

EVENTS OF THE DAY

Many Heads Gathered from All Parts of the World.

PREPARED FOR THE BUSY READER

Important but Not Less Interesting Happenings from Points Outside the State.

Thrift says he will visit the Panama Canal annually.

A death resulted in Philadelphia as a prizefight.

Holland is angry with Germany for the welcome accorded Castro.

The American consul stopped a murder at Puerto Cortez, Honduras.

A slight earthquake shock was felt in France, but not much damage was done.

British papers censure Roosevelt's conduct of vituperation and alienation.

Attorney-General Bonaparte thinks the government should have the right to appeal in anti-trust cases.

A Montana man has been found guilty of blackmailing. The evidence was secured through his bad spelling.

The Canadian government seized a vessel from Tacoma for violating the laws. A fine of \$1,000 was imposed.

A schoolhouse at Altoona, Pa., exploded, causing a damage of \$100,000. At the time there were 600 children in the building, but all escaped.

Count Boni's family is reduced to poverty.

Castro refuses to believe that his people have rebelled.

Officers of the battleship fleet were reported by the governor of Ceylon.

Los Angeles business men have organized to eradicate racetrack gambling in California.

Turkey has passed into the family of the sultans, the sultan opening parliament amid popular enthusiasm.

Blizzards are raging along the Atlantic coast. Heavy snowfalls are reported and the temperature has dropped.

The principal of a Washington girls' school accuses Roosevelt of being a liar, but the president denies the charge.

Representatives of leading copper interests of this country and Europe will meet in New York to organize a world copper trust.

A North Carolina negro about to be hanged refused the attention of a minister, saying he wanted to go to hell by a special purpose.

In the Pullman investigation at Chicago a number of women testified to the convenience of upper berths and inability to receive attention from the attendants who was tipped.

Holland has seized another Venezuelan vessel.

The Western Maryland railroad is being reorganized.

Government experts declare that sugar can be made from cornstalks.

Steel magnates declare the cost of steel has greatly increased.

The entire business section of Reno, Nev., has been destroyed by fire.

Baron Rosen, Russian ambassador to the United States, has started for his post, after an absence of several months.

A retired soldier at San Francisco saved \$13,900 from his pay and will hereafter draw \$67.50 per month as retired pay.

Relations between Brazil and Argentina are strained. The trouble started over the merits of the respective navies of the two countries.

ABANDON FAMOUS HOTEL

Directors Will Close Chicago Auditorium Soon.

Chicago, Dec. 15.—Plans for abandoning the great Auditorium hotel have been decided upon by the board of directors of the Congress Hotel company, operating the Auditorium and the Annex. All the business of the two big hotels on Michigan boulevard is to be concentrated in the Annex, which recently was enlarged to double its former capacity.

President Southgate asserted that the Auditorium hotel had been losing money for years. He asserted that it did not pay 1 per cent on the money invested, and that it was poor property compared with the new Annex, which, he asserted, was paying its stockholders \$250,000 a year.

From the earnings account for the year shown at the Chicago Auditorium association stockholders' meeting, it is seen that the hotel paid last year a rental of \$153,701. The theater paid \$67,000 and office building \$64,780, while interest and dividends brought in \$9,015 more, making a total of \$295,077.57. The cost of the building amounted to \$362,103, leaving a net income for the year of \$32,974, from which was deducted \$17,168 as depreciation on equipment.

WORST ACCIDENT ON CANAL

Thought Other Bodies May Still Be Buried Under Debris.

Colon, Dec. 15.—The explosion yesterday at Bas Obispo was the most serious accident in connection with the building of the Panama canal since the United States took control. A thorough investigation has been ordered, and already officials are taking evidence and endeavoring to ascertain the cause of the premature discharge.

Thirteen bodies have been recovered, but it is believed that a score or more are still under the masses of rock and earth that were thrown up. The death list would have been appalling had a train conveying 500 laborers passed a few minutes later. This train had just passed through the cut, and was barely out of view when the explosion occurred.

