



On July 25 it was reported from Washington that the determination of the question whether seal life shall be protected in the Bering sea and to what extent, or whether all the seals on the rookeries shall be destroyed at once, as proposed by the commission, is to be referred to the high joint commission, if that body convenes next fall. The debates in congress showed a strong sentiment in favor of extermination of the seals as the only means of stopping poaching and an application was made for an investigation of that question, but it has been decided to defer the inquiry on account of the brightening chances of the reassembling of the joint commission.

Captain H. M. Chittenden of the United States corps of engineers and who is in charge of the improvement of the Missouri river, recently submitted a report on the subject to the secretary of war. In this report he recommends an appropriation of \$3,000,000 for improving the river from its mouth to the head of navigation, and he also declares that it is one of the most navigable rivers in the United States.

It was announced from Berlin on July 25 that the Prussian ministry had decided to devote \$2,500,000 to the relief of the sufferers from the Silesian floods. An epidemic of typhus fever is feared, as the floods have caused the grain in the fields to rot.

A collision between two cars on the street railway near Worcester, Mass., on July 25, caused the death of two passengers and the injury of about 48 others. Some of the injured will die.

The state department at Washington is in receipt of the first consignment of claims adjudicated by the American Venezuelan claims commission, now in session at Caracas. It is claimed that the work of this commission cannot be finished until October.

A cablegram from Berlin under date of July 25 says that in the recent maneuvers at Kiel the American ships used more powder in the firing of salutes than was burned throughout the entire Spanish-American war. The cablegram concludes that it is calculated that the German and American warships during the visit fired altogether 3,000 guns in salutes, and as each shot cost about \$1.25 this represents a total expenditure of about \$4,500.

The Turkish cruiser Medija, the first warship ever built for a foreign government, was launched in Philadelphia, Pa., in Cramp's shipyard on July 25. Several Turkish officials were present and many other distinguished visitors witnessed the launching.

A panic occurred in Panama on July 25 occasioned by a raid made by officers of the general staff of the army upon the office of the newspaper of the liberal party on the isthmus. The edition of the issue of the paper for July 25 was taken and destroyed. This served to stir the liberals of the city, but no action was taken until on the remonstrance of several prominent officials to such a course, several civil officers were arrested and the governor himself had to seek refuge in the English consulate.

On July 26 the answer of Chairman Proctor of the civil service commission to the recent letter of former Postmas-

ter General Smith was made public. This letter concerns the report of Mr. Smith on the investigation of the Washington postoffice and also to an editorial article in the Philadelphia Press. In his letter Mr. Proctor seeks to prove that Mr. Smith has misstated some matters in controversy and even goes so far as to intimate that the former postmaster general has violated some of the regulations of the service.

On July 25 it was reported that the city of Danville, Ill., was in the midst of a race war. A riot took place on that day, resulting in the death of two and the wounding of 22 others. The city was placed in the hands of the state troops.

Two trains met in a collision on the Chicago Great Western railroad near St. Paul, Minn., on July 26 and as a result four people were killed and 25 injured. It is said that the cause of the collision was the misunderstanding on the part of the crew as to the time of the other train.

It was reported from Denver, Colo., on July 26 that the general assembly had adjourned that morning after having passed a general appropriation bill, for which the session was called.

The work of taking out bodies of the victims of the mine explosion at Hanna, Wyo., some time ago still progresses, 22 bodies being taken from the mine on Friday, July 24. Up to that date 52 bodies had been recovered of which three had not been identified.

Congressman Robert H. Foerderer of the Fourth Pennsylvania district died at his home in Torresdale, a suburb of Philadelphia, on July 26. Mr. Foerderer was born in 1860 and was elected to the Fifty-seventh congress and also served in the Fifty-eighth.

Thirteen desperate prisoners confined in the Folsom penitentiary, California, made a successful break for liberty on July 27. The prisoners were armed with knives and razors and made an assault on the guards, killing one and wounding several. They then seized a quantity of arms and ammunition and taking the warden and other officers with them as a shield from their pursuers, made good their escape. The state militia has been ordered to the scene and will pursue the prisoners.

The report of the interstate commerce commission on railroad accidents in the United States for the three months ending March 31 last shows that during that time 300 persons were killed and 2,834 injured in train accidents. It is also reported that other kinds of accidents, including those sustained by employes while at work and by passengers in getting on and off cars, make the aggregate casualties 827 killed and 11,481 injured. There were 1,650 collisions and 1,181 derailments, causing \$2,491,065 damage to cars, engines and roadways.

