

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.

The Northern Pacific plans to spend \$4,000,000 on improvements in the Inland Empire this year.

"Baby Bliss," the man who weighed 550 pounds, was found dead in bed at Bloomington, Ill.

California representatives have asked congress for \$50,000 to aid in fighting the Mediterranean fruit fly.

New York county, New York, will not have any women deputy sheriffs, as it has been found that "every deputy sheriff must be a voter."

An agent of the Royal Mail steamship company is in Portland arranging for the establishment of a direct line of steamers to Europe via the Panama canal.

Those in charge of the Great Northern exhibit car now touring the East predict a great influx of homeseekers to the Northwest during the coming summer.

The United States has taken possession of the Nicaraguan custom houses in order to receive payment of a \$10,000,000 loan made to that country by J. Pierpont Morgan.

Governor West, of Oregon, has set aside Friday, December 13, 1912, as a general "hangman's day," in case the people fail to approve the measure abolishing capital punishment.

The president of the Outlook Publishing company, for whose magazine Roosevelt is one of the principal writers, says Roosevelt will not be a presidential candidate this year.

A Boise, Idaho, man, believing himself dying, gave a check for \$3,000 to a neighbor woman who had befriended him. Next morning he found himself feeling better than usual, and tried to stop payment on the check.

More than 8,000 persons attended the president's New Year reception.

A compensation act is being urged for the relief of injured postoffice employees.

The cost of living is less in the Panama canal zone than in the United States.

Aged 94 years, the oldest member of the San Diego Swimming club took a half hour's swim with the other members on New Year's day.

The South Yuba river is frozen over in Southeastern California, a phenomenon never before known within the memory of the oldest inhabitant.

PORTLAND MARKETS.

Wheat—Track prices: Bluestem, \$1.82; club, 79c; red Russian, 78c; valley, 80c; forty-fold, 79c@80c.

Corn—Whole, \$37; cracked, \$38 ton. Millstuffs—Bran, \$23 per ton; middlings, \$30; shorts, \$24; rolled barley, \$37@38.

Oats—No. 1 white, \$30.50@31 ton. Hay—No. 1 Eastern Oregon timothy, \$18@18.50; No. 1 valley, \$15@16; alfalfa, \$13@14; clover, \$11@12; grain, \$12@13.

Barley—Feed, \$36@37 ton. Fresh Fruits—Pears, 50c@1.50 per box; grapes, \$1.25@1.50; cranberries, \$12@13 per barrel; casabars, \$1.50 per crate.

Apples—Jonathans, \$1.50@2.25 per box; Spitzenberg, \$1@2.50; Baldwin, 75c@1.50; Red Cheek Pippin, \$1.25@1.75; Northern Spy, \$1.25@1.75; Winter Bananas, \$2@3; Bellflower, \$1.10@1.35.

Potatoes—Buying prices: Burbanks, 90c@1.20 per hundred.

Onions—Jobbing price, \$1.50 per sack.

Vegetables—Artichokes, 90c per dozen; cabbage, 1@1 1/2c per pound; cauliflower, \$1.90@2 per crate; cucumbers, \$1.25@1.75 per dozen; celery, California, \$4@4.25 per crate; egg plant, 12c per pound; garlic, 60c@10c per pound; lettuce, \$2.50 per crate; peppers, 8@10c per pound; pumpkins, 1@1 1/2c per pound; sprouts, 9@10c per pound; squash, 1 1/2@1 1/4c; tomatoes, \$1.75 per box; carrots, \$1 per sack; turnips, \$1; beets, \$1; parsnips, \$1.

Butter—Oregon creamery butter, solid pack, 36; prints, extra; butter fat, 1c less than solid pack prices.

Poultry—Hens, 12c; springs, 11@12; ducks, young, 17@18c; geese, 12@13c; turkeys, live, 20@21c; dressed, choice, 22@23c.

Eggs—Fresh Oregon ranch, candled, 37c per dozen; case-count, 35c per dozen.

Pork—Fancy, 8@8 1/2c per pound. Veal—Fancy, 14@14 1/2c per pound. Cattle—Choice steers, \$5.75@6; good, \$5@5.50; choice cows, \$4.60@5; good, \$4.25@4.50; choice spayed heifers, \$5@5.25; good to choice heifers, \$4.50@4.60; choice bulls, \$4.25@4.50; good, \$4@4.25; choice calves, \$7@8; good, \$6.75@7.

