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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.

Taft and Cummings are Roosevelt's ticket for 1908.

Delmas has begun his argument to the jury in Thaw's defense.

The English house of lords is not disturbed by the move to abolish them.

Jacob Riis, a lifelong friend of the president, says a third term will positively not be accepted.

The warehouse district of Harbin, Manchuria, has been destroyed by fire. The loss is placed at \$2,000,000.

A special series of postal stamps will be issued by the government to commemorate the Jamestown exposition.

The San Francisco city administration is said to have collected toll from every slot machine operating in that city.

The Russian donna strongly favors giving land to peasants, but is afraid to take any action for fear of being dissolved.

Brazil has outlined a naval program which calls for the building of 27 vessels of all sizes. Most of the work will be done in England.

Congressman Ellis, of Oregon, whose home is in the eastern part of the state, says the only good feature about the proposed state of Lincoln is the name.

The official plurality of Frederick A. Buse, as mayor of Chicago, is 12,923.

The United States has joined with Mexico in a move to stop the Central American war.

Senator Clark, of Montana, had a close call by breaking through the ice on Trinidad river.

Congressman Townsend, of Michigan, says he can see no way out of Roosevelt running for a third term.

French seamen threaten to strike and in event they do warships will carry the mails that would otherwise be delayed.

Exposure of bribery by Hearst men has caused a row in San Francisco reform forces but Healey will go on just the same as before.

A fast east bound Pennsylvania train was wrecked near Hudson, Ohio. But one man was injured. Officials lay the blame on trainwreckers.

Reports show that 25 persons were killed and more than twice that number injured in the recent tornado in Louisiana, Mississippi and Alabama.

The minister from Salvador to the United States says the conservative people of Central America are becoming tired of the frequent wars and predicts that a confederacy will be formed.

Carnegie has given an endowment of \$5,000,000 to Carnegie institute.

All railway employees east of the Mississippi will demand more wages.

Cubans are eager for a decision as to when the end of intervention will come.

President Joseph Smith says the Mormon church has abandoned polygamy.

The amount of coffee being imported into the United States is decreasing, but the importation of cocoa is increasing.

Roosevelt is counting on compelling congress at its next session to pass a reform land law by enforcing present statutes.

Eight more indictments are coming for San Francisco telephone men. Healey has sent a warning to Detweiler that he had better give up.

England is becoming aware of the fact that 75 per cent of the canned goods used in that country come from the United States unlabeled and that English labels are put on by the importers.

A part of the outer wall of the vatican has collapsed.

A denunciation of the car may cause dissolution of the donna.

Roosevelt says corporations have conspired to defeat his policy in 1908.

Thaw has been declared sane, but Jerome will appeal for a right to see the evidence.

John A. Lewis has reached Chicago from Mexico and will at once start the fight to secure control of Zion City.

Governor Sweetenham, of Jamaica, resigned because he was ordered to apologize by his home government.

President Bonilla, of Honduras, is gathering forces to continue the Central American war.

NEW STATE IMPROBABLE.

Spokane Plan Regarded With Amused Tolerance by Conservatives.

Portland, April 9.—Though they recognize that there has long existed in certain sections of the Inland Empire latent dissatisfaction with existing state boundaries, conservative citizens of Oregon, Washington and Idaho are inclined to regard with amused toleration the Spokane project to create a new state through the secession of the disgruntled communities from their parent commonwealth.

Even in Eastern Washington, where most of the population of Spokane's new state of Lincoln would be centered, the sentiment in favor of the creation of a new commonwealth is by no means unanimous. Many conservative citizens are of the belief that the time is not yet ripe for actual separation, and even among those who endorse the Spokane scheme, it is recognized that there would be serious problems to face were the present states to say: "Bless you, children, go in peace."

In large measure, the differences that have brought about the desire for separation are political, and it cannot be overlooked that other political jealousies would spring up to fill the new state of Lincoln with discord and heart-burnings. Already two Inland Empire cities, if not more are looking with green eyes upon Spokane's assumption that she is to be the capital of the new state. The politicians of the dissatisfied communities who are now in power can be depended upon to oppose from the word go any move that would impair their influence and drag them away from the public crib where they are now feeding.

HOW TO CURB THE TRUSTS.

National Civic Federation Plans for Convention in Chicago.

