

NEWS OF THE WEEK

In a Condensed Form for Our Busy Readers.

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

A Chinese envoy has been sent to America to study the exclusion question.

The sultan of Sulu proposed marriage to Miss Roosevelt and took a refusal hard.

An earthquake of some violence has been felt throughout the entire Mississippi valley.

Minister Conger denies that he is to go to China to endeavor to check the boycott against American goods.

Radicals denounce the national assembly called by the czar. They claim it will do the people more harm than good.

A yellow fever patient is a prisoner in the New Orleans city jail and has caused several panics among officials and prisoners.

Russia is again being shaken with internal troubles. Added to the riots and strikes comes protests of Cossack troops against service in suppressing the rioters.

It seems probable that peace negotiations will be broken off. Russia insists that Japan must change her terms on Sakhalin and indemnity and the latter are as firm in their refusal.

The court of inquiry on the Bennington disaster reports that the explosion was caused by the steam gauge refusing to register the amount of steam carried and the boiler blew up because of an over-pressure. The engineer in charge ordered a subordinate to close an air cock and instead he closed the steam gauge cock, which was the reason the amount of steam would not register.

A Chicago preacher is to be tried for cheating a railroad.

Practically the whole of Germany's colonial empire is in revolt.

A dozen persons were injured by the collapse of a roof at Marblehead, Massachusetts.

A number of officers from the United States army will attend the annual maneuvers of the French army.

New Orleans is burning tons of sulphur to kill the mosquito which is causing a spread of yellow fever.

A number of railroad companies must appear before the Kansas Federal court and tell why they gave rebates contrary to law.

Reports from the New York Health department show a decline in typhoid fever, which for a time assumed proportions of an epidemic.

Settlers are pursuing the band of Arizona Apache Indians on a raid in New Mexico. The Indians are wearing full war paint and using poisoned arrows.

The United States government has notified China that she must end the boycott against American goods before negotiations will be opened looking to a betterment of immigration conditions.

Associate Justice Tucker, of Arizona, is accused of grafting.

Acting Mayor Fornes, of New York, has been sued for divorce.

The czar has issued a manifesto summoning a national assembly.

Eighteen bodies have been recovered from the wreck at Bruce's, Virginia.

Bombs have been sent to two New York bankers. No damage was done.

A German port has refused to entertain the British fleet in the Baltic sea.

Telegraph operators on the Great Northern have voted to return to work.

A heavy wind, accompanied by rain, did great damage to property in Topeka, Kansas.

Mayor Dunne, of Chicago, has ordered that work stop on tunnels until the Illinois Tunnel company devises means to prevent the sinking of buildings and streets.

Roosevelt has again taken a hand in the peace conference in an endeavor to prevent the breaking off of negotiations.

The government has discovered a new counterfeit \$5 silver certificate of the series of 1895. It is poorly executed.

Apache Indians from Arizona are on a raid in New Mexico. They have killed a number of ranchers and are looting and burning houses.

American Jews refuse to loan Russia any more money until their race is granted reforms.

WILL DRIVE CONGRESS.

Legislation Must Be Passed On Railroad Rates and Tariff.

Washington, Aug. 22.—In abandoning the idea of calling an extra session of congress in November, President Roosevelt has handed out no encouragement to the men who are fighting railroad rate legislation, or to the stand-pat Republicans who disagree with him on the tariff question. The abandonment of an extra session in November will have little effect upon the actual work of the next congress. It simply means that, instead of getting together and organizing in November, congress will meet on the first Monday in December, will organize in the days preceding the holiday recess, and will be ready for work soon after the first of January, instead of the first of December. But congress will not shorten the session, for the time that is taken off at the beginning will be tacked on at the end, and it is now probable that the first session of the Fifty-ninth congress, instead of adjourning in April next, will run well into the summer.

President Roosevelt has not abandoned hope of securing the passage of a railroad rate bill, nor has he given up hope of securing a readjustment of the tariff to meet new conditions. And it may be set down as an absolute fact that, if the president makes clear his position and in a message to congress insists upon railroad rate legislation as well as tariff legislation, the house of representatives will pass bills very closely in line with his ideas, and won't waste much time about it.

