## **NEWS OF THE WEEK** In a Condensed Form for Our

Busy Readers. A Resume of the Less Important but

Not Less Interesting Events of the Past Week.

The deepest snow of the winter now covers the Middle West.

The government will try to bring Hermann to trial in March.

The Russian national assembly has been called to meet May 10.

Filipinos are anxious to organize volunteer regiment to fight China.

Missouri's Supreme court has decided that Standard Oil men must give evi-

War between France and Germany declared inevitable on account of the stand of Emperor William.

Roosevelt is suspicious of China, be lieving the officials are trying to lull this country into false security.

The Cash Bayers union, a Chicago concern which sold most of its stock to farmers, has failed. The farmers are ont \$1,000,000 and merchants \$250,000

A special grand jury at Pueblo, Colorado, has returned indictments against the Colorado Fuel & Iron company, the Colorado Supply company and the American Smelting company for using the "scrip system" in paying their em-ployes, in violation of the law.

Roosevelt favors the ship subsidy bill. All parties in Russia are attacking

Forty persons were hurt in a street car wreck in Pittsburg. The rate bill will pass the senate

Failure of the Morcecan conference is now expected, but war is not looked

The Philippine tariff bill passed by the house will soon come up in the

The Panama canal commission will likely be reduced from seven members

West Virginia's governor has appeal ed for aid to down the railroad trust in

Coal operators have offered a compromise to the miners and a strike may

Russia is negotiating a new loan in France of \$240,000,000. The interest

W. K. Vanderbilt, Jr., was mobbed and arrested in Italy for running down a boy with his auto.

Three boys were burned to death and nine injured ion a fire at Kenyon Military academy, Gambier, Ohio. Witte's cabinet is falling to pieces.

Japanese are said to be oppressing

Johann Hoch, the modern bluebeard, tirely effective.

Minister Rockhill says he fears no trouble in China at present.

Attorneys for the Federation officers have secured habeas corpus writs at Boise.

The drydock Dewey has had to put in at Las Palmas, Canary islands, for

Wilson Mizner, the youthful husband of Mrs. Yerkes-Mizner, has agreed to a

The State department has taken up with the Russian government the al-leged holding up of postal orders issued

Congressmanen are receiving many protests against the Hepburn-Dolliver bill now pending. This measure is practically a Federal recognition of

Philippine officials say the tariff reduction on sugar will not make any difference with the producers of the United States, as the product of the islands will go to China anyway.

Taft made three speeches on Washington's birthday.

The Longworth's received a warm welcome in Cuba.

mittee on the race bill.

One of New Orleans' largest whole-sale grocery firms has suffered a fire loss of \$130,000.

The German reichstag has extended be most favored nation tariff to the United States for one year. G. A. R. national officers are pre

paring for a big time when the national pment meets in Minneapolis Au-

The Canadian government has raised \$25,000 worth of flour which will be sent to the famine sufferers of Japan. The various foreign legations at Pe-kin are beginning to fear an outbreak and the sentries on duty have been doubled.

John D. Rockefeller is said to have been discovered in his own office trans-acting business as usual. Some of the

best detectives have been trying to lo-cate him. Garfield denies he promised the beef packers immunity.

The New York legislative committe has made its report. The management of the big insurance companies is severely criticized. Immediately following the report eight bills were introduced in the legislature radically changing insurance laws.

CHILE'S TRADE FALLS OFF.

English Tonnage Exceeds by Far All

Others Entering Those Ports. Washington, Feb. 27 .- Consul Genral Field, at Valparaiso, in a report to eral Field, at Valparaiso, in a report to the State department, says that out of a total of 17,000,000 annual tonnage of vessels entering Chilean ports, those flying the American flag represented only 135,000 tons. Great Britain's flag covered 8,000,000 tons, and Ger-man ships aggregated 3,000,000 tons. The trade of the United States fell back from \$11,000,000 in 1903 to \$10,000. from \$11,000,000 in 1903 to \$10,000, 000 in 1904, notwithstanding Chile greatly increased her purchases.

The Chilean government, the consu says, is planning many new railroads and extensions. The trans-Andine railway, when completed, will shorten the time between Chile and Europe 10 or 12 days.

Consul Leroy, at Durango, writes that Mexico will soon import wheat.

