

# EVENTS OF THE DAY

## Newsy Items Gathered from All Parts of the World.

### PREPARED FOR THE BUSY READER

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

Zelaya asserts that he is still president of Nicaragua.

Taft's special message on trust law changes will go to congress next week.

A southern chemist expert asserts that the aurora borealis is caused by gas.

The New York supreme court says patriotism has given way to an age of graft.

Army engineers have recommended extensive improvements for the Columbia river.

The Turkish cabinet has been driven out of office and a military premier may be appointed.

It is considered that the reclamation service is safe from abolition, though many changes may be made.

Nebraska man got an appointment as a deputy sheriff and then proceeded to bring some his erring son from Los Angeles.

A Briton on a British schoolship is under arrest for stealing complete plans of the British navy's wireless system and codes.

James Gordon, once accused of conspiring to kill Lincoln, has been named United States senator from Tennessee by Governor Noel.

Henry has filed a libel suit against W. S. Crocker for \$250,000.

Eight out of 88 American colleges will continue to approve of football.

Physicians say there is no hope for Cardinal Statti, though he may linger several days.

Loss by the tidal wave and blizzard on the New England coast will reach \$5,000,000, besides many lives.

When Zelaya arrives in Mexico, President Diaz will attend a reception in his honor, which is taken as a direct insult to the United States.

Six women are en route on foot from Seattle to the I. W. W. of Spokane and fight for the right of free speech on the public streets.

Strike leaders for the switchmen have called off negotiations with the railroads, and will appeal to Washington for aid.

Miss Louise Park, niece of the president, will be married to G. H. Snowden, of Seattle, after a trip to Europe they will reside in Seattle.

A schooner arrived at Hoquiam, Wash., 97 days from Hypong, China, with her captain hopelessly ill and only a few pounds of provisions left.

A crippled Italian girl in Chicago robbed her father's bank of \$30,000, with which she hoped to induce her cousin, also a cripple, to marry her.

France is in a panic at the inroads of American commerce.

President Taft is being urged to make active war on the trusts.

Zelaya boards Mexican gunboat under eyes of American marines.

J. D. Warren, who pursued and helped to capture Jesse James, is dead.

Storm in Spain wrecked five vessels at the mouth of the Douro river.

A Texas man has made \$15,000,000 speculating in cotton for 10 years.

Blizzards sweep the east from Winnipeg to Illinois, and Chicago faces a coal famine.

The famous Garden of the Gods was given to the city of Colorado Springs for a Christmas present.

The greatest labor struggle in history is said to be impending between the railroads and their employees.

The bones of Cortez, the ancient conqueror of Mexico, are said to have been found after a search of nearly a century.

Six coaches full of Christmas travelers were stalled on a car ferry in the Detroit river, and had to wait till the ice was cut away.

Railroad officials and switchmen hold conference in St. Paul.

Value of the Harriman estate is questioned by gossips in the east.

Bryan is suffering from pneumonia and is too ill to make a speech.

Albert I is crowned king of Belgium and promises reforms in Congo.

Schley demands that Peary also submit his records to the Danish university.

The Northern Pacific has bought 14 blocks for terminal grounds in North Portland.

Ex-President Zelaya has fled from Nicaragua and taken refuge on a Mexican gunboat.

Eight are killed and hundreds have narrow escape from explosion in Illinois coal mine.

A fierce storm swept the Korean coast, destroying fishing fleets and drowning 2,000.

Secretary Knox has notified President Madriz, Zelaya's successor, that he will be held responsible for the safety of Americans in his country.

Mark Twain has returned home without benefit to his health from his trip.

It is definitely known that 18 persons perished in a department fire in London.

## HOPEFUL VIEW IS TAKEN.

### Wall Street Optimistic Over Prospective Labor Troubles.

New York, Dec. 28.—Preparations were in progress last week to meet heavy obligations incident to the January disbursements, which in New York are estimated to be \$225,000,000.

Heavy remittances to foreign markets to meet payments of dividends and interest to holders of American securities made it a question until the middle of the week whether gold would not have to be shipped to London.

