

News in Brief

After seven months of fruitless sittings the session of the Cuban congress has closed.

Three were killed and fifteen wounded in a fight with brigands in a suburb of the City of Mexico.

Francis G. Laddon of Staatsburg, N. Y., has been appointed third secretary of the American embassy at Berlin.

Prince Henry of Prussia intends to give up his residence at the old castle of Kiel for his new chateau at Hemmelmark.

The wealthiest congressional candidate this year is said to be Mayor Anderson of Yonkers, N. Y. His honor's valuation is set at \$30,000,000.

At Mobile, La., Charles Harding shot his wife three times and then turned the pistol on himself, the bullet penetrating the base of the brain.

A dispatch to the Lokal Anzeiger from Mukden says the Eighth Russian army corps has arrived there and that General Kurapatkin will make new plans immediately.

A movement has been begun in Raleigh, N. C., for the erection of a monument to United States Senator M. W. Ransom, who died recently. It will be placed in Capital square.

Frederick Douglas Morrison of Baltimore, recognized as one of the ablest educators of the blind in the world, died last Saturday from the effects of an operation for appendicitis.

Great Britain keeps hold on Tibet by proposing to occupy Chumbi Valley, the key to the country, until the entire amount of the \$3,750,000 indemnity demanded has been paid.

British military experts are of the opinion that the battle of the Shakh river has resulted in a victory for the Japanese and that the Russians are now returning north of the Hun river.

King Edward gave a luncheon at Buckingham palace in honor of Admiral Jewell and other naval officers. Ambassador Choate, Secretary White and Attache Stockton were also present.

Edward L. Bartlett, solicitor of New Mexico since 1889 and once adjutant general of the territory, is dead at Santa Fe of pneumonia. He was born in Maine and went to Santa Fe in 1881.

When Mayor McClellan of New York tried to register last week the registrars did not recognize him and demanded his naturalization papers when he told them he was born in Germany.

The unexpired portion of the sentence of confinement of General Prisoner Benjamin Ladyburg, late private of Company B, First battalion of engineers, has been ordered remitted by General Wint.

The decision of the National Spiritualistic association, in convention at St. Louis, to nominate the officers by ballot kept the assembly in an uproar for two hours. It was finally decided to postpone the election.

Charles B. Pfahler of Chicago resigned as chief clerk of the department of concessions of the Louisiana purchase exposition. Mr. Pfahler organized the accounting system in use at the Columbian exposition.

A Liao Yang telegram says that accommodations for the wounded are exhausted. A service of hospital trains has been organized to take the Japanese wounded to New Chwang, where hospital ships are in the harbor.

Prof. Barrett Wendell of Harvard university has called for Europe to deliver, at the Sorbonne, in Paris, during the coming winter, lectures in English every week on 'America, American Ideas and Institutions.'

Frank F. Holmes of Chicago, in his report as secretary-treasurer of the National Association of Local Fire Insurance Agents at its opening session in St. Louis, hints at further trouble in the Cook County insurance case.

There is a slump in the coke business in the Connellsville region. Ovens are being blown out throughout the region, the yards contain thousands of tons of coke and the sidings are filled with loaded cars with no destination.

Mr. McCormack, the American ambassador to Russia, called at the state department to pay his respects to Secretary Hay and Assistant Secretary Loomis. The ambassador had satisfactory reports to make regarding the condition of Russo-American relations.

A slight earthquake shock, traveling from northwest to southwest, was felt at St. Louis. The disturbance was recorded on the seismograph in the weather bureau exhibit of the Philippine government at the World's fair. The earthquake caused a slight rattling of dishes in parts of St. Louis, but did no damage.

A resolution disapproving of reciprocity with Canada was adopted by the Vermont house of representatives without opposition.

Fire destroyed the National bank building and three other houses at Wells Point, Tex., entailing a loss of \$50,000, insured partially.

The North German Gazette of Berlin prints an explicit denial of the statement contained in a dispatch from Peking to the London Times that Germany was intriguing against China's acceptance of the Anglo-Tibetan treaty.

