

RESUME OF THE WEEK'S DOINGS

General Review of Important Happenings Presented in a Brief and Comprehensive Manner for Busy Readers—National, Political, Historical and Commercial.

Government survey of soils is declared a failure.

Thaw has been granted a trial on the question of his sanity.

China will send diplomats to this country to study commerce.

Cosgrove will come north in a private car to take the oath of office.

Many trains are snowbound on the Northern Pacific in Montana.

The senate will rigidly investigate all appointments by the president.

Holland, France and Great Britain are to unite in the Venezuela affair.

Taft will announce no more cabinet selections till after the inauguration.

Senator Davis, of Arkansas, has blood poisoning, and may lose an arm.

Fire destroyed an entire block in the business portion of Thompson Falls, Montana.

Washington proposes to reopen the Sand Island boundary dispute which was won by Oregon.

Harriman lines are to be continuous from Seattle to Mexico City, according to present plans.

The snow area over the Pacific Northwest is gradually extending south.

The blizzard in Montana has blocked the Northern Pacific and the Great Northern.

The Italian parliament is in session to consider measures regarding the earthquake.

A sudden thaw would result in bad floods all along the Columbia and Willamette rivers.

The government is piling up evidence that the Harriman merger throtles competition.

San Francisco will aid Portland in securing the Liberty bell for the rose festival next June.

Ice floes in the Columbia river have stopped all boats and are growing in thickness and extent.

A woman left \$2,000 worth of jewels in a Los Angeles bank and officials have been unable to locate the owner.

A notorious criminal has been released from the Montana penitentiary by mistake. Officers are making a futile attempt to locate him.

A Seattle man takes a swim in Puget sound every morning and does not give up the practice even with the temperature down to 14 degrees below freezing.

A mail sack containing bonds, etc., worth \$200,000 was stolen from a delivery wagon in Paris in broad daylight. The police have not the slightest clew to the thieves.

The queen dowager of Spain is seriously ill.

A new Franco-American treaty of extradition has been signed.

J. P. Morgan & Co. will loan \$22,500,000 to the Bolivian government.

Owing to a shortage of the crop, an advance will be made in the price of brooms.

Richard Croker has begun the erection of a residence at West Palm Beach, Florida.

Morse D. Brown, 83 years old, is said to be the oldest practicing attorney in Chicago.

Attorneys for Abraham Ruef have been given another ten days in which to prepare their bill of exceptions.

John W. Gates has given the money to erect a \$100,000 college and a \$20,000 hospital at Fort Arthur, Texas.

The Canadian Pacific railroad will spend \$30,000,000 on Western construction work this year, it is reported.

James Treadwell, once a millionaire and promoter of the famous Treadwell mines, in Alaska, has been declared a bankrupt by San Francisco courts.

Mrs. Maybrick is to marry again.

Zero weather prevails throughout the West.

Mrs. Claus Spreckles will have an allowance of \$130 per day.

Terrible riots have occurred between Hindus and Mohammedans in India.

Castro's plot to murder Gomez has been revealed by a telegraph operator.

More earthquake shocks have occurred at Messina and still more are predicted.

An attempt will be made to collect the late Senator Mitchell's fine from his estate.

Thousands of Yaqui Indians have surrendered their arms to the Mexican government.

A revolution has broken out in Manchuria and the mutinous troops have won a victory.

Rockefeller has extended the time for the Chicago university to earn the \$600,000 donation.

FATAL MINE EXPLOSION.

Twenty Four Dead in Leiter's Famous Illinois Colliery.

Zeigler, Ill., Jan. 12.—The series of mishaps in Joe Leiter's famous \$1,000,000 colliery here during the last few years reached a climax shortly after 1 o'clock this morning, when a mysterious explosion killed 24 men.

Nineteen dead have been recovered, five are missing and are undoubtedly dead, and two are injured critically.

This is the second serious disaster in the Zeigler Coal company's property, which has been the scene of several minor fatalities and where for more than two years a desperate labor war was waged as the result of a strike. An explosion in 1905 killed 35 men at work in the mine.

