

## DOINGS OF THE WEEK

Current Events of Interest Gathered From the World at Large.

General Resume of Important Events Presented in Condensed Form for Our Busy Readers.

Mayor Gaynor of New York City is improving rapidly.

The steamer F. A. Kilburn was destroyed by fire at her dock in San Francisco.

Thirty-three soldiers were prostrated by heat during practice marches in Kansas.

Steady rains are falling in Chehalis county, Wash., extinguishing the forest fires there.

Wallace, Idaho, is reported to have had a population of exactly 3,000 when the census was taken in April.

F. August Heinze, one of the wealthiest mining men of this country, will be married September 1 to an actress.

The British cruiser Bedford went ashore on the Korean coast and will be a total loss. Eighteen men were drowned.

Senator Warner, of Missouri, announces that on account of old age he will not again be a candidate for reelection. He is 71 years old.

A national bank of Spokane, Wash., is issuing bank notes which are supposed to be antiseptic. They are signed with ink composed largely of carbolic acid.

Oakland, Cal., gave rousing welcome to the first railroad train to reach that city over the new Western Pacific, which is a direct trans-continental ocean-to-ocean line.

Two lads fishing from a skiff at Newport, Ore., were caught by a strong ebb tide and were being carried out to sea when they were rescued by the life-saving crew.

It is said the coming political campaign will be one of the bitterest on record in many of the political centers, as many old politicians will be making a fight for their political lives.

Two desperadoes attempted to capture a steamer just outside San Francisco. They killed the captain, but after a desperate fight with the crew one of them leaped overboard and the other was captured.

President Taft and ex-President Roosevelt are again fellow-workers in the same political field. The threat that they might pull apart has been foredoomed by a full explanation on one side and an unreserved acceptance on the other.

Political graft hunters in New York have failed to find any graft.

A plot has been discovered to overthrow the Portuguese government.

Madrid has fled from Managua, Nicaragua. Estrada's forces are approaching the city.

A Pennsylvania man sent out 5,000 sermons on gossip to critics of his matrimonial affairs.

Japan has completed the annexation of Korea, but the Korean people have been kept in ignorance of the move.

A shepherd was found dying of rabies on an Eastern Washington range, where he had been bitten by a coyote.

It is rumored that Miss Catherine Elkins, who is to wed the Duke of Abruzzi, will eventually be queen of Greece.

Troops have been rushed to Crater Lake forest reserve to fight fires. Men are falling exhausted from exertion and heat.

The Duke Franz Josef, of Bavaria, visiting at Newport, R. I., was badly shaken up in an auto collision with a car driven by Vincent Astor.

The latest census gives the population of Canada as 7,489,781.

A Pennsylvania boy died from lock-jaw resulting from a bee sting.

Whitman made a trip from New York to San Francisco by auto in 10 1/2 days.

Canada objects to the American campaign to induce settlers to leave the dominion.

The ruling regent of China has secretly ordered all anti-foreign agitation suppressed.

A party of Mazamas have discovered ten glaciers on the slope of the Three Sisters mountains.

The Danish Arctic expedition which sailed in June, 1909, has been wrecked on the coast of Greenland.

California insurgents have elected nine-tenths of the convention delegates and will control both houses of the legislature.

An aeroplane, trying for an altitude record, saw a balloonist in trouble and hovered near him till he was safely landed.

Reports of a breach between Roosevelt and Taft are discredited at Beverly and little credence is given them elsewhere.

Canada has purchased from England the cruiser Rainbow, to form the nucleus of the Canadian navy. England also lends her colony a number of naval instructors.

A number of innovations are being introduced in the Chinese government by American-educated officials.

Another car shortage seems inevitable.

An Ottawa, Ont., scientist turns cop to iron.

Truck farming in Alaska is said to be a lucrative business.

Japan has 500,000 sufferers on account of the recent floods.

Cholera is raging in Russia, and children left orphans are starving.

## FOREST FIRES GRIP TOWN OF WALLACE

Fifty are reported dead in and around Wallace, Idaho, where the property loss is \$1,000,000. The fire has not enlarged on the area burned Saturday night.

Mullan is probably safe but fires threaten.

Elk City is reported still unburned.

Four or more are dead in fires near Newport, Wash. One hundred and eighty men in the forestry service are surrounded in the St. Joe country.

