

NEWS OF THE WEEK

In a Condensed Form for Our Busy Readers.

HAPPENINGS OF TWO CONTINENTS

A Resume of the Less Important but Not Less Interesting Events of the Past Week.

The Philippines may be sold to Japan.

The Baltic fleet has been seen in the Indian ocean sailing eastward.

The United States has refused to aid foreign claimants against Panama.

Germany has angered Turkey by protesting against buying arms in France.

The car has again turned from the peace party and will continue the war.

Twenty-four Chinese smuggled over the Mexican border at El Paso, Texas, have been arrested.

The president hopes to stave off foreign intervention in Santo Domingo until congress meets.

The eruption of Vesuvius is abating, there being only an occasional puff of light material and smoke.

The battleship Kansas will be christened by breaking a bottle of Kansas crude oil over its prow in the place of a bottle of champagne, as is the custom.

There is a movement in New York to erect at a cost of \$2,000,000 a building for a comprehensive exhibition of American and foreign art, and to provide a home for New York art societies.

Strikes and peasant revolts are being renewed in Russia.

Japan is raising the sunken Russian ships at Port Arthur.

The president has announced his intention to change the canal commission.

Kuropatkin has been appointed commander of the First Manchurian army.

Russian bureaucrats are being driven to make peace by terms dictated for a new French loan.

The United States government has called for arbitration of the Venezuelan dispute, with the alternative of force.

Over 3,000 men have been thrown out of employment as the result of the shutdown of the Havemeyer sugar refinery in Brooklyn.

A new island has risen in the sea of Japan, caused by the action of a volcano. The mikado's flag has been raised on its top, which has a circumference of two and three-fourths miles.

Although the city ordinances of New York forbid the erection of brick and stone buildings in frosty weather, some 75 flat buildings have been finished since January 1, and now that the mortar is thawing they are falling down.

News of another crushing blow to the Russian army is being withheld.

A Chicago judge says a woman has a right to kill her husband in self-defense.

Italy has sent a warship to Santo Domingo to demand the payment of her claims.

An addition is being built to President Roosevelt's summer home at Sagamore Hill, L. I.

The war party in Russia is caricaturing Roosevelt and trying to draw France and Germany into war.

The governor of Viborg province, in Southern Russia, has been mortally wounded by a terrorist.

Two masked men held up messengers of the Pacific Coast Oil company near Berkeley, Cal., and secured \$10,000.

The Chicago council has taken away the franchise of the largest street railway. The property is valued at \$36,000,000.

One of the most perplexing questions confronting the administration is the Panama canal. It is admitted that the commission is a failure.

The United States court of claims has awarded the Cherokee Indians \$4,500,000 for lands secured in 1838 but never entirely paid for. Of this amount \$1,111,284 is principal and the balance interest.

Chinese complain of outrages by Japanese.

The armored cruiser Washington has been launched at the Camden, N. J., ship yard.

Secretary Hay's health has broken down and he may resign. He has gone to Europe for a rest.

Root, Taft and Knox are three strong Republicans who are already being spoken of as the next candidate for president.

French faith in Russia's ability to cope with the Japanese has been severely shaken by the latest defeats to the czar's arms.

There is a great rush of home-seekers from all parts of the East to the Northwest.

Perch, a small town near Hobart, Oklahoma, has been wrecked by a cyclone.

The Missouri legislature elected William Warner, Republican, of Kansas City, United States senator to succeed Francis M. Cockrell.

ex-senator Hawley, of Connecticut, is dead.

CONFERENCE ON IRRIGATION.

Experts from Western Government Stations Meet in California.

San Francisco, March 21.—At a small but very significant conference of half a dozen irrigation experts connected with the experiment stations of the United States Agricultural department on the Pacific coast, held yesterday and today at the University of California, important plans were made for the future of irrigation and drainage investigation in all the western states. The meeting was attended by Professor Elwood Mead, chief of the irrigation bureau of the Department of Agriculture; Professor Samuel Fortier, of Montana; Professor G. H. True, of Nevada; Professor O. L. Waller, of Washington; Professor J. H. Withycombe, of Oregon; and Professors E. W. Hilgard, R. H. Loughridge, and E. J. Wickson, of the agricultural experiment stations at Berkeley.

