

## THE NEWS OF THE WEEK.

An interesting dispatch from Baltimore, Md., says: A unique engine has just been completed by the Baltimore & Ohio railroad at its Mount Clair shops, this city. It is designed for the use of officials in making inspection trips. Though called an inspection engine, it really answers the purpose of a whole train. The engine has a small passenger coach constructed on top of the boiler, back of the smoke-stack. The boiler is heavily covered with asbestos and the floor of the car with Brussels carpet. The seats in the coach are arranged in amphitheatre style, so as to give every one in the car full view of the track and surrounding country. Passengers enter the car by winding stairs on either side of the front pilot. The engine may be readily run in either direction.

The socialists of France have taken a position in support of the government on the school closing question. The effects of the police have succeeded in keeping quiet in Paris, but the provinces are much disturbed.

John Francis Duncombe, a pioneer settler of Fort Dodge and prominent in legal and political circles throughout the state of Iowa, died at Des Moines on August 3, at the age of 71 years. For thirty years he has been prominent as a leader of the Iowa democracy, serving as state senator and representative. He has also twice been chairman of the Iowa delegation to the national democratic convention.

A Manila dispatch under date of August 3 says: Pablo Mauras, a bandit who had terrorized the island of Romblin for the past ten years, was captured by the native constabulary on the neighboring island of Sibuyan. With his arms bound he was placed in a boat to be conveyed to Romblin, but sprang overboard in a dash for liberty and was drowned.

It is reported that the village of Charlottesville, Ind., was in the hands of a mob for several hours on August 3, and the sheriff of Hancock county with seventy-five armed deputies was summoned on the scene. The trouble arose on account of the running of cars from the town of Hancock which has been under quarantine on account of smallpox. The police now side with the people in their determination that the cars shall not be run until all danger of infection is over.

A Pekin cablegram says: Prince Ching, president of the foreign office, has notified the various representatives of the foreign powers here that agreements have been arrived at with Sir Ernest Satow, the British minister, for the restoration of the Northern railway to the Chinese. United States Minister Conger replied to Prince Ching and congratulated him on the fact. The other powers are demanding other small concessions, but it is hoped the transfer of the road will be soon completed.

A cablegram from Vienna, dated August 3, says: As an outcome of the efforts of the committee appointed to inquire into the Gypsy question, it is announced that the Hungarian government intends to introduce a bill in parliament with the object of civilizing the Gypsies by compelling a certain number of them to live in villages and learn handicrafts, and to devote themselves to useful trades, or else enter reformatories.

The thirteenth annual session of the trans-Mississippi commercial congress will be held at St. Paul, Minn., August 19 to 23, inclusive. Twenty-three states and territories will be represented at the meeting. The president

of the congress is John Henry Smith of Salt Lake City. C. H. Cornell of Valentine is vice president for Nebraska and L. J. Blomers of David City and M. Well of Lincoln are members of the executive committee.

A dispatch from Panama under date of August 4, says that the revolution in Colombia is nearing its close. General Salazar, the military governor of Panama, is ready to make a determined effort to crush the rebels.

An interesting report comes from Denver, Colo., as follows: Eros, one of the small planets or asteroids of the solar system, was rediscovered at 3:15 this morning by Prof. G. J. Ling, who was operating the telescope in Chamberlain observatory at University park. Eros was first discovered by an impression on a photographic plate exposed by Witt at Berlin, 1899. A year ago last October the planet came close enough to the earth so that it could be observed optically, and was visible for observation until June of last year, when it again become invisible.

According to a dispatch from Wilkesbarre, Pa., dated August 2, the leaders of the striking miners claim that after an investigation they find that miners' certificates are being issued contrary to law and that many men who have never seen the inside of a mine are being pressed into service by the coal companies, which action is claimed to be against the law of the state. Criminal prosecutions are promised.

A Rome cablegram says: The delay in appointing an apostolic delegate to Manila is due to the desire of the vatican to please the Washington authorities by sending to the Philippines an American prelate and the vatican is now awaiting letters from the United States. The prelate, who it is thought likely will accept, is thoroughly adapted to the position. Should the plan fall through, the most probable candidate is Mgr. Guidi, now in the office of Cardinal Rampolla, the papal secretary of state.

A Washington dispatch dated August 2 says: General Jacob H. Smith, who arrived at San Francisco, is not under orders to report to the adjutant general. The order heretofore published directed General Smith to proceed to his home, the usual order in case of retired officers.

Whitelaw Reid, special ambassador of the United States to the coronation of King Edward, returned to this country on August 2.

A cablegram from Venice, under date of August 3, says: A great window in the Basilica of the Dominican church, St. John and St. Paul, fell in today as the result of having been shaken by a clap of thunder. The church itself, which ranks next in importance to St. Mark's, has been declared by experts to be in danger of collapse. It contains fine monuments of the most famous doges, who lie buried there.

Advices from the City of Mexico under date of August 3, says that there is much popular indignation there over the formation of a pool among the bakers of the city to raise the price of bread. The dispatch says: This trade is in the hands of half a dozen rich Spaniards, who have signed an agreement to charge prices mutually agreed on and not in any way to enter into competition, as they have done hitherto. The agreement is for two years. The daily papers point out that this agreement is wholly unjustified, as the price of wheat has not

altered in two years, while the taxes are the same. The cost of living for poor people and the lower middle class has been increasing steadily, and meat has been rising two years past.

