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.

There is an outlook of plague in Germany's West Africa colonies.

The report is again current that Japan is trying to float a loan in Paris.

Premier Franco has reached Genoa badly worn out by his flight from Lisbon.

The garrison at Fort Yellowstone will be increased to four troops of cavalry of 100 men each.

Two men were killed while walking on the railroad near Billings, Mont. They were too drunk to notice an approaching train.

The house committee on military affairs has agreed to recommend more pay for enlisted men.

J. Pierpont Morgan was an interested spectator during the senate debate on the pending currency bill.

Turkey is withdrawing her troops from the Russian frontier of Persia and the outlook seems to be for peace.

Manager Conreid, of the New York opera, has resigned and will be succeeded by a famous director from Milan, Italy.

After being in the hands of receivers for eight years the assets of a New York bank shrunk from $150,000 to $36,000.

Count Boni de Castillane was fined $20 for his recent assault on his rival, Prince de Sagan, and the latter was given 20 cents damages.

Secretary Shaw deplores the fact that most of the ships tending the battleship fleet carry some foreign flag and he urges the building up of our merchant marine.

In a speech before the Lincoln club of Kalamazoo, Mich., Senator Knox, of Pennsylvania, said federal regulation of railroads had been entirely justified and was not an attack on business.

Nine miners were killed by an explosion of gas in a Kentucky coal mine.

A New York grand jury has returned two indictments against Ice King Morse.

Beach Hargis, the young man who shot his father, a Kentucky feudist, is held without bail.

Over 5,000 men have been put to work by the National Tube Company, near Cleveland, Ohio.

New York labor leaders want to nominate labor candidates for president and vice president.

Foraker insists that President Roosevelt is using political patronage to help the Taft boom.

The Columbia Northern railway will be merged with the other Hill lines under one management.

Lisbon papers demand the punishment of one of the guards who sabred one of the king's assassins.

The Illinois Steel Company's mills in South Chicago are resuming work. They will employ about 5,000 men.

A treaty has been signed providing for the arbitration of any difficulty that may arise between the United States and France.

The United States court of appeals has again decided that railroads must use reasonable precaution for the safety of their employes.

Two Nevada laborers, while lost in a snow storm, found a rich ledge of gold-bearing quartz under the snow while making a camp for shelter.

The Portugese nation will provide funds for the care of the families of the king's slayers who were killed, and wealthy families are contending for the privilege of adopting the orphans.

The battleship fleet has passed Magellan straits and is now in the Pacific ocean.

The Swift Packing Company has completed plans for a $3,500,000 plant in Portland.

A Yale graduate and athlete has been found to possess a complete outfit of burglar's tools.

Premier Franco, dictator of Portugal has not left his room since arriving in Bordeaux, France.

Roosevelt says the charges that he is using his influence to help Taft along are false and malicious.

Claims of alleged illegitimate heirs of Alfonso XII are creating considerable trouble for the Spanish government.

One child was killed and many persons injured in the crush at the funeral of the dead king and prince of Portugal.

Members of the royal household declare that the Portugese crown prince rose and fired twice at the assassins before he himself fell dead.

LIABLE TO FINES OF $80,000,000

Clear Case Against S. P.—Paid Rebates for Years.

San Francisco, Feb. 11.—Penalties unprecedented in the history of the prosecution of corporations in California, or a complete revision and vitalizing of the laws applicable to railroads, will be the outcome of the investigation to be instituted this week by the State Railroad Commission, in the rooms of the Chamber of Commerce, in the Merchants' Exchange building.

Assistant Attorney-General Raymond Benjamin said today that 4,000 cases of rebating have been perfected against the Southern Pacific Company, practically through its own admissions. These cases will be presented to the Railroad Commission by Attorney-General U. S. Webb, Mr. Benjamin and O. K. Cushing, special counsel for the California Traffic Association. Should convictions be obtained on each of these cases, and the Maximum penalty of $20,000 be imposed for each violation of the law, the Southern Pacific will face an aggregate fine of $80,000,000.

In each case the evidence practically is conclusive, from bills of lading to the indorsed checks issued by the company to the shipper, in reimbursement. When the State Board of Railroad Commissioners requested the Southern Pacific to submit its books to Mr. Benjamin, Peter F. Dunne, counsel for the railroad, replied that the railroad's books would be available at any time. The complacency with which the railroad corporation greets the investigation foreordains that it will not fight the action of the Railroad Commission on merits but rather upon the law involved.

