

THE NEWS IN BRIEF

A GENERAL SUMMARY OF IMPORTANT NEWS OF THE WEEK GATHERED FROM ALL OVER.

Democratic leaders in the House will fight for an income and inheritance tax.

An estimate of 1,717,000 sacks of rice for Texas and Louisiana has been made.

Mississippi members of Congress are divided on the question of a tariff on lumber.

The Department of Agriculture will continue rice experimental work in Louisiana.

Three inmates perished by the destruction of an orphan's home at Battle Creek, Mich.

W. J. Bryan denies that he was injured in an automobile accident in Florida Saturday.

Will Parker, a negro, was lynched near Mexia, Ala., for mistreating the child of his employer.

President Roosevelt sent a message to Congress announcing that he had vetoed the census bill.

Chief G. T. O'Haver, for thirty-one years connected with the Memphis police department, resigned.

Congressman E. S. Candler of Mississippi says he will not be a candidate for governor of that state.

The Panama railroad, owned by the United States, will be used to control transcontinental freight rates.

Mrs. G. E. Sampson was indicted at Lyons, N. Y., for the murder of her husband, a nephew of the late admiral.

A conference of leaders interested in the movement to construct a southern building at Washington is being held.

One more juror was secured in the Cooper-Sharp trial at Nashville, Tenn., making a total of eleven men in the box.

Louisiana congressmen are pressing the Federal government to aid in the campaign against the cotton boll weevil.

Arrangements have been completed for the reception of the battleship fleet at Hampton Roads, Va., February 22.

Charley Crumley, a negro, was raved from burning at the stake at Tampa, Fla., through the intercession of officers.

Reports from Salvador and Nicaragua indicate an early outbreak of hostilities, and that other countries will be drawn in.

Michigan will send a delegation to New Orleans to urge President-elect Taft to retain Newberry as secretary of the navy.

N. T. Anders, business man and banker, accidentally shot and wounded himself while boarding a train at Jackson, Miss.

Louisiana and Texas lumbermen were given a hearing by the Interstate Commerce Commission on the question of tap line railroad rates.

The chief of police of Vicksburg, Miss., announced that he will not arrest persons in social clubs where drinks are served from lockers.

The Senate committee on naval affairs adopted the provision in the naval appropriation bill for the construction of two 26,000-ton battleships.

The Federal Grand Jury has completed its probe into the alleged timber thefts and frauds in the Choctaw Indian Nation at Muskogee, Okla.

State Superintendent Harris urges that a course of scientific farming be taught in the rural schools of Louisiana.

A crew of nine and the captain's wife were rescued from the schooner Sarah W. Lawrence, which went to pieces off Cape Henlopen, Del.

Considerable damage was done by the recent storm in north Louisiana and central Mississippi. Several negroes were killed at Booth's Mills, Miss.

Waldemar H. Bille of New Orleans was indicted by the grand jury at Washington on a charge of obtaining goods under false pretenses.

The situation at Pittsburg, Pa., as a result of the assaults on white girls by negroes is becoming more acute and a dangerous race war is threatened.

Senator Rayner of Maryland has introduced a resolution in the Senate which asserts that Congress has a right to call for and inspect all public papers.

President Roosevelt sent a long telegram to the speaker of the California House of Representatives in which he urged that the anti-Japanese bill be killed.

Senator Hale introduced a bill in the Senate to remove the disability of Senator Knox by repealing the law increasing the salary of the secretary of state.

Senator Lodge of Massachusetts is trying to gag Senator Tillman of South Carolina and prevent him from attacking President Roosevelt by amending the Senate rules.

It was officially stated that Huntington Wilson, formerly third assistant secretary of state, recently appointed minister to Argentine Republic, would be assistant secretary of state under the Taft administration.

There is no truth in the rumor that a tidal wave has destroyed Port Limon, Costa Rica. A wireless dispatch was received by the Western Union at New York from Port Limon saying the rumors of a tidal wave were untrue.