Volatile rises occurred in individual stocks, most from vaguely rumored causes, but there were enough dividend increases to keep up a hopeful spirit among stockholders.

The census bureau's cotton-ginning estimate was regarded as confirmatory of the agricultural department's view of the cotton crop shortage, and the rise in cotton to above 16 cents pointed to causes responsible for the high cost of living and the disadvantages this involved.

Added interest was given to this question by steps taken by railroad employees to formulate demands for an increase in wages early next year. Sentiment is not free from apprehension that labor troubles may have to be reckoned with in reaching settlements.

The disposition in financial circles, however, is to take a hopeful view. This same is true of the subject of legislative and executive activities in the direction of corporation regulation, which promises to be brought forward early through special messages from the president.

## FEAST TO FREE CONVICT.

### Minnesota Prisoner Proves to Be Second Burbank.

Stillwater, Minn., Dec. 28.—A Christmas dinner given at the Minnesota state prison has started a movement for a pardon for "Sinbad the Sailor," an illustrious life convict, supervisor of everything that grows on the state penitentiary, on a basis of his "services to the state of Minnesota and general scientific knowledge."

Among Warden Wolfers's guests was a member of the pardon board, who commented on the immense lemon, weighing three pounds and measuring 18 1/2 inches, major circumference.

The guests, excited by the warden's story of the presence of a second Burbank as a convict, directed him to bring in the creator of the monster lemon.

He took the guests to the greenhouse and explained how he had grafted tropical lemon and grapefruit. He also showed many other graftings, producing rare fruits and flowers.

His roses for years captured first honors. His real name is Charles Price, and he was sent up for life for killing a laborer with a pick.

## ORDERS FOR STEEL FEWER.

### Consumers, However, Press for Deliveries on Past Contracts.

New York, Dec. 28.—Heavy specifications on contracts for finished steel products continue to roll in upon the mills, and consumers generally are pressing for deliveries. But new business in both finished products and raw material is being contracted.

Rail contracts placed in 1909 for 1910 delivery have aggregated almost 3,300,000 tons. New orders for fabricated steel for buildings and bridges have aggregated only 25,000 tons, but it is probable that the December business will total 100,000 tons at least.

Evidence of contraction in the volume of business in sheets and tinplate is shown by a less heavy output and the closing of several mills for the holidays. Great activity continues in wire products, and shipments for November were 175,000 tons. Prices of merchantable pipe will be readjusted on January 1.

Additional orders have been placed for cars by railroads, bringing the total for the month thus far to 11,200.

## Whisky Is Whisky.

Washington, Dec. 28.—Whisky is whisky, President Taft has at last decided. It is whisky when made of neutral spirits, says the president, if reduced to potable strength. But it must be branded so that those buying it may know just what they are getting.

The decision, made after a long series of hearings participated in by members of the government's pure food department and distillers, was announced today. The president covered various details in his decision and gave directions for the proper branding of the various varieties of liquor, holding among other things, that whisky made from a mixture of "straight" whisky and "neutral spirits" may be called a blend.

According to Mr. Taft's instructions, "straight whiskies" hereafter will be branded as such, but the brand may be accompanied by the legend, "aged in wood," and whisky made from rectified, distilled, or neutral spirits will be branded so as to make known the principal ingredient. In addition, if they so desire, manufacturers of straight whisky also may use the word "bourbon" or "rye," as the facts may warrant.

## Flood Drowns Shepherds.

Madrid, Dec. 28.—Official reports today indicate that the situation in the regions recently swept by storms and floods is improving. The cabinet decided to grant financial relief to sufferers. Related advices give details of the destruction caused by the overflowing of rivers in the northwest. Elba and Orbidge, in the northern of Leon, rose 15 feet, destroying several hamlets. A large number of herds, surprised by the floods, refuge in tree tops.

## Czar Promotes Kettner.

St. Petersburg, Dec. 28.—Colonel Kettner, chief of the secret police, has been appointed.

Colonel Karpov, chief of the secret police, has been appointed.

