

NEWS OF THE WEEK

In a Condensed Form for Our Busy Readers.

HAPPENINGS OF TWO CONTINENTS

A Resume of the Less Important but Not Less Interesting Events of the Past Week.

A grand jury says New York liquor men send large sums to influence legislation at Albany.

An Austro-Hungarian admiral has been chosen as the fifth member of the North sea inquiry commission.

A representative of a large French steel company is looking for available sites for the establishment of factories in the United States.

Governor Odell and ex-Governor Black are both said to be candidates for United States senator from New York for Senator Platt's place.

George C. Brownell, president of the last Oregon senate, will be called before the federal grand jury to explain certain papers he affixed his name to as a notary public, in connection with the land fraud investigation.

It is reported in Paris that the Japanese government has expressed a wish to be represented at the session of the international commission inquiring into the North sea tragedy, and is said to claim equal rights with the Russians before the commission, especially as the Japanese still maintain that Japanese war vessels were sent among the Hull trawlers.

Nine miners were smothered in a coal mine at Gardfield, Pa.

Many Japanese soldiers commit suicide when defeat seems at hand.

Chinese have reported to Kuropatkin that the Japanese have lost 293-meter hill, but the latter claim not.

It is officially reported in Paris that the attorney general has recommended a retrial of the Dreyfus case.

The Japanese are reported to have captured another fort at Port Arthur, with heavy loss to the Russians.

A gang of bell boys organized to steal the property of guests has been discovered in the Chicago downtown hotels by the police.

Four Denver men have been found guilty of repeating at the November election and sentenced to six months in jail and to pay a \$100 fine.

Robert S. McCormick, American ambassador to Russia, who has been on a two months' vacation in the United States, has returned to his post.

Two of the largest plants of the Illinois Steel company in South Chicago are to resume operations the first of the year. Their reopening will mean employment to at least 5,000 men.

The sultan of Morocco has issued an order expelling all foreign missions, delegates and employes at present attached to his court at Fez. He is afraid his brother will be made sultan.

It is probable that a part of the new Russian loan will be placed in New York.

The present war in the Far East has proved interesting relative to the value of the balloon in time of war.

Aberrant in the Pacific coast sugar pool is looked for. Six large firms of San Francisco have withdrawn.

The cotton manufacturers of Fall River, Mass., have refused the offer of the union to arbitrate the differences between the two organizations.

The postmaster general has removed two rural mail carriers charged with efforts to influence legislation. One was from Colorado and the other Ohio.

But one bid on the government contract for more than 2,000,000 feet of lumber to be used at Manila, was found when the bids were opened at Tacoma. It was from a Tacoma firm.

Dispatches from Western Pennsylvania are to the effect that industrial activity in many centers is threatened on account of the protracted drought. Unless conditions change soon it is possible thousands of men may be thrown out of employment in the mills, mines and coke fields.

The 1905 fair will contain 2,500 individual exhibits. There will be 25 exhibit buildings. The fair site covers 182 acres of land and 220 acres of water. The project of the exposition will involve an outlay of about \$3,000,000.

Claims against the Russian government on account of the North sea affair aggregate \$600,000.

Mukden has recovered from its panic caused by the retreat of the Russian army and the Manchurian town has resumed its wonted aspect.

The Minnesota state board of pardons has released the brother of ex-Mayor Ames of Minneapolis.

Governor Bates, of Massachusetts, has tendered his good offices and urged a termination of the Fall River strike.

Many witnesses wanted in the Smoot investigation have fled to Canada and cannot be reached. Those who have testified say that polygamy is openly practiced by the Mormons and many plural marriages have occurred since the manifesto was issued.

One of those accused of illegal voting at the recent election in Denver was a girl who is said not to have been of age.

The Chicago university has just received gift amounting to \$437,370.

Eight persons were killed in the wreck of the Crocker hotel in Minneapolis.

The sultan of Morocco has removed foreigners and will take charge of his own army.

There has been a great increase in the number of accidents on railroads during the past year.

TO RECLAIM MUCH LAND.

Government Planning Big Task Along Oregon-California Line.