Taft and St. Regis, Mont., have been burned. Salt Lake is surrounded by fire. Deborgia is seriously threatened. Haughan, Mont., is reported destroyed.

There is a solid line of fire from Thompson Falls, Mont., for 50 miles to the Idaho line, with portions of Belknap, White Pine, Hoxon and Heron burning.

Confignations rage in the Gallatin forest, Montana. Thompson Falls is in peril.

Ymir, B. C., is in danger from fires which are burning in the bush. Other fires are gaining headway in that region and the situation is serious.

Avery, Idaho, is destroyed, the people fleeing to Tekoa.

### MANY BUILDINGS BURNED.

Women and Children Flee on Trains—Skeletons Found.

Missoula, Mont.—The forest fire situation on both sides of the Idaho-Montana line is more serious than at any time this season.

Flames are sweeping over an increasing area, destroying small settlements and wiping out of existence millions of dollars' worth of property.

The loss of life will be large. It grows hourly, and the number of injured is constantly increasing. In and around Wallace it is estimated here the death list is at least 50.

In addition to at least 25 otherwise hurt, it is said that ten persons have been made blind.

Indications in Wallace, however, are that nearly half of the city will be saved. Communications with Wallace to the west has been possible at intervals, but eastward it is entirely cut off and it is known that the entire east end of the town, above Seventh street, has been burned. West of that a hard fight is being made and with improvement in the water supply there is more chance that the flames may be driven back.

In Wallace the dead include: John Boyd, pioneer of the district and for 16 years general agent of the Northern Pacific railroad here, suffocated in his home in Pearl street while trying to rescue the family parrot.

Two unknown, whose skeletons were found in the ruins of the Michigan house.

Unknown man, burned to death in the Cour d'Alene house.

Backfiring, in which the members of the city fire department, a company of the Twenty-fifth infantry and many volunteers joined, prevented new fires west and south.

The loss to the city is estimated at close to \$1,000,000. Some of the principal losers are:

Cour d'Alene Hardware company, warehouse and stock, \$150,000.

Sumner brewery, \$80,000.

Providence hospital and the big mills of the Federal Mining company were the only buildings in the East End that were saved.

Forest Supervisor George W. Weil reports that the region between Wallace and the St. John river is swept practically clean, with enormous losses.

Fires between Burke and Mullan threaten both towns and many women and children have been sent out.

At War Eagle tunnel six were found dead and two badly burned. Five of the dead were in the tunnel, where they had sought refuge. They lay face down in water, covered with wet rags and blankets.

Some had died from the fire and some from suffocation by smoke. The injured were taken to Providence hospital in Wallace.

Twelve dead were recovered at Big Creek. There were three injured and three others were completely blinded.

One fire fighter was found dead near Mullan and 16 are injured at that place. There are at Pine Creek three dead, five blinded and five others injured.

Blue Mountains All Ablaze.

Dayton, Wash.—A dense pall of smoke hangs over Southeastern Washington obscuring the Blue mountains and indicating that devastating fires are again raging in the Wenatchee reserve on the Oregon side, 30 miles east of here. Judging from the density of the smoke, the fires now burning are the most appalling this summer. Meager details received from the burned district tell of the location, which is in the heavy pine and fir timber near the headwaters of the Asotin river near Teal's camp.

Breathing Hard Difficult.

Klamath Falls, Ore.—Smoke is so dense in the Clover Creek district that breathing is difficult. The heat during the day is terrific, and at night the lurid flames may be seen shooting 150 feet above the horizon.

The fire is leaving only an ashen waste behind. The crashing of the blazing trees as they fall every few minutes makes a noise that baffles description. The rising wind is sweeping the flames up the mountain and they are also heading for Jennie creek.

Farmhouses Destroyed.

Grants Pass, Ore.—Fire that originated along the Murphy road and burned into Fruitdale, three miles south of town, is still raging in the upper part of the valley and threatening the Breitwayer home. Residents of that district are exhausted from work. A patrol from town has assisted, but the fire is running in dry grass and underbrush. So intense was the heat on the county road that it was impassable. Several hundred trees have been burned.

## INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT OF THE STATE

### PRUNE CROP GOOD.

Salem Man Makes Encouraging Report After Tour.

Salem—After traveling 1000 miles by automobile and visiting every prune district in Oregon, W. C. Tillson, of this city, returns with the opinion that the prune acreage in the state could be doubled with no danger of overstocking the market. In addition, he declares that the difference in price between Oregon and California prunes is gradually being overcome.

