

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.

Helena has voted to own her own water plant.

The use of tobacco in any form is being driven from the university at Lincoln, Neb.

The Canadian government has agreed to place a lifeboat service on the southern portion of Vancouver island coast, the marine graveyard.

The Alabama Great Southern railroad has given an increase of 5 per cent in wages to all its employes receiving less than \$200 per month.

In the interstate Commerce hearing at Salt Lake a witness declared the Union Pacific railroad prevented opposition from acquiring coal lands by the use of dynamite.

Dr. D. P. Barrows, director of education in the Philippines, says the islands are in good condition generally speaking. There is no market for sugar and tobacco.

The Japanese government said to understand the recent school situation in San Francisco. While she may punish the Bay City a bit, nothing more will come of the affair.

An international committee has been appointed in China to secure relief for the hungry. An appeal will be made to Europe and America. Ten thousand people are on the point of starvation.

President Roosevelt and party has landed on United States territory.

Booker T. Washington, leader of the colored race, says Andrew Carnegie wears shoes made in a negro industrial school.

The United States government has been asked to furnish protection to the leader of the street car strike now on at Hamilton, Ont.

The president, vice president and counsel of the Mutual Reserve Life Insurance company are on trial in New York on a charge of grand larceny.

While holding up passengers on a Chicago & Alton passenger train near Kansas City a hold robber was captured by the conductor and later turned over to the police.

Advices have just been received of a disastrous tidal wave which followed an earthquake at German New Guinea. Many natives were drowned and the property loss is enormous.

Mrs. Stilwell, head of the Salvation Army rescue work in Chicago, believes the best way to cure vice in that city would be to take pictures of the frequenters of notorious places and publish them in the newspapers.

The American Insurance company has been barred from doing further business in Massachusetts and the justice of the State Supreme court says companies must show that they can protect before they will be allowed to continue writing policies.

A large section of the crater of Vesuvius has caved in.

France has ordered a squadron of warships to Tangier, Morocco.

Justice Gaynor, of New York, advocates imprisonment for relating.

Russia and Japan have disagreed over their fisheries and talk of war.

A plot has been unearthed in Serbia, which was intended to unseat King Peter.

Spain denies that a secret treaty has been entered into with France regarding Morocco.

The recent session of the Trans-Mississippi congress at Kansas City was the best yet held.

A street car strike at Hamilton, Ont., caused serious riots and troops had to be called out to restore order.

A discharged Cuban chief of police has taken to the field with a band of followers. Rural guards are pursuing.

It is said that Sir Henry Campbell-Bannerman will resign as premier of the British cabinet and take a place in the house of lords.

Hungary has decided to close all the Cunard steamship agencies in that country, as they encourage emigration, which is not wanted.

China threatens a boycott on Japan.

Harriman is reaching after all public utilities in Chicago.

Peary has arrived at Sydney, N. S., on the steamer Roosevelt.

San Francisco is going ahead with plans for a world's fair in 1913.

It is said Platt and Depew will return to the senate, defying public opinion.

The king of Greece while in Rome was slighted by the other Balkan states.

Mayor Schmitz, of San Francisco, declares the indictment against him is the result of politics.

A prairie fire in Western Texas has caused the loss of several lives and great damage to farm property.

COAL TRAIN HELD UP.

Mob of Law-Abiding Citizens Take Measures to Relieve Famine.

Ontario, Or., Nov. 28.—The coal famine was temporarily relieved here by a mob of about 250 men, among them some of the best citizens and business men of the town, who held up a west bound freight train on the Oregon Short Line, containing 35 cars of Rock Springs coal consigned to the O. R. & N., and demanding that four cars be sidetracked. The train was a through train and was flagged by members of the hold-up party. The officials of the company were notified by wire that the train could not leave until the request was complied with. They in turn telegraphed the train crew and station agent to consign four of the cars to J. H. Farley, a local coal dealer. The four cars were sidetracked at Farley's coal bunkers and the train proceeded to Payette, Idaho, the next station, where it is reported a similar hold-up occurred. There was not a ton of coal in town at the time the hold-up occurred here. The train was stopped at Nyssa, Ore., 12 miles east of here, the previous evening and two cars were taken from the train. There had not been a car of coal shipped to Nyssa since last May. The mobs at each town were orderly and well behaved, but determined.

