

WEEK'S DOINGS

Newsy Items Gathered from All Parts of the World.

OF INTEREST TO OUR READERS

General Review of Important Happenings Presented in a Brief and Condensed Form.

Taft's mission to Panama will be a success.

The Japanese expect the fall of Port Arthur December 12.

Queen Alexandra, of England, has just celebrated her 60th birthday.

Reports have reached the state department of a very unsettled state of affairs in Venezuela.

The Northern Pacific and Great Northern railroads are considering a plan to electrify the roads through the Cascade mountain district.

The last monthly report of the chief of surgeons of the Philippines shows that the health of the troops in the islands is exceptionally good.

James R. Young, of Philadelphia, has been appointed superintendent of the post office department of the postal service, to fill the vacancy caused by the death of D. P. Milbhart.

The annual report of the general superintendent of the life saving service shows that during the year assistance was rendered to 1,061 vessels, involving the lives of more than 3,400 persons and property to the value of \$7,000,000.

Admiral Dewey has declined to become a member of the North sea commission.

Roosevelt is likely to visit the South and make it a point to meet the masses.

Governor Pardee is working for a California state building at the Lewis and Clark fair.

Whites in German Southwest Africa are reported to be in great danger of being massacred.

All exhibitors from foreign countries may now send their wares to Portland for the 1905 fair without paying any duty.

David M. Parry, president of the Citizens' Industrial association, says the "open shop" movement is gaining, as is also his organization.

The 31st national convention of the W. C. T. U. is in session in Philadelphia. Five hundred delegates, representing every state and territory, are in attendance.

The New York state court of appeals has declared unconstitutional the labor law which prohibits a contractor from employing his men more than eight hours a day on city, county or state work.

Japanese are making progress in the assault on Port Arthur.

Russia has accepted the invitation of America to negotiate for an arbitration treaty.

Russia and Britain both want an American officer of high rank on the North sea commission.

Ten American fishing craft have been seized by Canadian officers and fined for fishing in Canadian waters.

The trouble caused by Paragony firing upon an Argentine cruiser has been settled by the former apologizing.

Secretary of War Taft, in his annual report, urges that the tariff rates charged the Philippines be reduced.

Paul Morton, now secretary of the navy, may succeed Secretary Shaw, of the treasury department, if the latter does not remain in the cabinet.

General Kuropatkin has an automobile in which to travel from one part to another of his line. He wants 20 more in which to carry ammunition.

Russian marines at Odessa engaged in a mutiny and soldiers called out to quell the disturbance killed 25 and wounded 100 others before peace was restored.

The czar has decorated Alexieff with the order of St. George, third degree.

The American Federation of Labor has re-elected Samuel Gompers as president.

The Russians at Mukden have defeated the Japanese in strategy and a winter campaign now seems improbable.

The Russian supreme court finds the seizure of the British ship Cheltenham, taken early in July by the Veadivostok squadron, was legal.

It is stated that if Secretary Hitchcock resigns, William Richards, commissioner of the general land office, will be offered the position of secretary of the interior.

Fire in the Queens county court house, New York, caused damage estimated at \$100,000, and for a time threatened the jail in which more than 100 persons were confined.

DEWEY MAY BE SENT.

United States Government Has Not Been Officially Informed.

Washington, Nov. 30.—Gratified by the spirit which has animated the contracting parties in agreeing to intrust to a commission the ascertainment of the questions of fact connected with the North sea incident, the United States government will cordially cooperate in the naming of the commission by the designation of one of its high naval officers as a member of that body. The outcome is especially pleasing to the administration, following as it does so closely on President Roosevelt's invitation to the powers of the world for a second Hague conference.

The popular impression has been all along that Admiral George Dewey, the ranking officer in the American navy, would be asked to be the American representative on the commission, although other names have also been mentioned in connection with the appointment. A decision will be reached promptly after the formal invitation has been received from the Russian and British governments as to who shall be designated.

This formal invitation has not yet been received, the two governments in the negotiations which have been in progress between them acting entirely on the presumption that the United States would cheerfully give its assistance and detail a naval officer.

JAPANESE OVER THE HUN.

Rivers Will Soon Bear the Weight of Transport Wagons.