Senator Tillman of South Carolina triumphed in his fight against the confirmation of W. D. Crum, the negro collector of customs at Charleston. Senator Frye announced that the name of Crum would be withdrawn.

Representative Bennett of Kentucky is making an effort to have Congress to acquire, for the benefit of the congressional library, a rare collection of manuscript books which once belonged to Chief Justice John Marshall.

A provisional revolutionary government has been established at Rishi, capital of the Province of Ghilan, where a serious uprising has broken out that resulted in the killing of the governor and several other officials of the administration.

The official statement of United States Senator Isaac Stephenson of Wisconsin with affidavit attached, shows that the expense of his candidacy for the nomination of United States senator at the primary election on September 1, 1908, amounted to \$107,793.05.

March 4 will be a sad day for the Smith family. Its representation in the House of Representatives will on that day be reduced from six to four. Representative Madison R. Smith of Missouri and Marcus A. Smith, delegate from Arizona, will not be in the sixty-first Congress, and no strange Smith will come to uphold the family name and fame.

The reception accorded King Edward and Queen Alexandra in Berlin is causing the greatest satisfaction to British officials and the public at large. The welcome given their majesties by the populace is regarded even more than the official ceremonies as an opportunity for the introduction of better feeling between the two peoples and the setting aside of those mutual suspicions which have prevailed for a quarter of a century.

Because 800 citizens at Houston, Miss., did not desire to desecrate the Sabbath, the lynching of Roby Baskin, a negro boy, accused of murdering and robbing Rev. W. T. Hudson, a Baptist preacher, was postponed for a day.

Herbert Fisher, aged 12 years, of Sparks Gap, south of Birmingham, Ala., is dead as a result of exploding a dynamite cap which he had in his pocket. The little fellow did not know what he had and was knocking it when the explosion followed.

In a feud battle over a dog at Hineston, La., Henry and Bud Barrington, father and son, were instantly killed and Robert Weatherford, member of the opposition faction, probably fatally wounded. Charles Weatherford, his brother, is charged with killing the Barringtons.

The house committee on alcoholic liquor traffic voted down the Bennett bill providing for a commission to collect information regarding the liquor traffic in this country and to recommend to Congress any needful legislation. The vote in the committee was eight to four against the bill.

For the first time it is believed in the history of the railroads and unionists in the United States, the managements of all roads entering Texas, and the railway unions, have before the state legislature. The employes soon agree to a lenient full crew bill and will fight the 2-cent fare law.

A Chicago firm has been awarded a contract to supply the British army with corned beef for a period of three years. The first delivery, between 500,000 and 1,000,000 pounds, will be made next July. The meat will be packed at Chicago under the supervision of British army officers.

That the assets of the Fidelity Funding Company are worth "millions of dollars" was the assertion of Peter B. Olney, special master of the United States Court, in his report to the court on the company's affairs, presented in New York. He further reported that the corporation was not amenable to the Federal bankruptcy act.

A mob of negroes attacked Sheriff I. M. Hoff at Humble, Tex., and he narrowly escaped death. He was knocked down and fired at fifteen times. He escaped by cutting his way through a mob with a long knife. He was after a negro charged with murder. A large posse is forming to make wholesale arrests and a serious race riot is feared.

Four men were killed, one fatally injured and two seriously hurt when a high wind blew down a staging at the yards of the American Ship Building Company at Lorain, Ohio. The men fell one hundred feet to the bottom of the dry dock. The staging was being placed for the construction of a ship when the gale tore it loose and precipitated the men downward.

The president has nominated Robert E. Mansfield of Indiana to be consul general at Zurich, Switzerland; Newton W. Gilbert of Indiana, to be secretary of public instruction, Philippine Islands; Robert W. Junk of Iowa, to be surveyor of customs for the port of Burlington, Ia., and Isaac A. Manning of Oregon, consul at La Guaira, Venezuela.