SUGAR TRUST FINED.

Rebates Received From New York Central Prove Expensive.

New York, Nov. 28.—The American Sugar Refining company was fined \$18,000 today for accepting rebates from the New York Central. The railroad was fined the same amount last week for giving rebates to the company.

The claims for a rebate of 5 cents a hundred pounds on all sugar shipments to Detroit were made out in the office of Lowell M. Palmer, traffic manager of the trust. They were sent to the Buffalo office of the Fast Freight lines operating over the Vanderbilt roads. They were not paid openly by check. The cashier of the Buffalo office would go to the bank of Buffalo and buy a draft on the Chemical National bank of New York. This draft, which on its face bore no mark of the railway corporation or any of its officials, was mailed to Palmer, who deposited it to the credit of one of the sugar trust accounts.

THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE.

Will Touch Every Phase of the Panama Canal Question.

Washington, Nov. 28.—President Roosevelt, bronzed and invigorated in health from his long sea trip to Panama and Porto Rico, was in his office early today. Secretary Loeb took to him a large amount of correspondence, which had accumulated since the president's departure, and was with him until the time of the cabinet meeting, at 11 o'clock.

The president's special message on the Panama canal, it is now said, will be sent to congress probably about a week after it convenes on Monday. It will deal with every phase of the question and give a graphic and detailed description of conditions on the isthmus as the president found them. There will be recommendations for the betterment of conditions, which suggested themselves during his visit.

DOUBLE-DECK BRIDGE.

Disgraceful Scenes at Rush Hours Call for Relief.

New York, Nov. 28.—The daily crush of the Brooklyn bridge is receiving the earnest attention of Mayor McClellan and other city officials. At a conference yesterday important plans for temporary and permanent relief were discussed. Longer trains and increased headway, it is expected, will bring temporary relief.

Plans for permanent relief include an almost entire rebuilding of the bridge. Double decking will probably be resorted to in order to make room for additional lines of railroad tracks. The engineers have informed the mayor that the stress on the anchor bars is only a third of their capacity and that the double decking of the structure is entirely feasible. This form of relief, however, will be a matter of years.

Irrigate Their Stock.

Indianapolis, Nov. 28.—The "watering" of railroad stocks or over capitalization by the large transportation lines is commented upon by the State Railroad commission in its first report which will be made to the governor of Indiana in the next few days. The report is the first the commission will have filed since its creation by the last general assembly two years ago. The report shows that 43 roads reporting to the commission state the value of the road and equipment, and give the value of each per mile.

Beat the Thieves To It

Helena, Mont., Nov. 28.—The government has just created four new forest reserves in Montana and made large additions to the Little Belt and the Kootenai reservations, according to proclamations received today at the Helena land office. The Missoula and Lolo reserves are situated in the northwestern part of the state. The Snowy mountain reserve is in Fergus county and the Pryor reserve in the southeastern part of the state.

Keeping Up Its Record

Wilburton, I. T., Nov. 28.—With a record of 19 horrible deaths during the past year, the Degnan & McConnell mine No. 19 at Wilburton blew up with frightful force last evening. Six men in the shaft miraculously escaped. It cannot yet be determined whether any lives were lost.

OREGON STATE ITEMS OF INTEREST

STATE LAND SALES LESS.

Ninety Per Cent Decrease During the Last Two Years.

Salem—Sales of state land during the years 1905 and 1906 amounted to only 47,037 acres, or about 11 per cent as much as in the preceding two years, when the sales aggregated over 233,000 acres. This decrease of nearly 90 per cent is due chiefly to the act of the legislature in raising the price from \$1.25 to \$2.50 per acre, but is also due in part to the course of the State Land board in beginning prosecution of speculators who were purchasing state land in violation of law.

The decrease in receipts is not so great, however, for those who bought land prior to the advance in price have been making payments from time to time. The total receipts for the two years ending September 30, 1906, were \$475,808.90, as compared with \$676,944.58 for the preceding two years. The great decrease in receipts resulting from the diminution of sales will be apparent in the next two or three years, when deferred installments on previous sales will have been paid and there will be little money due on sales made during 1905 and 1906. Nearly all sales of state land are made on the installment plan, the purchaser taking three or four years to make his payment.

