ITEMS OF INTEREST

NEWS THAT IS NEWS, WHEN IT IS NEWS, FOR ALL.

DOINGS OF DAY AND WEEK

Happenings the Wide World Over of Important Events Condensed to Good Reading.

WASHINGTON.

The question involved in statehood legislation that is giving the most trouble to the senate committee on territories is whether suffrage shall be limited to such residents of Arizona and New Mexico as can speak English. If this limitation were made it is practically certain, according to a majority of witnesses who have appeared before the committee that the proposed new states would be democratic.

Amesdments adding "cable or wireless telegraph systems or otherwise" to the telegraph and telephone as agencies to which the proposed anti-option legislation is to apply were submitted to a subcommittee of the house committee on agriculture Friday by Representative Hardwick of Georgia.

The Ballinger-Pinchot investigation dragged slowly along through two sessions Friday. Mr. Vertrees, counsel for Secretary Ballinger, continued his cross-examination of Gifford Pinchot. He elicited some interesting facts from the former forester, but for the most part the day was taken up largely with wrangles between the attorney and witness.

For two days the democrats and progressives have been in absolute control of the senate on the postal savings bank measure, and when the senate recessed Friday the reactionary republicans found that they will have to either accept the kind of a postal savings bank bill which the progressives and democrats are preparing for them, or win over enough democrats to recommit the bill.

President Taft today presented to the senate the nomination of William H. Atwell to be district attorney for the Northern District of Texas.

"The future holds great promise for the American cotton producer and the American cotton manufacturing trade," declared President W. B. Thompson of the New Orleans Cotton Exchange at the hearing before the house committee on agriculture Friday on the proposed anti-option legislation. "We cannot afford to take the chance of nullifying this promise by a heedless conflict with immutable economic laws which no congress can alter or repeal."

Bills authorizing the issuance of $30,000,000 worth of certificates of indebtedness for the completion of irrigation projects already begun, and providing for the purchase of $10,000,000 worth of real estate in Washington for the further uses of the government were passed by the senate Wednesday.

DOMESTIC.

Fort Worth is now burning natural gas. One of the unique uses to which it is to be put is the illumination of the city during the Feeders and Breeders' Fine Stock Show, March 14th to 19th. A standpipe is to be erected seventy-two feet high, into which the gas will be turned and lighted. This gas will make a blaze twenty feet wide. It will be visible for twenty miles, and will light up the whole country around the show grounds.

"This is the man that bound me and my wife and burned our feet until we told where we had hidden our money," said John Wagner, 80 years old, as he picked Frank Donahoe out of a line of eight men at Etna police station, Pittsburg, Pa., Friday.

Eighty-six names are now on the list of dead and missing passengers, trainmen and postal clerks who were carried down by the avalanche that destroyed two Great Northern trains near Wellington, Wash. An estimate of 100 dead is conservative. Most of the dead were residents of the Northwest, but Bert Matthews of Cincinnati, E. W. Topping of Ashland, Ohio, and E. Boles of Moberly, Ont., were among the victims.

Mr. James Smith, a woodsman, was eaten by wolves Friday in timber land near Ally, Mo., after fighting a desperate battle for his life. Wolves attacked him while he was alone awaiting the return of his brother. When the latter returned he found his brother's bones in the center of a circle of five dead wolves.

The valleys of Idaho, from the headwaters of the Snake River to the Oregon line, and from the Owyhee to the stricken Coeur d'Alene district, are being swept this week by the most disastrous floods in the history of the state. Several irrigation dams are imperiled.

The test of the Wright aeroplane at Fort Sam Houston at San Antonio Wednesday resulted disastrously, the machine being wrecked and the life of Lieutenant B. O. Foulois, the aviator, being endangered. Three successful flights had been made and the fourth was in progress. The feed pipe to the engine broke, stopping it at once, and the aeroplane dropped a distance of about forty feet, striking the ground with great force. The rudder was broken and the aviator nearly knocked from his seat.

That the state of Oklahoma, through its corporation commission, proposes to exhaust every power to retain in force railroad rates that were recently enjoined by United States Circuit Judge Hook at St. Louis became evident Thursday when the commission issued subpenas for sixteen railway officials, demanding their presence in Guthrie on March 15 as witnesses in the freight rate investigation now in progress.

No wholesale executions of rebel leaders are to be expected in Nicaragua following the collapse of the insurgent cause, according to a statement given out by Luis Fillipe Corea, special diplomatic representative of the Madriz government in New York City.