THE ARMY FRONT

ALONG WHICH THERE IS SAID TO BE SHARP FIGHTING.

TROOPS HOLD OLD POSITIONS

Russians Are Entrenching the Ground Recently Occupied by Them.—They Are Expected to Resume the Offensive Within a Few Days.

MUKDEN—Sharp fighting continues along the front. The Russians are entrenching ground recently occupied by them.

While no pitched battle has occurred during the last few days, the two armies are kept in touch with one another, holding the positions they occupied when the big battle ended. There is no evidence that the Russian army will rush north, as was the case after the battle of Liao Yang. In fact, the Russians have another line of defense to fall back on in the event that they are forced out of their present positions.

During the last few days there has been frequent artillery fire, occasional infantry attacks and daily clashes between outposts and scouts.

Unless the Japanese take the initiative soon the Russians, it is expected, will resume the offensive and endeavor to drive the Japanese back, for the purpose of insuring the safety of their winter quarters, which undoubtedly will be north of Mukden unless a southward advance is successful.

Another big battle is expected shortly, as the weather is already turning cold. It will be impracticable for the two armies to winter in their present positions midway between Mukden and Liao Yang.

Many incidents are coming to light showing the bravery of the Russian soldiers during their stubborn resistance to the Japanese advance and in their attempts to drive the Japanese back. The men fought night and day without rest and afterwards worked for hours carrying the wounded to the hospitals. When the Russian troops recaptured Lone Tree hill they retook several guns and a quantity of ammunition which the Japanese had previously captured. They also took several Japanese guns in addition.

At the conclusion of the fight the hill was covered with the dead and wounded of both armies. The Japanese prisoners were treated by the Russians with the greatest kindness. At one hospital visited by the Associated Press correspondent Japanese privates were found in their officers' ward. The army hospital corps and the Red Cross societies did splendid work. The wounded were dressed and forwarded to the hospitals with the greatest expedition.

The Russian commissariat also was admirably handled. Portable soup kitchens were most useful, going under fire to feed the men.

ARIZONA POPULATION INCREASE

Governor's Annual Report Says It is Now Over 165,000.

WASHINGTON—The annual report of the governor of Arizona to the secretary of the interior says that the territorial population has increased considerably and that the total population now is between 165,000 and 170,000. It expresses a desire on the part of the people of Arizona for statehood, but says:

"Finding themselves confronted with a plan to unite their territory with New Mexico, the people of Arizona have protested vigorously and will continue to do so until they have defeated this repugnant scheme. They would prefer that their commonwealth remain a territory indefinitely rather than be joined with New Mexico."

The governor adds his belief that the merger would not be acceptable to the mass of people of either territory. The report says the floating indebtedness of Arizona, which on June 30, 1903, was \$92,341, has been wiped out and a balance of \$20,849 remained in the general fund at the close of the last fiscal year. The taxable property in the territory has gained \$1,881,505 during the year. The total taxable property of the various counties is \$45,069,545. Substantial progress in other directions is reported.

Russians Retake Shakhe Station.

ST. PETERSBURG—Shakhe station, or what is left of it, has been recaptured by the Russians, who will reopen it for railway traffic with Mukden. It is reported that the Japanese made a furious attempt to take a wooded hill near Da pass. The firing began at 11 o'clock and continued with rifle and cannon through the night. This action probably was a part of an attempt by the Japanese who were already in possession of small hills in the plain to rush the center along the foothills at the Shakhe river.

The Outlook in China.

LONDON—Bennett Burleigh, after careful inquiry into the situation, cables the Daily Telegraph from Shanghai that the political outlook in China is worse now than prior to the "boxer outbreak in 1900." Widespread operations of secret societies, he says, show a dangerous recrudescence of anti-foreign feeling. Drilling of large bodies of well equipped troops is proceeding day and night in many districts of southern and middle provinces and the Chinese authorities are buying military equipment.

CAPTURE LONE TREE HILL.

Japs Driven From a Point of Great Advantage.