Tokio, Nov. 30.—News received from the region of the Shakhe indicates that the Japanese have been across the Hun river. Further reports are to the effect that the Russian outposts on the right bank of the Shakhe were within 300 yards of the Japanese picket line. Frequent exchange of gun fire occurred and minor attacks are quite everyday affairs. The rivers will soon be frozen sufficiently to bear the weight of the heavy transport wagons. The following report has been received from Field Marshal Oyama:

"From the night of the 25th to the morning of the 26th bodies of the enemy's infantry attacked us in the vicinity of Signiuta, Fagsig and Shaotukau. All these attacks were repulsed. In the afternoon of the 26th the enemy's artillery east of Tasha hotly cannonaded us, but we suffered no injury. "The greater part of the village of Changtsaiun has been burned by the Russians."

BUBONIC PLAGUE IN CHILI.

Consul Winans Charged with Giving Improper Bills of Health.

Lima, Peru, Nov. 30.—It is reported here that Senor Martinez, the Chilean minister to the United States, will request the state department at Washington to cancel the authorization of Charles S. Winans, American consul at Iquique, to take charge ad interim of the Peruvian consul at that place. The request, it is said, will be founded on a charge that Mr. Winans has given improper bills of health to steamers leaving Iquique.

While the prevalence of bubonic plague has not been officially declared in Chile, it is said that there are cases that the Chilean government daily conceals in order that steamers may not omit touching at ports at which there are no sanitary regulations. This alleged action is considered a great peril to the Peruvian coast, Panama and the entire country bordering on the South Pacific ocean.

Sultan Greatly Alarmed.

Salonica, European Turkey, Nov. 30.—The Bulgarian revolutionary movement has recently assumed such alarming proportions that the sultan is sending Nazir Pasha to Salonica as special envoy with instructions to take all measures necessary to suppress the Bulgarian movements by the quickest possible methods. Ten battalions from Albania are expected here soon and the Redifs will be probably mobilized in order to afford effective military protection in every village of Macedonia.

French Embassy Building Delayed.

Paris, Nov. 30.—Work on the new French embassy building at Washington will probably again be delayed. Foreign Minister Delcasse asked for an initial appropriation. Minister of Finance Rouvier objected on the ground of economy, but finally conceded \$20,000. The committee of the budget on foreign affairs, however, eventually struck this out, saying the amount would not permit of much progress, and that it was better to wait until the finances permitted of a more ample appropriation.

Russia Will Copy America.

St. Petersburg, Nov. 30.—A project for applying the American scheme of free land for settlers in Siberia in order to attract colonization from the congested districts in European Russia is attracting much favorable comment. The plan as proposed follows closely the American homestead system.

FRAMING BILL

House Committee Looks After Rivers and Harbors.

COLUMBIA RIVER IN HIGH FAVOR

Classed as One of the Most Important Improvements—Will Be Taken Care of First.

Washington, Nov. 30.—The house committee on rivers and harbors held a preliminary meeting today to prepare a bill which will be ready for presentation to the house before the Christmas recess. The measure was discussed only in a general way, but an agreement was reached that the more important projects would be taken care of first by the committee and the less important afterward. Representative Jones, of Washington, will look after the interests of the Columbia river, the improvement of which means so much to his constituents in Washington. Members of the committee who were seen today were of the opinion that the Columbia project properly came within the classification of important, and it will be among those considered first.

Mr. Jones was present today. In addition to caring for the Columbia river work, Mr. Jones will control to a large degree appropriate ones for improvements in the state of Washington.

It has been definitely determined that a river and harbor bill shall be passed at the approaching session of congress. Chairman Burton decided to get his committee together in advance of the convening of congress, so as to complete work on the bill and have it ready to present to the house just before the holiday recess. Once the bill is called up in the house it will take but a short time to get it through that body, and it will go through in practically the shape in which the committee reports it.

In the senate, however, there is likely to be considerable discussion of various features of the measure, and there is apt, before the bill reaches the senate, to be considerable discussion and amendment by the senate committee. The senate will, of course, pass the bill about as it comes from the committee on commerce, with probably a few amendments, increasing individual appropriations. Then it will be a question of holding the senate increases in the bill, and this will have to be done by the combined efforts of the various members of delegations whose states are interested.

TRIES TO HOLD MEETING.

Herr Most Taken Into Custody by St. Louis Police.

St. Louis, Nov. 30.—John Most, alias Herr Most, anarchist of New York, was arrested at 11 o'clock tonight after a fruitless effort to hold a meeting in St. Louis, and is now a prisoner at the Four Courts, held for Chief Kiely.

