

# 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.

Four soldiers have been arrested in Honolulu for making spurious gold coin.

Charles J. Bonaparte has entered into his duties as secretary of the Navy department.

Seven negroes and a white man were taken from the Watkinsonville, Georgia, jail, and shot by a mob.

Six persons were killed and 20 injured, 16 of the latter seriously, in a storm at Phillipsburg, Kansas.

It is said that a former employe of the beef trust has told the president all the details of the workings of the trust.

In the official announcement Secretary Taft scores J. F. Wallace, Panama engineers, and demands his resignation.

The crew of the Russian battleship Kniaz Potemkin fired two shots into the city of Odessa, tearing great holes in the buildings in the path of the shells.

A semblance of order has been restored in Odessa, but the situation is still most critical. Troops fired into the rioters with machine guns, killing 1,000.

A passenger train collided with a freight in the suburbs of Kansas City. Two brakemen were killed, several received fatal injuries and a number of passengers received slight injuries.

Major General Wood has been granted two months' leave of absence from the Philippines.

The grave of Molly Pitcher, the heroine of the battle of Monmouth, has been appropriately marked.

Vice Admiral Choukinn, commander of the Black sea fleet, has declined to accept the post of Russian minister of marine.

President Roosevelt and Secretary Taft have conferred on canal matters but are not ready to make any announcement.

The Navy department has abolished the use of the sword on board warships as a useless appendage. Revolvers will be worn instead.

Knight, Donnelly & Co., Chicago grain brokers, have failed with liabilities reaching \$3,000,000. The assets will not go much over \$2,000,000.

D. B. Henderson, ex-speaker of the house of representatives, is confined to his apartments at Dubuque, Iowa, from a slight stroke of paralysis.

Reports received at St. Petersburg say that a revolt has taken place on four of the largest armored ships of the Black sea fleet. These four vessels will join the one whose crew has already mutinied.

Under the terrible charge of having killed and eaten many children whom they had stolen, 20 gypsies have been arrested near Jassebereny, Hungary. The leader of the band alone is alleged to have eaten 18 children.

Secretary Hay's condition continues to improve.

The Russian government has ordered the mobilization of more troops.

Odessa is now involved in the bloody strike riots spreading over Russia.

General Leonard Wood is in Washington on a flying visit from the Philippines.

King Oscar is opposed to raising of a prince of the house of Bernadotte to the Norwegian throne.

A report is current in St. Petersburg that Kuropatkin has been slain and many Russians captured.

The Swedish riksdag presents the insult of Norway, but seems willing to accept a dissolution of the states.

The Canadian parliament has passed a bill allowing construction of a railroad to compete with the Canadian Pacific. The new road is being backed by James J. Hill.

The Treasury department has decided that the United States is not bound to return the bodies of those who die in the canal zone while in the employ of the government.

Germany's last note to France on the Moroccan question is very amicable in tone, but an insistence is made that the difficulties must be regulated by a conference of compromise.

Lord Curzon threatens to resign the vice royalty of India.

Germany has assumed a more peaceful tone toward France.

Generals Linievitch and Kuropatkin appear anxious to continue fighting.

A foreign diplomat at Washington says Germany desires Russia to continue the Far Eastern war.

Secretary Taft says trial by jury in the Philippines could not be wisely adopted at the present time.

A Danish training schooner and a British schooner collided near Copenhagen. The cadet ship sunk and carried 22 cadets with her.

## FAIR TREATMENT.

President Will See That Courtesy is Shown Chinese Exempt Classes.

Washington, June 27.—By direction of President Roosevelt action has been taken by the administration which not only facilitates the landing in this country of Chinese of the exempt class, but will also eliminate from the Immigration bureau such administrative features as have been the subject of criticism by Chinese. It is the declared intention of the president to see that Chinese merchants, travelers, students and others of the exempt classes shall have the same courtesy shown them by officers of the Immigration bureau as is accorded to citizens of the most favored nations.

Representations have been made to the president that in view of alleged harsh treatment accorded to many Chinese seeking a landing in the United States, the commercial guilds of China have determined to institute a boycott on American manufacturers. The representations, backed by the authority of the American Asiatic society and commercial bodies throughout the country, induced the president to make an investigation of the situation with a view to remedying the evils complained of, if they were found to exist. The subject was discussed thoroughly with Secretary Metcalf, of the department of Commerce and Labor, who has supervision of the Immigration bureau.

