

NEWS OF A WEEK TOLD IN BRIEF

MOST IMPORTANT EVENTS GATHERED FROM ALL POINTS OF THE GLOBE.

GIVEN IN ITEMIZED FORM

Notable Happenings Prepared for the Perusal of the Busy Man—Summary of the Latest Home and Foreign Notes.

WASHINGTON NOTES.

Theodore Roosevelt officiated for the seventh time as president of the United States at the New Year's reception at the White House. Assisting him in exchanging the salutations of the season were Mrs. Roosevelt and the members and ladies of the cabinet.

President Roosevelt and family returned to Washington from their holiday at Pine Knot, Va.

The federal government, replying to a pamphlet issued by President Moffatt of the Standard Oil company of Indiana, calls his allegations "evasions" and scores the concern as a hardened law-breaker.

The American battleship fleet sailed from Port of Spain for Rio Janeiro, which Admiral Evans said he expected to reach on January 10.

MISCELLANEOUS.

Dr. Nicholas Senn, Chicago's "fighting doctor" and one of the foremost surgeons of the central west, died at the age of 63 years.

Lamar Jackson, a full-blooded Choctaw Indian, has been appointed to a cadetship in the United States military academy at West Point by Congressman Charles D. Carter of Oklahoma.

The State Bank of Rockyford, Col., closed its doors following a run. The liabilities exceed \$400,000, and the assets are placed at over \$255,000.

Friends of Secretary Taft outvoted the Foraker faction in the Ohio state committee and primaries were ordered for February 11 at which Ohio Republicans will express by direct vote their choice for presidential nominee.

Two women were killed by an explosion in a fireworks factory in Rochester, N. Y.

Gov. Folk of Missouri announced the appointment of Virgil Rule to succeed Circuit Judge Jesse McDonald, who resigned. Judge Rule was once a St. Louis newsboy.

Louis M. Givernaud, a member of the firm of Givernaud Bros., said to be the first to establish silk manufacturing in the United States, died at Los Angeles, Cal., of heart trouble, aged 73 years.

United States Circuit Judge Pritchard at Richmond, Va., named two receivers for the Seaboard Air Line railway.

Suffering from melancholia Charles Becker of Belleville, Ill., former state treasurer, shot and killed himself.

Nightriders raided the town of Russellville, Ky., dynamited the tobacco warehouses and burned other buildings.

Allison J. Nailer, secretary general of the Supreme Council of the Ancient Order of Scottish Rite Masons, southern jurisdiction, died of the grip in Washington.

John D. Rockefeller gave \$2,191,000 more to the University of Chicago.

Count D'ont de Castellane and his cousin, Prince Helie de Sagan, had a sensational fight in Paris.

Ulrich Augustus Hoegger, a Swiss artist, was probably fatally burned in a fire which burned his studio in Philadelphia and destroyed paintings said to be worth \$100,000.

Although officially declared dead several years ago and for many years believed by his wife and friends to have died, George M. Gale appeared in court at Lancaster, Pa., to claim \$12,000 from the estate of his uncle. His wife had remarried.

During the calendar year 1907 the bureau of navigation reports 1,056 vessels of 502,508 gross tons built and specifically numbered in the United States, compared with 1,045 vessels of 393,291 tons in 1906.

Phillip F. Kramer of Portland, Ore., a locomotive engineer employed on the Isthmian canal, was murdered by robbers.

The vaudeville war was finally concluded when George Middleton, president of the Western Vaudeville association, and his associates signed an agreement to take over Cella & Oppenheim's theaters in Kansas City, Milwaukee and Louisville and the new theater being built at St. Louis.

The torpedo boat flotilla arrived at Para, Brazil.

The New Jersey pardon board refused to pardon Walter A. McAllister and William Death, who were sentenced to 30 years' imprisonment in 1901 for complicity in the murder of Jennie Boschcieter of Paterson.

Prof. Thomas Day Seymour, senior professor of Greek in Yale university, died in New Haven, Conn., after a short illness of pneumonia.

An alleged attempt was made to assassinate Father Volter, pastor of St. Ann's Catholic church at Spring Valley, Ill.

A petition in voluntary bankruptcy was filed by Henrietta Crossman, the actress, and her husband, Maurice Campbell, in the United States district court in New York.

Viscount Aoki, the Japanese ambassador, left Washington on his way home to report to the emperor.

Recipients were appointed for the Passaic Steel company of Paterson, N. J.

