. A half-cent per acre has been collected in advance. There is, therefore, a fund of \$25,000, with \$12,500 immediately available.

The state owns 65,000 acres of timber land in western Washington, and a force of about 25 deputies will soon be put in the field and paid out of an appropriation provided by the last legislature.

Repaint Letter Boxes.

Word has reached Portland from the postoffice department at Washington, that all street letter boxes in all cities of the United States are to be painted a bright scarlet. The principal reason assigned for the use of the bright and attractive color is that these mail deposit boxes may be discerned more readily. These boxes are now painted in an aluminum color and are not easily located in the streets by many persons desiring to deposit letters.

Alaska Timber Burning.

Dawson, Y. T., June 19.—Forest fires are raging near Minto and along Lake LeBarge. Fifteen miles of Canadian telegraph wires have already been destroyed near Minto, and for five miles along the lake.

Hundreds of square miles of valuable timber have been destroyed. The fires were set by travelers en route down the river in small boats. There have been over 800 arrivals here to date.

Georgia to Make Speed Trial.

Navy Yard, Puget Sound, Wash., June 19.—The battleship Georgia will sail for San Francisco Thursday morning, and incidentally will attempt to break all battleship speed records en route. The Georgia is the acknowledged speed queen of the Atlantic fleet, but her officers are desirous of establishing a record. Sustained runs under both natural and forced draughts will be made, and all records are expected to be smashed.

Opium Commissioners.

Washington, June 18.—President Roosevelt has appointed three commissioners to represent the United States on the international commission to investigate the opium question in the Far East. They are: Thomas Burke, attorney, of Seattle; Dr. Hamilton Wright, of Maine, and Dr. Charles Tenney, Chinese secretary of the American legation at Peking.

Lumber Cases Decided.

Washington, June 18.—The decision of the interstate commerce commission in the Pacific Coast lumber rate cases will probably be announced the latter part of this week. The decisions have been written and are only awaiting final review and approval before being made public.

GERMANY HAS GRAFT.

ASTOUNDING STATE OF CORRUPTION DISCOVERED IN NAVY YARDS.

Berlin, June 15.—How many millions has the German government been swindled out of by the recently discovered embezzlements in the imperial shipyards at Kiel? No one dares even guess. How many of the vessels built and equipped in the yards are to be found to belong to the same class as the battleships built in Russia with wooden pegs instead of steel rivets? No one knows yet, and no one probably ever will.

The discovery that two high officials of the imperial shipyards, and possibly a number of others, have systematically been robbing the government for years has come as a terrible shock to the German people, who are proud of the proverbial honesty of their government officials, and who have always contended that while fraud might be found in America and Russia, all German government officers would always be found to come up to the Roosevelt standard, and be able to show a record as clean as a hound's tooth.

It is impossible to find out at this time how many officials are implicated or suspected; the government even refuses to let it become known how many people are under arrest besides the leaders, Heinrich and Frankenthal. The latter is a multi-millionaire, and it is some consolation to think that he will be able to make good the losses, though this will not heal the wounded German pride.

The kaiser was informed of the affair just as he was about to prepare his speech for the opening of the Maritime exposition here, and was so upset by the news that he found it almost impossible to entertain the King and Queen of Sweden, who were his guests at the time. He has given orders that the whole affair is to be sifted to the bottom, and that all the guilty ones are to be punished, no matter how high their standing.

Rumors to the effect that certain high officials in the navy department have received their share of the stolen funds have so far been found to be unfounded, and are not generally believed.

EAVE BRITISH BABIES.

Mrs. Bertrand Russell Conducts Public School for Mothers.

London, June 15.—Hundreds of poor mothers in London are deeply grateful to the Hon. Mrs. Bertrand Russell, who was formerly Mrs. A. Pearsall Smith, of Philadelphia, whose school for mothers in this city has proved a great success. Mrs. Russell commenced her ambitious scheme in a very small way—first there were nightly classes for mothers who were allowed to bring their children and who were instructed by Dr. Dora Bunting how to properly feed and clothe their little ones. These classes immediately became very popular, but Mrs. Russell, who was often present in person, soon discovered that the mothers themselves were as poorly fed as their babies and to remedy this she changed the night classes to day classes and provided a substantial dinner at a price of 3 cents to those who could afford to pay, while those who could not were fed free of charge.

The mortality of children in England is appalling when compared with that of America, but thanks to the splendid example set by the two Americans, Nathan Strauss and Mrs. Russell, whose experiments have aroused widespread interest and caused many men and women of wealth to come forward with offers of help, the death rate among children less than 18 months of age will undoubtedly go down.

Takes Terrible Revenge.

Venice, June 15.—A double tragedy recently took place in a traveling circus giving performances at the town of Mestre, a short distance from here. Among the performers were two acrobats, a man Raffaelli and his wife, Emma. A rich man about town had fallen in love with the latter and had begun a liaison with her. Accidentally Raffaelli discovered his wife's unfaithfulness and planned a terrible revenge.

While his wife was performing her dangerous acts in the flying trapeze under the roof of the circus tent, Raffaelli suddenly cut the rope which held the trapeze, and the young woman fell down into the sand of the arena, dying. Her lover rushed to her side, and while he was holding her head on his lap kneeling at her side, Raffaelli cleft his head from behind with an ax and then calmly surrendered to the police.