Hogs—Choice light hogs, \$6.55@6.65; good to choice hogs, \$6.25@6.50; fair, \$5@6.25; smooth heavy hogs, \$5.25@5.50.

Sheep—Choice yearling wethers, \$3.75@4; choice killing ewes, \$3.25@3.75; choice lambs, \$4.90@5.10; good to choice lambs, \$4.75@4.90; culls \$3@4.

CHICAGO FOR PEACE.

Hamilton Club at Mammoth Meeting Upholds Taft.

Chicago—Chicago's voice was raised for international peace at a mammoth meeting held here under the auspices of the Hamilton club in the Auditorium theater. Ex-Vice-President Fairbanks, Colonel Henry Watterson, of Louisville; Representative Foster, of Vermont; Jane Addams and Dr. Emil G. Hirsch, of Chicago, made appeals for the ratification of the general arbitration treaties now pending in the United States senate.

Such ratification, advocates of peace declared, will mean the abolishment of implements of war in favor of the dignified councils of peaceful arbitration.

President Taft was praised for his advocacy of the treaties which, if ratified, it was said, would insure world peace and the United States was declared to be the first nation really to announce itself as in favor of arbitration of international differences. This was in the treaty between this country and England, the early part of the last century, to settle boundary disputes on the border line of Maine and Canada.

Mr. Fairbanks defined the treaties advocated by President Taft, and which the senate is asked to ratify, as broader in scope than any previously considered treaties.

"These treaties," said Mr. Fairbanks, "if ratified by the senate, will become a fixed feature of our international policy, and the policy of two of the other leading world powers."

DOUGLAS FIR OIL GOOD.

Students at University of Washington Make Discovery.

University of Washington, Seattle—Discoveries that will place Douglas fir oil on a par with that extracted from pine, will utilize the millions of feet of fir stumps, roots and tree limbs, representing one-half of the standing timber, and will provide for the manufacture of fine paper from the waste after the oil has been manufactured, have been made by students of the chemistry department here, who, under the direction of Dr. H. K. Benson, have been experimenting on 29,000 pounds of fir stumps received from Linden, Or.

"Our discovery of the oil of Douglas fir came as a result of studying the oils of four cords of wood sent through a wood distilling plant at Anacortes," said Dr. Benson. "Commercial turpentine of a high grade and the new oil were found by the students. When the tar obtained from this fir wood was refined it yielded three products—a very light oil, used in the manufacture of shingle stain; a heavier oil of tar, which, I believe, can be used for linseed oil, and a tar residue or pitch, which, we believe, can be used successfully as a protective paint for iron, steel and metal surfaces. Now, the rosin in the wood renders it useless for white paper, and it is available only for the cheaper grades of colored paper, but by using our apparatus we can extract this rosin.

"Other experiments deal with the value of the tannic acid of the fir bark and the oil distilled from fir needles."

'Powers Move Cautiously.

Paris—The possibility of an eventual intervention by the powers in China in some form is an absorbing topic of discussion in diplomatic circles here. The feeling, however, is justified or can be carried out at present. It is pointed out in authoritative circles that the powers, as such, are not able to intervene unless foreign property in China should be endangered or attacked and the legations should report that the time has arrived for the powers to act.

'Haystack' Mast Failure.

Seattle—Naval officials have made the discovery that the "haystack" military masts recently installed on the vessels of the Pacific fleet vibrate too much to make the observations of the fire control officer in the top sufficiently accurate, the fault being placed on the height of the mast. It is now planned to shorten the new masts recently constructed on the armored cruiser Pennsylvania and workmen are preparing to take off ten feet.

New Mexico is State.

Washington, D. C.—New Mexico, the 47th state to enter the Union, ceased to be a territory at 1:35 p. m. Saturday, when President Taft signed the proclamation of statehood. Four members of the president's cabinet, the two congressmen-elect from New Mexico, a dozen prominent citizens from the new state, several White House employees and three photographers witnessed the ceremony, which took place in the president's private office.

Tons of Tea Protested.

Washington, D. C.—Declaring 6,000,000 pounds of colored and adulterated tea which does not comply with treasury regulations, or with the pure food law, will be admitted and sold in this country within a few days unless the government acts quickly, Senator Root and a delegation from the New York Tea association have appealed to President Taft.

Dangerous Shells Sunk.

Brest, France—One of the cruisers attached to this port sailed out to sea and threw overboard into deep water 67 tons of melenite shells. The shells were condemned after the explosion on the battleship Liberte at Toulon last September, when 235 men were killed.



ADMIRAL ROBLEY D. EVANS.

