

THE NEWS OF THE WEEK

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

The Republicans elected 19 out of 25 Aldermen in Chicago. Admiral Dewey has announced himself as a candidate for president. General French has given up his chase after the retreating Boers. Boston is agitating the question of prohibition of ringing church bells. The United States building at the Paris exposition will be closed on Sundays. Queen Victoria landed at Dublin, Ireland, her first visit to the island in 39 years. A temperance movement has been inaugurated in Mexico, owing to the increase of drunkenness. Admiral Dewey's collection of curios and trophies, at his request, will be placed in the Smithsonian Institute. Turkish tower at the Paris exposition abstracts the view of the United States building and Commissioner Peck has protested against it. The Vanderbilts and Morgans now have plans almost perfected which will give them absolute control of the coal supply of America. Forty-four young men of Thurston, Or., have petitioned the military board for the organization of a company of the National Guard at that place. The mammoth auditorium in which the Democratic National convention was to have been held on July 4, was burned to the ground, entailing a loss of \$350,000. At Logansport, Ind., 150 masked men blew up two bridges and burned two toll houses on the Logansport and Burlington pike at midnight. The road is the only pike in the county, and protests have been directed against high toll and the alleged bad condition of the pike. The newly organized American Match Machine Company, a New Jersey corporation, is about to enter into competition with the Diamond Match Company, known as the match trust. The new company does not intend to confine its attention to the trade of the United States, but will make a vigorous fight for European trade, through the sale of rights. W. J. Bryan addressed 10,000 people at Tacoma, Wash. War tax will not be reduced at this session of congress. The Puerto Rican bill passed the senate by a vote of 40 to 31. The public debt decreased \$6,000,000 during the month of March. A bill was passed to throw open Idaho and Oklahoma Indian lands. The journeymen plumbers of Indianapolis have struck, demanding an increase in pay. The legislative council of Trinidad has ratified the reciprocity treaty with the United States. Aguinaldo is in Singapore. Singapore papers mention the fact and publish short interviews with him. The plasterers of Minneapolis have been locked out, pending the settlement of their dispute as to hours. Pearl harbor, in the Hawaiian islands, will be improved and fortified and made available for naval purposes. Mexico's army convicts will be abolished by the new secretary of war. Volunteer service is to be encouraged. The marine hospital service has sent an urgent request to congress for an appropriation of \$500,000 to fight plague in various seaport towns. The casualties in the Philippine war since January 1, have been: Americans, 88 killed, 163 wounded; insurgents, 1,426 killed; 1,453 captured. Great preparations for war are going on in Russia. All messages in regard to movements of troops are censored and all officers are denied leaves of absence. The Illinois Brick Company, of Chicago, the brick combine of that city, has filed with the secretary of state a certificate of increase of capital stock from \$10,000 to \$9,000,000. The party of scientists under Professor A. Agassiz, who left San Francisco several months ago on an expedition to the South Seas, has returned. This scientific expedition went first to the Pomotos, exploring the northern part of those islands, a region never before examined by scientists. After refitting the vessel at Tahiti, the remainder of the Society islands, as well as the Cook, Savage and the islands of the Tonga group were explored. After refitting at Suva, the Ellice, Gilbert and Marshall islands were explored and the island of Guam was visited. Gov. Smith, of Vermont, owns a private locomotive. It is fitted with luxurious accommodations for eight passengers. There is a scheme to construct a direct railroad from New York to Chicago, saving 300 miles and making the distance in 16 hours. As chairman of the board of directors of the New York Central Railroad, Chansey Dewey draws the snug salary of \$60,000 annually.

LATER NEWS.

