

466,640; operating expenses, \$1,257,538,852, an increase of \$141,290,105; net earnings \$643,308,655, an increase of \$33,176,535, income from other sources than operation, \$205,687,480; net income available for dividends or surplus \$296,376,045. Total casualties 86,393, of which 9,840 represented the number of persons killed and 76,553 those injured. Aggregate number of locomotives in service 43,871, increase 2,646; cars in service 1,753,389, an increase of over 113,000 during the year.

A SINGULAR fact incident to the struggle between Russia and Japan is chronicled by the London Press as a thing not dreamed of by the Japanese when they forecounted the costs of war. Referring to this fact, the Washington Post says: "Since the first of the year Japan has exported some \$30,000,000 in gold in payment of military equipment purchased abroad. Nearly all of this money, it is stated, has found its way into Russia's war chest, and is being used in the operations against the power that unwittingly supplied the wherewithal. For a people to have their gold come back to them through the cannon's mouth is not a pleasing experience, as we are assured by the London editor."

THE process which made it possible for St. Petersburg to draw the gold shipped from Tokio was, according to the Post, simple enough. The Post explains: "The gold was shipped from Japan to San Francisco, thence to New York in transit to London. As Paris was at that time drawing heavily on London for gold with which to take up the Russian war loan, the Japanese gold was deflected from its primary destination and sent direct to Paris from New York, invested in Russian bonds, and sent on to St. Petersburg. The 'fortunes of war' have seldom or never furnished the parallel of this transaction, but the anomalous development of the hostilities will not long continue, as the \$50,000,000 Japanese loan recently floated in New York and London will end the necessity of drawing upon Japan's modest stock of treasury gold in order to liquidate her foreign indebtedness. This consummation will permit the solicitous British to cease from troubling over the boomerang-like results of their ally's purchase of arms abroad, though at this distance they appear more constructive and sentimental than real."

PAUL KRUGER, former president of the Transvaal republic, died at Clarens, Switzerland, July 14. The cause of his death was pneumonia. He was 78 years of age. His daughter and son-in-law were with him at the time of his death. For several weeks Mr. Kruger has been confined to his room and after being stricken with pneumonia he gradually failed. The Clarens correspondent for the Kansas City Star says that Mr. Kruger's friends have made application to the British government for authority to transfer the body to the Transvaal for burial. The Star correspondent says: "Mr. Kruger was staying at the Villa due Bochet. He had been gradually failing for a long time, but he was able to attend to affairs, read the newspapers and receive visits until Saturday. A change for the worse set in Sunday. He became unconscious Monday and remained so until his death. Besides the Eloffs, Mr. Kruger was tended by his own physician, Dr. Heymann, and by his secretary, Mr. Redel. On several occasions Mr. Kruger had expressed a desire to be buried beside his wife, in his own country."

CABLEGRAMS from Paris announce that the death of Mr. Kruger has aroused widespread regret at the French capital, owing to the well-known French sympathy with the Boer cause, as well as on account of the strong personal admiration for Mr. Kruger. The Paris cablegram says that when Mr. Kruger left Mentone recently his health was gradually failing from old age and throat trouble which threatened to extend to his lungs. Mr. Kruger, however, was very confident that his physical powers were not failing and he had made arrangements to return to Mentone next fall. It has, however, been generally understood by his friends that his health was gradually and certainly falling. A Paris correspondent for the Kansas City Star, referring to Mr. Kruger, says: "Visitors described him as being a pathetic figure of calm endurance. His eyesight had dimmed, but he sat much at times with his Bible open before him, muttering well known passages. He avoided reference to the Boer war, but when it was occasionally mentioned he showed no resentment and expressed the belief that Providence would eventually render justice to the Boer cause."

THE Pretoria correspondent for the Associated press, under date of July 14, says: "General Louis Botha, the former commander-in-chief of the Boer forces, today received a cable message announcing Mr. Kruger's death. The announcement called forth general expressions of regret, especially because the ex-president died among foreigners. The flags on all the government buildings are at half-mast. Mr. Kruger will be buried beside former presidents of the Transvaal, unless his will has provided otherwise. Memorial services will be held July 17 in all the Dutch churches. General Botha has ordered that all the Boers shall wear mourning until after the funeral, which, it is expected, will be attended by representatives of every district of the Transvaal."

THE British authorities have persistently denied applications by his friends that the former president of the Transvaal be permitted to return to his own home. They feared the effect of his presence upon his old comrades, although, of course, they did not imagine that Mr. Kruger had either the disposition or the ability to stir up a new revolution. It is generally believed that the British government will permit the Kruger ashes to be buried in South African soil.

MR KRUGER escaped from the Transvaal through Portuguese East Africa to a Dutch man-of-war in October, 1900. He then went to Europe where he sought the intervention of the powers, in the hope that he could save the South African republic. His mission failed, and he remained an exile. It is not at all difficult to accept the claim made by his friends that he died from a broken heart.

LONDON dispatches say that leprosy must now be added to the other scourges which afflict South Africa. A London cablegram to the Indianapolis Sentinel says that until recently the fact that leprosy was prevalent in South Africa was little known, and that the fact that it existed in the Transvaal was unknown and yet the health officer of the Transvaal reports that whereas there were 1,009 cases in his charge in 1895, there are now over 2,000. Dr. Turner adds the remarkable fact that no one knows how many lepers there are in the Transvaal. He says that a medical officer who has been in charge of the lepers and had taken much interest in the matter, asserted that there were at least 3,000 in 1900. The disease is also defying the most heroic efforts at its extermination in Cape Colony, while it is also spreading in Basutoland and elsewhere, the worst afflicted being the Hottentots. The Kafirs, with the exception of Europeans, are the least afflicted.