Portland, Dec. 27.—Harry Holgate, legal adviser in the United States reclamation service, is in Portland to attend to matters connected with the Klamath river irrigation project, which he states is promising, and may result in throwing open 2,000 homes for settlers.

"The land to be benefited by the project," said Mr. Holgate today, "is extensive and lies partly in California. In order to make the matter a success some legislation is needed from both Oregon and California, and it is for the purpose of looking after that that I have been sent here."

"I have been to interview Governor Pardee, of California, regarding the lands in that state, and he is very enthusiastic over the matter. I will remain in Portland until after the legislature meets to urge some action that will benefit the project."

"Before coming up to Portland I spent a few weeks in Klamath county, looking over the conditions there, and it is my opinion that the project will be a success. It includes the draining of several lakes and a system for irrigating the land thus obtained, together with large amounts of other land, by means of ditches from the Klamath river. It is my opinion that but little trouble will be experienced in getting the government to finance the system."

MAY BREAK WITH SULTAN.

French Government Regards Situation as Exceedingly Grave.

Paris, Dec. 27.—The foreign office considers the situation in Morocco extremely grave. The sultan's dismissal of his French and other military advisers has been followed by a number of acts showing his intention to interrupt the execution of the French policy. Accordingly the French minister at Tangier has been instructed to secure the immediate withdrawal from the Moroccan capital of the French consul, the commander and all the members of the military mission, and all French citizens, unless the sultan vacates his previous offensive action and offers a suitable explanation. The French minister has been instructed to communicate to the sultan at the same time he notifies the consul, military men and citizens to prepare to depart. The officials here say that no definite military or naval steps have yet been taken as they await the sultan's response to the minister's demand, but a demonstration in force will follow if a suitable explanation and reparation are not promptly given.

RAILROAD SETTLING.

Portions of Lucin Cutoff Over Great Salt Lake Sink Nines Feet.

Reno, Nev., Dec. 27.—Every available laborer in the employ of the Southern Pacific between here and Ogden is now at work on the Lucin cutoff, engaged in a desperate effort to keep the treacherous line across the neck of the Great Salt Lake open to the heavy traffic on the line. Late yesterday, a few minutes after the overload flyer, eastbound, passed over this road, it sank nine feet. This condition is not for the entire distance, but in spots clear across the lake.

The startling condition of the roadbed was noticed in time to prevent an accident, and since that time men have been at work, not to keep the line level, but to keep the rails in condition to allow the trains to pass over. Today every mile of the track across the cutoff, a distance of 30 miles, is patrolled. Construction trains are at work handling material to build up the sinking roadbed, which now presents the appearance, in stretches of a mile or more, of waves on an ocean.

Until yesterday the sinking had been gradual.

It is understood that the company is confident of yet being able to overcome the strange condition in the lake, and will spare neither effort nor expense in doing so. The big force of men now at work will be maintained until the line is again in perfect working order.

TURNED OUT 3,441 ENGINES.

New York, Dec. 27.—Returns received from the car building plants of America show that in the past year approximately 92,950 cars have been built, including cars for use on elevated railroads, but exclusive of street or other electric cars. These figures do not include cars built by the railroads at their own shops. During the year 3,441 locomotives were built at the various plants, against 5,152 last year. The number for the current year does not include locomotives built by the railroads at their own shops.

DEVELOPMENT OF PORTO RICO.

Washington, Dec. 27.—Governor Winthrop, of Porto Rico, today conferred with Secretary of Agriculture Wilson regarding the development of the agricultural resources of that island. Secretary Wilson assured him of the earnest co-operation of the department of Agriculture in furnishing scientific assistance to the Porto Ricans. He pointed out a number of crops for which large sums are paid annually to foreign countries and which should be grown in the newly acquired tropical possessions of this country.

RUSSIANS ADVANCE GUNS.

Mukden, Dec. 27.—The Russians succeeded today in advancing the position of their siege guns four miles south along the wagon road. This was accomplished in the face of a heavy artillery fire from the Japanese, who fired upwards of 100 shells, which, however, did little execution, only two men being wounded. On account of the difficulties of getting supplies here, many Chinese and refugees have been sent north by the officials.

\$100,000 FIRE AT LOS ANGELES.

