

THE NEWS IN BRIEF.

All private pension bills are hereafter to be closely scrutinized.

Official statistics show that the wealth of Prussia is increasing.

The house committee on oleomargarine bills will give hearing on and after the 13th.

A Maryland democratic caucus selected A. P. Gorman for United States senator.

More than 1,000,000 articles are pledged with the pawnbrokers of London every week.

The report of the Kansas board of health for December shows an increase in smallpox cases.

Generals Funston and Hughes, accompanied by 1,400 soldiers from the Philippines, landed at San Francisco.

Exports from Germany to the United States during 1901 amounted to 39,725,008 marks, as against 25,044,821 in 1900.

The Missouri State Federation of Labor adopted resolutions favoring the initiative and referendum at all elections.

King Edward has conferred the Order of Knight, Grand Cross of the Bath, upon Marquis Ito, the Japanese statesman.

President Roosevelt received a portrait of President Diaz of Mexico. Some time ago the president sent a copy of his picture to President Diaz.

Governor Van Sant of Minnesota announced that he would call an extra session of the legislature for the middle of February, probably about the 18th.

Former Governor James B. McCreary has been selected in democratic caucus to succeed William Deboe as United States senator from Kentucky.

Complete returns from all of the consulates in Germany show that the total of German exports to the United States in the year 1901 amounted to \$99,616,731.

An unknown man threw a rock through the window of Edward Berger's loan office at New York and escaped with \$5,000 worth of diamonds on display.

After April 1, able-bodied Sioux Indians of the Rosebud agency will have to work for their rations. Work will be provided for all and \$1.25 per day will be paid.

Trade statistics show that Great Britain possesses only 42 per cent of the trade done with the colonies, while the United States has 12 per cent, and is rapidly gaining.

The house committee on public lands and buildings organized and appointed William H. Wheeler as clerk. The latter has been with Congressman Mercer for several years.

At Galesburg, Ill., Edward Cheney, an ex-prisoner of the state penitentiary, fatally shot his wife and her sister, Mrs. Lettie Goshorn, and then shot himself through the head, dying instantly.

The house committee on Indian affairs has ordered a favorable report on the bill authorizing municipalities of over 1,000 population in the Indian territory to issue bonds for local improvements.

General De Wet has been reinforced by many of Commandant General Botha's men. The British, expecting an important move by the redoubtable Boer leader, have accordingly strengthened their forces also.

Ben Daniels, who has just been appointed United States marshal for Arizona, formerly lived at Dodge City, Kan., and was well known in Kansas and Oklahoma political affairs before he joined Roosevelt's Rough Riders.

The name of the Northwestern Breeders' association has been changed to the Interstate Breeders' association, and will hereafter include stockmen from Iowa, Minnesota, South Dakota and Nebraska.

The postoffice department has created a new division of postoffice inspectors, to comprise the states of Kansas, Nebraska, Oklahoma and Indian territory. The division headquarters will be at Kansas City, with J. R. Harrison of Salina, Kas., inspector in charge.

With the consent of Lord Roberts and the approval of Lord Kitchener, it has been decided to increase the Imperial Light Horse brigade, making it truly imperial by the addition of squadrons from Great Britain, Canada and Australia.

Senator Millard secured permanent tenure as clerk in the census bureau of Miss Alice C. Couffer.

Senator Dietrich has introduced a bill for the division of Nebraska into two federal court districts, the Platte river being the division line.

The Chicago Construction News prints building statistics of the thirteen leading cities in the United States for 1901, showing that the sum of \$231,379,764 was expended for 48,725 new structures, as against \$133,655,820 in 1900 for 37,064 structures.

THE INCREASE IS LESS

Percentage in Growth in Population in North and West Decreases.

SOUTH MAKES A SLIGHT ADVANCE

Report of Census Bureau Shows that Expansion in Population is Gradually Becoming Even in Various Sections—Other Washington Matters.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 14.—The director of the census announced late today the percentage of increase of population in different parts of the country, showing for the last decade a rapid decrease from previous rate of growth of population in the west, a less marked but decided decrease in the north and a slight increase in the south.

For the first time in the history of this country the population of the south has increased somewhat more rapidly than that of the north. The east geographically is included in the term north. The rate of the growth in the north, west and south is far more nearly the same than it ever has been.

The official announcement divides the country as follows:

West—From the Pacific to the eastern boundary of Montana, Wyoming, Colorado and New Mexico.