New York, April 9.—The executive council of the National Civic Federation has decided on Chicago as the place and May 28, 29, 30 and 31 as the dates for holding the national conference on combinations and trusts, which recently was announced by that organization. Representative men from the various walks of life have signed the invitations asking the appointment of delegates by governors and presidents of the important commercial, manufacturing, agricultural, labor, economic, political and law associations.

The purpose of the conference is to consider the trust and combination problems, especially the question of what amendments, if any, should be made to the Sherman anti-trust act.

GENERAL BARRILLAS SLAIN.

Man Who Might Have Been President Coldly Slain.

City of Mexico, April 9.—Mannuel Barrillas, ex-President of Guatemala, was assassinated here Saturday evening as he sat in a street car. As the car stopped a young man 17 years of age climbed aboard and rushed up to the general and stabbed him twice, the first blow severing the jugular vein, the second cutting his face. The general died instantly. The assassin was captured. He gave his name as Jose Estrada, and his home as Ocos, Guatemala.

Ex-President Barrillas was generally considered as strongly associated to the present government of Guatemala. He was 62 years of age and was a strong possibility for the next presidency of the country. Members of the Guatemala colony here think Estrada was a paid assassin.

ALASKANS WELL PLEASED.

Governor Hoggatt is Not in Favor of Changing Government.

Seattle, Wash., April 9.—W. B. Hoggatt, governor of Alaska, reached Seattle tonight from Washington. "We got almost everything we asked of the last session of congress," he said. "The people of Alaska are well satisfied with Uncle Sam's treatment of them. This cry for a territorial form of government comes from political discontents. To have this change in rule would mean an increase in taxation of 25 cents per capita for the small population. Together with the fact that the country is only partly developed this burden is not yet warranted. We can very well afford to go along as we are despite the howl of politicians."

Protection to Immigrants.

Rome April 9.—Francesco P. Materi, member of the chamber of deputies, has made public a letter in which he urges the government to extend its protection to Italian immigrants, not only on board steamers crossing the ocean, but even after they have disembarked in the United States. He expresses the belief that emigrants to America are exploited and used for work in unhealthy sections of the country. The writer points out that in 1906 800,000 Italians emigrated, of whom 500,000 went to the United States.

Mormons Aid the Chinese.

Salt Lake, April 9.—Twenty tons of flour were voted for the relief of the Chinese famine sufferers at the 78th Mormon conference today. The flour will be taken from the tithing stores.

LET CUBA STAY OUT

Roosevelt is Strongly Opposed to Annexing Republic.

TAFT MAKES HIS POLICY PUBLIC

Confers With Leaders and Proposes Election in December After Census is Taken

Havana, April 9.—The members of the committee of the insurgents, with whom Secretary Taft arranged for peace in Cuba last September, had a conference with the secretary lasting three hours. Mr. Taft refused to give his views on the date of the withdrawal of the American troops from Cuba.

At the close of the conference Senators Zayas and Gomez informed the Associated Press that Mr. Taft had declared it impossible to hold elections in Cuba until a complete census of the island had been taken, which will occupy about four months. He added that municipal and provincial elections would probably be held in September, but he would not give any probable date for the presidential elections.

Mr. Taft conferred with the members of the committee of insurgents until late tonight. The subjects discussed this morning were gone over a second time. The committee insists upon holding provincial elections at the same time as municipal elections, but this is opposed by the conservatives, as the provincial councils elect a part of the senate.

General Loyanex del Castillo called attention to the existence of a campaign for the establishment of an American protectorate over Cuba. Mr. Taft said he was aware of this movement, but declared it would not affect President Roosevelt's views, who was determined to restore the Cuban republic as soon as possible. He said he would probably recommend to President Roosevelt the holding of presidential elections in December and that the Cubans take possession 100 days later, as prescribed in the constitution.

GETS EVERY ADVANTAGE.

Court Very Lenient While Hermann is on Stand.

Washington, April 9.—It is expected that the testimony of Binger Hermann will be concluded today and that his cross examination will then begin and probably consume two days. Judging from the copious notes taken by District Attorney Baker while Hermann has been on the stand, it is inferred that the defendant will have to face a hot cross fire from the prosecution. Hermann can never complain of the unfairness of the rulings of Judge Stafford, who is presiding. Many times yesterday when the defendant gave rambling and evasive answers to questions by his attorney, answers that put him in a more favorable light than would a direct answer to the interrogatory, the court overruled objections of the district attorney and admitted Hermann's answers.