Los Angeles, Dec. 27.—Fire today destroyed a brick building occupied by the Pioneer Roll Paper company, entailing a loss to the building and stock estimated at \$100,000. The origin of the fire is unknown.

ENVELOPED IN A FOG

Business Is Very Generally Suspended in England.

THAMES IS JAMMED WITH SHIPS

Link Boys With Torches Furnish the Only Useful Lights in London—No Sign of Puff Lifting.

London, Dec. 26.—There is as yet no sign of the lifting of the fog which envelops the kingdom. The absence of wind through Great Britain is almost unprecedented, and meteorologists do not expect any change in the conditions for another 24 hours. Considering the almost insuperable difficulties attending locomotion of any form, the number of fatal accidents has been remarkably small.

The congestion and suspension of business are very general. So far as London is concerned, the tube railways are the only concerns benefited, and their daily traffic is reaching record figures. The congestion and suspension of business are very general. So far as London is concerned, the tube railways are the only concerns benefited, and their daily traffic is reaching record figures.

A condition resembling chaos prevails in the postal service. All railway trains are many hours late and many trains between London and the suburbs occupy a couple of hours in making the distance of eight miles. Mail boats in all directions are similarly disorganized. Only two vessels entered the port of London yesterday, a condition of affairs such as has not occurred for 60 years. The mouth of the river is jammed with vessels loaded with perishable foodstuffs of all descriptions.

The streets of London present remarkable scenes. Nothing is visible except link boys' torches and the occasional flare of big crescent lights which the authorities are beginning to employ to assist traffic.

HEADS OFF LANDGRABBERS. President Hays Has Cold Water for Rush to Port Simpson.

Vancouver, B. C., Dec. 26.—With the idea of preventing any rush to Port Simpson or Kaitum Island, C. M. Hays, president of the Grand Trunk Pacific railway, has publicly announced that the mere filing of plans with the railway department at Ottawa does not signify that either of those places will be selected as the terminus of the line. Said he: "It simply supplies the government with information regarding what the company may ultimately require." Mr. Hays has again declared that it may be some time before definite announcement can be made as to where the British Columbia end of the new transcontinental line will be situated. He said in an interview:

"We have not definitely determined the Western terminus. We always say Port Simpson, but when we make use of that expression we mean any point within 50 miles of the place. There are three or four inlets, all of about equal merit, that we might use, but before we reach a decision quite a number of hydrographic surveys must first be made. Nothing has been done along that line on the Pacific coast for a number of years."

As for the prairie section of the line, preparations are well under way for commencing construction at Winnipeg, both east and west, as soon as the snow goes in the spring. Mr. Hays has stated that the financial arrangements necessary to the successful flotation of the scheme have all been made, and the outlook for the satisfactory inauguration of the big work is very bright.

Weakened and May Be Dissolved. San Francisco, Dec. 26.—Purchases of the four sugar jobbing firms which have seceded from the Pacific Traffic and Commercial association, aggregated approximately 40 per cent of the sugar bought by the association from the refineries, and the dissolution of that organization seems prosaged. The four firms are Haas Bros., Tillman & Bendel, Sherman, Warner & Co. and the Lewin-Meyer company. Whether or not the association is able to carry on, it will be considerably weakened by the loss of these firms.

Sevastopol is Useless. Headquarters of the Third Japanese Army Before Port Arthur, via Fusan, Dec. 26.—During the morning of December 19 the Russian fortress Sevastopol was torpedoed by the Japanese fleet, and immediately listed 10 degrees to the right, remaining fast on the shallow shore at the foot of Liaoli mountain. The vessel is considered absolutely useless for further offensive operations. The Japanese bombardment of the Russian gunboats and torpedo craft in the harbor continues incessantly.

Big Strike in the Kootenays. Vancouver, B. C., Dec. 26.—A 100-foot ore chute, three feet wide and giving values ranging from 160 to 240 ounces of silver, and from \$10 to \$60 a ton gold, with three per cent copper, is the mining sensation of the month in the Kootenays. The big strike was made on the La France group, La France creek, five miles east of Kootenay lake. Americans own the property, the claims belonging to Chicago capitalists.

