

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.

There is a lull in the Russian revolution.

The second trial of Senator Burton has commenced.

Missouri may shut-out two more insurance companies.

Taft denounces trusts which oppose free trade with the Philippines.

King Christian has accepted the Norwegian throne for Prince Charles.

The president will co-operate with the states in compelling insurance reform.

Russian Baltic ports are frozen up, thus cutting off communication by water.

The Cuban government has learned of fresh plans for the overthrow of President Palma.

The death roll in the wreck of the steamer Hilda, off the coast of France, has grown to 128.

Secretary Hitchcock and Attorney General Moody have agreed to remain in the cabinet for another year.

A number of towns in Northern Utah are without fuel and should a sudden cold snap come many people would suffer.

The production of gold in the United States during 1904 amounted to 3,910,729 ounces, valued at \$80,635,646, an increase of over \$7,000,000.

General Chaffee will soon retire.

Taft says canal needs more money.

Poles fear intervention by the kaiser if they revolt.

Senator Smoot's political control of Utah is ended.

Further revelations are expected in California on insurance scandal.

The Norwegian storking has formally elected Prince Charles as king.

The board of consulting engineers has decided in favor of a sea level canal.

The outbreak of yellow fever in Havana is being controlled and few new cases are reported.

Workmen of Russia have called off the strike and claim success in saving Cronstadt mutineers.

San Francisco has raised \$25,000 for Russian Jews and expects to add another \$5,000 to the fund.

A meeting of Denver business men passed resolutions favoring better tariff regulations with the Philippines.

Over half of Vladivostok has been destroyed as a result of the recent outbreak. The damage is estimated at \$25,000,000.

During a football game at Ann Arbor a grand stand fell, hurling 2,000 people into the wreckage. Not more than a dozen were hurt sufficiently to require the services of a physician.

California politicians are now becoming involved in the insurance scandal.

The strike in Poland is believed to have been broken and the country is settling down.

Indications are that a new register of the Lewiston land office will not be named for some time.

Secretary Root is preparing to initiate negotiations for the settlement of all pending disputes with Canada.

Many women are going to Panama to work as servants in the various camps along the route of the canal.

A prairie fire near Aberdeen, S. D., caused a loss of livestock, grain and farm buildings estimated at \$500,000.

A fire which started in a Knoxville, Tenn., paint store destroyed \$200,000 worth of property before extinguished.

European nations are not pulling together in their demonstration against Turkey and the sultan doesn't seem badly scared.

The canvass of the New York election shows gains for Hearst.

The contributions for the relief of the Russian Jews totals \$740,000 from all parts of the world. Of this \$370,000 came from the United States.

All of Mayor Dunne's plans for immediate municipal ownership of the Chicago street railways have been shattered by the council reaching an agreement with the companies placing the time ten years hence.

Speaker Cannon has declared against tariff revision.

HUNDRED LIVES LOST.

Steamer Runs on Rocks Off North Coast of France.

St. Malo, France, Nov. 21.—One of the most soul harrowing tales of marine disaster in the history of the English channel was brought here late last night, when the tug Chateau Bryand arrived here in company with the steamer Ada, having on board six survivors of the 105 passengers and crew of the Southwestern railroad's steamship Hilda, which, while bound from Southampton to St. Malo, was driven on the Pontes rocks, three miles from here, during a blinding storm in the early hours of Sunday.

The steamer left Southampton Saturday for St. Malo with 86 passengers and a crew of 19 on board. The weather was bitterly cold, while a heavy snow accompanied by a high wind, made navigation well nigh impossible. Before the Hilda was clear of the Southampton harbor it was plain that the voyage would be very dangerous, and all passengers were driven below decks and the hatches battened down.

Owing to the wind and snow the vessel made but very slow progress, time and again having to steer from her course to avoid the strength of the waves, which rushed mountain-high down upon her. When off the Pontes rocks the Hilda was caught in a strong current, and before she could be turned head-on to the waves, she drove stem-on against the outermost promontory. She broke into three pieces almost immediately, and sank before it was possible to launch the lifeboats.

NO COMPLAINT ON CUBA.

Isle of Pines Americans Merely Wish Change of Government.

