

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.

Balfour declares himself as a free trader.

Martial law has again been proclaimed throughout Poland.

Japan is angry because China delays the new Manchurian treaty.

Insurance investigators are now at work on the small companies.

A British fleet is to manuever off the coast of Morocco while the conference is on.

France, Germany and Russia are said to be backing China in her move against Japan.

A San Francisco woman has secured a divorce from her insane husband and married his keeper.

The chief sanitary officer of the Panama canal says yellow fever has been almost exterminated.

The Chicago brick trust has pleaded guilty to illegal combinations and the members have been fined.

Chinese boycotters have attacked foreigners at Shanghai. An American warship will be sent there.

A Russian troop train was wrecked by rebels and half its occupants surrendered to save their lives.

Three Chicago banks, all of them controlled by John R. Walsh, have suspended. Depositors are fully protected.

The sugar brought into the United States during the year about to end will exceed \$150,000,000 in value. About \$50,000,000 of this comes from our island possessions.

King Edward plans to make Germany powerless by surrounding her with his allies.

There is danger of friction between France and Germany in the Moroccan conference.

Germany has assured the sultan that she will assist Turkey in resisting further demands by the powers.

Contributions to the relief fund for Russian sufferers has reached a total of \$1,172,639 in the United States.

Miss Roosevelt's Oriental gifts are valued at \$20,000 according to the amount of duty she paid on them.

General MacKenzie strongly recommends an appropriation for continuing work at the mouth of the Columbia.

The plan of the Russian rebels is to bankrupt the government by stopping taxes and refusing to take paper money.

A defiant manifesto of Russian revolutionists has been met by the government arresting the leaders and publishers.

Thomas Lawson, of "Irenized finance" fame, has given a \$1,000,000 mortgage on his property and admits he may go bankrupt.

A ton of gelignite at the Central Star mine, Roseland, B. C., exploded, wrecking the mine buildings and shaking the entire country. One man was killed and several score injured.

A strike has occurred for the first time in the British royal dockyards. The men were working overtime on construction of a battleship being rushed. Their demand for better pay was granted and work was resumed.

Castro has withdrawn his insult to France.

A massacre of Christians is feared in Egypt.

The Russian army in Manchuria is to be disbanded and hurried home.

The Montana legislature will be called in extra session to pass a railroad rate regulation law.

New York's employing printers are preparing for war on the Typographical union January 1.

Attorney General Moody will decide whether Annapolis hazers shall be dismissed or court martialed.

The czar is planning to issue more manifestos on his name day, which will grant more liberties to the peasants.

Two men were shot, one badly if not fatally, and the other seriously, by two masked men in Portland while holding up a hotel. The robbers escaped with something over \$100.

President Roosevelt has written the Merchants' Exchange, of San Francisco, expressing the wish to see Chinese laborers more closely barred from entrance into this country, but he says the exempt classes should be treated more courteously.

MADE PLAIN TO MR. SHONTS.

Panama Canal Affairs Discussed at White House Conference.

Washington, Dec. 19.—President Roosevelt tonight took up the matter of the Isthmian canal scandals as developed by debate in the senate during the past three days. He is determined to prevent further criticism of the character put forward by Senators Tillman, Culberson and others. Senators Allison and Hale, both members of the appropriations committee, were present. The president made it plain to Mr. Shonts that the literary bureau in charge of Secretary Bishop must be at once discontinued, and Mr. Bishop confine his service purely to administrative matters. He also discussed the advisability of reducing his salary from \$10,000 now paid to \$5,000, or some other moderate sum.

It was also made apparent to Chairman Shonts that if he still has an official connection with the Clover Leaf railroad, it must be severed immediately. Senator Tillman declared that Mr. Shonts is still active president of the system, and neither Mr. Shonts nor any of the administration senators have entered a denial of the declaration.

The president further gave Mr. Shonts much advice regarding the conduct of affairs on the isthmus. It is prescribed in the president's order that the canal commission must leave at once for that place.

The bill appropriating \$11,000,000 for the canal work, passed by the senate on Saturday, provides that within 90 days the secretary of the treasury must furnish estimates to the senate and house appropriations committees of all salaries paid those employed on canal work, except laborers and unskilled workmen. This feature of the bill was discussed with Senators Allison and Hale.

It is believed that many reforms will be instituted in the administration of the canal before another appropriation is requested from congress. This work of reform must begin at once, as Secretary Taft says the \$11,000,000 now being obtained will last no longer than April 1 at the outside.