Torpedo Boat Sighted. St. Petersburg, Dec. 26.—According to a local paper a number of English fishermen have appeared before the Russian consul in London and have deposed to have seen foreign torpedo boats among the Hull fishing fleet. Their depositions, it is added, will be submitted to the international commission, now in Paris, the circumstances under which they were obtained being explained.

BLUFF IS CALLED.

England Can Have War Quickly, Says Kaiser Wilhelm.

Berlin, Dec. 24.—Sensational correspondence has passed between the German and British governments during the last four weeks with reference to the warlike and provocative attitude adopted toward Germany by the semi-official British press, especially the Army and Navy Gazette. The Kaiser took a hand in the negotiations and made his vigorous personality felt in a positive way. He instructed that the British cabinet should be informed in effect that if England wanted war it could have it immediately, if it was not desirous of such an event the talk which Germany considered an affront must stop.

Both Count Wolff-Metternich, German ambassador in London, and Sir F. C. Lascelles, British ambassador at Berlin, were called home by their respective governments to discuss the situation.

The publications which induced the German government to assume its strong attitude were a series of articles in the Army and Navy Gazette, culminating in the declaration that the Kaiser's navy was so rapidly becoming a menace to Great Britain that war would better be declared now in order that the German fleet might be destroyed before it should become a still greater danger.

Both Premier Balfour and Lord Lansdowne have been told that Germany is impatient of this distrust of its naval policy, which it accuses the National Review, the Army and Navy Gazette and other papers of generating among the British people. The Fatherland wishes Britain to understand once for all that it has not the slightest intention of abandoning the development of its navy and its merchant marine at British behest, no matter how much of a bogey they constitute.

LONDON IN A BLACK FOG.

Traffic Almost at Standstill Throughout the Metropolis.

London, Dec. 24.—London was enveloped today in a black fog, more dense than anything witnessed during the last two years. In many places the traffic was almost completely stopped, and the greatest care was necessary to avoid accidents, a number of which have already been reported.

As night closed down and the density increased, vehicle traffic in the most crowded sections of the center of London was completely suspended. Some of the scenes witnessed were pitiful, some were ridiculous, and the whole was extremely weird. There were instances in which women became hysterical, and even the police lost their sense of direction, and omnibus drivers became confused and drove on the sidewalks, until finally all traffic was held up.

At the main crossings and on the streets leading thereto, long shadowy lines of omnibuses, cabs and wagons loaded with Christmas packages stood motionless. The most brilliant electric lights only served to make the darkness visible. Torchboys were very busy.

BRITISH DOCKING CHEAPER. Attention of President Called to Conditions at Bremerton.

Washington, Dec. 24.—President Roosevelt's attention was invited today by Representative Humphrey, of Washington, to a telegram received by Mr. Humphrey from some of his constituents, protesting against what is declared to be exorbitant tonnage rates charged at the Bremerton naval station for the docking and repair of vessels. The telegram calls attention to a charge of 10 cents a ton for the docking of the steamer Shawmut, the owners declaring that they could have the work done at the British dock at Esquimaux for 3 cents a ton. The charges at the American station result, Mr. Humphrey says, in a large amount of such work going to the British station, to the detriment of the Americans. This matter will be considered by the officials of the Navy department.

CHINESE ARE IMPLICATED. Japanese Accuse Enemy of Enlisting Coolies in War.

General Oka's Headquarters, Dec. 23, via Fusan.—It is believed by the Japanese that the Russians are employing Chinese to damage the Japanese lines of communication, and they have no doubt that Chinese were employed by the Russians to burn the magazines at Liao Yang. The Japanese say that if they arrest any Chinese engaged in so fulfilling their obligations to their employers they will execute them, as a warning to other Chinese against a repetition of the offense.

The Japanese believe that these measures are required to wipe out the Russian system of employing Chinese for such work. They say they know that the Russians are spending enormous sums for this purpose.

Squeezing the Poor Chinese. London, Dec. 23.—The correspondent at Peking in the Times, telegraphs as follows: "China having consented to pay the indemnity (growing out of the Boxer troubles) in gold, the ministers of Russia, Germany and France are now disputing among themselves as to what free terms they can extort from the Chinese and seeking to force an arrangement whereby certain banks will make further profit out of the indemnity. Great Britain supports China, who counts upon America and Japan to secure a just settlement."