Section 222 of the state legislation which creates the State Board of Railroad Commissioners, with their power to fix rates, provides:

"Any railroad corporation or transportation company which shall fail to conform to such rates as shall be established by such commission * * * shall be fined not exceeding $20,000 for each offense. * *"

In 4,000 cases the railroad company failed to conform to the rate set by the Commissioners. The practice is of long standing, but the only records available are those subsequent to May, 1906. In some of these rebates the railroad refunded 53 per cent of the original charge to the shipper.

DRAG OUT SKELETONS.

Alleged Illegitimate Heirs of Alfonso Making Trouble.

Madrid, Feb. 11.—The question of alloting a pension of 250,000 pesetas to the Infanta Alfonso, the son of Don Carlos of Bourbon and the Princess of Asturias, who recently married Princess Louise of Orleans in England, has received the approval of the Council of State and now goes before the Cortes. But it has raised many complications, not the least interesting of which are suits for similar allowances brought by the natural children of Alfonso XII by Elena Sanz, a former well-known Spanish actress, and a natural cousin of the king named Carlos Allen Perkins, a second-rate but popular actor in the music halls of the capital.

Perkins claim goes back to his great-grandmother, the famous Infanta Carlotta, who provoked the Carlist war by obliging Ferdinand VII to admit the principle of the Salic law. It was she who slapped the face of Calomarde, the Premier, and drew from him the historic retort:

"White hands are not offensive."

Perkins' birth is not recorded in Gotha ,but he insists that his real name is Don Francisco Carlos Pio Rose Alfonso Luis Fernando Allen Perkins Guerowsky Bourbon Lutherian Hossen Drichma Vrichna and Ottendorf" and consequently a blood relation of most of the reigning sovereigns of Europe.

Survey for New Tunnel.

Seattle, Wash., Feb. 11.—Surveyors and engineers in the employ of the Northern Pacific have for months been locating a new tunnel through the Cascades. The fact became known yesterday, when the men, driven from their work by the heavy snows, arrived at Green River Hot Springs on their way to St. Paul.

From Hot Springs comes word that the big Stampede tunnel is to be abandoned as soon as the new bore is completed. The new bore is to be seven miles long and will cost upward of $10,000,000.

Franco Excites Curiosity.

Bordeaux ,France, Feb. 11.—Sunday passed with Senor Franco, the ex-Premier of Portugal, still in Bordeaux and still in seclusion. His privacy has remained unbroken; since his arrival Friday he has not emerged from the hotel where he is stopping, not even, from his room. The former dictator has become a problem which the people are discussing with curious, wondering, even sympathetic interest, but no one has been enlightened as to the hour of his departure, or his destination, for it is certain that he is not to remain here long.

Temperance Worker Dead

New York, Feb. 11.—John W. Oliver, editor and principal owner of the Yonkers Statesman, died at his home in Yonkers today, aged 92 years. Mr. Oliver was an early leader in the temperance movement, and with his brother, Isaac Oliver, founded the Sons of Temperance.

DOINGS OF THE SIXTIETH CONGRESS

Friday, February 14

Washington, Feb. 14.—Oratory in the house today gave way to legislation, with the result that material progress was made with the executive, legislative and judicial bills.

The first attack upon the increases in the salaries of the assistant secretaries of several departments which the bill authorizes, was made by Macon, Arkansas and when the proposition affecting the treasury department salaries was read these increases went out on point of order raised by him.

The proposed increase in the salary of the supervising architect of the treasury was rejected on a point of order by Macon.

Macon made another point against the increase of the salary of the assistant secretary of war and it was stricken out.

On a point of order by Mann the appropriation for a monthly pilot chart of the North Pacific ocean, published by the navy, was stricken out.

Crumpacker, Alabama offered an amendment reducing the mileage allowed to senators, members and delegates from 20 cents to 8 cents, but on an objection by Inglebright, California, it was refused on a point of order.

Washington, Feb. 14.—A submittee of the senate committee on judiciary today decided to take favorable action on the Tillman resolution instructing the attorney-general to institute suits to compel railroads in the northwest to open to settlement land granted them by the government.

It is intended that the resolution shall authorize the attorney-general to bring proceedings not only to compel the railroads to open this land to settlement, but to forfeit title in cases where it appears that the railroads have deliberately conspired to defeat the purpose of the government in ceding the land.

