

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.

Japan has sent a minister to Cuba. It is said that Herrmann is determined to take his seat in the house. Marshal Field is slowly sinking and his death is expected at any time. Germany seeks harmony about Morocco, but will fight if her honor is attacked. The Chicago Commercial association will send 15 of its members on a tour of the Western states. Meriwether, the Annapolis cadet who was responsible for the death of Branch, will be tried for hazing. A house to house search in Riga, Reusia, by the police for bombs has given startling results. Many weapons were found. The entire Caucasus is in the hands of the revolutionists. The severe measures practiced by the authorities in other parts of Russia are inapplicable there. The bank examiners of Massachusetts have been forced to resign. They were negligent in their duty and several banks failed by the officers looting the deposits. Russell A. McKinley, Jr. of Boise, nephew of the late president, has been granted a pension of \$100 a month. He lost the sight of both eyes while serving in Cuba. Marshall Field continues very sick. France has recalled her envoy from Venezuela. The revolution in Ecuador has been suppressed. The Russian government is gradually reconquering Siberia. Morales has sought refuge in the American legation and resigned his office. Mrs. Chadwick is now in the Ohio penitentiary serving her 10-year sentence. Russia pays an annual interest of \$211,500,000 on her national debts of all kinds. Eastern papers have contained several severe articles on Representative Herrmann. Wall street has been shaken by the discovery of several million dollars' worth of forged stock certificates. The New York Life Insurance company has again been admitted to Missouri for the transaction of business. France may soon resort to force in settling her Venezuelan troubles. She will act in full concert with the United States. The body of Thomas Nast, famous for his cartoons during Boss Tweed's time, will be brought to the United States for burial. The kaiser is making great preparations to suppress Socialist demonstrations which are expected throughout Germany. Two Annapolis hazers have been found guilty of hazing. France has broken off all diplomatic relations with Venezuela. Southern cotton planters condemn negro labor and want immigration. Russian authorities are preparing for trouble on Red Sunday, January 22. Cleveland declares himself to be in favor of publicity of campaign expenses. Sir Thomas Lipton is making plans for another challenge in 1907 to race for the Americas yacht cup. The Carnegie steel works at Greenville, Pa., have been destroyed by fire. The loss will reach \$600,000. A statement issued by the Russian government shows that the recent war with Japan cost \$1,050,000,000. Of this amount \$202,500,000 is yet unpaid. Large quantities of dynamite have disappeared from government storehouses in Denmark and it is believed to have been stolen and sent to Russian rebels. The deepest copper mine in the world, at Calumet, Mich., is on fire. Three men have been burned. The fire is from half to three-quarters of a mile below the earth's surface. Two men were killed by a cave-in at a mine near Eureka, Utah. A great forgery of railway stock has been revealed in New York. Troops are running down Morales. Harvard university has announced a set of revised football rules. A fire at Schenectady, New York, destroyed \$100,000 worth of property. Fire destroyed the Wormwood warehouse, Boston, entailing a loss of \$125,000. Herrmann's trial has been definitely set for the last week in March. The hearing will be in Washington.

TRANSPORT SERVICE WEAK.

Fleets on Both Coasts Must Be Prepared in Peace for War.

Washington, Jan. 16.—A remarkable exposition of the fatal weakness of the army transport resources in case of war is contained in a paper prepared by the general staff, transmitted by Secretary Taft to Senator Gallinger, chairman of the Merchant Marine commission, in charge of the shipping bill now pending before the senate.

In the course of its work in preparing in time of peace for war, the general staff has discovered that even the present limited military force could not be transported over the sea, in case of a war with a foreign country, or to defend our insular possessions, unless there should be an immediate and great increase in the number of American steamships suitable for transport service.

It is pointed out that foreign shipping could not be drawn upon in time of war because of the neutrality laws, so that under present conditions "the quick first blow, so very and increasingly important, cannot be struck at all." Incidentally, the staff criticizes with the greatest freedom the conditions under which the first little American army was transported to Santiago to begin the Spanish-American war.

