

## NEWS BRIEFLY TOLD

SEVEN DAYS ARE BRIEFLY TOLD HERE.

## AROUND THE PLANET

From Our Own and Foreign Countries Are Here Given in Short Meter for Busy Readers.

Colorado house of representatives passed the bill for the enforcement of the state-wide prohibition amendment. The bill somewhat from the senate.

In a federal indictment returned to corrupt the election of 1914, in the Fifth Congressional district, five Republicans were named.

Chicago workers who led the strike in Arizona a dry state have been engaged to manage a campaign in Chicago.

When William Pfeffer awoke recently he discovered a freight car of flour lying along at the door of his residence at Oconomowoc, Wis. The car became detached from a freight train and rolled into his yard.

The United Fruit steamer Santa Maria, which lost her rudder off Cape Hatteras, has been taken in tow by a wrecking tug and is being towed into New York.

The department of agriculture has extended the foot and mouth quarantine in nine states—Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Michigan, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, New York, Ohio and Wisconsin.

The California eight-hour law providing that no woman shall be employed more than eight hours a day or more than 48 hours a week was held constitutional by the United States supreme court.

Shad Feniell, a negro charged with five murders, was killed and Charles Gunning, a city detective, was wounded in a pistol duel between the negro and six detectives at Dallas, Tex.

Bud Thomas and Amon Marks, negroes, were held for the murder of C. T. Royse, a farmer, whose body was found under a pile of brush on his farm near Carlisle, Ky.

Mystery surrounding the reported robbery of the express car on the Atlantic Coast line flyer at Alexandria, Va., has been cleared by a confession from the two messengers that they smashed the company's strong box.

To conserve the coal supply, the management of the Italian state railway system has decided to decrease the number of passenger trains being operated.

Divorced and remarried within 24 hours at the age of 15 is the record of Grace Tucker of Webb City, Mo., now Mrs. Willie Shadwick. She was married the first time at the tender age of 12.

The Arkansas house of representatives by a vote of 56 to 26 defeated a bill which would have allowed Little Rock voters to decide whether or not Sunday baseball games should be permitted.

Representative Richard Bartholdt of St. Louis was the guest of honor at a farewell dinner at the Raleigh hotel, given by the Missouri congressional delegation.

State's Attorney Fred Wolfe of Adams county, Ill., announced that he would nolle prosequere the indictment against Ray Pfanschmidt charging him with the murder of his father.

Frederick Ulmer, 21, son of a wealthy New York manufacturer, shot and probably fatally wounded Ethel Odell, pretty 18-year-old cabaret singer, in a subway station, and then attempted to end his own life.

J. P. Morgan has sold the famous Mme. Du Barry Fragonard collection of paintings in the Metropolitan Museum of Art to Duveen Brothers, who recently purchased the collection of Chinese porcelains.

Gov. Hatfield, who is a physician, assisted in the vaccination of members of the West Virginia legislature. The vaccination followed the announcement that Delegate Pilchard had smallpox.

Steamship passengers arriving from Straits Settlements declared that 400 Sikh mutineers were killed in a battle with loyal British forces at Singapore on Feb. 15.

The Spanish fleet has sailed from Algiers for Carthage. A torpedo boat flotilla will be kept on patrol duty along the coast of Morocco.

With 432 passengers on board, the Cunard liner Lusitania arrived at New York from Liverpool. She used the British flag all the way over.

## FAVOR RECUSATION LAW FOR JUDGES

SEVERAL PROMINENT LAWYERS ON STAND AT LEGISLATIVE PROBE.

The street railway commission sent a letter to the Detroit United Railway company which contained a proposition to buy the company's holdings.

The Nevada law reducing the residence limit for divorce applicants to six months went into effect.

The Austrian government has taken over all stocks of rye, barley, corn and flour products.

Twin lambs, male and female, born in Central park (New York) sheepfold on Washington's birthday, have been christened George and Martha.

Male members of the Cedar Cliff (N. J.) Episcopal church turned out in working clothes at dawn, and when dusk fell they had erected a one-story building.

When John G. Andrews, 25, of Binghamton, N. Y., learned from the court that his mock marriage to Miss Grace Beacham, 19, was legal, he filed suit for damages against Charles Springer, who was responsible.