In the meantime Senator Tillman will begin a strong agitation after the holiday recess for a thorough investigation of the entire canal situation. He will be opposed by the Republicans, but supported by the Democrats. Even some of the Republicans favor an inquiry, and Mr. Tillman threatens to cause much trouble unless matters are put on such a basis as to prevent just criticism.

TRADE WITH PHILIPPINES.

Great Increase Shown Over Last Year by Department of Commerce.

Washington, Dec. 19.—Estimates made by the bureau of statistics of the department of Commerce and Labor, based on the returns for ten months ending with October, are that the aggregate commerce between the United States and the Philippines for the calendar year 1905, will amount to about \$20,000,000, against about \$15,000,000 in 1896, \$1,000,000 in 1900, \$4,000,000 in 1898 and a little more than \$4,000,000 in 1897, the year prior to the American occupation.

Prior to 1899, the exports from the United States to the Philippines, the bureau reports show, had never exceeded \$250,000, while in the present year they will aggregate nearly \$6,000,000. Imports from the islands, which ranged between \$4,000,000 and \$5,000,000 per annum prior to 1899, were in 1902, \$10,000,000; in 1903, \$12,000,000, and in 1905 will be about \$14,000,000, according to the bureau estimates.

The imports in 1905 are chiefly hemp and sugar. Hemp imports for the first ten months of 1905 amounted to \$10,376,528, and sugar \$2,212,249.

Connecticut Safe Looted.

Snfield, Conn., Dec. 19.—After binding the railroad watchman, W. Jones, and his 12 year old son to chairs in the railroad station here this morning before daylight, six bank robbers pried their way into the Suffolk Savings bank on Main street, blew open the safe after a fourth attempt and escaped with \$50,000 worth of registered bonds and stocks not negotiable, according to President Newton, of the institution. They overlooked \$3,000 in cash and negotiable bonds in a drawer nearby.

General Strike is Improbable.

London, Dec. 19.—The correspondent of the Daily Telegraph at St. Petersburg, in commenting on recent events in Russia, says he is still optimistic and is convinced of the impossibility of an organized general strike, because public opinion and the peasantry are strongly averse to it. He insists that the military outbreak at Moscow is in no way an indication of general dissatisfaction in the army.

Furs Go Up in Smokes.

New York, Dec. 19.—Two hundred thousand dollars' worth of furs were destroyed by fire today in the establishment of Max Paleseki & Co., wholesale furriers and manufacturers of automobile garments, 37-39 East Twenty-first street. Other tenants in the building will suffer heavy damages from water.

IN THE NATIONAL HALLS OF CONGRESS

Monday, December 18.

The canal emergency appropriation bill was received in the house from the senate. Discussion of this was followed by another debate on insurance matters. The house disagreed to the amendments to the canal bill and sent it to conference.

Hale and Teller were named as the senate conferees on the canal bill.

The senate in the afternoon took up the house ship subsidy bill, which makes it the unfinished business before that body.

A joint resolution was adopted providing for adjournment from December 21 to January 4.

Dolliver has a new rate bill which he will introduce soon as a substitute for all measures now pending.

Saturday, December 16.

The senate today passed the Panama emergency appropriation bill. The only change in the measure as it passed the house is a provision which requires that congress shall be supplied with regular estimates of all salaries except those paid to laborers.

Senator Dubois, of Idaho, will retain all his present committee places and secure membership on the irrigation committee.

The house indulged itself again today to the extent of four hours of what was many times termed academic discussion of Federal control of insurance. The holiday recess was fixed from next Thursday to January 4.

Friday, December 15.

The Panama canal was again under consideration by the senate today and Tillman occupied the entire time given to that subject. He did not indicate any intention of opposition to the passage of the appropriation bill, but he criticized the methods of the canal commission in many of its transactions. When the senate adjourned the bill was still pending, but there was an agreement for a vote tomorrow.

In the reorganization of the senate committees, now about completed, Fulton secures the chairmanship of the committee on claims, retains his place on public lands and on irrigation, and is assigned membership on one or two smaller committees. Ankeny becomes chairman of the irrigation committee and secures a place on commerce. Piles is made chairman of coast and insular survey and given a place on public lands and territories, in which latter place he will be able to work for Alaska. Heyburn did not get a single committee asked for. The only new place given him was public buildings. The fate of Dubois is not as yet settled, the Democrats not having completed their slate.

The house today devoted 4 1/2 hours to lively debate on the possibilities of controlling insurance.

Jones, of Washington, introduced bills appropriating \$25,000 for a fish hatchery in Yakima county, and granting Washington 50,000 acres of land for the benefit of the Soldiers' home.

