

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.

Taft says he will not resign from the cabinet.

Much evidence of Thaw's insanity is being given at his second trial.

Officers and men of the battleship fleet are being royally entertained at Rio de Janeiro.

Taft says the fleet is being sent to the Pacific to show our naval strength to Oriental eyes.

The California Safe Deposit & Trust company, of San Francisco, is in the hands of a receiver.

Samuel V. Proudfoot, of Iowa, has been appointed assistant commissioner of the general land office.

A train was held up in Asiatic Russia by 20 brigands, but the guards beat them off. A large amount of gold was on the train.

There is a deadlock in the Kentucky legislature on the election of a United States senator. Governor Beckham is in the lead at present.

Colonel Goethals places an estimate of \$250,000,000 as the cost of the Panama canal. This does not include the \$40,000,000 paid for the work already done nor the \$10,000,000 afterward paid to the government of Panama.

Taft urges the government to withdraw from Cuba in the spring of 1909.

The Roman Catholic church will soon announce new laws calculated to prevent hasty marriage.

Trial of Oregon's land thieves has commenced at Portland with Judge Hunt, of Montana, presiding.

A French aeronaut has devised an airship heavier than air capable of making a speed of 24 miles an hour.

Ten persons were injured in New York by the explosion of three dynamite bombs, which partially wrecked a tenement house.

Mayor Taylor, of San Francisco, has a huge task before him. One of the first things is to provide a water system for fire fighting.

The forty-fourth annual convention of the National Woolgrowers' association, at Helena, was the most successful ever held. The attendance was also unusually large.

At a meeting of 700 New York landlords it was decided to have introduced in the legislature a bill making it a felony for any political agitator to incite tenants to refuse to pay rental which has been agreed upon. At present it is a misdemeanor.

More mines are being opened at Goldfield.

Council Bluffs, Ia., has started a war on gambling.

Great Britain is alarmed for her naval supremacy.

The Kaiser advocates the study of English in Germany.

The fire in the big New York skyscraper showed an insufficient water supply.

Mulai Hafid has been proclaimed sultan of Morocco and he has started a holy war.

The new Japanese ambassador to the United States declares that all trouble will soon be over.

In a mad rush to get seats at a theater in Barnsley, Eng., 16 children were trampled to death.

The colors of the American man-of-war Chesapeake, captured by England in 1813, have been offered for sale in London.

General Manager Mohler, of the Union Pacific, declares the prohibition wave now sweeping the country will stop expensive railroad work.

A strike of 200 newsboys in Boston created quite a disturbance. Three police officers were assaulted, stripped of their badges and one officer and a bystander seriously injured.

The jury in the Thaw case has been completed.

The battleship fleet has arrived at Rio Janeiro.

Warsaw, Russia, terrorists are busy again and the city is in a turmoil.

T. C. Becker, of New York, is to assist Heney in the Oregon land frauds.

France may insist on arbitration between the United States and Japan to prevent war.

Alton B. Parker attributes the recent financial panic to Roosevelt's "attacks on property."

The steamship Aki Maru, from the Orient, has just arrived in Seattle with 1,200 tons of fireworks to be used by Coast Chinese in celebrating their New Years.

Four policemen were killed and five nearly so injured in the burning of a New York skyscraper. The fire started on the fifth floor of a 12-story building and the structure is a total loss. The monetary loss is placed at \$5,000,000.

Only seven jurors have been secured in the Thaw case.

TOTAL DEAD 170.

Nearly Every Family at Boyertown is Affected.

Boyertown, Pa., Jan. 15.—When nightfall put a stop to the work of recovering the dead from the ruins of the Rhoades opera house, where Monday night's holocaust occurred, the official roll of victims numbered 167. Whether any more bodies are buried beneath the ruins cannot be positively stated, but it is the belief of those who had charge of the gruesome work that all of the dead have been removed, and that the total list of victims will not go over 170. The ratio of women and girls to men and boys is about 9 to 1. Work of identification will not be begun until today, as most of the bodies are still lying in a confused state at the four improvised morgues.

The population of the place is about 2,500, and the disaster paralyzed the town, and the people are going about dazed. It is safe to say that everybody in the places either lost one or more relatives or was intimately acquainted with those who died in the fire. In several cases, whole families were wiped out.