The chief task of the conference was the preparation of plans for experiments to determine the quality of water which will give the best results in irrigation under different conditions. This is an undertaking almost limitless in extent. In addition to this, a campaign of education is being arranged.

Professor Elwood Mead, who has just arrived in California to commence his series of annual lectures at the State university, is very hopeful over the future of irrigation on the coast.

Professor Withycombe reported on the work and its possibilities in Oregon. He will return north and continue the measurements of streams.

Today's conference is considered as opening new possibilities in irrigation on the Pacific coast.

SLAUGHTER BY BULGARIANS.

Greek Village Attacked and All Male Inhabitants Slain.

Constantinople, March 21.—Advice received from Salonica state that the Bulgarian bands are again causing trouble, and that reports of outrages are coming in rapidly. The result of this is that the relations between Greece and Bulgaria are again stretched near to the breaking point, the former government alleges that the Bulgarian government is not making any effort to keep these bands under control but permits them to ravage at will on condition that they confine their assaults to Greeks and Turks.

At a monastery near Vodena a band of armed Bulgarians attacked a party of Greek priests and the latter must have been killed had not a party of Greeks come to their rescue and attacked the Bulgarians. The latter were beaten back, leaving 15 dead behind.

Angered at their losses the Bulgarians attacked the villages of Messimerion and ruthlessly massacred all of the male inhabitants and carried off the women and children. They then terrorized the entire district of Vodena and so far have managed to escape the troops that were sent to punish them.

CASTRO SEIZED COAL MINES.

Protest Entered by Italian Government for Operating Company.

New York, March 21.—The Herald this morning prints the following dispatch from Port of Spain, Trinidad:

News has reached Port of Spain that the governor of Barcelona, Venezuela, has received from President Castro orders to take possession at once of the coal mines of Guantamarical, situated near Barcelona, and leased in 1898 for 33 years by the Venezuelan government to an Italian company.

The same day the Venezuelan troops took possession of the mines by armed force, as in the similar case of the New York and Bermudez company, this notwithstanding the protest of the Italian government. The action has been taken without a judgment of the court of Caracas.

The Italian legation has been notified and Baron Aliotti, Italian charge d'affaires, is represented as having entered a protest.

Spartan Runs on a Rock.

Block Island, R. I., March 21.—The steamer Spartan, of the Boston and Philadelphia steamship company, ran aground on the southeastern end of Block island during a fog early today while on her way from Providence to Philadelphia. A 15-foot hole was stove in the ship's bow and soon the vessel sank so her decks were awash. Tonight the vessel is rapidly breaking up. The crew of 23 remained aboard the ship during the day, but were taken off tonight. Wreckers have been sent to lighten the cargo.

Mistake Over Damage Claim.

St. Petersburg, March 21.—The Russian press is bitterly attacking the claim for damages for the sinking of the British steamer Knight Commander, on the theory that the demand is for exemplary damages put forward by the British government in violation of international law and entirely apart from the owner's claim, whereas the fact is that it is simply the owner's claim, the misapprehension having been created by erroneous report in English papers.

Meat Too High for the Poor.

Mexico City, March 21.—Meat dealers are exercised over the rise in the price of meat, which has been advanced from 25 to 50 per cent in the last month, and charge that there is a meat trust at work. The situation is serious, as meat is almost beyond the means of the lower classes.

GRAFTING ON CANAL

High Time to Make a Change in Isthmian Commission.

ENGINEERS LEAVE IN DISGUST

Trouble is Said to Be Lack of Efficient Organization—Payrolls Already Padded.

Chicago, March 18.—Walter Wellman, wiring from Washington to the Record-Herald, says that graft has already made its appearance among the employees of the United States on the Panama canal, according to an American engineer who was on the isthmus only three weeks ago. It is evidently high time President Roosevelt was carrying out his plan for a complete reorganization of the canal commission.

This engineer, who had exceptional opportunities to gather information as to conditions on the isthmus, declares it is within his personal knowledge that payrolls are already being padded and that various forms of petty graft are practiced. The trouble is said to be lack of efficient organization. Chief Engineer Wallace is working like a Trojan in the field and has almost worn himself out trying to push the work at Culebra Hill and to bring order out of chaos in the organization.