ST. PETERSBURG—Despite the feeling of bitter disappointment over the failure of the Russian offensive and the complete miscarriage of General Kurapatkin's plans, the battle continues and his defeat does not appear to be so crushing and disastrous as the Tokio telegrams led the Russian public to suppose.

While the tales of death and slaughter have plunged the nation into grief, and the exact situation of Kurapatkin's army, especially the left, is not clear, but probably must be regarded as critical, it is evident that the wild stories of a rout and of the cutting off of a whole corps, etc., are baseless.

Kurapatkin is still doggedly trying to stem the tide and there is nothing but admiration for the heroic figure of the Russian commander personally directing the fight to save his battered legions.

Indeed, the latest official dispatches almost revive the hope that he does not consider the battle to be irretrievably lost, as he has personally launched attack after attack against the strong Japanese position on Lone Tree hill, south of Shakhe, at last carrying it by storm and obtaining some revenge for the loss of the Third artillery brigade, by capturing eleven field pieces and one machine gun.

But whether this offensiveness of Kurapatkin was forced in order to extricate his flanks is not revealed, the war office affirming that it is unable to communicate precise information regarding what is occurring on the left.

Everything proves that not since the time of the ancients, and certainly not within a hundred years, has the world witnessed such desperate fighting. The slaughter doubtless is appalling, but the war office contends that the Tokio reports are exaggerated.

UNION PACIFIC'S REPORT

Company Shows Net Earnings of Over Twenty-Six Million Dollars.

NEW YORK—The pamphlet report of the Union Pacific Railroad company for the fiscal year ended June 30, last, issued, shows: Gross earnings, \$55,279,231, increase, \$4,204,942; operating expenses, \$29,026,007, increase, \$1,686,733; net earnings, \$26,252,624, increase, \$2,517,319. After receipt of other income and payment of total charges, there remains a surplus for the year of \$4,713,456, a decrease of \$230,018.

The report sets forth that owing to the decree in the Northern Securities company suit the Oregon Short Line has been unable to collect its Northern Securities dividends since February 1, last.

There were sold during the year \$10,000,000 face value Union Pacific company's 5 per cent collateral notes maturing February 1, 1905; the proceeds were used in further advances to the Southern Pacific company in the construction of or investment in new lines, in the completion of the steamships Manchuria and Mongolia and in the purchase of other equipment.

BIG MONEY ORDER BUSINESS

WASHINGTON—The total number of money orders issued by this government during the last fiscal year passed the 50,000,000 mark for the first time in history, as shown by the annual report of the superintendent of the money order system.

The net revenue of the money order business was \$2,528,403, an increase of \$288,494, as compared with the previous fiscal year. The gross revenue was \$2,626,676, an increase of \$376,282.

The number of domestic orders issued was 50,392,554 aggregating \$378,778,488, and international money orders issued numbered 2,088,344, aggregating \$42,550,150.

The issue of domestic orders increased 4,459,873 in number, and \$25,150,840 in amount while international orders issued increased 294,195 and \$7,312,215 respectively.

JAMES CALLANAN'S PROPERTY.

Must Be Converted Into Cash Within Five Years.

DES MOINES—The millions of dollars of stocks and other property of the late James Callanan must be converted into cash within the next five years, according to the provisions of the will which has been filed here. Mr. Callanan's wealth is estimated at \$5,000,000 or \$6,000,000. He owned great amounts of stock in industrial companies both local and national. He also owned extensive iron mines in Arizona and gold mines in other parts of the west. According to the will this must all be sold and a considerable quantity of the money will be deposited with the Iowa Loan and Trust company of Des Moines to pay annuities and carry out other provisions of the will.

Release Causes No Surprise.

ST. PETERSBURG—The newspapers publish full reports of the trial by the admiralty council of the case of the British steamer Allanton, seized June 16 by the Vladivostok squadron, and her cargo, but abstain from comment on the council's announcement of the judgment of the Vladivostok prize court. The decision causes no surprise. The demand of the owners of the Allanton for indemnity for the detention of the ship probably will have to be the subject of negotiations through the foreign office.