As the result of the inquiry orders have been issued to the diplomatic and consular representatives of the United States in China by the president himself that they must look closely to the performance of their duties under the exclusion law and see to it that members of the exempt classes coming to this country are provided with proper certificates. These certificates will be accepted at any port of the United States and will guarantee the bearer against any harsh or discourteous treatment.

## BIG FIRE AT NASHVILLE.

Department Store is Destroyed, with Adjoining Buildings.

Nashville, Tenn., June 27.—Fire in the retail shopping district caused damage estimated at between \$500,000 and \$600,000. The flames were located in the Palace, a big department store on the southwest corner of Fifth avenue and Union street. The fire spread rapidly and when it was at last under control the following damage had been done:

The Palace, occupied by Morris Bros., wholesale and retail millinery, and Jacobus Bros., owned by Norman Kirkman, burned. The Manix, six-story building, occupied by Nashville Dry Goods company, owned by Norman Kirkman; burned.

Two three-story buildings being fitted up for Kress & Co., owned by Browne heirs; wrecked by falling walls and burned.

Others who sustained losses are: Wright Bros., decorators; Cash Grocery store, R. W. Turner, Cumberland Baking Powder company; Alfred Steam Dye works.

## DATE IS PROPOSED.

Peace Meeting Will Take Place Early in August.

St. Petersburg, June 27.—Negotiations for the peace conference have taken an important step forward, and a proposal for the date of the meeting of the plenipotentiaries at Washington has been submitted to Russia and is now under consideration. The exact date proposed has not been ascertained, but there is reason to suppose that it is some time during the first week or ten days of August, which is about the earliest period at which the Japanese representatives could be expected to reach Washington, allowing reasonable time for the acceptance of the proposal and the interchange of the nominations of plenipotentiaries.

The emperor's answer is not expected for a day or two, as the diplomatic mills of Russia grind slowly, and the foreign office, as one of the secretaries put it, "is not used to hustling American methods," but it is thought that the date will be satisfactory, as it will give ample time, for Nelidoff, the Russian ambassador at Paris, or other Russian negotiators to reach Washington, and there will be little preliminary work for them to do.

## Valuable Furs from Alaska.

Seattle, June 27.—Garrett Busch, pioneer in the fur trade of the Lower Yukon, is here with \$25,000 worth of skins he has brought out from Alaska. Busch went to Nulato on a prospecting tour in 1897, but went into the fur trade instead. He built his cabin from whipsawed lumber made by himself on the present site of Nulato and waited for the Indians to visit him. His prospector's supplies were traded for the first fur stock and the fur trade grew slowly until he now practically controls it. Nulato is an important post.

## Blame the British Newspapers.

Berlin, June 27.—Chancellor Von Bulow received M. Bihourd, the French ambassador, today. The newspapers continue to discuss the situation between France and Germany with heat. The North German Gazette declares that "in Premier Rouvier's note the republic adopts no decided stand toward a conference." An attempt is being made to shift the responsibility for the recent war panic to articles in the British press.

## Russian Vessels are Raised.

Rome, June 27.—A Port Arthur engineer, received from an Italian dispatcher who is engaged in raising the Russian ships sunk in the harbor there, says that three ironclads have been refloated.

# BLOW TO MITCHELL

Robertson Tells Vivid Story at Land Fraud Trial.

## WAS ASKED TO COMMIT PERJURY

Senator's Former Secretary Tells the Court He Was Afraid to Face Tanner After Decision.

Portland, June 27.—Harry C. Robertson, former private secretary to Senator Mitchell, has told his story. The scene in the United States court room yesterday morning when Robertson took the stand was dramatic. Not a word told by the witness missed the ears of the defendant and the auditors present. Judge Tanner's testimony was a blow to Senator Mitchell. The testimony of Robertson was even heavier, for in many details it corroborates what Judge Tanner has already told the jury. The witness declared without reservation that he had been asked to commit perjury so that Senator Mitchell and Judge Tanner might evade the necessity of appearing in court. He told of the stormy interview with the defendant when the latter found that he would not be a tool of his own fear of meeting Judge Tanner on his return to Portland from Washington because he thought that he would be too weak to resist Judge Tanner's attempts to get him to commit perjury. The witness stated that he delayed his visit to the senator's law partner for this reason. It was this delay that resulted in placing in the hands of the government that particularly damaging "burn this letter" document of Senator Mitchell, a letter which was given to Robertson by Max Pracht to deliver to Tanner.

