

BRIEF NEWS OF THE PAST WEEK

Illness of King Leopold, of Belgium, takes an alarming turn.

Two factories at Racine, Wis., burned with a loss of \$650,000.

Vessels arriving at Puget Sound ports report bad storms and many disasters.

Zelaya institutes a reign of terror in Managua, where he has 500 political prisoners in chains.

Diamonds and jewelry valued at \$300,000 were stolen from a New York apartment house.

The Union Pacific is ordering nothing but steel cars, and will soon have no wooden cars in use.

M. Bleriot, the French aviator, struck a wall and narrowly escaped death. The machine was completely wrecked.

A French aviator is en route to the United States with four mechanics, four aeroplanes and two experienced pilots.

Senor Creel, envoy from Mexico, declares his country does not approve of Zelaya's views on the Nicaraguan situation.

A Princeton observer has discovered a new comet, which he estimates is 56,000,000 miles distant, and three times as large as earth.

Four young people were drowned in the Columbia by the overturning of a launch. Three were saved after clinging to the boat all night.

Representative Mann says any amendment would help the anti-trust law.

An Ohio man, with his three daughters and his brother, were drowned while skating.

Welsh voters in parliament kicked a fury out of meeting and openly "joshed" the lords.

Reinforcements have been ordered to Bluefields, Nicaragua, as Zelaya's troops menace the city.

General Greeley has resigned from the New York Explorers' club on account of the Cook-Peray controversy.

A railroad company has incorporated for \$10,000,000 to build a road from Portland to Phoenix, Arizona.

Three men were burned to death and a fourth narrowly escaped when a vat of boiling tar burst and took fire.

The Spokane branch of the American mining congress has declared itself opposed to Ballinger's conservation policy.

Phineas Bachelor, said to have been the oldest Odd Fellow living, is dead at the age of 98. He was an Odd Fellow over 50 years.

Dunkle, who with Captain Loose, "observations," has been discharged by the Travelers' Insurance company.

Investigation by a committee at Hood River fails to show any record of the expenditure of \$50,000 appropriated for improvement of the Columbia River in 1878.

Mexico will help to settle the Nicaragua trouble.

Coldest weather for years holds the entire southwest in icy grip.

Nonunion men were dynamited and beaten by strikers in the Pittsburgh steel works.

General Vasquez, commanding Zelaya's army, has been routed by Nicaragua rebels.

Secretary MacVeagh says the Payne bill is a step in the downward revision of the tariff.

President Taft spoke in favor of the bonding scheme before the River and Harbor congress.

The national monetary commission finds \$237 per capita of resources in hands of the United States.

REIGN OF TERROR.

Zelaya Said to Have 500 Political Prisoners in Chains.

Bluefields, Nicaragua, Dec. 14.—It is learned from an authoritative source that a reign of terror is being maintained in Managua, and that not less than 500 persons identified with politics are in chains in the prisons. A Catholic society has been ordered to cease sending supplies to the prisoners, who may starve to death, as they are allowed only 2 cents a day for food.

Corporal punishment is meted out daily to various alleged offenders. Zelaya, to create an impression that the sentiment of the people of Managua is hostile towards America and Americans, recently ordered Amador Estrada, a prominent liberal and a brother of the revolutionist chief, to organize a demonstration against the United States. This he refused to do.

It is understood that Dr. Julian Irias, minister general, has been making attempts to start an uprising in his favor as Zelaya's successor, but whether with Zelaya's consent is not known. It is reported also that Irias' house has been surrounded by soldiers. Further an authoritative dispatch states that 500 of Zelaya's forces have been entrenched to prevent American marines from passing over the bridges into Corinto.

Since last Thursday, when General Estrada became certain that General Vasquez, in command of a portion of Zelaya's troops, was attempting to make a detour of Rama to seize an unguarded river point and descend upon Bluefields, forces of the provisional government have been acting with great energy. Rama has been occupied, and less important river landings have been strongly guarded. All available boats have been held in reserve to rush reinforcements to any point that may be threatened.

General Chamorro and 250 men arrived today to assist in guarding the entire 60 miles of the Escondido river, from Rama to Bluefields. General Chamorro left 300 men guarding the land passage between Bluefields and Greytown.

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Following is a summary of the main points of President Taft's message to the sixty-first congress, which convened Tuesday, Dec. 7, 1909.

To the Senate and the House of Representatives: The relations of the United States with all foreign governments have continued upon the normal basis of amity and mutual respect, and with most generally satisfactory results.

Pursuant to the provisions of the general treaty of arbitration concluded between the United States and Great Britain in 1908, a special agreement was entered into between the two countries on January 11, 1909, whereby the North Atlantic Ocean is to be the scene of the North Atlantic Ocean to a tribunal composed of members of the permanent court of arbitration at The Hague, and the United States and Great Britain have agreed to submit to the tribunal the question of the right of navigation in the North Atlantic Ocean.

The question arising out of the Belgian annexation of the independent state of Congo, which has so long and earnestly engaged the attention of the United States Government, was the subject of a special agreement between the United States and Belgium, whereby the United States and Belgium have agreed to submit to the tribunal the question of the right of navigation in the North Atlantic Ocean.

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Many years ago diplomatic intervention became necessary to protect the interests of American claimants of Alsop & Co. against the government of Cuba. The government of Cuba has frequently admitted obligation in the case and had promised to pay the same and had promised to pay the same and had promised to pay the same.

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NEWS NOTES GATHERED FROM VARIOUS PARTS OF OREGON

TO BUILD TO GOOSE LAKE. DEVELOP CENTRAL OREGON.

Ten Million Dollar Corporation Files Articles at Salem.

Salom—A \$10,000,000 corporation has been organized in Arizona to build the Portland, Lakeview & Eastern railway from Portland through Multnomah, Clackamas, Marion, Linn, Crook, Klamath and Lake counties to Lakeview, or some point on Goose lake.

Also it is proposed to build a branch from the lower bridge on the Deschutes river, in Crook county, through Crook, Wheeler and Grant counties, along the John Day river to a point near Canyon City, and another branch from near Prineville through Crook and Harney counties to a point near Harney lake.

The total mileage in Oregon is expected to be about 500. The incorporators named in the articles filed in the office of the secretary of state are William S. Dexter, Charles S. Elgutter, Edward S. Robinson, James Burns and Sidney R. Rheinstrom, all of Omaha.

Roseburg Citizen Sues S. P. Roseburg—T. J. Williams, of Roseburg, has filed a suit in the circuit court against the Southern Pacific company for \$5006.90, for being forcibly ejected from a passenger train at Oregon City while en route from Portland to Wilbur, December 14, 1908. In the complaint Williams says that the articles filed in the office of the secretary of state for the railroad company from Portland to Wilbur, where he then lived, but that the conductor of the train refused to honor the pass or accept cash fare, and violently abused and maliciously injured him, and finally forcibly ejected him from the train.

Prosperity Prevails at Vale. Vale—The work on the Brogan rail road has all the spare teams in the country at work and 400 more are wanted. A light fall of snow occurred Saturday night, but it will not delay the work. S. A. Jameson, who has 320 acres of land up Willow creek, is getting the ground ready