Joseph Leiter and his bride of half a year were here when the explosion happened. Leiter came to town several weeks ago to direct the fight on a fire in the workings, which, after a month's battle, was got under control Friday night. Leiter himself conducted the first relief party into the mine. The first coal hoisted out of the shaft in more than six weeks was brought up yesterday and it was expected to put the full force of men at work during the next few days.

The explosion was remarkable in that except for the many dead it left scarcely a trace and the interior of the mine tonight shows no sign of damage.

WILL BE NO PLAGUE.

Stringent Sanitary Measures Taken at Messina.

Messina, Jan. 12.—General Marza has adopted stringent measures to protect people and property. In addition to establishing a police service around the city, he has issued orders that any person found excavating without a permit shall be shot.

General Marza declared that under the guise of rescuers, many thieves were committing robberies.

Sanitary conditions have greatly improved and it is now believed that there is little danger of the spread of disease.

The American relief ship Bayern, flying the Red Cross flag, arrived Friday. A small amount of clothing was sent to the American consulate and the remainder of the stores are being distributed to ports along the south coast.

The United States supply ship Culgea, which arrived from Port Said Friday, carried 130 tons of provisions and was well stocked with blankets and wearing apparel. The stores were sent ashore and distributed.

The living are still being taken from the ruins. Ten days ago it was thought that all buried under the wreckage must have perished, but several persons taken out Saturday were found to be in extraordinary good condition.

ONE-MAN RULE WEARIED.

Venezuela Grew Tired of Government of Castro.

Paris, Jan. 12.—Jose de J. Paul, special envoy of Venezuela, arrived here this evening from Bordeaux and was warmly greeted by a score of Venezuelans.

M. Paul declared Castro's downfall was the result of a conflict between the country's ambition to carry on peaceful internal and foreign policies and the policies of Castro, which were rapidly jeopardizing Venezuelan independence.

"What was the real cause of Castro's fall?" M. Paul was asked.

"It was brought about," replied the envoy, "by the necessity of averting a revolution. It must be remembered that Holland practically abrogated the protocol of 1894, whereby she had undertaken to prohibit traffic in arms and prevent filibustering expeditions and revolutionary outbreaks. Having thus abrogated the treaty, the presence of Holland's warships would have rendered us impotent to stop filibustering."

"Castro's present standing in Venezuela," M. Paul said, "is that of a man opposed to his country's aspirations. Venezuelans are weary of one man's domination."

M. Paul expects to open negotiations with the French government within a few days.

Cosgrove Postpones Trip.

Paso, Robles Hot Springs, Cal., Jan. 12.—Although Governor-Elect Samuel G. Cosgrove, of Washington, is very much better, he will not leave for the North tomorrow morning for his inauguration at Olympia next Thursday.

The severe weather in Washington has caused Governor Cosgrove to postpone his departure from here indefinitely. Preparations had been made for the governor to leave here tomorrow morning on a special train, but a telegram from his son today caused him to change his plans.

Chinese Can't Compete.

Victoria, B. C., Jan. 12.—Mexico has proved an unfavorable field for Chinese immigrants, according to advices received from the Orient. The viceroys of Canton has forbidden further emigration and the newly established Chinese line will suffer serious loss.

Hongkong papers claim that Mexico is too poor a country even for the Chinese, and that the coolies cannot compete with the ill-paid, half-starved peons.

Night Riders Held in Jail.

Jackson, Tenn., Jan. 12.—The six Night Riders sentenced to death at Union City and two others sentenced to 20 years in the state penitentiary, have been placed in jail here and will be held in close confinement to await the action of the Supreme court, which will meet in this city next April.

NEWS NOTES GATHERED FROM VARIOUS PARTS OF OREGON

DEVELOP LAKE COUNTY.

Building of Railroad to Klamath Falls Expected to Be Big Help.

Lakeview—The year 1909 will witness great development in Lake county. Anticipating the migration that will begin with the opening of spring, the Southern Pacific company is now selling from all points on its lines, through tickets, via Klamath Falls, to this city, the county seat, which is 100 miles east of Klamath Falls, by stage.

This great county has been isolated for years. With its 5,000,000 acres it has a population of 3,500, or 5,000 acres for each voter.