The people of the United States, especially the voters, have become pretty thoroughly imbued with the idea that there ought to be legislation on the railroad rate question. They believe the president would not have taken his firm stand without cause, and the people are with the chief executive. A great many of them, undoubtedly a large majority, agree with him that the time has come when there should be a readjustment of tariff rates, especially the rates that affect industries no longer needing protection behind a tariff wall, but which are taking advantage of the protection afforded by the Dingley law to sell their products abroad at less price than they command in this country.

If the president wins his fight for railroad legislation he may have to sacrifice the tariff bill at the coming session, but it is known he regards the railroad question as the more important of the two at this time, and would probably be willing to compromise on these grounds, if he can get a satisfactory rate bill. The discussion of the railroad question, or rather the discussion of the subjects injected for filibustering purposes, will occupy so much time that there will be little opportunity to consider a tariff bill in the senate.

The house, which must originate tariff legislation, may frame and pass a tariff bill, while the senate is wrestling with the rate problem, but the chances are that the senate will not be obliged to surrender to the president on the tariff question at the coming session, provided it passes the rate bill favored by the president. There is hardly time in a single session to dispose of two such great questions, but there is no telling what President Roosevelt may be able to do.

TROLLEY BROKEN IN PIECES.

Hit by Flying Freight Car at a Butte Street Crossing.

Butte, Mont., Aug. 22.—Ten persons were killed and more than a score were injured, some fatally, here tonight, as the result of a freight car dashing into a crowded open trolley car at the crossing of the street car and the Great Northern railroad tracks on Utah street.

Passengers on the car, men, women and children, were returning from Columbia Gardens. The motorman, as usual, stopped his car before reaching the railroad crossing. At that moment a Butte, Anaconda & Pacific yard engine was making a flying switch of loaded freight cars across Utah street.

The motorman, thinking everything was clear, started across the railroad track, when the trolley car was struck by a freight car, thrown 25 feet and crumpled into kindling wood. The freight car landed on top of the mangled passengers.

Going to Fight Yankees.

New York, Aug. 22.—The Tribune tomorrow will say: "Venezuela has placed orders in Europe for torpedo boats with guns and ammunition at the cost of about \$2,500,000, a larger amount than that little South American republic has ever expended at one time for war materials. An American, who has just returned from Venezuela, is authority for the statement that President Castro recently declared that he was "going to fight the Yankees," which is given as the cause of the large orders for war material.

Russian Transport Captured.

Tokio, Aug. 22.—Commander Kamchkatka reports that his squadron has captured the big Russian transport Australia in the harbor of Petropavlovsk. She will be sent to Sasbro.

PACKERS COMBINE

Independent Companies to Fight the Beef Trust.

RAILROADS WILL LEND A HAND

Organized in Secrecy, They Begin the Attack in Chicago, After Establishing Their Plants.

Chicago, Aug. 22.—Carefully laid opposition to the beef trust, which, it is asserted, will reach gigantic proportions shortly, began operations at the partially completed packing plant owned by the Independent Packing company this morning. With the utmost secrecy two companies—the other the Western Packing & Provision company—have organized in Chicago and their plants will cost nearly \$500,000 when completed.

While the packers of the beef trust circle were warding off the attacks of the Interstate Commerce commission as to private car lines and the Federal grand jury as to combination and conduct of their business, the wholesale butchers, hotel men and restaurant men, as well as other large consumers of meat were secretly organizing with a determination to succeed so strongly in their minds that no word reached the public till this week.

Men interested in the new concerns say the railroads have privately given assurances that they will aid the independents to almost any extent, as they have tired of what they term the packers' manipulations and sometimes treachery.

The two plants now nearly completed are both in the stockyards district. The independent company's \$150,000 packing plant is at West Forty-first and Halsted streets, and the Western company's \$300,000 plant is at Morgan and Thirty-eighth streets. The third and largest independent plant will be built next summer and will cost more than \$500,000 in itself. The company which will build it is ready to obtain its charter, but will defer action until actual work on the plant begins.

STATE LAID WASTE.

Storm Sweeps Through Minnesota With Great Fury.

St. Paul, Minn., Aug. 22.—Devastation, terrible and complete, was wrought on all sides of the Twin Cities by the storm of Sunday night, according to reports just received here. Through all the region from Anoka to Fillmore counties reports tell of disaster and loss of life and property.

Members of families are missing and it is believed they are buried under the debris, which was strewn broadcast by the wind. Many instances of maiming are reported and the total loss of life will not be known for some days.

Crops which had been cut and were ready for threshing suffered in many places and standing corn was damaged by hail and wind. Hallstones several inches in circumference worked havoc with the crops in some sections.

