

THE NEWS OF THE WEEK

Comprehensive Review of the Important Happenings of the Past Week Called From the Telegraph Columns

Recent Dawson fire destroyed property worth \$400,000.

Bubonic plague has broken out at Rosario, South America.

A race riot occurred at Coalberg, Ala. One negro was killed.

In a long article in a Paris paper Emile Zola defends his father's honor.

The Alaska mail service will be extended to Cape York the coming spring.

The National prohibition convention has been called to meet at Chicago, June 27.

The census of Puerto Rico just completed shows a total of 957,000 inhabitants on the island.

Nelson and Rossland have established smallpox quarantine against Northern Washington and Idaho.

It is said the pro-Boer meeting at Washington was conducted almost wholly by anti-expansion and anti-administration men.

Nearly all the business buildings and many frame dwellings at the mining towns of Ward and Lafayette, Colorado, were destroyed by fire.

William Kirk, first mate of the American ship Clarence S. Bement, was murdered in his cabin while his vessel was at anchor in Portland, Or., harbor.

Chairman Lacey, of the house committee on public lands, said that it will be impossible to pass general land laws for Alaska at this session, owing to opposition in the senate.

The North China Daily News publishes an edict, signed by Emperor Kwang Su, appointing as emperor in his place Put Sing, the nine-year-old son of Prince Tuan. The new emperor will ascend the throne January 31.

The senate committee will report favorably on Senator Foster's Alaska lighthouse bill, making an appropriation of \$300,000, to include a lighthouse at Unamak pass, Foster agreeing to a reduction in the appropriation from \$500,000.

Commander Richard Wainwright, who was in command of the Gloucester at the battle of Santiago, was presented a sword of honor and a silver service by a committee representing the citizens of the District of Columbia in the Columbia theater, Washington.

General Otis reports to the war department that the Western coast of the island of Panay is now open for trade, and that the coast of Laguna de Bay and neighboring sections of the country will also be opened to unrestricted traffic by the end of the week.

A majority of the senators is against the seating of Quay.

Millions in war munitions were imported through Delagoa bay by the Boers.

A Boer patrol, mistaking signals, was badly cut up by a hot fire from a British kopje.

The headquarters of Generals White and Hunter was smashed by a shot from a "Long Tom."

Despite reports to the contrary, Webster Davis is to be retained as assistant secretary of the interior.

The steamer Townsend, plying between Seattle and Alaskan points, is a total loss near Haine's Mission.

Montagu White will be received as the consular and diplomatic representative of the South African republic.

Secretary Root has issued an order appointing a complete new board of ordnance, with the exception of General Miles.

Governor Gage will call an extra session of the California legislature. A United States senator will probably be elected.

Captain I. Friedman, who died in San Francisco recently, left three-quarters of his fortune, amounting to \$750,000, to charity.

The new ships now being built for the Oceanic Steamship Company will be without peers in the Pacific, and will greatly improve the service.

Matt Hilstrom, who killed Luke Mooers, the Clatsop county logger, was adjudged insane. The evidence showed the insanity to be hereditary.

The overdue City of Seattle, has been reported from Juneau, where she was towed by the Cottage City. The Seattle's delay was caused by the breaking of her propeller.

The transport Pennsylvania, which sails from San Francisco, will carry funds for paying off the United States troops now in the Philippines. About \$1,250,000 will be taken.

Berlin, Germany, is to construct an underground railway costing \$25,000,000.

Twenty-three years ago Senator Teller entered the senate. Only three senators who saw him sworn in are still his colleagues—Allison of Iowa, Cockrell of Missouri, and Jones of Nevada. In the intervening 23 years over a hundred senators have died. But Mr. Teller, although nearly three score and ten, is still strong and vigorous.

LATER NEWS.

Dr. Leyds is being lionized in Berlin. People of China are said to take imperial changes with great equanimity.

William Jennings Bryan will accept the Populist nomination for the presidency.

The fall of Ladysmith garrison is now expected as a result of Buller's second defeat.

Lord Pauncefoot will retire as ambassador of Great Britain to the United States, April 1.

The interstate commerce commission has sued the Northern Pacific to enforce disregarded laws.

Senators are said to want no change in the manner of their election. The house favors popular vote.