Consul General Thackeray, at Berlin, reports that the United States purchased nearly \$15,000,000 more merchandise from the empire last year than in 1904, mostly manufactured goods, but that the sales of American manufactured goods to Germany, aside from lard and petrolsum, in 1905, did not equal \$15,000,000.

TRADE WITH SCANDINAVIA.

United States Sells \$20,000,000 More That It Buys.

Washington, Feb. 27 .- According a bulletin issued by the department of Commerce and Labor, the trade of the United States with the Scandinavian countries, under which term are in-cluded Sweden, Denmark and Norway, for the fiscal year 1905, amounted to \$32,000,000, of which \$6,000,000 is imports from and \$26,000,000 exportto those countries. In 1895 the total trade with these countries was \$11, 000,000, showing an increase of prac-tically 200 per cent in the last decade, while our total foreign trade has in reased but about 70 per cent.

The bulletin says that the Scandina vian population of the United States larger ratio to the present population of their countries of nativity than any other class of our foreign born

Imports from Sweden in 1905 aggre gated \$2,935,581, and exports to that country, \$7,197,171.7

Imports from Norway, and exports, \$4,420,469. Imports from Denmark, \$1,008,750, and exports, \$14,881,568.

CHECK ON CHOLERA

Maritime Quarantine Found Effective at Manila.

Washington, Feb. 27. - A report of the public health and marine hospital service, which has just been issued, gives a summary of the quarantinable diseases reported for the city of Manila during the calendar year 1905, shows that there were 254 cases and 225 deaths from cholera, 45 cases and 43 deaths from plarue, and 27 cases and two deaths from smallpox. The report, liscussing the cholera situation in the provinces there, says that, while the number of cases has remained about tion is constantly changing, and adds that cholera has practically described

acter, the outgoing inter-island quar-antine placed on vessels has been considerably modified.

Ordered to Shoot Suspects. London, Feb. 27.—The correspondent of the Tribune at Pekin says that since the reported appearance of the Chinese bandits in Tsinwantao, the

Germans and French have been kept at arms at Shanhaikwan, Tsinwantao and Tongsban, while the Germans are patrolling the villages with orders to shoot all suspicious Chinese. The Ger-man officers, who formerly dined at the hotel at Shanhaikwan, the correspondent adds, are now confined to barracks after nightfall.

Mexico City, Feb. 27.—The exchange and currency commission has received bids from both New York and London bankers for another \$1,000,000 silver money, in pursuance of the policy of the work of placing the country on a gold basis. Gold money is already en-tering into circulation, though in some cases people who do not comprehend that the change is permanent are hoarding the yellow money. The gen-eral financial situation is remarkably

Hostile Camps in Palace.
Pekin, Feb. 27. — The Chinese government is taking apparently every step possible to guard against any attack by fanatics on the foreign lega-tions here, and officials at the several egations are not back sard in supple menting these measures with precau-tionary ones of their own. This, too, despite the fact that higher Chinese duty as legation guards.

vices received here from Venezuela are to the effect that President Castro says he will humble France, to break the Monroe doctrine, clear out the French from Venezuela and then start on Americans, Englishmen and Germans, nese. He is reported as saying that he will clear the country of foreigners. He is very bitter against Americans, who, he says, are after his country.

Dominion Loses Million.
Ottawa, Ont., Feb. 27. — The Dominion government lose is from \$1,000 000 to \$1,500,000 by fire that raged in Moneton, N. B., late last night and today, when the Inter-Colonial railway

## OREGON STATE ITEMS OF INTEREST

BOOM IN ORCHARD LANDS.

Homeseekers Looking for Locations on Hooe River.

Hood River - That Hood River i ge ting its share of the colonist traffic is indicated by the fact that ten fami-lies have arrived here this week looking for land. The newcomers are from dinnesota, North Dakota, Kansas and Missouri. They are anxious to go into applegrowing, and real estate men are busy showing them over the valley. Each day records several purchases of and which is now set to apple trees or will be cleared for that purpose, and indications are that there will be a still greater demand for fruit land.

The homeseckers who have arrived say many more will come as soon as spring opens in the Middle West, peo-ple there being slow to believe that spring is so much earlier here.

