

GENERAL NEWS OF NATIONAL HAPPENINGS

Washington, June 9.—An attack on the Democratic wool tariff bill on the ground that it affords protection to the so-called "worsted trust" was made in the house today by Murdock, of Kansas. He attacked the 40 per cent duty on worsted cloths which the bill contains, declaring that it meant immediate protection to the combination that controls the worsted output.

Murdock said the worsted trust has also lowered the quality of goods that the consumer buys, that "clothing manufacturers have been ashamed to pass the fabrics on to the wearers," and at the same time, he said, the cost of worsted goods has been increased.

"The worsted trust has, by stock manipulation," said Murdock, "paid out in 11 years, probably not over \$15,000,000 original investment, \$22,000,000 in dividends and has built up besides an establishment carrying a capital of \$60,000,000, with a surplus of \$10,000,000 on top of that."

Republican leader Mann opened the attack on the Democratic bill with a criticism of its effectiveness as a revenue producing measure. He accused the Democrats in the house of following misinformation in their support of the bill.

He declared that the passage of the bill would throw open the markets of this country to the cheap woolsens and clothing of foreign mills, and that Americans soon would be forced to wear inferior clothing because of the decline of American manufactures.

Washington, June 9.—A conference was held today between the Interstate Commerce commission and counsel for the trunk line railroads on the question of rate allowances made to terminal roads affiliated particularly with the iron and steel industry.

The allowance now made to the terminal roads aggregates millions of dollars a year and it is asserted that in some instances, where the terminal lines are controlled by the large shippers, they amount practically to a rebate.

The particular problem involved is whether the terminal railroads performing principally switching duties, shall be considered as common carrier under the law.

Washington, June 9.—The proposed treaty between the United States and Nicaragua, providing for the refunding of the debt of the Central American republic, was transmitted to the senate today by President Taft with a special message strongly urging immediate and favorable action.

Immediate consideration also was asked for the Honduras treaty, which has been pending in the senate since last session. The Nicaraguan treaty was referred to the committee on foreign relations, which will meet tomorrow to consider both treaties.

Washington, June 9.—After a speech by Senator Works, of California, urging the resolution for the election of United States senators by direct vote of the people, the senate today adjourned until next Monday, when under agreement a vote will be taken on the resolution.

Washington, June 9.—Legislation to replace the Sherman anti-trust law, to protect property interests and the people's welfare alike, was urged by Elbert H. Gary, chairman of the board of directors of the United States Steel corporation, in concluding his testimony today before the house steel trust investigating committee.

Judge Gary said he hoped the committee in its report would give the United States Steel corporation what the corporation's standing under the law.

Washington, June 10.—Danger for this nation in case of war might lurk in the private ownership of lands along the Panama canal, testified Colonel Goethals, chairman of the Isthmian canal commission, before the house committee on interstate and foreign commerce. He suggested the government purchase every acre within the canal zone. "Such ownership," said he, "would assure our having none but friends within the zone in times of war. The canal is a war measure, you cannot escape that fact."

Asked why the land was not purchased years ago, Colonel Goethals replied that that much of the private land consists of islands in the artificial lake along the canal. The owners refused to sell, but accepted damages for such of their land as was submerged.

Warns Against Land Sharks.

Washington, June 10.—A warning against speculation in the 2,000,000 acres of valuable land in Oregon, involved in the controversy between the United States and the Oregon & California railroad company, was sounded in the senate by Senator Chamberlain. He said that speculators were advertising special privileges and opportunities. The land, he declared, is not subject to such dealings and is not yet even subject to entry.

Mexican Troops May Cross Line.

Washington, D. C.—Mexican soldiers will be allowed to travel across American territory to Lower California to reach rebel forces. The State department has given its consent to this plan, with the stipulation that the troops shall not carry arms, but the arms may be carried in sealed baggage cars until the party reaches its destination on the boundary near San Diego.