## DISAGREES WITH BOARD.

Chief Engineer of Panama Canal is Forced to Resign.

New York, June 27.—John F. Wallace, chief engineer for the Panama Canal commission, has resigned his position under pressure from President Roosevelt and Secretary of War Taft. This statement was made here today by Theodore P. Shonts, chairman of the commission.

Mr. Shonts declared that he was not at liberty to talk, and that the announcement would have to come from President Roosevelt direct. He declared also that the forced retirement of the chief engineer would in no way affect his (Mr. Shonts') position with the canal board, nor would it lead to a reorganization of the board. On the other hand, the rumor is strong that there will be a reorganization of the board at an early date.

The resignation of Mr. Wallace came after several stormy sessions of the canal board, and after several conferences between the president, the chief engineer and Mr. Shonts. Disagreement was entirely over the policy to be pursued in the construction of the canal. It was found after Mr. Wallace left for Panama that there was a serious difference between his ideas and those of President Roosevelt and Chairman Shonts of the commission.

## ANXIOUS TO FIGHT.

Linievitch Appears to Regret that End of War is Near.

Gunshu Pass, June 27.—Many dispatches reaching here through the official paper, which is edited for the army, make the conditions under which the proposed peace is to be reached very indifferently understood.

In consequence of events at Washington a military initiative for an armistice has been expected, but although Generals Linievitch and Kuropatkin express the conviction that Russia is drifting toward peace, no action looking to an armistice has yet been taken. On the contrary the commanders appear to regret that at the time when the army has reached its maximum strength it is likely to be deprived of victory.

## Big Gun is Too Expensive.

New York, June 27.—The ordnance experts of the United States Army are said to have practically decided that the 16-inch gun, from which so much was expected, is not practicable as a weapon, and a decision of the War department to abandon the type is anticipated. Only one of these guns has been made so far, and that one is now at Sandy Hook. The experiments, while showing that the guns could do what was expected in one way, have nevertheless convinced the experts that as a weapon it is too costly.

## Russia Apologizes to England.

London, June 27.—Questioned in the house of commons today regarding the destruction of British vessels by Russian auxiliary cruisers, Premier Balfour said he was glad to be able to inform the house that the British government had been assured that the Russian government disapproved of the actions of their cruisers and that orders had been transmitted to the Dnieper at Jibuti, rendering quite impossible any repetition of the acts.

## Pure Water for Isthmus.

Panama, June 27.—The system of aqueducts which will give the isthmus a supply of pure water was inaugurated today. It will be officially inaugurated on the Fourth of July, when there will be great rejoicing all over Panama.

## A FAIR WITNESS.

Judge Tanner Hides No Fact Favoring Senator Mitchell.

Portland, June 25.—Senator Mitchell had his day in the trial before Judge De Haven yesterday. The cross-examination of ex-Judge A. H. Tanner, who was turned over to the defense late Friday afternoon, was taken in hand by Judge Bennett. During the 3½ hours he was bombarded by questions from the attorney several admissions favorable to the senator were brought to the attention of the jury, causing a gleam of satisfaction in the aged senator's eyes. There were those present who had anticipated a rough journey for ex-Judge Tanner, but they were doomed to disappointment. Judge Burnett handled the former business partner of his client with a velvet tongue, and only once or twice was caustic with the witness. When ex-Judge Tanner finished his redirect examination ex-Senator Thurston moved to have his testimony stricken out. This was denied.

Ex-Judge Tanner passed through the ordeal better than his friends anticipated. He was little short of a perfect witness, apparently holding nothing back. His testimony favorable to the defendant was given in the same distinct and positive manner as that given by him under direct examination. Several times Judge Bennett sought to lead the witness, and once or twice the attorney for the defense made his own ingenious interpretation of some of the answers given under the questioning of Mr. Heney. Each time ex-Judge Tanner corrected his interrogator, and, once or twice, when Judge Bennett became overpersistent, the witness became curt in his denial of having answered questions in the manner put to him by the attorney for the defense.