AS TO OUR LANDS

LAWS IN RELATION THERETO IN NEED OF REVISION.

SO SAYS THE COMMISSIONER

WASHINGTON—"The land laws of the United States need revision," said Commissioner Richards of the general land office today. "Many of the laws on our statute books are made for conditions which existed twenty years ago, and quarter sections of land upon which homesteaders are permitted to file must give way to larger areas of land because the best lands are occupied. The forestry laws and timber and stone laws also need revision, and the commission appointed by the president, consisting of Mr. Pinchot, head of the forestry division of the agricultural department; Mr. Newell, chief hydrographer of the geological survey, and myself, expect to make a report to congress based on an investigation and data now at hand. And yet all three of us find it hard to give this subject the attention it really deserves because of the duties of our several positions, which take up all our time."

Upon the subject of the opening of the Rosebud in Gregory county, South Dakota, Mr. Richards stated that about half the lands had been taken under the drawing at \$1 per acre. On November 8, three months after the time at which the drawing occurred, the books will be closed for those entering on homesteads. After November 8 the land remaining may be taken at \$3 per acre, that period extending for three months, or until February 8 of next year. After that date all lands remaining undisposed of may be filed upon at \$2.50 per acre for a period of four years. Upon the termination of that period the president is permitted to dispose of the remainder by sale under the rules and regulations of the secretary of the interior.

"A most excellent class of people entered Rosebud country during the opening of the reservation and drawing for locations," continued Mr. Richards. "Many of them were people of fair means, otherwise they would not have been able to comply with the terms laid down. These people will be a great addition to the South Dakota population, and cannot help but be good citizens. We have found many cases where people, after once looking at the land, decided to go elsewhere, and there are cases where persons drawing low numbers have failed to take advantage of their opportunity to settle upon much valuable land. Of course, this number was small, but it showed that the time between the intention of filing and the time in which to put up the money weeded out many irresponsible persons and resulted in an exceedingly better class of settlers."

"One of the greatest problems which confronts the interior department is the question of how best to take care of the grazing lands of the country. Sometimes I think that if we could lease these lands to cattle and sheep men surrounded with every safeguard for the government, that it would be a most excellent way of getting out of existing conditions. As civilization pushes onward the great public domain is absorbed and broad acres of untilled soil grow smaller every year. The cattlemen and sheepmen, realizing this, drove their herds far afield, and if the government could obtain lease money from these cattle and sheepmen it would not only give them protection, but be adding to the treasury."

JAPANESE PORT ARTHUR LOSS

Camp Follower Says 50,888 of Mikado's Men Are Slain.

CHICAGO—A special to the Daily News from Che Foo says: "According to a camp follower, who has been some time with the Japanese army now besieging Port Arthur and who is at present in Che Foo, having arrived from Dalny, the number of Japanese killed before the forts has reached 50,000. He says the mikado's men recklessly attacked the strongest positions, making bola rushes in masses, the soldiers being stripped of their accoutrements and clothing. The result was that the Russian machine guns mowed them down. He also asserts that there is some talk among the officers and men that leads to the belief that the Japanese mean to try to carry the inner forts this month."

Gold Discovery in Colorado.

DURANGO Colo.—The reported discovery of extensive bodies of quartz rich in gold and silver in the La Plata range of the Rocky mountains, west of this city, has created excitement. Hundreds of men have gone to the locality and many mineral claims have already been located. Assays obtained are said to run from \$50 to over \$2,000 to the ton.

No Information at Washington.

WASHINGTON—Assistant Secretary Darling said on Friday that, so far as he was aware, no advices had been received at the navy department of the reported skirmish between United States marines and Panamas on the isthmus. If any dispatches have been received, the assistant secretary explained they in all probability would be sent to the department and would not be delivered to the officers until morning. At this time the navy has about 450 marines on the isthmus.

NEBRASKA STATE NEWS

THE NEWS IN NEBRASKA.

Lightning struck and badly wrecked the house of Mr. Peterson. None of the inmates were injured.