According to reports from Manila cholera continues to rage in the provinces. On Sunday, July 27, there were 565 cases and 525 deaths from the disease reported in the provinces. Since the outbreak of the epidemic there have been throughout the archipelago a total of 21,408 cases of cholera and 16,105 deaths. It is believed that many cases were not reported and the total number of cases is estimated at 28,000. Forty-eight Americans and eighteen Europeans have died in Manila since the outbreak.

An excursion train made up of eleven coaches and carrying 700 people was wrecked near Cadillac, Mich., on August 3. So far as known no one was killed, but about a dozen persons were more or less injured.

It is reported from Havana that a bill is under consideration in both houses of congress to raise a large loan, payable in thirty years, to be used to assist the sugar cane growers of the island. In connection with this report, a Washington dispatch says: The state department has received the following cablegram from Minister Squires, dated Havana, August 4: "The house has passed bill authorizing loan \$35,000,000; maximum interest 5 per cent, redeemable in forty years."

The grave-diggers of Chicago are the latest of the wage earners to go on strike, and as a result Concordia cemetery is closed. The 25 grave diggers employed at that cemetery are on strike for higher wages and they have succeeded in preventing other laborers from taking their places.

It is stated that the object of King Victor Emanuel of Italy's visit to the German emperor is to propose a reduction in continental armaments. This was the purpose of his visit to the czar of Russia some time ago, and he will come to the emperor with Russia's full support. According to information received from an authoritative source the sovereigns referred to believe that the time for European wars is almost over, as their interests are so great in other continents that it is not worth while to fight for a strip of land here and there in Europe. Consequently the large armaments intended for European conflicts might be reduced or transformed for the defense of colonial interests, the gain being devoted to the improvement of commerce and industry. Later reports say that Emperor William is not inclined to look upon this plan favorably, as he considers it impracticable for his kingdom. "Germany cannot consent to impair her finest instruments of offense, which is the defense of her existence," he is quoted as saying, "because other nations are unable to equal it. We can stand the expense and besides I consider that the army returns to the nation all that it costs, in discipline of character and wholesome training of the boy."

An Associated press dispatch, dated August 5, says: Miss Ellen Stone, the returned missionary, spoke to 5,000 people at the Winona assembly at Warsaw, Ind., last night. It was her desire, she said, to earn enough money by lecturing to pay back her ransom money.

Recent reports from London contain information relative to a discussion in the house of commons of the army estimates and the army remounts. It is the intention of the government to probe the charges of conspiracy and fraud made in connection with government purchases.

A Pittsburg, Pa., dispatch dated

August 4, says: The proposition made by the American Tinplate company to its employes that they accept a reduction in wages of 25 per cent has been rejected. The vote, which has been in progress for several weeks, was tabulated today. The proposition was thoroughly understood by the workers, it having been explained that in order to secure foreign trade and a big contract with the Standard Oil company, amounting to about 1,500,000 boxes, the general wage reduction would not be more than 3½ per cent, and that the production would be increased fully 16½ per cent, which would increase the earnings of the workers about 12½ per cent.

A Washington dispatch, dated August 4, says: The naval board of construction today passed upon the contract and advertisement of the new 16,000-ton battleship Louisiana, which is to be built by contract at the same time that a similar ship is to be built in a navy yard. The bids are to be opened on October 1.

Commodore Joseph E. Montgomery, the confederate naval officer who nearly captured General Grant in the civil war, died at Chicago, Ill., on August 4. He was born in 1817 and took an active part in the naval operations of the civil war, taking a conspicuous part in the battles of Mobile Bay, Fort Pillow, New Orleans, and at Memphis, where he lost his fleet.

A dispatch from Washington, under date of August 4, says: Ell Torrence, commander-in-chief of the Grand Army of the Republic, has appointed a committee to organize and press to a speedy completion the work of erecting in this city a statue of General B. F. Stevenson, the founder and first provisional commander-in-chief of the Grand Army of the Republic. The committee is as follows: Thomas S. Hopkins, ex-commissioner of police; James Tanner and John McElroy of Columbia and Louis Wagner of Pennsylvania.

A Cleveland, O., dispatch of August 4, says: The circuit court today dissolved the injunction recently issued by Judge Caldwell, restraining the city council from granting public service franchises, and especially those giving the low fare street railway company the right to use the streets. Mayor Johnson fought the injunction suit, and, as a result of his victory today, the low fare lines will probably be constructed as soon as possible.

A dispatch from Washington, dated August 4, says: The navy department will soon call for bids for a huge floating dry dock to accommodate a 16,000-ton battleship, to be built in the United States and floated to the Philippines. Whether it will be towed across the Pacific or across the Atlantic through the Suez canal will depend upon the place of its construction.

A dispatch from Topeka, Kas., dated August 5, says that the Santa Fe railroad had made a concession to the striking boiler makers at San Bernardino and The Needles, Cal., who have been out since May 28. The men will receive 39 cents an hour.

Ambassador Andrew D. White at Berlin has handed his resignation to President Roosevelt. The date set by the ambassador for this to go into effect was November 7. Mr. White was

