

WEEK'S DOINGS

Newsy Items Gathered from All Parts of the World.

OF INTEREST TO OUR READERS

General Review of Important Happenings Presented in a Brief and Condensed Form.

Russians are finding the water problem at Mukden a serious one.

The government '05 fair board has begun the selection of exhibits at St. Louis.

The war has cut off Poland's market in Siberia and thousands of people are idle as a result.

A son-in-law of Marquis Ito declares that the apparent delay of Oyama is for strategic reasons.

The Prussian army budget for the coming year is estimated at \$116,000,000, an increase of \$11,250,000.

Commissioner Richards, of the General land office, is coming to Portland to testify in the land fraud case.

General Chaffee recommends that the Vancouver, Wash., military reservation be enlarged, and estimates the cost of land at \$30,000.

Charles J. Bonaparte, a leading lawyer of Maryland, is mentioned as a possible selection for a place in Roosevelt's new cabinet as secretary of the interior.

The location of the Vladivostok harbor defense mines is uncertain and as a result a torpedo boat has been sunk and a German steamer badly damaged.

The need of officers for the navy is very pressing.

Anarchy prevails in Macedonia and Christians are slain daily.

Robbers blew up the safe of a La Plata, Md., bank and secured \$3,000 cash.

Five submarine torpedo boats built for Japan in America have arrived at Yokohama.

Cuban health officers challenge American marine corps to prove that yellow fever has appeared in that country.

By the explosion of a boiler in the suburbs of Vicksburg, Miss., two men were killed and a number injured, two seriously.

The vessels of the Baltic fleet have arrived at Port Said. Every precaution has been taken to insure a safe passage through the canal.

The permanent location of the Wyoming state capital was not settled at the last election. Cheyenne led in the contest, but did not receive the necessary two-thirds. It will, however, remain at Cheyenne until the matter is settled, which will not probably be for many years.

John G. Brady has been reappointed governor of Alaska.

Minister Barrett reports that all is again quiet in Panama.

Snow is reported throughout the United Kingdom and there is great misery in London.

Land Commissioner Richards urges that no more forest reserves be created until experts have reported.

The case of Senator Burton, of Kansas, accused of accepting a bribe, will come to trial in a few days.

The secretary of the interior has temporarily withdrawn from all entry about 9,000 acres of land in Idaho for the Tekoa reservoir site, in connection with the Palouse irrigation project in Washington.

Both armies in Manchuria occupy such strongly fortified positions that neither appear inclined to attack unless possessing a preponderance of numbers. The Japanese probably have more available troops.

From a report just issued by the department of commerce and labor, showing amounts deposited in savings banks throughout the world, it is found that the United States, with less than 9 1/2 per cent of the total population considered, contributes over 29 per cent of the total savings deposits recorded. The deposits in the United States total \$3,060,179,000.

Attorney General Moody will remain in Roosevelt's new cabinet.

Two tramps were killed in a freight train wreck near Walla Walla.

The new cruiser Pennsylvania will soon be ready for her speed trial.

The United States and Switzerland have agreed on an arbitration treaty.

The Red Star line steamer Kroonland, reported lost, has arrived in New York.

The internal revenue for October was \$155,105 less than for the same month in 1903.

Francis E. Leupp has been appointed Indian commissioner, vice William A. Jones, resigned.

Roosevelt's address at the dedication of the Frederick the Great statue greatly pleased Germany.

MURDER IS RIFE.

Crime Greatly on the Increase in the United States.

New York, Nov. 26.—There at present four and a half times as many murders and homicides for each 1,000,000 people in the United States as there were in 1881. With this statement of fact, based upon statistics, S. S. McClure makes a startling showing of the increase of lawlessness in this country, and follows with a stinging criticism of the reign of "criminal oligarchy," of chronic infraction of the law by many classes, of general failure in the enforcement of the statutes, to which causes the condition is attributed. Comments on the prevalence of crime and lawlessness taken almost at random from representative and serious newspapers and from published statements of judges and citizens form the supporting evidence.

In the United States last year there were 8,976 murders and homicides in a population of about 80,000,000. In 1881, when the population was 51,316,000, there were only 1,266 crimes of this class. The high record was reached in 1896, when there were 10,654 murders and homicides in a population of 70,000,000. In 1899 conditions improved, but since then they have steadily grown worse.

Conditions in Chicago are strikingly set forth by comparisons with the criminal records of the two leading cities of Europe. London, with an area of 688 square miles and a population of 6,500,000, had 24 murders last year. There was no "undiscovered crime," as the murderers were all arrested except in four cases, where they committed suicide.