Dundonald's forces, for whom fears were entertained, are safe on the south bank of the Tugela river.

Five business men of Walla Walla were victimized by a smooth forger, who cashed bogus checks.

The Prince Regent of Bavaria has conferred the Order of St. Michaels, first-class, on Dr. Nansen, the explorer.

In Cincinnati, Charles Barluff, a tanner, killed his wife, his son and his daughter and then tried to set the house on fire.

A funeral train, arranged by the Southern Pacific, will convey the remains of General Lawton and Major Logan to the East.

James H. Britton, ex-mayor of St. Louis, and for many years one of the leading bankers of the West, died at Ardley, N. Y., aged 83.

London papers scathingly criticize the language of Buller's report, and accounts of battle from Boer sources are accepted as correct.

Church property in the Philippines has been turned over to the United States government by Spain, but the Catholics claim it.

Captain C. H. Stockton, president of the naval war college, says: "Command of the sea on our North Pacific coast and the waters of the western basin of the North Pacific should be in our hands in peace and war time. This can only be effected by readiness of a proper and sufficient naval force either on the spot, or to be furnished from the Atlantic through an untrammelled canal. In addition to this, and ready for combining, should be the available forces normally attached to the Philippines and the waters about China, Japan and Korea. In other words, the Pacific ocean, from Samoa northward, should be within our control."

The plight of Kimberley is urgent.

The Kaiser's birthday was celebrated in the usual way throughout Germany. Buller's army has retreated to the south of the Tugela, with heavy losses.

Revolution in Venezuela, under the leadership of Hernandez, is spreading.

Fire in Minneapolis destroyed a four-story brick building, causing a loss of \$120,000.

It was reported on good Transvaal authority that Mafeking was relieved on January 23.

Edgar Oswald, a 6-year-old boy of Astoria, was run over by a street car and fatally injured.

The Bank of Deerfield, Deerfield, Wis., was robbed of about \$17,000. The vault was blown open by dynamite.

Fire destroyed the works of the Electric Improvement Company at San Jose, Cal., entailing a loss of \$100,000.

Samuel Gompers, in a conference with President McKinley, advocated an eight-hour law for all government work.

It is said that Lord Roberts favored leaving Ladysmith to its fate and marching on Bloemfontein, capital of Orange Free State.

The surgeon-general of the marine hospital service has shipped to Honolulu 1,900 doses of halfkine prophylactic, a plague serum.

Phil Armour Jr., son of the Chicago millionaire, died suddenly near Santa Barbara, Cal. Death was due to congestion of the lungs.

Dr. Leyds, diplomatic agent of the Transvaal, says the Boers do not need to apply for mediation, as everything was going splendidly.

Three masked men entered the factory of Dr. Peter Fahrney & Son, at Chicago, blew open the safe and escaped with \$1,700 in currency.

The senate committee on Puerto Rico, has decided that the island shall be known as Porto Rico, and not Puerto Rico, as fixed by a recent executive order.

The weather in the vicinity of Melbourne, Australia, has broken all records for heat recently. On New Year's day five deaths occurred from prostration. The thermometer stood at 114 in the shade, and 156 in the sun.

Cowboys and miners in Southern Arizona and New Mexico, have organized and are preparing to invade the state of Sonora, Mexico, to avenge the murder of the six American prospectors by Mexican soldiers under General Torres. They will fight against the Mexican troops for the independence of Sonora and the Yaqui nation.

Brigadier-General Greeley, chief of the signal corps, is steadily recovering from the injuries inflicted on him by a drunken expressman.

The resemblance between Roberts, the polygamist, and Senator Pritchard of North Carolina, is remarkable. They might be twin brothers. Both are of the same build, have the same cast of features, wear mustaches trimmed alike, and their curly hair might be duplicate wigs.

REGRESSED THE TUGELA

Buller's Forces Have Retreated Southward.

BOERS DID NOT PRESS THEM

British Lost Heavily—Buller Thinks Transvaalers Have Been Taught to Respect English Fighting Qualities.

London, Jan. 30.—General Buller says General Warren's troops have retreated south of the Tugela river. The Boers say the British lost 1,500 killed Wednesday. It is believed here this includes the wounded. The Boers also claim that 150 of the English troops surrendered at Spionkop.