Twenty-three hundred barrels of beer, valued at \$17,500, was poured into the sewers of Oklahoma City, Okla., by United States Internal Revenue Collector Charles Howard.

Five persons were injured and two street cars were riddled with stones at Muncie, Ind., in a riot that followed an attempt of the Indiana Union Traction company to run cars manned by strike-breakers.

The refusal of the company to sign again the wage agreement that has been in effect for five years.

Rioting was resumed on the streets of Muncie, Ind., between the striking employees of the street railway company and the strikebreakers. Two thousand men began stoning the cars. Shots were fired and nine persons were injured.

St. Anne's Orphans' home at Terre Haute, Ind., was burned, but the 100 children were saved.

James G. Stowe, former consul general to South Africa and a well-known manufacturer, died in Kansas City.

Roy Howard, 19 years old, was sentenced to eight years in the penitentiary for the murder of Martha Eicay at Des Moines, Ia.

Secretary Metcalf announced that Capt. J. E. Pillsbury had been selected as chief of the navigation bureau of the navy department.

Curtis Guild, Jr., was inaugurated for a third term as governor of Massachusetts.

Fire that brought death to Charles Figone, eight years of age, fatal injury to Louis Figone, 16 years of age, and almost cost the lives of 50 others, broke out in the coal yard of Antonio Figone, in San Francisco, and caused damage to the extent of \$50,000.

J. W. Belknap, a wealthy lumberman, was dangerously injured, H. A. Kemp was hurt, and Charles H. Tidy and a hennam had a narrow escape from being burned in their beds at Greenville, Mich.

A suit to oust Peter Everhardt from office as mayor of Leavenworth, Kan., on the charge that he failed to enforce the prohibition law, was filed by the attorney general.

A Pennsylvania passenger train collided with an engine at Montandon, Pa., and a dozen passengers were hurt.

At Collinsville, Ill., the explosion of a lamp in the home of George Steger set fire to the house and three children perished in the flames.

Two men were killed and 13 others were injured by an explosion in converter No. 3 of the Edgar Thompson plant of the United States Steel corporation at North Braddock, Pa.

While crossing the mountains with government mail for Rocky Bar, a mining camp in Elmore county, Idaho, George McKenna was frozen to death.

Mrs. Mary Ramsey Wood died at Hillsboro, Ore., aged 119 years.

Miss Augusta Fahr, aged 28, cashier of the A. E. Johnson Steamship agency of Minneapolis, was arrested and locked up in the city jail on a charge of embezzling about \$5,000 of the company's funds.

Owen Moran, champion featherweight of England, made a draw fight of 25 rounds with Abe Attell, champion of America, at San Francisco.

Marshal Murdoch, editor and proprietor of the Wichita Eagle, father of Congressman Victor Murdoch and one of the best-known newspaper men in the United States, died, aged 70 years.

At Dillon, Mont., Fred Baker shot and killed E. A. Lawrence, who was to have married Baker's 16-year-old daughter at three o'clock.

Three white firemen were badly wounded in a fight in the Japanese quarters of Vancouver, B. C.

Affairs of the Seaboard Air Line Railroad company reached a crisis, and after a long conference of the voting trustees it was decided to make application to the courts for a receiver.

George A. Fisher, a building inspector of Newark, N. J., was shot and killed by a burglar.

The Colonial Arms, the largest summer hotel on the north shore of Massachusetts, was burned with nearly all its furnishings. The loss is estimated at \$100,000.

Agnes Petterson, aged about 25, and Otto Hugin, aged 26, were drowned, breaking through the ice while skating at Ford Slip, Mich.

The case of the members of the first Russian duma who were convicted for signing the Viborg manifesto and sentenced to three months' imprisonment will be carried before the senate, the highest tribunal in Russia.

Rev. Edward Twitchell Ware was installed as president of the Atlanta (Ga.) university, which his father founded.

Charles Franklyn Regid, former actor and automobile, who came into prominence about ten years ago, when at the age of 32 he married Mrs. Adele Ronalds, then 70, and widow of Thomas A. Ronalds, a New York society leader, died at his country mansion at New Rochelle.

In the Tombs at New York, awaiting trial for murder, is Henry Shipman, aged 52, who shot and killed Mrs. Josephine Mason in that city about 20 years ago. Shipman was adjudged insane and sent to Matawan, and was discharged recently.