Chicago, with less than one-third of the population and area, covered by the London or metropolitan police, had 128 homicides. In 18 cases the murderers were killed at the time of the crime or committed suicide; four other cases were those of officers who did the killing in the performance of their duties, leaving 106 cases for the police to work upon. Out of that number 34 convictions were secured, while in 19 cases no arrests were made, and in 53 cases arrests did not result in conviction. Only one man was hanged in Chicago.

In Paris only 15 murders or attempted murders were committed in the same period. More than eight times as many murders in Chicago as in Paris, and six times as many as in London.

The loss of life through crime is made more prominent when compared with fatalities in war and on railroads. In three years the homicides in the United States numbered 31,395. The British loss in the Boer war was 22,000. In the same period there were killed on railroads 21,847.

Labor troubles, the burning of negroes, lawlessness in Colorado, riots and murders in New York are referred to in detail.

Distinguished jurists and educators are quoted as saying that the increase in lawlessness endangers the future of the nation.

MANY MEN FALL.

Japanese Suffer a Severe Repulse at Port Arthur.

Mukden, Nov. 26.—The Japanese made a fresh attack on Poutiloff hill the night of November 22. The advancing ranks were decimated by the Russian shell fire. Some of the Japanese secured lodgment on the slopes of the hill, but were driven out at the point of the bayonet, when the whole Japanese contingent fled. A similar attempt was made the same night south of Erdagzon, which was also repulsed with a bayonet charge. The Japanese lost heavily, while the Russian loss was 30 killed. A band of 1,500 Chinese bandits, with six guns, under Japanese officers, coming from the direction of the Liao river, was in conflict with three sotnias of border scouts near Kaluan early on the morning of November 23. The scouts charged without giving the bandits' battery time to come into action. The bandits made feeble resistance and fled in all directions, leaving 200 of their number dead. The Russian loss was trifling.

A Japanese column of two companies attempted to penetrate the Russian east flank on November 23, but they were met by two separate divisions of Russian cavalry and driven off with severe loss.

Storm Isolates Villages.

London, Nov. 26.—Unprecedented snowfalls continue in the British provinces. Many places and villages are isolated, and everywhere in the north railway communication is delayed, and in some parts entirely stopped. There are instances of funerals being snow-bound between the house and the cemetery, and children have had to be dug out of drifts between their houses and the schools. Even in West Cornwall and the island of Jersey, where snow is a rarity, heavy falls are reported.

Japanese Capture Blockade Runner.

London, Nov. 26.—The Japanese, according to a dispatch from Chefoo to the Chronicle, are reported to have captured the British steamer Tung Chow, laden with 30,000 cases of canned meat for Port Arthur.

MUST ATTACK

Japanese Officials Insist Port Arthur Be Taken.

RUSSIA READY FOR BAD NEWS

Certain That Stoessel Will Make the Assault One of the Costliest in World's History.

Washington, Nov. 28.—The Associated Press learns on excellent authority that the Japanese army has received orders to renew its attack on Port Arthur and to take the main fortifications at any cost.

Prepared for Bad News.

St. Petersburg, Nov. 28.—There is a lack of news from the front today. The report that the Japanese are concentrating their energies for a desperate assault on Port Arthur, in view of the approach of the Baltic squadron, is quite generally credited in official quarters. Such a move has been expected to transpire as soon as the Japanese learned that the squadron's trip was a reality and no mere demonstration.

The authorities are prepared to hear terrible reports of the projected assault. While not hazarding a guess whether the fortress can be carried, for the besiegers are utterly regardless of life, they are confident that General Stoessel will be able to make such an attack one of the costliest in history.

Russians Lack Ammunition.

London, Nov. 28.—The Post's Shanghai correspondent cables that, according to reliable information received there, the guns at Port Arthur have been silent for the past few days owing to lack of ammunition. This sudden turn for the worse in the condition of the defenders of the fortress has been caused by the recent blowing up of the most important magazine by Japanese shells.

STARVATION IS NEAR.

Sassuns Population of Turkey Is in a Terrible Condition.

Washington, Nov. 28.—A story of sickness, hunger and starvation has come to the state department from Mr. Norton, the American consul at Harpoot, in a report upon the condition of the Sassun population in Mush district. The consul says that of the 10,000 survivors of the recent massacre, few have saved anything but their lives. Nearly every house in the region was ransacked and burned.

Extracts from the report were made public at the state department today in the hope that the sad story may bring relief to the unfortunate Sassuns.

"Worst of all," Mr. Norton says, "their flocks and herds, practically the only source of food, raiment and income, were swept away."

