

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.

There is a rumored alliance of Russia, Austria and Germany.

Forest reserve states are to get a share of the timber revenue.

The movement to expel Smoot from the senate has been abandoned for this session.

The pope is greatly improved. He laughs at the idea of his life being endangered.

More bodies are being found by laborers clearing away the debris in San Francisco.

Three Turks have been arrested on suspicion of having murdered Consul Stuart in Russia.

San Francisco banks have opened for business and are receiving more money than they pay out.

The injunction against the union of the Cumberland with the old Presbyterian church has been denied.

Louisiana doctors claim to have found a cure for leprosy, having cured three sufferers from the dread disease.

George F. Baer, president of the Reading road, says there is no grafting among the officials of his line, as they are above such things.

Miss Nancy O'Neill, the actress, has become bankrupt through the San Francisco disaster. She lost all her scenery, costumes and stage effects.

Torrents of mud from Vesuvius are causing death and panic.

Marines are being rushed to Panama to avert a revolution at the time of the general election, June 20.

The senate bill incorporating the Archaeological Institute of America has been passed by the house.

Estimates have been made for continuing work on the Panama canal to June 30, 1907. The total amount is \$20,348,231.

S. A. D. Pater, wanted in Portland in connection with the Oregon land fraud cases, has been captured in Alameda, a suburb of San Francisco.

Four more bodies have been found in the debris at San Francisco by workmen clearing away the ruins. The coroner places the total number of dead at 395.

W. H. Stuart, United States vice-consul at Batoum, Trans Caucasia, has been killed by unknown assassins. The case is being investigated by Ambassador Meyer.

It is said the military court which has been investigating the surrender of Port Arthur and the battle of the Sea of Japan has condemned to death Lieutenant General Stoessel and Rear Admiral Nebogotoff.

Senator Heyburn is slightly improved.

Women of England are working for suffrage.

Madrid is making great preparations for the royal wedding.

Vesuvius is pouring a torrent of mud on the nearby villages.

It is now believed that Mrs. Jefferson Davis may recover.

A prompt agreement on the rate bill is likely by the two houses of congress.

It is understood that an Anglo-Russian agreement is about to be perfected.

It is regarded as practically certain that the second Hague peace conference will meet in May, 1907.

The district judge has seized tax records and ballot boxes at Denver and discovered wholesale fraud.

United States warships have been ordered to watch for filibustering vessels going to Santo Domingo.

A severe earthquake in Luzon, P. I., caused a lake to town where a good sized mountain had stood. The natives in the vicinity are in a state of terror.

New York will expend \$100,000,000 in adding to the city's water system.

The San Francisco fire destroyed proof of the citizenship of 100,000 voters.

Wu Ting Fang, ex-Chinese minister to the United States, proposes radical reforms in China.

John Mitchell, president of the United Mineworkers, will soon resign to take up the practice of law.

Barracks have been built in Golden Gate park, San Francisco, which will accommodate 5,000 persons.

The Interstate Commerce commission has secured more admissions of grafting by Pennsylvania railroad officials.

Insurance companies have already paid about \$200,000 San Francisco losses and it is expected all undeposited claims will be paid by June 1.

The president has declared himself in favor of ship subsidy.

Evidence of rebating has been found against the Pennsylvania railroad.

A great forest fire in Michigan has burned over an area of 200 square miles and latest accounts report the flames still burning. Fourteen towns have been wiped out entirely and thousands of people are homeless. As far as known no lives have been lost, although several entire families have not been accounted for and may have perished. The money loss will be enormous.

Governor Blanchard, of Louisiana, has sent a special message to the legislature asking for an insurance reform law.

WILL ADJOURN EARLY.

Congress Not Likely to Continue in Session After June 15.

Washington, May 22.—Present indications point to an adjournment of congress about the 15th of June. The great debate of the session has been brought to a close, the railroad rate bill has been passed by the senate, and the way is now clear for the regular appropriation bills and other important legislation that demands consideration.

In the house of representatives the work is up to date. All of the big appropriation bills, except the sundry civil bill, have been passed by that body, and this last bill will be reported to the house just as soon as the house is ready to receive it. At the outside two weeks is ample to pass this bill and two unimportant appropriation bills yet to be considered, the general deficiency and the diplomatic.