The present canal commission is declared to be a failure by every man who has visited the isthmus during the last six months. The commission remained at Panama just long enough to establish certain iron-clad rules whose literal enforcement has been a great detriment to the chief engineer and the other officials who are trying to push the work. Then the members of the commission, with the exception of General Davis, returned to the United States and are here yet. Evidently they do not care to live on the isthmus and prefer the climate of New York and Washington.

On account of the unsatisfactory state of affairs on the isthmus, many engineers and other employees of the commission are given up their jobs in disgust and returning home.

Reports say that the commissioner who looks after the medicine supplies refuses to allow such medicines as are required and in many cases such as are given out are badly adulterated.

CASTRO SHUNS FOREIGNERS

Is Arming for Defense—Talks of Attack on New Orleans.

Willemstad, Curacao, March 18.—According to trustworthy advices received here, the situation in Venezuela is unchanged, both internally and as to foreign affairs, except that the relations between President Castro and the various legations at Caracas are a little more strained. Castro has now ceased to talk with the European representatives concerning the Venezuelan debt, and the recent recall of General Antonio Veturini, second vice president of Venezuela, who has been in Europe for some time endeavoring to arrange a settlement with the British and German bondholders, is regarded as an indication that the negotiations have failed. It is said that no diplomat has been able to secure an interview with Castro concerning disputed international questions for months. Castro maintains his belligerent attitude and continues to make military preparations. He apparently regards an attack on Port Cabello and La Guayra as probable, and has mounted six new French six-inch guns and a number of small guns on the heights overlooking these ports, and has available three small coast defense vessels.

Castro's attitude is reflected in a pamphlet just issued through one of his advisers, Colonel Juan Bautista Lamedo, in which plans for sending 30,000 Venezuelans against New Orleans are disclosed. The pamphlet urges the public to avenge the insults to Venezuela offered by the Americans, and declares the invasion of the Mississippi valley would be the most effective means of curbing the action of the United States.

Stock Certificates Forged.

Denver, March 18.—Forged stock certificates of the Colorado Fuel & Iron company have been unearthed by the presentation of a counterfeit certificate for 100 shares of stock, par value \$1,000, at the Denver office of the company for transfer. The certificate came from a lawyer at Davenport, Ia. Appearing on the certificate as president of the company is the name of James A. Kehlo. Mr. Kehlo was never president of the company. There is also a certificate with the forged signature of Secretary D. C. Beaman.

Flood Bursts Kentucky Dike.

Winchester, Ky., March 18.—The break in the Kentucky river dike near Ford grows wider, and a channel fully 100 yards wide is filled with a rushing torrent that is eating into the south bank of the government lock. Giant trees of a century's growth have been torn loose and carried away. One of the government's buildings at the locks fell into the river today and the others are in danger. Conservative estimates place the damage thus far at \$250,000.

Engine Blows Up, Injuring Three.

Echo, Utah, March 18.—A Union Pacific engine pulling eastbound freight No. 52 blew up while passing the station today, injuring Engineer H. L. Purdy, Fireman G. N. Banker and brakeman J. E. Jones.

DIVIDE THE MONEY.

Two Great Irrigation Works are Proposed for Idaho.

Washington, March 20.—Reclamation Service Engineers Ross and Powell, of Idaho, called upon Senator Dubois today in reference to the proposition now being considered by the secretary of the interior to divert about \$1,000,000 from the Minidoka irrigation project and use it in inaugurating what is known as the Boise-Payette project. Senator Dubois endorses the views of the reclamation service engineers and will call upon Secretary Hitchcock and urge him to approve the proposition to have both projects carried to completion.

From investigations and preliminary surveys it has been found that part of the Minidoka project south of Snake river is not feasible at this time and cannot be built until that part of the project north of Snake river shall be completed and put into operation. It is proposed to take the funds which would be required to build south of the river and use them to build the Boise-Payette project, which is estimated to cost about \$1,000,000. If this is not done, it is believed the funds intended for the south project will be turned back into the general reclamation fund, and Idaho will lose the benefit of them, at least for the present.