Large sections of railroad tracks were swept away south of here and the mail trains on certain portions of the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul road were run yesterday on improvised tracks, making slow time on account of the enforced insecurity of the roadbed.

In some of the farming localities the grain was stripped from the stalks, even in the shocks, by the furious rain and wind, and haystacks were completely demolished. Huge trees, which have successfully withstood the storms of years, were uprooted and hurled before the wind, and barns and other out-buildings were completely destroyed.

The damage done to buildings and crops in the southern counties will reach many thousands of dollars, but no accurate estimate can be formed until complete reports are received.

All sections report that the storm was cyclonic in its nature and from some points reports tell of a funnel shaped cloud that descended with the most intense fury, leaving destruction in its path.

Navies Will Fraternize.

New York, Aug. 22.—New York will be the scene of a remarkable demonstration of fraternity and goodwill between the tack tars of the navies of Great Britain and the United States during the first week in October on the occasion of the visit of the second cruiser squadron of the British fleet. On or about the first Monday in the month 1,200 American sailors will entertain a like number of their British brethren. Arrangements are making for a great banquet, smoker and theater party as the principal events.

Texas Health Regulations.

Dallas, Tex., Aug. 22.—It has been ordered by the State Health department that all persons entering Texas by northern gateways must furnish health certificates properly attested. Identification of persons must also be given in certificates.

TUBE SYSTEM FOR BAY CITY

Mails Can Then Be Handled With Greater Rapidity.

San Francisco, Aug. 21.—The pneumatic tube system, which is used with great success in Eastern cities, will at a near date be filling its important functions in the local postoffice. Everything is ready for the installation of the system, and all that deters the postal authorities from giving this city that improvement is the proper location at the ferries.

The government forbids the placing of the system in other than buildings which will insure permanency. The present building at the ferries occupied by the postoffice is regarded as a temporary structure, and the only location suitable will be in the Ferry building. The harbor commissioners have been applied to for space and if they grant the request the work will begin immediately.

About 90 per cent of the local mail passes through the Ferry postoffice, and when that station, with its force of clerks, is transferred to the new building at Seventh and Mission, the postal service of this city is going to be greatly hampered. The business community of this city as well as others were considerably interested over the matter, and the agitation resulted in the department at Washington giving it serious attention.

The tube is eight inches in the clear, and each carrier will hold 450 letters. At a test recently made at Chicago, 350,000 letters were sent through in one hour. San Francisco mail is about 300,000 letters per day, and with the tube system local mail could be handled with great efficiency. The majority of the mail will be worked and sorted at the main postoffice, and sent through the tube to the Ferry station, where it will be pouched for trains and steamers. All incoming mail will be sent directly to the main postoffice.

THERE ARE OTHERS.

Bennington Is Not the Only Warship With Weak Boilers.

Washington, Aug. 21.—The findings of the board of inquiry that investigated the Bennington disaster are expected to be given out today. Since the boilers of the gunboat exploded, killing and wounding so many of the crew, an investigation has been going on to determine the condition of engines and boilers on other ships of the navy.

The results have been surprising. Some discoveries were made, and some rather unpleasant ones. Several vessels have been ordered to the navy yard for repairs to their engine room equipment. The names of these vessels are withheld at the Navy department. It may be said, though, on the best authority, that the conditions which have so far been revealed will in all probability result in some decided changes of the naval regulations relating to the duties of deck and engine room officers.

The announcement of the ships whose boilers have been discovered to be defective and of the changes to be made in the regulations may be made long after the Bennington figures have been published. Secretary Bonnaparte is a believer in legitimate publicity and thinks the department should take the initiative in furnishing to the press any information that should properly be made public.

NEW DOCK ON THE SOUND.

Navy Department Prefers It There Instead of Mare Island.

Washington, Aug. 21.—It is believed from the attitude of an official of the Navy department that congress will be asked next winter to make an appropriation for a new drydock on Puget sound. The naval authorities are unanimous in declaring that there is immediate need for better docking facilities on the Pacific coast, and are equally unanimous in believing it unwise to build such a dock at the Mare Island navy yard, because of the bad channel approaches.

If another dock is authorized, it is preferred that it be located at Bremerton, on the sound. The only thing to check this recommendation will be adverse action by the cabinet, which may deem it inadequate, in view of the condition of the treasury, to seek money for the new dock at this time.