In the senate appropriation bills have lagged behind on account of the debate on the rate bill, yet in spite of this protracted discussion the senate has found opportunity to pass the urgency deficiency, pension, fortifications, army and Indian appropriation bills, and will make short work of those now awaiting consideration, namely, the postoffice, agricultural, legislative, District of Columbia and military academy bills. The senate, in spite of its reputation for long debates, can dispose of appropriation bills in remarkably short periods when the time for adjournment approaches. It always does. So the legislative program, so far as the appropriation bills is concerned, may be considered in such shape as to permit adjournment by the middle of June. It is the appropriation bills that determine the length of the session after all, for when the last of these bills is agreed to congress stands adjourned, unless it happens to be in extra session, called for some special purpose.

The conference committee having the rate bill in charge is not likely to report inside of two weeks, but in the end the house will probably accept the essential senate amendments, including that offered by Senator Allison. The fact that the president approves this amendment will be ample justification for the house to give its assent, and the further fact that practically all the other amendments meet with the approval of the president will insure their final adoption.

EXPENSES CUT IN ZION.

Salaries of Overseers Reduced From \$300 to \$20 Per Month.

Chicago, May 22.—W. G. Voliva, the present head of the Christian Catholic Church, announced to his followers in Zion City Sunday that between January 15 and May 10 he had reduced the expenses in the financial department of the church from \$9,800 per month to \$2,832 per month. This saving, he said, had been brought about by a reduction of the working force and a cut in the salaries of those retained.

In the same manner, said Voliva, a saving had been made in the ecclesiastical department that would amount to \$70,000 annually. Overseers who had been receiving \$300 per month were reduced to \$60. The pay of others was cut in proportion. His own compensation under the new adjustment, Voliva said, was \$100 per month. These facts, he said, were some of the details of a report which he made Saturday to a committee appointed by Federal Judge Landis to investigate the conditions of the industries in Zion City.

Voliva announced the resignation of John G. Excell, from the office of general ecclesiastical secretary, owing to lack of sympathy with some of the doctrines of the church.

The condition of John Alexander Dowie today was said to be practically unchanged.

Wo Gen Cannot Land.

Seattle, Wash., May 22.—Wo Gen, manager of the Wa Chong company, one of the wealthiest Chinese merchants of the Northwest, is to be deported. He made a trip to China recently to patch up trade relations, and did a great deal toward alleviating conditions caused by the boycott. When he returned a few days ago he was found to have typhoid, the dread eye disease, and was placed in the quarantine station at Port Townsend. Powerful influences have been brought to bear to nullify the order, but without avail.

Mission Kept a Secret.

Washington, May 22.—The cruiser Columbia, which is expected to leave Philadelphia tomorrow for West Indian waters with a detachment of marines, will make her first stop at the naval station at Guantanamo. On arriving there further orders will be given to her commander. The officials of the navigation bureau of the Navy department declined tonight to indicate the purpose for which the marines are being sent to the West Indies, saying, however, that it has no bearing on the San Domingo situation.

New Signatories To Be Bound.

The Hague, May 22.—The government has submitted a bill asking the second chamber of parliament to approve a protocol which it wishes the signatories of the convention of 1899 to sign on assembling for the second peace conference, which declares that the powers not represented at the first conference, but which have been invited to attend the second, shall, by acceptance of the invitation, become adherents to that convention.

Turks Killing and Plundering.

Vienna, May 22.—Trouble in the Balkans between the Turks and Bulgarians is again very serious, and the latest reports from Barits and Prochertje districts are to the effect that continual fighting is in progress. Turks are present in force, and are burning and pillaging villages, ravishing women and murdering men and boys.

Hop Prospects Excellent.

Aurora—Hops in this section of the valley, the banner hop-raising district of Oregon, are further advanced this year than in former seasons at this time. There is a large acreage, and all the yards are showing well.

OREGON STATE ITEMS OF INTEREST

RE-ELECT OFFICERS.

Boys' and Girls' Aid Society of Oregon in Good Condition.

Portland—At the annual meeting of the members of the Boys' and Girls' Aid Society, J. C. Alnsworth, W. B. Gilbert and Robert S. Farrell were re-elected directors, and Miss Helen F. Spalding was chosen to fill the vacancy on the board caused by the resignation of Mrs. W. A. Buchanan.

The annual reports of the officers showed the institution in a flourishing condition. Superintendent W. T. Gardner's report gave a thorough review of the work accomplished by the society the past year. Under the surveillance of the society in Oregon, Washington and Idaho there are 498 children. Of these there are 70 girls who are in respectable homes in Portland. Assistant Superintendent Gardner has been appointed to look after the children who have been placed in private families to see that they are doing well. In addition to this assistant the society now has county advisory boards to look after the children in the different counties of the state.

OREGON STATE FAIR.

Preparations Under Way at Salem for Greatest Ever Held.