"At present," he said, "California prunes command about half a cent higher than Oregon prunes, but this condition is wrong. The time is not far distant when the basis for Oregon prunes will be the same as the basis for California prunes in this state are coming into their own."

"The prune crop the state over is badly damaged by the long continued wet, dry weather, and the trees are shedding. Consequently there will be a lessened output, which will be in many sections a material one, if the dry weather continues. The sizes, as a rule, will also be smaller."

"A splendid lesson to prune growers is found in the conditions this year, where the prunes have been carefully cultivated the crop is much more satisfactory, and where the orchards have been neglected the trees are shedding practically all of their fruit. This emphasizes the fact that prune-growing cannot be carried on successfully without the most careful care and cultivation."

"In addition, the orchards that are not cultivated show that a large percentage of the trees are dying, while on the other hand, in the well-cultivated orchards the foliage is green and the trees are healthy and thrifty. In these orchards the result of effort is entirely satisfactory to the grower. People who will not cultivate their orchards would much better quit the business."

"The prune industry, I find is now well established, and no branch of the horticultural industry is better paid. The market is widening and the product is stable, the sale being nearly as sure as that of any green fruit crop. Unlike the green fruit, which must be shipped at certain seasons or it is lost, prunes can be carried over any reasonable length of time and shipped to any part of the world without freezing or decay."

"I found in many portions of Oregon that apples, pears and kindred fruits are having an increasing acreage. These are grown in all sections of the world, but the area suitable for the growing of prunes is limited. It is possible to overstock the market with the other class of fruit, but not so with prunes."

### Mosier Raises Big Fund.

Mosier—That every landowner, business man and wage-earner of the Mosier valley pay at least \$1 a month to the Mosier Commercial Club advertising fund was the sense of a big booster meeting at Mosier recently. The boosters present backed up their dictum by subscribing the dollar apiece, \$2400 being raised as the nucleus of an advertising fund. The boosters are going out into town and country and raise the balance. Many individual subscriptions as high as \$10 were offered.

The meeting was a great demonstration of confidence in the Mosier district as one of the leading fruit districts of the coast. It was held under the auspices of the Portland Commercial Club, with C. C. Chapman present as the principal speaker.

### Big Mill Sold.

Portland—Henry Gerlich, son of a Minnesota lumber and timber operator, closed a deal for the purchase of the Jerome Smith sawmill, located near Lebanon, Ore., and 15,000,000 feet of standing timber adjacent to the mill. The consideration involved was \$20,000. Mr. Gerlich will extend a spur from the Southern Pacific line and convert the mill, which has heretofore cut for the sawboard market, into a shipping proposition.

H. M. Leffert sold to Clifford F. Reid, of the Northwest Trust Company, a house and lot located at Fifteenth and College streets, Portland Heights, for \$8000.

### Condenser Plans Move.

Forest Grove—The Pacific Coast Condensed Milk Company, which operates condensers here and at Hillsboro, has its eyes on the Tillamook country. P. G. Kinzer, manager of the local plant, has recently returned from Tillamook, having gone there with a view of establishing a condensed milk factory. The factory, it is said, would employ some 150 employees, both as condenser hands and haulers of milk.

The Tillamook plant would mean the closing down of either the Forest Grove or the Hillsboro plant.

### Teachers Are Examined.

Pendleton—Umatilla County teachers—real and prospective—are gathered in Pendleton this week to undergo the ordeal of the regular August examinations. Of this number but two are men. There are two married women and one widow. Most of the rest are young girls, under 25 years. The number taking the examinations at this time is comparatively small, but it is understood that many manuscripts are to be sent in from other counties, to be graded by the board.

### Redmond Crops Promising.

Redmond, Or.—Extreme warm weather has prevailed in this section for the last month, with no rain since July 4. It has been the best growing weather for all kinds of grain and hay crops, and the ranchers are getting a good yield from their hay fields. Some of them have cut their second crop of alfalfa, and it has gone fully as good as the first cutting, and the third cutting promises to equal the other crops. All kinds of grain is coming along nicely, and the fruit crop is looking exceedingly well, and a large yield is promised.

### Clatsop Needs Rain.

Astoria—Clatsop County is now experiencing the most dry season ever known, no rain having fallen for nearly six weeks. The grazing land, as well as late crops, is showing the effects of the drought. Unless rain comes soon the dairy industries will certainly suffer. At or near Warrenton, the dikes are being opened for the purpose of irrigation, and extraordinary efforts are being put forth to save the pasture lands.