For a space of 800 feet in length and 400 feet in width the Bas Obispo cut presents a graphic picture of the terrible effects of the explosion. The whole hillside has been devastated, the dynamite rending the earth and tossing boulders in all directions. A 90-ton steam shovel lies a wreck, crushed under the weight of falling rock. Every one of the crew was killed. All the tracks in this section were torn to pieces and are now covered with tons of debris.

A long time will be necessary to take away the great heaps of earth.

REOPEN SAND ISLAND CASE.

Washington Legislators Will Confer With Governor Mead.

Tacoma, Wash., Dec. 15.—State Senator Stewart, of Cowlitz county, and Senator McGowan, of Pacific county, and Representative Burke, of Wahkiakum county, passed through Tacoma today on their way to Olympia to interview Governor Mead and Attorney-General Atkinson relative to a reopening of the Washington-Oregon boundary line case recently decided by the United States supreme court.

It is contended that the decision takes away from the State of Washington Sand Island and Puget island, territory that always belonged to this state. Revenues to the state have been seriously reduced, it is maintained, and the fishing interests of the state have been greatly affected.

It is believed by those interested that if Governor Mead and Attorney-General Atkinson will intervene on behalf of the state the supreme court of the United States may be induced to give this state a rehearing upon new evidence that will be submitted.

Dead Men Tests Illegal.

Albany, N. Y., Dec. 15.—Prison officials in this state will not lend themselves to any experiment seeking to revive a man executed in the electric chair, such as has been discussed in New Jersey. Superintendent C. V. Collins said today that he would consider such an experiment illegal, and permission would have to be secured from the legislature before he would consent to revive a man after he had been electrocuted in order to prove the theory that the electric current does not kill, and that it is the physician's autopsy knife that really causes death.

Pope Hopetul of France.

Rome, Dec. 15.—There was an impressive ceremony at the vatican today upon the occasion of the reading of the beatification decrees conferred upon 36 French missionaries who met the death of martyrs in China and upon Joan of Arc. The reading of the decrees took place in the presence of the pope and many high prelates. The pope expressed the deep conviction that France, through divine intercession, would return to the bosom of the church, saying the intercession of the new saints strengthened him in this belief.

Indian Editors Arrested.

Calcutta, Dec. 15.—Great excitement prevails here, owing to developments in the agitation against the government. The most prominent Bengali leader in Eastern Bengal, Dutta, was arrested Saturday and conveyed to an unknown destination. Another prominent nationalist leader, Mitra, editor of the Sanjibani, has been arrested at Calcutta, while the editor of another native paper has been sentenced to transportation on the charge of sedition.

Japan Starts New Line.

Tokyo, Dec. 15.—At a dinner given today to the new Japanese minister to Chile, it was announced that the Toy Yain Steamship company will start a new line of steamers between Japan and South America, commencing January 1, with three steamers on a regular schedule.

NEWS FROM THE NATIONAL CAPITAL

Friday, December 18

Washington, Dec. 18.—Shortly after the holidays the senate marble busts of two of its vice-presidents, Roosevelt and Fairbanks. Mr. Roosevelt's career in the senate was extremely brief, and although it ended about seven years ago, up to this time no bust of him has been made.

Washington, Dec. 18.—The name of George W. Wickersham, of New York, has been under consideration several days for the post of attorney-general. Among others consulted by Mr. Taft concerning Mr. Wickersham's qualifications was Senator Knox, ex-attorney-general of the United States, the choice of Mr. Taft for the post of secretary of state.

Washington, Dec. 18.—The president is considering the advisability of having a thorough examination and report made on the character of the formations that underlie the locks and dams along the line of the Panama canal. It is regarded as important to determine at this time the exact magnitude of the task of providing stable foundations for these locks and dams.

Washington, Dec. 18.—The president will soon send to the senate the nomination of Sherman Moreland, of Elmira, N. Y., to be associate justice of the supreme court of the Philippine islands. The vacancy was created by the resignation of Judge James G. Tracy. Judge Tracy will return to his home in Albany, N. Y., to resume the practice of law.