This report will be presented to the senate tomorrow by Senator Gallinger, who will inform the War department that ships of the size and speed described as most desirable for transports are also ships of the size and speed equipped for several of the most important mail lines provided for in the bill of the Merchant Marine commission, which stipulates that ships receiving subvention from the government shall be held at the disposal of the government in time of war.

PANACEA FOR INSURANCE.

Senator Dryden Has Bill That Would Cure All Ills.

Washington, Jan. 16.—Senator Dryden has revised his bill contemplating government control of insurance, and will reintroduce it in the senate today. He had followed very closely the investigation being conducted by the New York legislative committee, and this has aided him in perfecting his measure until now he expresses the belief that it will correct practically all insurance evils exposed by the New York inquiry.

Publicity is the keynote of the bill, and coupled with this are safeguards for the detection of wrongdoing and the punishment of those offending. It defines policies or insurance contracts as instrumentalities of commerce, and provides for the regulation of the business through the medium of a controller of insurance and along the lines similar to the control exercised over national banks. The author says he believes this will go far towards meeting the objection of those who have questioned the constitutional possibilities of federal regulation of insurance.

The senator says the bill has the indorsement of the president, administration officials, eminent constitutional lawyers, in and out of congress, and others, who are familiar with its general features, as coming nearer to meeting the demands of the situation than any of the other numerous pending measures. Senator Dryden has long been a champion of federal regulation.

OUR COMMERCE WITH FRANCE.

Balance of Trade Against the United States by Several Million.

Washington, Jan. 16.—The total commerce between the United States and France, as shown by figures compiled by the Bureau of Statistics of the Department of Commerce and Labor, amounted in the fiscal year 1905 to about \$166,000,000, of which \$76,000,000 was the amount of the exports to France, and \$90,000,000 was the value of the imports from that country. France gets most of its provisions and breadstuffs from her colonies, and exports mainly high grade manufactures and wine.

The United States exported to France nearly all the copper and the cotton used by that country, the total amount of these two articles being about \$48,000,000. Agricultural implements exported from the United States this year were approximately \$3,000,000, against \$500,000 a decade ago.

Jews Have Been Duped.

Moscow, Russia, Jan. 16.—Wholesale arrests are being made throughout Russia for the sole purpose of preventing the victims registering in time to participate in the coming election for members of the new legislative assembly. Officials of the government are resorting to tactics of intimidation to compel the people to vote for "selected" candidates who will perpetuate the old regime of absolutism. The Socialists and labor leaders are being offered enormous bribes to use their influence in favor of certain candidates.

Yaqui Stories Bring Retaliation.

El Paso, Tex., Jan. 16.—Because of the slander of foreigners who alleged they had not been given proper protection from alleged Indian outrages in Sonora and Lower California, and owing to the circulation of such stories, the Mexican government has issued an order forbidding mining agents in those states to allow foreigners to file mining claims. This is the outgrowth of the circulation of alleged Yaqui stories in the United States by prospectors.

American To Be Retained.

Seoul, Korea, Jan. 16.—The government has decided to retain the services of Darham White Stephens, the American diplomatic adviser to the emperor of Korea.

OREGON STATE ITEMS OF INTEREST

CONTAINS MANY DIFFICULTIES.

Oregon State Primary Law Hard for Candidates to Follow.

Salem—Another very serious problem has arisen in connection with the direct primary law. The law requires that candidates for state offices shall file petitions from not less than seven counties, and that at least 10 per cent of the precincts shall be represented in each of the seven counties. Two per cent of the votes cast at the last state election for supreme judge by each party must be represented on the petition. It has been the supposition until recently that so long as the required number of counties and precincts were represented by the signatures of one or more voters that the bulk of the signatures on a petition to make up the 2 per cent might come from one county, so long as the required number of names was filed with the secretary of state. It is now discovered that there must be 2 per cent of the vote cast by the party represented in each county and precinct represented, as well as throughout the state.