It was almost daylight yesterday before the flames were extinguished and rescuers were able to enter the ruins to remove the dead. The morning was bitter cold, and by the time the benumbed and exhausted firemen began the task of disentangling the mass of burned beams and twisted iron the entire ruins were coated with ice and there was danger of the walls falling. The work was slow at first and it was 7 o'clock before the first body was removed.

SPECIAL SESSION CALLED.

Nevada Legislature Meets to Consider Goldfield Situation.

Carson, Nev., Jan. 15.—The special session of the Nevada legislature called by Governor Sparks met at noon yesterday. After organization Governor Sparks' message was read. In the senate the appropriation bill of the session was passed. The only important action taken was the passage of a resolution referring all bills that may be introduced relative to state rangers, constabulary or military, to a special joint committee.

There is a question as to the legality of the organization of the assembly. The members, under a ruling from the attorney general, organized without swearing in the speaker, Robert Skaggs.

In the senate all of the officers were compelled to take the oath. As there is a disposition to depose Skaggs, in case of a re-opening the question, it is expected that a lively fight will be had.

Governor Sparks, it is thought, will endeavor to influence the passage of a state ranger law similar to that of Texas, as he has the Texas law at hand, and it has been read by a number of the members. It is likely to meet with strong opposition in the lower house, where the labor unions have a strong representation.

Senator Morehouse, formerly of California, now located in Goldfield, is in attendance, representing the Goldfield chamber of commerce.

PLAGUE CAMPAIGN ENDED.

Only One New Case Since Christmas in San Francisco.

San Francisco, Jan. 15.—The campaign for the eradication of the bubonic plague in San Francisco, which has been conducted by Dr. Rupert Blue and a staff of 150 medical officials of the United States marine hospital, is almost over. Only one case of plague has occurred in this city since December 26, and it was a Japanese who was taken ill after arriving from Stege, Contra Costa, where he is believed to have contracted the disease. The local health authorities announce that no further daily plague bulletins will be issued.

Since the origin of the plague in this city last May there have been 137 verified cases. Of these 17 were verified by clinical examination and 120 by bacteriological examination. Of the total number of persons who contracted this disease, 74 died and 63 recovered. Only two cases remain under treatment, and at the isolation hospital there still remain 18 suspects under observation.

While the plague has practically been stamped out, the sanitary campaign of Dr. Blue and the local health authorities will continue for some time.

May Not Get Immunity.

San Francisco, Jan. 15.—After a second conference between District Attorney Langdon and Detective Burns and Abraham Ruef, Mr. Langdon would only say that the time is not ripe for a public statement regarding the matter of whether Ruef is to be granted absolute immunity from prosecution in return for telling about the bribery cases. Ruef also refused to say whether the contract granting him immunity had been signed or not. Judge Dunne has flatly refused to be a party to any such agreement.

Evacuate Cuba Next Year.

Washington, Jan. 15.—In transmitting to the senate today the report of Provisional Governor Magoon on conditions in Cuba, the president said: "I am glad to be able to say that we can now definitely announce that by or before February 1, 1909, we shall have turned over the island to the president and congress to be elected next December by the people of Cuba. Our word to turn the island over to its own people will be scrupulously regarded."

Put South Dakota in Commission.

Washington, Jan. 15.—The battleship South Dakota has been ordered placed in commission at the Mare Island navy yard on January 27.

OREGON STATE ITEMS OF INTEREST

GRAFT OLD TREES.

Diseased Orchards in Valley Are to Be Laid Low.

Corvallis—A movement is being launched here for a great campaign for the renovation of old orchards in the Willamette valley and other parts of Oregon. President Newell, of the state board of horticulture, Mr. Lownsdale, Mr. Reid, and a large number of the fruit inspectors of the various counties are on the ground and are identified with the plan. The first gun in the campaign was fired by M. O. Lownsdale in an address before the visiting horticulturists and other winter short course students in college chapel. The address met with a hearty endorsement, and aroused much enthusiasm. The Agricultural college authorities will join in the plan, and in an educational way and otherwise co-operate to the utmost extent in furthering the movement.