Information was presented to the judiciary committee showing that railroads instead of disposing of the land to bona fide settlers, had so manipulated the settlements that the railroads themselves are now in possession of large tracts of land.

Thursday, February 13.

Washington, Feb. 13.—General debate on the legislative appropriation bill was brought to a close in the house today after a session full of interest and entertainment. Several speeches were made on the issues of the day, the most notable being by Champ Clark, of Missouri, who commanded the attention of the house for an hour and a half. Upon the conclusion of his remarks he was accorded an ovation by democrats and republicans.

Clark arraigned the republicans for their attitude on the tariff question and said that the announcement that there would be a revision of the tariff after election was simply "in preparation of another stupendous confidence game on the people." He discussed the president's message and said that, whatever his virtues or his faults, the president was not a democrat. Other speakers were Rayner, Illinois; Tirrell, Gillett, Massachusetts, and Hammond, Indiana, all of whom discussed various phases of the tariff question.

Washington, Feb. 13.—The senate today discussed the law governing the reserves of national banks, that subject having been brought up by Rayner, who reverted to a controversy over statements made in the senate yesterday when the Aldrich currency bill was under consideration. The criminal code bill also was a subject for discussion during a couple of hours, Clay and others securing the substitution of the old law intsead of the proposed revised sections, which will effectually prevent intoxicating liquors being sent through the mails into "dry" states or counties.

Culberson today gave notice of two amendments to the Aldrich currency bill, providing that after November 1, 1909, every national bank shall keep on hand the amount equal to its reserve now provided by law and also directing the secretary of the treasury to collect interest on government funds deposited in national banks.

Wednesday, February 12

Washington, Feb. 12.—Rayner of Maryland spoke at length in the senate today on the currency bill condemning the present system of banking in the United States and incidentally declaring that the president, by his methods of fighting the encroachments of predatory wealth, had done much to intensify the panic through which the country had recently passed.

Turning to Aldrich, Rayner asked how it happened that the committee had stricken from the bill the provision requiring the banks located out of reserve or central reserve cities to keep a reserve equal to 15 pr cent of their deposit liabilities and hold at all times at least two-thirds of such in lawful money.

The chairman of the finance committee replied that it was omitted in order to avoid unnecessary opposition to the bill in its main features.

Washington, Feb, 12.—Morton Frewen, of England, member of Parliament, spoke before the house committee on banking and currency today, in explanation of the old Goshen system, which provides for a reserve of silver bullion to be held as security against trade silver paper, issued in denominations of $2.50 up to $10, not redeemable in gold, but in silver.

Mr. Frewen said that all hope of international bimetalism had disappeared, and that the Goshen plan could be allied in this country without disrupting the present currency system. He declared that it would be more applicable here and in England now than it would have been years ago. His idea was to have the United States adopt it first and then let England take it up.

Tuesday, February 11.

Washington, Feb. 11.—The legality of the creation by the president of the inland waterways commission was questioned by Mr. Tawney, Minnesota, chairman of the committee on appropriations, in the house today. The point was raised when Mr. Tawney urged that the house conferees disagree to the senate amendment to the urgent deficiency bill, granting $1,875 to Senator John H. Bankhead for service as a member of the commission. Tawney declared that he did not question the motives of the chief executive, but insisted that his action was without authority of law.

A motion by Underwood that the house recede and concur in the amendment was lost, 56 to 101.

A motion by Needham of California that the house accept the senate amendment, imposing upon the United States instead of the District of Columbia the expense of $60,000 in the land conspiracy trial of Hyde, Dimond, Benson and Schneider, provoked a lengthy discussion. The motion of Needham was lost and the bill thereupon was sent back to conference.

Wasington, Feb. 11—Senator Aldrich called up today his currency bill and formal amendments made by the finance committee which were adopted by the senate.

Senator Daniels offered an amendment providing that bonds of railroads that "have paid regularly and continually for five years next preceding the deposit of its bonds and interest due on all its bonds" can be used for currency issues. The amendment, he said, would allow the use of bonds of roads that have not paid dividends on stock. This would permit the use of the bonds of a number of southern railroads which are now excluded.

Senator Lodge gave notice of an amendment including among the bonds available for currency issues the bonds of the Philippine islands government, the city of Manila and the railroads of the Philippine islands, the interest of which has been guaranteed by the Philippine government.