Boer Head Laager, Ladysmith, Jan. 30.—The British dead left on the battlefield yesterday numbered 1,500.

ACCOUNT OF THE MOVEMENT.

Buller's Official Dispatch to the War Office—The Fighting.

London, Jan. 30.—General Buller's dispatch to the war office states that Spionkop was abandoned on account of lack of water, inability to bring artillery there and the heavy Boer fire. General Buller gives no list of casualties. His whole force withdrew south of the Tugela river, with the evident intention of reaching Ladysmith by another route.

Following is the text of General Buller's dispatch, dated Spearman's Camp, Saturday Jan. 27:

"On January 20 Warren drove back the enemy and obtained possession of the southern crests of the high tableland extending from the line of Acton Homes and Honderspoort to the western Ladysmith hills. From then to January 25 he remained in close contact with the enemy.

Boers Held Strong Position.

"The enemy held a strong position on a range of small kopjes stretching from northwest to southeast across the plateau from Acton Homes, through Spionkop, to the left bank of the Tugela. The actual position held was perfectly tenable, but did not lend itself to an advance, as the southern slopes were so steep that Warren could not get an effective artillery position, and water supplies were a difficulty.

"On January 23 I assented to his attacking Spionkop, a large hill, indeed, a mountain which was evidently the key to the position, but was far more accessible from the north than from the south. On the night of January 23 he attacked Spionkop, but found it very difficult to hold, as its perimeter was to large, and water, which he had been led to believe existed, in this extraordinary dry season was found very deficient.

"The crest was held all that day against severe attacks, and a heavy shell fire. Our men fought with great gallantry.

"General Woodgate, who was in command of the summit, having been wounded, the officer who succeeded him decided on the night of January 24 to abandon the position, and did so before dawn January 25.

"I reached Warren's camp at 5 A. M. on January 25, and decided that a second attack upon Spionkop was useless, and that the enemy's right was too strong to allow me to force it.

Decided to Withdraw.

"Accordingly, I decided to withdraw the force to the south of the Tugela. At 6 A. M. we commenced withdrawing the men, and by 8 A. M., January 27, Warren's force was concentrated south of the Tugela without the loss of a man or a pound of stores.

"The fact that the force should withdraw from actual touch—in some cases the lines were less than 1,000 yards apart—with the enemy in the manner it did, is, I think, sufficient evidence of the morale of the troops, and that we were permitted to withdraw our cumbersome ox and mule transports across the river 85 yards broad, with 20-foot banks and a very swift current, un molested, is, I think, proof that the enemy has been taught to respect our soldiers' fighting powers."

Plague in New Caledonia.

Vancouver, B. C., Jan. 29.—From Noumea, New Caledonia, the steamship Miowera brings alarming reports of the ravages of the plague, which has been prevalent there since early in December. There were 16 deaths during the first 10 days following the outbreak. The plague is attributed to the filthy quarters of the Japanese, Tonkinese and Kanakas. All the Kanakas have been isolated on an island adjacent to the town. Up to December 23 there had been no deaths among the whites, eight of whom had been infected, but nine Kanakas, two Japanese and five Tonkinese had died of the disease. Much alarm is felt by the residents and business is at a standstill. The natives believe the plague is a visitation of providence, and that it is wrong to take means to check it.

At Pomeroy last week 81 horses were duly inspected, and purchased by the government. About as many were rejected.

Vienna, Jan. 30.—A serious view is taken in diplomatic circles here of the situation in China. The Neue Frei Presse thinks that other powers will follow the example of France and send warships to protect their subjects.

The Austro-Hungarian cruiser Sonta will arrive at Hong Kong in a few days, and will be at the disposal of the Austro-Hungarian minister at Peking.

Governor Leary, of Guam, reports the condition in that island as highly satisfactory.

GLOOM IN ENGLAND.

Fears That The War Office Is Withholding Bad News.

London, Jan. 29.—Seven days of fighting have left the main Boer position intact, and General Buller 705 weaker, according to the official casualty lists, which seemingly do not include the Spionkop losses, as those last forwarded do not mention General Woodgate's wounding.