It is said that within three to five years a complete new orchard can be made out of the old one, and a profit of \$5 to \$10 per tree be realized. This was the assertion of Mr. Lownsdale in his address. He says he has accomplished this result with old trees on his farm, and that it can be done by any farmer who can do grafting or have it done.

The thing to do, says Mr. Lownsdale, is to cut down the old trees. The best plan is to cut them close to the ground, leaving the roots intact. This should be done by the 1st of March. The next season, from the 10th to the 15th of May, such varieties as are best for the climate and for commercial purposes should be grafted on the three or four best sprouts. This is the easiest and most certain plan. Two feet of the old trunk may be left and the graft applied to it the first year, and a year of time in reproducing the orchard is gained, but this requires an expert at grafting in order to be successful. By either plan the trees will be in good bearing in from three to five years, and a revenue of \$5 to \$10 each be realized.

Welcome to New Industry.

Oregon City—Nothing in recent years has brought so much satisfaction to the people of Oregon City as the announcement that a new paper mill is to be constructed at Oregon City on the East side of Wilamette Falls, fronting the basin, with the installation of two machines of the largest capacity at the outlet. Not less than 300 men will be furnished employment, and this means that from 400 to 600 people will be added to the population of Oregon City within a year, and that there will be a corresponding increase in the industry and business of the town.

Shingle Mill for Albany.

Albany—A shingle mill, with a capacity of 60,000 shingles daily, will be established in Albany this winter by E. A. Thompson and Elmer Cramer, former employees of the Curtis Lumber company in its big plant at Mill City. Work will begin on the new mill as soon as a satisfactory location is found. The two men have secured the shingle manufacturing machinery of the Mill City mills, and have also acquired the ownership of a large body of spruce timber, and propose to make the industry a large one.

Glass Factory for Eugene.

Eugene—Eugene bids fair to have a glass factory in the near future. Gustave Mathisen, an expert glass blower, who was one of the promoters of the factory at Coburg, in this county, offers to put up a plant costing \$50,000 if the citizens of this city take stock in a company to be organized to the amount of \$5,000. Mathisen claims to be backed by ample capital. The matter will at once be taken up by the Commercial club and it is probable that some action will be taken immediately.

Lebanon Mills Reopen.

Albany—After being closed for three weeks, the Lebanon paper mill has resumed work and 50 men temporarily idle are again in employment. The recent flood piled so many logs in the Santiam canal that the mill could not get a supply of fuel wood for the regular consumption of 30 cords daily. Though this was the cause of the shutdown, some feared it might be due to the financial stringency, but the prompt resumption of work has restored confidence.

No Delegate to Dry Farming Congress.

Portland—Oregon is the only one of the semi-arid states not represented officially in the Trans-Missouri Dry Farming congress, which will hold its second session in Salt Lake City, January 23-26, and efforts are being made by Manager Tom Richardson, of the Commercial club, to secure someone from Eastern Oregon. The Oregon Development league is willing to offer credentials to any representative citizen of the state who will attend the meeting.

Change in Blue Mountain Reserve.

Washington—The president has just signed a proclamation which eliminates 131,643 acres of the Blue Mountain forest reserve, as recommended by the forest service. The greater part of the area eliminated consists of open grass lands. The boundary has also been changed to exclude some heavily timbered land, title to which has passed from the government.

Fulton Files His Petition.

Salem—C. W. Fulton has filed a copy of his petition for Republican nomination for United States senator.

TALK SPRAY AND PRUNING.

Marion County Fruitmen Plan More Frequent Meetings.

Salem—The Marion County Horticultural society has decided to hold either weekly or bi-weekly meetings the remainder of the winter for the special purpose of spreading information concerning the proper pruning and spraying of fruit trees. It has been found that at one meeting the time is so short that all the subjects in which fruitgrowers are interested cannot be satisfactorily discussed, and that as a result the growers get partial information, which is of little practical use to them. At the weekly or bi-weekly meetings, special subjects will be taken up, varying according to the particular portion of their work the growers are about to perform. Thus the subject of pruning will be one of the first considered for the reason that the pruning season is now on. After that spraying will be the subject of lectures and demonstrations. Use of fertilizers, methods and time of cultivation, thinning fruit, etc., will be taken up as occasion seems to demand.