Washington, June 7.—Abandoning hope of defeating in committee the Root amendment to the Canadian reciprocity bill, affecting the print paper and wood pulp clause of the agreement, friends of the measure today began on the floor of the senate an active campaign to prevent its acceptance.

The president showed anxiety over the situation when, after an executive session of the senate finance committee, he appealed to the Democratic senators to stand out against the amendment. Stone expressed confidence that more than a majority would be found voting against the Root and all other amendments.

The administration has contended that amendment of the bill probably will be fatal and by reason of this, the measure was passed by the house in the form desired by the State department. The same argument was advanced when the measure was turned over to the senate finance committee and Chairman Penrose, of the committee has endeavored to prevent consideration of amendments.

Secretary Knox did not appear before the committee to explain the inwardness of the agreement and to urge the committee to report the measure to the senate in its present form. He was expected to devote considerable time to the Root amendment, explaining wherein it would nullify or postpone the agreement, but he sent word that previous engagements prevented his appearance.

The principal fight on the floor will be based on the Root provision, but whether it be accepted or rejected, the friends of reciprocity are now hopeful of success. The reason is found in the decision of a majority of the Democratic senators to make no effort to attach the house free list bill to the reciprocity measure.

Washington, June 7.—Carrying out the program agreed on yesterday by the senate committee on privileges and elections, Dillingham today introduced in the senate a resolution authorizing the special committee of eight members of the regular elections committee to reinvestigate the charges against Lorimer. Culberson objected to the immediate consideration of the resolution and it went over.

The committee is authorized by the resolution to sit during the sessions of the senate and during any recess of the senate or of congress, to hold sessions at such place or places as it shall deem most convenient for the purpose of investigation, to employ stenographers, counsel, accountants and to send for persons, books, records and papers, to administer oaths and as early as practicable to report to the senate the results of the investigation.

The committee is further and specially instructed to inquire fully into and report on the sources and use of the alleged "jackpots," or any other fund in its relation to and effect on the election of Lorimer.

Washington, June 7.—The Steel trust came into the limelight more than ever today. Sensational rumors regarding prosecution in the immediate future, also involving criminal actions against the magnate of the gigantic corporation, created excitement in various circles.

The salient fact seems to be that the government is giving serious consideration to the case of the trust in question, and while no definite course of procedure may have been decided upon as yet, the department of justice has aroused added interest in the situation by refusing to affirm or deny the stories in circulation.

Washington, June 6.—The house of representatives authorized \$25,000 for the investigation of the American Sugar Refining company, directed an investigation into alleged inadequacy of the taxation assessments in the District of Columbia, turned over to the judiciary committee the question of a change in the extradition laws and discussed many other subjects in a full day's session.

Two hours were spent in a contest between committees for the custody of a \$6,000,000 appropriation bill affecting certain mail routes. The appropriations committee finally won, taking the bill away from the post-office committee.

The house tabled the Berger resolution for a committee to investigate the taking of the alleged Los Angeles dynamiters out of the jurisdiction of Indiana, but it turned over to the judiciary committee all testimony taken in the matter and left it to that committee to determine whether changes ought to be made in extradition laws.

Roosevelt Will Support Taft.

Washington, June 8.—President Taft, in his candidacy for the presidential nomination in 1912, will receive the unqualified endorsement of ex-President Theodore Roosevelt, which will be uttered just as cordially as it was prior to the campaign of 1908. The information that Colonel Roosevelt under no circumstances will allow his name to be presented to the Republican national convention reached the White House several days ago.

Drug Law to Be Demanded.

Washington, June 8.—Informal conference will be held shortly by Senators who wish to so amend the pure food drug act of 1906 as to make it apply to misstatements about the curative effect of medicine, as well as misstatements about the ingredients. The Supreme court of the United States, on May 23, held that the law did not prohibit misstatements as to curative effects.

CHINA DEMANDS COIN.

Wants 12,000,000 Pesos Indemnity From Mexico.