# NEWS ITEMS FROM WASHINGTON, D. C.

## TREATY PLEASES WU TING FANG

### Chinese Diplomat Thinks It Good So Far As It Goes.

New York, Dec. 29.—In conference with Wu Ting Fang, formerly representative of China at Washington, in regard to peace and the possible means of achieving its blessing, the Publishers Press obtained the following interview: "I am glad to speak of international peace and justice upon the eve of my return to my own country after having succeeded in concluding a treaty of arbitration between my government and the United States. That is a good step.

"I am glad it is taken, but in my judgment the treaty does not go far enough, though it was the best that could be made at present. It is exactly the same as the 23 other treaties concluded by the government of the United States with foreign powers during Mr. Roosevelt's last term as president. These treaties reserve for forcible settlement when diplomacy fails, all questions affecting the vital rights, independence or honor of the contracting powers. While nations that are armed insist upon this policy, other nations that are not sufficiently armed are not having their rights respected. My country, for instance, is not sufficiently armed and has been compelled to begin the reformation of its army and navy. China loves peace but other nations do not love peace enough to keep peace, so China must acquire armament that it really does not want to acquire. China is reforming its army and navy for self defense entirely, not for aggression."

## CAN'T REACH HIGHER UPS.

### Taft's Brother Is Their Attorney, and Roosevelt's Relative Is Manager.

Shreveport, La., Dec. 31.—Declaring that if Mark Hanna had died six months sooner, he would not have been tried and sentenced to jail for having represented a corporation that had a case pending before a government department, ex-Senator Burton, of Kansas, today severely criticized President Taft and former President Roosevelt.

"The men higher up in the sugar fraud cases will never be molested, because Mr. Taft's brother is attorney for the sugar trust, and Mr. Roosevelt's brother-in-law is virtually the manager," declared Burton. "The sugar trust is the most powerful agency in federal politics. It exercises more power in forming the national policy than any other agency. To it I owe the trial which resulted in my imprisonment."

Burton was tried and sent to jail for a brief term for having represented a corporation which had interests in the hands of one of the federal departments.

"I first incurred the enmity of Roosevelt," Burton continued, "for having threatened to oppose his Cuban policy, which meant letting in Cuban sugar on a basis that threatened to throttle the infant beet sugar industry."

"After the passing of a few years, Taft comes along with his Philippine policy. Capital had begun to turn to the beet sugar industry again, and the Philippines industry seared it away. "Roosevelt opposed my Cuban policy, and at the same time he feared I would head a delegation at the national republican convention for Mark Hanna. If Hanna had died six months earlier, there would have been no charges against me, and I would still be in the senate."

## Dennett Asks For Probe.

Washington, Dec. 30.—Representative Maspire, chairman of the house committee charged examination of the accounts of the Interior Department, announced today that at the request of Land Commissioner Dennett, his committee would investigate charges recently made by Representative Hitchcock, of Nebraska, of improper purchase of furniture by the general land office out of the fund provided for the investigation of public land entries.

## Knocks Estrada; Boosts Madriz.

Washington, Dec. 28.—Estrada is a bully, a troublemaker, an ingrate, and is unprincipled and uneducated," according to John T. McCall, a California mining engineer here today from Central America. McCall said Madriz was a natural leader also that he was talented gentleman and a fine executive. He said Madriz was held in high esteem by the better class of Nicaraguans, those not under Zelaya's thumb.

## Screens to Save Trout.

Washington, Dec. 30.—Representative Hawley called the attention of Secretary Ballinger today to a complaint made by the Umatilla County Angling Club Association that trout have been killed by the wholesale in reclamation service canals and ditches of the Umatilla project. As a remedy, Secretary Ballinger gave instructions that district engineers should have the intakes of the ditches and canals protected with screens.

## Ballinger Inquiry to Be Joint.

Washington, Dec. 31.—The Ballinger-Pinchot investigation will be conducted jointly by the house and senate, according to an announcement made by administration officials today.

Senator Nelson, of Minnesota, has been mentioned as a probable member of the joint committee that will look into the charges and countercharges brought against the two men.

