

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.

One hundred and fifty looters have already been shot in Valparaiso.

The Cuban government is offering \$2 per day for volunteers for the army.

Wealthy people of Valparaiso are doing their utmost to aid their more helpless fellows.

Enthusiasm is increasing for a 20-foot macadam road from Portland to Mount Hood.

Letters received in Chicago from London say that Paul O. Stensland is touring Europe.

A new comet, visible through a small telescope, has been discovered by the Kiel observatory.

The body of Admiral Train, who died at Chefoo, has arrived at Seattle, and been forwarded to Annapolis for burial.

A bogus baron who married a rich American girl in Manila has decamped with his wife's jewelry and most of her cash.

A burglar who attempted to rob a millinery store in Baker City was put to flight by a frail woman with a pair of scissors.

The Southern Pacific is preparing to spend \$700,000 or more to turn the Colorado river back to its original channel and drain the Salton sea.

Roosevelt has given his approval to a new spelling reform which includes 300 words, and has ordered that it be adopted on all his official correspondence.

The rush of depositors to receive the first installment of their deposits in the defunct Milwaukee Avenue bank, of Chicago, overwhelmed 60 policemen who had been detailed to keep order.

Mutinous spirit is growing in the Russian army.

Heat in Chicago is causing many deaths and prostrations.

The czar has decided to immediately give land to the peasants.

Japan will investigate the killing of seal poachers by Americans.

Southern railroads have announced that they will obey the rate law.

Valparaiso is under martial law, and is fast recovering from the earthquake.

Cuban citizens residing in New York will ask Roosevelt to take a hand in affairs in Cuba.

A Jewish massacre is threatened at Lidlitz, Poland, where the chief of police has been killed.

The Pan-American conference aims to make gold the universal money basis of the western hemisphere.

London papers predict the annexation of Cuba by the United States and say it is the only thing to do.

A St. Louis woman has married the wrong man through a mistake in sending letters by a marriage bureau.

San Francisco will erect a temporary wooden city hall to be used until the present structure can be repaired.

Cuban officials believe the insurrection has reached its limit.

The government has withdrawn negro troops from Texas garrisons.

Harriman is gaining control of the Northwestern as well as St. Paul road.

The National Red Cross will receive funds for the relief of stricken Chilean cities.

The steamer Manchuria, which went on a reef in the Hawaiian islands, is rapidly going to pieces.

The town of Llalilal is reported to have entirely disappeared as a result of the Chilean earthquake.

Pat Crowe has given up his old life and engaged in newspaper work; so he has told the Omaha police.

Dowie has been trying to settle difficulties with Voliva, but the latter has declined the prophet's terms.

Mine gas in the coal mines near Mahanoy City, Pa., killed two miners, probably fatally injured five others and about a dozen were overcome.

The railroads companies convicted at St. Louis of giving rebates to the packers have taken an appeal to the United States Circuit court of Appeals.

An insurrection in Cuba is spreading in an alarming fashion.

San Francisco has raised \$10,000 for relief work in stricken Chilean cities.

Several more members of the dissolved Russian douma have been arrested.

HEAT SHRIVELS THE GRAIN.

Reports of Damage to Crops in the Central West.

Sionx City, Iowa, Aug. 21.—Hot winds the past two days, following a week of unusual torpidity, the maximum temperature being daily from 90 to 100, has created fear among grain men that widespread damage to the late grain and corn has been done. Today has been a scorcher, although there are indications tonight of a let-up.

From Western South Dakota, Western Nebraska and the northern central part of South Dakota and Southern Minnesota reports today are that late grains had been ripened so rapidly that the berries are badly shriveled. The greatest harm is expected in cornfields, which have not in ten years, according to reports a week ago, promised such abundant yields. Corn is in tender tassel, with kernel in the most sensitive stage of its life. Where moisture has been sufficient the damage will be light, but in the vast territory west and northwest from here it has been dry for two or three weeks and when the hot winds came the vegetation has been largely robbed of its power of resistance. Good authority places the depreciation in the corn crop as the result of the last week of fierce heat at from 5 to 10 per cent on the average, with much greater loss over various extensive regions.