North and South—The respective sides of a line formed by the Potomac and Ohio rivers and the southern boundaries of Missouri and Kansas.

The percentage of increase from 1860 to 1880 was 61.9 in the north, 48.4 in the south and 185.6 in the west, while in the last twenty years, 1880 to 1900, it was 48.7 in the north, 48.5 in the south and 181.5 in the west.

Prior to the civil war the northern states nearly doubled in population with each twenty years, while in the southern states the increase of population was about two-thirds as great. Since 1860 the rate of growth in both parts of the country has been much less, but while the rate of growth in the north has decreased steadily, that in the south during the twenty years from 1860 to 1880 has been slightly less. During the last twenty years there has been no substantial differences in the rate of growth of the two sections. The per cent of increase of growth of these regions during each of the last two ten-year periods follows:

From 1860-80, north, 24.8; south, 20.1; west, 71.3; 1890-1900, north, 19; south, 22.4; west, 31.9.

If the comparison is limited to the states east of the Mississippi river, classing Minnesota and Louisiana with the western states, the result is slightly different. It would show the increase to be 1880-90, north, 20.1; south, 16; 1890-1900, north, 19.9; south, 17.7.

When the Transmississippi states are omitted, the rate of growth in the north is slightly greater than that in the south, but the present difference between the two sections in this respect is about half above what it was in 1880 and 1890 and less than one-seventh less than it was in 1850-60.

The frontier as a large area of rapid but intermittent growth is no longer an important factor in the progress of American population and the rate of growth in the several great areas of the United States is now about the same.

NEGOTIATIONS ARE PENDING

Terms Between American Agents and Miss Stone's Captors

LONDON, Jan. 14.—Wiring from Constantinople, the correspondent of the Daily Chronicle says there is no news of Miss Stone, the captive American missionary, and that M. Garguilo, dragoman of the American legation at Constantinople, who some days ago left Salonica for the interior to meet Miss Stone's captors, have not met the bandits holding the missionary prisoner. They have been interviewed near Seres, Macedonia, forty-eight miles northeast of Salonica, by several pretended delegates, who thus far have not been furnished with letters from the captives, in the absence of which M. Garguilo and Mr. Peat declined to act.

Choate Calls on the President.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 14.—Ambassador Choate was a caller on the president. He will sail for England Wednesday. He said his visit to the white house was merely to pay his respects to the president and bid him goodby.

Silver Jubilee of the Pope.

NEW YORK, Jan. 14.—A movement for the fitting celebration of the pontifical silver jubilee of Pope Leo XIII., which will take place this year, is now on foot and will take place in all parts of the world. Elaborate preparations for the celebration are already making in England and will soon be begun in this country. Copies of the appeal just issued in England have been received at the house of Archbishop Corrigan in this city.

PENSION PAYMENTS SMALLER

Appropriation Bill Calls for Five Millions Less Than Last Year.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 14.—This was District of Columbia day in the house and immediately after the reading of the journal, Mr. Babcock of Wisconsin, chairman of the District of Columbia committee, claimed the day and the house proceeded to the consideration of district business.

At the conclusion of the District of Columbia business the house took up the pension appropriation bill. Mr. Barney of Wisconsin, in charge of the bill, explained that it carried \$139,846,480, as against \$145,245,280 appropriated for the current year.

The estimates for the payment of pensions decreased from \$144,000,000 to \$138,500,000. He was asked by Mr. Richardson of Tennessee why the amount of pensions decreased \$5,500,000 while the number of pensioners was said to be larger.

Mr. Barney explained that this was accounted for by the fact that the arrearages were decreasing and the number of large pensions (those from \$50 to \$75 a month) was also decreasing. In reply to another question, he stated that the commissioner of pensions believed that the high tide of pension payments had been reached and the amount required probably would remain stationary for some years.

AMERICANS NOT IN TROUBLE.

Sailors Are Well Behaved and blameless, Say Reports.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 14.—Secretary Long received the following cablegram today from Commander Edward D. Barry of the gunboat Vicksburg. In answer to the department's inquiry regarding the recently reported clash at New Chwang between sailors of the Vicksburg and Russian soldiers:

"YING KAN (no date)—Secretary Navy, Washington: Nothing serious; crew orderly. BARRY."

