

EVENTS OF THE DAY

GATHERED FROM ALL PARTS OF THE TWO HEMISPHERES.

Comprehensive Review of the Important Happenings of the Past Week, Presented in Condensed Form, Most Likely to Prove Interesting to Our Many Readers.

France will expel many more religious orders.

The Chinese government is planning a steamship line to the Pacific coast.

It is announced that President Roosevelt contemplates a hunting trip in Alaska next spring.

The prospects are that Oklahoma only will be admitted as a state at this session of congress.

An unsuccessful attempt was made to blow up a train in which the emperor of Japan was riding.

The bank at Bridger, Carbon county, Montana, was held up by three masked robbers and \$10,000 secured.

The opinion of the press all over the world is that the president's message is one of the ablest ever delivered by any president or monarch.

A bill has been introduced into congress amending the irrigation law. It would permit reclamation and purchase under cash entry law, also allow the leasing of water power developed by the government.

A bill has been introduced in congress which, if passed, will have the effect of abolishing the office of commanding general of the army, now held by General Miles. It creates a general staff corps to act with the secretary of war.

During November the public debt was lowered a trifle under a half million dollars.

The United States will not mix with Venezuela's financial affairs in the proposed new loan.

The international copyright treaty with Spain has been restored to full effect by the exchange of diplomatic notes.

A bill will be presented to congress asking an appropriation of \$50,000 to pay the expenses of the coal strike commission.

Already there is a noticeable relaxation of sanitary laws in Havana. There is consequently much more sickness than during American occupation.

Minister from Colombia Concha has been relieved and will be succeeded by Thomas Herran, who has full authority to prosecute the negotiations looking to a canal treaty, with considerably enlarged powers.

Chairman Hale, of the senate naval committee, has made the statement that he favors increasing the navy, but does not think any more big battle ships should be built. Vessels of the Oregon type and cruisers are more serviceable.

Lieutenant Robert E. Peary says the north pole can be reached.

The United States government has been asked to help Venezuela.

President Loubet, of France, will be invited to visit the United States during the St. Louis fair.

A number of German farmers are coming to the United States to study American ways of farming.

All steamships running into Marcellines, France, are tied up on account of a strike among the workmen.

The engagement of the daughter of Commissioner Hermann to H. P. Gateley, a Washington lawyer, is announced.

The Siamese crown prince, who is touring the United States, snubbed Mayor Williams, of Portland, on the occasion of his visit to that city.

Russia and France have both decorated Ambassador Tower. In order to evade the American law the time between Mr. Tower's leaving the ambassadorship at St. Petersburg and taking up his new post at Berlin was chosen.

Four men were killed, and three fatally and five seriously injured by the explosion of gas in a coal mine near Shamokin, Pa. An investigation is being made as to the cause of the explosion, but it is believed a miner opened his safety lamp.

Dr. Parker, the most famous preacher in London, is dead.

Debate on the tariff question in the German reichstag ended in a riot.

The Big Four railroad has announced an increase in the wages of its yard employees, to begin December 1.

Secretary of the Government Tamayo, of Cuba, who sympathized with the strikers in the recent troubles, has lost his position.

Chas F. Kelly, one of the St. Louis hoodlums, has returned home and given himself up on account of the death of his son, whom he wanted to see. Kelly is regarded as the only man who has the evidence to convict the hoodlums now on trial.

Fire destroyed over one-half of the village of Rockford, S. D. The loss will be great with only a small amount of insurance.

Two of the Fort Baker, California, batteries have been named Mendell and Alexander, in honor of two army officers of those names who served their country with distinction.

Emperor William, of Germany, honored Ambassador White at his farewell audience by presenting him with a medal.

DEATH IN EXPLOSION.

Thirteen Killed and Scores Were Injured in Chicago Accident.