PROPERTY LOSS IN MILLIONS.

Death Roll at Valparaiso May Reach Two Thousand.

Valparaiso, Chile, Aug. 21.—At 7:52 o'clock last Thursday evening Valparaiso experienced an earthquake of great severity, and during that night 82 shocks were felt. Most of the buildings of the city are either burned or damaged. The loss will be enormous, probably reaching \$250,000,000. Two thousand persons killed is considered to be a fair estimate of the casualties.

Vena del Mar, three miles from Valparaiso and having a population of over 10,000, Quiribu, 225 miles to the southward, with a population of 25,000; Santa Limache, 15 miles to the northwest, with a population of 6,500; Quillota, 25 miles to the northwest, with a population of 10,000, and villages all around were destroyed. Most of the damage was due to fire, which started immediately after the first shock.

The whole population is sleeping in the hills, the parks or the streets. Food is very scarce. Milk costs two Chilean dollars, and it is almost impossible to obtain meat, even at high prices.

The railroads are all destroyed. Rain, which began to fall immediately after the first shock, stopped an hour afterward. The nights are very cold and windy; the people sleeping in the open are suffering greatly.

The captain of a steamship which arrived from San Francisco says the situation here is worse than that following the disaster at San Francisco.

VERY FEW PEOPLE KILLED.

Santiago Escapes With Immense Destruction of Property.

Washington, Aug. 21.—Cable advices were received at the Chilean legation today, dated at Santiago, Chile, August 18, stating that the earthquake in that city was very severe, but that there were few casualties. Up to the time of filing the dispatch, which the charge d'affaires believes was Saturday evening, no news had been received in Santiago from Valparaiso on account of the interruption to the railroad and the telegraph lines.

A dispatch to the State department from the consul at Iquique reports that Valparaiso is in ruins from an earthquake and is on fire. It is stated that at the time of filing the dispatch there was no communication with Santiago and no further details were obtainable. The date of this dispatch is in doubt.

Mr. Buchanan, the head of the American delegation to the Pan-American congress at Rio, cabled the State department today stating that no information had been received at Rio Janeiro regarding the earthquake, and asked for news. Secretary Adair cabled the information contained in the dispatches from Minister Hicks at Santiago.

Storms in Pennsylvania.

Pittsburg, Pa., Aug. 21.—Reports received here from points in Allegheny and neighboring counties indicate that great damage has been done by a storm that passed over Western Pennsylvania late this afternoon and tonight. Telegraph and telephone communication was interrupted at many points, and it has been impossible to obtain full accounts. Railroads suffered from wash-outs and many delays resulted. Part of Suterville is said to be under water, which at some places is 15 feet deep. No lives are reported to have been lost.

Many Towns Reported Destroyed.

Lima, Peru, Aug. 21.—According to news received here, the towns of Vina del Mar, Potorca, Hierro Viejo, Llalilal, Santa Rosa de Los Andes, Nogaes, Melon and Zouppalar, Chile, have been destroyed by the earthquake.

CHINESE FOR CANAL

Commission Asks for Bids to Supply Coolie Labor.

WANTS 2,500 IN FIRST BATCH

Reserves Option of Calling for More at Will—Strict Terms for Their Return.

Washington, Aug. 21.—Specifications for bids to furnish Chinese labor for the construction of the Panama canal were issued today by the Isthmian Canal commission. The basis for bidding is, for 2,500 coolies, although it is made clear that the commission may call for such additional numbers of Chinese laborers as it may need should the experiment be successful, but the number shall not exceed 2,000 per month. All proposals must be received not later than 10 A. M. September 20, at which time they will be opened. The usual conditions regulating competitive bidding for government supplies are prescribed by the specifications.