"These unfortunates, after receiving for a short time an allowance from the government of 1 cent per capita per day for subsistence, are now without food and without a prospect of food for the coming winter. The diseases usually following upon fright, exposure, exhaustion and insufficient food are rapidly becoming epidemic."

WOULD MAKE WAR IMPOSSIBLE

Britain Believed to Favor Re-Enactment of Olney-Pauncetote Treaty

Glasgow, Nov. 28.—The Glasgow Herald comments on the fact that the mutual acceptance of the Anglo-American treaty was announced on November 9, but that it has not yet been signed. The paper conjectures that the delay may be due to the inclination of both governments to bring about a re-enactment of the Olney-Pauncetote treaty of 1897, there being unmistakable evidence that the advisability of such a course is being considered. While the treaty of 1897 may not fit present conditions in its entirety, it would be an easy matter, the paper says, to change it accordingly, retaining, however, those provisions which are largely in excess of the bonds created between the United States and other countries by the various treaties now pending. If this course were taken, the Herald says, war between the United States and Great Britain would be almost an impossibility.

Urges Russia Make Treaty.

St. Petersburg, Nov. 28.—The Bourse Gazette revives the question of a new commercial treaty with the United States. The paper says it notes with satisfaction that the negotiation of commercial treaties forms a part of President Roosevelt's program for the coming administration, and that the consummation is greatly to be desired between Russia and America. Commercial wars, the Gazette adds, are in the long run almost as costly and disastrous as armed hostilities, and equally useless and unnecessary.

Switzerland for Peace Congress.

Berne, Nov. 28.—The president of the Swiss federation has informed the American minister that Switzerland accepts in principle President Roosevelt's invitation to be present at The Hague conference.

FIRST POINT WON.

Prosecution Makes a Score in Land Fraud Case.

Portland, Nov. 23.—The second day of the McKinley-Ware conspiracy case accomplished little, but was rich in oratory, in words, and in objections. The plans of the attorneys were outlined and one witness was examined, but the whole day was taken for the task. At the adjournment 16 documents from the Oregon City land office had been bound and swathed in remonstrances from the defense and submitted as evidence, while Charles B. Moores, former register at the office, had recognized his own signature and that of Judge William Galloway, the former receiver.

Hardly had the staggering second hand of the court clock crossed the point of 2 when Judge Bellinger entered the room with his habitual armful of books, and the second day of struggle began. From the first it was evident that both sides would allow no chance to pass by which advantage could be gained over the opponent. Almost before Mr. Hall had made his opening statement the trouble began, and it ended only with the close of the day.

John Hall, for the prosecution, outlined his course of attack, and showed what the United States would attempt to prove, while, on the other hand, Judge Thomas O'Day in his reply showed, to a certain extent, the hand of the defense.

It will be one of the contentions of the defense that there can be no legal indictment or conviction of the defendants at this time, and under the present proceedings, as the conspiracy is beyond the pale of the statute of limitation. This point was made clear in an objection raised by Judge M. L. Pipes to the introduction of the filing affidavits and records of proof brought by the prosecution from the land office at Oregon City and desired to be used as evidence in the case. These papers were dated in December, 1900, while the indictments were filed on March 14, 1904, more than three years after the time of the alleged conspiracy.

This contention is answered by the prosecution with the claim that the papers are entered not to prove the conspiracy directly, but to show the intent, to lay bare the use of fictitious names and to show that there was a plan in embryo, though its consummation did not work out for some time afterwards. This view was taken by the court, who overruled the objection of the defense and admitted the papers as testimony.

TO CURB RAILROADS.

President Urged to Recommend More Power for Commission.

Washington, Nov. 24.—Interstate transportation matters, with specific reference to the fixing of railroad freight rates, formed the subject of an important conference at the White House yesterday. By previous appointment Governor Van Sant, of Minnesota; Governor Cummins, of Iowa; E. P. Bacon, of Milwaukee, chairman of the Interstate Commerce law convention; Frank Barry, of Milwaukee, secretary of the convention, and R. A. Higbie, of New York, an official of the National Lumber Dealers' association, called on the president to urge him to use his influence toward the enactment of a law which would confer on the interstate commerce commission power to fix railroad freight rates in the commerce between states.

GETS BOODLE FUND BACK.

St. Louis Man Will Recover \$75,000 As Result of Court Decision.

St. Louis, Nov. 24.—Judge Wood, of the circuit court, in the case of Henry Nicholas against Thomas H. Barnes, formerly president of the Suburban railway company, the German institution, Ellis Wainwright and others, decided yesterday that the plaintiff was entitled to recover \$75,000, the boodle fund placed on deposit with the Lincoln trust company by the Suburban company to bribe members of the house of delegates, for the reason that Mr. Nicholas was informed the purpose for which the money was to be applied.