The falling off in business in the state land office in the last two years is evident not only from the decrease in acreage sold, but in the number of certificates of sale and deeds issued. During 1903-04 there were issued 1,745 certificates of sale and 1,912 deeds. During 1905-06 there were issued only 226 certificates of sale and 987 deeds. The amount now due on outstanding certificates of sale of school land is \$460,212.70, or only about half the amount due two years ago.

Elk Protected by Law.

Salem—Overlooking an act of the special session of the Oregon legislature in 1903, quite a number of people have gained the impression that after January 1, 1907, it will be lawful to kill elk, and it is known that several hunters are planning to go to the mountains elk hunting after that date. But the legislature of 1903 anticipated a lapse in the law protecting elk by enacting a law which extends the protection until September 15, 1907, and after that time elk may be killed only from September 15 to October 15, and only one in a season by any person.

Spraying Decision Satisfactory.

McMinnville—Nothing recently has given the conscientious fruit raisers of this county more real joy than the decision of the courts giving to fruit inspectors the right to compel spraying. Yamhill has many fine orchards that are kept in excellent shape, but the old time moss covered orchard is also here in great numbers and the wormy product of the latter spoils the good name of the former. The big red apple will grow to perfection in the rich soil of Yamhill if only given a chance.

Test Barley in Valley

Salem—In order to raise brewing barley of a higher standard and to encourage farmers to raise it more extensively, the officials of the bureau of plant industry of the department of Agriculture have outlined a series of experiments with at least 10 different varieties of high grade seed, to be carried on in different sections the coming season. The Willamette valley has been selected as one of the most likely spots where the grain can be grown to perfection.

To Probe Edward's Charges

Pendleton—It is announced here that an inspector will be sent by the Indian department to Pendleton to investigate charges recently made against Major Edwards, agent of the Umatilla reservation. Edwards is charged with using his official position in influencing persons to have exclusive dealings with the Commercial National bank, depository for Indian funds here. The inspector is expected the latter part of this month.

Linn Men Sell Timber Too.

Albany—A timber deal whereby 5,000 acres of splendid timber land in Linn county is to be transferred to John A. Merritt, of Nigama, N. Y., and Eastern associates, is said to be practically consummated. Merritt, who was third assistant postmaster general under President McKinley, is now in this county inspecting the land and its outlets.

Light and Power for Vale.

Vale—The city council has granted a 20-year franchise to M. G. Hope, I. W. Hope and R. E. Fulton, to put in an electric light and water system for Vale. The work is to commence on the electric light plant within four months and to be completed within one year. It is understood that the company is ready to expend \$100,000 on the enterprise.

Shut Down From Lack of Cars.

Astoria—The Central Door & Lumber company, of this city, has closed down its plant temporarily. The cause of the shutdown is the inability to secure cars in which to ship the product, and the ruling high prices for logs. The mill will probably resume operations shortly after the first of the coming year.

REFORM SCHOOL'S NEW NAME.

Superintendent Looney Renews Recommendation to Legislature.

Salem—That the name of the State Reform school should be changed to State Industrial school is the recommendation made by Superintendent N. H. Looney of that institution in his biennial report. This recommendation has been made before and two attempts have been made in the legislature to secure a change in the name, but in each instance the effort failed. Mr. Looney also recommends the establishment of a state school for wayward girls and the construction of a cottage for small boys so they may be kept by themselves and not be thrown into association with larger boys. He asks for an appropriation of \$60,800 for the ensuing two years. The appropriation for the past two years was \$53,600. The number of boys in the school is 106.

Chaplain E. W. St. Pierre recommends that the maximum age at which boys may be committed to the reform school be raised from 16 to 18 years, so that some boys now being sent to the state penitentiary may be sent to the reform school and their reformation made more probable, but he would first provide buildings in which the older boys may be kept separate from the younger. Speaking of the proper scope of the institution, he says that "the reform school should never be made a convenience to anybody. Criminally negligent parents should not be accommodated by being relieved of their children's support and care without being made to pay for it."