PEKIN, Jan. 14.—The United States consul at New Chwang, Henry B. Miller, has replied to the Russian administrator's charge that sailors belonging to the United States gunboat Vicksburg shot a Russian soldier during the recent disturbances at New Chwang, saying that he, the consul, and the commander of the Vicksburg, Commander E. B. Barry, investigated the affair thoroughly and found no evidence whatever to connect the Americans with the shooting.

Mr. Conger, the United States minister here, has received copies of the recent correspondence between Consul Miller and the Russian administrator at New Chwang. The consul complained repeatedly of the oppressive regulations and of encroachments on the rights of foreigners.

MARCONI TO SEND MESSAGES.

Receiving Stations to be Erected in Nova Scotia and Cape Cod.

NEW YORK, Jan. 14.—Signor Marconi, inventor of the wireless telegraph, has arrived here from Canada, where he has been the guest of the Dominion government. He will be the guest of honor at the annual banquet of the American Institute of Electrical Engineers. On Wednesday he will sail for Europe.

Signor Marconi described his recent experiments in wireless telegraphy between Newfoundland and Cornwall, England, and said the test letters were received exactly according to prearranged plans, both as to number and speed.

"As soon as I reach the other side," he said, "I shall start to work to get stations in readiness for the transmission of messages, commercial and otherwise, across the Atlantic. There will be two stations on each side, those in Europe being located at Cornwall and Belgium, and those on the American side will be at Nova Scotia and Cape Cod."

Second Trial for Howard.

FRANKFORT, Ky., Jan. 14.—The second trial of James Howard, on the charge of killing William Goebel, two years ago, is progressing rapidly, but so far no new testimony has been introduced. The commonwealth will conclude early this week and the defense claims that it will present evidence that was not available at the former trial.

Arrested for Illegal Liquor Selling.

PENDER, Neb., Jan. 14.—John Kunkle of Pender and Walter Tindle and George Mitchell of Homer were taken to Omaha. The three were taken on the charge of illegal selling of liquor.

Ran Over by an Engine.

M'COOK, Neb., Jan. 14.—Edwin Ellis, an employe of the Burlington shops here, was run over by an engine in the shops. His left leg was cut off between the knee and thigh.

Grand Army Encampment.

DES MOINES, Jan. 14.—Dates were fixed for the annual department encampment of the Grand Army of the Republic of Iowa by the council of administration.

PACIFIC CABLE TALK

House Committee and Manufacturers Confer at the Capital.

EFFECT OF WIRELESS TELEGRAPHY

It is Admitted that the Marconi Plan Has Depressing Influences—Several Companies Ready With Offers—Other Washington Matters.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 13.—The effect of wireless telegraphy on the future of the submarine cable was developed to some extent in the house committee on commerce in connection with the hearing on the proposed Pacific cable. The hearing was largely attended. Vice President Ward of the Pacific Commercial Cable company, continuing his statement, said he believed the company he represented would be able to make exclusive traffic arrangements from points beyond the Philippines and connecting with China and Japan.

He maintained that while there was no purpose to set up a monopoly, yet it was likely his company would have exclusive traffic arrangements with the far east. He also stated that there would be questions as to the right of the United States to land a cable on foreign shores. Representative Stewart of New Jersey interposed the statement that Germany's present course against Venezuela showed that the German government made little distinction between public and private rights, so that a government cable station would have about the same status as a private station.

Chairman Hepburn asked a series of questions as to the effect of wireless telegraphy on the submarine cable. Mr. Ward replied that the new system presented a serious question. He was not certain that the Pacific cable project would have been undertaken if the long-distance experiment had occurred earlier. As to the claims that wireless signals had been conveyed 2,000 miles across the Atlantic, Mr. Ward said that if the claims were made good they would deter people from laying any more cables.

When asked as to the effect thus far on the cable business, Mr. Ward said that it had depressed cable interests. Mr. Stewart wanted to know if the cable companies had not chased Marconi out of Canada, to which Mr. Ward answered that he believed the cable companies had insisted upon certain exclusive rights they held.

James Poord stated that the Asiatic association doing business in the Orient favored private control. It was opposed to the government entering the field of private enterprise. President Strymser of the South and Central American cable system made an extended argument favorable to government control of the Pacific cable, citing incidents of the Spanish-American war, showing the importance of governmental control of the cable. In one case cited, the Spanish minister of marine cabled Admiral Cervera to leave Santiago. If this dispatch had not been intercepted, Mr. Strymser said, the battle of Santiago bay would not have been fought and the conduct of the war might have been changed.