After all the salary of the president of the United States may not be raised to \$100,000 a year, the House having declined to accept the amendment inserted in the legislative, executive and judicial appropriation bill, in which the president's salary and the salaries of the vice president and all United States judges were advanced. The bill was referred to conferees appointed by both houses. Senator Warren, for the conferees on the part of the Senate, reported that the conference agreed on all items favorably in dispute except those fixing the salaries of the president and the rest.

300 PERISH IN THEATER

HORRIBLE HOLOCAUST IN MEXICAN PLAY HOUSE

Imprisoned Victims Burned Beyond Recognition—Many Are Trampled Under Foot.

Mexico City.—Between 250 and 300 people were burned to death and many injured in a fire which destroyed the Flores theater, in the city of Acapulco. The Flores theater was a wooden structure, and over 1,000 people crowded in it to witness a special performance given in honor of Gov. Damian Flores, of the state of Guerrero, who was visiting the port at the time. One of the numbers on the programme consisted of a series of moving pictures. While the operator was exhibiting these, a film caught fire, and a blaze was quickly communicated to some bunting which had been used for decorative purposes.

In an incredibly short time, the flames spread to all parts of the structure. There were but three narrow exits, and the panic-stricken audience rushed to these, many falling and being crushed to death, choking the only avenue of escape with bodies. The screams of those imprisoned were terrifying and heart-rending.

Owing to the rapidity with which the fire spread, and to its intense heat, it was impossible to attempt rescue work, and those imprisoned were literally roasted alive.

Pitiful scenes of grief are being enacted on the streets of the little west coast port. Men, women and children are wandering from place to place hunting for relatives or friends. Many of the dead are from the first families of the state, the affair at the theater being a social event of considerable importance, and calling out the wealthiest and oldest families for miles around.

In some instances, entire families were wiped out of existence.

The municipal authorities caused large trenches to be dug, and into these the remains of the dead were laid. Recognition of any of the dead has been an impossibility, owing to the fact that the bodies were burned, in most cases, to a crisp.

KNOX WINS IN HARD FIGHT

Two-Third Majority Provision Is Laid Aside.

Washington.—By a vote of 173 to 117, the house today passed the bill removing the bar to Senator Knox's eligibility for the office of secretary of state. This was the second vote of the day on this measure, and the two were separated only by about two hours' time. The first vote was taken on the bill under general order for the suspension of the rules, but under that order, according to the standing rules of the house, a bill must receive a two-thirds majority to insure its passage. The first vote stood 179 to 123, the majority thus falling considerably below the two-thirds requirement.

Immediately after this result was announced, the house committee on rules held a meeting, which resulted in Mr. Dalzell bringing in a rule making it in order for the house to again take up the bill and act upon it under conditions which would require only a majority vote to pass it.

REUNION RATES ANNOUNCED

Southeastern Passenger Association Agrees on One Cent Per Mile.

Memphis, Tenn.—A rate of 1 cent per mile for the Confederate reunion over all railroad lines in the territory east of the Mississippi river and south of the Ohio and Potomac rivers was decided upon by the Southeastern Passenger Association. It is more than probable that side trips will also be announced, making a rate of one fare for the round trip, plus 25 cents. This will enable persons coming to Memphis for the reunion to continue their trips to any point in Arkansas, Texas, Mississippi, Missouri, Tennessee or Oklahoma, and remain two weeks, then return to Memphis and resume their trip home on the original ticket purchased for the reunion. The roads in the Southwestern territory consisting of all states west of the Mississippi and south of the Missouri river, will make no announcement as to rates until the meeting of the Southwestern Passenger Association some time in April.

NO BLUE AND GRAY REUNION.

Only Confederates Are Invited to Meeting in Memphis.

New Orleans, La.—Gen. William E. Mickle, adjutant general of the United Confederate Veterans, today gave out the statement saying that there would be no joint session of the "blue and gray" at Memphis. No invitations will be issued to any but Confederates to take part in the reunion, as the constitution of the order absolutely forbids any invitation to others.