### EAST TO WEST COUNTRY ROAD.

Will Enable Eastern Stockmen to Drive Cattle to Portland.

Portland—The highway to connect Eastern and Western Oregon, enabling stockmen to drive cattle into Portland, is being constructed. This announcement made by County Commissioner Goldard, was by far the most important outcome of the Oregon Good Roads Association meeting held in the Commercial Club. County Judge Cleeton supplemented the announcement by declaring that the work would be pushed forward as rapidly by himself and Commissioner Goldard as the county road building funds would permit.

Judge Webster asked that the people intelligently grasp the importance of good roads to the general prosperity, and asserted his belief in adopting the constitutional amendment which enables counties to pledge their credit in return for modern highways if they so desire. That, he said, was the keystone of all good roads plans. Judge Webster then proceeded to outline a plan for giving state wide publicity to the movement, which met with general approval.

County Judge Cleeton, during a brief address, declared:

"Our road building laws are wretched, but before we can have roads we must have a building department. The disposition of myself and Commissioner Goldard is to create in Multnomah County road building sentiment and assist in spreading good roads sentiment all over the state."

Free Road Across Reservation.

Pendleton—After several years' fight the stockmen of Umatilla County, assisted by the county court and the business men of this community, have secured free roads across the Umatilla Indian reservation, according to an order just received by Major Swartzlander, the local agent, from the department of Indian affairs at Washington. The order specifies that the roads shall be taken over by the county court, maintained as county roads, and that the stockmen shall give bonds not to consume more than a certain length of time in driving their stock across the reservation, and to be held responsible for any damage inflicted by their stock.

Two small lumber mills were consumed already expressed a willingness to comply with these demands, the roads are assured.

### Model Dairy at Langlois.

Langlois—One of the biggest dairy projects in this section of the coast is being conducted by Caterlin Bros., from Tillamook County, who have taken a ten-year lease on the Star ranch, in Curry County, near Langlois. W. E. Caterlin, and one of his sons, who was formerly deputy dairy and food commissioner for Western Oregon, and is an expert dairymen. The ranch consists of 1,000 acres of fine land, and it is the intention to milk not less than 200 head of cows. The large tract will be divided up into a number of different places of equal size. A large cheese factory will be erected.

### Artesian Flow at North Powder.

North Powder—Toy Young has brought in another artesian well. At a depth of 225 feet the drill struck a large flow of water. In the morning the water was about 100 feet below the surface and was running over the casing, and after drilling a few feet it poured out in abundance. A piece of six-inch casing 10 feet long was attached to the casing, which was driven in the well over the top of which the water flowed freely. This well is fully as strong as that of Henry Pearson, which has been considered the best artesian well in North Powder.

### 50 Men Fight Fires in Southern Oregon.

Medford—More than 50 men are fighting the forest fires in the mountains a few miles south of this city. Property loss is estimated at not less than \$100,000, the largest portion of the loss being in the Ashland-Manufacturing Company, as the fire is in the timber of this company. The fires started a few days ago from a neglected camp fire, and spread rapidly. Two small lumber mills were consumed and one or two homesteaders saved their property.

### Pear Crop Is Heavy.

Hood River—The Hood River Apple Growers' Union and the Davidson Fruit Company are packing Bartlett pears for New York shipment. The Hood River pear crop is very heavy this year, and the growers are securing \$40 per ton for the stock.

### PORTLAND MARKETS.

Wheat—Bluestem, 96¢95¢; club, 86¢85¢; red Russian, 84¢85¢; valley, 92¢90¢; forty-fold, 87¢88¢; Turkey red, 90¢. Barley—Feed and brewing, \$24.50 a bushel.

Hay—Track prices: Timothy, Willamette Valley, \$18@19 per ton; Eastern Oregon, \$20@21; alfalfa, new, \$13@14; grain hay, \$13@14.

Corn—Whole, 42¢; cracked, 43¢ per ton. Millstuffs—Bran, \$20 per ton; middlings, 30¢; shorts, \$21@22; rolled barley, \$25@26.