MINE EXPLOSION KILLS TEN.

Men Left on Guard at Night Perish in West Virginia.

Charleston, W. Va., March 20.—An explosion occurred at the mines of the New River Smokeless Coal and Coke company at Rush Run at 10 o'clock last night, in which ten men were killed. The explosion was in the Rush mine and extended to the Red Ash mine, nearly two miles away, and great flames burst out of the mouths of both mines. About seven men stayed in each mine at night to take care of them and all were killed.

The interior of the mines is in such condition at this time that it is impossible for anyone to enter to investigate.

The Rush Run and Red Ash mines are the property of the same company and the latter is the mine in which 46 lives were lost three years ago. It is impossible at this time to ascertain the cause of the explosion.

CASTRO PREPARES TO FIGHT

Seeks Settlement with Other Nations but is Hostile to France.

Paris, March 20.—Official advices are to the effect that President Castro, of Venezuela, is seeking to settle his complications with Germany and Great Britain, probably with a view to leaving him a free hand in dealing with the complications with the United States and France. The latter awaits the decision of the court at Caracas, however.

France has not subscribed to the position of some other European governments in entrusting to the United States the enforcement of rights against South American countries. On the contrary, this government expects to enforce its own rights, although whatever action is finally determined upon will undoubtedly be communicated to Washington with the view of securing American co-operation.

Change in Asiatic Naval Command.

Washington, March 20.—Rear Admiral Stirling, commanding the Asiatic fleet, has cabled the Navy department that he has left Cavite on the flagship Wisconsin, accompanied by the battleship Oregon, the gunboats Nanshan and General Alva and the torpedo boat destroyers Bainbridge, Barry, Decatur, Chauncey and Dale, for Hong Kong, where the admiral will hand down his flag on March 23 and transfer the command of the station to Rear Admiral William Folger, now commanding the cruiser squadron of that fleet.

Insult is Offered France.

Paris, March 20.—Count de Segonzac, who was sent by the Moroccan commission to investigate the commercial condition of Morocco, has been captured by Arabs. The case resembles the Perdicaris affair. The incident causes excitement, owing to France's policy of assuming paramount control in Morocco. The secretary of the Moroccan commission in an interview said that the capture of Count de Segonzac proved the necessity for rapid French action in Morocco. The other members of the mission are safe.

Works of Art Destroyed.

New York, March 20.—Many valuable paintings and pieces of statuary and articles used in instruction were destroyed by a fire which damaged the building occupied by the National Academy of design. One fireman was buried under debris from a falling wall, but was rescued and removed to a hospital. He will recover. While an exact estimate of the damage could not be made today, it is said it will be at least \$50,000.

Vesuvius Throws Hot Stones.

Naples, March 20.—Mount Vesuvius, is again in eruption and is throwing out burning lava, red hot stones and a high column of smoke, with detonations which are heard at long distances. The eruption is attributed to an earthquake which was felt for 80 miles.

Guard for Railroad Bridges.

Warsaw, March 20.—The directors of the Viaducta railroad have asked for troops to guard the bridges between Siedlce and Malkin, because of the receipt of letters threatening their destruction.

"RELIEVING" GUARD NEAR THE SHAHO.



PUTTING A LIVING SENTRY IN A DEAD ONE'S PLACE.

Since the midwinter campaign of Napoleon in Russia almost a century ago no great war has been waged under such terrible climatic conditions as prevail in Manchuria to-day. There was suffering in the trenches before Sebastopol in the winter of 1854-55, but nothing like that of the Japanese and Russians along the Shaho River. The work of entrenching is almost impossible, and at the outposts the sentries have to be content with holes burrowed in the ground. Walking to and fro with a background of snow to throw the figure into relief as a mark for the sharp shooter means death. Even careful burrowing, says the London Illustrated News artist, who drew the graphic sketch reproduced above, cannot always protect the Japanese sentries from the Russian marksmen, and not infrequently when the relief comes a dead man has to be drawn out of the pit to make room for a living successor.

NEW FRENCH PREMIER.