Real estate purchases are not confined to Eastern people, as Portland men are investing in : pple lands, goirg as far as back of Mount Hood. They are relying on the effect the Mount Hood railroad will have on land in the upper valley. This road is now nearing com ple ion, and the first car of freight was shipped over it last week, consigned to Moro. Much of the wood formerly burned in clearing fruit lands will soon be marketable at a neminal expense, The warm wet weather of the past few days has started plant life into activity and berry growers will soon com

ence cultivating.

Room for Settlers in Umatilla. Pendleton - The rapid manner in which Umatilla county is being settled has drawn attention of late to the fact that there is much good wheat land left on what was once the Umatilla Indian reservation. A tract of this land was ought by the government in 1897 and sold in parcels at low prices to settlers. Athena and Adams, at from \$10 to \$20 an acre, grows wheat of the finest qual- house No. 2 June 1.

Goes to Brazil as Missionary... Pcaific University, Forest Grove — Miss Grace C. Wood, who has been an nstructress in Tualatin academy for the past three years, having come to Pacific from Drury college, Mo., bas left for Brazli to engage in missionary work, for which she will be peculiarly adapted. Her position will be filled immediately by Mr. Zimmerman, from Riverside academy, Portland. Before going to Brazil to commence her work, she will attend the missionary conven-tion, which is held at Nashville, Tenn., and from there she will go di rect to Brazil.

School District of "First Class." Salem—State Superintendent Acker-nan has gone to Hood River to assist in the campaign for the organization of a school district of the first class by miles around the city of Manila, its consolidating six country districts. course indicating, the report says, that the maritime quarantine has been entablish graded schools, and a district tablish graded schools, and a district high school. Under the law a majority of voters in each district at the Lewis and Clark exposition was In view of the very few cases in the of voters in each district, as they now exhibit of birds and animals was redation It is thought all the districts are favorably inclined [except one, and public sentiment favorable to co solidation is gaining ground there.

Burns-Horsemen of Harney county are suffering losses which will total several thousand dollars, by reason of the deep snows on the mountains. Cold weather has brought a thick crust to the snow, and the horses, allowed as has long been the custom to forage for themselves all winter, are unable to paw through the crust and snow to the gares below. Few owners in Harney animals pull through in good condi-

Logging Road on Rock Creek. La Grande-Work has been resumed money, in pursuance of the policy of railroad up Rock creek. A large exchanging silver for gold to expedite amount of the grading and several miles of tracklaying were completed account of the winter weather. It is the intention now to continue the work will be used exclusively in bringing logs to the river from an extensive timber district in the Rock creek territory.

struction J. H. Ackerman, one of the promoters of the Educational congress pared his report of receipts and expenditures of the committee. The money was donated on his solicitation by the counties for expenses of the congress. There is a balance of \$269.86, which

Baker City—The excavation for a one story stone building at First and Court streets, to cost about \$6,000, marks the beginning of the building boom for which the architects have been prepar-ing all winter. In the next six months City than during any previous year in the history of the place. Plans have been made and contracts let for a large number of big business blocks, and many fine residences and cottages will

Wallowa - The Wallowa Building Mountain Creamery company, of La Grande. The ice house is to be finshops, with 100 cars and several build-ings of different kinds, were dest-oyed.

One thousand workmen are thrown out of employment. There was no insur-to the farmers of Wallowa valley: PRIMARY LAW CONSTRUED.

Candidate May Run for Office on Two

Different Tickets. Salem-That one man may be candidate of both political parties has been decided by Attorney General Crawford in an opinion rendered in re-sponse to an inquiry from W. J. Moore, district attorney at Lakeview. The hypothetical case submitted was that of a candidate who, in the primaries, was on both the Republican and the Democratic tickets and received a plurality vote for the office in each instance. The ruling of the attorney general is that the office seeker thereby becomes the nominee of both parties, and his name must be so printed on the general ballot at the election in June.

The same would be true if a man were an aspirant for a Republican nomination and his name were written into the Democratic primary ballots, there-by giving him a plurality of the Demo-

Catch Salmon in Closed Season. Grants Pass-Fishermen on Rogue iver, taking lessons from the cannery en on the Columbia, are doing a big business even if the season is closed. Last year they shipped from Grants Pass and Merlin over 200 tons of fish to Portland. This year the shipments will amount to considerable more, as they are shipping more than a ton a about 20 miles from where it empties into Rogue river, is daily making big catches of fine salmon. Fishermen on Rogue river are also doing a good busi-

Fruit Cannery at La Grande.