ADMIRAL EVANS DIES

"Fighting Bob" Suddenly Laid Low By Indigestion.

Fearing Fine in Morning, Has Hearty Lunch at Noon, and Dies at 4:45 O'clock P. M.

Washington, Jan. 3.—Rear Admiral Robley D. Evans—"Fighting Bob"—to an admiring nation—died suddenly today at his home in this city. Acute indigestion ended the career of one of the most popular officers of the navy. He was ill less than three hours.

Admiral Evans arose today apparently in better health and spirits than he had enjoyed in some time. For years a sufferer from old wounds sustained in the Civil war and from recurrent attacks of rheumatic gout, the aged fighter seemed to have shaken off the burden of his advancing days. He displayed high spirits at breakfast, and ate a hearty luncheon at noon.

When in his library at 2 o'clock in the afternoon the admiral was stricken. His family sent instantly for Dr. S. S. Adams, who on arrival found him in great pain. After treatment, Admiral Evans fell into a restless sleep, and it was thought the danger had passed. Shortly after 4 o'clock, however, he awakened and, raising himself, with difficulty, announced that he was choking.

"I cannot get my breath," he said, and sank back. At 4:45 o'clock he died, conscious to the end.

At his bedside were his wife, his daughter, Mrs. H. I. Sewall, and his daughter-in-law, Mrs. F. T. Evans, wife of the admiral's only son, a lieutenant commander in the navy and now on duty on the torpedo boat destroyer Monahan at Boston. The only other member of his immediate family who was not present was his daughter, Mrs. Marsh, wife of Captain Charles C. Marsh, commanding the armored cruiser North Carolina.

The news spread with great rapidity and caused a profound shock in official circles. President Taft was one of the first to express his grief and condolence.

"Admiral Evans was one of the most successful squadron commanders we have had in the navy for a long time," said the president. "He was a rigid disciplinarian of quick decision and admirably advised in the intricacies of machinery on cruisers and battleships and skilled in drilling."

Shop is Looted Openly.

Newark, O.—In full view of passing crowds and in one of the principal business streets of this city, three burglars Wednesday evening looted a jewelry store of diamonds and other valuable valued at more than \$10,000.

A woman and a little girl who stood watching the men as they removed the jewels from the windows and placed them in sacks, thought the burglars were employees of the store, but later decided to report the matter to the police.

Ulster Planning Revolt.

Belfast—The Unionist council of Ulster has issued a manifesto declaring that a provisional government will be constituted in Ulster immediately after a home rule measure has been passed by the British parliament. The most extreme measures will be resorted to for the defense of Ulster by the Loyalists, says the document. This manifesto is reported to be the expression of the unalterable decision of the anti-home rule forces.

them. I am very sorry to hear of his death."

One of the iron links that bound the old navy to the new, a commanding figure in each, was Robley D. Evans. He did not take kindly to the sobriquet of "Fighting Bob," for, although of gruff exterior, he was a man of the kindest impulses. Thus it never was used in his presence by his friends.

BATTLE DANGER REDUCED.

Navy Arranges to Strip Ships of Wood When in Action.

Washington, D. C.—Every year the battle practice in the American navy more closely approximates the conditions of actual warfare.

In the spring practice of the Atlantic fleet this year the idea of ridding a ship as far as possible of combustible material and woodwork that might cause splinters in action is to be carried out. The plans contemplate the removal of all wooden boats, the bunks and the wooden furniture. Not even the mess tables will be left and the bluejackets will have to eat their meals squatting, tailor-fashion, on deck.

More damage and loss of life have resulted on shipboard in time of war from suffocating fires and flying splinters than from shot and shell wounds, therefore it has been decided to determine just how much woodwork can be dispensed with when a craft clears for action.

The spring practice of the fleet in the West Indian waters with Guantanamo as the base, will occupy ten days more than two months, beginning January 10. After that is completed the big ships will come north to the Southern drill grounds off the Chesapeake capes, for the regular battle practice.

NEW PLOT IS FEARED.

Pennsylvania and New Jersey Ship Ammunition to Mexico.

New Orleans—Evidence indicating a more widespread revolutionary plot against Mexico than heretofore has been attributed to the opponents of the Madero administration has come to light in the shipment of eight carloads of ammunition and explosives from points in Pennsylvania and New Jersey within the last 50 days.

The fact that these shipments were detoured at points north of New Orleans is said to have been established, leading to the supposition that the real destination was one of the Gulf ports between this city and Mobile, from which in the past many filibustering expeditions have cleared.