Much of the land is held in immense ranches, and the sheep and cattle men have reigned supreme for many years. Now, two large irrigation projects in course of construction mark the beginning of a new era that will mean an increase of many fold in the population and business of the county, bringing in an agricultural people, and changing the old order of things.

For the past six months a great advertising campaign has been carried on in the Middle West. This campaign is in the hands of the Oregon Valley Land company, successor to the old Oregon Military Road Land Grant company, whose holdings lie on either side of the old Oregon Military road, extending through the Klamath Indian reservation in Klamath county through Lake into Harney and Malheur counties.

The land is being sold on the certificate and auction plan and already many thousand certificates have been disposed of. The irrigation projects will be completed in time for the crops of 1910, and will reclaim 100,000 acres of fine sage brush land in the Golden Goose lake valley.

Rich Josephine Strike.

Grants Pass—When the owners brought in a big buckskin bag, fat with yellow nuggets, for exchange for coin of the realm over a Grants Pass banking counter, it became known that an El Dorado, that rivals the famous diggings of Alaska, has been quietly worked for several months past near this city. The owners and operators of the claim are W. J. McDow and son. Their diggings are located on Briggs creek, in what is locally known as the Swede basin district. The gold taken from the claim is coarse and heavy, many of the nuggets being of a large size and running in value from \$20 to \$25.

Oil Flows at Ontario.

Ontario—Oil, gas and water is now flowing from the well of the Ontario Co-Operative Gas & Oil company, in the suburbs of this city, although the oil is limited. The oil and water is forced to the surface by the gas, and although an attempt has been made to plug the well, about a six inch stream is still flowing. The well is now down 1,600 feet, and is the deepest well yet sunk in this field. In starting this well, 12 inch casing was used, but after sinking 400 or 500 feet 10 inch casing was used, and at 1,500 the casing was reduced to 8 1/2 inches.

Oregon Givers Are Thanked.

Salem—Governor Chamberlain has received the following telegram from the editor of a leading Italian newspaper of New York, who is president of the relief committee in the raising of funds for the earthquake sufferers: "In behalf of the Italian community, I tender you sincere thanks for your prompt and generous assistance in behalf of our compatriots afflicted by the recent earthquake in Italy. Charles Barsofi, President Italian Relief Committee."

Fruitmen Will Organize.

Salem—The first steps toward the organization of a fruit-growers' union were taken last week when, at a mass meeting of growers, John Pemberton, E. C. Armstrong, Charles Long and William Zosel were appointed a committee to report a plan of organization. The plan of the Puyallup organization was generally approved, but will be modified to meet local conditions. The organization will handle fresh fruits and probably operate a cooler.

Farmers Happy Over Snow.

La Grande—Continued snowfall means tens of thousands to Grand Ronde valley farmers and fruit-growers. Stock is not suffering. Last year was the second unusually dry season in Eastern Oregon, and unless there is a heavy snowfall in the mountains and valley this winter's crop is likely to be short next season. Unless a warm wave comes, indications are for a very heavy snowfall. The melting snow is very much better for crops.

Federal Building Site Picked.

Pendleton—According to a private message received from Washington Pendleton's postoffice building will be located on the corner of Alta and Garden streets, one block from the business center of the city. It is understood the price paid for the site is \$10,000. The new stone depot will be on the same street, three blocks away.

New Packing House.

North Powder—A pork packing house has been opened here by L. McGregor, formerly proprietor of a meat packing plant in Portland. He has also opened a retail market. It is to be run in connection with the packing plant. McGregor's first lot of hogs, 52 in number, weighed from 250 to 350 pounds.

WATER BIG TRACT.

Deschutes Company Signs Contract With State Land Board.

Salem—The State Land board has signed up a contract for the reclamation of 74,000 acres of arid land in Crook county, the Deschutes Irrigation & Power company being the contractor. The company is to have a lien upon the land for the estimated cost of reclamation, fixed at \$60 per acre for irrigable land and \$2.50 per acre for non-irrigable land.

The Deschutes company already has contracts for the reclamation of two tracts, one consisting of 84,000 acres, known as the Pilot butte segregation, and the other consisting of 56,000 acres, known as the Oregon Irrigation company segregation.