Thursday, December 14.

The senate spent four hours today in discussing the Panama canal emergency appropriation bill and, when it adjourned, the bill was still under consideration. A separate bill regulating the issuance of bonds for the canal and placing them on the same basis as other bonds of the government was passed without debate.

Senator Fulton introduced a bill appropriating \$100,000 to erect a public building at Foker City, another carrying \$15,000 for improvement of the grounds at Salem, and a third to ratify the treaty with the Klamath Indians and pay them \$500,000.

The pure food bill was reported by Senator Heyburn.

The Republican members of the house caucus today unanimously declared in favor of admitting Oklahoma and Indian Territory as one state, and by a vote of 10 to 65 declared in favor of admitting Arizona and New Mexico as one state. Both statehood questions are to be contained in one bill.

Representative Cushman introduced a bill providing for the election of one delegate from Alaska to congress.

Representative Lacey, of Iowa, introduced a bill granting grazing privileges on public lands to homestead settlers and holders of small farms in semi-arid and arid lands. Prices are to range from 1 to 6 cents an acre annually.

New Mexico Willing to Unite.

Washington, Dec. 14.—Joint statehood for New Mexico and Arizona was discussed by the president today with a delegation of New Mexicans, among whom were Solomon Luna, Republican National committeeman; Major W. H. H. Llewellyn, United States District attorney; Judge A. A. Freeman and A. M. Hove. Judge Freeman said he believed the people of the two territories would be glad to accept joint statehood. Major Llewellyn and Mr. Luna took up with the president some appointments in the judiciary of New Mexico.

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A bill providing for a public whipping post for the District of Columbia was introduced by Adams, of Pennsylvania.

A fourth Federal judge for Alaska is provided for in a bill by Jones, of Washington.

Wednesday, December 13.

The senate was in session for only one hour and a half today, and a portion of that time was spent in the consideration of executive business. A number of private bills were introduced in the open session, and Allison presented the report of the committee on appropriations on the canal bill, giving notice that he would call it up for consideration tomorrow. He said that the committee was of the opinion that \$11,000,000 would be sufficient for present purposes and that the amount had been left as fixed by the house.

Senator Gallinger introduced an amendment to the statehood bill to prohibit the sale of liquor in the state proposed to be created by the admission of Oklahoma and Indian Territory for a period of 21 years, and then only after an amendment of the state constitution permitting liquor traffic.

Speaker Cannon announced the transfer of Mondell (Wyoming) from the committee on military affairs to that of public lands, and of Miller (Kansas) from public lands to military affairs. The transfer gives the two members the same committee assignments they had in the last congress.

Committee reference of the annual message of President Roosevelt was made according to the subjects treated.

The question of Federal control of insurance was assigned to the committee on ways and means. In explanation of this, Payne said that, in his opinion, the only way the United States can deal with insurance companies is through the taxing power, and over this the ways and means committee has jurisdiction.

Among the bills introduced in the house today were the following:

By Mondell, of Wyoming, providing for the appropriation of not more than \$20,000 annually from the sales of public lands to the endowment of state schools of mines and mining or departments of mines and mining in connection with colleges already established.

By Needham, of California, transferring the Yellowstone, Yosemite, Sequoia, General Grant, Mount Rainier, Crater Lake and Wind Cave national parks from the control of the Department of the Interior to the Department of Agriculture.

By Delegate Andrews, of New Mexico, providing for the admission of the territory of New Mexico as a single state.

A bill abolishing the Isthmian Canal commission was introduced by Representative Mann, of Illinois. In its discretion is given the president to put the work of building the canal under any one of the executive departments, and also to operate the Panama railroad through the same means.

CUTS OUT BONDS.

Senate Committee Favors Canal Appropriation of \$11,000,000

Washington, Dec. 13.—The emergency appropriation bill to provide the Isthmian canal commission with funds to carry on the construction of the Panama canal will contain no general legislation. This was decided by the senate committee on appropriations at a meeting lasting all of yesterday, at which it was agreed to report the measure appropriating \$11,000,000, the amount named by the house bill.

The first section, in relation to the issuance of bonds, was stricken out. A bill containing this feature was introduced in the senate by Teller, and it will be dealt with by the finance committee. The bill was amended to further provide that in the future no expenditures shall be made for the canal except by authority of congress, and when appropriations have been made by congress.

Rivals For Coveted Place.

Washington, Dec. 14.—As the situation sizes up today, it looks as if Senator Ankeny would secure the vacant position on the commerce committee formerly held by Senator Foster of Washington. Mr. Ankeny and Mr. Fulton have been making a neck and neck race for this place.