Slaughter of Innocents.

Paris, June 15.—Owing to the extreme rigor of last winter and the willful destruction of song birds, France is threatened with the extinction of her larks, finches and thrushes. Professor Corcelle, of Chambéry, has addressed an appeal to the public, warning them that if farmers, gamekeepers and poachers continue their conduct they will soon have exterminated all the small birds in the country. As proof of the necessity for legislative measures he declares that thousands of larks are killed and sold at 6 cents a dozen.

Czar Hits Russian Officials.

St. Petersburg, June 15.—A decree of the czar's, sentencing the governor and vice-governor of Astrakhan prison to eight years penal servitude in the mines of Siberia, has struck terror into the ranks of the Russian officialdom, for the two men had done nothing beyond torturing a few prisoners, some of whom unfortunately had the bad taste to die, and to torture prisoners has hitherto never been considered a crime in Russia.

Adopts Secret Ballot.

Paris, June 15.—The Chamber of Deputies Saturday adopted an amendment to the voting law which practically puts into effect the secret Australian ballot system. There has been much complaint of the system of marking ballots in public. This has enabled the big land owners and manufacturers and political manipulators to exercise duress on the voters.

BROUGHT TO TERMS

Corporations Lose in Struggle to Rule San Francisco.

MUST PAY WELL FOR PRIVILEGES

Board of Supervisors Exacts Reduction on Gas and Telephones and Rent for Trolley Franchises.

San Francisco, June 16.—The annual struggle between the city and the corporations has just come to an end, with an unexpected victory for the municipality. The members of the board of supervisors, who represent the city in the negotiations with the corporations, are for the most part business men and lawyers. It was thought that their sympathies would run naturally to the vested interests and that the local service companies, which suffered heavily in the earthquake and fire, would take advantage of the situation and make up for the public what they lost in the fire. That is exactly what the corporations tried to do. They said so openly, and argued their right to do so, but a majority of the board stood firm for the taxpayers, and the city witnessed a most encouraging example of competent government.

Pressure from every possible avenue was brought to bear on the supervisors to force them to yield to the demands of all the service companies for higher rates. The gas company wanted an increased rate, the water company threatened famine unless it should receive a 15 per cent advance in rates, the telephone company resisted to the utmost, and the street railroad company ran cars without permits, seized franchises and attempted to bottle up the traffic privileges on Market street, when the supervisors stepped in and completely blocked the game.

The gas company asked for an increase from 85-cent to \$1 gas. The board conducted an inquiry. The gas company promised to turn its books over to the supervisors for inspection. This, it afterward appeared, was a bluff, for when the supervisors asked for the records, the company refused to produce them until practically compelled to do so. It was then discovered that improper charges had been made in figuring the cost of operation. The mask was pulled aside by the "business" board and the gas company got an 85-cent rate.

An investigation into telephone rates resulted in a general reduction from 15 to 25 per cent. The water rate was placed at the same figure as last year, with a slight increase in the allowance for hydrants. The trolley franchises which the United Railroads attempted to appropriate were withheld.

PROSECUTE ENGLISHMAN

Editor of Paper in Seoul Is Charged With Sedition.

Seoul, June 16.—Y. Mimura, the Japanese resident governor of Seoul, appeared as the prosecutor of E. T. Bethel, a British subject, who was today arraigned in a British court appointed under order of the privy council. Bethel is charged with spreading sedition by the medium of a newspaper published in the Korean vernacular, and of which he is the proprietor. The court includes Judge F. St. Bourne and Prosecuting Attorney y Wilkinson, both of whom were specially sent from Shanghai by the British government at the suggestion of Ambassador McDonald at Tokio.

The prosecution said that it would prove that the publications in Bethel's vernacular newspaper was largely responsible for all the disturbances in Korea. M. Mimura asserted that the Korean government exists only subject to the direction of Japan. He further said he believed there were 20,000 troops now in Korea, and that half of the country was disturbed. Consequently the publications were creating a false impression regarding the real intention of the Japanese government, increasing the difficulties of the government and causing much bloodshed.

Gold From Alaska.

Seattle, Wash., June 16.—The steamship City of Seattle, which arrived in port early this morning from Southwestern Alaska, brought the first shipment of gold from Fairbanks to reach Seattle by the Skagway route. In all, she brought about \$1,800,000, the greater part of which was consigned to Dexter Horton & Co., bankers of this city. Another large lot was \$504,000, consigned to the Washington Trust Company from the Washington Alaska Bank, its branch at Fairbanks. The gold came up the Yukon on the Prospector.

Runaway Auto Kills Four.

New York, June 16.—Four persons were drowned tonight when an automobile carrying a pleasure party of six became unmanageable, shot at a wild speed down West Fifty-sixth street and bounded from an open pier into the North river. The machine turned over in its plunge from the pier, holding the four victims fast in their seats. John Bailer, the chauffeur, was carried into the river with the machine, but managed to free himself and swim to safety.

Cuban Patriots Amuse Taft.

Washington, June 16.—Secretary Taft laughed today when he was told of a further report of preparations of revolutionary uprisings in Cuba based on the proposed withdrawal of American troops on or before next Friday.