Thursday, December 17.

Washington, Dec. 17.—The postal savings bank bill was before the senate today for more than an hour, Burkett, of Nebraska, making a comprehensive argument in favor of its passage.

The senate listened also to a message from the president recommending a change in the government of the District of Columbia by which a single executive head would take the place of the board of three commissioners, who now jointly act as a governing board. The senate adjourned till Saturday. A great many of the senators left Washington today to pass the holidays at their homes, as congress will adjourn from Saturday next until January 4.

The senate today passed a bill changing the name of the Willamette customs district to Portland customs district.

Washington, Dec. 17.—By unanimous vote the house today adopted a resolution presented by the special committee of five calling on the president for proof of his charge that members were fearful of an investigation by the secret service agents. The committee submitted its report and recommendation immediately after the house convened.

Wednesday, December 16.

Washington, Dec. 16.—Without discussion the senate today adopted Senator Foraker's resolution introduced in the senate yesterday calling on the secretary of war for various information concerning the employment of detectives for use in the Brownsville affair.

Senator Clapp, of Minnesota, chairman of the Indian affairs committee, has prepared a bill to authorize the secretary of the interior to build two bridges and a roadway on the Warm Springs reservation in Oregon, tolls to be collected if necessary.

Senator Aldrich, of Rhode Island, today introduced, and the senate adopted, a resolution looking toward the censuring of President Roosevelt for his action in connection with the employment of the secret service officers.

Washington, Dec. 16.—Except for a few moments spent in the transaction of routine business and the passage of two bridge bills, the house of representatives today devoted its entire time to the further consideration of the bill to revise the penal laws of the United States. The Garrett amendment, which came over from last night and which prohibited sending through the mails information bearing on transactions in futures, was defeated by a decided vote.

Without opposition, an amendment by Mr. Houston (Tenn.) was adopted, making it an offense to deposit in or ship through the mails intoxicating liquors.

There was still pending when the bill was laid aside an amendment by Mr. Humphreys (Miss.) providing for the identification of intoxicating liquors transported by interstate carriers. This proposition caused extended debate today.

Representative Hawley, of Oregon, today introduced a bill to appropriate \$10,000 for repairing dykes at Tillamook bay and \$5,000 annually for the maintenance of work at Tillamook bay, directing the secretary of war to order a survey for an estimate of the cost of channels, respectively 15 and 20 feet deep at mean low time at the bar of Tillamook bay, corresponding depth to be maintained in the bay and in the slough to Tillamook City.

Tuesday, December 15.

Washington, Dec. 15.—Senator Carter today spoke in support of the postal savings bank bill. After referring to the various indorsements

Taft to Visit Panama.

Washington, Dec. 15.—President-elect Taft is planning a flying visit to Panama before his inauguration. He feels that the completion of the canal is one of the biggest problems that he has to confront at the beginning of his administration, perhaps the biggest, and he is anxious to make one more visit to the isthmus and go over the operations before he assumes the duties of chief executive. He plans to do about the middle of January

by political conventions and other organizations of the principle involved. Carter said that, while there are only 1452 savings banks there are more than 61,000 postoffices, 40,000 of which are money order offices. He declared that postal savings banks are in operation in practically all civilized countries of the world except the United States.

Senator Borah, of Idaho, introduced a bill requiring federal courts, unless a good cause to the contrary is shown, to dismiss indictments against persons who through no fault of their own are unable to obtain a trial during the term of court following that in which the indictment was returned against them.

The senate has confirmed the following Oregon postmasters: John E. Loggan, Burns; L. B. Rutherford, Rainier; Ben Weathers, Enterprise; also John R. Willis, of Oregon, as collector of customs in Alaska.

Washington, Dec. 15.—Efforts are being put forth by Representative Mondell of Wyoming to smooth the way for the passage at this session of congress of his bill increasing the quantity of land that may be taken up for a homestead from 160 to 320 acres.