Mr. Heney announced that he would rest his case on Monday. Ex-Senator Thurston stated after the court was adjourned that he expected that the defense would be through by Tuesday evening. While nothing has been said by counsel for the defense, it is almost assured that Senator Mitchell will take the witness stand in his own behalf.

## FRANCE HAS WAR FEVER.

Despite Minister's Denials, People Expect to Fight Germany.

Paris, June 26.—For the first time since the Fashoda incident the French public is in the throes of the war fever. Whether it will result in anything serious depends on Germany's response to the French note on Morocco, but without considering the exact status of the diplomatic negotiations a considerable element of the public and press seriously discuss the possibilities of a resort to arms. Army circles are particularly active, and at the military clubs the officers are mainly engaged in making comparisons of the forces of France and Germany. While the financial leaders scout the idea of war, the speculative element has been quick to seize the opportunity to raid French rentes, which showed a fall of 1 franc and 8 centimes within a week. The official view is that the situation, while delicate, does not present any aspect of danger or a crisis involving a rupture of relations. This is the government view, and naturally presents the most favorable aspect of the controversy. However, the ambassadors of the leading powers express impartial opinions fully sustaining the view of the government.

It is pointed out in diplomatic quarters that the worst aspect of the Moroccan question does not present a casus belli. An analysis of the controversy shows that the sultan of Morocco invited the powers to a conference. Germany urges the powers, including France, to accept. Premier Rouvier's latest note shows the willingness of France to consider a conference, if Germany explains her purposes, but, even should France decline to accept these, refusal of the invitation does not constitute a cause for war.

## Bubonic Plague on Isthmus.

Panama, June 26.—A fatal case of bubonic plague occurred at La Boca yesterday. The constant arrival of steamers from infected South American ports, which are received at La Boca without any extra precautions being taken, must be a source of contagion. The man had been working on board the British steamer Chile, which the authorities of Guayaquil would not allow to enter that port. The companions of the deceased laborer have been isolated. Rats taken from the steamer Chile are being examined.

## Iowa Farmers May Lose Land.

Sioux City, Ia., June 26.—Proceedings which may throw open to settlement \$1,000,000 worth of Iowa's richest land have been started in O'Brien county by the government. Of the 322,000 acres in Iowa, included in the old land grant to the Sioux City & St. Paul railroad, about 12,000 acres are still in the hands of those who purchased from the railroad. These farmers have been in possession of the land for the last 15 or 20 years.

## Throw Out the Miners.

Lawton, Okla., June 26.—The Interior department has instructed the custodians of the government forest reserves in Southwest Oklahoma to prevent further trespassing of miners and mineral prospectors on these lands and to eject those now conducting mining operations there. This will affect mining interests in the Wichita mountains.

## AFTER THE STORM.



The Russian Peasant's Vision of the Future.—Cincinnati Post.

## Conquest of the Great American Desert

No achievement of his administration gives President Roosevelt more thorough satisfaction than what is termed "The Reclamation Law." He esteems it one of the wisest and most beneficial pieces of legislation of recent years and is confident that it will promote the public welfare quite as much as the Morrill act, which dedicated a great part of the public lands to the education of the people, or the Homestead Law, which did more than any other measure to build up the great West. The Reclamation Law is intended, without expense to the tax payers, to make the arid regions of the West capable of cultivation. It applies the proceeds from the sale of public lands to the construction of irrigation systems and reservoirs to supply them; which are to be sold at cost price on ten years' time to the people who enjoy the benefits created by them. The money thus refunded is to be used again and again and still again, in extending the irrigation system, until every acre of the arid regions is watered and fit for human habitation.

The reclamation fund has grown very rapidly; much more rapidly than any advocate of the law expected. During the first year about four million dollars was turned into the treasury. On the 30th of June, 1904, it amounted to \$11,276,289.87 and by the end of the current fiscal year it will reach, if it does not exceed, fifteen millions.

Surveys have been completed for thirteen great irrigation projects in as many different States, contemplating the reclamation of 1,131,000 acres of desert land at a cost of \$31,395,000, or an average of \$27.26 per acre. The land thus improved will be sold to the public at that price in ten annual installments and thus the entire amount of money expended will be refunded to the government.

