

Weekly News Summary

A bill repealing the war revenue taxes was passed by the senate February 17.

Rev. Newman Hall, D. D., a well-known divine, died in London, February 18.

February 21 a fire broke out in a New York hotel and it is estimated that fifty lives were lost.

On February 17 the senate ratified the treaty with Denmark ceding to the United States the Danish West Indies.

Reports received in London from different parts of Africa announce the discovery of rich finds of gold and copper.

Agents of the British army have purchased 3,000 horses in the west to be shipped to South Africa for use in the British army.

Secretary of the Navy Long has confirmed the statement that he contemplates tendering his resignation as a cabinet officer.

The house committee on territories has reported favorably on the bill for the admission of New Mexico, Arizona and Oklahoma as states.

Rev. George Carter Needham died at Philadelphia, Pa., February 16. He was one of the co-operators with Mr. Moody in his evangelistic work.

As a result of the Anglo-Japanese alliance, the ministry at Seoul, Corea, has been changed by the appointment of new ministers of war and finance.

Seventeen hundred men, employed in the Singer manufacturing plant at South Bend, Ind., are striking for an increase of 2½ cents per hour in their wages.

The worst snowstorm since the great blizzard of 1888 raged in the eastern portion of the United States, being especially severe in New York and New Jersey.

The house committee on interstate and foreign commerce will make a favorable report to the passage of a bill providing for government ownership of a Pacific cable.

A cablegram from Constantinople announces that the Bulgarians are planning to obtain the assistance of the Greeks in a raid into Macedonia the coming spring.

Some of the Indian tribes in Indian territory are becoming incensed at the

springing up of new towns all over the Creek country and it is feared that serious trouble will occur.

The Battle Creek sanitarium at Battle Creek, Mich., was burned to the ground February 18. The property loss is estimated at about \$400,000. The 400 patients in the institution escaped.

A cablegram from Manila, under date of February 19, announces the surrender of what is believed to be the largest existing band of insurgents in Batangas province, to the United States authorities.

J. P. Morgan & Co. distributed a dividend of \$10,000,000 among the stockholders of the United States Steel corporation. The dividend represents 5 per cent of the stock for which the syndicate is liable.

The largest vessel ever built in the United States was launched at Cramps' shipyard in Philadelphia, February 19. It is the Russian steamship Kronland, and has accommodations for 1,300 persons.

As a result of the recent earthquake at Shamaka, Tiflis, two thousand people, mostly women and children perished, 4,000 houses were destroyed and it is estimated that 34 villages around Shamaka also suffered severely.

The president has sent to the senate a message recommending the retirement of Naval Constructor Richmond P. Hobson. Weakness of Mr. Hobson's eyes is alleged as the cause of his request to be put on the retired list.

A cablegram from Rear Admiral Higginson announces the safe arrival of the North Atlantic squadron at Cienfuegos, Cuba. After a trip about the northern coast of Venezuela, they will shape their course northward.

A dispatch from Panama, under date of February 20, says that it is positively known that the government forces under General Gastro and the revolutionary troops are fighting. The scene of the conflict is between 30 and 40 miles southwest of Panama.

A Madrid, Spain, cablegram announces that February 17 the queen regent signed a treaty of friendship with the United States. It is also reported that General Weyler, the minister of war, will submit to the cortes a proposal to reduce the Spanish army by four army corps.

Advices from Chilpancingo, Mex., report that the city is still suffering from the effects of the recent earthquake shocks and great alarm now prevails on account of the discovery of

seven small openings in the mountain from which smoke is issuing. Earthquake shocks still continue.

The recent Anglo-Japanese treaty has been seconded by the United States, as is shown by this government sending a note to China and Russia in line with the agreement. It is believed that Germany has done the same and that no nation will receive special favors in Manchuria.

During the debate in the senate on the Indian appropriation bill, Mr. Smith, delegate from Arizona, denounced the eastern schools for Indians as doing more harm than good to them. He insists that the Indian should be educated in the environment in which he must live.

It is reported from Barcelona, Spain, that on account of the strike disturbances that have occurred in that city, it has been put under military rule. Several conflicts have taken place between the soldiers and the strikers. It is announced that the anarchists are the prime movers in the disturbance.

News has been received in England sustaining the contention of a rigid press censorship in South Africa. Commandant Kritzinger, who was captured by the British in December last, was to be tried February 15. The Belgian league in Brussels has appeal to President Roosevelt to use his efforts in preventing the execution of this man.

The president has signed a bill forbidding the sale of intoxicants, opium, and firearms by American citizens in any island of the Pacific ocean inhabited by semi-civilized nations. Secretary Hay has asked the British government to join ours in submitting to other commercial powers a universal treaty to make this provision binding upon all nations.

Representative Cochran, who introduced the resolution inviting President Kruger to visit the United States as the guest of the nation, has received a letter signed by three members of the Boer delegation thanking him for his efforts in the Boer behalf. They also appeal to this government to call a congress of the powers in the interest of peace.

During the discussion of the permanent census bill by the senate, amendments were proposed admitting that persons who had served as soldiers in the United States army are to have preference in the matter of certification; that all except skilled laborers be placed under the provisions of the civil service rules, and for the appointment of an assistant director of the census at a salary of \$4,000 per year. The bill was passed February 17.

In the course of a debate on the Philippine tariff bill on Saturday, February 22, Senator McLaurin of South Carolina charged Senator Tillman with having uttered a falsehood. Senator Tillman resented the charge with a blow and the two senators engaged in a spirited fight. They were sep-

arated without serious damage being done to either. Both senators are held to be in contempt of the senate and that body is yet to determine the penalty that will be exacted.

Reflections in a Lumber Yard.

These boards are like the people that I know:

There's one that's broad and strong, and it some day

May fill a wide space well and show Off splendidly to all who pass that way.

And this one's rough, yet down below That unenchanted surface there may be

The soundest substance or the finest grain—

Ah, here is one that sun and wind and rain

Have sadly warped. The selfsame tree From which it came perhaps has yielded others still

That, polished well and fitted nicely, fill

Important places; and if they were blessed

With minds they doubtless would conclude

That they are finely dressed, While this warped thing, this rude, Discarded piece of lumber, lies

Out here because 'twas ne'er as wise Or of such worth as they—

Yet, truth to tell, some little whim of chance,

Some small, unnoticed circumstance, May have laid out the parts for them to play.

Yon board is smooth—a little short—it slides along—

But is it of much worth or sound or strong?

And this one's narrow, formed to fit Within a little space; yet haply it, If made a reasoning thing, would sigh

To be in some wide place and never guess,

In failing of its fond desire, why, But sadly charge the world with heartlessness.

These boards are much like men I know—and I—

I wonder if I'm broad and strong and sound,

Like this one, or a poor, warped piece like that

The workman stands a moment gazing at,

And then throws out, to lie, Unneeded and condemned, around?

—S. E. Kiser, in Chicago Record-Herald.

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