Monday, February 10

Washington, Feb. 10.—Senator Aldrich, of Rhode Island, chairman of the committee on finance, opened the debate in the Senate today on his bill to provide an emergency currency. He was listened to with great attention by republicans and democrats alike, while in the galleries there was a large audience. Among others was J. Pierpont Morgan, who remained through the delivery of the speech.

Aldrich said, in closing a long speech:

"The enactment of the pending bill will furnish evidence that congress is not unmindful of its serious responsibilities in this regard. There can be no reasonable doubt of the effectiveness of the measure. The committee firmly believes that through its enactment an atmosphere of confidence and feeling of security will be created which will be invaluable in improving business conditions and in giving a new impetus to the work of national development."

Washington, Feb. 10.—A brief but fiery speech by Leake, of New Jersey, in which he outlined his opposition to William J. Bryan as a candidate for the presidency, relieved somewhat the monotony of debate on the Indian appropriation bill in the house of representatives today. Mr. Leake charged Mr. Bryan with taking the big stick from the president, leaving the latter only a big slipper and he further credited the democrats in the house with having usurped the right of free action of the delegates at the Denver convention by nominating Mr. Bryan in advance. His remarks were greeted with hisses from the Democratic side of the house.

CUT IN HALF.

House Committee Prunes Down Battleship Appropriation.

Washington, Feb. 11.—By a vote of 13 to 5, one member absent and not voting, the house committee on naval affairs rejected the president's urgent recommendation that congress at this session authorize the building of four battleships, at a total cost of $38,000,000, and by a unanimous vote there was included in the naval appropriation bill an authorization for the construction of two, to cost $9,500,000 each and to be of the Delaware type.

SWIFT PACKING CO. COMING

Ready to Begin Work on $3,500,000 Plant at Once.

Portland, Feb. 10.—In the first and only authorized statement which has been given out either here or anywhere else regarding his company's plans in the Pacific Northwest Louis F. Swift, president of Swift & Co., last night declared that the mammoth Portland plant, which will represent an outlay of $3,500,000 and which will be erected on the Peninsula, will be completed and ready for operation in all departments in one year. Portland is also to be made the center of the packing industry of the Pacific Northwest, and the Troutdale plant, near Portland, eventually is to be abandoned, at least so far as the packing side of the business is concerned. To what use, if any, the Swift people are to put their present extensive and valuable property at that point was not vouchsafed.

The Swift people are ready and prepared to go ahead with construction work just as soon as the railroads have indicated what connections on the Peninsula they will establish, and when they will be ready to do the work. When these connections with necessary terminal facilities have been decided upon, work on the packing plant will be rushed to completion.

In the official interview, H. C. Gardner, head of the construction department of Swift & Company, who will have direct charge of erecting the plant, acted as spokesman for President Swift, and entered into as full a discussion of the plans of the Swifts as the head of the big concern deemed wise to give out for publication at this time.

Mr. Gardner, in explaining why the public could not be taken fully into the confidences of his concern at this time, said that certain plans, such as whether the company should secure power from some of the companies already in the field here, or erect its own plant on the Peninsula, are yet to be settled, and that there were a number of other considerations which, if disclosed now, might interfere with their consummation.

It was also clearly brought out that if Portland ever intends to wrest the bulk of the Alaska trade from the Sound cities, the merchants and shippers here will have to establish a direct steamer line from here to the North. This was brought out in answer to the direct question as to whether Swift & Company intended to enter that field, now monopolized by various Seattle and Tacoma packers.

"Swift & Company," declared Mr. Gardner, "are in the packing business and packing business alone. They are not in the transportation business, nor in the cattle-raising business."

NIGHT RIDERS ON RAID.

Imprison Citizens and Burn Tobacco and Warehouses.

Hopkinsville, Ky., Feb. 10.—Last night at 12 o'clock a band of about 150 mounted night riders, masked, heavily armed and wearing the insignia of a secret clan, invaded Fredonia, Crittenden county, captured James Scarberry, operator of the Cumberland Telephone Company, and cut all telephone connections. They then forced Dave Potter, a clerk in a drug store, to open his store, in which they corralled several citizens and held them prisoners.

Leaving a large guard in the town, the others galloped to the village of View, five miles away, and blew up Alfred H. Cardin's tobacco factory, containing 35,000 pounds of tobacco belonging to him and his croppers. The loss aggregates $10,000, with $5,000 insurance.

After firing volleys into the air the night riders returned through Fredonia and released their prisoners. Eighty per cent of Crittenden county farmers have tobacco pooled in the Society of Equity. Mr. Cardin is not a member. He is a prominent citizen, aged 73, and was formerly a candidate for governor on the Populist ticket. The Planters Association has no organization in this county.