It was announced from Peking on July 27 that the Russian administration had stopped the exportation of wheat to Japan. The exportation of grain from Chinese ports is illegal, but the Russians heretofore have ignored the law. This action is taken as an indication of further warlike preparations, as is also the fact that

many Russian civilians and officers' families are moving into Manchuria in the attempt, it is believed, to colonize the province. It is said that at the present rate there will be almost 100,000 Russian civilians in Manchuria, including Port Arthur and Dalny, before the date fixed for the final evacuation next fall.

A cablegram from Stockholm, Sweden, under date of July 27, says: Delegates appointed by the employers and workmen, representing the two sides to the controversy over wages which resulted in a lockout of about 15,000 machinists and foundrymen in Sweden July 6, have reached an agreement to terminate the lockout August 3.

Arrangements have been completed for the formation of the National Coal and Coke company with \$5,000,000 capital and \$2,500,000 in bonds, which is to practically take the place of the Frick Coke company which has withdrawn from the market. The headquarters of the new concern will be in Pittsburg, Pa.

At St. Louis, Mo., on July 27 Judge Ryan passed sentence on five former members of the house of delegates, four of whom were convicted on charges of bribery and one of perjury in connection with municipal franchise deals. The terms of sentence ranged from four to six years and all the accused filed appeal bonds in the sum of \$10,000.

It was reported from Washington on July 28 that orders have been given to fit up the triple screw cruiser Minneapolis, now used as a receiving ship at the League Island navy yard, for service as the flagship of Rear Admiral Wise, commanding the training squadron of the North Atlantic fleet.

Bidding for the new normal school to be erected in Nebraska is very spirited, no less than fifteen towns and cities having entered bids and their offers will total over \$500,000. Members of the state board of education will visit all of the locations before making their decision in the matter.

It was announced from Cynthiana, Ky., on July 28 that the arrest of B. J. Ewen is now known to be the result of a complete understanding between the civil and military authorities. It will be remembered that Mr. Ewen is the chief witness for the prosecution and this course in regard to him was taken for the purpose of protecting him from the feudists and their friends. The task of securing a jury for the second trial of the accused, Jett and White, was completed on July 28.

John J. Long, consul general for

the United States, at Cairo, Egypt, died at Dunbar, Scotland, where he has been visiting friends, on July 28. Mr. Long, whose home is in St. Augustine, Fla., was appointed consul general at Cairo in October, 1900. He was 57 years old, at the time of his death.

The body of the late pope, Leo XIII., was entombed on July 25 at Rome, in a niche over the bronze doors of the left wing of the greatest cathedral in the world, St. Peter's. In his will the dead pontiff leaves the whole family property, approximately \$120,000, to be divided among the three nephews.

The recent rumor of an impending crisis in the relations between Russia and Japan over the Manchurian questions seems to have been amicably settled, it being announced that Russia has made several concessions to the United States and Japan. It was reported from London on July 29 that China has consented to grant the same open port privileges in Manchuria to Great Britain and Japan, and confidence is expressed that peace will be maintained and that Russia will not interfere with Chinese action in the matter.

On July 27 it was announced that all the cardinals of the conclave to be held for the purpose of selecting a successor to Pope Leo XIII., with the exception of two, had arrived in Rome. Workmen were busy preparing quarters for the meeting of the conclave, which is made up of sixty-four cardinals.

Two small gunpowder magazines situated in the residence portion of Lowell, Mass., exploded on July 29, killing twenty-two persons and injuring perhaps fifty others. A number of houses were destroyed by the explosion added to which were several that were consumed by a fire that broke out immediately afterwards.

A conference of populist leaders was in session at Denver, Colo., recently at which about fifty leaders were present. Reports from this conference seem to indicate that the differences between the factions in the populist party have been settled. The national executive committee of the united people's party has been called to meet at St. Louis, February 22, 1904. A permanent organization was effected with J. A. Edgerton as chairman.

The threatened trouble in the government printing office at Washington over the reinstatement of W. A. Miller, the assistant foreman, who was dismissed because of his expulsion from the union and later ordered reinstated under an executive order, (Continued on Page 16.)

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