The house passed on all dealers an annual tax of \$100 on all dealers in cigarettes or cigarette papers. The measure was offered by Representative Mann, of Illinois, as an amendment to a bill imposing a tax of \$12 on all dealers handling manufactured tobacco products.

Monday, December 14.

Washington, Dec. 14.—The Brownsville riot case again became a live issue in the feud between President Roosevelt and Senator Foraker today.

The senator reopened the controversy by reading letters from some of the discharged soldiers, telling of attempts of detectives to extort confessions. Then he offered an amendment to his bill for the reinstatement of the ex-soldiers, providing that evidence as to their guilt or innocence be taken by a commission of three retired army officers as a prerequisite to their re-enlistment, thus taking this power from the president.

This assault was met by a counterblast from the president. A special message was read, accompanied by the report of detectives, who have ascertained what purport to be the facts about the riot, with the names of the ringleaders. The president recommended that those ex-soldiers who could show their innocence be reinstated.

Senator Fulton today introduced a resolution authorizing the secretary of war to prepare a project for the improvement of the mouth of the Siuslaw river at a cost not exceeding \$200,000, the government to bear half the expense and the remainder to be paid by state or local community.

Senator Dick, of Ohio, today introduced a resolution in the senate urging that February 12, 1909, the hundredth anniversary of Abraham Lincoln's birthday, be fittingly celebrated by the nation. He suggested a joint session of congress, with addresses by prominent men and meetings in all the cities throughout the country and in all educational institutions. The motion met with no opposition.

Washington, Dec. 14.—While considering bills dealing with affairs in the District of Columbia, the house today passed a measure providing for 85-cent gas in Washington. The bill now goes to the senate, as well as another bill abolishing bucket-shops in the District. A bill providing for free lectures in the public schools was voted down.

An attempt by Henry, of Texas, to obtain a change in the reference of a bill prohibiting the making of future contracts on agricultural products brought forth the promise from Chairman Scott, of the agricultural committee, that his committee would soon grant hearings to farmers' unions and others on this subject.

The house voted to adjourn Saturday, December 19, to Monday, January 4.

Volunteer Army Bill.

Washington, Dec. 17.—Representative Hull, of Iowa, has introduced in the house a general staff bill giving the president authority to raise a great volunteer army in time of war, making every citizen between the ages of 18 and 45 liable for military duty.

The house passed an amendment to the present postal law making the penalty of an embezzlement theft from the United States mail as a postal employee, a fine of \$500 and imprisonment for five years, or both.

Transport Shortage a Danger.

Washington, Dec. 18.—Lack of necessary vessels for the purpose of transporting troops and supplies in case of war is one of the most serious problems facing the country, according to the report of General Ayleshire, quartermaster general of the army, made public today. The report proposes some form of subsidy to encourage the building of ships, as a solution.

Pacific Fleet at Salvador.

Washington, Dec. 18.—The navy department is informed that the Pacific fleet, under command of Admiral Sweeney, has arrived at Salvador. The first division is at La Union and the second division at Anapala. After a short visit the squadron will proceed to Panama and down the South American coast to Chili on the winter cruise.

Bleached Flour Under Ban.

Washington, Dec. 18.—Secretary of Agriculture Wilson today declared that flour bleached by nitrogen peroxide is an adulterated food and that it cannot be sold in the District of Columbia or in any of the territories, or transported by means of interstate carriers.

SHIPPERS TO FIGHT.

May Enjoin Railroads if New Rates Are Enforced.

Chicago, Dec. 14.—The Tribune yesterday printed the following news article on the transcontinental freight rate questions as regards the Pacific coast:

The advance in freight rates included in the new transcontinental tariffs, which were filed with the interstate commerce commission about two weeks ago, and which take effect under the required 30 days' notice on January 1, is likely to provoke a storm among the shippers. This may result in an attempt to prevent the roads from charging the new rates by injunction proceedings.