For ten days St. Louis detectives have watched Most. He was to have made a speech in National hall on Sunday afternoon, November 20, but the police prohibited it in view of the approaching visit of President Roosevelt.

He remained in St. Louis until last Wednesday, when it was announced he had gone to Chicago. Instead, it is declared he went across the river to East St. Louis, where he remained at the home of a friend until last night, when he recrossed the river. With the presence of Most in the city, it has developed that an international convention of anarchists was held in St. Louis for ten days just prior to the arrival of President Roosevelt. Chief of Police Kiely had a man at the meeting who made a complete report to him of the proceedings. It is declared that the chief business transacted at the convention, in addition to numerous speeches on liberty and free speech, was a resolution binding each delegate to use his influence to bring about a strike of all trades unions in the country next spring.

Negotiating for Steamer.

New York, Nov. 30.—Negotiations are reported to have been nearly completed whereby the steamship J. L. Luckenbach may eventually become the property of the Russian government. She was formerly in the trans-Atlantic service under the name Saale, and was partially destroyed in the great fire which swept the Hoboken water front several years ago. The steamer, which is now at South Brooklyn, was rebuilt after the fire and fitted up as a cargo carrier. She is valued at \$300,000. She will be used as a transport.

Powers Urge America End War.

New York, Nov. 30.—The Herald's Washington correspondent says: The powers are again urging America to end the conflict in the Far East. Diplomats attach great significance to Prince Fushimi's visits to Secretary Hay and the interest of the United States in the return of Manchuria to China is emphasized.

PREPARE TO DISMANTLE FAIR.

St. Louis Officials Will Begin Work Wednesday at Midnight.

St. Louis, Nov. 29.—Promptly at midnight next Wednesday, a force of 75 men employed by the General Service company of the Louisiana Purchase exposition, will shunt 200 freight cars, loaded with empty packing cases, into the several exhibit palaces, and the work of dismantling the World's fair will begin.

Piled at different parts of the exposition grounds are 1,500 carloads of empty packing cases, while outside the grounds are others, aggregating 100 carloads more. These will be distributed as rapidly as possible, and the packing of exhibits will be rushed.

At daylight, December 2, another large force of men will begin to tear up the walks that conceal the tracks about the exposition grounds. They will also tear up the switches in the rear of the Stadium and lay tracks connecting the line with each of the exhibit buildings.

A bond has been filed with the United States government, through the Treasury department, by the World's Fair terminal railway company, making it a common carrier, which will facilitate the removal of the exhibits, as freight cars can be dispatched direct from the exposition grounds to their destinations.

With the exception of Germany, in which case special permission was secured, not a single exhibit has been withdrawn nor will be allowed to be withdrawn until the new month has begun. Only a few of the German exhibits have been taken away from the World's fair grounds, and they were shipped directly to the imperial palace at Potsdam.

P. E. Pheneger, of Seattle, has been appointed general superintendent of the General Service company, and declares that all exhibits will be out of the exposition grounds by March 1.

WATER NOT SURE.

Eastern Oregon Irrigation Project May Be Blocked.

Washington, Nov. 29.—Just as the officials of the reclamation service were preparing to make contracts for the construction of the Malheur irrigation project in Malheur county, Oregon, after having completed negotiations with farmers whose lands will be reclaimed under the proposed canal, an unexpected obstacle arises which threatens to force the abandonment of this attractive reclamation scheme, the most promising now open to government adoption in Oregon.

The grant made to the Willamette Valley and Cascade Mountain Military road company traverses the area proposed to be irrigated along Malheur river, and embodies about one-sixth of the total irrigable area. The government, after persistent efforts, procured signed agreements from all farmers owning lands in the irrigation area, by which they pledge themselves to pay their proportionate share of the cost of building this great project, namely, \$30 an acre.

It had been assumed that the Military Road people would be willing to enter into a like agreement, inasmuch as the construction of this irrigation project would greatly enhance the value of their lands and make them readily salable. At present the road company's lands are vacant, unimproved and practically valueless. It turns out that the assumption of the department was incorrect. The owners of Military road land, now residing in Paris, do not look with favor upon the government's proposition, and are unwilling to contribute anything towards building storage reservoirs and canals.

The officials of the reclamation service, who had banked so much on this project, and had expected to see it pressed to early completion, are very much disappointed at the turn affairs have taken. They are inclined to believe that the Military Road people who are opposing the government's plan are not doing it in a spirit of animosity, but because they do not understand what the government proposes to do.