The President is also greatly gratified at the rapid progress that is being made by the irrigation bureau. Six of the projects in the above list have been begun; contracts have been let, and thousands of laborers are already employed in Arizona, Colorado, Idaho, Nebraska, Nevada and New Mexico. The other propositions will be undertaken as rapidly as possible.

In Nevada work commenced as early as September, 1903, in building a dam in Truckee River to take the flood waters from the mountains and the overflow of Lake Tahoe and dump them into Carson River. Another dam will be built in Carson River to store these waters until they are needed in the dry season, when they will be distributed by means of canals and ditches over an area of about 100,000 acres, mostly desert land belonging to the government. The cost of this improvement will be \$2,600,000, or \$26 an acre, and the land improved is now subject to homestead entry in tracts of forty, eighty, 120 or 160 acres, according to its situation.

The law allows enough land to each settler to support a family. No cash payments are required; no commutations, but the settler must actually live on it and cultivate it for five years and pay \$2.00 an acre each year for ten years, when he will receive a title to the land and own the water rights without additional payments. Private land which receives the benefit of the water must pay at the same rate—\$2.00 per acre for ten years. After ten payments the owner of the land will have the water rights free of cost for all eternity. The land is good for alfalfa, sugar beets, potatoes and all the root crop and fruits of the temperate zone. It is only twelve hours from San Francisco by rail, fifty miles from

the capital of Nevada, and is surrounded by mining settlements in every direction.

Part of the land reclaimed will be the old Forty-Mile Desert, or Carson's Sink, which was a horror of early emigrants—the worst spot on the overland trail; and was lined the entire distance with the bones of men and animals. Thousands of poor creatures died there from thirst and exhaustion. Farmers who plow there now turn up in almost every furrow gun barrels which were driven into the earth to mark graves and have since been buried deep in the drifting sands. As an illustration of the perversity of nature, the engineers who have been laying out the proposed irrigation system have found an abundance of cold, pure water a few feet below the surface wherever they have made borings. All of this desert will be reclaimed and when the present proposition is finished the works will be extended to the Humboldt and Walker Rivers, which will bring several hundred thousand acres more under irrigation and make a paradise of what is now the most desolate spot in Nevada. These rivers carry plenty of water from the mountains, but it disappears as soon as it reaches the sand. The engineers propose to catch it before it reaches the "sinks" and store it in reservoirs, to be tapped when needed.—William E. Curtis.

## HIS BREAD RETURNED.

Small Loan Made Years Ago Brings Back a Large Fortune.

The Biblical parable of casting your bread upon the waters has turned out dramatically true in the case of Percival F. Nagle, of New York. For many years Mr. Nagle has been one of the picturesque figures in the metropolis. Physically he is one of the largest men in the city and his generosity, in the days when he could afford to be generous,

was unbounded. At one time he was champion oarsman of New York and then he drifted into the poolroom business. Under Mayor Van Wyck he served as street cleaning commissioner. Since leaving this position he has gone down financially and up to a few days ago did not know that he was worth more than a few thousand dollars at the most. But unknown to himself he was wealthy.

In the old days of his prosperity he once loaned a friend \$1,000. The friend wanted to give him security, but Nagle refused. Nevertheless the friend had secretly transferred some unimproved property in the annexed district and it since lay in Nagle's name, without the latter's knowledge. A short time ago two men called upon Nagle and asked him to put a price upon his property in the Bronx. Nagle denied he owned property there, but at once made an investigation. He was surprised to find that he was the owner of 44 lots, valued at between \$200,000 and \$250,000—the same his friend had placed to his credit for the \$1,000 loan. It was a case of putting a crumb on the waters and getting back a whole loaf.

## Speaking from Experience.

"Who is the chap over there who asserts that the rich are getting poorer and the poor richer?"  
"That's old Spuds; two of his daughters have just married foreign noblemen."—Puck.

## "A Pea in a Bladder."

Cholly Netwit—If you refuse me, Miss Dolly, I shall—bah Jove! I shall put a bullet in my head.  
Dolly Hotshot (absently)—How it will rattle around in there.—Cleveland Leader.