Thomas E. Hughes, representing an American company which produces cable, stated that as good cables could be made in the United States as in any other part of the world, and he asked that American capital have the advantage of doing the work.

ASKS PRESIDENT TO INTERFERE

Urged that He Prevent Shipment of Arms to Supplies.

CHICAGO, Jan. 13.—The Chicago branch of the American Transvaal league met here tonight and adopted a petition calling on President Roosevelt to enforce the neutrality law. A large number of signatures of prominent men, judges, lawyers and others, was obtained.

The petition is in the form of an argument and sets forth that the United States is conceded to be a neutral nation in the war between England and the South African republics.

It is contended that if the augmentation of Great Britain's military supplies from the port of New Orleans were stopped, the South African war would come to a speedy end. It is announced that horses and mules designed for use of military operations are within the meaning of the "military supplies" as used in the treaty of Washington.

The president is therefore called upon to strictly enforce article 6 of that treaty.

Nebraskan is Confirmed.

ST. LOUIS, Jan. 13.—Announcement was made at the world's fair headquarters that Frederic W. Taylor's appointment to the positions of chief of agriculture and acting chief of horticulture of the Louisiana Purchase exposition had been confirmed by the executive committee. Mr. Taylor has had charge of the two departments since early in November, which was as soon as he could get away from Buffalo.

PHILIPPINE INSURGENTS FLEE

Americans Destroy Their Barracks and Hamlets.

MANILA, Jan. 13.—The new received from Batangas province is cheerful. The expedition to Luboo in Batangas has been a complete success. The columns under Colonels Wirt and Wells have destroyed a number of barracks and hamlets, and enough rations to keep 20,000 Filipinos for six months. There was not a single American casualty during the entire expedition. The enemy fled before the Americans, many of them were killed and several surrendered.

Major Henry Allen, formerly governor of the island of Leyte, and now chief of the insular constabulary, who has been making a tour of inspection through the islands of Leyte and Mindanao, has returned to Manila and reports that the native constabulary is fully able to control the situation in the province of Misamis in northern Mindanao, where he thinks the situation has been much exaggerated. Previous reports concerning this province caused Generals Davis and Wade to request that it be returned from civil to military control. With the exception of the church the entire town of Quinque, in Bulacan province, Luzon, has been burned to the ground and thousands of Filipinos have been rendered homeless.

WILL BE A DULL WEEK.

Worthy of Much Importance in Either House of Congress.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Jan. 13.—The really important work of the house of representatives, aside from the Nicaraguan bill, is still in the committee stage, so that there is little of importance to be considered during the coming week. Monday will be given to bills affecting the District of Columbia. After that the pension appropriation bills will be passed. Although this measure carries about \$139,000,000, it follows the department estimates and does not involve any serious issues, so that after a brief explanation its passage usually follows promptly.

The ways and means committee has a few minor bills on the calendar, for the redemption of revenue stamps made worthless by the repeal of certain features of the war revenue act. With the disposal of these bills there will be little to engage the attention of the house, and there promises to be several periods of adjournment, during which time the committee will compete the largest measure to be brought before the house. The chief interest of the week will center in hearings on Cuban reciprocity, to begin at 10 o'clock Wednesday morning, before the ways and means committee.

Negotiations Not Yet Begun.

LONDON, Jan. 13.—The Constantinople correspondent of the Daily Mail, writing January 11, says that negotiations for the release of the American captive, Miss Stone, and her companion, Mme. Telika, have not yet been opened by the brigands. M. Garguilo, the dragoman of the American legation, and W. W. Peet, treasurer of the missionary society in Constantinople (who have left Salonica for the interior to meet Miss Stone's captors), have been instructed, according to the correspondent, to negotiate only with persons bringing letters from Miss Stone, without which it would be impossible to be certain that the prisoners were still alive.

Urges the English Tongue.

MANILA, Jan. 13.—Commissioner Bernard Moses, head of the department of public instruction for the islands, has delivered an address to the teachers of Manila, in which he urges instruction of Filipino children in English. He said the members of the wealthy Filipino class were making a great mistake in sending their children to Spanish schools, as the consequent neglect in English instruction would injure their position.

Schley Passes a Quiet Day.