Russian Ships at Suez.

Suez, Nov. 29.—The Russian battleships Sissoi Veliky, flagship of Rear Admiral Voelkersam, and the Navarin, arrived here today from Port Said. The flagship exchanged salutes with the British cruiser Hermioe, while the band of the Navarin played the British anthem, followed by the Marseillaise and Khedival hymn. The rest of the division followed at short intervals and the whole of the division is now anchored in the Suez roads. The transit of the canal was without incident.

Firing on Port.

Tokio, Nov. 29.—The general attack on Port Arthur is progressing, but the results are unknown. Generals Nakamura and Saito, leading specially trained bodies of swordsmen, charged into the Russian forts and engaged the Russians in a hand-to-hand and bloody encounter. The result of the charges has not been learned.

MUST ATTACK

Japanese Officials Insist Port Arthur Be Taken.

RUSSIA READY FOR BAD NEWS

Certain That Stoenkel Will Make the Assault One of the Costliest in World's History.

Washington, Nov. 28.—The Associated Press learns on excellent authority that the Japanese army has received orders to renew its attack on Port Arthur and to take the main fortifications at any cost.

Prepared for Bad News.

St. Petersburg, Nov. 28.—There is a lack of news from the front today. The report that the Japanese are concentrating their energies for a desperate assault on Port Arthur, in view of the approach of the Baltic squadron, is quite generally credited in official quarters. Such a move has been expected to transpire as soon as the Japanese learned that the squadron's trip was a reality and no mere demonstration.

The authorities are prepared to hear terrible reports of the projected assault. While not hazarding a guess whether the fortress can be carried, for the besiegers are utterly regardless of life, they are confident that General Stoenkel will be able to make such an attack one of the costliest in history.

Russians Lack Ammunition.

London, Nov. 28.—The Post's Shanghai correspondent cables that, according to reliable information received there, the guns at Port Arthur have been silent for the past few days owing to lack of ammunition. This sudden turn for the worse in the condition of the defenders of the fortress has been caused by the recent blowing up of the most important magazine by Japanese shells.

STARVATION IS NEAR.

Sassuns Population of Turkey Is in a Terrible Condition.

Washington, Nov. 28.—A story of sickness, hunger and starvation has come to the state department from Mr. Norton, the American consul at Harpoot, in a report upon the condition of the Sassun population in Mush district. The consul says that of the 10,000 survivors of the recent massacre, few have saved anything but their lives. Nearly every house in the region was ransacked and burned.

Extracts from the report were made public at the state department today in the hope that the sad story may bring relief to the unfortunate Sassuns.

"Worst of all," Mr. Norton says, "their flocks and herds, practically the only source of food, raiment and income, were swept away."

"These unfortunates, after receiving for a short time an allowance from the government of 1 cent per capita per day for subsistence, are now without food and without a prospect of food for the coming winter. The diseases usually following upon fright, exposure, exhaustion and insufficient food are rapidly becoming epidemic."

WOULD MAKE WAR IMPOSSIBLE

Britain Believed to Favor Re-Enactment of Olney-Panacefote Treaty

Glasgow, Nov. 28.—The Glasgow Herald comments on the fact that the mutual acceptance of the Anglo-American treaty was announced on November 9, but that it has not yet been signed. The paper conjectures that the delay may be due to the inclination of both governments to bring about a re-enactment of the Olney-Panacefote treaty of 1897, there being unmistakable evidence that the advisability of such a course is being considered. While the treaty of 1897 may not fit present conditions in its entirety, it would be an easy matter, the paper says, to change it accordingly, retaining, however, those provisions which are largely in excess of the bonds created between the United States and other countries by the various treaties now pending. If this course were taken, the Herald says, war between the United States and Great Britain would be almost an impossibility.

Urges Russia Make Treaty.

St. Petersburg, Nov. 28.—The Bourse Gazette revives the question of a new commercial treaty with the United States. The paper says it notes with satisfaction that the negotiation of commercial treaties forms a part of President Roosevelt's program for the coming administration, and that the consummation is greatly to be desired between Russia and America. Commercial wars, the Gazette adds, are in the long run almost as costly and disastrous as armed hostilities, and equally useless and unnecessary.

Switzerland for Peace Congress.

Berne, Nov. 28.—The president of the Swiss federation has informed the American minister that Switzerland accepts in principle President Roosevelt's invitation to be present at The Hague conference.