## COAL LANDS, FARMS, TOO.

### Mondell of Wyoming Prepares Bill Providing Agricultural Entries.

Washington, Dec. 28.—Representative Mondell, of Wyoming, chairman of the committee on public lands, has introduced, and will press to consideration, a bill providing for agricultural entries on coal lands. The bill is intended to make available for agricultural development the surface of the areas underlain with coal, much of which will not be developed as coal property for many years to come because of the inaccessibility of the deposits. Moreover, the bill is drawn with a view to per nitting double use of all such land, one man to use the surface for farming purposes, another to develop the coal beneath.

The bill provides that lands known to contain coal shall be subject to homestead, desert land or Carey act entry, the rights to the coal to be reserved to the United States, together with the right of prospecting and mining. No desert entry made of such lands, however, shall embrace more than 160 acres, and all homestead entries shall be made in conformity with the requirements of the dry farm homestead law, except as to acreage involved.

Persons entering such lands may obtain patent to the surface rights. The coal deposits, under the bill, are made subject to disposal by the United States under the coal land laws, and the United States or its grantees shall at all times have the right to enter upon lands so patented for the purpose of prospecting for, mining and removing the coal, but the owner of the surface shall be entitled to damages resulting from such coal development. The surface entryman, however, is given the right to mine coal on or under his land for domestic purposes at any time prior to the disposal of the coal by the government.

## JAPAN SEEKS NEW TREATY.

### Ambassador Uchida Hopes Immigration Law Will Be Revised.

Washington, Jan. 1.—Among the first official acts of Baron Uchida, new Japanese Ambassador, will be a series of steps leading to a proposal to the United States for a modification of the Root-Takahira agreement which imposes limitations on the immigration of Japanese laborers to the United States. While the subject is now being spoken of in a conservative vein, it is said that such a duty is one of those especially imposed upon the new Ambassador by his government.

It is also reported that Japan wishes to terminate in 1911 its treaty of commerce and navigation with the United States.

To what extent Japan will ask for a modification of the Root-Takahira agreement has not been learned.

## Mexico Acts Within Rights.

Mexico City, Dec. 30.—The Mexican government has acted wholly within its rights thus far and according to its legal methods in the matter of the American railroad conductor, Cook, said Charge d'Affaires Bailey, of the United States embassy, here tonight. "The crime with which Cook stands charged," continued Mr. Bailey, "is not bailable under the Mexican laws, and they have a legal right to keep Cook in custody six months before rendering a decision. He has been in jail four months. The case is waiting the return of the letters rogatory from General Manager Clark of the Mexican line, which have to do with the character of Cook."

## Mexico Not Aiding Zelaya to Escape.

Mexico City, Dec. 28.—Government officials today denied the rumor that Senor Enrique Creel's mission to Washington had failed and Mexico would therefore aid Zelaya to escape. Whether Senor Creel's mission is successful or not, the officials declared, Mexico intends to side with the United States in the settlement of the trouble in Nicaragua. The minister of foreign affairs denied the existence of plans to take Zelaya aboard a Mexican gunboat and transport him from Central America to some European country.

## Oppose Probe By Congress.

Washington, Dec. 29.—President Taft's views as expressed in his annual message to congress that a Congressional investigation of the sugar trusts might prove embarrassing in view of the inquiry now being made by the department of Justice and the Treasury Department finds a warm advocate in Attorney-General Wickersham. He made it clear today that he was opposed to any such inquiry pending the endeavors of the two departments to punish the guilty and to recover the money wrongfully withheld from the government.

## Stock Gambling Is Next.

Washington, Dec. 29.—President Taft proposes, if possible, to arrive at a means of preventing unnecessary stock market trading in the future deliveries of wheat, corn, cotton and other products. The president has invited a number of officials, to confer with him on the subject.

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## Railroads Say The

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Washington, Dec. 28.—The men of the interstate commerce commission and many railroad officials can see rapidly approaching severest contests between capital in recent history.

