

NEWS SUMMARY

Former Governor Richard Yates of Illinois has announced himself a candidate for United States senator.

Peter Martel, his wife and three children were burned to death in a fire which destroyed their home at Red Falls, Minn.

In a wreck on the Southern railway near Curtis, Ala., three persons were seriously injured, four slightly injured and several others bruised.

President Roosevelt has approved the plan of the Hawaiian government for the issuance of public improvement bonds to the amount of \$750,000.

Portugal has concluded treaties of commerce with Italy, Switzerland and Germany whereby those countries, especially Germany, secure great advantages.

John R. Baird, a capitalist and clubman of San Francisco, was killed by an automobile in which he was riding falling upon him and crushing him to death.

The difficulty between Germany and Brazil, growing out of the kidnaping of Steinhoff, reported to be a German deserter at Itajahy, has been satisfactorily adjusted.

Six children of William Morgan and wife were burned to death at Lind say, Pa. The parents and their two remaining children barely escaped with their lives.

Four persons were drowned in the Monongahela river near Brownsville, Pa., as the result of the passenger steamer Rose Hite colliding with the tugboat Joe F. Klien and sinking.

Italy has accepted the proposition of Spain to hold the Moroccan conference at Madrid. It is now expected that the representatives of the independent powers will meet January 10.

In a fire in the women's department of the county jail at Montgomery, Ala., Henrietta Howard, charged with murdering her husband, was so seriously burned that she is not expected to live.

The annual report of Fourth Assistant Postmaster General P. M. De Grew says there has been a decrease of 575 in the postmasters commissioned as compared with the previous year.

The state board of railroad commissioners of Kansas has decided to order a reduction of 5 per cent in the freight rates on all classes of grain. The order affects every railroad in the state.

Senator McCreary has introduced a bill to reduce the tariff of the United States by providing that there shall be levied upon all articles imported from foreign countries a rate equal to three-fourths of the present schedule.

Announcement was made at the Municipal Ownership league headquarters in New York City last week that the organization would extend its work throughout the state and country under the name of the Independent League.

The annual report of the director of the Bureau of American Republics, transmitted to the senate last week calls attention to the acquisition of Panama, making twenty-one republics represented in the international union.

Frank Amantao, an Italian, is in jail at Fernie, B. C., charged with the murder of Gabriele Cozza, another Italian. The two men quarreled at Morrissey Mines, B. C., and engaged in a fight, which terminated in the death of Cozza.

The mixing house at the works of the Dupont Powder company, near Boyles, Ala., was accidentally blown up, instantly killing five workmen. The force of the explosion was felt for miles around. The victims were blown to atoms.

The American line steamer St. Louis, which arrived at Plymouth, England, from New York, reports having passed, December 13, in latitude 45 north and longitude 49 west, an iceberg 300 feet high. The iceberg was right in the track of Atlantic liners.

A petition from ex-Queen Liliuokalani asking for the payment of \$10,000,000 to her has been presented to the senate by Vice President Fairbanks. The petition was accompanied by an autograph letter requesting early and favorable consideration.

According to her own statement, Mrs. J. W. Kelly was thrown by her husband, a private detective, from a window on the fifth floor of the United States hotel in San Francisco. The woman was picked up, suffering from injuries which, it is believed, will result in her death.

The Nickerson Gas works, which furnished light for the town of Hyanis, Mass., was destroyed by an explosion, which killed Osborne Crowell, who was in charge of the plant, and damaged several buildings. It is supposed that Crowell's lantern ignited escaping gas.

SAYS GRAZING FEE IS LEGAL

President Advises Secretary of Agriculture That His Decision is Sustained

Protest of Colorado Delegation Did Not Have Desired Effect, and Pasturing of Livestock Within Forest Reserves Will be Permitted Next Season.

Washington.—President Roosevelt on Wednesday advised the secretary of agriculture that he would sustain the regulation adopted by his department imposing grazing charges for pasturing livestock within forest reserves. This action was taken with especial reference to the protest made by a committee from the Cattle Growers' association which waited on the president Saturday last, accompanied by Colorado representatives in congress. Senator Patterson of the delegation filed a brief with the president, contending that the proposed imposition of a grazing fee was illegal and not within the province of the government to enforce it without additional legislation. The president conferred with the attorney general and, as a result of the conference, announced that he concurred in the latter's opinion, that the imposition of a charge for grazing within the reserves is legal and proper. The forest service has completed authorizations for grazing during the coming season in Yellowstone reservation, Wyoming. In the Shoshone division of this reserve 20,000 cattle and 70,000 sheep will be admitted. In Wind River division 30,000 cattle and 90,000 sheep, and in Teton division 30,000 cattle and 235,000 sheep. This is an increase in the number of sheep over last season of 50,000. Grazing charges will be 20 cents per head for cattle and 5 cents for sheep in the Wind River division, and 25 cents for cattle and 5 cents for sheep in the Shoshone division.