The attorney general will probably be asked to render an opinion in regard to the number of signatures required from the counties and precincts. To secure 2 per cent of the voters in seven counties, and 10 per cent of the precincts in each of the seven counties, and in addition have 2 per cent of the party vote in the entire state, will add to the difficulties of securing a petition.

FORM NEW ORGANIZATION.

Independent Telephone Companies of Oregon Unite.

Portland—In order to fortify themselves and protect their interests, representatives of the independent telephone lines in Oregon met here last week and formed a permanent organization. It will be known as the Oregon Independent Telephone association, and is formed after similar organizations in other states of the Union and affiliated with the national association of independent telephone lines.

The objects of the association are to encourage development; foster and stimulate the growth; protect the mutual interests; promote and systematize uniformity of accounting, operation, maintenance and construction of independent (non-Bell) telephone interests, and to defend the same from unfair encroachments of competition by co-operation and by such other available means as may, from time to time, seem advisable.

Favor Woolen Mills.

Albany—The business men of the city met and discussed the proposition of securing the new woolen mill for this city. Judge Stewart, of the stock committee, withdrew from the active work of soliciting subscriptions, and Frank J. Miller was selected to fill the vacancy and the committee will push the work. The purpose of the committee is to secure subscriptions to the stock aggregating \$15,000 toward the capital of \$100,000, when the mill will be built and fitted up. The business men at the meeting were enthusiastic in support of the project, and the spirit manifested was in favor of co-operation among the business interests of the city for the upbuilding of Albany and its industries.

Plans an Electric Line.

Forest Grove—At the meeting of the Forest Grove city council last week, State Senator E. W. Haines, in behalf of the Forest Grove transportation company, a new organization, applied for a 25-year franchise for an electric railway in Forest Grove, to run from the Southern Pacific depot to the business section of the city, about two miles. According to the terms of the ordinance, the new line must be begun in 90 days, and completed in eight months. It is to carry the United States mail, express and passengers. Senator Haines furnishes electric light to Forest Grove from his plant about 12 miles distant, and, it is understood, will furnish power for the new road from his plant.

Buys Ranch in Gilliam.

Condon—A. S. Hollen has purchased the 860-acre ranch on Trail fork, Gilliam county, belonging to J. W. Booth. The transaction, which involves about \$15,000, is one of the most important real estate transfers for some time here, and gives Mr. Hollen a most valuable farm and stock ranch. In the deal Mr. Booth takes residence property in Condon valued at about \$5,000, consisting of several fine dwellings. Mr. Hollen is proprietor of the Condon Flouring mill. He will take possession of the ranch about March 1.

Allen Wants Oregon Boys.

Corvallis—Lieutenant Quinlan, commandant of the cadet regiment at the college, has received instructions to recommend six additional graduates from the Oregon Agricultural college for positions as Third Lieutenants in the Philippine constabulary. Three similar recommendations were recently made, and from these one appointment has already been made, that of Lieutenant Floyd Williams, who has gone to Manila.

Few Hops Left in Josephine.

Grants Pass—Several sales of hops have been made here recently at from 9 to 10 cents. About 500 bales have changed hands, and by February 1 but few hops will be held by the growers in Josephine county. There are quite a few baby hops still held and a few old ones, though not to exceed 500 bales in all.

AMEND IRRIGATION LAWS.

Irrigationists Say Conditions in Idaho Are Better Than in Oregon.

Salem—Prominent irrigators of Oregon are considering the advisability of asking the next legislature to amend the irrigation laws in several particulars. At the present time all the contracts with the state for the reclamation of desert lands under the Carey act are based upon the theory that the owners of the canals and ditches are entitled to collect a perpetual annual rental from the landholders. In Idaho the landholders will eventually own and control the canals, ditches, headgates, etc.

In the contract with the state of Idaho for the construction of the Twin Falls canal it is provided that a company shall be formed among the landowners on the basis of one share of stock for one share of water right, and that within seven years the control of the canals, ditches, dams and headgates shall pass to the corporation formed among the water users. Previous to the formation of this company and before the expiration of the seven years' limit, the construction company is entitled to collect annually not exceeding 80 cents an acre. The same theory of ownership prevails in all government work.