SAVANNAH, Ga., Jan. 13.—Admiral Schley passed a quiet day at the home of General W. W. Gordon, where he is visiting. He attended religious services this morning at Christ church, Episcopal, and this evening at the Independent Presbyterian church. Each house was crowded with attendants upon the services.

Frauline Brandt Dead.

NEW YORK, Jan. 13.—Frauline Kathie Brandt, grand niece of Richard Wagner, died today in this city. She was a member of the German stock company at the Irving theater. Her father is a prominent theatrical manager of Berlin.

Nordica in Wreck.

ROME, Ga., Jan. 13.—As a result of a collision between a passenger train and a freight on the Southern railway at an early hour yesterday morning near Reeves Station, twenty miles north of Rome, Mme. Lillian Nordica, the singer, was injured, her accompanist, E. Romaine Simmons, sustained a bruised hand, an engineer was killed, and three other employes of the road were injured. Madame Nordica was taken to Chattanooga.

HIS POINT IS CARRIED

Burkett Succeeds in Having the Census Bill Recommended.

ASKS PERMANENT ORGANIZATION

Provision is Wanted in the New Measure that Will Properly Classify Laborers Under the Civil Service—Other Washington Matters.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 11.—The house spent the day considering the Hopkins bill, to create a permanent census bureau. While the general sentiment was in favor of a permanent bureau, there was strong opposition to the bill as drawn, on the ground that it was not well matured. There also was an overwhelming demand for a provision to place the present employes of the census bureau under the protection of the civil service law and the bill finally was recommitted with instructions to report back a bill containing a plan for a detailed organization of a permanent census bureau to include also a provision to place the present employes under the civil service. The fight to recommit was made under the leadership of Mr. Burkett of Nebraska, the new member of the appropriations committee.

A bill was passed unanimously to give Mrs. McKinley the free mailing privilege during the remainder of her life. The house then adjourned until Monday.

At the opening of the session Barney of Wisconsin, from the committee on appropriations, reported the pension bill and gave notice that he would call it up on Monday after the disposal of the District of Columbia business.

On motion of Hopkins of Illinois the house then went into committee of the whole and took up consideration of the bill to create a permanent census bureau.

Hopkins, in support of the bill, explained that the subject of establishing a permanent bureau had been agitated for many years. General Francis A. Walker, superintendent of the Ninth and Tenth census, and Porter, superintendent of the Eleventh census, as well as the present director, united in strongly recommending it on the ground that it would not only decrease the cost, but would increase the value of the results.

In reply to questions Hopkins said that 3,460 clerks had been employed in the bureau, 2,700 being still employed. If the pending bill passed, he said, the force would be reduced this year to 800, next year to 750, in 1905 to 500, and thereafter to 200.

Grosvenor of Ohio asked if it would not be wise to authorize the president to extend the civil service law over the surplus clerks. Hopkins replied that the subject had been canvassed by the house and senate committee and it had been thought that such action would not be expedient.

Burkett of Nebraska opposed the bill, contending that it was improper and inopportune and asserting that the course of the debate today demonstrated that the proposed legislation had not been well matured. He declared that the only persons who had agitated the subject of a permanent census had been the superintendents of past censuses and others directly interested.

Mr. Burkett moved that the bill be reported to the house with the recommendation that it be recommitted, with instructions to report back as a substitute a bill providing for the detailed organization of a permanent census bureau, and with a provision therein to place the present employes of the bureau within the classified service. The motion was carried.

ANTICIPATE PEACE OVERTURES

Negotiations for Cessation of Hostilities Will Be Started Soon.

AMSTERDAM, Jan. 11.—The Boer delegates in Holland evidently anticipate that some kind of peace overtures will be made shortly, though they are reticent as to their reasons for this belief. They maintain that the demand for an unconditional surrender must be abandoned.

It is privately admitted that the delegates will not reject what they call "any fair offer of terms." If the negotiations are started by a neutral power the delegates will earnestly seek to obtain a modus vivendi, which will reconcile Kruger's desire for complete independence with the terms offered by Great Britain.

Change in Postal Service.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 11.—The postoffice department has created a new division of postoffice inspectors, to comprise the states of Kansas, Nebraska, Oklahoma and Indian Territory. The division headquarters will be at Kansas City, with J. R. Harrison of Salina, Kan., inspector in charge. Mr. Harrison formerly was attached to the St. Louis division of inspectors and was postmaster at Havana for a time.