La Grande-An Eastern syndicate. through its special agent, George T. Powers, has purchased from the Oregon Produce company the large storage warehouse No. 2. In addition to the In many cases 80 acres out of a quarter plant purchased, Mr. Powers left insection are to be found, on different structions with his agent here to select parts of the reservation, which were then thought useless. With proper attention this land may yet become as good as the land that was sold. Some No. 1, and will buy and sell, but will not take fruit on storage or consignment. It will give poss

Baker Tax Roll Ready.

Baker City-County Clerk Combs has impleted the Paker county tax roll and turned it over to Sheriff Brown. The sheriff, according to custom, will not commence collection of taxes until hows the total amount to be collected this year to be \$208,041.09, of which amount \$149,394.31 goes into the general fund, including the county, state, county schools, roads and courthouse funds. The balance is for special school taxes, the city and polls.

Elk for Harney County. Burns-J. E. Wallace has returned from the southern part of Harney county, where he went to get an elk pre-sented to the Harney County Fair asso-

ciation by the Pacific Livestock com-pany. It will be mounted and placed in the taxidermy display at the pavil-

Sheep Bring High Price. Pendleton-About 10,000 head yearling sheep have been purchased from Umatilla county stockmen within a few days by John Howard, of Dakota, the ruling price being \$3 a head. Those from whom purchases were made are A. Knotts, Charles Johnson, Douglas Belts and Charles Matthews. None of the sheep were select stock.

Inspecting the Sugar Plants La Grande-H. T. Dyer, of Ogden, Utab, general manager of the Amalgamated sugar factories, is in the city on a tour of inspection. F. G. Taylor, of valley gather up their horses to feed for the winter. Most winters the hardy Legan, Utah, accompanied Mr. Dyer and will take the place of factory superintendent at Ia Grande, succeeding Charles Woodhouse, who has resigned.

PORTLAND MARKETS.

Wheat-Club, 67; bluestem, 68@70c;

ed, 65c; valley, 71@72c. gray, \$27.50@28.50 per ton. Barley—Feed, \$23.50@24 brewing, \$24@24.50; rolled, \$24@25.

Buckwheat—\$2.25 per cental. Hay—Eastern Oregon timothy, \$13 @44 per ton; valley timothy, \$8@9; clover, \$7.50@8; cheat, \$6@7; grain

Fruits—Apples, \$1@2.50 per box; cranberries, \$12.50@14.50 per barrel. Vegetables—Cabbage, 1¾@2¼c per round; cauliflower, \$2 per crate; celery,\$4.75@5 per crate; sprouts, 6½@7c per pound; squash, 1½@1½c per pound; turnips, 90c@\$1 a sack; carrots, 65@75c per sack; beets, 85c@\$1

sack; No. 2, nominal. possible chance of an attack being made upon the foreign compounds. Picked portion to the amount contributed. In 60@70c per hundred; ordinary, nom-chinese troops have been detailed for all, \$1,944.86 was received. inal; sweet potatoes, 24@2%c per

Butter - Fancy creamery, 27 1/2 @30c Eggs-Oregon ranel, 16@17c pe

Poultry—Average old hens, 13@14c per pound; mixed chickens, 12½@13c; broilers, 20@22c; young roosters, 12½c; old roosters, 10@10½c; dressed chickens, 14@15c; turkeys, live, 16@17c; turkeys, dressed, choice 18@20c; geese, live, 8@9c; geese, dressed, 10@12c; dreks, 16@18c

12c; ducks, 16@18c.

Hops—Oregon, 1905, choice, 10@
10%c; prime, 8%@9c; medium, 7@8c; olds, 5@7c. Wool—Eastern Oregon average best, 16@21c; valley, 24@26c per pound; mohair, choice, 30c per pound.

Beef—Dressed bulls, 25@33c pound;

cows, 3%@4%c per pound; country

IRRIGATION BILLS KILLED.

No Leave of Absence or Conde tion of Private Land.

Washington, Feb. 26 .- The senat irrigation committee today adversely reported Senator Heyburn's bill per-mitting homesteaders under government irrigation projects to obtain leave of absence from their entries for six months of each year up to the time water is turned into the main canal on land to be irrigated. The Interior department opposed the bill.