DALLAS AFTER A CANNERY.

Fruitmen Believe They Will Have a Market for Crop.

Dallas—A committee appointed at the meeting of the Horticultural society last week for the purpose of securing the co-operation of the fruit raisers of this vicinity in the establishing of a cannery at Dallas, is hard at work.

With the exception of the berry crop, sufficient fruit is raised within a radius of five miles around Dallas to easily support a cannery, and it is believed that the establishment of that industry in this city will result in the planting of enough of the small fruits to keep the cannery in operation during the entire season each year.

A company will be formed and the farmers, fruitgrowers and business men will be solicited to take stock in it. Heretofore the fruit crops of this vicinity were shipped to the canneries in Salem and Newberg.

New Library Building Open.

University of Oregon, Eugene—During the holidays many of the recitation rooms of the university were removed from Villard hall to better quarters in the new library building. Occupancy of the new building has been delayed, owing to the fact that there has been no money available for heat. The problem was solved by turning off the heat from the entire upper floor of Villard hall and sending it through the pipes into the library building.

Big Milton Ranch Sold.

Milton—For the price of \$28,562.50 Henry L. Frazier, of Milton, has sold his ranch near this place to William H. Harder, and the deal represents one of the biggest individual transactions made in this section of the country for many months. The Frazier ranch is located just southwest of Milton, and contains 246 acres of wheat land. This sale also included the Franzier residence in Milton.

Hides Take Big Drop.

Pendleton—After the highest prices ever paid for hides in Eastern Oregon, in the past eight weeks, prices have now dropped to the lowest price known. Only a few weeks ago dry hides were quoted in this city at 18 cents per pound. Now dry hides are worth but 9 cents and green hides but 4 cents.

PORTLAND MARKETS.

Fruits—Apples, 75c@82.25 per box; peaches, 75c@81 per crate; pears, 1.25@1.75 per box; cranberries, .80@1.12 per barrel.

Vegetables—Turnips, 75c per sack; carrots, 65c per sack; beets, 41c per sack; beans, 20c per sack; cabbage, 1c per pound; cauliflower, \$2@2.25 per dozen; celery, \$3.50 per crate; onions, 15@20c per dozen; parsley, 20c per dozen; peas, 10c per pound; peppers, 8@17c per pound; pumpkins, 1@1 1/2c per pound; radishes, 20c per dozen; spinach, 6c per pound; sprouts, 8c per pound; squash, 1@1 1/2c per pound; tomatoes, \$2 per box.

Onions—\$1.85@2 per hundred. Potatoes—Delivered Portland, 50@75c per hundred; sweet potatoes, \$3 per cwt.

Wheat—Club, 85c; bluestem, 87c; valley, 85c; red, 83c.

Oats—No. 1 white, \$27.50@28; gray, \$27.50@28.

Barley—Feed, \$27.50 per ton; brewing, \$32; rolled, \$29@30.

Corn—Whole, \$32.50; cracked, \$32.50.

Hay—Valley timothy, No. 1, \$8 per ton; Eastern Oregon timothy, \$21@22; clover, \$15; chest, \$15; grain hay, \$15@16; alfalfa, \$15; vetch, \$14.

Butter—Fancy creamery, 30@35c per pound.

Poultry—Average old hens, 12c per pound; mixed chickens, 11 1/2@12; spring chickens, 11 1/2@12; roosters, 8@10c; dressed chickens, 14c; turkeys, live, 15c; dressed, choice, 18c; geese, live, 9@10c; ducks, 16@17c; pigeons, 75c@81; squabs, \$1.50@2.

Eggs—Fresh ranch, candled, 30c per dozen.

Veal—75 to 125 pounds, 9@9 1/2c; 125 to 150 pounds, 7c; 150 to 200 pounds, 5@6 1/2c.

Pork—Block, 75 to 150 pounds, 6@7c; packers, 6@7c.

Hops—1907, prime and choice, 6@7 1/2c; per pound; olds, 1@2c per pound.

