

NEWS OF THE WEEK

In a Condensed Form for Our Busy Readers.

HAPPENINGS OF TWO CONTINENTS

A Resume of the Less Important but Not Less Interesting Events of the Past Week.

The bandit Raisuli is again active. A number of Alaskan bills will come up in the senate soon. Carnegie has given Boston \$540,000 for an industrial school. Both armies in Manchuria are seriously hampered by cold weather. New York is inquiring into the matter of building a city light plant. Kuropatkin, when he receives more troops, may try to relieve Port Arthur. Traffic has been considerably delayed in South Dakota and Nebraska by snow. Stoessel has again been wounded, this time by a rifle bullet, but not seriously. Fire destroyed property at the Silver Lake mine, Silverton, Col., valued at \$100,000. The remains of Kruger have been laid in the tomb at Pretoria with imposing ceremonies. The crown prince of Denmark, who is very anxious to meet Miss Roosevelt, is looking for a wife. An American captain just home from the Orient says he saw General Kuroki in November. The general was reported killed early in October. A Japanese cruiser is reported ashore in Yungching bay. The Oregon land fraud case has been postponed until April. A Japanese wing of Oyama's army driven back recently is again advancing. The Japanese are fearful lest the Russian government buys a number of warships from Chile. The suspension bridge at Charleston, W. Va., collapsed, drowning three school girls and injuring five people. Brigadier General S. M. Whiteside is dead. He had command of the department of Santiago during the Spanish war. Four men were scalded to death and four others badly injured by an explosion on the battleship Massachusetts. The new Portland postoffice will not be large enough and the architect has been asked to provide for the construction of another wing. A number of prominent rural mail carriers who were too active politically during the recent campaign, have been removed. They were all in New York and New Hampshire. Wireless telegraph messages have been sent from Kansas City to Cleveland, Ohio, 725 miles, without relay. This is said to be the longest distance overland messages ever covered. Fire destroyed an immense coal bunker at Buffalo. The real work will not begin until early in January. John D. Rockefeller has given Chicago University \$300,000. The nomination of Governor Brady, of Alaska, has been held up by the senate. The national convention of Traveling Passenger agents will meet in Portland in 1905. The international commission to inquire into the North sea incident is expected to meet in Paris December 20. Barbed wire stretched in front of the Japanese trenches is proving the worst foe of the Russian army in Manchuria. A number of Boxer leaders in Northern China have been placed in prison and it is thought probable that the intended uprising has been nipped in the bud. At the last cabinet meeting Secretary Hitchcock spoke briefly of the land fraud cases, indicating that some startling developments in them might be expected in the near future. The second trial of the Oregon land fraud case is in progress in Portland. The Rough Riders will have a place of honor in the inaugural parade. A Chinese capitalist declares that he knows Port Arthur has provisions for three months. Of the 100 locomotives ordered for the Harriman lines, 50 are for the Southern Pacific. Dowie has paid the last installment on his debts and Zion City is again on a sound financial basis.

DOINGS IN CONGRESS.