The committee voted to table Senator Fulton's bill authorizing the condemnation of land in private ownership when required as part of any irrigation project. This bill was intended to permit the acquisition of the wagon road land under the Malheur project, but the committee doubts the constitu-tionalty of the bill and is furthermore deterred by the fact that the Owyhee High Line Canal company, of Boise now proposes to reclaim even more land than was embraced in the government Malheur project. If it be shown that this company means business the government will abandon the Malheur project.

BULLETS FOR CHINESE.

British Government Sends Munitions to Fleet.

China station and heavy shipments are eing made to the commander of the British fleet in Chinese waters, so that day. A set net on the Illinois river, he will be able to protect British interests should there be any serious upris-

ings.

The missionary societies also have een warned to have their followers renain in touch with the various British consulates, so that they can take refuge there, should it become necessary Commercial bodies dealing with Chinese trade believe a general uprising in China is imminent.

On the other hand, the Chinese legation here declares there is not the slightest danger of any uprising and states that the disturbances in South China have been due entirely to the efforts of certain discredited leaders to organize a revolution to take over the throne from the present emperor.

WANT EIGHT HOURS ON CANAL

Labor Leaders Ask President to Veto

deficiency bill, passed by congress, which abolishes the eight-hour work he has completed his notices and receipts, about March 1. The tax roll of President John Fitzpatrick and E. day on the Panama canal. The names N. Nockels, of the Chicago Federation of Labor, were signed to a telegram sent to Washington as follows:

"Organized labor is unanimously protesting against the urgent deficiency bill so long as it contains the provision repealing the eight-hour law part of it, and most respectfully re quests a veto.

The action of the local unions follow ed instructions from President Gompers of the American Federation of Labor. In a statement Mr. Gompers asserted that the law was intended as the beginning of an attack upon the eight-bour statute as applied to all govern-

THREATS FROM FOREIGNERS.

Causes Bad Feeling.

the explosion at the home of a mine filing the reply of Oregon. The court foreman, letters have been received by decided that the testimony shall be Superintendent Grier, of the Homestake mine, and some of the mine fore men, threatening bodily harm unless certain changes are made in the management. The governor has been asked

It is thought the letters result from an order prohibiting the employment of men who could not speak or under-stand English. It is considered that the safety of the other miners was endangered by the employment of workmen unable to understand the signals.

Philadelphia, Feb. 26. - Driven to the point of reorganizing their lines to meet the 2-cent-a-mile legislation recently adopted by the Ohio legislature and by threats of similar action in Pennsylvania, officials and representatives of many big railroads met here today and perfected plans for fighting ment that all such legislation, in response to a statement. call from James McCrea, first vice Bankers' Li esident of the Pennsylvania railroad. It is said that plans were laid, not only to carry on the fight in Ohio, but in any other state necessary.

May Show Up Witte's Tricks. Saratoff, Russia, l'eb. 26. — Matu-hensky, the absconding assistant of Father Gapon, was arrested here today. He was located by a committee of St. Petersburg workmen, but refused to deliver up the \$12,000 belonging to the which he is alleged to have embezzled.

Matushensky will be taken to St.

Petersburg for trial. The proceedings against the prisoner are expected to be sensational on account of his connection with Premier Witte, ex-Commerce Minister Timiriazeff and others.

May Postpone Meeting at Hague. Washington, Feb. 26. — Secretary oot has issued a call for a meeting in Washington this week of the American delegates to the approaching Hague ference, Messrs. Choate, Porter and Rose, for the purpose of considering the program of the conference and mak-ing the necessary arrangements for the trip. It will be impossible for the con-

Wealth Limit of \$10,000,000. Washington, Feb. 26.—Representa-tive Lloyd, of Missouri, by a resolution in the house today, proposed an amend-ment to the constitution, so as to limit MISSIONARIES SEALERS MAY SUE UNCLE SAM

Riot at Nanchang, China, Cause of the Massacre

STORIES TOLD ARE CONFLICTING

Chinese Accuse Priest of Burning Mission-Pekin Government Denies Cause for Alarm.

fused reports have reached here of a massacre of missionaries at Nanchang, province of Kiangei. As nearly as car be ascertained, six missionaries were killed and one child of an English It is alleged that after long contin