Mexico City.—An indemnity of 12,000,000 pesos will be demanded of Mexico by the Chinese government for the slaughter of Chinese subjects in Torreon. The demand will be backed up by a cruiser which is on the way to Mexican west coast points.

Three investigators have just returned from Torreon and placed in the hands of Shung Hai Sun, charge d'affaires of the Chinese legation, a detailed report. This shows 303 Chinese were killed and that besides a bank and club house 59 places of business were sacked.

In addition to the indemnity, an apology for insult to the Chinese flag will be demanded; also that aid be extended to destitute families of the victims; that the guilty be punished and the constitutional guarantees of protection to Chinese lives and property be made effective.

Of the 12,000,000 pesos indemnity, 2,000,000 is for property damage and the remainder for the loss of lives.

Commenting upon the matter, Mr. Shung said that, owing to the savage manner in which the Chinese were killed, there has been no attempt by his nation to fix the amount of the indemnity by prescribed methods.

HEAT BURNS MIDDLE STATES.

Wells Dry, Water Famine Feared—Fire Danger Imminent.

Chicago, June 10.—The entire Middle West is baking under the merciless heat that has continued several days. Chicago, which has been exempt by reason of the lake breezes, lost its advantage today when the temperature rose to 98.8, the hottest June day in 39 years. The police tonight report two deaths and scores of prostrations.

The heat was so intense that thermostats in the Boston department store were melted, turning on the automatic sprinkling apparatus over the big structure.

Night advices from various cities throughout the Middle West tell the same story of unusual torridity and intense suffering. In the country districts the hot spell has continued so long that wells and streams are drying up and crops are shriveling. There is grave fear of disastrous fires because of the lack of water and the fact that all buildings are dry as tinder.

Today's temperature of 98.8 was recorded on top of the Federal building, hundreds of feet above the street and away from the fierce sun's rays.

PRUSSIAN FREIGHT HIGHER.

Rates Nearly Double, Wages of Workmen Only One-Third.

Chicago.—How American railroad freight charges compare with those of leading countries of Europe is shown strikingly by comparison of statistics of railways of Prussia with those of railways included in New York, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Delaware and Maryland. These states have nearly the same railway mileage as Prussia.

Latest statistics obtainable for Prussian roads show the average charge for hauling a ton of freight one mile on roads of that country was 1.2 cents. In the same year the average charge for hauling a ton of freight one mile on railways of the group of states referred to was only .64 of one cent.

Jalisco Is Shaken.

Mexico City, June 10.—Several dispatches to the Diario and the Herald report much damage from the earthquake in Zapolitan in the state of Jalisco. The railroad station and 230 houses were destroyed. It is believed that many people were killed and injured, but the number is not known. At the ranches and the smaller towns in the district great damage has been suffered.

According to these specials, Colima suffered great damage. The volcano of that name emitted streams of lava on the towns of San Andres and Tonilata, where many houses were destroyed, but no details are given of the extent of the destruction.

Fisherman Gets Relics.

Astoria, Or.—While making a drift in the lower harbor a couple of days ago Jens Nelson, a gillnetter, picked up two handaxes and a buggy spring that were a part of the cargo of the old steamer Great Republic, which was wrecked near Sand island in 1879. The axes were in fairly good condition, considering how long they had been in the water. The wreck of the British bark Delharrie, which was lost below Sand island as she was going to sea on March 10, 1880, is being uncovered by the tides.

Chinese Infect Border.

El Paso, Texas.—Thirty-four Chinese are being held here pending the arrival of six more from Del Rio within a few days. Upon the arrival of these the entire 40 will be sent immediately to San Francisco for deportation. More than 300 Chinese from the interior towns of Mexico have arrived in Juarez the past two days and their efforts to get into the United States are giving the customs guards and inspectors a great deal of trouble.

Gates Fights Standard.