Frustrate Republican Plot.

Marseilles, Feb. 10.—The frustration on Friday last at Oporto of an elaborate plot to proclaim a republic is announced in a telegram which was received today from one of the highest officials in Oporto by his brother, who has just arrived here from Lisbon. According to the telegram a large number of conspirators have been arrested, including the leaders. It was also stated that numerous bodies of militant republicans had been seen about the suburbs of Oporto. The police captured a large store of revolvers and carbines.

Archbishop Returns.

New York, Feb. 10.—Archbishop Patrick William Riordan, of San Francisco, whose recent mission in Rome was both for rest and to advocate the appointment of Rev. Edward J. Hanna, of Rochester, as Coadjutor Archbishop of San Francisco, returned today on board the steamship Cedric.

ADVISE BIG CHANGE

Reorganization of Postoffice Department Recommended.

HIRE CHIEF DIRECTOR OF POSTS

Commission Suggests Long Term for Head of Department at High Salary—Less Red Tape.

Washington, Feb. 11.—Congress today received a preliminary report of the joint commission appointed during the last congress to investigate the business methods of the postoffice department and postoffice service and submit recommendations for legislation to effect changes in their administration. The commission, consisting of Senators Penrose, Carter and Clay, and Representatives Overstreet, Gardner of New Jersey, and Moon, points out many objectionable methods of both departments. Among the recommendations is a plan to place the actual direction of the business of the postoffice department under the service of an officer, with necessary assistants to be appointed by the president, "by and with the advice and consent of the senate," for long terms, so as to insure the continuance of efficient service. Under the plan the postmaster-general, as a member of the cabinet, is chargeable with general supervisory control and the determination of question of policy.

The commission also recommends that the business of the department be decentralized so as to avoid the congestion at the national capital which impairs the efficiency and increases the cost of the service; that the bookkeeping, auditing and accounting be simplified, unified and centralized to secure greater accuracy, more prompt methods and elimination of duplication of work; and that the practice of requiring needless detailed reports from small postoffices be discontinued. The moderate application of the non-accounting system to small offices will eliminate about 30,000, or nearly one-half, of all the postoffice accounts from the present complex report and bookkeeping system, or would at least greatly simplify the same. The commission says:

"It appears too obvious to require argument that the most efficient service can never be expected as long as the direction of the business is, as at present entrusted to a postmaster-general and certain assistants selected without special reference to expedience and qualifications and subject to frequent change. Under such a system a large railroad, commercial or industrial business would eventually go into bankruptcy, and the postoffice department has averted that fate only because the United States treasury has been available to meet deficiencies."

PUSH BACK GUARD.

Eager Portugese Almost Create Panic at Royal Funeral.

Lisbon, Feb. 11.—The bodies of King Carlos and Crown Prince Luis Philippe were yesterday laid away beside those of their royal ancestors in the sacred sepulchre in the Pantheon. A great crowd, numbering thousands, struggled outside the cathedral of San Vicente, seeking to enter the view the bodies before the doors were finally closed for the ceremony. Brushing back the police and the guard of Royal Archers, they poured into the church, sweeping everything before them.

When the doors eventually were closed to the public, the ceremony of entombment was begun. All the ministers of state were present. The patriarch of Lisbon, wearing pontifical vestments, and assisted by other high church officials, blessed the sacrament, the cathedral and palace choirs chanted the "Libera Me" and to the intoning of "De Profundis" the coffin of the Crown Prince was transported between double ranks of archers, preceded by a long procession. In a similar manner the body of the King was borne to the tomb.

Boiler Tubes Explode.

Vallajo, Cal., Feb. 11.—Boiler tubes on the cruiser St. Louis blew out at noon today while the St. Louis was off Sausilito. E. E. Scott, coal passer; F. Thompson, water tender; E. W. Baker, fireman of the first class, and D. Lewis, fireman of the first class, were horribly scalded with steam. The origin of the explosion is not known, but it is supposed to have been caused by cold water running into hot pipes. It is not believed any of the injured will die. A rigid investigation is under way.

Snow in South Carolina.

Spartanburg, S. C., Feb. 11—Spartanburg is buried under seven inches of snow. It is the heaviest fall in many years. It occurred last night and today. The weather is now the coldest of the winter—22 degrees above zero.