Webster Davis addressed an immense pro-Boer audience in Washington. The Copper Stein mine, in Josephine county, Oregon, was sold for \$9,000. Cubans have confidence in General Gomez and entreat him not to leave the island. The Edward T. Smith box factory at New York, was destroyed by fire; loss, \$250,000. Ex-Governor Pattison, of Pennsylvania, is wanted for vice-president on the Democratic ticket. Boers claim to have captured 11 guns at Bloemfontein waterworks, instead of seven, as first reported. Building tradesmen in Indianapolis have returned to work, their employers conceding to their demands. Generals in the Philippines are calling for more troops. They cannot hold the rebels down with the present force. The Boers have succeeded in cutting off General Brabant's two or three thousand troops from all other British forces. The 65th anniversary of the birth of King Leopold, of Belgium, was appropriately celebrated throughout the kingdom. The British North American and West Indies squadron is to be increased by one battleship, two cruisers and several torpedo boats. The body of an unknown young man was found in the Willamette river near Oregon City, with his head entangled in a fish net. It is a case of deliberate suicide. H. H. Pitcher, banker of Oakland, Cal., committed suicide by blowing his brains out. Pitcher was trustee of an estate valued at \$600,000. His trust was being investigated in court. The United States supreme court decided the case of Grundling vs. the city of Chicago, involving the validity of the anti-cigarette ordinance of that city. The ordinance was attacked as unconstitutional. The opinion of Justice Peckham held the ordinance not to be unconstitutional. In his address at the memorial services held in memory of the late Dr. Isaac M. Wise, at Isaiah temple, Dr. Emil G. Hirsch made an appeal to the Jewish people of Chicago to raise \$500,000, which is the amount yet required to lift the debt on the Jewish Union College, in Cincinnati. By so doing, Dr. Hirsch said, the great work which was begun by Dr. Wise, and carried forward by him under difficulties, could be fully accomplished. Emily Coghlan, the actress, died at Stamford, Conn., aged 36 years. Half the village of Proctorville, Ohio, was destroyed by fire. Loss \$300,000. A German scientist has invented a compound which melts iron in five seconds. Boers in Natal are becoming active, and an engagement with Buller is imminent. The German flag has been raised over the Samoan islands of Upolu, Manono, Apolima and Saru. Captain John Codman, the famous advocate of free ships and free trade, is dead at Boston, aged 86. The statue of Maud Adams will not be admitted to the Paris exposition because it is a personal exhibit. At Pittsburg, Pa., a big eight-story department store was destroyed by fire, causing a loss of over a \$1,000,000. Another brother of President Steyn, of Orange Free State, was captured at Kreeziding, and is now at Bloemfontein. The squadron of the United States navy, recently formed in Chinese waters, is to have its headquarters at Hong Kong. Forty people lost their lives at Austin, Texas, due to an overflow of the Colorado river. Property destroyed exceeds \$3,000,000. Walter E. Groffe, the defaulting cashier of the Adams Express Company at Dayton, Ohio, who left the city October 6 last, taking with him \$3,000 of the corporation's money, has been arrested in San Francisco. The situation in Ashantee is unchanged. A Comassie runner reports that all the Ashantee tribes are in arms, the king of Bekwal alone remaining loyal. It is believed that the Ashantee golden stool has been found and that the rising is due to the endeavor of the governor of the colony, Sir Frederic Mitchell Hodgson, to take possession of it. The American Plate Mirror Company was chartered at Harrisburg, Pa., with a capital of \$50,000,000. This company is composed of well-known plate-glass men, and is looked upon as the beginning of a determined move on the part of the American plate-glass men to wrest the trade in this country for plate mirrors from foreign manufacturers. Senator Tillman, from the committee on mines and mining, reported the bill providing for the utilization of a part of the proceeds of the sales of public lands in support of schools for mining in the public land states. It provides for the appropriation of \$10,000 annually for the present in each case and the gradual increase of the amount to \$20,000. A national congress of mothers is to be held at Des Moines, Ia., May 21-25. The department of agriculture will plant 100,000 rubber trees in the Hawaiian islands. At Lady Lansdowne's concert in London, Mme. Patti is said to have worn diamonds worth over \$1,000,000. Gen. John J. Elwell, a hero of the civil war, died at Cleveland, O. His military service extended from 1861 to 1866.

DISASTROUS FLOOD IN TEXAS

Great Dam at Austin Is Carried Away.

THIRTY OR FORTY LIVES LOST

Similar to the Johnstown Disaster—Great Loss to Property—Part of the City Inundated.