Salem—The State Fair board has begun preparations for the greatest State Fair ever held in Oregon. A portion of the money that would have been expended for premiums last year, when there was no State Fair, was used to make numerous improvements on the buildings and grounds in preparation for this year's fair. All main buildings have been repainted, stock sheds and race horse barns extended and improved and the racetrack has been regraded.

The board purchased a quantity of park seats and chairs from the Lewis and Clark fair, together with exhibit cases, all of which will be used this year to make the State Fair more attractive and comfortable. Many striking pieces of statuary and inside decorations have been removed from the Lewis and Clark grounds to the State Fair grounds, where they have been carefully repaired.

Epidemic Attacks School.

Aurora—A teacher at the public school recently discovered that one of the pupils had what she thought was chickenpox, and sent the boy home with a note to his parents to quarantine him. It proved to be chickenpox, but the pupil would not stay quarantined, and went back to school. The school directors consulted a physician. The doctor advised that the pupil be allowed to attend school, on the ground that he had already infected the scholars, and sure enough he had, and now half the children in town are affected.

Baker City's Relief Work.

Baker City—The committee which had charge of the relief work for San Francisco has completed its task here and has made a final report. The members of this committee were Fred R. Mellis, William Pollman, J. H. Parker, Dr. E. B. McDaniel and N. U. Carpenter. The report shows that a total of \$3,719 was collected, in supplies and money, including 180 barrels of flour, 1,118 pounds of bacon, 17,564 pounds of potatoes, 30 camp stoves, 3,032 pounds of beans, 2,070 pounds of rolled oats and much clothing.

Will Sentence Meldrum.

Portland—If Judge Wolvortson imposes the maximum penalty on Henry Meldrum, former surveyor general for Oregon, he will go to jail with a sentence of 210 years of imprisonment hanging over his head. If the court imposes the heaviest fine the law allows, Meldrum will owe the government \$21,000. Judge Wolvortson set Friday, June 8, as the day on which Meldrum will come before the court for sentence. A motion for a new trial is pending in the case.

Registration Short in Baker.

Baker City—Registration at the county clerk's office has been brisk, and it is believed that names entered since the books were reopened after the primaries will exceed 500, including those sent in from country districts. Time for registration has expired. It is estimated that there are 700 voters in Baker county who have not registered. Some of these will be sworn in at the polls on election day, but there will be a shortage of 500 to 600.

Berry Pickers Scarce.

Portland—Portland employment agencies are not only besieged by railroad contractors for laborers, but calls are now coming in from Hood river and White Salmon strawberry fields for pickers. Thousands of men and women are wanted for this work and the cry for help adds to the embarrassment of labor agents who are already trying with all their might to secure laborers for railroad and construction camps.

Ackerman Resolves to Retire.

Salem—J. H. Ackerman, state superintendent of public instruction, has announced his intention to retire from politics at the end of his next term. Mr. Ackerman has the distinction of being the Republican and Democratic nominee, although he only accepted the Republican nomination, and his name will appear on the official ballot only as the Republican candidate.

Klamath Land is Reopened.

Washington—During 1904-5 1,500,000 acres of public lands in the Klamath region of Oregon and California were reserved, pending investigations to determine the feasibility of reclaiming under the Klamath irrigation project. Half of this area is now restored to entry, the balance being reserved as lands reclaimable for reservoir sites or rights of way.

May Retain License.

If Solvent, Insurance Companies Will Not Be Quoted by State.

Salem—Secretary of State Dunbar, who is ex-officio insurance commissioner of this state, when shown the statement that California and Nevada insurance commissioners would drive out companies that quote below the payment of San Francisco fire losses, said that so far as Oregon is concerned he cannot take any action of what the various companies do in California or any other state so long as they comply with the Oregon law which entitles them to do business in this state.

There is no deposit with the state treasurer \$3,100,000, in interest-bearing securities, for the 60 companies doing business in this state have put up to secure the payment of any loss they may sustain and which has been finally adjudicated against them.

Fifty-eight companies have put up \$50,000 each and two companies \$100,000 each.

Only one company has notified the commissioner that it cannot continue to do business in Oregon on account of California losses and that is the Traders' Insurance company, of Chicago. All agents have been notified to cease writing insurance for that company.

The \$50,000 deposit will be held to pay any losses sustained by Oregon policyholders in that company, or until all its policies have been legally canceled, when the deposit may be withdrawn.

Mr. Dunbar said that refusal or inability of an insurance company doing business in this state to pay any of its California losses would not be sufficient reason for him to cancel their Oregon license.

All he is authorized to do is to look out for the interest of Oregon policyholders, and if the companies comply with the insurance statutes of this state they can continue to do business, as they are solvent. If any of them become insolvent they put themselves out of business without any interference on the part of the commissioner of Oregon.

