NEWS OF THE WEEK

Most Important Happenings of the Past Seven Days.

Interesting Items Gathered From all Parts of the World Condensed Into Small Space for the Benefit of Our Readers.

Congressional.

Congressman Calderhead, of Kansas, has resumed his seat in the house after a long siege of illness.

Representative Miller, of Kansas, has been re-elected a member of the republican congressional campaign committee.

The house has passed a resolution ceding to the state of Kansas an acre of ground in the Fort Riley reservation on which the old territorial capitol building stands.

The minority currency bill, on which the democrats are expected to unite in opposition to the Aldrich bill, has been introduced in the house by Representative John Sharp Williams. It contains many radical changes from the republican measure.

The senate has passed the bill placing Gen. O. O. Howard on the retired list of the army as a lieutenant general. Gen. Howard is the only officer now living who commanded an army during the civil war.

Senator Stone of Missouri has introduced a joint resolution authorizing the president to relinquish control of the Philippine islands in 1913.

The senate committee on military affairs has decided to recommend that the government take over the confederate cemetery at Springfield, Mo.

Senator Beveridge recently delivered an appeal to the senate to adopt his bill providing for a non-partisan tariff commission.

A bitter attack was made on the rules and power of the speaker in the house recently by Representative Nelson, of Wisconsin, republican. He declared the power of the house was merged in the speaker.

The plan of the interior department to abolish pension agencies throughout the country and pay all pensions from Washington is to be vigorously opposed on the floor of the house.

The pension bill, as favorably reported to the house, abolishes all pension agencies except the central one at Washington. By the new arrangement $225,000 would be saved annually.

The house has adopted a resolution of sympathy with Portugal in connection with the assassination of King Carlos and the crown prince.

A bill creating a bureau of postal savings has been introduced by Senator Burkett.

Speaker Cannon is authority for the statement that there will be no tariff commission appointed at this session of congress. Revision will be taken up next winter.

Robert J. Cousins, now serving his eighth term in congress from Iowa, has announced that he will not be a candidate again.

Miscellaneous.

The hospital ship Relief has been placed in service at the Mare Island navy yard at San Francisco.

Kaid Sir Harry MacLean, who has been held captive by Raisuli, the Moorish bandit, for the past seven months, has arrived at Tangier under escort.

Attorney General Hadley has filed a motion for a rehearing of the case involving the stock shippers' law, recently decided unconstitutional by the supreme court of Missouri.

Lyman G. White, publisher of the Alva, Ok., Review, has purchased the Alva Courier and will consolidate the two papers.

Judge James Hargis, the notorious feudist of Breathitt county, Ky., was recently shot dead by his own son after a quarrel.

Mrs. G. G. Burton was recently awarded $3,000 damages against I. F. Dayhoff, former Kansas superintendent of public instruction, at Topeka. Dayhoff had attacked Mrs. Burton in his paper, the Kansas Educator.

The operating vice-presidents of a large number of railroads held a conference with President Roosevelt for the purpose of securing delay in the enforcement of certain laws about to become operative. They were referred to the interstate commerce commission.

At the request of the house committee on printing, President Roosevelt has suspended Public Printer Charles A. Stillings, pending an investigation of the government printing office. William S. Rossiter is temporarily in charge of the plant.

The president, by proclamation, has added 350,471 acres to the Trinity forest reserve in California.

The torpedo boat flotilla has reached Punta Arenas, in the Strait of Magellan.

There were 17 strikes in Kansas last year, involving 938 men, and a loss in wages of $113,016.

In the Pennsylvania capitol graft trials the names of ex-Gov. Pennypacker and former Attorney General Carson were brought into the case in some sensational testimony given by Stanford B. Lewis, assistant to Architect Huston.

A young man who formerly worked in the Kansas City street department and in other occupations throughout the west has fallen heir to an English title and valuable estates by the death of his father, Sir Genile Cave-Browne-Cave.

Warrensburg, Mo., voted "dry" recently by a majority of 143 votes.

Ten men are dead as the result of an explosion in a coal mine at Port Hood, Nova Scotia.

Charles W. Morse, the multi-millionaire who disappeared from New York recently, has arrived at Liverpool on the liner Campania.

Gov. Hoch has refused to accept the bond of State Dairy Commissioner Wilson, given by the United States Fidelity and Guaranty company, which is fighting a suit by the state relating to the First National bank bond of $250,000.

The act of congress of June 1, 1898, prohibiting railroad companies from discriminating against members of labor organizations in the matter of employment has been declared unconstitutional by the United States supreme court.

The Northern Pacific Railroad company has been fined $100 at Helena, Mont., for violating the 16-hour law by compelling a crew to work 23 consecutive hours. The case will be appealed to test the law.