Austin, April 10.—This city is tonight in pitch darkness, with a raging river, one mile wide, swollen far beyond its natural banks, roaring and surging through all the lower portion of the town, having spread death and destruction in its wake. In addition to the vast loss to property interests, it is calculated that between 30 and 40 lives have been sacrificed, and the reports coming in from the tributary country tonight do not tend to improve matters. The flood is not unlike the disastrous Johnstown flood of some years ago, in that a raging river, already swollen far beyond its capacity, bore to heavily upon an immense dam spanning a river, breaking it and letting loose a reservoir of water 30 miles long, half a mile wide and 60 feet deep, to aid in carrying destruction down the valleys of the Colorado river. The great dam in the Colorado gave way at noon from the enormous pressure of water and debris, and with a roar and crash swept the valley below the city, wrecking the immense light and power plant and drowning eight workmen. Last Wednesday night it began to rain very hard at this place, the storm extending north of here along the watersheds of the Colorado river. The precipitation continued until this morning, the downfall averaging six inches within an hour. All this vast quantity of water all along the watersheds of the Colorado river rapidly swelled the current until at 8 o'clock this morning the river, which had been rising steadily since last evening, was a raging torrent, having risen 40 feet within 10 hours. After daylight this morning it became evident that the situation was serious. The river began to rise so rapidly that it became evident that the dam, power house and contents, costing \$500,000, were in imminent danger. To add to the danger of the situation, small frame houses, trees and debris of every description commenced descending the river, and piled up against the upper face of the dam. This weight was augmented every moment until by 10 o'clock there was a mass of debris lodged against the dam which threatened the safety of the structure. In addition, millions of gallons of water, muddy from its long journey, was whirling and plunging to the 60-foot fall, and it was evident that no wall could withstand the immense pressure. Breaking of the Dam. The crisis came shortly after 11 o'clock, when suddenly, with a report like the roar of the ocean, a great wedge, 25 feet high, 500 feet wide, and about 8 feet thick, rolled out of the center section of the dam, down the face of the 60-foot fall, deep into the river below. This left a hanging gap in the very middle of the dam, through which the debris and water fiercely poured, while the flood, already raging, was threatening everything in its path. The released water poured into the power house, catching eight employes at work there, drowning all of them. Within a short time all the valleys to the south and west of Austin were filled to overflowing with water, and the southern portion of the city, tributary to the river, was inundated. Large crowds collected on the river banks, and several persons were swept into the river when the dam broke, but all were saved by boatmen. A crowd of white people, numbering about 30, living just below the dam in tents, were seen at their habitations just before the dam broke and have not been accounted for since. It is generally believed that all of them were swept away. A family of six negroes living in the valley south of the city are known to have been drowned. It is estimated that more than 100 houses have been destroyed, and the loss to property will be great. The breaking of the dam engulfed the old water company's plant below the city, and it is tonight lying 15 feet under water, while the city is in darkness and without water. Caused a Serious Train Wreck. Laredo, Tex., April 10.—The north-bound passenger train which left here over the International & Great Northern railway this morning, was wrecked by the spreading of the rails near Two-hug, about noon. The entire train, except the engine, went into the ditch. Mail Agent Sobright was seriously injured, and several others seriously hurt. Further details have not been received here. The Rio Grande has come to a stand at 26 feet, without damage to the bridges here, but the waterworks machinery is submerged, and the crops along the river have been destroyed. Piano and Organ Factory Burned. Chicago, April 10.—Fire today partly destroyed the piano and organ factory of the M. S. Schurz Company, corner Morgan and Superior streets, entailing a loss of \$50,000, covered by insurance. The cause is thought to have been spontaneous combustion. Saratoga Opera-House Burned. Saratoga, N. Y., April 10.—The Sans Souci Opera House block and the Schaefer building, at Ballston, were burned today. Loss, \$150,000.

SANNAS POST AMBUSCADE.