Treasure Mine Sold.

Engine—A mining deal of importance has been consummated in this city. Charles Harding Park, residing here, has sold the Treasure mine in the Blue river district to J. Rowland Ragsdale, of Manchester, England. The California price is not made public, but is said to be the highest ever paid for a mine in the district. The Treasure mine has long been known to be one of the richest properties at Blue river. Mr. Park has spent much money in its development, and in the erection of a ten-stamp quartz mill on the property.

Will Enforce Spraying Law.

Pendleton—V. K. Newell, chairman of the state board of horticulture, and Judd Geer, member of the board of the Eastern Oregon district, passed through here on the way to the valley, where they will enforce the law regarding the spraying of fruit trees. The majority of the small orchardists have obeyed the law, but a few of the larger ones have thus far neglected to do so, although repeatedly notified by the local inspector, Mary Evans. They will be forced to comply with the law or proceedings will be brought.

New Oil Company.

Baker City—Alicies of incorporation of the McCarty oil company have been filed with county clerk. The incorporators of the company are: G. W. Fennell, J. Rowman, O. Johnson and C. W. Fennell. The capital stock of the company is \$3,500 divided into 350 shares of a value of \$10 each. The purpose of the company is to handle for the purpose of irrigation, the water from Powder river under the rights they have held for a number of years.

Cherries Ripening Rapidly.

Aurora—Cherries are ripening fast and all kinds of hits are ahead of former years. The severe cold snap of two days in March had no appreciable effect on fruit trees in northern Marion county.

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MANY SETTLERS MISSING.

Michigan Forest Fire Lays Waste to Hundred Square Miles.

Milwaukee, May 21.—A dispatch to the Sentinel from Escanaba, Mich., by a staff correspondent says: Four known dead, a score or more persons missing, hundreds of families homeless, several millions of dollars in property burned, four towns wiped out entirely and a dozen more partially, five counties devastated and 100 square miles of territory fire-swept. This is the dreadful picture that the Northern Michigan peninsula presents today, after the worst forest fire since the Pestigo disaster in 1871.

General Superintendent W. E. Wells, of the Escanaba & Lake Superior railroad, along whose right of way the greatest loss occurred, returned tonight from a trip of inspection over the fire-stricken area, and says that the flames have gone down and for the time being the danger is over, unless a new gale arises to again fan the embers into flames.

The following summary briefly tells the story: Peter Lafond, a cook, smothered in a lumber camp near Katos, body found tonight.

Three unknown children dead at Quinnes, Mich., separated from their parents while the village was burning and perished.

Scores of homesteaders and woodmen are missing and many have probably perished in the flames.

Territory devastated, five counties, Marquette, Menominee, Delta, Alger and Dickinson. The territory fire-swept is 100 miles square.

Towns totally burned: Talbot, Mich., 100 population, only a few houses left standing.

Quinnes, Mich., 1,000 population, only one house remains.

Saunders, 150 population, all wiped out.

Niagara, Wis., 500 population, all wiped out.

Towns partially destroyed: Northland, Cornell, Antwine, Spring Valley, Kingsley, Woodlawn, Foster City, Sala and Metropolitan.

KILL CANAL BY DELAY.

Purpose of Sea Level Party on Panama Enterprise.

Chicago, May 20.—Expressing the sentiments of senators and congressmen on the recent action of the senate committee in voting for a sea level canal, Edward G. Clark, correspondent at Washington for the Chicago Evening Post, says:

"Suspicion that a systematic effort is being made in the senate to delay indefinitely the digging of the Panama canal has become a conviction. There is anger among the friends of rapid work on the isthmus and a well-defined and freely expressed belief that interests are at work to jeopardize the whole project. It is declared freely in Washington that, while it was supposed that the hosts of representatives of certain corporate interests who had been in the capital during the last few months were here for the purpose of watching railroad rate legislation, in reality most of them were here with the intention of using what influence was at their command to defeat the attempt to obtain a favorable report for a lock canal."

"Senator Platt, of New York, voted for a sea level canal. It is stated that Mr. Platt did not attend one committee meeting at which the matter was discussed. Everybody knows why John T. Morgan, of Alabama, voted in favor of a sea level plan. He is bluntly honest. He does not want a canal, and he has the grace to say so."

"The movement that began in the senate committee to get a sea level canal has behind it, however, a tremendous force and it is the intention of powerful senators to endeavor not only to get the sanction of the senate itself, but to bring every possible pressure to bear on the house to induce it to recede from the position it took in favor of a lock type. If the powerful ones succeed, the day of canal digging is far in the distance. The people may be obliged to speak on this matter in no uncertain way."