The Santa Fe has annulled ten of its principal local passenger trains in Kansas. Decrease in the road's earnings is given as the cause.

John Mitchell, president of the United Mine Works, declares there is little possibility of labor organizations entering the political field in the coming campaign.

The British foreign office officially denies that a squadron of war vessels is to be sent to the Pacific.

A receiver has been asked for the National Hollow Brake Beam company of Chicago.

The president has nominated George L. Grigsby to be United States attorney for the district of Alaska.

The "Hobo" congress at St. Louis has adopted resolutions demanding that the government provide national insurance for citizens against enforced idleness or "involuntary unemployment."

Kansas prison twine will be sold this year for 7½ cents a pound in orders for 5,000 pounds or over.

Opposition has developed in Pennsylvania to placing a statue of the late Senator M. S. Quay in the rotunda of the new state capitol at Harrisburg.

The coldest weather in five years was recently experienced in eastern Pennsylvania and New York.

The national convention of the socialist party will be held in Chicago on May 10.

A dispatch from the Spanish frontier says that a Portugese republic has been proclaimed at Oporto and that a provisional government has been established in that city.

The Indiana republicans have selected their district delegates to the national convention. The delegation will be a unit for Vice President Fairbanks.

The First National bank of Brooklyn, which suspended several months ago, has resumed business.

Tulsa, Ok., has adopted the commission form of municipal government.

The cruiser South Dakota built at the Union Iron works in California has been placed in commission.

Coal operators in the Oklahoma field have so far refused to grant an increase in wages to miners and unless such action is taken before April 1 a strike of 10,000 will result.

Harry K. Thaw has instructed his counsel that they must take some action at once looking to his release from Matteawan asylum.

Personal.

William J. Bryan addressed the Civic Forum at Carnegie hall, New York, recently on the subject, "Thou Shalt Not Steal."

Ex-Premier Franco, of Portugal, who fled from Lisbon after the assassination of King Carlos, has arrived in Paris. His ultimate destination is Switzerland.

Charles H. Danner of Fort Scott has been chosen president of the Kansas State Society of Labor.

Dr. W. H. Carruth has returned to the Kansas university after six months spent in Germany.

E. S. D. Shortridge, former governor of North Dakota, is dead, at Devil's Lake.

Gen. O. H. Lagrange, governor of the National Soldiers' home at Sawtelle, Cal., has resigned.

Joseph G. Burton, the last survivor of the first abolitionist organization in Illinois, is dead at Alton.

The president has named Benjamin F. Thomas as postmaster at Omaha, Neb.

Judge John M. Stewart, a prominent lawyer and democratic politician, is dead at his home in St. Joseph, Mo.

THE BUREAU OF FORESTRY

FIFTY-SIX NEW FORESTS PLACED IN ITS CHARGE LAST YEAR.

NO EXTENSIVE FIRES

FORESTER PINCHOT'S REPORT TELLS OF THE WORK DONE AND PLANNED.

Washington.—In his annual report for the last year Chief Forester Gifford Pinchot said:

At the end of the last fiscal year all the national forests in the United States and Alaska were under organized administration. They comprise 183 administrative units, under the supervision 116 officers in charge. Fifty-six new forests were put under administration during the year.

The local administrative and protective force on the national forests on June 30, 1907, was 96 supervisors, 11 deputy supervisors, 639 rangers and 464 guards. Each field officer engaged in patrol covered on the average 132,236 acres.

Aid in technical matters was given to supervisors by twenty-five forest assistants and ten planting assistants.

The transfer to the local offices of administrative details formerly handled in Washington, together with the routine work arising from the larger use of forest resources made it necessary to increase the number of clerks in the offices of supervisors from six to twenty-nine.

Protective measures against forest fires on the national forests were highly effective, says the report. The area burned over in the calendar year 1906 was restricted to 115,416 acres—less than 7.7 acres in 10,000, as against 26 for the preceding year. The numbers of fires reported was 1,133 and the average burned area less than 102 acres. The estimated value of the timber destroyed was $76,183, as against $101,282 for the preceding year. The cost of fighting fires, exclusive of the salaries of forest officers, was $8,768. This small damage from fires, many of which were started from lightning and other unavoidable causes, in immense stretches of mountain country, is evidence, continues the report, that the measures adopted for detecting and extinguishing fires on the national forests are efficient. It is certain, Mr. Pinchot adds, that loss by fire can be virtually eliminated if appropriations for the forests provide adequate means of communication and sufficient protective force.

The national forests will be redistricted during the year 1908 with a view to their more economical administration and to making the headquarters more accessible to users. This redistricting will involve the creation of many new administrative units. The forests will be divided by water sheds and natural boundaries, rather than by legal subdivisions.