All this land is in the vicinity of Bend, Crook county. The tract covered by the contract just signed lies south and east of the tracts covered by the earlier contracts, and reaches from the Deschutes river nearly to Prineville.

Water for the irrigation of this vast area of land will be taken from the Deschutes river. The plans call for the construction of a storage reservoir, the details of which are yet to be definitely decided upon.

The per cent of irrigable and non-irrigable land is not definitely known, but it is estimated that the total lien of the company will be in the neighborhood of \$3,500,000. The company is to receive 80 cents per acre per year from settlers as a maintenance charge until 1917, when the system is to be turned over to the settlers' organization complete, unincumbered and in good condition. The contract requires that the most important portions of the dume shall be made of concrete and steel.

The contract gives the irrigation company the right to use the water powers available in the canal system for a period of 35 years, in consideration of which the company is to maintain the canals during that period. The land will be sold to settlers by the state, the purchasers paying off the company's lien, this being the consideration.

Big Mill for St. Helens.

St. Helens—A mill that will increase not only the payroll of St. Helens but the population to the extent of at least 300 is now being built by the Charles R. McCormack company, of San Francisco. It is expected to be completed and in operation by July, 1909. Over \$200,000 is being expended on the construction. About 200 men will be employed. The company is one of the wealthiest on the Pacific coast. It controls the Hicks-Hauptman company, of San Francisco and the California Pole & Piling company, which has yards at Seattle, Everett and San Pablo. It also has a fleet of five ocean vessels.

Big Wages for Chinese.

Astoria—The demand for skilled Chinamen to work in the canneries will be greater the coming season than ever before, especially the slitters and solderers. A great run of salmon is expected on Puget sound this year and extensive preparations are being made to handle it. Some of the Columbia river slitters have been offered \$1,000 for the season and some solderers \$600. These prices are about double what have been paid in former years.

PORTLAND MARKETS.

Barley—Feed, \$27@27.50 per ton; brewing, \$28. Wheat—Bluestem, 98c; club, 91c; five, 91c, red Russian, 89c; 40-fold, 92c; valley, 91c. Cat—No. 1 white, \$32.50 per ton. Hay—T motley, Willamee valley, \$14 per ton; Eastern Oregon, \$17@18; clover, \$12; alfalfa, \$12@13; grain hay, \$12@13. Fruit—Apples, 75c@83 per box; pears, \$1@1.75 per box; quinces, \$1@1.25 per box; cranberries, \$14.50@15 per barrel; persimmons, \$1@1.25. Potatoes—80 @ 90c per hundred; sweet potatoes, 2 1/2c per pound. Onions—Oregon, \$1.20 per hundred. Vegetables—Turnips, \$1.25 per sack; carrots, \$1; parsnips, \$1.25; beans, \$1.50; borseraish, 80c per pound; artichokes, \$1.40 per dozen; beans, 22 1/2c per pound; cabbage, 1 1/2c per pound; cauliflower, \$1.25 per dozen; celery, \$4.50 per crate; eggplant, 11c per pound; lettuce, \$1@1.25 per box; parsley, 30c per dozen; peas, 20c per pound; peppers, 15c@20c per pound; pumpkins, 1@1 1/2c per pound; radishes, 30c per dozen; spinach, 2c per pound; sprouts, 10c per pound; squash, 1@1 1/2c per pound. Butter—City creamery, extras, 36@37c; fancy out side creamery, 32 1/2@35c per pound; store, 18@20c. Eggs—Oregon ranch, 37 1/2 @ 40c; Eastern, 27 1/2 @ 32 1/2c per dozen. Poultry—Hens, 14c per pound; spring, large, 13@13 1/2c; small, 15@16c; mixed, 13 1/2 @ 14c; ducks, 19@20c; geese, 10@11c; turkeys, 18@20c. Veal—Ex ra, 10c per pound; ordinary, 7@8c; heavy, 5c. Pork—Fancy, 8c per pound; large, 7@7 1/2c. Mutton—6@8c per pound; lambs, 8@8 1/2c. Hops—1908, choice, 7@7 1/2c per pound; good prime, 6@6 1/2c; fair prime, 5 1/2 @ 6c; medium, 5@5 1/2c; 1907, 2@2 1/2c; 1906, 1@1 1/2c. Wool—Eastern Oregon, average best, 10@14c per pound, according to shrinkage; valley, 15 @ 16 1/2c; mohair, choice, 18@19c.