Green Fruits—Apples, new, 50¢@51.50 per box; apricots, 75¢@1; plums, 75¢@1; pears, \$1.25@1.50; peaches, 40¢@75¢; grapes, 75¢@1.25; blackberries, \$1.50@1.75 per crate; loganberries, \$1.25@1.50. Melons—Watermelons, \$1@1.25 per hundred; cantaloupes, \$1.50@3.00 per crate.

Vegetables—Beans, 3¢@5¢ per pound; cabbage, 2¢@3¢; cauliflower, \$1.50 per dozen; celery, 9¢; corn, 25¢; cucumbers, 25¢@40¢ per box; eggplant, 6¢@8¢ per pound; garlic, 8¢@10¢; green onions, 15¢ per dozen; peppers, 50¢ per box; radishes, 15¢@20¢ per dozen; squash, 40¢ per crate; tomatoes, 30¢@40¢ per box; carrots, \$1@1.25 per sack; beets, \$1.50; parsnips, \$1@1.25; turnips, \$1.

Potatoes—New, \$1.25@1.40 per hundred; sweet potatoes, 4¢ per pound. Wool—Eastern Oregon, 13¢@17¢ per pound; valley, 18¢@20¢ per pound. Mohair—Choice, 32¢@33¢.

Casaca Bark—45¢ per pound.

### PARKER DENOUNCES COOK.

Photographs Believed to Be Those of Smaller Peaks Nearby.

Seward, Alaska—The Parker-Browne Mount McKinley expedition passed through Seward, sailing on the steamship Portland for Seattle. The party was unsuccessful in its efforts to scale the peak. Members of the expedition assert that they have conclusive evidence that Dr. Cook did not reach the summit.

The members of the Parker-Browne party corroborate the statements made by C. E. Rusk, who recently led an unsuccessful expedition, that the peak climbed by Dr. Cook and used in his photographs as Mount McKinley is a smaller peak, easy of access and 10 miles away from the real summit.

Professor Herschel Parker, who is at the head of the expedition that just returned, took photographs of the lower peak. He says these will prove that Dr. Cook's statement that he climbed Mount McKinley is not true.

Professor Parker places no credence in the statement made by Tom Lloyd, of Fairbanks, and his associates that they climbed the mountain from the Fairbanks side.

Those in the party which returned are: Professor Herschel Parker, of Columbia University; Belmont Browne, of Tacoma; Professor J. H. Cook, of Stevens Institute, Hoboken, N. J.; Herman L. Tucker, of Newton, Mass.; Waldemar Grassie, of Columbia University, and Merle Leroy, an Alaskan packer.

### ACCUSED MEN PROMINENT.

System of Graft Makes Political Crooked Work Look Pale.

Chicago—The first blow in the \$5,000,000 Illinois Central graft scandal has fallen, and three officials of the road were landed in jail, although but for a few minutes. It was a full confession from an official of the Blue Island Car & Equipment company, declared to involve not only these, but numerous other of the road's former officials, that finally resulted in the arrests.

The men arrested were: Frank H. Harriman, former general manager of the Illinois Central, released on bond of \$40,000; John M. Taylor, former general storekeeper at Burnside, released on bond of \$40,000; Charles L. Ewing, former general superintendent of the Illinois Central lines north of the Ohio river.

In each case the prisoner was charged with conspiracy to commit an illegal act and obtaining money by means of a confidence game. In each instance the prisoner stoutly maintained his innocence and declared that if a conspiracy existed it was on the part of the road to prosecute them. The warrants were sworn to by President Harahan, of the railroad concerned.

### OFFICIALS HAMPER STATE FOOD FIGHT

Washington—Asserting that he had been hampered in every possible way in his efforts to uphold the laws of his state against the sale of food containing benzoate of soda and announcing that he would appeal to President Taft, Attorney General Bingham, of Indiana, denounced the department of agriculture officials.

The scoring occurred in the hearing held here in connection with the case of Williams Brothers and others against the board of health of Indiana. Dr. Harvey W. Wiley, chief of the bureau of chemistry, and a sworn enemy of benzoate of soda as a food preservative, was under cross-examination at the time.

### Scramble for Plates On.

Chicago—Although invitations to the Hamilton club banquet to Theodore Roosevelt on September 8 have been out only 24 hours and plates are quoted at \$7.50 each, 400 reservations have been made and the entertainment committee began figuring on larger quarters for the event, as the present quarters accommodate only 675 guests.

It was before the Hamilton club that the "strenuous life" was launched and the "big stick" became a symbol of the Roosevelt policies.