DRY FARMING.

Bill Authorizing Secretary Wilson to Carry on Experiments.

Washington.—Representative Mondell on Wednesday introduced a bill authorizing the secretary of agriculture to carry on experiments and investigations with a view of determining the best methods for the utilization in limited supplies water in irrigation in connection with dry farming and to experiment to ascertain the kind of seed, manner of cultivation and farming implements best adapted to development of dry farming and use of the limited supply of water. The object of the bill is to attract attention to dry farming and to augment that process by developing means of raising small quantities of vegetables, fruits, etc., which cannot be grown without irrigation. The bill carries \$15,000 to defray expenses for experiments.

Fourteen-Year-Old Boy Found Guilty of Murder. Oakland, Cal.—John Schneider, a 14-year-old boy, was found guilty of murder in the second degree on Wednesday and recommended to the mercy of the court for complicity in the murder of Thomas Cooks in Fruitvale on July 22 last. He will be sentenced on Friday. Schneider's companion, Blake, was recently sentenced to life imprisonment for the same offense.

Another Million Dollar Baby.

San Francisco.—A granddaughter of Senator W. A. Clark of Montana was born Wednesday morning at San Mateo, the parents being Mr. and Mrs. Charles W. Clark, the mother having been Miss Cecil Tobin of this city. When informed of the birth of the baby, Senator Clark announced that he would immediately give the little girl a dowry of \$1,000,000, following the example set by himself at the birth of his first grandchild.

Massacre of Mussulmans.

Constantinople.—The massacres of Mussulmans by Armenians was still in progress at Tiflis, Caucasasia, and throughout the Caucasasia December 18, according to a dispatch from Tiflis under that date. The Mohammedans were being hunted down like deer, no distinction being made between Persians, Tartars or Ottomans. About 2,000 Mussulman families of Tiflis had sought refuge in neighboring villages. The Cossacks and other troops continued to plunder the houses of Mussulmans at Batum.

Black Hand Murders.

San Francisco.—Angelo Napoli was on Wednesday placed on trial for the murder of Giuseppe Brogado on January 22, 1905. Out of this murder is said to have grown the slaughter and dismemberment of Braglio Villardo, who, it has been charged, was hacked to pieces by Pietro Tontorici and his body cast into the street and bay. In both of these crimes the mysterious "black hand" of mafia is alleged by the police to have been implicated.

THE DEADLY WORK OF KANSAS TRAIN WRECKERS

Remove Spikes Securing the Rails and Ditch the Train, Killing Two of the Employees.

Reading, Kan.—Santa Fe train No. 17, westbound, was wrecked at Badger creek bridge, about five miles west of Reading, at 3 o'clock Tuesday morning. The tender left the track, derailing all the baggage and express cars and the first two coaches. One express car turned over and caught fire, in which one of the messengers were killed. His remains were recovered. The engineer and two other messengers were seriously injured, the former fatally. No passengers were injured.

It is believed the train was ditched by wreckers. The spike securing one rail and the fish plate had been removed. Three other passenger trains, including Superintendent Fox's special, had passed over the same tracks a short time before No. 17 was wrecked. J. E. Hurley, general manager of the Santa Fe railroad, has offered a reward of \$5,000 for the arrest and conviction of the man or men who wrecked the train.

PHILIPPINE TARIFF BILL.

Favorable Report on the Administration Measure.

Washington.—By a vote of 7 to 5, the house committee on ways and means reported favorably on Tuesday on the Payne bill admitting all Philippine products into the United States free, excepting sugar and tobacco, which are to pay 25 per cent of the Dingley rates until 1909, when they are also to go on the free list. Two amendments were made to the measures originally introduced in the house by Mr. Payne. At the suggestion of Representative Hill of Connecticut, a provision was added that all American sugar and tobacco are to be admitted into the Philippines free of duty, and a new section was added, which provides that no Philippine products now in warehouses in the United States shall be exempted from duties under the proposed measure.

