

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 Japanese army is advancing northward, preceded by cavalry.

The teamsters' strike in Chicago may affect all department stores.

A run on a New York trading stamp store has caused its being closed.

Irrigation committees of congress will tour the West and visit Portland.

Senator O. H. Platt is in a very serious condition, having had a relapse.

The State department says it has not received Minister Barrett's resignation.

The Union Pacific railway will build more gasoline motor cars and run them on all branch lines.

The strike in the Arkansas Valley smelter at Leadville, Colo., has been settled and work resumed.

Five miners were killed in an explosion in the Cabin Creek mines 30 miles from Charleston, West Virginia.

The beef trust has been caught in the act of sending witnesses away from Chicago who might tell too much.

The Great Northern has let contracts for the extension of its line from Sioux City, Iowa, to Ashland, Nebraska.

Bonds have been sold for the extension of the Western Pacific railroad from the present terminus at Salt Lake City to Oakland.

Kalief, the assassin of Grand Duke Sergius, has been condemned to death.

Troops fired on railroad strikers in an Italian town, killing and wounding many.

The question of broken neutrality by the Russians has aroused keen interest in Japan.

Contracts have been closed for building an immense steel mill in China. The work will cost close to \$3,000,000.

Portland is now officially recognized as the leading wheat exporting city of the United States. The department of Commerce and Labor accords Portland first place.

The Japanese government has let contracts for the erection of huge steel plants and other necessary machinery for the construction of heavy ordnance. An American firm will do the work.

No women spectators will be allowed at the third trial of Nan Patterson.

The Chicago teamsters' strike against Montgomery, Ward & Co. seems to be losing headway. Riots continue, however.

A young man of Muncie, Indiana, has been fined \$25 and costs for having cigarette papers in his possession. This is the first penalty assessed in Indiana since the anti-cigarette law became effective.

Nevada state health officers report conditions improving at Tonopah, the new mining camp.

The senate committee on interstate commerce has commenced its hearings on railway legislation.

Commissioner Garfield is holding night sessions examining into Standard Oil methods in Kansas.

John A. Benson will have to stand trial in Washington on land fraud charges, the United States supreme court having denied his right to be tried in California.

The supreme court of the United States has decided the case involving the removal of George W. Beavers from Brooklyn to Washington against Beavers, holding him subject to removal.

The preliminary legal battle is on at Portland in connection with the land fraud cases. Hermann, Mitchell, Williamson and the smaller offenders are all in attendance at Judge Bellinger's court. The best legal talent of the state is arrayed against Prosecutor Heney and they will be augmented later by some of the best lawyers of the nation.

Chicago will own the city's car lines within three months.

Carnegie will soon distribute \$12,500,000 among 50 colleges in 17 states.

Minturn, a small Colorado mining town, has been practically wiped out by fire.

Bids have just been opened by the Navy department for the construction of three cruisers.

Indiana's anti-cigarette law is in force and a cigarette cannot be purchased in the state.

Chicago teamsters' sympathizers have mobbed the negro drivers for Montgomery, Ward & Co., and other disturbances are daily occurring in connection with the strike.

Further violence on the part of the strikers has ended peace conferences on the Chicago teamsters' strike.

Omaha retailers have had the price of beef raised on them. They are now paying \$15 to \$20 more per carcass than they were two weeks ago.

SHONTS IS TO BE CHIEF.

Secretary Taft Says He Will Work With Panama Commission.

New York, April 18.—Secretary of War Taft, who is here to attend the annual meeting of the directors of the Panama railroad company in this city tomorrow, had this to say tonight on the affairs of the railroad company: "The meeting will result in a complete reorganization of the company. The government is now in control of the stock. It is absolutely essential for the United States to control the affairs of the company in the work of constructing the canal. We desire the affairs of the road conducted in harmony with the commission which will have charge of the general construction work."

"With this end in view, the directors of the Panama railroad company at the meeting will elect Theodore P. Shonts, the new chairman of the Panama canal commission, president of the Panama railroad company. "With Mr. Shonts at the head of the company it is certain that its affairs will be conducted most satisfactorily. His experience as a practical railroad man will enable him to operate the railroad just as the Panama canal commission may desire while the work of the construction is in progress. The entire official board of the company will be comprised of either members of the commission or men who are interested in the work of constructing the canal. "By official board I mean the officers and directors of the company. "We expect to have this road in readiness at the time the work of the canal construction begins and managed in a manner so as to facilitate this great work."

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TO HEAR ALL SIDES

Senate Committee Will Consider Railroad Rates.

NEW BILL IS TO BE PREPARED

Two Months Will Be Devoted to Hearing Testimony of Experts on Question.

Washington, April 15.—Railroad rate legislation and kindred topics will again be brought prominently to the attention of the public with the meetings here, beginning Monday, of the senate committee on interstate commerce, which will assemble for the purpose of ventilating the subject in a manner more thorough than any heretofore on record. The meeting will be held in the committee's rooms at the capitol and will be public. Senator Elkins, of West Virginia, will preside. The Republican members are Cullom, Illinois; Aldrich, Rhode Island; Keen, New Jersey; Dooliver, Iowa; Foraker, Ohio; Clapp, Minnesota; and Millard, Nebraska. The Democrats are Tillman, South Carolina; McLaurin, Mississippi; Carmack, Tennessee; Foster, Louisiana; and Newlands, Nevada. As a basis of consideration, the Each-Townsend bill, passed by the house at the last session, will be expected to serve. The committee had the measure before it many days before the adjournment of the last congress and was urged to put it on its passage. Arguments were advanced, however, protesting against hasty action because of the alleged radical character of this measure, and the importance of the interests involved. Chairman Elkins and Senator Foraker were among those who advocated delay, and the committee, near the close of the session, after much time had been devoted to hearings, reported to the senate a resolution authorizing it to continue the hearings during the recess. This authority was granted and Monday's meeting will be the initial meeting under that authority. Although the house committee on interstate commerce, which evolved the Each bill, took sufficient testimony to fill several large volumes, and although the senate committee was not idle in that regard, the investigation of the subject now imminent promises to be most exhaustive. Both sides, in fact many sides, of the case will be heard.

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TALKED TOO MUCH.

Severe Rebuke Given to Special Land Agent Leach.

Washington, April 17.—Arnold F. Leach, special agent of the general land office, who is quoted in dispatches from Tacoma as declaring he has unearthed tremendous land frauds in Washington, beside which the Oregon frauds pale into insignificance, has been called severely to account by Land Commissioner Richards.

According to Leach's interview, he has Sherlock Holmes done in a frazzle. He made it appear that he had gathered evidence which would send to the penitentiary many leading citizens and officials of Washington, who, he alleged, had been defrauding the government of hundreds of thousands of dollars' worth of timber. In a letter addressed to Leach, Mr. Richards says he has examined his official reports to the department and finds nothing in them which substantiates his interview; Leach has omitted to notify the department of his sensational discoveries. If he has such evidence as he claims, Mr. Richards wants to see it. Furthermore, Leach is notified that special agents are sent out to gather information for the general land office, not for the newspapers; that their reports are regarded as confidential at all times, and if any part of them is to be made public that information will be given to the press in Washington, not by officers in the field. Leach is a subordinate special agent in Washington. He is not working under the direction of Secretary Hitchcock, but of Mr. Richards, nor is he in charge of land investigations in Washington state. It is not believed any further steps will be taken in Leach's case unless it be to again reprimand him when his reply is received.

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