Wool—Eastern Oregon, average best, 13@20c per pound, according to shrinkage; valley, 18@20c, according to fineness; mohair choice 29@30c per pound.

TO RECALL TROOPS.

Nevada Must Not Shirk Responsibility, Says President.

Washington, Jan. 14.—President Roosevelt has determined to withdraw the Federal troops from Goldfield, Nev., shortly after the legislature begins its special session today. This intention was made known at the White House today, when the report of the special investigation commission was made public, together with a letter from the president to Governor Sparks, dated January 4. The president says he shall be governed by the recommendations in the report unless the governor can show that the statements of the report are not in accordance with the facts. The report says:

"The conditions did not support the general allegations in the governor's request for troops, nor were his specific statements established by any such extent as to justify his use of these statements for the purpose of getting Federal troops."

"But we must firmly believe that upon the assembling of the legislature, or within a few days thereafter, the troops should be removed, regardless of any request for their retention that may be made by either the legislature or the governor of Nevada, it being essential that the state of Nevada shall understand this situation completely—shall recognize the fact that there will, at that date be thrown upon it, and it alone, the primary responsibility of keeping order, and that, recognizing this responsibility, it may take such action as is the duty of the state and as will be sufficient in the premises."

LAND OFFICE FORCE SHORT.

Commissioner Says Department is Handicapped in Efficiency.

Washington, Jan. 14.—Commissioner Ballinger, of the general land office, has completed his annual report for submission to congress. He asks an appropriation of \$500,000 to carry on the field work of his bureau in the protection of the public lands, an increase of \$250,000 over the current appropriation. During the fiscal years of 1895-7 there was recorded for investigation 24,459 cases of all kinds; of these the agents investigated and disposed of 12,104 cases, and 12,355 cases remained for examination July 1, 1907.

There were 2,243 land entries relinquished after the case was in the hands of special agents for investigation, 853 entries were cancelled after hearings had upon special agents' charges; 367 unlawful enclosures of public lands were removed restoring 1,940,120 acres to the open range. There were 27 convictions connected with these cases. The total of moneys recovered by the government in all special agents' cases was \$386,251 and 2,372,224 acres of land was either freed from fraudulent claims to title or released from unlawful enclosure and occupancy.

MOROCCO FACES CRISIS.

Sultan Abd El Aziz is Forced From Throne by Reports.

Tangier, Jan. 14.—There is consternation among Moroccan officials at the sensational news from Fez announcing the proclaiming of Mulai Hafid as sultan and the dangerous conditions now prevailing in the city. Couriers who have arrived here announce also that the people of Mequinez have proclaimed Mulai Hafid sultan. According to the latest information from Fez, the Ulemas or wise men, were forced to decree the overthrow of Abd El Aziz, the sultan of record, and proclaim Mulai Hafid sultan in his place, by the attitude of the people, who were greatly excited over reports that Abd El Aziz had sold the country to France.

The announcement by the public criers was received with frantic joy. Mulai Hafid was proclaimed sultan under certain conditions, which he must accept together with the title. Among these are the following:

That he reject the Algerians act, except the French troops from Morocco, prohibit access to the interior for Europeans, who with the Jews, it is set forth, should be allowed to occupy only quarters in the ports reserved for them; prohibit Moorish subjects from placing themselves under the protection of foreign consulates, secure Morocco's rights in the frontier question with Algeria, and suppress taxation.

Storm in East.

Chicago, Jan. 14.—Chicago and its environs were cut off for several hours yesterday from wire communications from other points by a snow and wind storm which began before dawn and raged without a break all day. Snow continues to fall. A northwest gale drove blinding masses of wet snow before it. The warmth of the atmosphere caused the heavy flakes partly to melt and stick to whatever they touched. As a consequence overburdened wires and poles were put out of commission in all directions for hours.

More Defenses Needed.

Seattle, Jan. 14.—"We realize the desirability of providing additional defenses for Puget sound as rapidly as possible, and when I get back to Washington I shall lay the facts before congress and recommend additional fortifications," said Lieutenant Colonel Frederick V. Abbott, assistant to the chief of the engineer corps, United States army, having charge of fortifications of the United States, last night, who arrived here from Manila Wednesday.

Japanese Sends in a Bid.