Monday, December 12. The senate committee on privileges and elections has taken up the Smoot case. Three witnesses were examined and several new points brought out. Senator Stewart has introduced a bill to raise the salary of the president to \$100,000 a year, of the vice president and speaker of the house to \$20,000 each, and each senator, representative and delegate to \$10,000. It is provided that the bill shall take effect March 4, 1909. The house passed a bill to give the agricultural department control over forest reserves. The senate discussed the pure food and Philippine government bills. Tuesday, December 13. The house passed a resolution impeaching Judge Swayne, of the Northern district of Florida, for "high crimes and misdemeanors." A committee was appointed to notify the senate. The senate passed a bill to throw open for settlement 800,000 acres in the Yakima Indian reservation. Nothing of any importance was developed in the Smoot case today. Five witnesses were examined. The house resolution for an adjournment from December 21 to January 4 was adopted by the senate. Senator Mitchell is sure of securing the chairmanship of the committee on canals. Wednesday, December 14. The senate has appointed a committee to arrange for the trial of Judge Swayne, of Florida. A bill was passed in the senate appropriating \$25,000 for the improvement of Mount Rainier national park. In the house the urgent deficiency bill and several other bills of a public nature were passed. Thursday, December 15. The senate spent practically the entire day discussing the Philippine administrative bill. A number of amendments were made. Under unanimous agreement the vote on the bill will be taken tomorrow and the disposal of all amendments will occur at the same time. The urgent deficiency bill was passed without debate. In the house an attempt was made to call up the bill to improve currency conditions. This matter occupied almost the entire day, only a few minor items coming before the house. Friday, December 16. The senate by a vote of 44 to 23 passed the Philippine government bill. As passed it exempts from taxation all bonds issued by the Philippine and Porto Rico governments; authorizes municipalities to incur a bonded indebtedness amounting to 5 per cent of the assessed valuation of their property; authorizes the Philippine government to incur a bonded indebtedness of \$5,000,000; establishes a system for the location and patenting of mineral, coal and saline lands, and gives the civil governor the title of governor general. The greater part of the day was put in discussing and voting on amendments on the Philippine bill. At 5:05 p. m. the senate adjourned until Monday. Today's session of the house was given over almost exclusively to consideration of the bills on the private calendar, a dozen or more being passed. The senate amendments to the urgent deficiency bill were agreed to. A resolution was adopted providing that the exercises appropriate to the reception and acceptance from the state of Kansas of the statue of the late John J. Ingalls, erected in Statuary hall, of the capitol, be made a special order for January 21. The house adjourned until Monday. OREGON WINS MANY PRIZES. W. H. Wehrung Says State Made Fine Showing at St. Louis. Portland, Dec. 17.—After several months in St. Louis, where he had charge of the Oregon exhibit at the Louisiana Purchase exhibition, W. H. Wehrung returned to Portland yesterday. He reported wide interest among Easterners in the Lewis and Clark exposition and predicted there will be heavy westward travel next year for the purpose of seeing the Western World's fair. Mr. Wehrung speaks highly of the showing made by Oregon at the St. Louis fair, saying that the state held up well against states with much larger appropriations. He also says that he has been told that Washington's representatives bought a consignment of Oregon cherries from a dealer and exhibited them as Washington product. Thus Oregon competed in the cherry contest against her own product. Men on Battleship Quarrel. New York, Dec. 17.—George Washington, a negro seaman, shot and wounded two others of the Illinois crew, on the United States battleship Illinois, in the New York navy yard today. Henry More, an apprentice, received a bullet in the arm and Seaman Shap, another in the back. More and the colored man occupied adjoining hammocks and Washington was said to be inoffensive until More's tantalizing actions caused Washington to lose his temper today, and he shot More. Shap interfered and was shot.

BIG EXHIBIT AT FAIR

Missouri Will Make a Fine State Display at Portland.

WILL MEAN OUTLAY OF \$300,000

Special Commissioner is Now Actively At Work—Nation Boxing Exhibits—Nebraska's Part.

St. Louis, Mo., Dec. 19.—"Missouri is to be splendidly represented at the Lewis and Clark exposition at Portland," states M. T. Davis, president of the Missouri State World's Fair commission today. "We will send out there an exhibit that could not be duplicated for \$300,000," he continued. The displays for the western fair will be selected and prepared for shipment by E. S. Carver, special commissioner from Missouri to the Lewis and Clark exposition. He is now actively at work. The work of boxing the government exhibits that are to be shipped from the World's fair to Portland for the Lewis and Clark exposition has been commenced, and by January 1 they will be ready to be sent away. They will not be shipped until March 1, however, according to the present plans. Portland is to get about 65 per cent of the government's exhibits. The remainder will be returned to Washington, D. C. The machinery in the money coining display will be sent as soon as possible to Denver, Colo., where it will be used to enlarge the United States mint. The great ordinance which proved such an attractive exhibit here may be returned to the East. Its disposition has not been definitely decided upon as yet, on account of the possibility of obtaining great rifles and other guns on the Western coast so much closer to Portland.

Nebraska to Have Big Exhibit. Lincoln, Neb., Dec. 19.—J. B. Dinsmore, Nebraska commissioner, and in charge of the livestock exhibit of the St. Louis fair, and ex-president of the state board of agriculture, said today that Nebraska would have a big exhibit at Portland.

MUCH FEELING AGAINST CHILE

Japan Still Fears She Will Sell Her Warships to Russia.