It necessarily means that railroads generally are expecting big strikes in the labor world. Such strikes, however, are always among the possibilities when labor and capital clash. It is firmly believed by the railroad men that this struggle will be begun by the railroad labor organizations, will rapidly spread to other lines of work and may eventually result in a complete readjustment of industrial conditions.

The situation with respect to railroad labor is unique in the history of this or any other country. Never before has labor enjoyed such high wages. During the recent periods of great prosperity wages in the railroad field have mounted very high. As a result, labor men have become accustomed to living on an entirely different plane from formerly. They are living in better neighborhoods, are dressing better, are educating their families, and altogether are taking a different view of life.

Notwithstanding the fact, however, that exceedingly high wages, comparatively speaking, have enabled the laboring classes in the railroad field to better their conditions, they now find themselves unable to live on their present rates of pay. One of two things must result, namely, either the railroad laborer must return to his old style of living or he must have increased wages. Railroad managements everywhere recognize this economical fact.

They say, however, that they would be willing to increase wages if they could do so without menace to the property entrusted to their care. They say, with some show of reason, that it is impossible for railroads to continue to absorb the increased cost of living on behalf of their employees and at the same time stand the increased cost of all material and everything which enters into the operation and maintenance of a railroad. The point has been reached, they insist, where railroads must receive more for the transportation services if they are to continue increasing wages. Upon this platform the railroads say they must stand firmly.

## BLIZZARD IN THREE STATES.

### Trains Stalled and Chicago Faces Coal Famine.

Chicago, Dec. 27.—The entire west and northwest, from Winnipeg, Man., to the lower tier of Illinois counties, along the Ohio river, are hard and fast in the grip of the Storm King. An average of seven inches of snow blankets all this vast territory, crippling all transportation lines, bringing intense suffering to the poor, making acute the coal famine which menaces Chicago and other big cities and reducing supplies of all kinds because the railroads cannot transport farm products to the cities.

Meager reports from Michigan indicate that state has suffered most severely. A few telegrams drifting through tell of blockades in all directions. Grand Trunk and Pere Marquette trains are absolutely snowbound. At Detroit streetcar traffic is badly impaired, and the car ferries have been fast in the lee of the Detroit river for 24 hours.

Trains into Chicago from all directions are from three to ten hours late, and unless the storm soon abates conditions will be much worse. While the elevated trains are running fairly well the surface roads are badly hampered. Not only is Chicago's transportation badly hampered, but the city is facing a coal famine.

It became apparent three days ago that the supply would run short, and every railroad tapping Illinois and Indiana coal fields had made arrangements to take advantage of the double holiday to rush a big supply to this and other cities. With the roads bending every effort to get passenger trains through the snow, however, the moving of freight was absolutely out of the question, and the large supply of coal waiting to be moved still remains on the sidetracks.

Charitable associations are burdened to the limit by calls for assistance.

## Jump to Save Is Fatal.

Camden, N. J., Dec. 27.—White Christmas brought death and sorrow to two families at Malaga, N. J., this afternoon. Mrs. Mary Price was killed by a train. William Hageman, who made an attempt to save her, received injuries from which he died. Mrs. Price was standing on the platform at Malaga when she slipped and fell on the tracks, just as the train was pulling in. Without hesitation Hageman jumped to rescue her, but before he could drag her from danger both were struck by the locomotive.

## "Tramp" Pays Old Score.

Denver, Colo., Dec. 27.—Seven years ago James L. Harvey, now a Rio Grande switchman here, was brakeman on a freight in Oklahoma, and befriended a tramp. Today Harvey received a letter from the tramp, Charles McNamara, now a rich miner of Murray Idaho, enclosing a check for \$500 as a Christmas gift. Harvey permitted McNamara to ride over his division, gave him clothes, a meal, a bed and a \$2 bill.

## Dying Woman Refuses Aid.

Los Angeles, Dec. 27.—Mrs. Polly Bolotin, who suffered frightful burns last night, when she used kerosene to encourage the fire under the family's turkey, died early today. Dental burns, Mrs. Bolotin received when she used kerosene to

## spread ruin.

## MANY LIVES ARE BELIEVED LOST

### Wreckage Coming Ashore Indicates Marine Disasters—Thirty-two Cities Left in Darkness.

Boston, Dec. 28.—Three million dollars is the estimate today of the loss in and around Boston by the tidal wave and blizzard which swept over New England Sunday. Five million dollars is the estimate of the damage along the New England coast.