Boers Captured Valuable Papers and Plans From the British. Brandford, Orange Free State, April 9.—Burghers who are returning from the scene of the Sannas Post ambushade (also referred to as Karro and Korn Spruit) furnish interesting details of the occurrence. It appears that when the first retreating British wagon entered the drift the ambuscaders shouted "Hands up," removed the officers and let the cart through. The process was repeated several times, until the wagons arrived in a bunch, when the ruse was discovered and a disorderly fight followed. In one cart were two officers, to whom Commandant Dewet shouted "Hands up." One of them obeyed, whereupon the other shot his comrade dead, refused to surrender, and was immediately shot. The burghers lost three men killed and 110 wounded, including a field cornet. Among the wounded was Dutch Military Attache Nix, who received a bullet in the chest. Altogether the Boers captured 389 prisoners throughout the day. The significance of the battle must not be underrated. It was fought by a force of Free Staters, on a flat plain, and without shelter. The Free Staters are now desirous of marching on Bloemfontein, and the Transvaal officers are anxious to emulate the successes of their late allies. All the Southern Boer forces have now formed junctions with the main Boer army, and form a large force of veterans. The burghers, who were previously short of food, now have plenty. Commandant Dewet sent the British guns, wagons and prisoners to Winburg. Perhaps of greater importance than the victory is the capture of British secret papers, including maps and plans of 1897, 1898 and 1899, outlining elaborate schemes for the invasion of the Orange Free State and the Transvaal, and giving a plan for reaching Johannesburg from Mafeking along Dr. Jameson's route, amended so as to avoid mistakes. Another gives the plan for a march from Bloemfontein to Kromstad. Advice from Ventersburg, Brieska and Kenhardt show the colony is full of rebels. The Kenhardt rebels are marching on Calvinia, and others are on their way to Fourteen Streams. A dispatch box was found at Sannas Post containing oaths signed by Free Staters. The signers have been sent for in order that the general may explain the invalidity of oaths under compulsion. APPEAL TO THE POWERS. President Steyn's Speech to the Free State Raid. Pretoria, April 9.—In his speech at the opening of the Free State Raid, President Steyn declared that, in spite of the surrender of Bloemfontein, he had not lost the hope of the triumph of the republican cause. The war, he said, was forced upon the Transvaal, and nothing remained for the Orange Free State but to throw in its lot with its sister republic, in accordance with the terms of the treaty. The war, he continued, was begun with the object of maintaining the independence secured with the blood of the forefathers of the nation, and had been so successful that it had caused the greatest wonder throughout the world, and even to the Boers themselves. After paying a tribute to the memory of General Joubert, Steyn said the British, notwithstanding their overwhelming numbers, were violating the flag of truce and the Red Cross, and he was compelled to report the matter to the neutral powers. The president further remarked that the attempt to create dissension among the burghers by issuing proclamations had failed. Referring to the correspondence between the South African presidents and Lord Salisbury, Steyn proceeded: "Not only were those efforts made, but the republics dispatched deputations to Europe and America to bring the influence of the neutral powers in order to secure cessation of bloodshed, and I greatly desire that these efforts be crowned with success." GOES TO CONFERENCE. Hawaiian Territorial Bill Passed by the House. Washington, April 9.—The house, after four days of debate, today passed the substitute for the senate bill providing for a territorial form of government for Hawaii. The bill now goes to conference. The most interesting feature of the day's proceedings was the attempt of Hill, of Connecticut, to secure the adoption of two amendments, one providing for a resident commissioner in stead of a delegate in congress, and the other declaring that nothing in the act should be interpreted as a pledge of statehood. Both were overwhelmingly defeated. Deboe, of Kentucky, today gave notice that he would move to refer the credentials of ex-Senator J. C. S. Blackburn, as a senator from that state, to committee on privileges and elections. During the greater part of the session the senate had under consideration the Indian appropriation bill. Sullivan, of Mississippi, delivered a speech in favor of seating Hon. M. S. Quay. Gold Mines Laid Off. Cripple Creek, Colo., April 9.—Two hundred miners have been laid off at the Portland mine on account of the high rates demanded by the smelters for the treatment of gold ores. Two Negroes Hanged. Baxley, Ga., April 9.—King and Louis Gossby, colored, who killed Daniel Mims, a farmer, and his young child near here the night of March 5 last, were executed here today.

LONG STAY AT BLOEMFONTEIN

Roberts Preparing for a Winter Campaign.

AWAITS CLOTHING AND HORSES

In the Meantime, He Will Raise the Siege of Mafeking—Boers Planned a Mined Ambush.