Good Showing of Athena Mill.

Athens—An idea of the magnitude of the business done at the flouring mills of the Preston-Parton Milling company at this place may be had from the records of the company's office, which show that 396 cars were shipped over the Washington & Columbia River railroad from January 1 to November 1 of this year. Up to October 1 290 cars were shipped over the Oregon Railroad & Navigation company's road, making a total of 686. This mill turns out about 650 barrels of flour every 24 hours when running full capacity.

Granite Has Money in Bank.

Granite—Granite probably bears a distinction that no other town in the state can boast of. The city has several hundred dollars in the treasury, with all its debts paid, and yet there has never been a cent of tax levied for the maintenance of the city government since the incorporation of the town. The installation of electric lights is one of the improvements being considered by the city fathers and one that will probably be put into effect soon.

Oregon Goat Show at Dallas.

Dallas—The eighth annual Oregon angora goat show will be held in Dallas Wednesday, Thursday and Friday, January 9, 10 and 11, 1907. These dates were decided upon by the goat breeders at a meeting held in Brown's hall last week. A large number of farmers were in attendance and an enthusiastic meeting was held. It was decided to hold a three days' show this season, instead of a two days' exhibition as heretofore.

PORTLAND MARKETS.

Fruits—Apples, common to choice, 50¢-70¢ per box; choice to fancy, \$1.00-2.50; grapes, 60¢-1.25 per crate; pears, 75¢-1.25; cranberries, \$1.00-12.50 per barrel; persimmons, \$1.50 per box.

Vegetables—Cabbage, 1 1/4¢-1 1/2¢ per pound; cauliflower, \$1.25 per dozen; celery, 70¢-90¢ per dozen; lettuce, head, 20¢ per dozen; onions, 10¢-12¢ per dozen; bell peppers, 5¢; pumpkins, 1 1/4¢ per pound; spinach, 4¢-6¢ per pound; tomatoes, 30¢-50¢ per box; parsley, 10¢-15¢; squash, 1¢-1 1/2¢ per pound; turnips, 90¢-1.10 per sack; carrots, 90¢-1.10 per sack; beets, \$1.25-1.50 per sack; horse radish, 9¢-10¢ per pound; sweet potatoes, 2¢-2 1/2¢ per pound.

Onions—Oregon, 75¢-1 per hundred.

Potatoes—Oregon Burbanks, fancy, 75¢-81¢; common, 60¢-70¢.

Butter—Fancy creamery, 25¢-27 1/2¢ per pound.

Eggs—Oregon ranch, 35¢-37 1/2¢ per dozen.

Poultry—Average old hens, 11¢-11 1/2¢ per pound; mixed chickens, 11¢; spring, 11¢; old roosters, 7¢-8¢; dressed turkeys, 13¢-14¢; turkeys, live, 17¢-18¢; chickens, dressed, choice, 20¢-22¢; geese, live, 10¢; ducks, 14¢-16¢.

Wheat—Club, 64¢; bluestem, 66¢; valley, 66¢-67¢; red, 61¢-62¢.

Oats—No. 1 white, \$24.50-25.50; gray, \$23.50-24.

Barley—Feed, \$21.50 per ton; brewing, \$22.50; rolled, \$23.

Rye—\$1.40-1.45 per cwt.

Corn—Whole, \$25.50; cracked, \$26.50 per ton.

Hay—Valley timothy, No. 1, \$11.00-12 per ton; Eastern Oregon timothy, \$14.00-16; clover, \$7.00-8; cheat, \$7.50-8.50; grain hay, \$7.50-8.50; alfalfa, \$11.50; vetch hay, \$7.00-7.50.

Veal—Dressed, 5 1/2¢-8 1/2¢ per pound.

Beef—Dressed bulls, 16¢-20¢ per pound; cows, 4¢-5¢; country steers, 5¢-5 1/2¢.

Mutton—Dressed, fancy, 8¢-9¢ per pound; ordinary, 6¢-7¢.

Pork—Dressed, 9¢-8 1/2¢ per pound.

Hops—11¢-14¢ per pound, according to quality.