During the course of the agitation against the proposed increases of the eastern roads in official classification territory, little attention has been paid to the Pacific coast rates. Now that the eastern roads have agreed to make no general advances for two months, and many believe that they may have decided to back down, shippers are conferring to see what may be done with the transcontinental rate question.

The traffic committee of the Illinois Manufacturers' association, which took the lead in the fight on the eastern rates, has decided to send a circular letter to members asking them how much the increases will affect their business, and what is to be done about it.

It has been stated that the brunt of the fight against the new rates would probably be undertaken by the California shippers, who are affected by the increases both eastbound and westbound, because most of the jobs being receiving freight from Chicago have been in the habit of paying the freight themselves.

A formal protest to the interstate commerce commission is now in preparation by the California Traffic association, and this body may decide to ask for an injunction. In such event the shippers in the east may rest on the same case or file intervening petitions as they did in the Texas rate case.

CASTRO IS FURIOUS.

Venezuelan President's Dignity Hurt by French Treatment.

Paris, Dec. 14.—President Castro, of Venezuela, who arrived in this city last evening from Bordeaux, has made no advances to the French government. He is reported as furiously angry at the manner in which the government has received him in France. Since his arrival in Paris he has remained shut up in his apartments in the hotel as closely as though he were a prisoner, and, barring a few members of the Venezuelan colony, he has seen nobody.

The officials of the foreign office have been given orders not to explain the position of the government towards Castro. Said one official yesterday:

"The conditions upon which the government is willing to open negotiations with Castro have been communicated to him.

"What these conditions are, beyond prohibiting President Castro from making any political declaration, are not known, but it is believed that they involve a formal apology."

A reporter called to see the President yesterday. The only member of Castro's entourage visible said that nothing had been decided, but the party possibly would leave for Germany tomorrow. A black maid in the service of Mme. Castro was sitting in a hall outside her mistress' door, trying to get her foot into a newly purchased pair of pointed shoes.

RUEF GETS ANOTHER WEEK.

Convicted Briber Will Be Sentenced Next Saturday.

San Francisco, Dec. 14.—Abraham Ruef, convicted last Thursday of offering a bribe, was Saturday granted a delay of one week before receiving sentence. The continuance of the case until next Saturday, December 19, was with the assent of the district attorney's office, represented by Assistant John O'Garra. Thomas B. Dozier, of the defense, based his motion for a week's respite on the ground that sufficient to prepare the motions and arguments in arrest of judgment and for a new trial. The inability of Henry Ach, Ruef's chief counsel, to appear in court was assigned as a further reason.

While it was generally known that judgment would not be pronounced Saturday, there was the usual crowd in attendance at the session, and there was no diminution of the police guard. Ruef was brought from the county jail in the prison van and was hurried to a seat between Attorney Dozier and A. Altman, his brother-in-law. Mr. Dozier made the motion for a continuance immediately after the proceedings were inaugurated, but Judge Lawlor declined to permit the entry to be recorded, and ordered Ruef to stand up for arraignment.

Aeroplane Did Not Fly.

Los Angeles, Cal., Dec. 14.—The bending of a propeller, which proved to have been built too lightly for the strain of 790 revolutions a minute, prevented the success of the initial trial of Professor J. S. Zerbe's aeroplane at Bimini yesterday. The machine did not rise from the ground. Another attempt will be made Monday afternoon. The \$20,000 Michelin prize is the goal for which Professor Zerbe is striving. The ship is designed to carry three passengers.

To Construct Reservoir.

Butte, Mont., Dec. 14.—Word was received last night that the government had withdrawn from settlement a large amount of land covering the watershed of the Little Bitter Root mountains, for the purpose of constructing an immense reservoir to irrigate the Flathead Indian reservation to be thrown open next year.

EQUAL TO BRITISH

Admiral Evans Answers Critics of American Navy.

LATER TYPE BEAT DREADNAUGHT

Old Vessels Do Not Come Up to New Ships of Other Navies—Armor Belt is Well Placed.