### Green River Hotel Burns.

Seattle—Flames spreading from forest fires have totally destroyed the Green River Hot Springs hotel and plant, causing a loss estimated at \$35,000, with insurance of approximately \$10,000. Forest fires have been raging in the valley of Green River for several days. Green River Hot Springs until last Monday had been under the proprietorship of Dr. J. S. Klobner. On that day he turned over the plant to North Yakima interests for a consideration of \$145,000. No lives were lost.

### Iowa Mayor is Ousted.

Des Moines, Ia.—Judge W. E. Wilcockson, at Sigourney, handed down an opinion ousting Thomas J. Phillips as mayor of Ottumwa, Ia. At the trial of the mayor, held recently at Ottumwa, it was charged by Attorney General Cession, who prosecuted the hearing, that Mayor Phillips was guilty of wilful neglect of duty in permitting resorts and the gambling houses to run, and also that the mayor was intoxicated on April 30.

### Castro Family is Ousted.

Washington—The entire Castro family, apparently, has been ousted from Venezuela. A dispatch from the State department from the American legation at Caracas states that 36 relatives of ex-President Castro have been expelled from Venezuela and sailed for Porto Rico.

### Detroit Census 465,766.

Washington—The population of Detroit, Mich., is 465,766, an increase of 180,062 or 63 per cent, as compared with 285,704 in 1900.

## FLIES OVER CHANNEL

Feat Performed By Daring Young Chicago Architect

Pilot Was Ignorant of Geography of Course—Trip Made in Thirty-Seven Minutes.

Deal, England—It has been reserved for an American citizen to perform one of the most daring feats in the history of aviation.

John H. Moissant, of Chicago, flew across the English Channel from Calais to Tilmanstone Wednesday with a passenger, and by this achievement far surpasses the feats of Blériot, DeLecamps and the English aviator, Rolls, who afterward met his death at Bourne-mouth.

The two-man flight from France to England was the most astonishing in that it was only a month ago that Moissant learned to fly, and was so little known among the air men that not even his nationality was disclosed. He was reputed to be a Spaniard, and it was only when he landed in England that it was revealed that he is a young Chicago architect.

To make the feat still more surprising, Moissant was totally ignorant of the geography of his course. He had never been in England and was obliged to rely entirely on the compass while crossing the channel in the teeth of a strong easterly wind.

The channel flight was an incident in the aerial voyage from Paris to London. Moissant left Paris Tuesday with Hubert Latham and reached Amiens in two hours. Latham's aeroplane was wrecked, and Moissant, leaving Amiens at an early hour, headed for Calais. His mechanic, Albert Fleux, who had accompanied him across the country, took his place in the machine when the motor had been set in motion for the dash across the channel.

Thousands who had gathered to watch the daring aviator were amazed and urged him not to make the attempt in the face of the half gale that was blowing.

Moissant cared nothing for the warnings of the people, and even the fact that there was no torpedo boat to follow in his wake, but only a slow-moving tug, did not deter him. He made the trip in 37 minutes. When he descended his eyes were bloodshot and greatly inflamed as a result of the heavy rain storm into which he dove on approaching the English coast.

The high wind beat the rain into the faces of the men like hail, and almost blinded them. An average height of between 300 and 400 feet was maintained over the water. The wind was intense, and both Moissant and his mechanic were benumbed. When he revived sufficiently he laughed and said to an interviewer:

"This is my first visit to England. This is only my sixth flight in an aeroplane. I did not know the way from Paris to Calais when I started, and I do not know the way to London. I shall have to rely on the compass. I would like to land in Hyde Park if I can find it."

### EXPRESS COMPANIES TO AID.

New Railroad Rate Law Becomes Effective.

Washington—The new railroad law has become effective. Immediately upon the passage of the act 60 days ago, sections of the law relating to the suspension of rates went into effect. Since that time the interstate commerce commission has been operating under the law.

In a conference held by the commission with the representatives of the telephone and telegraph companies, the companies expressed a desire to do all in their power to facilitate the work of the commission. Hereafter the telephone and telegraph companies must file reports with the commission concerning their business, just as railroads do now.

The officers were also informed that no franks could be legally used, except as governed by the pass provision of the Hepburn act, which is comprehensively exclusive.

### Vatican Makes Denials.

Rome—The Vatican is kept busy issuing denials of statements given out by Premier Canalejas and his supporters with reference to the controversy between the church and state. These denials