Individuals, co-partnerships or corporations competent to fulfill the terms of the proposal will be permitted to bid, but the proposals must be accompanied by a certified check or a bond for \$50,000. The bond of the successful bidder will be advanced to \$100,000, which will be forfeited if he should fail to enter into a contract. Proposals are to be expressed in terms of hourly wages, payable in gold currency of the United States or its equivalent, for the labor of not less than 2,500 Chinese for a period of not less than two years, which may be extended.

Chinese laborers will be required to work ten hours each day. Overtime will be paid in excess of ten hours and for all the work upon Sundays or holidays at the rate of time and a half. The holidays recognized are January 1, February 22, July 4, November 3, Thanksgiving day, December 25 and the first and last days of the Chinese New Year.

SANTIAGO HURRYING RELIEF.

No Railroad for a Month—Madman Proclaims End of World.

Santiago, Chile, Aug. 21.—The mayor of Santiago declares it will take one month to re-establish railroad communication between here and Valparaiso. It has been discovered that certain parts of the bay of Valparaiso are considerably shallower, and new soundings will be necessary.

As a result of the destruction of all the drugstores in Valparaiso, medicines and drugs are lacking. Eighteen ambulances with beds, a consignment of medicines and a number of nurses are leaving for Valparaiso. Consignments of provisions are being shipped as quickly as possible.

The destruction of the village of Papulo, Zapilla and Renza has been confirmed.

FIRES ARE QUENCHED.

Valparaiso Guarded by Troops—Provisions Cannot Get Through.

Valparaiso, Aug. 21.—The fire which broke out after the earthquake here, as a result of stubborn efforts, finally being suppressed. Dynamite was largely used to this end.

The streets of the city are constantly patrolled by military and other forces. Many robbers have been shot and killed. Martial law prevails.

Telephone communication between here and Santiago was restored today. The telegraph wires, however, are still down, and the railroad is not yet working. Letters to the outside world are sent to Santiago by horsemen.

Meat is being distributed in the streets here by order of the authorities, and trainloads of provisions have been started from Santiago, but cannot get through.

American Gold Mine Deal.

St. Petersburg, Aug. 21.—The newspapers here report that Americans are negotiating for the purchase of the Nerchinsk gold mines, which have been the cause of a great scandal in which several grand dukes were involved. The mines are supposed to contain quartz worth \$2,000,000,000 and the court camarilla is reported to be anxious to dispose of them, but the Americans have been chary of purchasing a concession which might be repudiated by parliament at any time that it so desired.

Poor Old Robinson Crusoe.

New York, Aug. 21.—A report reached this city today that the South American earthquake destroyed the island of Juan Fernandez, off the Chilean coast. It belonged to Chile, and on it was a penal settlement and a fort. This is the island made famous by Daniel de Foe, as the scene of the thrilling adventures of Robinson Crusoe.



There is nothing so fascinating to the man in whom there lingers something of the romantic aspirations acquired by an early perusal of "Robinson Crusoe" as the possession of an island. To be, like Alexander Selkirk, 'monarch of all he surveys' has its attractions to the person who longs for some olden-time adventure. Already there are several "Island Monarchs" in the world, who find the life not only delightful but even profitable, and others now have a similar opportunity to become emperors on a small scale.

Three islands, which are "in the market," are Melville Island, a satellite of Australia, lying about twenty miles northeast of Port Darwin; Washington Island, lying in the Pacific a few degrees north of the Equator, and Lundy Island, which is in the Bristol Channel. Fanning Island, which is near Washington, has just been sold in London to a man named Greig.

If one desires rest and quiet, he would probably choose to make himself king of either Fanning or Washington Island, but he would have to take his subjects with him, for apart from some officials and some imported South Sea Islanders on Fanning Island, the two islands are uninhabited. If, on the other hand, the aspirant for kingship wants real adventure, Melville Island will probably fill the bill. There the new "king" will find a hardy race of savage blacks and a land overrun with big game, including 10,000 buffaloes. The strenuous life is the only one that has a foothold there, and an energetic conqueror can find "something doing" every minute.