England is possessed by a sense of failure, though not a word in criticism of her generals and soldiers is uttered. Not much effort is made to place a happy construction upon General Buller's 18 words, telling of the retirement from Spionkop, and there is an uneasy impression abroad that worse news is yet to come. At one of the military clubs tonight, the statement passed from one person to another that the war office had received an unpleasant supplementary dispatch from General Buller, which was being held up for 12 hours.

Spencer Wilkinson, in the Morning Post, writes as follows of the Spionkop losses:

"This is a serious matter, and an attempt will not here be made to minimize it, for no greater wrong can be done to our people at home than to mislead them about the significance of the events of the war. The right way is to tell the truth, as far as we know it."

But the facts from the neighborhood of the Tugela are scantier than ever. The censorship now is simply prohibitive, and something is wrong with the cables. The break on the east coast lines has been repaired, but the cable between San Thome and Loanda, on the west coast, is now interrupted. "More troops!" is the only suggestion here as to the way to break the Boer resistance. Mr. Wilkinson regrets that General Buller has not 20,000 more men, declaring that if they would not make victory certain, his enterprise without them is helpless.

The Spectator, dealing with the necessity of large additional military preparations, says: "It may be that we have yet another cycle of disasters in front of us."

The transport Assaye arrived at Cape Town last Friday, with 2,127 officers and men. The first portion of the Seventh division is afloat. Hence, with the 10,000 men of this division, and about 9,000 now at sea, it lies in the power of Lord Roberts to reinforce General Buller heavily. This course is advised by several military writers.

Although England's nerves are severely tried, her nerve is absolutely unshaken, and probably nothing that can happen in South Africa will change in the slightest degree her intentions. She will continue to receive bad news, if it comes, with dignity, and will maintain her determination to win at last.

Department of Commerce.

Washington, Jan. 29.—The question of establishing a department of the government to be known as the department of commerce, with a cabinet officer at its head, has been discussed at considerable length by the senate committee on commerce. The discussion was based upon a very complete report on the subject prepared by Senator Nelson.

It is proposed to include in the new department a bureau of manufactures, and to transfer from the treasury department the life-saving, lighthouse, marine hospital and steamboat inspection service, the bureaus of navigation, immigration, statistics and coast and geodetic surveys; to transfer from the interior department the commission of railway, the census office and the geodetic survey, and from the state department the bureau of foreign commerce. The department of labor and the fish commission are also placed under this supervision.

Robert's Salary.

Washington, Jan. 29.—The question of salary and mileage allowed for Mr. Roberts is to be considered by the house committee on account. There is about \$1,000 on mileage, and a like amount for salary, conditionally due Mr. Roberts, but there is some doubt as to whether those sums should be allowed. The attorney-general, on application, has refused to pass on the subject, as it is not in his jurisdiction, and the controller of the treasury has also referred the matter back to the committee on accounts. The latter body will now seek to get at the law in the case and reach a decision.

Investigation of Warden Troubles.

Washington, Jan. 29.—The house committee on military affairs today agreed to proceed with the investigation of the Idaho labor troubles February 14, and it was arranged that the governor and auditor of the state and Major-General Merriam should be asked to appear at that time. Sulzer, of New York, and Lentz, of Ohio, who have been urging the inquiry, are to furnish the names of additional witnesses to be examined.

Diamond Robbery in Philadelphia.

Philadelphia, Jan. 27.—Diamonds valued at \$6,000 were stolen from the safe in the office of Joseph K. Davidson & Son, manufacturing jewelers. That the thief was in possession of the combination is evidenced by the fact that there was not a mark on the safe.

Samuel W. Nealy, while temporarily insane, hanged himself at The Dalles. He was 78 years old.

Separationists in West Australia.

Vancouver, B. C., Jan. 29.—West Australia has a separatist movement on the part of the residents of the gold fields, who are virtually unanimous in their desire for severance from the rest of the colony. In spite of the efforts of the West Australian government to throttle the movement, a petition signed by 35,000 adults has been dispatched to London, asking for separation of the gold fields, with a view to federation.

ENGLAND'S WAR POLICY

Attacked in the Senate by Mason.

THE VICE-CONSUL'S CRITICISM

Tillman Spoke on the Philippine Question, Answering the Arguments of Beveridge—In the House.