Chicago, Dec. 2.—With a deafening report a boiler in Swift & Co.'s plant exploded shortly after 10 o'clock yesterday morning. Thirteen lives were sacrificed, and scores of employees, visitors and others were injured. Huge boilers were sent through the roof of the boiler house, and hurled hundreds of feet. Nobody within the boiler room survived to tell the story of the accident, and it may never be known what caused the explosion. A careful investigation today, however, convinced the experts that the explosion was the result of carelessness on the part of an employe, whose own life was lost. Five minutes after the explosion nothing of the boiler house and a pile of twisted iron, bricks and mortar remained. Flames sprang from the ruins, and the spectators realized that it would be impossible to save the lives of those who were caught in the wreck. The explosion was of such force that adjoining buildings were wrecked, torn and twisted like toys. Men, women and boys at work in adjoining departments were hurled through windows to the ground below. Many of them escaped with slight bruises, but most of the victims were hurt to such an extent that it was necessary to remove them to hospitals. The others were taken to their homes.

It was soon rumored that from 50 to 100 persons were caught in the wrecked building. This report caused great excitement, and in response to repeated calls, a dozen patrol wagons and as many ambulances were sent from all parts of the city. Extra calls for fire engines followed, and soon the flames were being fought from every side.

While the fire was still burning firemen and employes of the packing house began digging in the ruins. Soon the mangled remains of a man were discovered. At the same time other rescuers were digging with desperation to rescue several victims who were still alive. Bodies torn, bruised and mangled were taken from the ruins and sent to the morgue. A boy, scalded from head to foot, and bleeding from cuts and bruises, staggered toward the office of General Superintendent Young. The boy was Mr. Young's personal messenger. The lad, however, had been so badly disfigured that Mr. Young did not recognize him.

It is not thought that the loss to Swift & Co. will amount to more than \$50,000. The officials of the company declare that this will cover the damage, as nearly as they are able to estimate at the present time. The building in which the boilers were located was the only structure to be entirely destroyed, and it was a small structure, one story high. The storehouse, which stood close to the boiler house, was badly damaged, a portion of its walls being torn, but it is only two stories high.

AMERICANS BETTER OFF.

Mosely Compares Their Condition with That of English Workmen.

New York, Dec. 2.—Alfred Mosely, the retired English merchant, who with a number of workmen has made a six weeks' tour of this country to study industrial conditions here and in Canada, says: "Our trip, on the whole, was eminently satisfactory. We were all impressed with the thorough up-to-dateness of everything we saw. Another thing that impressed us was the courtesy and frankness of American employes, and the pains they were willing to take to explain the methods in use at their respective factories and works." All the delegates will report their impressions to the unions of their respective trades on their return to England. Terence Flynn, of the tailors' union, said: "Counting the extra onlay in rent and clothing for food and all else are cheaper—the American workman is 25 per cent better off than the workman in England. On the whole he is far better cared for in respect to good sanitation, general comfort and better equipment than we are, and on the whole he lives as long or longer in harness than the English workman. This 'too-old-at-50' principle does not prevail among the workmen, wherever else it may be found. We speak from observation. Here pauperism or penury in old age is almost unknown. The records of the English workhouses speak for themselves."

Explosion on the Texas.

Hampton, Va., Dec. 2.—The battleship Texas had a narrow escape from being blown up yesterday afternoon. She left the Portsmouth navy yard yesterday morning to the Cape, where gun practice was held. Two of the large turret guns exploded, filling the gun room with glycerine and water, but the magnificent work of the gunners saved the vessel from serious damage, as well as the lives of those on board of her. The ship returned to Old Point this afternoon and a special inspection board is making an examination.

New Tunnel to Brooklyn.

New York, Dec. 2.—Work has been inaugurated by the Interborough rapid transit company on the extension of the underground system to Brooklyn, through a tunnel underneath the East river. The opening was made at Broadway and Ann streets, Manhattan. When this work shall have been completed the subway system will be in operation, and it will be possible to ride from Brooklyn to any part of Manhattan without change of cars.

Safelowers' Successful Raid.

Bloomington, Ill., Dec. 2.—Safelowers made a successful raid last night upon the State bank at Stanford, a village 10 miles southwest of here, and \$3,000 was taken. The burglars escaped.