REDUCE THE LATENESS.

Western Railroads Agree to Lengthen Schedules.

Chicago, April 9.—Western railroad officials have practically decided upon the new schedules for passenger trains between Chicago and Pacific coast points. Schedules will not be lengthened as much as it was at first proposed, as the passenger men could not agree to have the trains run upon schedules which could be maintained. If the time as now argued upon is put into effect, the schedule of the fastest train from Chicago to Los Angeles will be lengthened from 71 hours and five minutes to 72 hours; to San Francisco from 69 and one-half hours to 72; from Chicago to Denver from 27 and one-half hours to 32; from Chicago to the Missouri river from 13 hours and 25 minutes to 14 hours and 30 minutes.

Build Push Cart Market House.

New York, April 9.—Five thousand push cart peddlers, members of the United Citizens' Peddlers' association, are to enter into a co-operative plan for building a large house on the lower East Side. The building will cost \$2,000,000 and will occupy an entire city block 600x100 feet. Plans for raising the money have been perfected and architect's plans for the market house have been completed. The building will be two stories high with a roof garden on top for the peddlers' children. In the floors below will be booths.

Great Fire at Navy Yard.

Philadelphia, April 9.—The joiners' shop, one of the largest buildings at the League Island navy yard, was destroyed by fire early this morning. All available marines and sailors were called out to fight the flames, together with the city fire department. The shop was filled with paints and other inflammable material.

TO CREATE NEW STATE.

Spokane Chamber of Commerce Begins to Boom the Project.

Spokane, Wash., April 8.—By making public today the report of the "new state" committee and announcing its adoption by the chamber of commerce, Secretary L. G. Monroe, of the latter body, formally launched the campaign for the creation of a new commonwealth comprising the "Inland Empire," for which the name "Lincoln" has been most frequently suggested.

The report of the committee, which was adopted unanimously, consists of a review of conditions that brought about what it terms the unnatural arrangement of boundaries now existing in the Northwest, advances reasons for the construction of a new state and suggests the following boundaries should be approximated:

That the 45th degree of latitude, or the present north line of the state of Wyoming, extended, be designated as the northern boundary of the state of Idaho, and the 120th degree of longitude, or the eastern boundary of the state of California, carried north, until it intersects the 45th degree of latitude, be designated as the western boundary of the state of Idaho, and that the eastern California line, carried to British Columbia, be designated as the eastern boundary of the state of Washington, thereby leaving a new state to be hereafter named and from which a central city should be selected as the capital, comprising the panhandle of Idaho, Northeastern Oregon and Eastern Washington.

The report goes on to say: "This proposition should not come from any one town or locality, but should be brought from all the principal towns north of the said 45th degree of latitude, and, if possible to secure their consent and approval, then the matter should be taken to the principal towns and cities south of the said 45th degree of latitude, to secure, if possible, their co-operation."

The committee recommended that the chamber of commerce send copies of this report to the various cities intervening, placing the matter before the board of trade, city council, or other body of like nature, to the end that steps be taken looking to the necessary action by congress.

The report points out that the panhandle of Idaho is cut off from the south by an impenetrable mountain barrier, and that the south has dominated legislation to the exclusion of the interests of the panhandle; also that a similar condition exists in Washington, where the Cascade mountains constitute a natural barrier.

It is argued that similar conditions exist between Eastern and Western Oregon to even a more marked degree.

WORST YET TO COME.

Chinese Famine Drives People to Dig Up and Eat Dead.

Washington, April 8.—To correct an erroneous report that has found general circulation with harmful results, the Red Cross has issued the following statement in regard to the Chinese famine:

"The famine in China is unprecedented in severity, and the period of greatest agony is yet to come. Many weeks must pass before there will be relief from new crops, and millions today are kept alive only through the contributions to the American mission and Red Cross society from the American people who sent their donations to Washington. These two great organizations are working together for the common cause and have furnished over two-thirds of all relief supplies sent to China."