The work planned included the construction of over 3,500 miles of telephone line, 3,000 miles of trail, 200 miles of road, 250 bridges, 500 miles of drift and boundary fences and 500 cabins and barns. The large number of forests upon which the work will be carried on simultaneously will make necessary a large increase in the force of supervising engineers.

A number of roads will be built in co-operation with states and counties. In Idaho, for instance, $4,000 will be expended in co-operation with the state to build a road from Boise to Atlanta, and $3,000 to open a wagon road from Harpster to Elk City and to construct the old and well known Salmon river trail. About $4,000 will be spent in reopening and repairing the Lolo military trail, which many years ago made accessible a country rich in possibilities, and which will shorten the route between the eastern and western portions of the state by many miles. Road work in co-operation with counties will be undertaken in Colorado, Oregon and Idaho and possibly other states.

An annual statement was prepared for the accounting officers of the treasury showing receipts from sales of products on the different national forests. This statement is used by the secretary of the treasury in determining the ten per cent, required by law to be deducted and turned over to the states and territories in which the forests are situated for the benefit of public schools and public roads.

The amounts to be paid to the states and territories, as shown by the statement are as follows:

Alaska	$ 367.15
Arizona	17,307.92
California	16,064.29
Colorado	15,791.67
Idaho	19,591.66
Kansas	119.39
Montana	20,655.42
Nebraska	1,017.61
Nevada	2,133.98
New Mexico	9,614.05
Oklahoma	125.50
Oregon	13,980.89
South Dakota	2,752.23
Utah	13,557.38
Washington	3,731.55
Wyoming	16,221.49
Total	$153,022.19

DEMOCRATIC CURRENCY BILL.

Framed by Minority Members of House Committee on Banking.

Washington.—What will be known as "the minority currency bill," was introduced Friday by John Sharp Williams of Mississippi, Democratic leader of the House, who drew the measure as a result of a harmonious conference of Democratic members of the house committee on banking.

The bill will come before the house in the shape of a minority report from the banking and currency committee in its present form.

Among the provisions of the bill are the following:

It repeals all laws permitting national banks to keep three-fifths of their reserve in national banks of reserve cities and similar laws permitting such deposit of one-half of the reserve amounts.

It provides that not less than one-half of the reserves now required to be kept in lawful money in central reserve cities shall be hereafter held in gold or gold certificates.

It does away with the payment of national bank examiners by the fee system, and substitutes salaries not less than $3,000 nor in excess of $5,000 yearly, with actual expenses.

It provides that the total liabilities of any national bank, inclusive of the liabilities of its members, shall not exceed one-tenth of the bank's paid in and unimpaired capital stock and one-tenth of its impaired surplus funds; and that in no event shall the liabilities exceed thirty per cent of the capital stock.

No national bank shall loan in the aggregate more than seven times the amount of its paid up capital plus its unimpaired surplus.

Any national bank may keep fifty per cent of its reserve in United States bonds or bonds of states or in the bonds of certain municipalities, but not more than one fourth of the total reserve may be kept in state or municipal bonds; and the bonds shall be acceptable only of such municipalities as have maintained their bonds at or above par for six years preceding, and have been in corporate existence ten years and have never defaulted in their funded debt.

The comptroller of the currency, immediately after passage of the bill, shall furnish a copy of the new law to each bank in the country and inquire if it will accept the provisions.

Consent shall be binding and the liabilities attaching to consent may be enforced by the comptroller. Agreement to accept the provisions shall entitle state banks and trust companies to the benefits of the new law.

The elastic currency feature of the bill is contained in a section which provides that these interconvertible bonds may be deposited "in the nearest sub-treasury, and the depositing bank shall receive in lieu thereof United States emergency treasury notes" subject to taxation, redeemable at any time and legal tender.

For the creation of a fund of $15,000,000 for the payment of depositors of failed banks operating under the provisions of this law, there is authorized the imposition of a tax of one-sixteenth of one per cent on the deposits of banks so operating and whose consent to be so taxed has been obtained.

The final section of the bill provides that no bank officer shall make a loan for the purpose of stock gambling.

Land Claims and Grazing Permits.

Washington.—Chief Forester Pinchot in his annual report says that although lands within national forests are withdrawn from all forms of entry or filing except under the mining laws and the agricultural settlement act of June 11, 1906, many claims are valid because initiated prior to the creation of the national forests. All alleged claims must be examined and reported upon in order that the commissioner of the General Land Office may be informed if there appears to be any reason why patent should not issue.

Reports on 2,473 claims inside national forest boundaries were received from examiners. Of this number 1,093 mining, 705 homestead, 50 desert land, 42 timber and stone and 29 miscellaneous claims were transmitted to the General Land Office for final action; 200 mining, 100 homestead, 10 desert land and 29 timber and stone claims were held for further report and 215 required no action.