Havana, Nov. 21.—The municipal council of the Isle of Pines has issued a lengthy statement denying the charges made by J. H. Keenan, of Pittsburg, and others, that the island is in a condition bordering anarchy and is without proper courts, schools, facilities for the protection of life and property. The statement alleges that these have all been provided and that, although various public improvements are necessary, the government has done more than the small revenues of the island warranted.

It agrees that the records show the actual ownership of Americans of lands in the island to be far smaller than has been asserted, since most of such lands are held on options or on the payments of small installments, and that they also show the amount of taxes paid by Americans to be very small.

The officers of the principal Isle of Pines land company, whose offices are in Havana, say that while they believe the island should be considered United States territory, they have no complaint to make of the Cuban government.

FIND OF DIAMONDS.

Causes Excitement to Run High on Necanicum River.

Seaside, Ore., Nov. 21.—During the past week there has been intense excitement on the Necanicum. The secret of it all lies in the fact that an ochre mine, which is being developed just above the bridge across the Necanicum on the Elk creek road, has been yielding precious stones. Diamonds and rubies are said to be in evidence and a number of people have located claims. The ochre is of finest quality and plenty of the best fireclay ever discovered is there, but when precious stone were discovered the excitement reached fever heat and people were coming from Portland to be guided to the diamond field. Everything looked good to the seeker after precious stones and every pebble they saw looked to them like a diamond in the rough. They are hoping that the digging will "soon be over," but will continue until they have secured bushels of the precious stones.

The ochre is being sacked and shipped to Portland to be subjected to the necessary refining process, and from present indications a great industry will be built up near Seaside, which will give employment to a large number of men. This, aside from any precious stones which may be found in the mine, is the most desirable feature connected with the enterprise.

No Clash Over Fishing.

Washington, Nov. 21.—All danger of a clash between the Gloucester and New Foundland fishermen has been averted, it is believed, for this season, by the exchanges between Secretary Root and Sir Mortimer Durand, the British ambassador. The secretary is now awaiting the reply of the London government to his memorandum, in which he called attention to the three main points of difference. This is expected some time within the week and its receipt, it is believed, will clear up patially the entire situation.

China to Pay Indemnity.

London, Nov. 21.—The Tokio correspondent of the Daily Telegraph understands that an Anglo-Thibetan treaty has been signed and that it provides that Great Britain shall acknowledge Chinese sovereignty in Tibet in return for which China will pay an indemnity.

DECISION NOT FINAL

President Advocates Building of Lock Canal.

STEVENS IS OF SAME OPINION

Board of Consulting Engineers Will Make Two Reports — Canal Commission Says Locks.

Washington, Nov. 21.—Although the board of consulting engineers has decided in favor of a sea level canal, it is yet an open question whether the Panama canal shall be a sea level or a lock waterway. The decision of the board is not final. It was reached by a vote of 8 to 5 in favor of the sea level project, General Davis and Messrs. Burr and Parsons joining with the five foreign engineers against a lock canal.

The report of the board probably will not be submitted to President Roosevelt for five or six weeks. As to the character of the great project, the report will not be unanimous. In fact, two reports, one by the majority and one by the minority, will be submitted. These reports the president will lay before the canal commission and Chief Engineer Stevens for consideration. Mr. Stevens will come to the United States from the isthmus to take up the subject with the commission and the president.

It is conceded by the adherents of a sea level canal that to construct such a waterway will cost much more money and time than to build a lock canal. It is known that in the mind of the president these are vital elements. It is his desire, expressed to some of those who have discussed the subject with him, that the canal should be built as expeditiously as possible and at no greater expense than may be necessary to provide a practicable waterway. He has indicated to some of those to whom he has talked that he personally favors a lock canal, but he is determined fully that the subject shall be considered thoroughly from all points of view before a final decision is reached.

Mr. Stevens will leave Colon for Washington next Thursday. He is coming to give the commission information upon different phases of the work on the isthmus, but more particularly his view as to the type of canal. These views are already known to the officials who are in charge of the canal work, but an official statement from the engineer is desired.

Mr. Stevens told officials who recently visited the canal zone that, if a sea level canal was to be constructed, the government ought to put boys under 20 years of age in charge of it, so that they would last until the work was completed. The visit of Mr. Stevens for the especial purpose of giving his views as to the type of canal indicates that the judgment of the consulting board of engineers is not definitely to determine the type, but that the commission will earnestly take up the subject and make recommendations. From

SHAW WILL STAY.