John Pedro of Allentown, Pa., who thought he was the Italian army, built a barricade of rails and of other materials and prepared for a long siege. A posse captured John to inquire into his sanity.

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## SALARY FOR CLERK URGED

Suggest Commission Be Created to Pass Form, Style and Constitutionality of All Bills.

New Orleans.—Three of the most prominent and successful members of the New Orleans bar told the Legislative Investigating Commission that they favor the enactment of a law providing for the recusal of judges of the Louisiana Supreme Court in all cases where there is close kinship between judge and counsel. The enactment of such a law is necessary, they testified, in order to create a greater degree of public confidence in the courts.

The witnesses before the commission were attorneys Edgar H. Farrar, Henry P. Dart and Charles P. Fenner. All of the witnesses favor the addition of two justices to the membership of the supreme court and the division of the court into two sections, with the Chief Justice as presiding officer of each section.

Each of the witnesses formed the passage of a law putting the clerk of the supreme court on a salary basis. They also agreed that any surplus resulting from the supreme court files should be used in the employment of expert clerks for the members of the court.

A suggestion of Mr. Farrar that a legislative commission be created to pass upon the form, style and constitutionality of all bills, except emergency statutes, before being formally introduced in either branch of the General Assembly, received the hearty endorsement of Mr. Dart.

Drillers at the well being put down by the Monroe Oil and Gas Company above Forsythe Park have reached a depth of 1,000 feet. They are greatly pleased at the prospects so far and are confident of striking oil or gas in paying quantities. Drillers are now going through a stratum of soil that contains oil. Several pockets of gas have been struck. Members of the company putting down the well are immensely pleased with the prospects.

The convention of the Grand Grove Woodmen Circle of Louisiana will meet at Alexandria on March 9, 10 and 11. It is announced there will be fully two hundred delegates in attendance. The local grove has appointed committees and is perfecting other necessary arrangements for the entertainment of the delegates.

T. L. Miller, the young man who walked into police headquarters at Baton Rouge and surrendered himself, confessing that he was wanted in Atlanta for an \$18 forgery, was released from the city jail. Chief of Police Beavers of Atlanta that the Texas Oil Company, which he victimized, did not care to prosecute him.

The Truck Growers' Association and the Bogalusa Association of Commerce are making an effort to have three additional market houses erected for the benefit of the truck growers of this vicinity.

There are several cases of small-pox in Sulphur and an epidemic is feared. Health authorities have the matter in hand and are working vigorously to stamp out the disease.

Work is being pushed rapidly on the canal which is being dug in the horse-shoe drainage district near Alexandria, and which will drain four thousand acres of land in that district.

The city council approved the application of W. E. Barrett for a twenty-year gas franchise for the City of Lake Charles, and the ordinance granting the franchise will be submitted to the voters for their endorsement.

The Good Roads Committee has awarded contracts for the building of roads from Covington to Pontchartroula, via Madisonville; from Tallisheek to Bush, and from Slidell to Pearl River village.

An attempt is being made at Crowley to organize a military company as a part of the National guard. Major Bret W. Eddy of Lake Charles, First Regiment, L. N. G., is here in charge of the preliminary work.

Excessive rains have retarded farm work at Iota. The excessive fall has forced all small streams out of their banks and the low lands are under water.

The Lockwood Oil Company, Inc., with a capital of \$25,000, has just been organized at Alexandria.

D. I. Willis, a prominent farmer of Forest Hill has killed a hog that tipped the scales at 450 pounds.

Residents of Vincent settlement, six miles south of Sulphur and the railroad, have organized a farmers' telephone company and practically all of the stock has already been subscribed.

Mrs. Lizzie Despau of New Orleans has entered suit for \$10,000 against the Woodmen of the World for damages based on an alleged slanderous statement which was contained in the Woodmen's answer to a suit on a life insurance policy against the order filed by William A. Davis.

## OPEN DOOR NOT OPPOSED BY JAPAN

WANTS CHINA TO ATTAIN REAL DIGNITY OF INDEPENDENCE—GUARANTEES INTEGRITY.

Count Okuma gives views.

Says That Mischief Makers Have Been Trying to Play China Against Japan and America.

Tokyo.—The Japanese premier, Count Okuma, said that in presenting its demand to China, Japan had no intention of trespassing on China's rights or interfering with the open door policy. Japan's desire, he said, was that China should attain the real dignity of independence and not fall prey of any nation.