Denver.—The Times says: "John D. Rockefeller and John W. Gates, owners of the two greatest oil concerns in America, are preparing to commence a bitter rate war in oil, and the opening gun is to be fired in Denver. The invasion of Denver territory three weeks ago by the Texas Oil company, owned by Gates, is said to be the cause of the proposed fight."

MADERISTAS TAKE CITY.

With Fire and Sword, Town Is Almost Destroyed.

San Diego, Cal.—Culcan, in the State of Sinaloa, surrendered to the Maderistas May 31 after nearly two days of fierce fighting, in which hundreds are reported to have been killed. The city was nearly destroyed. Mazatlan, in the same state, surrendered without resistance on June 2. These advices were brought by the steamer Benito Juarez, which has just arrived from Mazatlan.

The attack upon Culcan began May 30, about 5 o'clock in the morning. The assault was made on the east, north and south. The garrison was slowly driven back and after three hours General Bandera's force of insurgents captured the Chapel of the Sacred Heart. The building had been fortified and the loss of life at that point was heavy.

As soon as the Maderistas were within the city they began to apply the torch and to blow up with dynamite the less inflammable buildings. The following day Culcan surrendered, the federalists receiving a guarantee of life and liberty.

Passengers and officers of the Benito Juarez were told that the dead numbered about 1000, including soldiers, women and children and other non-combatants. After the surrender, General Tierado proclaimed himself military governor, pending orders from the Madero authorities at Mexico City.

Mazatlan surrendered without firing a shot. As soon as the Maderistas entered they released the prisoners in the cuartel. It is reported that the prison records showed that there were 1044 persons in confinement, the majority political offenders, but the criminal prisoners are said to have been shot summarily.

Before the Maderistas could occupy Mazatlan, the mayor, a majority of the government officials and most of the soldiers went aboard the gunboat Tampico. The chief of police, the captain of the rurales, and another police official took refuge on the Benito Juarez. They were followed by Maderistas, captured and taken ashore. Officers of the steamer were told that the fugitives would be executed at 4 o'clock. The Benito Juarez left Mazatlan before that hour.

MADERO PLEADS FOR ORDER.

Threat from Los Angeles to "Run Out Anarchists" Moves Viljeon.

Juarez, Mex.—That the United States is becoming tired of shooting and other acts of violence on the California-Mexico border, and that steps must be taken at once to stop it, is the burden of messages sent to the Mexican war department by General Benjamin Viljeon, military adviser to Francisco I. Madero.

General Viljeon bases his advice to Mexico City on many complaints of residents of California who threaten to take measures of their own. One complaint received from Los Angeles, which typifies many others, follows:

"Since June 1 no authentic information has come to us whether or not you intend to restore order in Lower California. The situation there is growing worse and our people are contemplating the gathering of sufficient force to run the anarchists out of the country. The need is so great and the ruin that might follow the dynamiting of the main Imperial Valley canal is so far-reaching and appalling that we feel like doing everything possible to restore order."

TOWEL GERMS COUNTED.

Kansas Health Board Fights for Hotel Cleanliness.

Topeka, Kan.—Experts in the office of the state board of health went out last week and captured a number of roller towels that were being used in hotels in different parts of the state. They are now engaged in making a census of the different kinds of germs upon them.

"Why," said Dr. Crumblin, "some of these towels are alive with germs, some good and some bad. Many skin diseases are spread in that way and the roller towel is responsible for nearly as many cases of tuberculosis as the common drinking cup."

Indians on Honeymoon.

Goldendale, Wash.—A marriage license was issued yesterday by the county auditor to John Poywint and Annie Keen, both Indians. This is the first time that full-blood Indians have ever applied for a marriage license. Both are Warm Springs Indians. The bridegroom has a fair education, but follows the nomadic life of what is known as a "blanket Indian." He said he had been married before. The bride gave her residence as Wapinitia, Ore.