Steven Whittecar is on trial at Dakota City for alleged felonious assault upon his daughter.

There is an unknown person in the vicinity of St. Paul who has a mania for setting fire to hay stacks.

An alleged deaf and dumb man collecting subscriptions for the Ladies' Home Journal at York is said to be a fraud.

The potato crop this season in the vicinity of Beatrice is the largest raised in that section for many years. The average price per bushel is from 40 to 60 cents.

In a hotly contested special election the proposition to bond the town of Fairfield to the extent of \$1,300 for the building of a water works system carried by a majority of one vote.

The doors of the Pacific hotel at Norfolk, which had been closed to the public for more than a month because of a disagreement between the proprietor and the landlord, will again open in a few days.

Two men in Hall county stole a load of pumpkins out of a farmer's field, and would have escaped but for their over greediness. They put one pumpkin too many on the wagon and broke it down. Before they could get clear of the broken wagon they were captured.

George Washer, near Cayuga, a farmer living near the Union Pacific tracks, was horrified when his dog brought home a human hand. It was a left hand, and bore the appearance of having seen hard work, and had evidently been ground off three inches above the wrist.

At the Ursuline Sisters' school in York, Julia Smith, from Whitman, Neb., died from Bright's disease. She had been removed to Mrs. Flick's home, where every care and attention was given her. The mother is expected and the remains will be sent to Whitman for interment.

A misplaced switch sent the engine and one car of a train, crossing the yard at Kearney on the Callaway branch of the Union Pacific into the ditch. The drivers on the locomotive were buried to the axles in the mud, but the engine remained upright. The passengers were considerably shaken up, but no one was injured.

At Chadron, the alleged robber, Frank Woods, was given his preliminary hearing and was bound over to the district court in the sum of \$2,000. This is the man whom Miss Mae Johnson claims robbed her of \$4,000 on August 19 last. A large reward was offered for his arrest and Deputy Sheriff Mote has just returned with him from Arizona. No testimony was offered for the defense.

The eighth and ninth grades of the Fifth schools were closed the other day on account of the resignation of Professor George R. McDonald who decided to leave the service of the board of education. The primary teacher, Miss Champlin, at the meeting of the board, declared that the professor paid her decided attentions and even went to the length of saluting her upon her check against her will.

The second sensation of one week in York county was the kidnaping of little John MacKee, son of Mrs. Spaulding, proprietress of the North York hotel at York, who was divorced from Mr. MacKee and is said to have been given the custody of their 7-year-old son. Johnnie was on his way to school and his playmates noticed a team stop and a man get out and forcibly carry Johnnie to the buggy, when he whipped up the horses and drove south. They were overhauled and arrested.

W. P. Everingim, of North Loup, who, during the past five years, has built up an immense business in grain, seeds and popcorn, has sold out his entire plant to J. A. Manchester of Ord.

By overruling the demurrer filed by the Kansas City & Northwestern railway in a case involving the validity of the Ramsey elevator law the supreme court practically declares the law constitutional. The case was one wherein the former elevator company of Virginia asked the court to compel the railroad company to lay a sidetrack to its elevator. The railroad filed a demurrer and this has been overruled.

It is now thought that the new Nebraska state hospital for the insane at Norfolk, which has been in course of construction since last spring, will be ready for occupancy about January 1. The four buildings are practically finished from an exterior viewpoint and the remaining three months will be required for plastering, plumbing and the like. By the first of the year it is thought that the patients whose homes are in northern Nebraska can be transferred from the Lincoln and Hastings asylums to this place.

The grocery store of C. W. Gillette at Ellis, was entered by burglars who made away with one dollar in change, taken from the postoffice cash drawer, and \$10 worth of stamps.

San Rafael de Minas Viejas, the large Mexican ranch, comprising 48,000 acres, owned by D. E. Thompson, has been leased to a syndicate for a period of ten years, through W. J. Robinson of Lincoln. The ranch is one of the richest sections of the state of San Luis Potosi, on the Orange river, among the foothills of the Sierra Madre mountains.