Count Okuma's remarks were made to Prof. Shailer Mathews of Chicago and Prof. Sydney L. Gulick of New York as they were taking leave of the premier. They sailed for San Francisco, having completed their mission for the Federal Council of Churches of Christ in America. The Japanese press declares the work that they have done in fostering cordial relations between Japan and the United States is of historic significance and will be most helpful in maintaining the friendship of the two nations.

Count Okuma stated to Prof. Mathews and Prof. Gulick that the integrity and prosperity of China were not only to the advantage of Japan, but constituted the sole guaranty of peace in the Orient. To secure this peace, he said, was the underlying motive of Japanese diplomacy. Japan had no thought of infringing upon the rights of other nations.

"Efforts recently have been made to invent some plausible reason for a disruption between Japan and America," the premier continued. "These attempts having failed, the mischief makers now look to China as a field in which the two powers may be made to clash. I see no reason for such a conflict."

Count Okuma said Japan and Great Britain had a well grounded understanding concerning equality of opportunity in China and the integrity of that nation. In accordance with the well known policy of the United States, he believed that American manufacturers would find the Chinese markets open to them.

Washington.—Proposals have been made informally by the United States government to both Great Britain and Germany suggesting a basis for an understanding on the subject of foodstuffs for the civilian population of belligerents and submarine warfare against merchant ships.

New Counterfeit \$20 Bill. Washington.—A new counterfeit \$20 gold certificate has been discovered by the secret service. It is of the series of 1906 and bears the portrait of Washington, the workmanship of which is said to be particularly poor. The number of the specimen in the hands of the secret service is 10449787.

Sir Edward Grey Denies. Washington.—Sir Edward Grey has sent to the State Department a statement characterizing as a falsehood a recent Berlin charge that Great Britain intends to destroy an American ship in the naval war zone and charge it to a German submarine in order to precipitate a crisis between the United States and Germany.

Bryan Asks \$50,000 to Protect Citizens. Washington.—Secretary Bryan asked Congress for a deficiency appropriation of \$50,000 to meet "any emergencies that may arise abroad" in connection with the protection of American citizens and interests in the war-swept countries during the period when Congress will not be in session.

Upholds Taft Withdrawal. Washington.—President Taft's withdrawal of oil lands in California and Wyoming in 1909 without empowering legislation was upheld by the Supreme Court and entry claims of individuals and corporations valued at hundreds of millions of dollars annulled thereby.

Rockefeller Gives Millions to Charity. New York.—There was contributed or pledged by the Rockefeller foundation \$6,397,697.64 between its establishment in March, 1914, and February 1, 1915, according to a statement filed with the United States commission on industrial relations.

Des Moines to Relieve Delaware. Washington.—The gunboat Des Moines at Guantanamo, has been ordered to Vera Cruz to relieve the battleship Delaware, which will rejoin the Atlantic fleet.

General Cabral Resigns. Douglas.—Gen. Juan Cabral, sent to Sonora some time ago to take command of the military forces of that state, resigned, saying that he could not support Gen. Francisco Villa as the supreme Mexican chief.

Keep Liquor From Indians. Tacoma, Wash.—The Northwest Federation of Indian Tribes adopted a resolution asking Congress to appropriate \$150,000 to suppress the liquor traffic among the Indians.

Food Inquiry Hung. Chicago.—Grain brokers engaged in business in the Chicago Board of Trade have refused to submit their books or records to government officials investigating wheat and flour prices.

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E. N. BREITUNG  
Mr. Breitung is the man who purchased from the Hamburg-American line the steamer Dacia, whose transfer to an American registry is regarded by Great Britain as a subterfuge.

## RUSSIA SUSPECTS MILITARY PLOT

PETROGRAD GENERAL STAFF BELIEVES ENVELOPING MOVEMENT OF THE TWO GERMAN ARMIES.

Petrograd.—Officers of the Russian general staff believe that the Germans plan of operation in Northern Poland is to concentrate attention upon the Russian fortresses along the rivers Niemen and Bobr, and with their left wing safely established on Russian territory to make a general southerly movement, meeting Austro-German forces advancing northward from the Carpathians and acquiring a large section of Poland, in addition to that already under their control.