MISSOURI NEWS

Sullivan Gets Four Years.

St. Louis.—Cornelius Sullivan, known also as "Connie" Sullivan, who was indicted recently for assault to kill, in connection with the shooting of Patrolman John Hutton in the West End Physical Culture club, Twenty-second street and Washington avenue, pleaded guilty in Judge Shields' court and was sentenced to four years in the penitentiary. Attorney E. A. Noonan, Jr., who represented Sullivan, stated, when the case was called, that his client wished to enter a plea of guilty. Sullivan, he said, had been drinking before he fired the shot. The attorney appealed for clemency for the prisoner on account of his youth.

Girl Operator Could Shoot.

Chillicothe.—For the first time in her 22 years that inherent nerve born of the rugged west was called to test when Miss Mary McCarthy, operator and agent for the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul railway at Sturis, leveled a pistol at an alleged burglar, forced him to disgorge the loot of her office safe, held him prisoner against the wall and with her left hand opened the key and sounded the "C. Q. D." call to Chillicothe. Sheriff White procured a team and reached Sturis two hours later. He found the plucky girl still keeping determined vigil over her cowering captive in the corner, Phillip Schott, who was brought to Chillicothe, confessed and said his home is in St. Joseph.

To Move Fletcher's Body.

St. Joseph.—A movement is being started here to buy the home of former Gov. Thomas C. Fletcher on Main street and convert it into a library and to erect a bronze statue of Mr. Fletcher in front of it. Relatives of the former governor say that his body, which now rests in Bellefontaine cemetery in St. Louis, will be brought here and buried on the family lot in the cemetery. Thomas C. Fletcher was born and reared in this town, and was living here when he was elected governor of Missouri in 1860. The old homestead is in a good state of preservation.

Crowd Sees Daring Robbery.

St. Joseph.—What is regarded as the most daring, best planned and well executed robbery in St. Joseph's history occurred in sight of 1,000 persons when a man dressed in overalls threw a brick through the window of M. C. Rosenfeld's jewelry store window and seized \$2,000 worth of diamonds. He escaped by running down an alley. He was followed by the police, but had evidently planned the robbery, as a rope stretched across the alley in a dark spot tripped the pursuing officers and delayed them.

Officers Were After Suicide.

Chillicothe.—Maurice Butz, who committed suicide in New Orleans, was fleeing from officers from this county when he took his own life. He had been working as a farm hand near Chula, north of Chillicothe, until three weeks ago, when he disappeared. He was wanted on the charge of forgery, it was learned.

Harvester Hearing to Be Resumed.

Jefferson City.—Hearings in the ouster suit which is pending against the International Harvester Co. of America will be resumed in April before Special Commissioner Theodore Brace, probably in this city. This determination was arrived at after a conference between Judge Brace and Attorney General Major.

Slayer Gets Five Years.

Trenton.—John C. Chappell, convicted of killing Walter Holden, was sentenced to five years in the state penitentiary by Special Judge George Hall, in the circuit court here. Chappell stabbed and killed Walter Holden, his chum, during a dance at Moberly Park, last August.

Murder Warrant Against Brophy.

St. Louis.—A warrant charging second degree murder was issued against Leslie Brophy, who shot and killed his brother-in-law, George Mayer, at 5255 Goodfellow place, last week. Brophy says he shot Mayer in defense of his sister, Mrs. Mayer.

Twenty More Stricken.

Liberty.—There are twenty new cases of smallpox among the students at William Jewell College here, making about thirty-five in all. The college remains closed. The town is not under quarantine and there is no prospect that it will be at present.

Union to Vote on Bonds.

Union.—At the request of more than 1,100 taxpayers, the county court ordered a special election to be held April 20, 1909, to vote on the proposition to bond Franklin county for \$75,000 to build a new courthouse.