After weeks of delay, occasioned by squabbles between attorneys and her presence before the grand jury at Kansas City, Mrs. Logan O. Swope, the guiding hand in the investigation of the Swope mystery, Wednesday gave her deposition in Dr. B. C. Hyde's slander suit against John G. Paxton, an executor for the Thomas H. Swope estate. There was little sensational testimony in Mrs. Swope's story.

The Court of Criminal Appeals at Austin Wednesday sustained the validity of the law enacted by the Thirty-first legislature defining as a felony the offense of pursuing the occupation of selling intoxicating liquor in local option territory, although, for errors in the trial, the case of W. I. Fitch, from McLennan county, involving the constitutionality of the statute, was reversed and remanded.

Twenty-four are known to be dead as the result of the snow slides Monday in the mining district of Northern Idaho. To the eighteen known to have perished in the snowslides at Mace and Burke, Idaho, are added three more, who died in a similar disaster about noon Monday, when the camp of the Carbonate Hill Mining Company at Mullan, Idaho, was destroyed.

The body of an aged negro was found in a sealed freight car in the yards in Fort Worth, Monday in a badly decomposed condition. The car was sealed on February 10 at Mart. The man showed signs of awful suffering, evidently having nothing to eat or drink for eighteen days. Holes in the floor near the door and the lacerated condition of his hands showed that an awful effort had been made to escape.

The highest price paid for live hogs since 1870 brought an even $10 a hundredweight at the stock yards in Chicago Monday. Sixty-six head of hogs averaging 264 pounds each were sold at this price by B. L. Strohm, a farmer of Cushing, Iowa.

An attempt will be made in the legislature to break up the free pass system in New Jersey. The present law, which went into effect last April, compels the railroads to give free transportation to the governor and other state officials, and to the members of the legislature and United States senators and representatives.

FOREIGN.

Russia Friday formally announced her objection to China's proposal for the construction of the Chinchow-fu-Aignu Railroad. Russia bases her objection on an alleged secret promise made by China in 1898 that if China costemplated building any railway north of Pekin she would invite Russia's co-operation.

The seven hundred American travelers who have been enjoying the hospitality of Tokio for the last few days have proceeded to Yokohama on board the steamer Cleveland.

Senor Don Juan Riano, who, it is stated, will succeed Marquis de Villalobar as minister of Spain to the United States, formerly was secretary to the Spanish legation and in 1904 married Miss Alice Ward of Washington. Senor Riano is now Spanish minister at Copenhagen.

Twenty-three miners were killed at Juneau, Alaska, Thursday, by an explosion of a powder magazine in the 100-foot level of the main mine, one of the group on the Treadwell gold properties on Douglass Island. Eight men were seriously injured, of whom, it is said, four will die.

The insurrectionary movement, headed by General Estrada against the Nicaraguan government, has been practically crushed. The insurgent campaign in the West has petered out and nothing is left to the provisionals but to resort to guerilla warfare, encouraged by the desperate hope that the United States may yet intervene in a wish to put an end to the disturbed situation in the republic.

Although the government won a victory at Tipitapa, according to the reports received at Managua, there is no prospect of peace until General Chamorro is dead or captured. A period of inactivity is now looked for until the revolutionists replenish their supply of ammunition. Chamorro effected a junction with General Mena at San Vicente Wednesday.

Following the refusal of owners to grant their series of demands, the crews of the interisland steamers struck Wednesday at Manilla.

The sultan of Morocco has signed the accord with France, obligating Morocco to pay $12,000,000 as indemnity and damages arising over the Casa Blanca affair.

Jose Domingo de Obaldia, president of Panama, died from heart disease Tuesday. He had been sick only since last Friday. Obaldia was elected to the presidency in August, 1908.

Louisiana State Fair Talk.

institution mainly under the auspices of an organization of farmers. We have frequently remarked, and we are still wedded to our opinion, that it is impossible to successfully run an agricultural exhibition, which is solely dependent upon the agriculturist, with the farmer left out. But the appeal which Mr. Wax makes to our 'public-spirited citizens and commercial institutions to each offer annual prizes, etc., is a good one, and quite in keeping with what is done in this connection in other parts of the world.

"It goes without saying that in a community like our own, and every other, for that matter, when the farmer prospers all other businesses and enterprises participate in that prosperity. Consequently, the prosperity is reciprocal, and, from a purely monetary standpoint, it should behoove our business citizens to encourage to the utmost those on whom they so largely depend for their own business successes.

"From personal experiences, over a considerable number of years, we have found that it is absolutely impossible to keep up to date in one's sphere of activity without access to the most authentic literature bearing upon one's life work, and which is applicable to all other vocations and enterprises. The writer, therefore, in order to stimulate and encourage the reading habit among some of the farmers of the parish, will donate, right away, a year's subscription of the Breeder's Gazette to each of ten white bona fide farmers of the parish of East Baton Rouge. This journal, although not a general agricultural paper, is considered the leading live stock journal of America, if not of the world, and along that particular line is an education in itself.