WORKMEN BLOWN TO PIECES.

Explosion of Dynamite Occurs in the Heart of New York City.

New York.—Three men were blown to pieces, seven others were more or less seriously hurt and the occupants of fashionable hotels and residences in the vicinity of Fifth avenue and Thirty-fourth street were startled Tuesday by an explosion of dynamite in the excavation for the new Altman building.

The explosion was caused by a workman unintentionally striking a heavy charge of dynamite which had been placed in a drill hole in a ledge of rocks several days ago and which defied all efforts to explode it at that time.

Root Has No Objections.

Washington.—Ambassador White, who has been named as one of the representatives of the United States at the approaching Moroccan conference, has informed Secretary Root of the proposition now being placed before European governments to change the place for the conference from Algeciras to Madrid. Mr. White's statement did not appear to require any direct expression by the state department upon this matter just at present, but it is stated that no objection suggests itself to the change in program.

Ammonia Ruined the Sight of Insane Mrs. Ina Berry.

Kansas City.—Mrs. Ina Berry, late of Northport, Wash., who recently defied arrest for four days in a railway coach in which she had fortified herself at Girard, Kan., underwent an operation here on Tuesday in which her left eye was removed. The eye-sight had been destroyed by the ammonia used by her captors in driving the woman from the coach. Mrs. Berry is an inmate of a sanitarium in this city.

Workmen Buried in Tunnel.

New York.—The two men who had been buried in the East river tunnel for nearly forty hours were taken out Tuesday. Rescuers penetrated the tunnel in a boat. Workmen were still attempting to force a hole through the cement roof of the tunnel as it was thought that still other men were imprisoned in the tube. When the rescued workmen had recovered sufficiently to speak intelligently they said they were the only men caught in the tunnel.

France is Satisfied by Withdrawal of Offensive Venezuelan Note.

Paris.—The French government is officially advised of President Castro's favorable action in withdrawing the offensive note to M. Taigay, the French charge d'affaires at Caracas, and Premier Rouvier communicated to the council of ministers that Venezuela having withdrawn the note on which the protests of France were based, the incident is considered to have been regulated according to the desires of France.

TELLS STORY OF BRUTAL MURDER

Montana Man Confesses to Series of Crimes Committed in Lewiston.

Implicates Four Prominent Men of the Town in Murder, Attempted Poisoning of County Attorney and Wife, as Well as in Numerous Burglaries.

Lewiston, Mont.—James Sherman, aged 19 years, manager of the Argus Publishing company's stationery department, who was recently arrested on suspicion of brutally murdering Sam Studzinsky, an old pawnbroker, August 23, for the purpose of robbery, has confessed, implicating Dr. E. A. Long, a dentist; Walter Gooch, former night marshal of the town; Russell Botkin and David Atchison, young men of the town, in the murder, as well as in a postoffice burglary and many other recent burglaries of the town. The jewelry stolen from the Studzinsky place was recovered on Sunday from a place where it had been cached by Sherman.

Roy E. Ayers, county attorney, who has been active in solving the murder mystery, has made public the fact that an attempt was made December 1 to poison himself and wife. It is his theory that it was thought the attempt would put him out of the case by killing or frightening him. Mr. and Mrs. Ayers were away from home until 2 a. m. and when they returned they found the house had been entered. When Mrs. Ayers took a drink from a bucket of water she noticed a peculiar taste, and an analysis by a chemist revealed the presence of a large quantity of strychnine in the water.

All whom Sherman has implicated in the crimes to which he has confessed are under arrest.

Every one of the suspects denies absolutely that there is any truth in the story told by Sherman. Dr. Long points out that he was not in town at the time of the postoffice robbery, and this statement is confirmed by the officers. Sherman has told contradictory stories in regard to some of the details connecting these persons with the crime, and some doubt is expressed by the officers.

GRANDEST SPECTACLE OF THE CENTURY.

"Ben Hur" to Be a Christmas Offering in Salt Lake.

Salt Lake City.—General Lew Wallace's mighty play, "Ben Hur," with its lustrous Star of Bethlehem, its camels, Arabian steeds, Oriental trappings and mimic splendor of the "Gorgeous East," is beyond dispute the most elaborate spectacle ever staged in the history of the world. The exciting episodes, such as the galley scene, the sea fight, the rescue in mid-sea and the thrilling race with two chariots and eight horses, simply captivate the great audiences that are nightly in attendance wherever it is enacted.