Rate Bill After Holidays.

Washington, Dec. 13.—Railroad rate legislation will be allowed to rest until after the holidays. Members of the house committee on interstate and foreign commerce have agreed to take up and dispose of less important measures before the recess. In the senate also there is a disposition to let rate legislation slumber. The members of the interstate commerce committee in that body have decided to hold but one meeting a week before Christmas and there is a general understanding that rate legislation will not be pushed.

INSURGENTS RULE ON BALTIC.

Gunners Refuse to Fire and Ships Cannot Be Trusted.

Chicago, Dec. 18.—The Daily News correspondent sends the following from St. Petersburg:

Expectation of the downfall of the government continues to grow in this city. Insurgents still hold Riga, Reval and other Baltic towns. The garrisons in these provinces are insufficient to put down the armed rebels and the artillerymen refuse to fire on them. Strikes of railroad workers and crews of steamships prevent the forwarding of troops and ammunition to the revolted provinces.

Though the government has been urged to dispatch a fleet to the Baltic port Admiral Birleff hesitates to make any move, fearing that his sailors will join the rebellion.

Dispatches received from Manchuria today report the situation of the army as desperate. Many officers are in hiding from their own troops, fearing for their lives. The men are burning and pillaging everything within their reach, while the civil population has fled. Revolutionary proclamations have been posted about in the barracks and in the streets. Disensions among the chief officers seriously complicate matters. The soldiers accuse the commissaries of stealing large quantities of supplies and have burned their houses.

WORK DONE ON IRRIGATION.

Great Amount of Construction Done by Reclamation Service.

Washington, Dec. 18.—A resume of the work performed by the Reclamation service to date shows that 77 miles of main canal, 54 miles of distributing system and 186 miles of ditches have been constructed, including dams, head-works, etc. Tunnels having a total length of three and one-half miles have been driven, including more than a mile of the great Gunnison tunnel. More than 250 miles of telephone lines have been installed and are in operation; 126 miles of wagon road, many miles of which were cut out of solid rock in almost inaccessible canyons, 147 bridges and 50 office and other buildings have been constructed.

The works above mentioned have called for the excavation of 9,350,000 cubic yards of rock and earth, the laying of 70,000 cubic yards of concrete, 12,000 cubic yards of riprap, 150,000 linear feet of sheet piling and 10,000 feet of bearing piles have been driven. There have been purchased 130,000 pounds of railroad iron, 250,000 pounds of structural steel, 600,000 pounds of cast iron, 1,750,000 feet of lumber, and 78,000 barrels of cement. The government has erected a cement mill at a cost of more than \$100,000, which has already turned out 15,000 barrels of cement, and is now furnishing about 300 barrels a day. The saw-mills operated by Uncle Sam have cut 2,880,000 feet of lumber from the government reserves.

HOLD UP TRAIN.

Safes of North Coast Limited Rifled Near North Yakima.

North Yakima, Dec. 18.—Overland limited No. 1, due here at 2:50 o'clock p. m., but running almost five hours late, was held up at Hillside, in the Yakima canyon, 11 miles north of this place, at 7:15 Saturday evening. The express car was dynamited, two safes blown open and all contents of value taken.

From a good source it is learned that there was little currency in the safes on the limited at the time of the holdup. The main contents consisted of drafts, etc.

City Marshal Curren has ordered the arrest of every stranger seen in North Yakima who comes anywhere near answering the description given of the holdup men. Up to midnight last night there have been four arrests. One man was arrested by Officer Lane who answered the description perfectly. He was taken off a passenger coach on a train coming from the scene of the holdup, and was wet to the skin. It is thought he may be one of the men.

It is thought possible the bandits may have crossed the Columbia and be headed for British Columbia.

Christmas Presents by Shipload.

New York, Dec. 18.—The American line steamer Philadelphia, which sailed from New York today for Plymouth, Cherbourg and Southampton, carried 3,226 bags of mail for Europe. This represents the largest quantity of mail matter ever carried by any one steamer out of the port of New York. The Philadelphia is the Christmas ship from New York this year and the major portion of the mail she carries consists of presents for relatives and friends who are on the other side of the Atlantic.

Finds Millions in Ground.

Winnipeg, Man., Dec. 18.—Anthony Blum, of Boston, principal owner of the Laurentine mine in the Manitow district, 200 miles east of here, has unearthed walls of gold that assay \$400,000 to the ton. There are millions in sight. It is the richest discovery ever made in gold mining. He spent ten years off and on in the district and has made much money.