PRESIDENT TO CONGRESS

Chief Executive Delivers Annual Message

AN ABLE DOCUMENT

SPEAKS OUT HIS VIEWS IN FORCEFUL LANGUAGE.

Favors Revision of Tariff on Some Plan Which Will Not Disturb the Country—Heartily Commends Action Taken in Irrigation Matter—Alaska Should Be Given Needed Laws.

THE MESSAGE AT A GLANCE.

Build isthmian canal. Perfect public land laws. Protect game on forest reserves. Give Alaska needed legislation. Create a secretary of commerce. Extend free rural mail delivery. Establish reciprocity with Cuba. Irrigation act should receive attention. Organized capital and organized labor must work together for the good of the nation. International arbitration should be extended. A general staff should be at the head of the army. Filipinos are enjoying greater liberty than ever before. Control of corporations should be in the hands of the government. Build up navy so as to be able to treat Monroe doctrine as cardinal feature of our foreign policy. Revise tariff laws to the extent of business demands, but do not jeopardize the workingman or country in general. All future financial legislation should look to an interchangeable currency, convertible into gold at the will of the holder.

Washington, Dec. 3.—President Roosevelt's annual address to congress was read in both houses yesterday. Following is a synopsis of the document:

To the senate and house of representatives: We still continue in a period of unbounded prosperity. This prosperity is not the creature of law, but undoubtedly the laws under which we work have been instrumental in creating the conditions which made it possible, and by wise legislation it would be easy enough to destroy it. There will undoubtedly be periods of depression. The wave will recede, but the tide will advance. This nation is seated on a continent flanked by two great oceans. It is composed of men, the descendants of pioneers, or, in a sense, pioneers themselves; of men winnowed out from among the nations of the old world by the energy, boldness and love of adventure found in their own eager hearts. Such a nation, so placed, will surely wrest success from fortune.

In my message to the present congress at its first session I discussed at length the question of the regulation of those big corporations which are popularly known as trusts. Our aim is not to do away with corporations; on the contrary, these big aggregations are an inevitable development of modern industrialism, and the effort to destroy them would be futile unless accomplished in ways that would work the utmost mischief to the entire body politic. I believe that monopolies, unjust discriminations, which prevent free competition, fraudulent overcapitalization, and other evils in trust organizations and practices which injuriously affect interstate trade, can be prevented under the power of congress to regulate commerce with foreign nations and among the several states. If it were impossible to enact a law that will regulate these corporations, then, assuredly, we should not shrink from amending the constitution so as to secure beyond peradventure the power sought.

Stability of economic policy must always be the prime economic need of this country. This stability should not be fossilization. The country has acquiesced in the wisdom of the protective tariff principle. It is exceedingly undesirable that this system should be destroyed, or that there should be violent and radical changes therein. Our past experience shows that great prosperity in this country has always come under a protective tariff; and that the country cannot prosper under flimsy tariff changes at short intervals. It is most earnestly to be wished that we could treat the tariff from the standpoint solely of our business needs. The well being of the wage earner, like the well being of the tiller of the soil, should be treated as an essential in shaping our whole economic policy. There must never be any change which will jeopardize the standard of comfort, the standard of wages of the American workman. One way in which the readjustment sought can be reached is by reciprocity treaties. They can be used to widen our markets and to give a greater field for the activities of our producers, on the one hand, and on the other hand to secure in practical shape the lowering of duties when they are no longer needed for protection among our own people or when the minimum of damage done may be disregarded for the sake of the maximum of good accomplished.

It would be both unwise and unnecessary at this time to attempt to reconstruct our financial system, which has been the growth of a century; but some additional legislation is, I think, desirable. It is suggested that all future legislation on the subject should be with a view of encouraging the use of such instrumentalities as will automatically supply every legitimate demand of productive industries and of commerce, not only in the amount, but in the character of circulation; and of making all kinds of money interchangeable, and, at the will of the holder, convertible into the established gold standard.