In addition to these eight carloads, agents of the Mexican government assert, one of the firm in New Orleans has shipped 150 rifles a week for the past five weeks to points in Texas, near the Mexican border.

English is Coming Tongue.

San Francisco—Leaders of the revolutionary movement in this country are discussing plans for the unification of the Chinese peoples through the medium of a common language. It is the intention of the leaders of this movement to make English the language of general use in China, but before this hope can be realized there is much of educational work to be done in converting the more than 100 different dialects into an understandable language for the whole people of China.

Aid Postal Employees.

Washington, D. C.—The enactment of a law to compensate all postal employees, including letter carriers, for injuries sustained in the line of duty but not attributable to their own negligence, is urged in the annual report of C. P. Grandfield, first assistant postmaster-general. There were in operation June 30, 509,237 postoffices of all classes in the United States. The delivery service is now in operation on 42,000 rural routes.

LAND EXCHANGE PROVIDED.

Hawley Bill Would Permit States to Make Lieu Selections.

Washington, D. C.—Realizing that western states can derive no practical benefit from school sections scattered through forest reserves, Representative Hawley introduced a bill which permits the exchange of these lands for compact bodies of equal area, so situated as to be of value.

His bill provides that where any state owns lands within a national forest or where its rights of indemnity selection in respect to school sections within such boundaries has not been fully exercised, the state, subject to the approval of the secretary of agriculture, may change such lands for, or make indemnity selections of, other national forest lands of like quantity and value, to be selected in reasonably compact bodies, which lands shall thereafter be excluded from national forests for the benefit of the state.

FEDERAL QUARANTINE NOW.

California Wants Aid in Fighting Threatening Fruit Fly.

Washington, D. C.—The sum of \$50,000 to repulse the invasion of the Mediterranean fruit fly is asked in a bill introduced by Representatives Hayes and Kahn, of California.

California, they say, had held an extra session of its legislature and passed legislation along this line. The invasion is threatened from the Hawaiian islands, the fly's habitat, and fruit brought from there carries the larvae, which flourish in the California climate.

The Californians in their fight against the pest, will urge the bill of Representative Simmons, of New York, for a national quarantine for imported nursery stock.

Hitchcock Plan Boosted.

Washington, D. C.—A feature of the annual report of Joseph S. Stewart, second assistant postmaster general, is a recommendation that the government pay only for what it receives in the transportation of the mails.

An elaborate discussion of the proposed plan of Postmaster General Hitchcock to pay the railroads for actual service performed is presented. This plan, it is said, "would eliminate all distinction between payment for weight and payment for space, and would be based on the space occupied by the mails in transit and the haul of the same."

The plan would enable the government to transport the mails at a rate of 6 per cent above actual cost to the roads.

Navy Officers Grilled.

Washington, D. C.—Representative Howard, of Georgia, urging before the house naval affairs subcommittee, the reinstatement of Lieutenant Colonel C. M. Perkins, of the Marine corps, declared that Perkins discharge for alleged "mental incompetency" was a "Dreyfus" conspiracy, hatched at the Army and Navy club in Washington.

Mr. Howard attacked both the Marine corps and the navy. "Only 32 per cent of the officers of the navy," he said, "are in actual service. The remainder sit about Washington engaged in social pursuits. Naval battles are planned and fought in the clubs, where liquor takes the place of the briny deep, with a red cherry as the ship and a toothpick as the propelling force. The officers furnish the wind."

Senate Curbs Newlands.

Washington, D. C.—The senate has refused permission to Senator Newlands, of Nevada, to have his resolution for a legislative programme made unfinished business. Mr. Newlands, in his argument for the resolution, said it was intended to facilitate the work of congress, and mentioned failure to enact legislation for the improvement of waterways or for physical valuation of railroads as instances wherein congress does not respond to the will of the people. He charged that the appointment of the National waterways commission was made to postpone action, declaring it was a "sandbagging process" and that railroad influence was behind it.

Poindexter Makes Choice.

Washington, D. C.—Senator Poindexter came out in favor of the nomination of J. C. Lawrence, ex-Railroad commissioner, as the Republican candidate for governor of Washington, and expressed the opinion that Lawrence not only will be nominated, but elected. Poindexter comes to Lawrence's support, he says, because Lawrence is "progressive" and has demonstrated, while railroad commissioner, that he is not subservient to the power of the railroads or other great interests.

State Bounty Inadequate.