Honolulu, Jan. 14.—The award of bids for material for the construction of improvements for Pearl harbor has been held up, because the lowest bidder is a dummy for some Japanese contractor. It is probable that all bids will be rejected.

MAKING PROGRESS

Jury Secured in Half Land Case in One Day.

WILL TRY BUT TWO DEFENDANTS

Ex-United States Attorney Hall and Edwin Mays at Bar—No Explanation is Given.

Portland, Jan. 16.—Twelve jurors, satisfactory alike to the government and to the defense, were selected yesterday to determine the guilt or innocence of John H. Hall, ex-United States attorney for Oregon, and Edwin Mays, who are jointly charged with illegally fencing public lands in Eastern Oregon. The first juror, Alfred Freerksen, a farmer of Lebanon, Linn county, was accepted at 11 o'clock and the jury was completed at 5:35 o'clock yesterday afternoon with the acceptance of Henry Freerksen, a farmer of Shedd, Linn county, and a brother of the first man selected. Both sides had exhausted their three preemptory challenges before the name of Henry Freerksen was reached, but he was selected to a thorough questioning by Special Prosecutor Heney before being accepted.

When court convened yesterday morning Mr. Heney created a sensation by announcing that of the 12 defendants named in the indictment only Hall and Edwin Mays would be tried at this time. His failure to indicate when W. W. Steiwer, Hamilton H. Hendricks and Clarence B. Zachary would be tried, if at all, is believed to give color to the report that these three defendants have been promised immunity in return for important testimony against their co-defendants. The testimony of these defendants, it has been rumored, is considered essential to the case of the government against Hall and Mays.

IDENTIFYING THE DEAD.

Many Boyertown Victims Burned Past Recognition.

Boyertown, Pa., Jan. 16.—One hundred and seventy persons perished at the Rhoades opera house fire Monday night, according to figures compiled by Coroner Strasser last night. The list of dead includes one fireman, who lost his life fighting the fire, and one man, Jacob Johnson, who died from injuries received in the blazing playhouse.

Three charred bodies were recovered from the ruins of the building yesterday, and of the 168 bodies or remains that lie in the improvised ruins of the building 114 have been officially or partially identified by sorrowing relatives or friends.

Not more than 25 of the entire number of bodies removed from the fire have heads. There are several trunks which will never be recognized, as they were strangers in the audience that witnessed the play.

INDORSES SPARKS' ACTION.

Caucus of Nevada Legislators Supports Governor.

Carson, Nev., Jan. 16.—A joint caucus of the special committees of the senate and assembly of the Nevada legislature met yesterday and framed a joint resolution which will be introduced in the senate today asking the president of the United States to retain troops in Goldfield until such time as the state can provide either a police force or other means to maintain order in the camp. This is a decided victory for Governor Sparks, as the committee framing the resolution is composed of 20 members, both Republicans and Democrats, with the pro and anti labor elements both represented.

The resolution will undoubtedly pass the senate, while the general expression among the members of the lower house is that it will go through that body by a small majority, the senate being Republican and the assembly strongly Democratic.

Wants to Fine Standard.

Chicago, Jan. 16.—District Attorney Sims, upon arriving today from Washington, where he is thought to have discussed the matter with President Roosevelt, announced that he will make an effort to bring the Standard Oil company of Indiana to trial next week on the remaining 4,000 counts in the indictments returned against the corporation. It will be possible in the event that the company should be convicted on each count of the indictment to impose fines aggregating a total of \$80,000,000.

Range War Brewing.

Grand Junction, Colo., Jan. 16.—Appeals to the governor and to the sheriff of Mesa and Delta counties for protection, having failed and fearing a bloody battle will be participated by irate cattlemen through whose territory they must pass, the scene of many range wars and murders, the owners of 20,000 sheep are sending their stock from Montrose to the winter range in Utah under a guard of 200 men armed with Winchester.

Postpone Seattle Fair.

Seattle, Jan. 16.—While the idea is not received by with approval by the majority of the people, Colonel Blithen and others have recently began a movement to postpone the Alaska-Yukon exposition until 1910. The financial condition in all parts of the country and failure to realize on certain investments cause this plan to be considered.