Agrees Not to Leave Cabinet While Congress Sits.

Washington, Nov. 21.—Leslie M. Shaw will remain as secretary of the treasury in President Roosevelt's cabinet until the conclusion of the approaching session of congress, and perhaps for several months longer.

It has been understood that Mr. Shaw expected to retire from the cabinet about the first of February next, or sooner, with a view to greater freedom in promoting his candidacy for the Republican presidential nomination in 1908, although the secretary himself never has announced himself to be a candidate.

President Roosevelt's attention was attracted to some recent publications that Mr. Shaw has presented his resignation to take place next February, or, perhaps, earlier, and today he had a conference with the secretary about the matter.

Breakers in Salton Sea.

Los Angeles, Nov. 21.—Information has come to the Southern Pacific headquarters here today that the gale that blew inland from the sea this morning lashed the waters of Salton sea into huge breakers, which damaged the railroad track and cut off telegraphic communication along this point. The railroad had just finished extensive works to protect the track from the encroaching waters that flowed in from the Colorado river, and believed that it had finally overcome the difficulty.

Loss on Distillery \$1,600,000.

Connellsville, Pa., Nov. 21.—Last night's fire at the Overholt distillery at Bradford resulted in a loss estimated today at \$1,600,000. It is estimated that 18,000 barrels of whiskey were destroyed. The whisky was valued at \$648,000, and the government will lose the tax of \$1.10 a gallon, amounting to \$891,000.

STRUGGLE IS ON.

Senate Committee Meets to Consider Rate Measure.

Washington, Nov. 20.—In the room of the senate committee on interstate commerce this morning the struggle with the problem of legislation affecting the railroads will begin. The question has occupied public attention to the partial exclusion of other matters of importance for a year, but the committee meeting will mark the real beginning of the contest, which congress will end before the close of the coming session. The committee, of which Stephen B. Elkins, of West Virginia, is chairman, has been directed explicitly by the senate to make a report on the matter of railroad legislation "by bill or otherwise" not later than December 14. Nearly every member of the committee is in Washington and the few absentees are expected to reach the city today.

Mr. Elkins has intimated that no bill can be prepared within the time set by the senate for making the report. If this is true, it means that an extension of time must be asked and there will be nothing for the senate to do but grant it. Senator Dolliver, of Iowa, on the other hand, believes that there is no reason why a bill cannot be presented to the senate within a week after the convening of congress.

Members of the committee are divided on the question of the extent to which legislation to be recommended should go in the matter of giving authority to the Interstate Commerce commission to fix rates. This is the mere statement of a fact already well known, but there are indications that Mr. Elkins may be able to obtain a majority report by yielding much from his views and by gaining as much from the members of the committee who have been antagonistic or partly antagonistic to the chairman.

REBUILD THE OREGON.

Famous Battleship to Remain in Drydock Two Years.

Washington, Nov. 20.—The Navy department expects that the battleship Oregon will remain at the Puget Sound navy yard the better part of two years undergoing a complete overhauling. Many parts of the ship are to be practically rebuilt. The turrets are to be equipped with electric controlling apparatus and features which have become obsolete are to be replaced by the latest patterns known in naval construction. Work will be begun early in January, as soon as the Oregon arrives from the Philippines.

Secretary Bonaparte is now considering the naval estimates. What he will recommend for the Puget Sound navy yard is unknown, but there is a belief that he may endorse the recommendation of the bureau of yards and docks that \$1,250,000 be appropriated to build a new drydock. It seems improbable that congress, in its economical mood, will authorize a new dock this session, but congressional action will depend largely upon the amount of pressure the Washington delegation can bring to bear.

CONGRESS MUST ORDER BONDS

None for Panama Canal Can Be Issued Without Its Action.

Washington, Nov. 20.—It can be authoritatively stated that no Panama bonds will be issued until congress shall have authorized their use as a basis for national bank circulation at one-half of 1 per cent, the same as the consols of 1930. Two per cent bonds, it is said, would not be worth par if bank circulation based thereon were taxed at 1 per cent, as the law now provides. And even if the bonds were issued and sold, the money would not be available until congress should appropriate it.