Grain Rates Are Reduced.

St. Paul, Aug. 21.—Just as the movement of the grain crop is about to begin the Great Northern railroad today announced a sweeping reduction in grain rates throughout its eastern territory extending into the boundary of Montana. Three years ago the road made important reductions in the western section. The new rates, it is claimed, will add millions to the potential resources of the farmers of the Northwest. The reduction is not made, it is claimed, in pursuance of any pressure, but as a voluntary act.

Fire Destroys Big Factory.

Newcastle, Pa., Aug. 21.—Fire this morning destroyed the extensive plant of the Newcastle Forge & Bolt company. The loss is estimated at \$100,000. Six hundred men will be thrown out of work.

CONFERENCE FAILS

Prevailing View That War In Far East Will Continue.

JAPAN ASKED TO MODIFY TERMS

Pressure Being Exerted at Tokio by President Roosevelt and the Powers.

Portsmouth, N. H., Aug. 19.—Black pessimism reigns at Portsmouth. The prevailing view is that the fate of the peace conference is already settled, that it has ended in failure, and that all that now remains is for the plenipotentiaries to meet on Tuesday, to which day they adjourned yesterday afternoon upon completing the consideration of the Japanese terms, sign the final protocol, go through the conventions and bid each other farewell. In other words, that the meeting Tuesday will be what diplomacy calls the "seance d'adieu."

But there is still room for hope of a compromise. Neither President Roosevelt nor the powers will see the chance of peace shipwrecked without a final effort, and that pressure is being exerted, especially at Tokio, to induce Japan to moderate her terms, is beyond question. Just what is being done or is to be done has not transpired. King Edward is understood to be now lending a helping hand and the financiers of the world are known to be exerting all their energies. At Tokio and St. Petersburg the final issue will be decided.

FIRE DEALS DEATH.

State Room Inn Destroyed and Two Lives Lost.

Portland, Aug. 19.—Fire originating at 2:20 o'clock this morning in the State Room inn, on Thurman, between Twenty-sixth and Twenty-seventh streets, one block from the main entrance to the Lewis and Clark exposition, completely destroyed the structure and the adjoining residence of Attorney Van Dusen, and incinerated two or more occupants of the inn.

Special Policeman J. H. Roy turned in the alarm and endeavored to arouse occupants of the building and bring assistance to them. The structure was frame, two stories in height, built to serve the purpose of a temporary hotel during the exposition period, and the fire gained such headway and fastened so greedily upon the timbers that the occupants had small chance of escape unless awakened about the time the flames were first seen breaking out of the roof and walls.

The dead: Unknown man, body badly charred; boy, having one leg amputated, also badly charred.

The injured: Mrs. Ida Harper, burned and bruised; Miss Anna Lubert, burned and bruised; Mrs. Van Zant, burned about face and injured by jumping from veranda; Miss Van Zant, burned about face; A. C. Collander, cut about head, burned and bruised; Joe Stubbs, severely burned.

CONGRER TO CHINA.

Will Do What He Can to Stop Boycott on America.

Oyster Bay, Aug. 19.—Edwin H. Conger, of Iowa, formerly United States minister to China, and since last April the American ambassador to Mexico, will return to China in the near future, if present plans are carried into effect. His mission will be of a diplomatic nature, the specific purpose of which is to allay, if possible, the agitation aroused in parts of the Chinese empire against the use by Chinese of American products.

Mr. Conger, who has been scarcely more than three months at his new post in the City of Mexico, was summoned to the United States to confer with the president about the Chinese boycott of American goods. He had a long conference with the president today.

Many Negroes Drowned.

Norfolk, Va., Aug. 19.—Owing to the inability of Engineer D. L. Reig to control his air brakes, an excursion train from Kingston, N. C., bound for this city, plunged through an open draw over the Twin branch of the Elizabeth river, eight miles from Norfolk, this afternoon, and half a hundred persons, mostly negroes, were drowned. Up to a late hour tonight only seven bodies had been recovered from the wreckage. The list of injured numbers nearly 100, though most of these are only slightly hurt.

Seven Children at a Birth.

Honolulu, Aug. 19.—A dispatch by wireless telegraph from Hilo says that Hans, the Hawaiian wife of Kallus, a Chinese, gave birth to one child on last Thursday, two on Sunday, one on Monday, two on Tuesday morning and one on Tuesday night. All are dead.