How to secure fair treatment alike for labor and capital, how to hold in check the unscrupulous man, whether employer or employee, without weakening individual initiative, without hampering and cramping the industrial development of the country, is a problem fraught with great difficulties and one which is of the highest importance to solve on lines of sanity and far-sighted common sense as well as devotion to the right. This is an era of federation and combination. Organized capital and organized labor alike should remember that in the long run the interest of each must be brought into harmony with the interest of the general public; and the conduct of each must conform to the fundamental rules of obedience to the law, of individual freedom and of justice and fair dealing toward all. Each should remember that in addition to power it must strive after the realization of healthy, lofty and generous ideals. Every employer, every wage earner, must be guaranteed his liberty and his right to do as he likes with his property or his labor so long as he does not infringe upon the rights of others.

It is earnestly hoped that the secretary of commerce may be created, with a seat in the cabinet. The rapid multiplication of questions affecting labor and capital, the growth and complexity of the organizations through which both labor and capital now find expression, the steady tendency toward the employment of capital in huge corporations, and the wonderful strides of this country toward leadership in the international business world justify an urgent demand for the creation of such a position.

I hope soon to submit to the senate a reciprocity treaty with Cuba. On May 20 last the United States kept its promise to the island by formally vacating Cuban soil and turning Cuba over to those whom her own people had chosen as the first officials of the new republic. Cuba lies at our doors, and whatever affects her for good or ill affects us also. So much have our people felt this that in the Platt amendment we definitely took the ground that Cuba must hereafter have closer relations with us than with any other power. As civilization grows warfare becomes less and less the normal condition of foreign relations. The last century has seen a marked diminution of wars between civilized powers; wars with uncivilized powers are largely mere matters of international police duty, essentially for the welfare of the world. Whenever possible arbitration or some similar method should be employed in lieu of war to settle difficulties between civilized nations, although as yet the world has not progressed sufficiently to render it possible or necessarily desirable to invoke arbitration in every case.

The congress has wisely provided for building at once an isthmian canal, if possible at Panama. The attorney general reports that we can undoubtedly acquire good title from the French Panama canal company. The work should be carried out as a continuing policy without regard to change of administration; and it should be begun under circumstances which will make it a matter of pride for all administrations to continue the policy. Of Porto Rico it is only necessary to say that the prosperity of the island and the wisdom of the government, save the Japanese alone. Too much credit cannot be given to the army for what it has done in the Philippines, both in warfare and from an administrative standpoint, in preparing the way for civil government; and similar credit belongs to the civil authorities for the ways in which they have planted the seeds of self government in the ground thus made ready for them.

The army has been reduced to the minimum allowed by law. It is very small for the size of the nation, and most certainly should be kept at the highest point of efficiency. A system of maneuvering our army in bodies of some little size has been begun and should be steadily continued. Without such maneuvers it is folly to expect that in the event of hostilities with any serious foe even a small army corps could be handled with advantage.

Our officers and enlisted men are such that we can heartily take pride in them, but they must be thoroughly trained, both as individuals and in the mass. In the circumstances of modern warfare the man must act far more on his own individual responsibility than ever before, and the high individual efficiency of the unit is of the utmost importance. I urgently call your attention to the need of passing a bill providing for a general staff and for the reorganization of the supply departments on the lines of the bill proposed by the secretary of