Washington, D. C.—President Gooding and Secretary McClure, of the National Woolgrowers' association, now in Washington, are preparing to urge the passage of a national bounty law. They contend that state bounty laws are inadequate to exterminate the predatory wild animals which breed in national forests. Federal assistance is necessary, they assert, as these animals each year kill \$15,000,000 worth of livestock, which results in an increased cost of meat.

Democrats Make Suits.

Washington, D. C.—The first caucus of the house Democrats will be held soon to consider nominations to fill vacancies on committees and a proposal to make Democratic caucuses public sessions instead of secret meetings.

ICE COVERS COUNTRY

Columbia and Willamette Valleys Shiver in Sleet Storm.

Wheat Crop Safe Under Heavy Blanket of Snow—Zero East of Cascades.

Weather Conditions in Pacific Northwest.

Portland—City and vicinity covered with ice; temperature slightly below 30.

Salem—Cellars flooded by rains; river rising.

Seattle—Freezing weather, four inches of snow; east wind blowing. Albany—Streams rising in Linn county; long-distance wires down. Aberdeen—Logging camps are forced to shut down on account of snow.

Spokane—Mercury below zero; snow foot deep.

Baker—Mercury at zero, 12 inches of snow, trains delayed.

La Grande—Snow drifts fill the streets; wind hampers snow plows on O.-W. R. & N.

Pendleton—Mercury is below zero; 13 inches of snow; trains delayed; snow in mountains three feet deep.

The Dalles—Snow 41 inches deep; mercury 14 above; Deschutes railroad blocked; O.-W. R. & N. trains delayed.

Hood River—34 inches of snow; in upper valley depth is five feet.

Walla Walla—2 inches of snow; mercury at zero. Snow protects crops.

Portland—While Portland and Vancouver suffered Saturday and Sunday under the "silver thaw," heavy rains fell in the Willamette valley, and east of the Cascades mountains the snowfall continued until Sunday morning.

Sunday morning The Dalles awoke to see 41 inches of snow. At Hood River the fall was 34 inches deep, while in the upper Hood River valley the depth in places is five feet.

The snow area covers the whole of the Inland Empire. Pendleton reports 13 inches, with three feet in the Blue mountains. Baker had 13 inches of snow, Walla Walla 12 inches and Spokane the same. Zero weather prevails at many places east of the Cascades.

Train service in the Columbia river gorge is heavily handicapped by the deep snows, otherwise no reports of damage have been made. Some fear is felt at Hood River where young apple trees are buried under the snow. Baker county reports plenty of feed for cattle.

Snow drifted badly in the streets of La Grande, making futile the efforts of the snowplows to clear the tracks of the O.-W. R. & N.

Winter reached Southern Oregon Saturday after a heavy but warm rain of the night before. At noon the mercury at Roseburg began to fall rapidly and by nightfall was at freezing point. Streams are reported as rising at alarming rapidity. Trains are being operated with difficulty and wire service is interrupted. In some parts of the county snow is five inches deep.

At Ashland the rainfall was reported to be warm and snow has all disappeared from the lower levels. The traffic on the Southern Pacific over the Siskiyou is uninterrupted.

Heavy snow has also fallen in Western Washington. At Grays Harbor the snowfall was light, with the mercury at the freezing point. Seattle experienced real winter weather Sunday, with an east wind and a light fall of snow.

Crops in the Palouse country will not suffer from the storm, the heavy blanket of snow acting as protection to the grain. In the district west of the Cascades, however, considerable apprehension is felt for the young fruit trees. Many trees are badly damaged by being broken down from the weight of ice.

Educator is Decorated.

Chicago—Professor Frederick Starr, of the University of Chicago, has received word that he has been appointed commander of the Order of Leopold II, the highest honor in the way of decoration given by the government of Belgium. The decoration is in recognition of his services in presenting to the world his view of the condition of affairs in the Congo Free State in 1908 and for the exhibit at Brussels of his Congo anthropological collections, for which the grand prize was awarded to him.

Plumbers Dissolve Trust.

Los Angeles—The Pacific Plumbing "trust," against which the government filed suit here last month, has been dissolved. The proceedings were purely formal. Judge Olin Wellborn entered the order after having been informed by District Attorney A. I. McCormick that the 87 corporations and individual defendants named in the government's complaint had made answer admitting the essential allegations and agreeing to dissolution.

Smallpox Like Plague.

Nogales, Sonora, Mex.—Smallpox of a virulent type that claims many victims is raging along the west coast of Mexico. Guaymas and Mazatlan have been quarantined.