Thieves Steal Baggage.

San Francisco, May 20.—The work of Detective O'Dea has resulted in the capture of a gang of trunk and luggage thieves who reaped a rich harvest during the fire, who were planning to dispose of their valuable plunder in Los Angeles. Three of the men, who admit connection with the gang, are held at the Stanton-street station. Through them the detective has learned the name of the Los Angeles "fence," has recovered three trunks and three suitcases, and has a line on 32 other pieces of luggage.

Biggest Steamer Afloat.

New York, May 20.—The Hamburg line steamer Kaiserin Augusta Victoria, the largest passenger steamer afloat with a gross tonnage of nearly 20,000, completed her initial trip across the Atlantic tonight from Hamburg, Dover and Boulogne. She brought 490 saloon and 1,706 steerage passengers. The Kaiserin Victoria made an average speed of 17 knots during the voyage. The Kaiserin Augusta Victoria is 700 feet in length over all, with a beam of 77 feet and depth from deck to keel of 57 feet.

Gout Gains on Pope.

Rome, May 20.—When Dr. Lapponi visited the Pope this morning he found his patient improved, although the pontiff passed a somewhat restless night as the result of his attack of gout. Owing to a slight rise in temperature, Dr. Lapponi ordered the pope to remain in bed for several days. Although the condition of the Pope is not grave, some apprehension is felt at the frequency of the gout attacks through exposure to fatigue.

Die of Heat in New York.

New York, May 20.—Two deaths and some prostrations from heat were reported here today. The official thermometer stood at 85 degrees during the afternoon, but on the streets the mercury rose to 95.

IN THE NATIONAL HALLS OF CONGRESS

Tuesday, May 22.

Washington, May 22.—The senate today devoted the greater part of the session to consideration of the immigration bill, but before it was taken up McCumber made a personal statement, contradicting an article printed in the New York Tribune that the railroad rate bill had been so amended at his instance as to render it ineffective.

Previous to that time also the senate adopted a resolution directing the committee on privileges and elections to consider the course to be pursued in the case of Burton.

Speeches on the immigration bill were made by Dillingham, McCreary, Bacon, Scott, Patterson and others. The bill was still under consideration when the senate adjourned.

Washington, May 22.—For an hour or more today the house of representatives could not decide whether to go into committee of the whole on the diplomatic and consular bill, or to follow the lead of Gardner of Massachusetts to take up consideration of the immigration bill.

Assisted by Williams, the minority leader, Gardner led a mild filibuster against taking up the diplomatic bill, and endeavored to delay matters by raising a number of parliamentary points. The Republicans, however, had a quorum present, and eventually the diplomatic bill was taken up and general debate began and continued till 5 o'clock.

The senate bill authorizing the construction of a dam across the Pend d'Oreille river in the state of Washington was passed.

Monday, May 21.

Washington, May 21.—The legislative, executive and judicial appropriation bill was passed by the senate today within three hours from its reading. It carries appropriations aggregating \$29,815,259, an increase of \$59,345 over the amount reported to the senate. A number of unimportant measures were passed and at 3:30 o'clock consideration was given to pension bills.

Washington, May 21.—Decided opposition developed today in the house of representatives against the passage of the bill to extend the time for the completion of the Alaskan Central railway.

Williams, of Mississippi, insisted that the bill was objectionable because it would take the property from license tax and tax on its railway during the period of construction and for five years thereafter. He believed that every individual as well as every corporation should pay his proportionate share of the tax burden.

Powers, of Maine, insisted that the bill was a good business proposition. The yeas and nays were ordered and the bill was defeated, yeas 109, nays 60, present 25, two-thirds not having voted in its favor.

A bill was also passed authorizing the sale of surplus or unallotted land of the Coeur d'Alene Indian reservation.

Washington, May 21.—The naval appropriation bill, carrying nearly \$100,000,000, was completed today in the house after one of the busiest days of the present congress. The feature of the day's debate grew out of the attempt to defeat the appropriation for the largest battleship of its class in the world and the tenor of the speeches for the big ship was that the American republic must be abreast of the nations of the world in the strength of her navy. The opponents talked for peace, disarmament and arbitration, and insisted that there was no national need for such a large navy. The amendment introduced by Burton, of Ohio, to strike out the appropriation for a rival to the British Dreadnaught was defeated, as was the amendment leaving the construction of the battleship to the discretion of the secretary of the navy after the second Hague conference. A final vote on the bill will be taken tomorrow.