The General Land Office ordered 91 hearings on recommendations of the forest service that claims be rejected.

The average number of cattle and horses grazed under each permit was 67 head and the average number of sheep 1,748. This shows conclusively, says the report, that the small owners have preference in the use of the national forest ranges.

The total receipts on account of the above permits were $857,857.83.

Only eight per cent. of the applicants failed to pay the grazing fees and to accept the permits applied for, and without doubt many of these will accept their permits before the close of the season. This is exactly the same percentage as last year.

Predict Portuguese Republic.

Lisbon, Portugal, via Badajos, Spain.—The Republican leaders in Portugal are in extremely high spirits. They assert confidently that a republic is now a matter of months, not of years. A competent spokesman says:

"The end of the monarchy is near. It will come as unexpectedly as did the murder of the king and the crown prince, and the world will wake up one morning to find a republic in Portugal. We are convinced that the revolution will be a peaceful one. It is a mistake for foreigners to imagine that the people of Portugal are not awake."

PRESIDENT'S STATEMENT

HAS NOT USED FEDERAL PATRONAGE TO FURTHER NOMINATION OF TAFT.

EXPLAINS HIS COURSE

TELLS HOW AND WHY APPOINTMENTS HAVE BEEN MADE.

Washington. — President Roosevelt has made answer to the recent public statements that he has made use of federal patronage to further the presidential interests of Secretary Taft. The answer is in the form of a letter addressed to William Dudley Foulke of Richmond, Indiana, and includes a letter from Foulke to the President suggesting the need of such a statement.

The President begins by characterizing the charges as "false and malicious. He follows this with an analysis of all appointments sent by him to the Senate for its action, to show that in no case has the proximity of a presidential contest influenced his actions.

Foulke's letter, dated February 5th, says, in part:

"On January 13th I laid before you an article in the Indianapolis News (a paper supporting the candidacy of Mr. Fairbanks), accusing you of using the federal patronage to secure the nomination of Mr. Taft and naming the postoffices in particular.

"I spoke of the fact that certain Taft men had been nominated in Ohio, and you answered that that was true; that you would be very weak if you allowed the power of appointment in that state to be used only as a means of attack upon the administration.

"On my return home I observed other articles making similar charges in various papers.

"These charges also continue to be circulated by other newspapers in all parts of the country.

"In view of these reiterated complaints, would not a detailed statement of your recent appointments, the men by whom they were raised, your reasons and the principles upon which you have acted in making them, as well as a statement in regard to the alleged coercion, be the best method of exhibiting the facts? Yours truly,

(Signed) "WM. DUDLEY FOULKE."

In his reply to Foulke President Roosevelt says:

"The statement that I have used the offices in the efforts to nominate any presidential candidate is both false and malicious. It is the usual imaginative invention which flows from a desire to say something injurious. Remember that those now making this accusation were busily engaged two months ago in asserting that I was using the offices to secure my own nomination.

"Since the present Congress assembled, two months ago, I have sent to the Senate the names of all the officials I have appointed for the entire period since Congress adjourned on the 4th of March last, that is, for eleven months.

"Excluding army and navy officers, scientific experts, health officers and those of the revenue cutter service, I have made during this period about 1,352 appointments subject to confirmation by the Senate, 1,164 being postmasters. The appointments in the diplomatic and consular services and in the Indian service have been made without regard to politics.

"In nominating judges I have treated politics as a wholly secondary consideration, and, instead of relying solely upon the recommendation of either senators or congressmen, have always conducted independent inquiries myself.

"There remain the great bulk of offices, including almost all of the postoffices, the collectorships of customs, the appraiserships, the land offices and the like, numbering some 1,250 or thereabout. It is, of course, out of the question for me to examine or have knowledge of such a multitude of appointments, and therefore, as regards them I generally accept the suggestions of senators and congressmen, the elected representatives of the people in the localities concerned, always reserving to myself the right to insist upon the man's coming up to the required standard of character and capacity, and also reserving the right to nominate whomsoever I choose, if for any reason I am satisfied that I am not receiving from senator or congressman good advice, or if I happen to personally know some peculiarly fit man."

Shooting at Telluride.

Denver.—A Republican special from Telluride Sunday night says: After daring Marshal Willard Reynolds half way to fight a duel, Humane Officer S. F. Austin of this place was this morning shot through the left elbow, the bone being so badly shattered that his arm had to be amputated near the shoulder this afternoon. So far as can be learned there had been no previous trouble between the two men. Marshal Reynolds claims that he shot in self defense, and says he had never quarreled with Austin, whom he believes was intoxicated this morning. He has not been arrested. Since the shooting Austin has refused to talk.