"The following cablegram, received by the editor of the Christian Herald from the editor of the North China News, terrible as it may seem, speaks only the truth:

"Shanghai, April 6.—Klatsch, New York.—Approaching period of severest pinch. Authentic instances of corpses exhumed, cannibalism. Foreign relief working effectively, maintaining whole districts until harvest."

"When a people have been reduced to such straits that they will dig up and eat their own dead, the severity and wide extent of the famine can be realized."

Men Will Get More Pay.

San Francisco, April 8.—The board of arbitration which has been considering the dispute between the Southern Pacific Railroad company and the Order of Railway Telegraphers awards the telegraphers 7 1/2 per cent increase in pay and a half day's work on Sunday, and in lieu thereof a vacation of 26 days in each year, with full pay. The Southern Pacific company gains its contention that the telegraphers should not legislate for train dispatchers or station agents whose salaries are equal or exceed \$1,300.

Coxey Plans Another Crusade.

New York, April 8.—The Herald this morning says Jacob Sechler Coxey, commander-in-chief of the Coxey army, is planning another great national crusade on new and sensational lines, and that he may commence operations this year.

TORNADO IN SOUTH

Sweeps Through Louisiana, Mississippi and Alabama.

CLAIMS A SCORE OF VICTIMS

Portions of Four Towns and an Insane Asylum Devastated—Loss Placed at \$500,000.

New Orleans, La., April 6.—Probably 15 lives were lost today by a tornado which swept across portions of three Gulf states and which was traceable for a distance of 300 miles. The tornado moved from west to east over the southern extremity of Louisiana and Mississippi, and striking into Alabama for a short distance. Portions of four towns were destroyed, and damage approximating \$500,000 was done.

The tornado began at Alexandria, La., soon after 1 o'clock yesterday morning, instantly killing four persons there, fatally injuring three and seriously wounding 13 others.

Soon after daylight it reached the Mississippi river, killing four persons at Jackson, La., while at Bayou Sara, La., at least half a dozen others were killed. There was one fatal injury at Jackson.

The tornado next appeared at Carson, Miss., where great property damage was done. About noon near Selma, Ala., the inhabitants saw the clouds rise into the air and the storm disappeared.

The insane asylum at Jackson, La., was almost wholly wrecked, with a loss of about \$200,000. In addition to three female inmates killed many sustained injuries. Two negroes were killed on a nearby plantation. Reports from the surrounding country indicated that there was probably more loss of life among the negroes, whose flimsy cabins quickly collapsed before the wind.

HONOR MEMORIAL DAY.

Commander-in-Chief of Grand Army Issues Proclamation.

Zanesville, O., April 6.—Commander-in-chief Brown, of the Grand Army of the Republic, today issued his Memorial Day proclamation, of which the following is a summary:

On Thursday, May 30, will occur the annual ceremony of garlanding the graves of the dead, and the commander-in-chief calls upon the posts to see that the last resting place of every Union soldier, sailor or marine in their respective localities is fittingly decorated. Wherever practicable, public commemorative services of the heroism of the dead should be held at some central point.

Department commanders are charged with the duty of patriotic instruction in the public schools insofar as the co-operation of the school authorities can be secured. Let Friday, May 24, or the last day preceding Memorial Day, be set aside for this laudable purpose.

In accordance with a time-honored custom, each post will attend divine service in a body on Sunday, May, 26, to render praise and thanksgiving unto the God of nations for the manifold blessings of the past and the undiminished enjoyment of the fruits of an enduring peace won by the Union arms.

CZAR TO ABDICATE.

Will Appoint Grand Duke Michael Regent for Infant Czarvitch.

London, April 6.—The Daily Mirror claims to be in a position to announce upon the "highest authority" that the emperor of Russia purposes to abdicate within a month and that Grand Duke Michael will be appointed regent during the infancy of the czarvitch. For the past three or four weeks, the paper says, events have been proceeding in this direction with lightning-like rapidity in St. Petersburg, but the secret has been well kept.

"Lately," says the paper, "the emperor's mind has given way even more completely, and he has shown himself incapable of performing the smallest duties of his rank."

Warrants for Trainmen.

Colton, Cal., April 6.—Coroner Van Wey today swore out warrants for the arrest of the employees of the Southern Pacific who were held responsible for the wreck on March 28, in which 25 people were killed and 75 injured. The following are the names of the men against whom warrants were issued: L. R. Alvord, foreman of the switching crew; J. G. Crusemeyer, switchman, Clarence Warrington, engineer. The complaints charge them with causing the death of H. F. Wallers, of Sacramento, who was among the killed.