Shanghai, Feb. 27 .- Somewhat con-

ned disputes between the Catholic priests and the Chinese magistrate of Nanchang, the priests invited the magistrate to a banquet where they tried to compel him to sign an agreement for the payment of a large indem-nity for the destruction of Catholic misernment takes a rather gloomy view of the Chinese situation and is preparing for any [eventuality there. Warships are being loaded with munitions or the chinese as sert that a priest attacked and the chinese as sert that a priest attacked and the chinese as sert that a priest attacked and the chinese as sert that a priest attacked and the chinese as sert that a priest attacked and the chinese as sert that a priest attacked and the chinese as sert that a priest attacked and the chinese as sert that a priest attacked and the chinese as sert that a priest attacked and the chinese are the chinese as a chinese as The officials fearing to arrest the

priest, called a public meeting, where-upon the Catholics, according to the Chinese version of the trouble, set fire to their own premises. The public meeting of the Chinese developed into a riot, in which, according to one story, six of the Catholics were killed, though a later account says the number of Catholies killed was four.

H. C. Kingman, a Protestant mis sionary, and his wife also were killed and one of their two children was wounded, the other being rescued. The only Protestant mission buildings destroyed were those of the Plymouth Brethren.

Fourteen Americans ecsaped in boat in safety.

Minister Satow today interviewed the foreign office officials regarding the masascre. They expressed to him the deepest concern and regret, which un doubtedly was genuine, the government being particularly anxious to preserve good relations with foreigners at the Chicago, Feb. 26.—Labor organizations of this city have appealed to President Roosevelt to veto the urgent deficiency bill, passed by them to repress vigorously any signs of such a movement and to punish people who were circulating the rumors. Chinese hostility, to Catholics and other Christians has been prevalent in the province of Kiangsi lately, as in the provinces of Honon and Hupeh. five papers report that the Catholic bishop had trouble with the authorities for issuing appeals for subscriptions for the church, which were written in an official style, to which he had no right.

BOUNDARY CONTEST FILED.

Supreme Court Will Try Claim to Jurisdiction Over Columbia. Washington, Feb. 27 .- The Suprem court today granted leave to the state of Washington to file a bill of complaint against the state of Oregon in the suit brought to determine the location of states in the Columbia river, Assistant Attorney General McDonald appearing Lead, S. D., Feb. 26.—As a sequel to for Washington, and Senator Fulto

closed by August 6. Oregon will contend that her juris diction extends to a line beginning at a "point due west and opposite the to offer a reward for the apprehension the Columbia, thence easterly up the of the writers. point near Fort Walla Walla," but Washington claims jurisdiction over many islands and fishing grounds lying south of this line. Oregon will ask that the boundary be finally estab lished as described above and as defined in the act admitting Oregon to the

Four Companies Withdraw. Jefferson City, Mo., Feb. 27. - Four nsurance companies have notified W. D. Vandiver, the Missouri commis-sioner, that they would withdraw from the state March 1, when their present licenses expire, because of the requirement that they file an annual complete statement. The companies are the Bankers' Life of New York, the Mutual Reserve Life of New York, the Cos-mopolitan Life of Freeport, Ill., and the Northwestern Mutual Life of Minneapolis. Mr. Vandiver stated that this saved him the trouble of ousting them.

Castro Asks Arbitration Willemstad, Island of Curacoa, Feb at Caracas, Venezuela, that President Cestro's next move in the French ques the amount of damage done by France in permitting the filibustering steamer Ban Righ at Fort de France, Martinique, to prey upon Venezuelan commerce and transport troops during the Matos revolt. The United States' claim against Great Britain in the case of the Alabama is cited as a precedent.

trip. It will be impossible for the conference to meet before next iall at the earliest, and a further postponement is probable.

earthquake there was a tidal wave. which was of no consequence here, but the reports from the coast, including an area of 50 leagues to the south, state that 2,000 were killed. Yellow Fever on Canal

Washington, Feb. 27.—Surgeon Gen-eral Wyman, of the Public Health and private fortunes to \$10,000,000. Whenever the limit is exceeded the excess stations of the appearance of yellow shall be deemed a "public nuisance, fever at Bocas del Toro, Panama, and fever at Bocas del Toro, Panama, and the usual measures of inspection and detention will be adopted.