"Ben Hur" will be presented for the entire week of December 25th to 30th at the Salt Lake Theatre, Salt Lake City, Utah. All railroad lines entering Salt Lake have fixed to make low excursion rates for those desiring to journey there to witness this stupendous and impressive religio-historic drama.

One Thousand Are Dead.

Paris.—A dispatch to the Journal from Trebizond, Asia Minor, dated December 14, describes the atrocities committed at Elizabetopol in the early part of December. It says that the Tartars attacked the Armenians December 2. The latter offered resistance and endeavored to send their families away, but all the fugitives were massacred. Street fighting followed, and then came house to house conflicts, which lasted for several days. Finally the Tartars set fire to the town. One thousand are dead.

Philippine Commerce.

Washington.—Estimates made by the bureau of statistics of the department of commerce and labor, based on returns for the ten months ended with October, are that the aggregate commerce between the United States and the Philippine islands for the calendar year 1905 will amount to about \$20,000,000, against about \$15,000,000 in 1904, \$10,000,000 in 1903, \$4,000,000 in 1898 and a little more than \$4,000,000 in 1897, the year prior to the American occupation.

Killed by Murderous Natives.

Adelaide, Australia.—While a ladno belonging to Fred Bradshaw, owner of a station on the Victoria river, was conveying to Port Darwin seven natives accused of murdering white persons, Bradshaw against the advice of his companions, took the prisoners out of irons. On the same night the prisoners, with their tomahawks, killed Bradshaw, his engineer and two other white persons and four native employes. The murderers escaped into the bush.

RUSSIAN GOVERNMENT IS COMPELLED TO ACT

Proletariat Seems Determined to Take Up Arms and the Issue Will Be Accepted—Official Statement of Government's Position.

St. Petersburg.—The following statement of the government's position has been issued, and may be accepted as authoritative:

"The government sincerely desired to introduce the new regime without having recourse to harsh measures, but it received no support from the constitutionalists or other moderates, while the proletariat organizations, under the leadership of the Socialists, continued their mad campaign in favor of armed rebellion, and openly incited the army and the navy to mutiny. The climax of this campaign was reached when efforts were made to attack the credit of the country in the midst of a considerable panic. Had the government allowed such efforts to go unchallenged it would have precipitated complete financial and industrial ruin. After all self-preservation is the first law of nature, and besides, without the restoration of a semblance of order it would be impossible to hold the elections for the duma. The case was a desperate one and it demanded a desperate remedy.

"The government believes that the radical aims of the Socialists have the sympathy of only a fraction of the population, and that if their leaders should succeed in overthrowing the monarchy and in placing their doctrines in practice they would be swept out of existence by a counter revolution.

"Nevertheless, the government is on the horns of a dilemma, as, no matter how honest its motives, in the present state of excitement they are bound to be misrepresented; while, on the other hand, if enough order can be restored to hold the elections, the cry will be set up that the government has adopted this expedient to control the elections and to capture the duma.

"We have taken the only course left open to us."

Senate Passes Canal Bill.

Washington.—The senate passed the Panama canal emergency appropriation bill on Saturday, but the result was not attained until after the debate on the bill had been continued the greater part of the day, to the exclusion of practically all other business. Set speeches were made by Mr. Bacon in advocacy of his amendment requiring estimates for the canal commission salaries; by Mr. Allison, who devoted himself largely to the details of the bill; Mr. Culberson, who criticized the employment of Mr. Bishop as a "press agent"; by Mr. Stone, who criticized the purchase of American ships to carry Panama supplies in face of the announced determination to go abroad for vessels under the conditions then existing, and by Mr. Newlands, who expressed the opinion that the construction of the canal should have been entrusted to the geological survey.

Says They Buy Students.

Portland, Ore.—In a statement on Saturday, President Dean W. N. Ferrin of Pacific university, Forest Grove, Ore., charged that eastern colleges, and also other Oregon colleges, have purchased the services of students attending Pacific university, showing athletic ability, and attempted to purchase those of other students. President Ferrin states that it is well known that twelve students of Pacific university have received offers from colleges in Oregon and Washington, and that there are at present three members of a Washington college football team recruited from the Pacific university team of 1904.

McCall Has Pneumonia.

New York.—President John A. McCall, of the New York Life Insurance company, is, according to a story printed on Monday, very ill at his home, 54 West Seventy-second street. Mr. McCall, the report says, was taken down with grip and, contrary to the advice of his physician, he attended on Wednesday of last week a meeting of the directors of the New York Life Insurance company. Since then Mr. McCall has been down with pneumonia.