Treasury officials are somewhat surprised at the published statement that the secretary of the treasury is contemplating the issuance of bonds under present conditions. Mr. Shaw has twice called the attention of congress to this needed legislation. This will undoubtedly be repeated in his forthcoming annual report, and Speaker Cannon has given him assurance that he will do everything in his power to expedite its passage.

Cubans Get Many Arms.

Havana, Nov. 20.—The truth in the reports of plots to overthrow the government was revealed in part today. The government received a confidential report to the effect that an ostensibly vacant house in the Cerro suburb was being utilized as a secret depository for arms and ammunition. The police found 41 rifles, 21 carbines, 35 packages, each containing 1,000 cartridges, and some barrels filled with ammunition and accoutrements. Suspicion is directed toward the Liberal and Radical leaders.

Local Government for Poland.

St. Petersburg, Nov. 20.—It is reported that another manifesto promising a general zemstvo and local municipal government to Poland, may be issued shortly.

APPROVE PROJECTS

Hitchcock Will Reverse Himself on Irrigation.

TO THE BENEFIT OF NORTHWEST

Had Taken Bad Advice—Walcott Removes Objections to Umatilla, Okanogan and Sunnyside.

Washington, Nov. 18.—Secretary Hitchcock is preparing to reverse himself and approve the Umatilla irrigation project in Eastern Oregon, as well as one or more projects in Washington. This, at least, is the inference to be drawn from an authorized statement made at his office today to the effect that action on the Umatilla project would be taken some time next week which would be satisfactory to the people of Oregon, and that similar action was to be looked for on one or more Washington projects. It is not known at this time what Washington projects will be approved, further than that the choice will lie among the Tieton, Okanogan and Sunnyside schemes, all of which have been favorably recommended by the Reclamation service.

This announcement from the secretary's office was made after a conference between Mr. Hitchcock and Director Walcott, of the Geological survey, who is the intermediary between the secretary and the Reclamation service. This afternoon Mr. Walcott returned to the secretary all papers bearing on the Umatilla, Okanogan and Tieton projects and, in addition to the original recommendations, submitted unanswerable arguments showing that all these projects are not only feasible and desirable, but that there is no feature about them to which objection can be legitimately raised.

In point of fact, Mr. Hitchcock, shortly after taking adverse action on the Umatilla, Tieton and Okanogan projects, saw that he had acted on bad advice, and realized that his position would become untenable. He saw that he had made a blunder which would have to be rectified, and he has cautiously been feeling his way back to solid ground. He is not yet ready to make the final leap, but is preparing for it and, when he does, Oregon and Washington will benefit. Incidentally it might be mentioned that the men who gave the secretary bad counsel have heard from it, and have been warned to display more intelligence and common sense in future.

ONLY AMERICANS AS CONSULS.

Root Will Not Appoint Foreigners if He Can Help It.

Washington, Nov. 18.—Not a single foreigner has been appointed to the American consular service abroad since Secretary Root assumed office. He feels that it is his duty to "put none but Americans on guard." Aside from the fact that a foreigner naturally might be expected to take less interest than an American in the development of our trade abroad, it is felt that in time of political stress, wherein relations might become strained, no such test should be placed upon the loyalty of a foreign consular agent to his native country as would be imposed by requiring him to do his full duty to the country which merely employed him.

So, although a number of vacancies have occurred in these posts since Secretary Root assumed office, he has held consistently to the policy above laid down, and where it has not been possible to find Americans to fill the vacancies, the offices have been allowed to remain vacant. Of course, the vacancies cannot continue indefinitely, but the secretary hopes that, with the pressure of the business world behind it, congress will yield to his appeal for more liberal compensation for these small posts, so as to enable him to send out American officials.

Ballot Reform in New York.

New York, Nov. 18.—At a conference yesterday between representatives of organizations interested in ballot reform, a resolution was adopted declaring that ballot reform in New York should proceed on the lines of the Australian ballot as in use in Massachusetts. As the representative of the Corrupt Practices association, D. Cady Herrick asked the support of the conferees for a bill which his organization intends to present to the legislature and which he said would be drawn so as to do away with election corruption.

Plan International Parliament.

Paris, Nov. 18.—Representatives of the parliaments of the principal nations will assemble here November 18 to consider the American appeal for a permanent international parliament and a general arbitration treaty, as presented at the Brussels parliamentary congress by Congressman Richard Bartholdt, of Missouri, who represented the United States at the congress.