THE theory that the eating of fish not sufficiently cured is the chief cause of leprosy has been advanced by Dr. Jonathan Hutchinson. Dr. Turner, after investigating, declares that he cannot subscribe to the Hutchinson theory. He declares that returns show that 70 per cent of the total amount of fish in the Transvaal comes to Johannesburg and that nearly all of this is consumed by whites. The Sentinel correspondent adds: "Until December there was not a single European in the Johannesburg leper hospital. Then a man who was born in Europe was admitted. He was a member of a large family, all of whom are living in the Transvaal and none of whom are afflicted with the disease. In Dr. Turner's opinion his disease was clearly the result of contagion as he habitually associated with a leper. Of Dr. Turner's 210 patients 44 per cent had eaten fish. Only 17 per cent of the fish was cured. Among the white lepers 95 per cent had eaten fish, 45 per cent of which was cured. Among the colored patients who made up four-fifths of the total, only 50 per cent ever tasted fish, and only 10 per cent had eaten cured fish. Dr. Turner is convinced that contagion is the most usual means of the spread of leprosy. He treated a few cases in which it was impossible to assert that its origin was hereditary, but practically none in which contagion could be excluded and several in which contagion was the sole explanation. He believes it will eventually be proved that some vermin is the cause of the infection."

FOR some time past the government scientists have been experimenting with a view to discovering, if possible, what foods are really nutritious and what are merely health foods. The experiments were made upon soldiers and the discovery made that borax is an unsafe substance for the preservation of meats and other foods. The human appetite rejects borax and boracic acid after a while, and notifies the subject to quit

and eat fresh meat and vegetables before he has really been affected by these substances as actual poisons. That is, the palate rebels before the stomach is affected. If continued, the use of preserved beef causes distress in the digestive tract, congestion in the head, nausea and loss of weight. It is advised by the experimenters that the use of borax in preservatives be discontinued, or, at least, that embalmed food be plainly marked and sold as such. Paraffin is worse, and that also should be excluded. Why not recommend that all foods and drugs be pure?

THE French government has offered to confer the grand cross of Legion of Honor upon Secretary of State Hay. The Washington correspondent for the Chicago Record-Herald says that this offer is an event of the highest international political significance and adds: "It means much more than a mere courtesy extended by the government of the greatest republic of the old world to the greatest republic of the new world. It has something more attached to it than usually attaches to the conferring of a decoration by the head of a state on the foreign minister of a power with which that state enjoys cordial relations. Officially the motive for this unusual action on the part of the French government is, to quote from the letter of the French ambassador to Mr. Hay informing him of the purpose of his government, recognition of the services rendered by Mr. Hay during the last six years toward the maintenance of the peace of the world, and, although this is unquestionably the animating motive, there is every reason to believe that it was not the sole motive."

THE diplomacy of Mr. Hay, according to this same authority, has won the admiration of every chancellor of Europe. This correspondent explains: "It was the influence of the United States, which in its last analysis means the genius of Mr. Hay, that saved China from herself during those critical days of the Boxer rebellion; it was the strict, but traditional neutrality of the United States that gave no encouragement to the other powers to throw in their lot with the Boers during the South African war; it was Mr. Hay who induced all the world to pledge themselves to the recognition of the 'administrative entity' of China immediately after the declaration of war between Russia and Japan, when a single false move on the part of any of the great powers would have involved all of Europe in war. Mr. Hay has been the consistent friend of peace, and although his voice has always been raised in the interests of peace he has not paid too high a price for it. He has kept the peace and has made the United States respected; in the midst of peace the United States has become one of the most important members of the family of nations."

THE story of the so-called surplus at the close of the last fiscal year is told by a writer in the Louisville Courier-Journal in this way: "The treasury report for the last fiscal year shows that the receipts, in round numbers, were \$541,000,000, against \$560,000,000 in the preceding year. The expenditures were \$538,000,000, as compared with \$506,000,000 in the preceding year. Receipts from customs decreased \$22,000,000, those from internal revenue increased \$2,000,000, and miscellaneous receipts over \$1,000,000. The net result is a decrease of revenue of about \$19,000,000. Expenditures increased \$22,000,000. Yet a surplus of over \$13,000,000 is figured out. The surplus is obtained by leaving out some large expenditures. The sums paid for the Panama canal and the loan to the Louisiana Purchase exposition are kept out of sight in this statement, as not being ordinary expenditures of the government. However, this money is gone, never to return, except the small loan to the exposition, and the fact is that expenditures exceeded receipts by \$41,000,000. That makes the deficit in the revenue for the past fiscal year, and when the political exigencies of the day, which are supposed to demand another statement, have passed, it will so appear in the reports. It is considered good politics at this time to frame a pretended surplus, although the fact cannot be concealed that there was a real deficit."

Two highwaymen in silk hats, white kid gloves and evening dress sandbagged William Gaffney, a wealthy contractor, in Tremont avenue, the Bronx, N. Y., and robbed him of \$140, a diamond pin and a gold watch and chain. The men were driven to a hotel in Tremont avenue in a stylish carriage by a coachman in livery and there met Gaffney. They induced him to go with them a few steps from the hotel, where they robbed him and left him unconscious.