Wool—Eastern Oregon average best, 13¢-18¢ per pound, according to shrinkage; valley, 20¢-21¢, according to fineness; mohair, choice, 26¢-28¢.

SESSION WILL BE BUSY.

Congress May Make Changes in Several Important Laws.

Washington, Nov. 27.—The indications are that the short session of congress that opens December 3 and expires by limitation March 4 next, will not go down in history because of any particular achievement. It will be a busy session; all short sessions are, for three months is none too much time in which to perfect and pass the regular appropriation bills. Aside from this legislation, little of national importance is likely to result.

Following out recommendations made by the president in his annual message, the house may frame, and possibly pass, some sort of bill limiting inheritances; some bill proposing changes in the rate law, the pure food law and the anti-trust law may be proposed and discussed, but nothing of this character is likely to get through the senate. Nor is there the slightest possibility of the passage or even report of a tariff bill.

These problems are of too great importance to be disposed of in a short session, but a limited discussion may serve to bring the various topics fairly before the country, and may result in legislation at the long session of the next congress. This was the course followed in the case of the railroad rate bill, and it proved to be a wise move on the part of the house leaders.

GOLD IN THE WRECK.

Eastern Men Secure Concession from Mexico for Recovery.

Mexico City, Nov. 27.—A special to the Herald from Guadalajara says: B. F. Richardson, a capitalist of Pennsylvania, and C. W. Johnston, a Delaware man, have secured from the Mexican government a concession for the recovery of the gold that still remains in the hull of the Golden Gate, the American ship that was beached on the coast of Colima, a short distance from Manzanillo, in the winter of 1861-62. Mr. Richardson is now in this city. Mr. Johnston recently left San Francisco for the scene of the wreck, accompanied by divers and other assistants.

The Golden Gate was on the way from San Francisco to New York, and carried nearly \$1,500,000 in gold coin, destined for New York banks. While heading north toward Manzanillo fire broke out aboard the vessel, and in an attempt to save the passengers the ship was run ashore. However, nearly 200 persons were either burned to death or drowned. Of the amount aboard the ship, between \$800,000 and \$900,000 was recovered some time later. It is believed that there still remains in the hull of the vessel at least \$500,000 in gold.

WOULD BUY CABLE.

Telegraph Company Seeks to Acquire Government Wire in Alaska.

Portland, Nov. 27.—If congress will authorize the sale of the government cable which reaches from Seattle to Seward, with branches to Juneau and Skagway, the North American Telegraph & Cable company will lay another wire from Seward to Vladivostok. The company stands ready to purchase the government cable, together with 1,400 miles of land lines, for \$2,180,500, which represents the actual cost. To extend the cable to Vladivostok will cost approximately \$1,500,000.

J. T. Flynn, secretary of the North American Telegraph & Cable company, is in Portland en route from Seattle to Washington, where he will represent his company at the coming session of congress, when a bill will be introduced to authorize the sale of the cable. Mr. Flynn was in the real estate business in Portland about 16 years ago. He is a guest at the Oregon hotel, where he is meeting many of his former acquaintances.

"Probably the most perfect wireless telegraphy stations in the world are in Alaska, and are managed by the government," said Mr. Flynn. "The stations in mind are on Norton sound, and one is at St. Michaels and the other at Safety harbor. They are separated by a distance of about 38 miles. They are operated by soldiers, and the last season they transmitted 1,260,000 words without a single error."

Inspectors Not Pleased.

Mexico City, Nov. 27.—The Herald today says: "Unless there is a change of the plan of the committee which is now here to represent the conductors of the Mexican Central in their application for a revision of the wage scale, the management will be reminded that the system of retaining train inspectors is not pleasing to the men who run the trains. The increase in wages to be asked for the passenger conductors will be from \$250 to \$300 a month. A proportionate increase will be asked for the freight conductors."

Alarmed by Mail Robberies.

St. Petersburg, Nov. 27.—The minister of the Interior issued orders that henceforth the postoffice shall only forward money within the Russian empire by means of money orders. The practice of sending currency in the registered mail will be abandoned because of the almost daily robbery of mail trains, by bands of armed revolutionists, whose booty from this source of procedure has reached such proportions that the government has to repay by installments.