Fifteen lives were certainly lost, if the five-masted schooner, the Davis Palmer, went down, and it is believed that many more perished at sea.

Wreckage borne into Boston harbor today is believed to be the mute evidence of the loss of the schooner Davis Palmer, bound from Newport News for Boston, somewhere near the entrance to the harbor. The wreck itself has not been located.

Cape Cod is still cut off. With the restoration of communication there, it is feared that a tale of marine disasters and storm damage unequalled in years will be related.

Thirty-two cities and towns were plunged in darkness owing to the electric lighting service being cut off, and wires of the telegraph and telephone companies were laid low in every direction.

New York, Dec. 28.—With the news of the probable loss of the five-masted schooner Davis Palmer, with her crew of twelve men, off Boston harbor, and of the wrecking of nine other vessels along the Massachusetts coast, the opening chapter of the toll taken on the sea by the storm that swept New England Saturday night and Sunday was bared to the world today.

The three-masted schooner Nantaska was buried ashore at Scituate and probably will be a total wreck. Volunteer lifesavers with the breeches buoy rescued her crew of ten men.

The schooner Belle Holiday is ashore at Brant point, exposed to the fury of the sea. The fate of her crew is unknown, but it is believed they have been rescued. She is from Philadelphia, loaded with railroad iron.

On the rocky shores of Martha's Vineyard water-logged schooners are being swept by every sea. They are the A. K. McLean, a British vessel, bound from Perth Amboy to Halifax, and the Stonington, Maine, schooner Maud Seward, Port Reading for Providentown. The crews have been taken off.

At Providentown the sloop Benita is aground, and in the flats at Plymouth harbor are four small schooners similarly distressed.

## STRIKE CONFERENCE FAILS.

### Labor Leaders Off to Washington to Seek Advice.

St. Paul, Dec. 28.—Contrary to expectations, developments today in the controversy between the railroads of the northwest and the striking switchmen, instead of resulting in an amicable settlement of the strike, resulted in a wider breach than has existed heretofore.

Not only have the switchmen declared off all negotiations with the railroads, but labor leaders say there is a strong possibility of a general strike by all allied orders belonging to the railway branch of the American Federation of Labor.

H. B. Perham, acting as chairman of the railway council in session here, left tonight for Washington to seek advice.

"There may be a more general strike," said Mr. Perham. President Hawley, of the switchmen's union, asserted: "Several other members of the railway council besides Mr. Perham left for their headquarters tonight to make preparation for a strike of their respective orders."

Mr. Perham, in speaking of today's developments, said:

"Friday we were on the verge of a settlement, and we thought that the matter would be fixed up today. But this morning the railroads presented a mysterious change of front and assumed such an arrogant attitude that we decided at once to have nothing more to do with them."

## Schooner Wrecks Light.

Newport News, Va., Dec. 28.—Having been rammed and almost cut in two by the four-masted schooner Malcolm Baxter, Jr., the Thimble shoal light, four miles east of Old Point Comfort, and near the trail of the "Horseshoe" in Lower Chesapeake bay, caught fire and was totally destroyed. The schooner was inward bound from Hampton Roads in ballast, and was proceeding under sail. The strong west wind and the swift tide threw the vessel off her course, and she crashed into the frame lighthouse.

## Legacy Heir Found Dead.

Seattle, Wash., Dec. 28.—Patrick M. Smith, aged 57, janitor of an apartment house, who was found dead in his room last night, received a letter from friends in Ireland, saying that he had fallen heir to \$30,000. He refused to return to claim his legacy, although an offer to send \$1,000 for his expenses was made. The old man had become dependent over his appetite for drink, and felt that the money would do him no good.

## Count Tolstol Failing.

St. Petersburg, Dec. 28.—The health of Count Leo Tolstol is again causing