Tax Collector Short \$40,000.

New Orleans, April 6.—As a result of an examination of the accounts of Ferdinand Hudsheffer, state tax collector, it was announced today that there was a shortage of over \$40,000.

WILL BE NO STRIKE.

Railroads and Trainmen Have Reached an Agreement.

Chicago, April 5.—The differences between the Western roads and the members of the Order of Conductors and the Brotherhood of Trainmen were finally adjusted yesterday. The men abandoned their demand for a nine-hour work day and the roads made an advance over their previous proposition in the pay of baggagemen, flagmen and brakemen of \$7.50 per month.

The original demands of the men were for an increase of 12 per cent and for a working day of nine hours. The managers offered an increase in pay of 10 per cent and declined to grant the nine-hour day. The agreement was reached mainly through the efforts of Chairman Knapp, of the Interstate Commerce commission, and Charles Neill, United States labor commissioner. The agreement, which goes into effect dating from April 1, follows:

The pay of conductors in the passenger service to be increased \$10 per month, that of baggagemen \$7.50 and that of flagmen and brakemen \$6.50 per month as applied to the schedules in effect November 1, 1906.

The railroads are not to make any reduction in crews or increase in mileage for the purpose of offsetting the increased wages given the passenger trainmen.

Overtime in the passenger service to be allowed on the basis of 15 miles per hour, to be computed for each part of the run separately. Time is to begin at the schedule time of leaving. Roads on a basis of more than ten hours per day for a helper or construction train service are to make no increase in the rates paid for such service. The increases granted in the agreement are to apply also to rates for special services as specified in the individual schedule.

Upon roads having a better basis for a day's work or for payment of overtime or other allowances in all branches of train service, the acceptance of this agreement is not to act as a reduction.

The Brotherhood of Locomotive Firemen was also granted by the railroads an increase of 10 per cent.

NEW SPELLERS GAINING.

Champions of Simplicity Rejoice Over Number of Converts.

New York, April 5.—Chairman Brandt Matthews, of the Simplified Spelling board, at its first annual meeting today submitted a report stating that at least 100,000 persons were using the form of spelling urged by the organization. Most of the criticism against the board's activity, Professor Matthews declared, had come from men of letters, but this had been more than offset by the support of men of science. Professor Matthews says President Roosevelt's warm attitude toward simplified spelling had also been a powerful factor in advancing the work.

Resolutions were adopted thanking Andrew Carnegie for the aid he had rendered the board and expressing the conviction that through the help thus rendered there "would be insured for countless generations a great diminution in the labor of teaching and learning in the things taught and learned; a vast increase in the facility of spreading ideas, and therefore a vast increase in each individual's stock of original ideas."

REGARDED AS PERSONAL.

Herrmann Explains Why He Made Way With Letterbooks.

Washington, April 5.—During the hour he was on the stand today Binger Hermann narrated the circumstances under which he ordered the destruction of his 35 private letterbooks, gave his reason for so doing, and also explained the distinction he drew between personal and official correspondence. While telling the story of the books, he for the first time displayed signs of emotion, and his earnestness and straightforwardness as he talked direct to the jury were convincing.

From his own testimony it was evident that Hermann never drew a fine distinction between the official and the personal in his correspondence with Oregon friends. In fact, the bulk of his correspondence with personal acquaintances at home was regarded by him as personal, notwithstanding much of it dealt more or less extensively with land office business.

War on Livestock Firm.

Kansas City, Mo., April 5.—The Livestock commission men who are members of the Livestock exchange at the stockyards, have declared a war on the Co-operative Livestock Commission company, an independent concern, and a boycott on all packers who purchase cattle, sheep or hogs from the Co-operative company. The reason given for the boycott is that the company sells cattle below price quotations and sends out circulars to shippers charging the commission men and stock exchange with dealing unfairly.

Two-Cent Fare for Michigan.

Lansing, Mich., April 5.—The senate today, 27 to 3, passed a bill requiring a 2-cent per mile passenger fare on all Lower Peninsula railroads, the net earnings of which exceed \$1,200 a mile.