"Mr. Wax has chosen corn as his favorite product to nurture. He has selected wisely. But the farmer needs some good live stock to enhance the value of Mr. Wax's corn, by converting it into a higher-priced finished product in the shape of beef, pork, mutton, poultry, etc. Hence the object of our donation is to give to ten of our farmers the very best and most reliable current literature obtainable on this important subject, which is engaging the attention of so many of them at the present time. If those of our farmers in the parish who care to avail themselves in this way of the Breeder's Gazette, which is published weekly in Chicago, will signify their desire by addressing the undersigned, Postoffice Box 483, Baton Rouge, we will make our decision upon the ten individuals from whom we first hear, unless some other method of determining who shall receive the subscriptions should be decided upon in the interim.

"It is to be hoped that all of our business people in Baton Rouge will take their clew from Mr. Wax's timely suggestion. If the proper earnestness is manifested in the endeavor, the ultimate results cannot be other than mutually beneficial to both our city and parish."

Baton Rouge.—The suggestion made by District Attorney Wax for the building up of an agricultural fair through the holding of an exhibit next fall has met with much approval, and Dr. W. H. Dalrymple of the Louisiana State University, who has been prominently connected with the State Fair, has written the following letter, indorsing the project:

"First of all, an exhibition of this kind stimulate healthy rivalry between exhibitors of similar products, whether field crops or live stock, which usually means that each exhibitor is going to do his level best to win from the competitor who beat him on a previous occasion. The result here, necessarily, is improvement all along the line, such as more careful selection and breeding, greater care in cultivation of crops, better preparation, etc., in order to secure the best possible product for exhibit.

"Secondly, an institution of this kind tends to bring together into competition the best products which the parish can produce. Here the farmer is doing just what the merchant is all the time doing, viz, exposing his wares, so that prospective buyers may see and know the class of material he has and is capable of raising. Necessarily, this makes markets, which could not possibly be created were the same products kept at home out of sight, and entirely unknown to the buyer.

"In the third place, the agricultural exhibition attracts buyers to a community, and when once the buyer finds out where he can procure the class of product he is after, the farmer's market is practically assured, provided he keeps up, or, better still, improves the quality, which he is very likely to do in order to successfully compete at the annual exhibition. Consequently, under such circumstances, instead of the farmer having to hunt a market for his product, the buyer will hunt him to try to purchase it. The market is usually out for the best material, which is always salable. It is the inferior stuff of all kinds that goes a begging.

"In the fourth place, it advertises, etc. In the opinion of the writer, it has been our hitherto lack of the necessary patience to gradually build up that has resulted in failure to accomplish some of the objects we started to attain. The tendency has been to 'put the roof on before the foundation was built,' which is exceedingly poor policy when it comes to institutions such as that under consideration. It would not be very difficult, we think, to point to several 'monuments' to the want of good, sound business judgment and to shortsightedness in this direction. Let us make haste slowly; get the foundation secure, and let the structure grow gradually and of its own momentum, so to speak. Then it will be lasting.

"Another excellent point in Mr. Wax's suggestion, and with which we heartily agree, is the placing of such an

Says He Is Not Crazy.

Baton Rouge.—Declaring that he is not insane, has never been insane, and that his former incarceration in the insane hospital at Pineville was the result of some rows he had in Monroe, Fred Smith arrived in the city today for the purpose of seeing the governor and arranging for his legal release, if possible. Smith says that he escaped from the asylum at Pineville two years ago, and since then has been a citizen of South Carolina, but has traveled over the country. He notified the Pineville authorities that he would return to Louisiana.

Increase Sugar Mill Capacity.

Broussard.—The Billeaud sugar factory has started the installation of a supplementary set of knives and rollers in their factory here. The addition of these rollers will make it an easy matter for them to crush a minimum of 1,500 tons every day, while in previous years they had a maximum capacity of a thousand tons.

Negro Teachers to Meet.

Baton Rouge.—State Superintendent Harris, in issuing the call for the fifth annual meeting of the negro school teachers of Louisiana, to be held April 14, 15 and 19 at Alexandria, declares that he will be present one day and make an address. President Joseph S. Clark and Secretary J. W. Hunter of the negro teachers, have announced the committee on arrangements and other details.

Strawberry Season Backward.

Hammond.—The season is unusually backward this year, and the farmers do not expect to ship any strawberries for a couple of weeks. The cold weather has kept the plants back, and as yet many are not even in bloom, whereas last year shipments were being made at this time.