HESITATE TO ANGER CHINA.

Why Powers Decided Not to Protest Against Yuan's Dismissal.

Washington, Jan. 11.—The predominant reason that has influenced the American and British ministers at Peking in abandoning their project for a protest by the powers against any disturbance of the present policy of the Chinese government is believed here to be largely the delicacy which this government has felt in approaching the Chinese government on this subject.

It was difficult to anticipate how any representations along this line might be received, for it is realized that the Chinese are sensitive on any intimations which convey the impression that they are not capable of managing their own affairs. There was a question also whether these would have been excusable, notwithstanding the great interests of the United States, have in the preservation of peace in China and the maintenance of its progressive policy in view of the fact that there have been no serious results following Yuan's dismissal and no reactionary tendencies have marked the administration of the Chinese government.

Great reliance is placed by the State department in the appointment of Liang to the ministry of foreign affairs, and it is hoped that the influence that he may be able to exert may go far in preventing any decidedly backward steps, at least so far as the foreign policy of China is concerned.

MAY NOT SEND BELL WEST.

Philadelphia Reluctant to Lend Bells Lest It Break.

Philadelphia, Jan. 11.—The efforts to have the Liberty Bell taken to the Pacific coast to become a feature in the various celebrations may not be successful. The old bell has been taken to at least four expositions and to other celebrations outside this city in the last 25 years, and every time it is brought back a movement is started to prevent the historic bell from again leaving Philadelphia. Notwithstanding this agitation, city councils, which have the power to authorize the bell's being taken from the city, have nearly always granted the requests, as councils do not like to place the city in the position of being discourteous or indifferent to the requests. Requests have already been made here to have the bell go to the Northwest, but nothing official has been done.

One of the reasons against taking the bell West is because of the great distance to be traveled and the liability of the bell's breaking. The old relic is in a glass case on the ground floor of Independence hall, and is under constant guard day and night.

BUOY CROSSES NORTH POLE.

Takes Eight Years to Float From Canada to Norway.

Christiana, Nor., Jan. 11.—The meteorological institute has received a letter from Soroe, Denmark, stating that a buoy driven ashore November 3 contained a notice that the buoy was set adrift on July 24, 1900, near Cape Bathurst, and was 400 kilometers north-east of the Mackenzie river. Cape Bathurst is in British America on the Arctic ocean, lying in latitude 70:137 N., longitude 127:30 W.

It is believed here that the buoy which thus drifted more than eight years, was carried through the polar seas between Greenland and Spitzbergen. If this is so, it would seem to support the conclusion on which Captain Ronald Amundsen has based his future expedition on the Framm.

Captain Amundsen's expedition of the Framm will start from San Francisco early in 1910. He plans a drifting voyage similar to that undertaken by Nansen. He intends to fasten his ship to the ice northwest of Point Barrow, Alaska, and hopes to drift across the pole.

Red Tape Slew Thousands.

Rome, Jan. 11.—Red tape is declared to be responsible for thousands of deaths among the survivors of the earthquake. It is learned today that charges to that effect have been made against officials of the government. The matter was brought officially before the chamber of deputies when that body convened Friday, but the more influential members persuaded those who made the charges involving the government to delay action until after the public temper becomes more calm.

Want No Oregon Lumber.

Wellington, N. Z., Jan. 11.—A great conference of the timber trade was held at Palmerston North today to discuss the question of the importation of Oregon pine. The press was excluded, but several of the delegates asserted after the conference that owing to the recent wholesale importation of pine fully 50 sawmills would close down indefinitely. The mill owners demand the imposition of a duty on all imported timber in bulk.

Finns Harvesters Trust.

Topeka, Kan., Jan. 11.—The Kansas Supreme court, in a decision handed down today affirmed the verdict and fine of the District court of Shawnee county against the International Harvester company. The company must pay a fine of \$12,000 on 42 counts, each count being a violation of the criminal section of the Kansas anti-trust laws.