Although Fanning and Washington islands were discovered by Captain Edmund Fanning, an American sailor,

PACIFIC PEARLS WITH GOOD WILL AND FIXTURES THROWN ON THE MARKET—OPPORTUNITIES TO GET INTO THE "KING BUSINESS"

they are British possessions. Unless the demand for coral necklaces becomes more insistent than it has been for a hundred years or so, the islands will have little value so far as their natural production is concerned, so whether the Union Jack or the Stars and Stripes float over these micronesia is a matter of no serious importance. It must be admitted, however, that they have some strategic value, for they lie almost on the course of steamships from Hawaii to New Zealand, and Fanning Island is at present a station of one of the "all-British" cables.

This fact has caused some heartburnings among patriots in Australia and Great Britain. They have sounded an alarm. They have written to their newspapers, and have described the sale as "amazing." At this stage, the High Commissioner of the Western Pacific relieved all the agitated minds by declaring the purchaser of the islands must hold them subject to the rights of the British Crown and the territorial rights of the Pacific Cable Board.

Fanning Island, the most important of the Fanning group, which also includes Palmyra, Washington and Christmas Islands, was discovered by Captain Fanning in 1798. The same year he saw Washington Island for the first time, and named it for the American general and patriot. Christmas Island, the most southerly and easterly of the group, was discovered by the English navigator, Captain Cook. Fanning and Washington Islands were afterward occupied by Gregg and

Bignall, two adventurers, who claimed possession by occupation. At the time of the laying of the British Pacific cable an agreement was reached between the British and American governments by which the former acquired the sovereignty.

The Fanning group is of coral foundation, being the caps of peaks of a submarine range of mountains, having a general direction of from northwest to southeast. Fanning Island is really composed of three islands grouped around a lagoon. Its general shape is that of an oyster. English Harbor is at the western end of the southernmost island. Here is located the cable station and the settlement. Melville Island has an area of more than 7,000 square miles. At its greatest breadth it is about 110 miles across, and its greatest length is about the same.

Anticosti Island, at the mouth of the St. Lawrence River, which was purchased for \$125,000 by M. Henri Menier, the "chocolate king," a few years ago, is about half the size of Melville Island. M. Menier soon found that he was not "king" in his island, for the British government interfered when he attempted to raise the French flag and give the impression that it was the territory of the French Republic. It remains, however, that as owner of the island he has sufficient power to govern it very much as he chooses.

Although the proprietor of Anticosti has already spent almost \$5,000,000 on his improvements, it is admitted he has a bargain. The lobster fisheries are considered of great value; the enormous forests of spruce trees are alone worth the money, and in addition to this he has a fine game preserve, which, with a party of friends, he visits every year.—Montreal Star.

THE WIND.

I saw you toss the kites on high
And blow the birds about the sky;
And all around I heard you pass,
Like ladies' skirts across the grass—
O wind, a-blowing all day long!
O wind, that sings so loud a song!

I saw the different things you did,
But always you yourself you hid.
I felt you push, I heard you call,
I could not see yourself at all—
O wind, a-blowing all day long!
O wind, that sings so loud a song!

O you that are so strong and cold,
O blower, are you young or old?
Are you a beast of field and tree,
Or just a stronger child than me?
O wind, a-blowing all day long!
O wind, that sings so loud a song!
—Robert Louis Stevenson.

THE ONLY WAY

O f course it was planned beforehand, he knew who would do it best, I'm sure, and perhaps if the girls had known what the prize was to be, they would have tried harder for it, although I think none of us would have gotten that one.

It came about this way: Ten of us girls have a sewing club and meet once a week. We do not accomplish much, Ned says, because we do too much gossiping, but then, Ned is horrid, anyway.

Right across the way young Dr. Thornton has his office, and on a warm day when the windows were open, he could hear everything we said, but we did not realize that until afterward. We were all slightly acquainted with him and were dying to know him better—he is awfully good-looking, you know, but all taken up with his work, which made him even more attractive to us.