Capture is Important. Headquarters of the Japanese Third Army, Before Port Arthur, Dec. 23, via Fusan.—The capture of the north fort of East Kekwan mountain, December 18, by the Japanese is of much importance, because it opens a way up the gorge to the higher hills, and will render easier the capture of the mountain. It gives much additional foothold for a general assault on the western half of the eastern fortified ridges. The Japanese now hold five of the seven protecting forts.

Chance to See the West. Chicago, Dec. 23.—H. W. Goode, president and director general of the Lewis and Clark Centennial exposition, has arrived in Chicago on his return from a trip through the East in the interests of the fair. It is expected that a great many Eastern people who have never been to the coast will be attracted by the fair. In addition to seeing the exposition, they will have the advantage of passing through the most interesting scenery in the world.

Work Given to Widows. Washington, Dec. 23.—Secretary Taft today issued an order directing the quartermaster general to award the making of some 55,000 pairs of trousers for the enlisted men from the army at the Schuylkill arsenal, Philadelphia, to some stricken in that city, mainly the widows and orphans of soldiers, thus settling a question raised some time ago, so far as the present lot is concerned.

INDICT E. P. MAYS

Federal Grand Jury Charges Him With Fraud.

HELD TO BELONG TO LAND RING

McKinley, Pater, Ware and Others Indicted with Him—State Senator Denies Any Guilt.

Portland, Dec. 23.—The grand jury of the United States has said that Franklin Pierce Mays, state senator and attorney, of Portland, is guilty of conspiracy to defraud the government out of a portion of its public lands situated in township 24 south, range 1 east, and has linked with him as fellow-conspirators the names of Horace G. McKinley, S. A. D. Pater, Marie L. Ware, Emma L. Watson, D. W. Turpley, Robert Simpson, John Doe and Robert Roe.

Judge Billinger, at the request of Deputy District Attorney Hervey, fixed the bond of Mr. Mays at \$4,000, the same amount as has been asked of the other defendants. The bonds in the previous cases were allowed to stand against the new indictment in the case of the rest of the defendants.

Mr. Mays is very indignant at the unfair treatment which, he says, has been shown him by the government attorneys. He asked that he be allowed to go before the jury, declaring that he would be able to explain any testimony brought against him, and to show that he was not criminally connected with the Pater-Watson ring, but that he had aroused their displeasure and was being forced to pay for it. He will maintain his innocence in the courtroom and is confident that he will be able to show that there was a mistake made in his case when the indictment was returned against him.

DOINGS IN CONGRESS.

Monday, December 10. No business of importance was transacted in either house today, the entire time they were in session being taken up by discussion of minor measures. Many senators and representatives were absent. Adjournment was taken until Wednesday.

Wednesday, December 21. After a session of four minutes duration the senate adjourned today until January 4 next. The proceedings consisted of a prayer by the chaplain, the reading of the journal of Monday's brief session and the receipt of a number of nominations from the president.

In the house a bill was introduced to "secure the full use of the United States rural mail equipment and to place the rural service on a paying basis." Two bills were introduced providing for a place to care for leprosy. The house then adjourned until January 4.

MOROS AT PEACE.

Slave Trade in Philippines Put Down by General Wood.

Washington, Dec. 22.—General Wood, commanding the department of Mindanao, Philippine division, in his annual report to the War department, said that the troops of the department have been in the field a greater portion of the year, quelling armed uprisings and preventing slave trade and kindred abuses. He says that in almost every instance actual fighting was initiated by the Moros.

"Conditions among the Moros throughout the department are generally peaceful," says General Wood, who adds:

"The establishment of civil government and the extension over them of certain laws and regulations has caused some excitement and at times serious resistance, especially the law prohibiting slavery. In some sections active hostility has been engendered by our presence, especially in the Lake Lanao region, where almost constant murderous attacks on workmen and soldiers were the rule until the effects of the recent expeditions to the Taraca side of the lake, combined with expositions to other sections of the Lanao, were felt by the Moros."