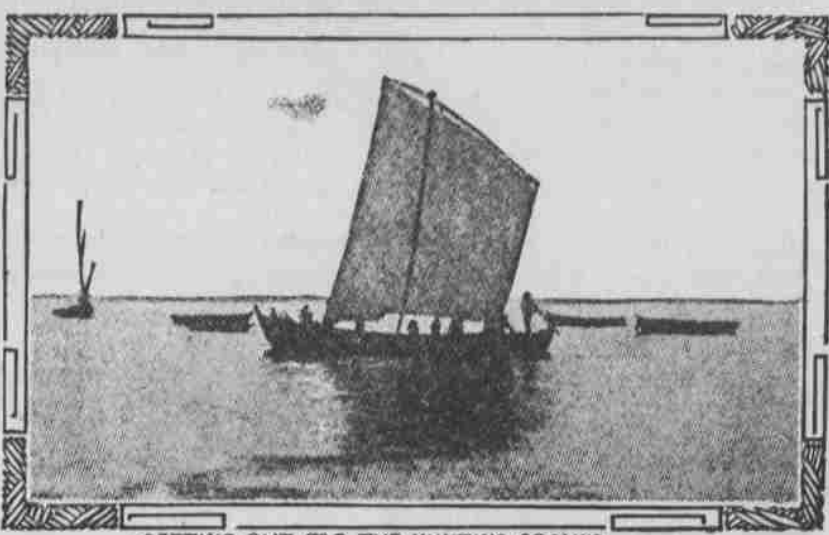
Fifty Thousand Americans to London.

London.—Whatever anxiety existed in London a month ago regarding the probable size of the contingent from the United States during the coronation season is giving way to a comfortable belief that that country will be represented quite as liberally as originally predicted. Americans are already taking London by storm. The latest estimate says "50,000 Americans will be here."

Canal Loan Popularized.

Washington.—The government's \$50,000,000 canal loan probably will be taken in the main by small investors. Although the bids will not be opened until next Saturday, more than 900 sealed proposals have been received at the treasury. Treasury officers feel that, as the new bonds are exempt from all taxation, they have a high investment value. Bids will be received until 4 p. m., June 17.

WHALING IN BRAZIL



SETTING OUT FOR THE HUNTING GROUND

WHALING in Brazil is practically confined to a region extending along the coast of the state of Bahia from Assu da Torre, 12½ degrees south latitude, to Caravellas, 18 degrees south latitude.

According to Monk Vincent do Salvador, contemporaneous with the time, its history dates back to 1603, when Pedro Urecha came from Portugal, bringing two whale boats with crews expert in hunting. Soon after learned whaling, and it was not long before there was quite a fleet engaged in this pursuit. The industry has continued from that day to the present time, though it has been gradually on the wane during the last 20 years, chiefly due to the introduction of the cheaper competitor, petroleum and its products.

The variety of whale hunted is the Balenoptera Misculus (Linnaeus). The family of Rorquals, to which it belongs, is characterized by the large folds running along the lower jaw and forward half of the abdomen.

This is a "whale bone" whale, having on an average about 360 plates of whalebone hanging from the roof of its upper jaw. The plates of bone are short as compared with those of the "right whale." They average about 32 inches in length and because of their shortness have little commercial value. The length of this variety of whale is said to reach from 60 to 70 feet. The largest one taken in this section gave 5,104½ quarts of oil from blubber and 412 quarts from scraps. Its lower jawbone was 17.3 feet long and its total length is given as 70 feet. The average size killed is from 30 to 50 feet.

Each year this variety of whale migrates northward as winter approaches the south pole, and the return commences as soon as spring sets in there. They are first sighted off Caravellas. They reach Bahia about the middle of May, and have entirely disappeared south by November, occurring in such quantities in July, August and September that the number which may be killed is only limited by the number of boats in their pursuit. As they pass along the coast they may be encountered from a mile and upward out at sea, frequently entering Bahia bay. It is no uncommon sight to see them gambling in the steamer anchorage.