London, April 11.—Britons are now beginning, though reluctantly, to realize that Lord Roberts is in for a winter campaign, lasting several months. This is the end, in a few words, of the high hopes based upon Lord Roberts' brilliant dash to Kimberley and Bloemfontein. Preparations are being made to hold Bloemfontein against surprises. Lord Kitchener has been given an important duty, being responsible for the protection of the railway while Lord Roberts is waiting for remounts and winter clothing for the troops, whose thin cotton khaki uniforms and boots are worn out. General Brabant and General Gatacre are both at a standstill. Lord Roberts will probably for some time confine his operations to clearing the Free State behind him of raiders and to the relieving of Mafeking, for which purpose apparently the English division, now arriving at Cape Town, has been ordered to Kimberley. Lady Sarah Wilson and other Mafeking correspondents send diaries of the doings there, showing that the Boers have tried, by abandoning their trenches, to lure the besieged out into a mined ambush. Fortunately, the British engineers discovered the mine, cut the wire communication and unearthed 250 pounds of dynamite and war gelatine. What the chances are for an advance to Pretoria may be judged from the fact that only from 6,000 to 10,000 horses are on their way to the Cape, and from the further fact that the military tailoring department only within the last three weeks began making woolen khaki uniforms. It is said it will take at least two months to provide 200,000 uniforms. Mr. Steyn's address to the Free State raid at Kromstad is confirmed. The Fischer-Wolmarens deputacion has full power to negotiate or peace, subject to the raid's sanction. Lady Roberts will remain at Cape Town. The Duke of Westminster, the Duke of Marlborough and Lord Henry Cavendish Bentwick have gone to the front. A MEXICAN LAND GRANT. Refusal to Recognize It May Lead to International Negotiations. Monterey, Cal., April 11.—A paper of considerable international importance has just been received from London by Jacob R. Leese, of this city, son of the California pioneer, Jacob P. Leese. The paper is the original grant from the Mexican government, made in 1863, to Jacob P. Leese and others of 18,000,000 acres of land in Lower California for colonization purposes. At the time the grant was made, Mexico was in a state of war, which continued practically until after the accession of Diaz to the presidency, and Leese and his associates found it difficult to induce colonists to go there. A further contract was made with the Mexican government, by which Leese paid \$100,000 for the land upon the condition that if he failed to colonize because of the war before the expiration of an allotted time, the government was to return him \$50,000 of the amount. This amount has never been paid, and it is stated that the Mexican government absolutely refuses to recognize Leese's claim. J. R. Leese, eldest son of Jacob P. Leese, received a deed from his father shortly before the latter's death, assigning him one-eighth of the entire 18,000,000 acres, and it is this, as well as the \$50,000, for which he is fighting. He intends to move at once through the state department at Washington for a recognition of his claim and a restoration of his property and that of other heirs. Seeking Chinese Foothold. Tacoma, April 11.—The steamer Monmouthshire brings news that the commercialists of Japan are agitating the question of Japan obtaining a foothold in Foo Kien province, in Southern China, opposite Formosa. The Japan Export Society, founded by Count Inouye, has appointed a committee of influential men to investigate the best methods of increasing the exports and decreasing the imports. The same society sent one of its members to Foo Kien, which province he reports rich in silver, iron, lead and coal. He recommends that mining concessions be first secured, to be followed by railroad concessions between Foo Chow and Kiu Kong, 560 miles. The port of Tawanchi, he says, should be opened to facilitate trade with Formosa. By order of the empress dowager, two of the most prominent Chinese reformers have been seized and probably executed. A Mexican land grant to Jacob Leese, made in 1863, may cause trouble between Mexico and the United States. War in Colombia Spreading. Kingston, Jamaica, April 11.—Colombian advices just received here announce that a rebel attack is momentarily expected at Savanima. It is added that the place has been prepared for the expected movement, and that artillery has been trained so as to command the harbor. At Cartagena, a riot is in excitement, owing to the rebels' successes, and a large body of government troops has arrived at Colon to strengthen the garrison there.

AMERICANS TOO FEW.