Bill Allowing Courts to Adjust Claims for Compensation

Washington, Feb. 23. - A favorable report was made today on Senator Fulton's bill which permits owners of sealing vessels seized for pelagic sealing in Behring sea to go into the Circuit court for the Ninth circuit to recover from the government an amount equal to the loss they sustained through the eizure of their vessels.

Years ago, when Pehring sea was held to be a closed sea, the United States claimed jurisdiction over the east half and Russia over the remainder, and sealing was prohibited. Many sealing vessels were captured by the two governments. The Supreme court subsequently held Behring sea to be an open sea and denied the jurisdiction of his government beyond the three marine leagues limit.
Following this, Britisl. sealers whose

vessels were taken by American revenue cutters sued and recovered from the United States, and owners of American ships taken by Russians recovered from that government. But this gov-ernment has never paid the claims of American sealers whose vessels were illegally seized by the American government. It is to pay these claims that the bill is pressed. In the aggre-gate it is not believed the claims will exceed \$1,000,000.

TWIXT HOPE AND FEAR.

Morocco Delegates Doubtful of Success of Conference.

Algeciras, Feb. 23 .- Although the Franco-German deadlock remains unbroken, the opinion of the delegates to the Moroccan conference fluctuates as to the results, the view today being rather more hopeful that some solution is possible. This is due largely to the German attitude that an adjustment eventually will be reached. The American delegates also continue confident, despite the French and British pessimism. Some of the delegates express the view that some conciliatory novement will be made directly from

Berlin.

At the afternoon session the conference settled a few minor points on the bank question, including the adop-tion of a gold basis.

The Italian delegates are discussing

the possibility of the appointment of a number of the conferees as arbitra-tors for the settlement of the controversial points of the French and German projects, should agreement rela-tive to the majority of the details be attained. Ambassador White persists in his

optimistic view of the ultimate result of the conference. RUSSIA WILL BRAND COWARDS.

Officers Who Surrendered Without Cause To Be Disgraced. St. Petersburg, Feb. 23. - Unprecedented regulations to purge the army of officers accused of cowardice and surrendering during the war for no reasonable cause were announced today by the military organ, the Russky Invalid. Captive officers returning from Japan will, unless they were wounded when captured, be tried before courts of unanimous decision of their fellow

officers, will be dismissed in disgrace. "Contasions," a frequent excuse for surrender, will not be accepted. The higher officers who were responsible for the surrender of their organizations must secure a vindication from a court of honor and the minister of

the emperor individually.

The troops which composed the garrison at Port Arthur are exempt from these provisions, the responsibility for the surrender of that fortress falling

upon General Stoessel.

Men Won't Let Women Talk. Washington, Feb. 23.—Discord in the congress for uniform divorce laws beame so great this afternoon that Miss Fannie Leake Cummings, the sole representative of Washington state, withdrew and left for her home. Her reason was "the men won't let the women talk." Of these offenders, she said, ministers were the worst. It was earlier in the day, while she was making a speech on the "Real Causes of Divorc-es," that C. Larue Munson, of Philadelphia, asked her to cease, because he

onsidered her remarks "nauseating." Will Not Birch His Sailors.

London, Feb. 23 .- Edmund Robert son, the new financial secretary of the commons today that punishment by birching had been suspended in the navy until further orders, and that caning would be inflicted only by order of a captain of a ship. Commanding officers have been requested to report tion will be to call upon the United at the end of the year the effect of the States to arbitrate the question of new regulations on discipline. Captain Hervery, the only active sailor in the present parliament, protested against this "grandmotherly action."

Drydock Dewey Adrift. dispatch to the Herald from Las Pal-mas, Canary islands, the drydock Dewey broke adrift three times and Two Thousand Killed.

New York, Feb. 27. — A cable dispatch to the Herald, dated Puena Ventura, Colombia, says: An earthquake occurred at 25 minutes to 11 on the morning of the 21st, lasting about seven minutes, the movement being from the north to the south. Following the earthquake there was a tidal wave.

Condemns Export Tax on Coal. London, Feb. 23. - The British export tax on coal apparently is slated for removal in the forthcoming budget of Chancellor of the Exchequer Asquith. Mr. Asquith informed a deputation today that, while he declined to make any declaration in regard to the taxa-tion until he presented the budget, he considers the coal tax vicious and un-