Washington, Jan. 31.—Mason rose today soon after the senate convened to a question of privilege and sharply attacked the British government and the British vice-consul at New Orleans because of an interview in which the vice-consul had assailed Mason for the position he had taken in behalf of the Transvaal republic in its war with Great Britain. Mason attacked not only the consul, but the policy of Great Britain in levying war upon an inferior nation.

Hoar thought the consul's purported remarks so serious that it ought to be investigated by the government, but at the same time he deprecated any attack upon Great Britain, with the people of which the American people ought not only live in peace, but as loving and devoted friends. Lodge sharply arraigned the British consul for his utterances against a United States senator, and believed it ought not to be lightly passed.

Tillman delivered a forceful and quite characteristic speech on the Philippine question, in which he maintained that this government ought to extend to the Filipinos the right to govern themselves, the United States guarding them against the aggression of other nations.

Received a Black Eye.

The bill for the reorganization and improvement of the weather bureau, which includes provision for pensioning disabled and aged employes of the service, received a black eye in the house. The bill was bitterly fought by the opponents of civil pension rolls on account of the life tenure provisions it contained, and it was sidetracked on a test vote of 57 to 53. Although the speaker ruled that it remained unfinished business when the house was again in committee of the whole, the opponents of the measure believe the action of the day killed it.

The early portion of the day was devoted to a lively scrimmage over the Sulzer resolution to investigate Secretary Gage, which the committee on rules recommended should be sent to the ways and means committee, as the latter committee has the response of the secretary in its possession. There was no opposition to the proposed action, but Richardson, of Tennessee, and Sulzer, of New York, used it for renewing their attacks upon the secretary. Gage was defended by Hopkins, of Illinois, Hill, of Connecticut, and Dalzell, of Pennsylvania.

A bill to require pilots and officers of steam vessels to make oath to their applications for license was passed.

STEEL MILL WRECKED.

Explosion of a Battery of Four Large Boilers.

Pittsburg, Jan. 31.—The steel department of Phillips, Nimick & Co.'s mill on West Carson street was completely wrecked and a dozen men were injured by the explosion of a battery of four large boilers today. The shock of the bursting boilers was heard through out the lower end of the city and several thousand people were attracted to the scene of the accident. The loss to the plant will be enormous. Five of the injured men were mutilated almost beyond recognition, and one or more deaths may result. A rescuing party is searching the wreckage, which it is supposed contain other of the workmen. Following is the list of the most serious casualties:

Simon Holland, fireman, died at the Homoeopathic hospital; Daniel Noonan, badly cut and scalded; Constantine Gallagher, badly cut; Jeremiah Collins, W. T. Cook, Peter Bynon.

The explosion was one of the most terrific that ever occurred in a Pittsburg mill. The roof of the boiler room was completely lifted from the building, and the flying iron and steel fell in all directions.

The men were crushed to the ground on the spot where they were attending to the rolls, and those beside the boilers were scalded by the escaping steam.

Wily Governor's Trick

San Diego, Cal., Jan. 30.—From dispatches brought by the Hamburg steamer Volunmia, it appears that the arrival of the vessel at Tumaco, Colombia, where she touched on the way up, had the effect of saving the place from capture by Colombian rebels. The latter had demanded the surrender of the town, and the governor was at his wits' end. Just then the Volunmia was sighted. The wily governor saw his chance to make a bluff. So he sent a defiant message to the revolutionists, and told them that the steamer off port was bringing 500 government troops. The trick succeeded, and the rebels abandoned their purpose to capture Tumaco.

Fire at Cornell University.

Ithaca, N. Y., Jan. 31.—Seven or eight Cornell law students, members of the Delta Chi fraternity, were hurt this morning as a result of the burning of their fraternity lodge. Fifteen jumped 30 feet to the ground. Little of the lodge property was saved.

Chicago, Jan. 31.—The Pattern-Makers' Union has decided to demand a nine-hour day after April 1. It is thought there will be little difficulty in securing the nine-hour day.

ROBERTS' NEXT MOVE.

The British Army Will Now Advance Through the Free State.