Herds Lost in Blizzard.

El Paso, Tex., Nov. 27.—A special to the Times from Almagordo, N. M., says that the goat and sheep raisers of the Sacramento mountains in New Mexico lost from 60 to 80 per cent of their herds during the recent blizzard, which, it is said, is the heaviest loss ever experienced by the industry in the West.

BUY POSTAL SYSTEM

Syndicate Offers to Come to Uncle Sam.

REDUCE POSTAL RATES ONE-HALF

Rent Buildings From Government and Share the Profits—Could Save \$100,000,000 Annually.

Washington, Nov. 27.—Uncle Sam will be asked tomorrow to turn over to a syndicate of capitalists the conduct of the postal business. The joint committee of congress investigating postal abuses and entrusted with recommending reforms, which has been in session in New York, resumed its meetings today, and tomorrow W. D. Boyce, of Chicago, will go before the committee with a bonafide offer made by substantial capitalists to take over from the government the postal business and relieve it of all the great expense attached to it.

The offer has several objects. It is true that capitalists have been forced by a monopoly of the postal business. Whereas the government has failed to make the Postoffice department a paying institution, the capitalists believe that by the introduction of business methods they can put the department upon a dividend paying basis. Wells Fargo Express company saw enough money in the monopoly to offer the government a bonus of \$1,000,000 a year if permitted to run the postoffice. The proposition is presented in good faith and will serve the double purpose of emphasizing with the public the fact that there are capable business men in the country who believe that they can give the people penny postage and an excellent service, as good as that now formed by the government. The offer will have the effect of showing to the people that these business men, who will give satisfactory bond, will guarantee to give the patrons of the postoffice reduced postage rates, which the department officials unite in reporting the government cannot afford to do.

The proposition, broadly stated, is that the government shall withdraw from the field of controlling a public utility and shall place the business of transporting and delivering the mail in private hands, as the express business is today conducted. The capitalists who are willing to assume the burden will pay the government rental for the postoffice buildings all over the country and will charge the government the cost of postage upon its mail, which is now carried free under frank and postage stamps.

Mr. Boyce said in part: "A careful comparison of rates of postage now charged on first and second class matter, with the rates heretofore proposed to be put in force will readily demonstrate that it means an average saving for the next 20 years to the government and general public of \$100,000,000 annually."

"We propose to perform all the services now rendered the public by the Postoffice department and carry out all treaty stipulations and contracts and take the entire receipts arising from the postal service as full compensation for the rendition of all paid services now performed by the Postoffice department and pay all salaries and expenses necessary to carry out the terms of such a detailed contract as will accomplish the objects sought, namely:

"First—The reduction to the public by one-half of all postage to be paid on first and second class matter, or 1 cent per ounce or fraction thereof of second class matter, and 1/2 cent per pound on second class matter, except for weeklies as heretofore.

"Second—The wiping out of the deficit annually in the operating of the postal service as a government department.

"Third—We will pay into the United States treasury all net profits accruing over 7 per cent interest on capital invested."

Print City's Name on Stamps

Washington, Nov. 27.—Postage stamps of the issue of 1907, at the presidential postoffices will bear on their face the name of the state and city in which the postoffice is situated. The chief reason for this innovation is that the Postoffice department, to be believed that it will help to do away with postoffice robberies and make it easier to trace criminals. The postoffice robbery at Chicago a few years ago was a good example of the ease with which stolen postage stamps can be disposed of, for no trace of the perpetrators was ever found.

Has Not Refused to Resign

New York, Nov. 27.—United States Senator Thomas C. Platt said today that he would not resign his office as senator, which he was quoted as saying that he would not resign his office as senator. "I have not said I would not resign," he said. "I would not resign to Governor Higgins, never said to any newspaper man that I would stay in Washington all winter. In fact, the whole interview about my refusal to resign is untrue."

Great Bridge Over Yalu

London, Nov. 27.—The Tokio correspondent of the Times telegraphs that the Japanese have decided to build the Yalu river at Yonampoo. The span will be 3,229 feet long and the bridge will cost \$1,000,000. It was completed at the same time as the Wiju-Mukden & Fusan railroad.