Not Sufficient to Keep Filipino Insurgents Down. Manila, April 11.—Reports of encounters between the Americans and the insurgents continue to arrive from many points. On Friday Captain Sturgis, while reconnoitering, struck an insurgent outpost on the Nevaliches road, five miles distant from Manila, killing two and capturing 10. All were in full uniform. Unfortunately Captain Sturgis' force was not large enough to pursue the main body. A detachment of the Forty-second infantry, while scouting in Laguna province, was pursued by the insurgents and obliged to take refuge in a church at Paeto, where the Americans repelled the rebels until reinforced. Lieutenant Gordon, with a company of the Sixteenth infantry, while scouting near Aparri, Cagayan province, engaged 250 insurgents. Lieutenant Gordon was wounded. The insurgents made a night attack upon Calbayon, Island of Samar. They killed the sentry, swarmed into the town, and searched the house of Major Gilmore, of the Forty-third infantry, who was absent. They killed his cook. Ultimately the Americans drove them out of the town, killing four and capturing 12. General Young, commanding in North Luzon, has made several requests for reinforcements, representing that his force is inadequate; that the men are exhausted by the necessity of constant vigilance; that he is unable to garrison the towns in his jurisdiction; that the insurgents are returning to the district and killing the amigos, and that it is necessary for him to inflict punishment in several sections before the rainy season shall begin. General James Bell, who is commanding in Southern Luzon, has made similar representations. He says his forces are inadequate, and he merely holds a few towns, without controlling the territory. The president of Samar, province of Baar, Luzon, and another prominent native, have been assassinated because they were known to be friendly to Americans. The president of another town has joined the insurgents because they had threatened to kill him if he did not. THE FLOODED COLORADO. Situation at Austin Is Slightly Improved. Austin, Tex., April 11.—The flood situation is improved here somewhat but the reports from points below indicate that the full effect of the immense volume of water is being felt in Wharton and Fayette counties, everything being inundated and much loss of property and livestock being reported. In Bastrop county the flood has caused much damage, and something like 500 washouts and losses of bridges are reported by the railways. Advices from the area surrounding the county seat of Bastrop county are to the effect that there has been some loss of life among the farming class, as their homes were inundated without warning by the tidal wave, but outside of an unconfirmed report that eight lives were lost, nothing can be learned. In the southern part of this county several persons are missing, the number representing a family of six Italians, and two negro families, whose homes have been washed away. The river is receding rapidly at this point and above, notwithstanding the fact that another heavy rise was reported early this morning on the Concho, 125 miles north of here. Reports tonight from La Grande, in Fayette county, are to the effect that while much of the lower part of the town is under water, the property loss is small. No one is missing. SECTARIAN SCHOOLS. Senate Rejected the Amendment Providing for Them. Washington, April 11.—After some further discussion today, the senate rejected the sectarian school amendment to the Indian appropriation bill, offered by Jones, of Arkansas, by a vote of 39 to 16. As has been the practice for two or three years, the free homes measure was offered as an amendment to the bill, but it was ruled out on the point of order that it was general legislation, and, therefore, not germane to an appropriation bill. Without division, the bill was passed. The measure carries about \$8,414,000. An unsuccessful effort was made to agree upon a date for a vote on the resolution relative to the seating of Quay as a senator from Pennsylvania. The effort will be renewed tomorrow. During the last two hours of the session, the Alaskan civil code bill was under consideration. An amendment offered by Hansbrough concerning the title to mining claims in the Cape Nome district provoked a warm debate. This was a dull day in the house. The agricultural appropriation bill was under consideration, and was made the vehicle of considerable desultory debate on irrelevant political topics. Good progress was made with the bill after the close of the general debate, 25 out of the 37 pages being covered before adjournment. A great many Christians are dead wires because some one small part of the life is switched off from God. Snow Storm in Montana. Bozeman, Mont., April 11.—Snow has been falling for the past 40 hours, and there are now nearly two feet on the level. The storm is the heaviest in 12 months. Farming lands needed snow or rain, and the benefit will be great. Guns for Portland Naval Reserve. Vallejo, Cal., April 11.—Two three-inch field guns were sent to Portland, Or., from Mare island today, to be used by the naval militia.