London, Jan. 31.—History pauses for a time in South Africa. It is one of those unsatisfactory pauses that are nearly as trying to British nerves as a sequence of reverses, and apparently it will terminate only when Lord Roberts gives the word for the forward movement into the Free State, which, according to the most cheerful view, he will be unable to do for a fortnight. Whether he will permit General Buller to make another attempt to relieve Ladysmith is quite outside the knowledge even of those closely connected with the war office. With the troops due to arrive next month he may think himself strong enough to try two large operations.

Combining the forces under Generals Methuen, French and Gatacre, and adding to them the arriving troops, Lord Roberts would have 70,000 for the invasion of the Free State, with 40,000 to 50,000 guarding communications, and 40,000 trying to rescue Ladysmith. The public burns with impatience that something should be done, but there is nothing to do but wait on the preparations. Oceans of ink are poured out in advice. Orators are at work in the provinces, telling the people that England has set her teeth in grim determination to see it through.

The government's declarations in parliament, the counter-declarations of those outside the government and the consequent discussion in the press and on the platform will immediately enthral the public interest.

The thing on which everybody seems agreed is that more men must go. Twenty thousand two hundred and twenty-two men and 155 guns are at sea. Eleven thousand infantry and 9,000 cavalry, including 5,000 yeomen, are practically ready to embark. Therefore, the government, without doing more, can place at the disposal of Lord Roberts 40,000 additional men and 155 guns. The further purposes of the war officials are supposed to embrace somewhat in the neighborhood of 50,000 men. As the indication is that candidates will be rather scarce, the war office will issue orders for those reservists who were found unfit at the previous mobilization examinations to report for further examination. Applicants for cavalry service are still freely offering as yeomanry.

General Buller's operations has cost 912 men so far officially reported within 10 days. Applying to the 206 Spionkop casualties reported today the rule of proportion, the loss of officers indicates 600 casualties yet to come. The total casualties of the war, compiled from official reports, are 9,528—nearly a division. Of these 2,486 were killed, 4,811 wounded, and the rest are prisoners.

The aggregate British home troops in South Africa number 116,000, the Natalians 7,158, and Cape Colonials 21,000.

The war office announces that no further news has been received from South Africa, except a report from Lord Roberts that the situation is unchanged.

MONEY FOR THE BOERS.

Administration Will Refuse to Forward It on Neutrality Grounds.

New York, Jan. 31.—A special to the World from Washington says: The fear of offending Great Britain and provoking a protest would cause the administration to decline to comply with the request of Dr. Pretorius, of St. Louis, who, it is said, has forwarded to Secretary Hay money and letters expressing sympathy with the Boers, which he asks to be sent to President Kruger through the American consul at Pretoria. It is indicated that the state department will take the ground that it would be a violation of the neutrality laws for this government to give financial aid to a belligerent.

It is pointed out that this request differs from the request made by the American consul at Pretoria in behalf of Great Britain to be permitted to forward money to be used by the British sick and wounded in the purchase of delicacies, in that the latter request is made by one belligerent of another, using a neutral as means of communication.

Robber Gang Run Down.

Cheyenne, Wyo., Jan. 31.—A report has reached this city that a posse of Union Pacific detectives, headed by Tom Horn, had run down two of the Hole in the Wall, and after a desperate fight, killed both of them. One of the pursuing party was shot, but it is thought not seriously. It is known that the robbers separated in two gangs after leaving the railroad, and the men reported killed were those who were trailed through the mountains so closely and afterwards escaped.

It is supposed they returned to the Hole in the Wall when they thought the pursuit was over, and the detectives have been watching the rendezvous ever since, until they got their men.

Denial by Ezeta.

Oakland, Cal., Jan. 31.—Carlos Ezeta, ex-president of San Salvador, has returned to his home here after a trip of four months' duration to Mexico. It was reported at the time of his departure that he proposed to regain his lost power if possible, but he denies that such was his intention.

Blizzard in Texas.

Austin, Tex., Jan. 30.—South and Central Texas were today visited by a fearful blizzard, which increased in severity as the night grew, and from present indications will be the worst blizzard of the winter. The temperature has fallen 30 degrees since noon.

In many respects Wisconsin's leaf tobacco is superior to any other domestic product. Some of the best brands of Havanas are rolled from Wisconsin stock.