war last year. For the first time in our history maneuvers on a larger scale are being held under the immediate command of the admiral of the navy. Constantly increasing attention is being paid to the gunnery of the navy, but it is yet far from what it should be. There should be no halt in the work of building up the navy, providing every year additional fighting craft. We have deliberately made our own certain foreign policies which demand the possession of a first class navy. The isthmian canal will greatly increase the efficiency of our navy if the navy is of sufficient size; but if we have an inadequate navy, then the building of the canal would be merely giving a hostage to any other power of superior strength. The Monroe doctrine should be treated as the cardinal feature of American foreign policy; but it would be worse than idle to assert it unless we intended to back it up, and it can be backed up only by a thoroughly good navy. The striking increase in the revenues of the postoffice department shows clearly the prosperity of our people and the increasing activity of the business of the country. Rural free delivery service is no longer in the experimental stage; it has become a fixed policy. The results following its introduction have fully justified the congress in the large appropriations made for its establishment and extension. Few subjects of greater importance have been taken up by the congress in recent years than the inauguration of the system of nationally aided irrigation for the arid regions of the far west. A good beginning therein has been made. Now that this policy of national irrigation has been adopted, the need of thorough and scientific protection will grow more rapidly than ever throughout the public land states. Legislation should be provided for the protection of the game, and wild creatures generally, on the largest reserves. The senseless slaughter of game should be stopped at once. It is, for instance, a serious count against our national good sense to permit the present practice of butchering off such a stately and beautiful creature as the elk for its antlers or tusks. So far as they are available for agriculture, and to whatever extent they may be reclaimed under the national irrigation law, the remaining public lands should be held rigidly for the homebuilder, the settler who lives on his land, and for no one else. In their actual use, the desert land law, the timber and stone law, and the commutation clause of the homestead law have been so perverted from the intention with which they were enacted as to permit the acquisition of large areas of the public domain for other than actual settlers and the consequent prevention of settlement. Moreover, the approaching exhaustion of the public ranges has of late led to much discussion as to the best manner of using these public lands in the west which are suitable chiefly or only for grazing. In view of the capital importance of these matters, it might be well for a commission of experts to investigate and report upon the complicated questions involved. I especially urge upon the congress the need of wise legislation for Alaska. It is not to our credit as a nation that Alaska, which has been ours for 35 years, should still have as poor a territory of laws as is the case. It is a territory of great size and varied resources, well fitted to support a large, permanent population. Alaska needs a good land law and such provisions for homesteads and pre-emptions as will encourage permanent settlement. We should shape legislation with a view not to the exploiting and abandoning of the territory, but to the building up of homes therein. The forests should be protected, and, as a secondary, but still important matter, the game also. Laws should be enacted to protect the Alaskan salmon fisheries against the greed which would destroy them. It would be well if a congressional committee could visit Alaska and investigate its needs on the ground.

THEODORE ROOSEVELT. White House Dec. 2, 1902.

MITCHELL WANTS COAST DEFENSE.

Is Busy Getting Official Endorsement for New Legislation. Washington, Dec. 3.—Senator Mitchell has been busy throughout the past week collecting recommendations from the secretary of war and other officials, touching upon needed legislation for the coast defense of the country. As chairman of the committee on coast defenses, the senator proposes to advocate the passage in the short session of such legislation as is urgently demanded.

In years past, the duties of the committee on coast defenses have been cared for by the committee on military affairs. The growing importance of the coast defenses and their present inefficient equipment has appealed to the senator. He is particularly anxious that some legislation be enacted which will permit the complete fortification of the mouth of the Columbia river, but says most of the harbors are yet inadequately protected.

Found Desperadoes Unexpectedly. Denver, Dec. 3.—A special to the News from Lamar, Colo., says that while pursuing three men suspected of having held up and robbed the postmaster at Carleton, near here, Sheriff Frank M. Tate and Deputy J. H. Frisbie came suddenly upon the men camped in the morning. The latter opened fire upon the officers, wounding Tate in the arm. Frisbie's horse was shot from under him. The three men escaped. As soon as the affair became known, a large band of cowboys, heavily armed, took the trail.

NEWS OF OREGON

ITEMS OF INTEREST FROM ALL PARTS OF THE STATE.

Prosperous Southern Oregon Mine—Real Estate Transfers in Marion County Increasing—Aged Man 56 Hours Without Food or Shelter—Benton County Hog Discovered with Jaundice.