Tokio, Dec. 19.—The Japanese are watching with great interest the alleged plan of the Russian government to purchase warships from the governments of Argentina and Chile. In response to a diplomatic inquiry, the government of Argentina frankly disavowed any intention to sell warships to Russia, but the answer received from Chile is said to be evasive. The correspondence on the subject is still in progress. There is a growing feeling of resentment here against Chile. Discussing the question with the Associated Press correspondent today, an official said that in the event of Chile selling warships to Russia, Japan will unquestionably take the first opportunity to settle the score.

PROTECT FLOODED VALLEYS

Engineers Have Scheme to Redeem One Million Acres.

Sioux City, Ia., Dec. 19.—A committee of distinguished engineers chosen by California to solve the problem of protecting the valleys of the San Joaquin the Sacramento rivers from regular floods made its report today. If successful their plan will redeem 1,000,000 acres. The floods were caused primarily by deposits from hydraulic mines filling the channel. The project will cost \$1,000,000 at least. While the report is not made public, it is understood it recommends the construction of dykes to confine the water to the channel, and thereby carry out the debris.

Conservative Reforms for Russia.

St. Petersburg, Dec. 19.—A special council was held this afternoon at Tsarkoe-Selo, under Emperor Nicholas, at which President of the Ministerial council C. Witte, Minister of the Interior Sviatopolk-Mirsky and Minister of Justice Muraviev discussed the question of reforms. It is understood that the emperor advised with them on the question of a manifesto which will be published today. This document, it is believed, outlines a policy of careful conservative reform.

Federal Building for Honolulu.

Washington, Dec. 19.—Senator Perkins introduced a bill today to make an appropriation of \$1,400,000 to acquire a site to construct a Federal building at Honolulu, Hawaii. Representative Cushman, of Washington, introduced the same bill in the house.

AMERICA LOSING FLOUR TRADE.

Shaw Confers With Millers Regarding Drawback on Imported Wheat.

Washington, Dec. 17.—At the request of Secretary Shaw, representatives of a number of the leading flouring mill interests of the country were at the treasury department today in conference with the secretary on the subject of the regulations now in preparation to allow drawback on exported flour made in part from imported wheat. During the conference the secretary questioned the millers present on several matters of detail in connection with the milling of wheat, the condition of the export trade and the necessity for the action asked for. At the conclusion of the conference a statement made by Secretary Shaw was given out in which he says: "The importance of the question will be appreciated when it is known that during October, 1903, 1,800,000 barrels of American made flour were exported, and in October, 1904, less than 800,000 barrels. In other words, the exportation of American made flour has fallen off during the present season more than one-half. If the European bakers that have been using the American made flour change, it will be next to impossible to get the trade back, and it never can be gotten back until the American farmer sells his wheat cheap enough to permit the American miller to undersell."

SLAIN BY DRUNKEN RUSSIAN

Chinaman Singled Out by Sailor and Filled with Bullets.

Shanghai, Dec. 17.—The disorders created by the sailors of the dismantled Russian vessels Askold and Gromovoi reached their climax yesterday when one of the crew of the Askold murdered a Chinaman without the slightest provocation. The Russian was apparently intoxicated and rushed through one of the streets of the Chinese settlement with a loaded revolver in his hand. He fired several shots at passers by, but failed to do any damage. Then he made for a Chinaman who was standing in front of his store, and, seizing him by the throat, emptied the remaining chambers of the pistol into his victim's body. A petition has been presented to the authorities here requesting that the Russian crews be excluded from the Chinese settlements, where they have been making life a burden for the residents. The matter will, in all probability, be submitted to the foreign consuls, as not a day has passed during the past month or so without some complaint being made against the Russians. So far as can be learned, the Chinese officials have kept the matter secret, but this latest exploit could not be kept from the knowledge of the people in general, and united action is likely to be taken against the Russian sailors.

TO GET PHILIPPINE EXHIBIT.

1905 Fair Deal Only Awaits Approval of Insular Department.

St. Louis, Dec. 17.—The Chronicle this evening says: The sale of a large Philippine exhibit for \$16,000 to the Lewis and Clark exposition company, is awaiting the authorization of the insular department at Washington. A careful and extensive list of displays, making a very comprehensive inanimate exhibit, was prepared by the Philippine board for the Portland company. The price of \$16,000 was accepted by the Western fair corporation, and the conclusion of the deal only awaits the approval of the Washington authorities. The exhibit includes displays from the ethnological, agricultural, forestry and other important departments at the St. Louis fair. It is estimated that the Lewis and Clark company could not duplicate the exhibit in the islands and ship to Portland for double the sum it will pay for the exhibit to be secured in this way.