The success of this gigantic movement is dependent upon the ability of the Germans to capture the line of fortresses, of which Ossowetz is the first to be singled out. The latest communication from the Russian general staff indicates that the Germans have achieved no success in this initial attempt.

In view of the difficulty of penetrating the fortified lines at this point where the marshy land presents a serious obstacle, the Germans evidently are shifting their attack to Lomza hoping to encircle the fortresses instead of taking them by direct assault.

Makes Satisfactory Explanation. Washington.—William Mitchell of the army general staff, who recently said an enemy could take and hold the American seaboard, has explained to Secretary Garrison's satisfaction that he was speaking at a private meeting, thought his remarks were privileged, and had no idea they would be published.

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## TEUTONS DEFEAT STIRS PETROGRAD

SAYS EMPEROR WILLIAM'S SOLDIERS ABANDONED LARGE NUMBER OF GUNS.

## HASTY RETREAT EXECUTED

Claim All German Troops Which Crossed the Niemen Have Been Forced Back to Other Bank.

Petrograd.—The highest importance is attached by the Russian military authorities to the German defeat at Przasnysz. It is asserted by Russian staff officers that the Germans' hope of success during their operations of the last fortnight along the northern front was based upon their confidence in breaking the Russian line at Przasnysz.

This attempt by the Germans to strengthen the position of their left wing, which was an important part of their plan for a gigantic encompassing movement extending from Augustowo to Eastern Galicia, is said by the Russian leaders to have failed definitely.

The reports state the retirement of the Germans in the north is more decided and precipitate than any heretofore in this theater. They state that the Germans have abandoned large numbers of heavy and light guns and have even left behind slightly wounded soldiers in an effort to execute a hasty retreat.

This condition of affairs, according to the Russian viewpoint, assumes added significance from the fact that the Germans are said to have employed some of their best troops in this fighting. There are many indications that the Germans were entirely confident of success.

The reported German plan for undertaking a siege of Grodno would now appear to be venturesome with the Russians advancing along the left bank of the Niemen toward East Prussia and endangering the position of the German left flank. The claim is made here that all the German troops which recently crossed the Niemen have been forced back to the other bank.

Chiefs Pledge Fealty. Washington.—All the revolutionary chiefs in Haiti, official dispatches say have pledged allegiance to Gen. Guillaume who has just overthrown President Theodor. Dispatches from Port au Prince say Guillaume is expected there and that order is being preserved.

1,035,000 Prisoners. Frankfurt.—The Frankfurter Zeitung estimates that the prisoners of war in Germany and Austria now number 1,035,000. This number, it says, is divided as follows: Russians 692,000, French 237,000, Serbians 50,000, Belgians 37,000, British 19,000.

Pass Credit Bill. Washington.—A farm credit bill providing for government loans to farm owners, was attached to the agricultural appropriation bill in its hurried passage through the Senate. Presented by Senator McCumber as an amendment, the provision was incorporated with a record vote, at a time when but few senators were in the chamber.

Prof. Mathews made 100 addresses during the month he was in Japan. He said he was convinced of the deep-rooted friendship of the Japanese for America and could conceive of no possibility of serious difficulties between the two nations, provided they continued to discuss with frankness all questions which arise between them.

Bryan Wears His "Dove of Peace." Washington.—Secretary Bryan appeared at the cabinet meeting wearing on his lapel an enamel white dove of peace with an olive branch in its mouth. The secretary said it was a gift of a friend, and pointed to it when questioned concerning possible complications for the United States in the foreign situation.

Wholesalers Not Taxed. Washington.—The Tennessee law of 1909 imposing a \$500 license tax on wholesale liquor dealers was held by the Supreme Court not to apply to wholesale dealers engaged exclusively in selling liquor to residents of other states.

Defeat Farm Census Bill. Washington.—Proposals in the legislative appropriation bill for an agricultural census were stricken out by the Senate.

Bridge Worth \$2,000,000. Mexico City.—There is a 150-foot bridge that is composed entirely of mahogany, worth at the present price of the wood, almost \$2,000,000.

Would Make U. S. Dry. Baltimore.—Charles H. Randall, Prohibition party congressman-elect from California, in an address to Prohibitionists announced that it is to be proposed in the next Congress that the federal government shall withdraw from the liquor business.