Mayor of Hammond Fined.

Amite City.—Dr. S. L. Powlett, mayor of Hammond, who was recently convicted of unlawful prescribing of spirits fermenti in violation of the law, came up for sentence and was fined $100.

A biologist from Washington is collecting teal and mallard duck gizzards in Louisiana in an effort to determine whether national protection should be afforded the game because ducks minimize the red rice pest.

The Boll Weevil Frozen.

Lafayette.—Several severe freezes freezes during the winter have, in the opinion of many, destroyed all boll weevil in hibernation. The favorite hibernating quarters are in bunches of moss, and under the bark of old, rotten trees, and examination proves that even here the weevil has been destroyed. As a consequence the cotton acreage will be largely increased.

It is probable that the Truck Growers' Association will arrange this spring to have a local agent handle sweet and Irish potatoes.

Louisiana State Paragraphs.

Another incendiary fire in Madison parish destroyed a barn, with forty-five head of live stock, at Waverly.

Lafayette parish is sure that frequent freezes have killed out the boll weevil.

Shreveport is to build a $50,000 Masonic temple.

Lon F. Irvine, held responsible for a wreck at Shreveport that cost three lives, was sentenced to five years for manslaughter.

John Gorman, a naval stores manufacturer of Fayetteville, N. C., was found dead at Lake Charles.

The steamer Columbia was wrecked and burned nine miles above Bayou Sara. The crew escaped, with the exception of John Henry, the negro fireman, who, in returning to get his belongings, was cremated.

The St. Tammany Steamship Company, capitalized at $250,000, was organized at Covington to establish a line of passenger and freight vessels between New Orleans and Lake Pontchartrain points. The first vessel of the fleet was purchased in Mobile and named St. Tammany.

Billeand refinery, at Broussard, will install a new mill, costing $36,000, to care for increased cane tonnage.

Louisiana begins March with $2,095,730.09 on deposit with its fiscal agent banks.

A Belgian colony may be located on 50,000 acres of marsh lands south of Gueydan, growing truck, oranges and figs.

The wireless telegraph companies in Louisiana will be assessed for the first time this year by the state board of appraisers.

James Cook Davies, suspected safeblower, dug his way out of jail at Opelousas and escaped.

Analyzed by Chemists.

Apropos of President Taft and his recent decision about whisky, Richard Le Gallienne said at a dinner at the St. Regis:

"While I was living in Liverpool there arose a hot whisky discussion. Was pot still whisky the only wholesome one, or was patent still whisky the one non-poisonous drink? Chemical analyses were applied to every whisky going.

"A Liverpudlian entered a public house near the Albert docks one night and said:

"'Is yer whisky pure?'

"'Well, I should think so,' the publican answered. 'It's been paralyzed by three anarchists.'"

Not Willing to Commit Himself.

The teacher had called upon Freddie Brown to give an illustration of the proper manner in which to compare the adjective "clean."

"Mother is clean," said he falteringly, "father is—cleaner—" Here he paused.

"And," prompted the teacher.

Freddie was still silent and very thoughtful.

"Haven't you some other relative?" asked the teacher, smiling.

"Oh, yes," replied Freddie, "there's auntie—but I ain't sure about her!"

A Jolt to Romance.

"How about the young doctor? Has he proposed?"

"Not yet. Papa ruined everything last night."

"How was that?"

"Just as the doctor was pleading for a peep at my eyes, papa came in and asked him to take a look at my throat."

Breakers Ahead.

"What makes you so sure that suffragette club is in for serious trouble?"

"My wife has just joined it," replied Mr. Meekton.

At the age of 18 a girl is afraid of two things—being an old maid and not going to heaven.

Scandal is the tattle of fools who judge other people by themselves.

It isn't every prodigal son who gets a whack at the obese veal.

A crab-eating monkey in Siam swims like a fish.

Not Appropriate.

Senator Beveridge was replying at a dinner in Washington to a defender of the sugar trust.

"You remind me of a man at his brother's funeral. This man bent over the grave and closely watched the lowering of the coffin down into the clean cut rectangular chamber prepared for it. He heaved a sigh as the coffin came to a rest, and said to the undertaker heartily:

"'It's the neatest fit I ever saw in my life. Come and have a drink on the head of it.'"—Sunday Magazine in the Cleveland Leader.

Thinking of Garden Time.

Bacon—I think much of the man who can make two blades of grass grow where one grew before.

Egbert—I've not got my eye on him. I admire more the man who can make only one weed grow where a dozen grew before.

No Deposits.

"Do you think there's money in hens?"

"Well, if there is they keep it well secured."—Exchange.