One day we were busy as bees—if not with fingers, with our chattering—when the door opened, and in walked Dr. Thornton. He held a bundle in his hand, and after greeting us, he walked up to Maude, who is our president (although how he knew I didn't find out until later), and said: "Miss Williams, I have rather a peculiar request to make, but perhaps you will overlook its peculiarity, as you know I am a 'lone bachelor.' I am in an even more lonely state than usual, as my housekeeper is away, and there is no one to do my mending for me. This bundle contains ten pairs of socks which need mending most awfully (the girls looked scandalized), and it struck me to-day that possibly as yours was a sewing club, you would take pity on the 'lone bachelor' and each darn a pair for me, perhaps one pair each will not be too

much of a tax on you, and I shall not need them until next week."

Of course we could not refuse, for his loneliness and (apparent) helplessness appealed to us.

The doctor stayed long enough for us to feel that he was not so unapproachable as he had seemed. I remembered afterward that he never once looked toward Claire or spoke to her during his stay. Claire is our shy one, with the great brown eyes and dusky hair with a touch of sunshine in it—we call her our wood anemone—the most domestic of us all.

The doctor started to go, but turned back and said, as in after-thought, "I never thought about payment." We all protested, horrified at his wishing to pay for what we "considered a pleasure." "Well," said he, "since you refuse payment, I will let you do the work on one condition—that the one who darns her pair the neatest shall accept a prize, and will take whatever I offer for a prize—of whatever value." We agreed to this, and he said, laughing, "Will you consider this promise binding?" We promised solemnly that we would, laughing all the while, as we thought it all an excellent joke.

The next week when we met we compared our work, and Claire's mending.



PERSUADED CLAIRE TO ACCEPT THE PRIZE. as we expected, was so daintily done that you could hardly tell where the darns were.

Then the doctor came in, and when we showed him the socks he declared Claire's the best, and said that the prize was not quite ready, but begged to be allowed to call on Miss Claire that evening to bestow it upon her. She reluctantly said that he might, and the doctor suggested a meeting next day, in order that we might (his eyes twinkling wickedly) see how we liked the prize. So next day we met, all eager to see what the mysterious prize was to be.

In about half an hour the door opened and the doctor and Claire came in

together, he looking very happy and Claire blushing divinely, but looking not less happy, and what do you suppose?

The doctor said: "Last night I went to Miss Claire's home with the prize, intending to bestow it upon her, but when she saw what it was she very strongly declined to take it. I used all sorts of persuasions, telling her that she had promised faithfully to take whatever was offered, of whatever value. At first she said she had not said a word of promise, but I held, and you will all agree with me I know, that the class had promised for her as well as for themselves. Last evening I had to give up in despair, but asked her to sleep on it, and I should return in the morning to see if she did not think it would be better to accept the prize after all, saying also that we had promised to show it to the class this afternoon, and must not disappoint them.

"It took a long time, but I have finally persuaded Claire to accept this very poor prize—myself—but perhaps she can utilize it in some way, or make it over."

We girls were breathless, as we never even suspected that they were more than acquaintances, but it turned out that the doctor had loved Claire for ever so long, but she had held him at a distance, so that he never got a chance to tell of his love. One day the doctor had been standing at the window, and overheard the girls talking about the neatness of Claire's work, when she was mending a tear in Louise's gown. He decided to take advantage of this knowledge, and took this way to get a chance to offer himself to Claire—you see, he was pretty sure who would get the prize. It was very clever of him, I think.

That is all. The wedding is to be the first of next month, and the doctor insists that the girls shall all be bridesmaids, but I cannot, because, you see, Ned wants me to make it next month, so it may be a double wedding.—Boston Post.

Dead Secret.

Last time Consul General Wynne came over from London a fellow-passenger was a former Senator who was terribly seasick. He suffered for several days.

"One morning," said Wynne, "the Senator came out of his stateroom and ran into a lady who was coming along the passageway clad in the scantiest raiment. She screamed and sought a place of refuge.

"Don't be alarmed," the seasick statesman said. "Don't be alarmed, madam; I shall never live to tell of it."—New York World.

The average girl's nose suits her until she reaches the day when she must wear glasses, and finds that nose glasses will not stay on.