A case of jaundice has been found in a hog killed by a Benton county farmer. Pendleton commenced free city mail delivery December 1. There are four carriers and three deliveries of mail a day will be made. Much local interest is being manifested in the city elections throughout the state, which occur from December 1 to April 1. Several cities have three tickets in the field. Hosea Stokes, aged 78 years, became lost in the woods at Looking Glass, Southern Oregon, where he resides, and when found had been 56 hours without food or shelter. Mrs. Bride Sinnott, widow of the late N. B. Sinnott, died at her home in The Dalles Sunday afternoon. Mrs. Sinnott was one of the most widely known pioneer residents of that section of the state. Prospects are very encouraging in the gold mining district in the Santiam country. Considerable development work is being done and new machinery installed. A smelter will be shipped in early next summer. The real estate transfers in Marion county during the past week amounted to over \$52,000, which is the largest for a similar period in many years. Activity in real estate has been steadily increasing for over two years and there is every indication that it will gain in intensity during the next two years. While there is some movement in city property, the transfers are principally of farm property. The Greenback mine, on Grave creek, Southern Oregon, has a new 20-stamp mill completed and ready to begin a much larger business than it has been able to do in the past. Over 50 tons of ore will be crushed daily. Nearly 300 people are supported by the Greenback mine, the houses of which have made a thriving little town with a store, hall and schoolhouse. The town is known as Greenback and has recently been made a postoffice. The postoffice at Pokemona, Klamath county, has been discontinued. The building boom, which has been in progress at Weston for several weeks, shows no signs of abatement. The citizens of Holix will hold an election December 10 to vote on the proposition of incorporating the town. But very little of the 1903 wheat crop in the big Umatilla belt will be fall wheat, the rain proving so heavy that all seeding has been stopped. Dr. Leckenby, of Union, has discovered a process whereby he can take photographs in which all natural colors are reproduced. He will not keep the discovery a secret, but will give it to the world. The soldier who was arrested at Fort Stevens for setting the numerous recent fires has escaped from the officers and no trace of him can be found. He confessed to having started the fires as accused. The second term at the state normal school at Monmouth shows a marked increase in interest and attendance. One noticeable feature is the unusually large number of young men, some 190 being enrolled at present. The sugar beet crop this year in the neighborhood of La Grande was exceptionally good and more beets were turned into the factory than ever before. The amount received is 17,500 tons, which yielded 4,600,000 pounds of refined sugar.

PORTLAND MARKETS. Wheat—Walla Walla, 71@72c; blue stem 79@80c; barley, 74c. Barley—Feed, \$23.50 per ton; brewing, \$24.00. Flour—Best grade, 3.60@3.90; grab, \$3.20@3.60. Millstuffs—Bran, \$19.00 per ton; middlings, \$23.50; shorts, \$19.50; chop, \$18. Oats—No. 1 white, \$1.15@1.17c; gray, \$1.12c@1.15 per cental. Hay—Timothy, \$10@11; clover, \$9.00; cheat, \$8@9 per ton. Potatoes—Best Burbanks, 60@80c per sack; ordinary, 50@55c per cental, growers' prices; Merced sweets, \$1.75@2 per cental. Poultry—Chickens, mixed, \$3.00@4.25; per pound, 10c; hens, \$4@4.50 per pound; 10c; springs, \$3.00@3.50 per dozen; fryers, \$2.50@3.00; broilers, \$2.00@2.50; ducks, \$5.00@6.00 per dozen; turkeys, live, 13c, dressed, 15c; geese, \$8.00@8.50. Cheese—Full cream, twins, 15c@16c; Young America, 16c@17c factory prices, 1c@1c less. Butter—Fancy creamery, 30@32c per pound; extras, 30c; dairy, 20@22c; store, 15@18. Eggs—25@30c per dozen. Hops—New crop, 23@26c per pound. Wool—Valley, 12c@15c; Eastern Oregon, 8@14c; mohair, 28@28c. Beef—Gross, cows, 3@3c per pound; steers, 4c; dressed, 6@7c. Veal—7c@8c. Mutton—Gross, 3c per pound; dressed, 6c. Lambs—Gross, 3c per pound; dressed, 6c. Hogs—Gross, 6c@6c per pound; dressed, 7@7c.

CONGRESS MEETS

FIFTY-SEVENTH SESSION IS CONVENED AMID BRILLIANT SCENES.