M. Rouvier, Successor of Combes, Began Life as a Book Agent.

M. Rouvier, who succeeds M. Combes as French premier, has been for more than a generation closely identified with the politics of the Republic. He has been repeatedly at the head of the department of finance, in which position he established a reputation which made his name a household one in France.

The new premier began life as a book agent. Subsequently he engaged in the Russian grain trade, and his business journeys to Constantinople.

Nature has greatly aided this man in his work. He has a voice singularly full and resonant. When he breaks loose at the end of a car a half-awake passenger starts from his seat as if a steam callopo had started on a ragtime tune, and by the time he winds up on such names as Tuscola, Arcoia, and Tolono passengers for these places are loading up with packages and grips and reaching for umbrellas.—Chicago Tribune.

Paper as Fuel.

In these days of scarcity of fuel it may be interesting to know how one thrifty housekeeper, with more leisure than money, has warmed her house for years during the two weeks or so in the fall and spring when heat is needed in the morning and evening only. She uses old newspapers and prepares them for combustion by twisting them into fagots. For the furnace she tears the paper in half, doubles each half together and twists it tightly. For the fireplace heater she separates the sheets, crumples each together and finishes by giving a slight twist, while for the small stove in her sewing room or for a grate that is sometimes used in a north room, she merely gives the paper a close crumple. She finds it better to prepare the fuel pretty near the time of using it, as it burns better if it has not been allowed to gather dampness. This fuel is prepared at odd times, usually at dusk, by the mistress and her children, and is kept in huge bags made of cast-off garments, and these forms measures for the amounts needed.

Now Use for Refined Paraffine Wax. A new and important use for refined paraffine wax seems to have been discovered by a prominent resident of Ohio, living near Lancaster, who had two trees badly damaged by storm, one being a maple and the other an apple. In each case a large limb was broken down from the trunk, but still attached to it. The limbs were propped up and fastened securely with straps, very much as a broken leg might be fastened with splints, and then melted refined wax poured into and over all the cracks. The "surgical operation" was entirely successful. The paraffine prevented the escape of the sap, kept out the rain and moisture which would have rotted the trees, prevented the depredations of insects, and the limbs seem thus far to be perfectly re-attached to the trees.

A WORLD WONDER

Trainman Who Makes People Understand a Station Name.

"Ka-n-ka-lee!"
"Kan-k-a-a-kee!"
"Kan-ka-k-ee-ee!"
William J. Crawford, a colored trainman, of Chicago, has reduced the calling of station names to a practical system that has won for him the praise and hearty thanks of a million of passengers. When he inflates one of the bluesteamed pairs of lungs in Illinois, opens his mouth, and begins to play on a station name, no man, woman or child fails to understand what it is. Crawford has been on the fast trains of the Illinois Central between Chicago and Cairo for the last ten years. When he first became a trainman he noticed that a man or woman would look him squarely in the face while he was calling the station, and that about the time the train had got well underway from the depot at which the passenger wanted to get off, Crawford would find him sitting in his seat in blissful ignorance of his having been carried past. This did not happen once, but many times, and the observing employe began to suspect that people did not "catch" him.

In many instances trouble arose

from many different pronunciations of the name of a town. Different people put the emphasis on different syllables, and this often created confusion. The noise of the train in speeding over the rails also made it difficult to make out what was being called.

"Finally," said the trainman, "I concluded that I would first attract the attention of every passenger in the car and then call out the station, emphasizing first one syllable and then another, using all of the accents and inflections I had ever heard of. In the course of time I got what I considered the best way of impressing the mind with particular names, and we carried few people past their destination."

Nature has greatly aided this man in his work. He has a voice singularly full and resonant. When he breaks loose at the end of a car a half-awake passenger starts from his seat as if a steam callopo had started on a ragtime tune, and by the time he winds up on such names as Tuscola, Arcoia, and Tolono passengers for these places are loading up with packages and grips and reaching for umbrellas.—Chicago Tribune.

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Best He Could Do.

Bachelor (disgustedly)—Hub! You're to be married, I hear.

Oldham—Yes, to Miss Playne.

Bachelor—Poor chump! I thought you knew better.

Oldham—So I do, but none of them would have me.—Philadelphia Press.

A man never kicks if his name is misspelled in the police records of a newspaper.