The power of the Moros of that section, he says, has been completely broken. Continuing, the report says:

"In Jobo affairs are quiet. The prompt crushing of the Hassano uprising has made a deep impression on the people, and the abrogation of the Hates agreement has done much to bring to an end the unfortunate conditions which existed under it."

Data Alie's case, the report adds, is the only band of Moros now openly hostile, and it is small and is being followed by troops and scouts. General Wood says it is believed there will not be any very serious resistance of authority by the Moros in the future, but there will be constant police work.

FAVOR MUNICIPAL CONTROL.

New York Citizens' Union Committee Adopts Resolutions.

Shanghai, Dec. 22.—A report has reached here that the captain of the Russian torpedo boat destroyer Groszow, which was dismantled at Shanghai, August 26, last, has been discovered on board the British steamer Nigretta, which was seized by the Japanese protected cruiser Tachibana off Ulsan, Corea. Charts and documents which would have been of incalculable value to the Russians are said to have been found on the captain's person.

The report, which is generally credited here, somewhat conflicts with that contained in an earlier dispatch, in which it was stated that Captain Reinstein, of the cruiser Askold, also dismissed in August at Shanghai, was the officer who had attempted to reach Vladivostok on the Nigretta. In either case it is believed the Japanese will hold the Chinese authorities strictly responsible for the escape of the officer from Shanghai.

Great Britain is also likely to be required to clear herself in the matter unless the rumor circulated here is correct that the captain disguised himself as a French officer and in that manner secured passage on the Nigretta.

CAPTURED AT SEA.

Russian Officer was Carrying Valuable Papers to Vladivostok.

New York, Dec. 22.—The city committee of the Citizens' union has adopted resolutions favoring an extension of municipal control of public utilities, a municipal lighting plant, purchase of electrical conduits and the grant of power by the legislature to the city to build and operate lighting plants, gas and electric.

The committee adopted the report of the committee on franchises, which favors presenting to the legislature the constitutional amendment proposed by the "Tilden commission" of 1875, which was that the legislature shall have no power to pass any law "for the opening, making, paving, lighting or otherwise improving or maintaining streets, avenues, parks or places, docks, wharves, or for any other local work or improvements in or for such purposes shall be by law, conferred on the city government."

POTATOES FOR THE STARVING.

Grovel, Colo., Dec. 22.—Mayor H. C. Watson issued a call today for a mass meeting Saturday next to consider a proposition to donate a large quantity of potatoes to the starving poor of Ireland. Similar meetings will be held at Fort Collins. It is believed the farmers of northern Colorado will contribute several hundred carloads of potatoes if the transportation were arranged for. The government will be asked to furnish a transport to carry the potatoes from Galveston to Ireland.

Loaded with Contraband. Tokio, Dec. 22.—The Japanese protected cruiser Tachibana seized the British steamer Nigretta, bound for Vladivostok, off Ulsan, Corea, yesterday. An examination of the Nigretta's cargo showed she had a large quantity of contraband of war on board. She was sent to Sasebo for trial before the prize court. It is reported that the Nigretta had on board officers and men of the Russian torpedo boat destroyers who had escaped from Shanghai, and were attempting to regain the Russian lines.

Admissions to the Fair. St. Louis, Dec. 22.—The official report of the director of concessions and admissions of the World's fair shows that the total recorded admissions for the period of the exposition from April 30 to December 1 inclusive was 19,694,855, of which 12,804,616 were paid and 6,890,239 were free. The free admissions included from 20,000 to 30,000 workmen, who were admitted to complete the work of construction of buildings and installations of exhibits.

To Meet Baltic Fleet. London, Dec. 22.—The Daily Mail's correspondent at Hong Kong says he has learned on trustworthy authority that a powerful Japanese squadron of battleships and armored cruisers is proceeding south, accompanied by 15 colliers and transports, to attack the Russian Baltic squadron.

FORT IS BLOWN UP

Japanese Troops Swarm In Over the Ruins.

MEET WITH FIERCE RESISTANCE

Russians Leave About Fifty Dead on the Field and the Assaultants' Casualties Are Light.