All the contracts for the reclamation of arid lands under the Carey act in this state allow the construction companies the right to collect \$1 an acre perpetually, the company agreeing to keep the canals and ditches in repair.

Fruit Inspector in Linn.

Albany—The Linn county court has appointed E. C. Armstrong, residing at Marion station, Marion county, to act as fruit inspector for Linn county, temporarily, on the recommendation of Horticultural Commissioner C. A. Park, of Salem. Mr. Park wished to secure here a man who would be ready to begin work on pests at once. The court will at once select a man for permanent appointment who will be asked to take a short course in training under Professor A. B. Cordley, at the Oregon Agricultural college.

Newport as Winter Resort.

Albany—Many Albany people are spending a portion of the winter at Newport on Yaquina bay, where the weather as a general thing has been delightful. Only a few days during the holiday season was the sea rough. Some of the leading people of the valley cities—Salem, Eugene, Albany, Independence and Corvallis—have spent a portion of the winter at the seaside, and Newport is gaining a reputation as a winter resort.

New Railroad for Gilliam.

Salem—Articles of incorporation have been filed with the secretary of state for the Oregon Northern Railway company. The incorporators are: William J. Mariner, R. W. Robinson and C. E. Jones. The road runs from Blalock, in Gilliam county, to Hardman, in Morrow county. The capital stock is \$25,000, divided into 1,250 shares of \$20 each. The principal place of business is Heppner.

Contracts at Interest.

Salem—The State Land board reports interest bearing contracts outstanding December 31, as follows: School land contracts, \$669,516.30; Agricultural college, \$28,993.82; University, \$3,788.

PORTLAND MARKETS.

Wheat—Club, 71@71c; bluestem, 73@74c; red, 68@69c; valley, 73c. Oats—No. 1 white feed, \$27; gray, \$26.50 per ton. Barley—Feed, \$23.00@23.50 per ton; brewing, \$24.00@24.50; rolled, \$23.50@24.50. Buckwheat—\$2.50 per cental. Hay—Eastern Oregon timothy, \$13.50@14.50 per ton; valley timothy, \$9@10; clover, \$9@10; cheat, \$8.50@9.50; grain hay, \$8@9. Fruits—Apples—75c@1.50 per box; persimmons, \$1.25 per box; pears, \$1.25@1.50 per box; cranberries, \$13@13.50 per barrel. Vegetables—Beans, 20c per pound; cabbage, 1@2c per pound; cauliflower, \$1.25 per dozen; celery, \$3@3.50 per crate; pumpkins, 3/4@1c per pound; sprouts, 7/8c per pound; squash, 1 1/2@1 3/4c per pound; turnips, 90c@1 per sack; carrots, 65@75c per sack; beets, 85c@1 per sack. Onions—Oregon, No. 1, \$1@1.25 per sack; No. 2, 75@90c. Potatoes—Fancy graded Burbanks, 65@75c per sack; ordinary, 50@60c; Merced sweets, 2c per pound. Butter—Fancy creamery, 27 1/2@32 1/2c per pound. Eggs—Oregon ranch, 29@30c per dozen. Poultry—Average old hens, 12 1/2@14c per pound; springs, 12 1/2@13c; mixed chickens, 12@12 1/2c; broilers, 15@16c; dressed chickens, 14@15c; turkeys, live, 15c; turkeys dressed, choice, 17@20c; geese, live, 9@11c; ducks, 15@16c. Hops—Oregon, 1905, choice, 10@11c per pound; prime, 8 1/2@9 1/2c; medium, 7@8c; olds, 5@7c. Wool—Eastern Oregon average best, 16@21c per pound; valley, 24@26c; mohair, choice, 30c. Beef—Dressed bulls, 1@2c per pound; cows, 3@4c; country steers, 4@4 1/2c. Veal—Dressed, 3@8 1/2c per pound. Mutton—Dressed, fancy 6@6 1/2c per pound; ordinary, 4@5c; lambs, 7@7 1/2c. Pork—Dressed, 6@7 1/2c per pound.