Chile Will Not Sell Ships.

New York, Nov. 24.—In discussing reports circulated in Europe relative to the alleged sale of Chilean warships to Russia through Colombia, a high government official says, according to a Herald dispatch from Valparaiso: "This news is absurd. It is unworthy of the slightest attention. In respect for international law, Chile occupies the same, if not a higher level than some of the greatest powers. Because Chile is placed on the South American continent is no reason to imply that she is an uncivilized country."

Smallpox Hits Hard.

Billings, Mont. Nov. 24.—Smallpox is spreading despite the efforts of the health authorities. Nine new cases were reported yesterday. Seven members of the Phelan family, living ten miles west, have the disease, and there is one other case in that vicinity. Hundreds are being vaccinated here daily. Four deaths from the disease have occurred.

INSULTS MANY

Russian Sailors Did Not Spare the Women.

MORE OF THE CANEA OUTRAGES

Man Who Attempted to Defend His Wife Beaten to Insensibility Buildings Stoned.

Canea, Island of Crete, Nov. 25.—Additional details have become known relative to the outrages committed by the officers and men of the Baltic squadron while the ships were in this port. The authorities are evidently anxious to assuage public feeling by concealing much of what has been reported to them, but some of the worst phases of the brawl have nevertheless become public property. It appears that a number of officers, sodden with drink, addressed themselves in the principal square and paraded in front of the residences of several influential citizens. Just at that time the manager of a foreign agency here, accompanied by his wife, was returning to his home. On seeing the drunken Russians, he attempted to evade them by turning into a side street, but was stopped. Several of the Russians then insulted the woman in the most obscene manner imaginable. When the husband rushed at the offenders he was seized by several of them and beaten almost into insensibility.

Stories of disgraceful acts of the Russians reached the authorities during the night of the outrages. Efforts were being made to prevent a recurrence of the brawl, but the police were entirely disregarded. The broken windows in several of the streets bear witness to the work of the Russian sailors who hurled stones at everything in sight, causing considerable damage.

It is positively known that many of the sailors, and, according to current rumors, some officers also, were left behind by the Baltic vessels. Some had deserted, some evidently lost their way, others were too drunk to be able to report, and quite a number, it is believed, took particular pains to miss the time for sailing.

UPHOLDS TRANSPORT SYSTEM.

Quartermaster General Says It is Necessary and Economical.

Washington, Nov. 25.—General C. F. Humphrey, quartermaster general, in his annual report to the secretary of war, says the enormous amount of work involved in meeting the needs of the army can hardly be comprehended by any one not in close touch with the service. Continuing, he says: "This work, which would tax the best ability and energies of a force of numerically strong enough to permit of giving it proper official attention at all points, has been made doubly onerous because of the inadequate number of quartermasters now provided by law, and the greatly depleted civilian force in the quartermaster's office."

General Humphrey strongly recommends some increase in his clerical force.

General Humphrey says there has been expended during the fiscal year on account of the army transport system, \$3,074,024. The value of the work performed by the army transports on the basis of the lowest obtainable rates offered for the same service, he says, was \$3,472,260, or a difference in favor of the army transport service of \$498,236. Continuing, he says:

"Another year's experience has only tended to confirm and emphasize the views expressed in my last annual report as to the utility, economy and necessity of the army transport system and the wisdom of continuing our present policy in its operation."

The cost of inter-island transportation in the Philippines has been \$876,763, or \$193,367 less than the same service would cost at commercial rates.

General Humphrey says a general service corps is desirable on the grounds of efficiency, economy and discipline. In time of war or emergency, such a body would furnish a corps of trained men to instruct and direct appointees from civil life and civilian employes.

Butchers Decide to Strike.

Chicago, Nov. 25.—Cattle butchers employed in the large plants at the stockyards held a mass meeting tonight and decided unanimously to go on strike when called on to do so by the officials of their union. The cattle butchers employed by the Hammond Packing company struck yesterday because of alleged discrimination against union men. According to the officials of the union, the same conditions prevail at other plants, and the meeting tonight was called for the purpose of ascertaining the sentiment of the men.

Fine Exhibit for '05 Fair.

St. Louis, Mo., Nov. 25.—The Chronicle this evening says a magnificent exhibit from the displays in the Philippine reservation has been purchased by the Lewis and Clark exposition company for \$10,000, to be moved to Portland immediately after the close of the World's fair. The exhibits were chosen from the forestry, fish, mining, agricultural and industrial displays.