Hammond in Montana.

Helena, Mont.—It is reported here that John Hammond, wanted in Albany, N. Y., for killing his wife and locking the body in a trunk, has been seen at or near Forsyth, Rosebud county, and advices to that effect have been wired the New York authorities. It is reported that on November 30 Hammond was seen in Missoula, but all efforts to locate him proved fruitless. Young Strong, the Albany boy who came west with Hammond, deserted him at Missoula after learning of the charge against him.

Saved to the Nation.

Philadelphia, Pa.—The two-story brick structure at 239 Arch street, known as the "Old Flag House," where Betsy Ross designed the American flag, has been purchased for the government. Final payment on the property was made Friday. On October 22, 1898, a meeting was held in the "Old Flag House" under the direction of John Quincy Adams and Charles H. Wells and the American Flag House and Betsy Ross Memorial association was formed and later incorporated.

NOT SO EASY AS WAS KOREA

Japanese Having Difficultie in Forcing Concessions From Chinese.

The Continued Failure of Baron Komura to Conclude the Negotiations is an Open Secret—Suspension of Negotiations is Openly Advocated.

Tokio.—The continued failure of Baron Komura to conclude the negotiations with the Chinese government at Peking, which were begun after the conclusion of the Russo-Japanese war is an open secret. It is believed by some Japanese here that the extent of Japan's concessions are such as will fail to secure what they think should have properly been her acquisitions as the result of the treaty of Portsmouth. For example, the building of the Kinrin-Ching-Chung railway has not been conceded, and the stationing of railway guards is not to be permitted leaving the work in the hands of the police, who will be withdrawn when the period for the withdrawal of troops expires.

China's firm attitude is believed to be due to combined pressure indirectly exerted by Russia, France and Germany. The outcry against the alleged weakness of the cabinet is increasing, and some persons advocate the suspension of the Peking negotiations.

The kindness of the emperor of Germany to former Japanese prisoners of war on their way home is appreciated, but the Japanese appear to be distrustful of his style of diplomacy.

SUSPEND OPERATIONS.

Two Banks and a Trust Company on the Financial Rocks.

Chicago.—Three of the largest financial institutions in the west, the Chicago National bank, the Home Savings bank and the Equitable Trust company, all of them controlled by John R. Walsh of this city, and in great measure owned by him, suspended operations on Monday. Their affairs will be liquidated as rapidly as possible and they will go out of business. The immediate cause of the collapse of the institutions controlled by Mr. Walsh is said to be the large amount of money which they have loaned to various private enterprises.

Little Sickness on the Isthmus.

Washington.—The report of Col. W. C. Gorgas, chief sanitary officer of the Panama canal zone, for October, shows three cases of yellow fever during the month which, he says, indicates the early disappearance of the disease. Only one case was an employe of the commission. Colonel Gorgas states that Panama has often been free from yellow fever, but the only disappearance was when they had no non-immunes to contract it. During October, he says, they had all the natural conditions favorable for yellow fever; a larger number of non-immunes probably than had ever before been on the isthmus, with a wet and hot month.

Anti-Foreign Riots in China.

Washington.—The state department has news from Shanghai that a serious situation exists there. Two cablegrams received at the department state that the trouble arose through a strike and was increased by a dispute growing out of some cases being tried before the consular courts. Two foreigners have been killed and many wounded. Naval forces are guarding the streets. Police stations have been burned. No Americans have thus far been injured, but the official statement was made that the situation is regarded as serious. Two American cruisers are now on their way to Shanghai.

Burton of Kansas is Ignored in Appointment of Committeees.

Washington.—Standing committees of the senate were announced on Monday. Every Republican senator was given a chairmanship except Burton of Kansas, who was ignored entirely as to assignments, in response to his request that he be not placed on any committee pending the determination of the charges against him in the courts. Vacancies were left for Senator LaFollette of Wisconsin and Senator Gearin of Oregon, neither of whom has been sworn in.

Members of Chicago Brick Trust Found Guilty of Conspiracy.

Chicago.—The so-called "brick trust" of Chicago made a complete surrender to State's Attorney Healy in court on Monday and were fined an aggregate of \$18,000. The company and a number of its officials, together with two labor leaders, were indicted for conspiracy to do an illegal act to prevent competition and to restrict the production and sale of brick in the Chicago market.