INDIANS ARE ON THE STAND

How the Wards of Uncle Sam Are Swindled.

WINNEBAGO INDIAN AGENCY—Testimony that the O'Connors, bankrupt Homer, have got Indians' pension checks from the postoffice, endorsed the name of the payee without authority and applied the money on notes given by the one to whom the check was drawn was the sensation of the morning session of the inquiry court here. Joseph Hinemann, an Indian, declared that this had been done in the case of his own father who gets a check for \$17 pension every quarter. He testified also that on a loan of \$25 he had to give a note for \$36, due in three months, which is an interest rate of 125 per cent.

Green Rainbow, one of the leaders of the tribe, declared he had been offered a team of horses free of charge by the O'Connors if he would not testify before the inspectors. Witness also declared an attempt had been made to intimidate him at the point of a gun held by Harold O'Conner in the O'Conner bank into giving up some money he had on deposit.

Jacob Russell, another Indian trader, testified that the fact that a ring of Homer and Emerson merchants snatched up the Indians' pay checks at the agency, prevented him from collecting money honestly due because the Indians would have no money left after escaping from the whites.

Claims of traders that the Indians are unfriendly to Father Schell's campaign for reforms in the conditions surrounding them were refuted when representative men of the tribe appeared before Inspector Wright to testify.

The taking of notes for double the sum of money loaned, the sale of horses for \$500 when the animals were worth \$25, the use of coercion in the matter of securing pay checks, the loaning of money to buy whisky and the purchase of liquor in saloons openly were some of the things testified to.

NEBRASKA SCHOOL LANDS.

There are Less Than Four Hundred Acres Not Under Lease.

According to the records in the office of Land Commissioner Fellmer, there are at this time only 381.88 acres of school land not under lease in the state out of a total of 1,940,000 acres. This land can be leased by application to the land commissioner's office. During the last four years there has been leased about 54,000 acres and about 120,000 has been re-leased. The enactment of the Kinkaid law and the irrigation work being carried on, has made a demand for school land and this accounts for the numerous applications received lately, the applications being more numerous than the land commissioner's office could supply. The land is situated as follows:

Cherry county, se 1/4 sw 1/4 36-25-38, 40 acres; Gage county, lots 1 and 9 in block 4 and 5, nw 1/4 16-2-7, 3 acres; Kimball county, lots 1 and 2, in ne 1/4 16-12-59, 69.52 acres; lots 3 and 4 in se 1/4 16-12-59, 69.36 acres; Perkins county e 1/4 nw 1/4 and n 1/2 sw 1/4 and sw 1/4 sw 1/4 26-11-35, 200 acres.

Co-operation on Statistics.

R. W. Durham of the department of statistics of the federal government is making a trip through the state investigating the labor employed in the penitentiary and other penal institutions. He will co-operate with the labor bureau of statistics and it is expected this co-operation will result in much more accuracy than has heretofore obtained.

Sutton Creamery Burns.

SUTTON—The Sutton creamery was completely destroyed by fire. This is the second time this creamery has been destroyed in like manner. It was built in 1883 by a stock company and burned in 1887 and rebuilt the same year. The loss will be about \$5,000.

Horse Thieves Are Busy.

NORFOLK—Horse thieves in and about Norfolk have been doing a rushing business lately. Several fine animals have disappeared and none of them recaptured. Bloodhounds have been put upon the trail of a number of them without success.

Girl Injured in Accident.

McCOOK—Miss Martha Shears, living a few miles southwest of McCook, was thrown from a horse, severely fracturing her leg between the hip and knee. She was dragging herself home in the darkness, when found by a member of the family.

Woman Looks for Recruct Spouse.

BEATRICE—A woman giving the name of Mrs. Elliott was here looking for her husband, whom she claims deserted her at Fairbury. She stated that he left her at a hotel at that place and after disposing of the household goods he left town. Elliott was here Thursday with a woman named Davis, and the couple left for Lincoln on an evening train the same day. When Mrs. Elliott was so informed by Chief Ashenfelter she left for the capital city to see if she could locate her truant husband.