BOXER COIN FOR COLLEGES.

Senator Piles, of Washington, Will Introduce Such a Bill.

Seattle, Wash., Jan. 15.—United States Senator S. H. Piles will introduce in congress a bill appropriating the \$20,000,000 paid this country by China as damages in the Boxer uprising to defray the expenses of Chinese students to be educated in American colleges. A part of this sum, it is proposed, shall be expended in schools conducted by Americans in China.

A bill prepared under the direction of the faculty of the University of Washington has been forwarded to Senator Piles, and the co-operation of coast educational institutions has been asked in the campaign. Out of this movement, it is believed, will grow something satisfactory to China, and resulting in abandoning the boycott against American goods.

The measure was agreed upon at a meeting of the faculty of the University of Washington, with A. W. Baah, promoter of the Canton-Hankow and other Chinese railroads, and an intimate friend of many high Chinese officials, and Dr. W. A. P. Martin, an educator long employed in Chinese schools, who came West to welcome the high commission just landed at San Francisco. Mr. Baah has been officially designated by President Roosevelt and Secretary of State Root. Mr. Baah started the movement on the coast because he has been a resident here, and because he believes the Pacific Coast states originating the movement would strengthen the fight. For that reason the co-operation of Oregon and California educators was asked.

Under the plan adopted here, the indemnity money would be spent: First, to invite Chinese students to the United States and provide for their education in this country; second, to aid worthy American colleges already established in China; third, to provide for helping Chinese students at the American consulates in China.

COMBINE FOR COLONIZING.

Western Railroads Establish Bureau for Handling Business.

Chicago, Jan. 15.—General passenger agents of Western lines, after three days of almost continuous discussion, have agreed upon a plan for the organization of a general colonization bureau to handle the details of the issuance of certificates and tickets for land and immigration business.

Reports from those who attended the Western Passenger Association meetings during the debates on this proposition indicate that there were some representatives of railroads in the conference who were in favor of abolishing the privileges the colonization departments have found so valuable in building up communities along the railroads.

"We were fearful," said a passenger agent of one Western road, "that the issuance of certificates would be abrogated and that every Western state's development would be materially affected by the shutting off of the homeseekers' colonization certificate provisions."

According to one of the passenger agents, the bureau will handle the colonization business for all the roads in the Western Passenger association, and there will be no diminution in the volume of business.

Shaw to Stay Another Year.

Chicago, Jan. 15.—A dispatch to the Chronicle from Washington says: At the meeting of the cabinet President Roosevelt asked Secretary Shaw to remain at the head of the Treasury department until March 4, 1907, and Mr. Shaw agreed to do so. More than a year ago Mr. Shaw let it be known that he expected to retire from the cabinet in February of this year. The president did not understand that this was the secretary's determination until some unusual reference was made to it a few weeks ago, and then he lost no time in urging the secretary to remain in the cabinet for another year.

Russia Gets Help in Paris.

St. Petersburg, Jan. 15.—Confirmation has been received of the report that ex-Minister Kokovoff has been partially successful in his mission to Paris. A credit of \$50,000,000 has been obtained from the French bankers, with the assurance of an increase in the amount, should it prove necessary to maintain the stability of the rouble. It is explained, however, that the credit is not in the nature of a loan to the Russian government, but is strictly an operation between the State bank of Russia and the French banks.

Calhoun Will Make Report.

Washington, Jan. 15.—Mr. Calhoun, the president's special minister to Venezuela, has telegraphed Mr. Root from Chicago that he will submit early this week the report on the asphalt controversy called for in the department as a basis for the resumption of active negotiations with Venezuela looking to a settlement of the claims. The cable company has reported to the secretary that its lines connecting with Venezuela are interrupted.

Needs of Railway Mail Clerks.