Tokio, Dec. 21.—The Japanese fired an immense mine under the north of Fort Kekwan mountain at 2 o'clock Saturday afternoon. The Japanese immediately charged and occupied the fort with a heavy force.

The following report of the capture was telegraphed from General Nogai's headquarters today:

"At 2:15 o'clock on the afternoon of December 18, part of our army blew up the northwest of the north fort of East Kekwan mountain, and then charged. A fierce battle with hand grenades then ensued.

"Owing to the stubborn resistance of the enemy with his machine guns, our operations were temporarily suspended. Subsequently at 7 o'clock in the evening, General Samejima, commanding the supports, advanced into the enclosures and, encouraging his men, threw his supports into the fighting line in a last brave charge."

"At 11:30 o'clock at night we completely occupied the fort and immediately engaged in the construction of defensive works. Our occupation became firmly assured today.

"Before retiring the enemy exploded four mines in the neighborhood of the neck of the fort.

"We captured five nine-centimeter field and two machine guns as well as plenty of ammunition.

"The enemy left 40 or 50 dead. Our casualties have not been investigated, but they are not heavy."

CARE OF FOREST RESERVE.

Bill to Put Pinchot in Complete Control Strikes a Snag.

Washington, Dec. 21.—The bill passed by the house, authorizing the transfer of the administration of forest reserves from the Interior department to the department of Agriculture, has run upon a snag in the senate committee on public lands, the same snag that held up a similar bill in the last session. This bill, if it becomes a law, the Forestry bureau will have practically absolute control over forest reserves, and absolute say in the creation of new reserves. While it is proposed to place the control nominally in the secretary of Agriculture, everyone knows that Secretary Wilson will take no active hand in the forest management, but will approve everything Mr. Pinchot recommends.

That is the principal reason the senate committee has refused to pass it. To improve the pending bill, notwithstanding the fact that its passage is urged by the president, Secretary Hitchcock, Secretary Wilson, Land Commissioner Richards and Chief Forester Pinchot.

CRUSHED IN BEDS.

Wall Falls on Crocker Hotel at Minneapolis and Ruins Burn.

Minneapolis, Minn., Dec. 21.—Four or five, and possibly 10 or 11, people lost their lives today in the Crocker hotel, on Fifth street, through the falling of the highest wall of the O. H. Park building, which was damaged by fire last week.

The high wind of last night loosened the bricks in the wall, and tons of brick and stones crashed down upon the roof of the three-story hotel next door. The roof was carried through to the basement, carrying death and injury before it.

The crash came when almost every eye in the hotel was afeared. Within one moment the entire building was a wreck, with injured and dying people calling for help.

SHANGHAI NATIVES MUCH AROUSED.

Shanghai, Dec. 21.—The Chinaman murdered by a sailor from the Russian cruiser Askold, December 15, as the result of a dispute over payment for the hire of a jirikiska, was a native of Ningpo, (an important treaty port 500 miles south of Shanghai) and the affair has caused indignation among the Ningpo community here, which is 50,000 strong. The lower classes are urging an attack on all Russians in Shanghai, but they are restrained by the Ningpo guild, which is counseling patience.

MORALES FACES TROUBLE.

Cape Haytien, Dec. 21.—It was ascertained today from a reliable source that the Haytien government has demanded of the government of Santo Domingo the expulsion of the Haytien revolutionists who have sought refuge at Monte Cristi, Santo Domingo. It is reported that heavy consignments of contraband of war are entering Santo Domingo daily by way of the Haytien frontier and that an extensive uprising against the government of President Morales will shortly take place.

NEBRASKA WINS BOUNDARY SUIT.

Washington, Dec. 21.—The Supreme court of the United States decided the boundary case between the states of Missouri and Nebraska in favor of Nebraska. The case involved the question as to whether a change of the course of the Missouri river had the effect of changing land which had thereto been on the west side of the river to the east side of the river, from the jurisdiction of Nebraska to that of Missouri, but the court held that it did not.

READY FOR BALTIC FLEET.

Shanghai, Dec. 21.—Reliable reports from the south state that the Japanese battleships and armored cruisers are forwarding men, guns, torpedo boats and submarines to Formosa and the Pescadores, in order