No News of Missing Attache.

Paris, Dec. 17.—The foreign office has not received any information which it considers credible concerning the disappearance of Lieutenant Decuivre, the French naval attache at Port Arthur. The statement was brought out by sensational London papers to the effect that the officials here had been advised that Japanese torpedo boats deliberately sunk a junk on board of which were the French and German naval attaches. The officials point out that the \$2,000 reward for news of its missing attache is still unclaimed.

Robber Locks Cashier In.

Hibbing, Minn., Dec. 17.—A lone robber held up the bank at Chisholm during business hours today, secured \$2,200, and escaped. He forced Cashier Grieser into the vault at the muzzle of a revolver and locked the door.

REFORM IS DELAYED

Land Laws Will Not Be Changed At Present Session.

DELAY WAS RATHER EXPECTED

Commission Appointed by Roosevelt to Decide on Needed Changes Has Not Yet Made Final Report.

Washington, Dec. 16.—The house committee on public lands today voted to postpone indefinitely the bill to repeal the timber and stone act. This action means there will be no land-law reform this session. This result was expected, especially in view of the fact that the public lands commission has not yet made a final report. The bill passed on was by far the most important of the land reform bills pending, but when it was passed by the senate last session there was a distinct understanding with the members of the house committee that it should not be reported to the house during the present congress. The house committee turned the bill down by a vote of 10 to 4, those voting for repeal being: Chairman Lacey, of Iowa; Miller of Kansas, Needham of California and Volstead of Minnesota. In turning down this bill the committee stated that the repeal of the timber and stone act would shut off the source of the greater portion of the reclamation fund, and would seriously handicap irrigation work begun by the government. Furthermore, it was said that the repeal of this law would be of immeasurable benefit to railroad companies and other large holders of forest reserve lands, as it would cause a considerable rise in the value of scrip, which would be the only remaining way of getting large tracts of government timber land. There was, moreover, a general belief that the timber and stone act, if properly administered, is not a bad law.

ROOSEVELT URGES ACTION.

Anxious Interstate Commerce Commission to Have Greater Power. Washington, Dec. 16.—President Roosevelt considered today with several friends his recommendation that increased powers be conferred by legislation upon the Interstate Commerce commission. Those to whom he talked were not only members of congress, but men in other walks of life. To all he indicated his earnest desire that action of a definite nature—action that would bring results to the people—should be taken as soon as practicable. A day or two ago he considered the question with Judge Grosscup, of Chicago. Today he discussed it with Judge William W. Morrow, of the United States court at San Francisco. By invitation of the president, a special committee of the Commercial Travelers' Protective association called on him today to consider his recommendation that the powers of the Interstate Commerce commission be extended so as to enable the commission to pass upon questions of railroad freight rates, subject only to review by the courts.

MITCHELL MUCH GRATIFIED.

He Wins Important Committee in Face of Much Opposition. Washington, Dec. 16.—Senator Mitchell was highly gratified today to receive the appointment as chairman of the committee on interoceanic canals, which will handle all legislation hereafter enacted affecting the Panama canal and the canal zone. He succeeds the late Senator Hanna. A very strong fight was made to keep Senator Mitchell out of his position, and it was only when all endeavor to force Senator Platt to accept the place failed that the position was given to the Oregon senator. Friends of Panama really wanted to make Kittredge, of South Dakota, chairman of this committee, but could not consistently jump him over Mitchell. Senator Mitchell was fought because he was an earnest advocate of the Nicaragua route.

Dredge for Oregon Harbors.

Washington, Dec. 16.—Representative Hermann appeared before the rivers and harbors committee in support of his bill asking an appropriation of \$100,000 for a dredge to be used on Oregon coast bars. Representative Hermann has received assurances from Chairman Burton and other members of the committee which lead him to believe the committee will incorporate in the river and harbor bill a provision for the dredge. The committee is unwilling to make further appropriations for the coast projects.

Canada Will Not Come to Fair.

Ottawa, Ont., Dec. 16.—The Dominion government decided today not to send an exhibit to the Lewis and Clark exposition.