Adjournment Taken Immediately Out of Respect to Deceased Members—Visitors' Galleries Crowded and Hundreds Were Unable to Gain Admission—The Usual Flower Display.

Washington, Dec. 2.—The second session of the Fifty-seventh congress convened at noon yesterday. Long before the gavel fell in the two houses large crowds thronged about the doors of the visitors' galleries, seeking admittance. A bright, sunny day brought out many women, who were conspicuous among the visitors. As the hour for the opening approached the crowds about the doors increased, but many were necessarily disappointed, as the space allotted to outsiders was claimed early. There were many out-of-town visitors.

Opening of the Senate. Washington, Dec. 2.—The senate was in session 12 minutes yesterday, the first day of the session, an adjournment until today being taken out of respect to the memory of Senator McMillan, who died during the recess. Early has the historic chamber presented such an appearance. The custom of placing flowers on the desks of senators on the opening day of a session is one which has long been followed, but the display today was admittedly the most magnificent of any that has yet been seen. Many of the senators were early on the floor and kept busy exchanging greetings with old acquaintances. The galleries were packed to suffocation, and hundreds stood outside the corridors anxious to gain admission. Among the interested spectators were several members of the diplomatic corps. Senor Quasada, the Cuban minister, occupied a conspicuous place and exhibited much interest in the proceedings. The absence of Rev. Dr. Milburn, the blind chaplain, was particularly noticed. His place was taken by Rev. J. F. Prettyman, of Washington. No business was transacted beyond passing the customary resolutions that the senate was ready to proceed to business and fixing the hour of convening the sessions at 11 o'clock.

Gay Gathering in the House. Washington, Dec. 2.—The opening of the Fifty-seventh congress in the house was, as usual, a spectacular event. The galleries of the freshly decorated hall were packed to the doors with people prominent in society and political circles, and the floor show on the floor, although not as elaborate as usual, filled the chamber with perfume and added grace and beauty to the scene. The members were good natured and jovial, and there was no outcropping of partisan feeling. Speaker Henderson received a cordial reception as he assumed the gavel, but beyond this there was no demonstration. The proceedings were purely perfunctory. A prayer, the calling of the roll, the swearing in of members elected to fill vacancies created by death or resignation during the recess, the adoption of the customary resolutions to appoint a committee to wait upon the president, to inform the senate that the house was ready to transact business and to fix the daily hour of meeting, summarizes what was done. Then the death of the late Representative Russell, of Connecticut, which occurred in the early fall, was announced by his successor, Mr. Brandegee, the usual resolution of regret was adopted, and the house, as a further mark of respect, adjourned until today, when the president's message will be received. The session lasted less than one hour.

RUSSIA MUST PAY. United States Wins Sealing Arbitration—Over \$100,000 Will Be Received. The Hague, Dec. 3.—Professor Asser, the Dutch jurist, who has been arbitrating the claims of American sealers for the seizure of their vessels by the Russian government, about 10 years ago, has declared his award in favor of the United States. He approves the damages in the case of the American schooner C. H. White at \$32,444; in the case of the James Hamilton Lewis at \$28,528; the Kate and Anna at \$10,488, and the Cape Horn Pigeon at \$38,750. Professor Asser delivered his judgment in the arbitration court in the presence of the representatives of the United States and of Russia and others, including the foreign minister of the Netherlands, Dr. Van Lynden. In giving his reason for the award, Professor Asser held that the schooner White was seized outside Russian territorial waters, and that the Russian contention that a warship of one nation was entitled to pursue beyond the boundaries of its territorial sea a ship of another nation guilty of illegal action within those waters, was untenable. The arbitrator declared that the jurisdiction of a state could not extend beyond its territorial waters except by special treaty.

Pensions for Railroad Employees. Portland, Dec. 3.—The O. R. & N. Co. will inaugurate a pension system at the beginning of the new year for the benefit of its employes. The Southern Pacific will also put the new system into effect at the same time. It is a move that includes all the Harriman lines. The details of the plans will be announced some time this month. It is somewhat like the plans that are in effect on many of the large Eastern roads.