Washington, Jan. 15.—The annual report of the general superintendent of railway mail service for the fiscal year 1905 shows the total number of miles of service by railroad, electric, cable and steamboat lines to have been 376,584,037. An urgent plea is made for a retirement and superannuation fund for the benefit of clerks disabled in line of duty or worn out through long and faithful service.

AIR EVERY SCANDAL

Senate Committee to Investigate Affairs of Canal.

MAY ABOLISH CANAL COMMISSION

Latitude Will Be Given in Taking Testimony in Hope of Showing Mismanagement.

Washington, Jan. 13.—While the senate has labored to mask the truth, the fact is that next Tuesday Theodore Roosevelt, William H. Taft, Theodore P. Shonts, John F. Stevens and, incidentally, John F. Wallace, are to be arraigned and tried before the none too impartial judges who constitute the senate committee on interoceanic canals.

The trial is to be called an investigation, but it means simply that every supposed scandal, every petty criticism, every report of friction between officials, every story of an unearned salary, every tale of a discharged employe and every fleeting bit of gossip is to be told in public, and from them all the members of the committee expect to get—possibly some of them hope to get—the basis for a direct charge of incompetence, or it may be of guilt. There is not a soul in Washington who believes that anything will come of the investigation save the knowledge already held that some of the heads of the enterprise have had their bickerings and their disagreements.

It may be that in the course of the hearings the public may learn the real reason for the resignation of Mr. Wallace. It may learn whether or not there was any truth in the reports of friction between Mr. Taft and Mr. Shonts. It may learn whether or not Pountney Bigelow drew the long bow, but that anything substantial can come from the investigation no one in his heart believes.

It is understood that the greatest latitude will be given in the matter of asking questions, and, if curiosity about personal differences between officials is to be considered one of the chief things which it is necessary satisfy, the senate and the people may have their fill of satisfaction.

The senate declares that President Roosevelt practically challenged the investigation and that it has been decided not to deny him. There was nothing for the president to do, apparently, in the present condition of affairs, except to "challenge" an investigation. There is a feeling in Washington that he took the course that he did to win eventually the right to conduct the canal construction unhampered by a commission of seven men.

If the result of the investigation leads to the statutory abolition of the canal body, it may be that trouble and rumors of trouble will disappear and that the work will go forward, showing that a strong hand is behind it.

SEETHING WITH EXCITEMENT.

Young China Wants Reform Old China Adheres to Graft.

Pekin, Jan. 13.—Reports from the South and from the Yangtze valley region show the anti-foreign sentiment to be very strong. China undoubtedly is in a ferment of political excitement, but the movement is directed as much against the government as against the foreigners.

The government is between two fires. The young China party is clamoring because reforms are being executed too slowly, while the conservatives and the officials, the latter having their perquisites threatened, are resisting all efforts at reform.

In spite of the protests in Northern China, the foreign ministers have not changed their minds for the withdrawal of foreign troops from Chile province, the only exception being the legation guards, the ministers believing that the Chinese government is both able and determined to protect foreigners in the event of a revolution.

Demand a Lower Rate.

Juneau, Alaska, Jan. 13.—At a meeting attended by 35 Douglas City shippers last night a telegram was ordered to be sent that no contract would be signed with the two steamship companies now doing business unless a rate of 25 per cent less than the present rate be granted. At present only three contracts have been signed in Juneau with the two companies. All other shippers were waiting for some move by Tacoma or Portland. There is some agitation to get Tacoma to pool the issue with Portland.

Castro Will Sell Asphalt Lake.

New York, Jan. 13.—According to private advices received from Caracas, President Castro will offer for sale to the highest bidder the concession for the asphalt lake Guanaco, of which the New York & Bermudez company was deprived about a year and a half ago. The asphalt property, which is in the state of Bermudez, is now being operated by Ambrose Howard Carter, as a receiver under appointment by the High Federal court.

More Jamaicans for Canal.

Kingston, Jan. 13.—Four hundred men sailed from Kingston this afternoon on the steamer Tagus for Colon to seek employment in the canal zone. Each man deposited \$6.25 with the treasury under the immigrants protection law.