New York, Dec. 15.—The latest battleships built by this country are vastly superior to England's Dreadnaught is emphatically stated by Rear-Admiral Robley D. Evans in a magazine article written by him, wherein he strongly defends the American navy, and replies to criticisms of it.

"I do not for a moment claim that the Indiana and her sister ships are equal to the Dreadnaught of the English navy," says Admiral Evans, "only that she is the equal of the English ships designed at the same time. But I do claim that our latest ships are vastly superior to the Dreadnaught, and I believe that every fighting man who has given the subject intelligent consideration will agree with me."

The admiral urges the superiority of the 13-inch gun over the 12-inch gun and asserts that the change to the lesser caliber to conform to England's type was a most serious blunder. This is chargeable, he says, to the seagoing officers of the navy and not to any staff corps.

Regarding the waterline armor belt, he says: "I am sure, after many weeks of close observation, that the lower edge of the armor belt is too high rather than too low." It had been strenuously contended by critics that the low location of the belt was a vital point of weakness. "As the upper edge of the belt is always even with or above the level of the protective belt," continues Admiral Evans, "the danger to be apprehended from a projectile penetrating above the belt, beyond the wrecking effect of such projectile, is that due to the amount of water that may enter the hole. It is the damage that may be done by such projectiles entering below that may cause the ship to sink by exploding magazines or boilers, but this is improbable. It will require many 12-inch shells on the waterline or on any other to disable or sink such a ship, if the officers and men know their business and want to fight."

CASTRO IN RAGE.

Declares Act of Holland Outrage on Civilization.

Berlin, Dec. 15.—"The seizure of the coast guardship *Alix* by the Dutch coast guard *Gelderland* is no less than naval brigandage. It is an outrage on civilization. By that act Holland has put herself outside the pale of decency. I do not know what Venezuela will do about it."

In this caustic language President Castro of Venezuela commented today on the warlike move made by Holland Saturday, the news of which was not conveyed to him until he reached this city this afternoon.

Castro declares that his visit to this city is to consult Dr. Israel. He asserts that whoever says he is not sick is telling a lie.

The Venezuelan president has engaged the first floor, containing thirty rooms, at the Hotel Esplanade, and his bill will be a trifle over \$250 a day. He has engaged for the use of himself and his party ten motor cars, at a cost of \$500 daily. He is surrounded by a small army of detectives and followed by a retinue of gaily attired funkeys. Representatives of the foreign office greeted Castro today. They have been ordered to show him every courtesy.

Examiner on Double Duty.

Chicago, Dec. 15.—Cassius C. Jones, chief state bank examiner, assigned to Cook county, has suddenly resigned his place rather than face the scandal which his superiors say will be stirred up if letters written to him by city bank officials are made public. The charge made against Jones is that he was privately employed by these banks as an examiner while he was doing the same duty for the state. The banking act says no employee of a bank shall be appointed as a bank examiner to inspect the institution by which he is employed.

Anniversary of Washington's Death.

Fredericksburg, Va., Dec. 15.—The Masonic lodge of this city yesterday sent a delegation of its members to Mount Vernon to place a memorial wreath on the tomb of George Washington, on the occasion of the one hundred and ninth anniversary of the death of the first president. It was in the Fredericksburg lodge that General Washington was made a Mason, and for many years past the lodge has regularly observed the anniversary of his death.

Ceylon Entertains Fleet.

Colombo, Ceylon, Dec. 15.—The United States and Ceylon paid their respects to each other today through official visits between Rear Admiral Sperry, of the battleship fleet, and Sir Henry Edwards McCallum, governor of Ceylon. The American warships are coaling for their journey through the Indian ocean to the Suez canal.

Grafters Denied New Trial.

Harrisburg, Pa., Dec. 15.—Judge Kunkel yesterday overruled a motion for a new trial for Snyder, Sanderson, Mathews and Shumaker, the officials and contractors who were convicted on the charge of conspiring to defraud the state in the matter of the state capitol contract.