Other varieties of whales, such as the "right whale" and the "sperm whale," have from time to time been encountered along this coast, but their appearance has been very rare.

At present there are 13 whaling stations. Of these, eight are in the vicinity of Bahia City and five are located on Itaparica island, in the bay facing the city. The other stations, with the exception of that of the Caravellas at the extreme south, are all to the north of Bahia City.

The boats used in whaling are very heavy, hand-made native affairs, capable of standing great strain. Their sides are from one to two inches thick. The ribs, keel, etc., are not bent to form, but are hewn from pieces naturally approximating the desired shape. The boats average 30 feet in length, with eight-foot beam and 3½-foot depth. On each side of the prow is arranged a horn-like projection of natural bent wood, around which pass the ropes attached to the harpoons. The sail is practically quadrangular, of immense area, averaging 30 by 40 feet. It is lashed to a yard which is tied at its outer third to a long rope passing through a single pulley at the top of a mast, which is 42 feet high, and situated slightly forward of the center of the boat. By

this arrangement the sail can be raised or lowered speedily, and without much trouble can be changed for a tack. The boats are constructed on such lines that they are very buoyant, seaworthy, fast sailing, and easily managed.

In a boat's equipment are from 8 to 12 harpoons, each attached to about 150 feet of one-inch manila rope. The harpoons are of various shapes and makes, from those of local manufacture and ancient pattern to the latest American model, though the latter are few and far between. A boat also contains from two to four lances, spear-pointed rods of iron mounted in long poles, to which are attached 35 feet of three-quarter-inch manila rope, which lances are used for killing whales; a large knife used for cutting away the rope should danger threaten; on each side forward a 580-foot coil of two-inch rope, to which is attached the harpoon rope; and on each side aft a 440-foot coil of similar rope, to be attached to the 590-foot rope if necessity warrants; a couple of pairs of oars; and provisions and cooking utensils for the crew.

A boat has a crew of ten men, each having his particular duty and all under the direction of the harpooner, who is stationed in the prow of the boat and directs the movements.

The boats leave for the open sea at sunrise and put in port each night. When a whale is sighted it requires considerable seamanship to sail near enough to permit throwing the harpoon, the chief use of which is to hold the whale. As soon as a harpoon is thrown, if it strikes, the whale leaps in the water and starts away at great speed, the rope whistling as it pays out round the horns already mentioned. At once the sail is lowered and the rudder taken in. As soon as opportunity will permit a light is taken in the rope, and then the boat, towed by the whale, shoots forward at torpedo-boat speed. From time to time the whale slackens its speed, and opportunity is given to shorten the tow rope, until finally the whale is near enough to permit lances to be thrown into it. The lances easily penetrate the whale, and are as easily jerked out to be hurled again, until either a vital point is struck or a whale succumbs from loss of blood. Often when a whale has been frequently lanced it suddenly turns, the boat gives a lurch, the harpoon pulls out, and the whale escapes. Perhaps three-fourths of the whales harpooned get away. The system leaves much to be desired, but the harpooners are averse to trying new and improved methods. Guns shooting explosive bullets, darts, etc., have been imported, but their use is by no means common.

When the boatmen are successful in killing a whale it is the particular duty of one of the crew to dive under the whale as soon as dead and pass a rope with which to tie up the mouth; otherwise such a quantity of water would be taken in that the whale would soon sink. As this takes place usually on the high sea and the whale is always surrounded by voracious sharks which have been attracted by the blood flowing from it, the task requires no little courage and skill. Later on, the diver assists in passing the three other ropes with which the whale is lashed alongside the whaleboat that it may be towed to the station.

Arriving at the station, the whale is drawn up on the beach and cut up, the fat, called "blubber," being separated from the meat and bones. The pieces of blubber are then taken to the oil factory, where they are placed in large caldrons and the oil is tried out.

HENRY W. FURNISS.



PREPARING TO CUT UP A WHALE