Three Young Girls Burn.

Dickinson, N. D., Jan. 11.—Fire yesterday destroyed the home of Joseph Kohl, a homesteader, 12 miles from here. Three young girls alone in the house were burned to death and a fourth fatally burned.

SAYS EMPEROR WAS MURDERED

Kang Yu Wei Says Yuan Shi Kai Was Plotter Against Dead Ruler.

Will Probably be Placed on Trial—Reform Movement Greatly Aided by Recent Action, Says Banished Diplomat, and Foreign Intervention Not Desired.

Penang, Straits Settlement, Jan. 9.—In an interview here today Kang Yu Wei, the well known Chinese reformer who was expelled from Peking after the coup d'etat of 1898, declared that Yuan Shi Kai had been dismissed from his high position as member of the grand council of the Chinese empire because he was instrumental in the death of the late emperor, and that he probably would be placed on trial for his connection with the matter.

"The result of this trial will convince foreigners that Yuan Shi Kai instigated the murder of the late emperor," Kang Yu Wei declared. "His dismissal will work for the good of the constitutional party; the constitution will no longer be delayed. I oppose foreign intervention in favor of Yuan Shi Kai; that matter is one for China to settle alone. The regent, Prince Chui, controls the army and is introducing reforms."

Since his expulsion from Peking ten years ago Kang Yu Wei has been instrumental in directing the reform movement in the empire from various places outside the country.

He is at present living in concealment in Penang, and very few people are able to see him. It is necessary to be vouched for by friends before access to him can be obtained. It is impossible to obtain confirmation of the expectation that Kang Yu Wei will now return to Peking.

BURLINGTON BREAKS AWAY.

Announces Cut Rate From Chicago to Seattle Exposition.

Chicago, Jan. 9.—Trouble is brewing among the Western railroads over the rates to the Alaska-Yukon-Pacific exposition, which will be held in Seattle this year. Today the Burlington road caused surprise among its competitors by quoting a rate of \$62 for the round trip from Chicago. In this connection the Burlington has stolen a march on the other roads, which were waiting for a general agreement among the lines of the Transcontinental Passenger association as to what the rate should be from Chicago.

Although there is no legal reason why the Burlington should not act independently and quote any rate it sees fit, its action is contrary to that customarily taken. Other Western roads are now charging that the northern connections of the Burlington have been quoting a \$62 rate for several weeks, despite the fact that only the rate from the Missouri river and from the Twin Cities had been agreed upon, the rate being \$50.

Representatives of other Western roads declare that, if the Burlington purposes taking independent action before rate matters have been considered by the association, it will mean a serious break in the harmonious relations existing among Western roads.

NEEDS OF JETTY.

Chief of Engineers Will Ask for Appropriation of \$1,200,000.

Washington, Jan. 9.—Senator Fulton had a conference with the chief of engineers with reference to the necessity for immediate appropriations for river and harbor work in Oregon. He learned that the river and harbor committee had called on the engineers for a report as to the necessity of only three projects in the country, one of them at the mouth of the Columbia river.

The chief of engineers says that \$200,000 is absolutely necessary for the maintenance of that project, but he needs an additional \$1,000,000 to carry the work ahead and will strongly urge that this amount be provided. He also believes it essential that sufficient appropriations be made to repair and put in commission the dredge Chinook.

In response to Mr. Fulton's inquiry, he also expressed the opinion that ample funds should be provided for operating the new dredge Oregon during the coming year. The senator feels convinced that he will have the hearty support of the engineers in his effort to get money for the Columbia river and Oregon coast in the forthcoming bill.

Anti-Pass Bill Introduced.

Helena, Mont., Jan. 7.—Today's session of the legislature was very brief. Neither house has yet named committees. Special bills were introduced in both houses and referred to appropriate committees. Neither of these are of any great importance, relating to amendments of present laws. There was one exception, however, this being the prohibition of free railroad, telegraph or telephone passes or franks to all persons except actual employees.

New Shocks Cause Panic.

Naples, Jan. 9.—Dispatches received here state that several earthquake shocks occurred at Monte Leone and Palmi this evening. The roofs of the houses were shaken down and the people thrown into a panic.