Gov. Sparks of Nevada called an extra session of the legislature to convene January 14, 1908, to take action on the Goldfield troubles.

The Archaeological Institute, in session in Chicago, was told of the discovery of a new saying of Christ that belonged in the sixteenth chapter of St. Mark. It was found by Charles L. Freer of Detroit in Egypt.

Because Rev. Ernest Sweeten in a sermon at Newburg, Ind., said that any woman who danced was of questionable character, young men of Newburg attacked the minister with daggers and with clubs.

The grand jury in San Francisco returned four indictments for alleged embezzlement against officials of the California Safe Deposit and Trust company.

Andrew Carnegie donated \$10,000 for a public library for Fairbury, Neb., under the usual conditions—the donation of a site and the appropriation of \$10,000 a year for maintenance.

Transatlantic passenger traffic during 1907 was increased by nearly 1,000,000 over 1906. A total of 2,957,328 was carried, according to figures given by the North German Lloyd company in New York.

Robert Weston, colored, who "shot up" a passenger train near Baton Rouge, La., killing A. K. Widert, was sentenced to death after a trial lasting 30 minutes.

Dr. Mary Merritt, a prepossessing young woman, has begun work in Brooklyn as an ambulance surgeon.

Comptroller Metz, in a review of the growth of New York in the ten years since consolidation, said that the assessed valuations of real estate owned by the people had advanced from \$2,532,416,819 in 1898 to \$6,240,480,602 in 1907.

Lieut. F. P. Lahm, U. S. A., returned from Europe, where he won the international balloon contest in France, declared that dirigible airships would henceforth be an important part of the equipment of modern armies.

The trial of the 169 members of the first Russian duma, who signed the Viborg manifesto, was concluded in St. Petersburg. One hundred and sixty-seven of them were convicted and sentenced to three months' imprisonment, while two were acquitted on the ground that they had signed under duress.

The sentence carrier—that it the loss of all political rights.

The systematic campaign for lower rents by thousands of tenants on the lower East side in New York began to show material results when many landlords announced that they were ready to make reductions.

The Temple of Neptune, in Rome, built by Hadrian, and standing in the center of the Forum of Atrippa, now occupied by the stock exchange, was the scene of a tremendous explosion, presumably of gas, in which 20 persons were injured. The city was thrown into wild excitement.

Capt. Von Goeben, a distinguished officer in the artillery branch of the German army, caused a sensation in military circles by confessing that he was the author of the mysterious murder of Maj. Von Schoenbeck, a brother officer, who was shot dead on Christmas by a man he caught leaving his wife's room.

Judge Charles I. Thomson died in Denver of asthma. He was a member of the Colorado court of appeals for 12 years.

Gov. Sheldon of Nebraska wanted to give the lieutenant governor \$100 of his salary for serving as governor several days, but found the law forbade it.

Mrs. A. Mosher of Lincoln, Neb., while smoking a pipe in bed set her coverlet afire and was burned to death.

M. De Troos, premier and minister of the interior of Belgium, died at Brussels.

Mrs. Anson Jones, widow of Dr. C. Anson Jones, the last president of the republic of Texas, died in Houston.

A bill was filed in the United States circuit court at Atlanta asking that the Georgia prohibition law be declared unconstitutional.

Nine miners were killed and several injured by an explosion in a mine at Carthage, N. M.

Edward Ritchie and William Hay were appointed receivers for the Wi-berg-Hanna Lumber company, one of the largest lumber firms in Cincinnati.

Capt. N. B. Thistlewood of Cairo, Ill., was nominated on the Republican ticket for the seat from the Twenty-fifth congressional district made vacant by the death of Representative George W. Smith.

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Balaam Outdone

Being the
Reminiscences
of a
Nature Fakir

By
John Kendrick Bangs

(Copyright, by Joseph B. Bowles.)

"I am, an' allus have been, a first-class Republican," said St. Wotherpoon, helping himself to a handful of raisins out of the box on the end of the counter, "but I must say that if the next national convention puts a nater fakir plank in the platform I'll be sort of up a tree. I think th' president means all right, but sometimes he 'pears to me to speak a little bit basty."

"O'casional he does," said the Captain. "Not often preaps, but often 'nough to keep things goin' some."

"Now in the nater fakir proclamation o' his," continued St., "he don't mention that there story o' Balaam's Ass, an' yet it seems to me he might of, just as reasonable as pickin' a feller up for sayin' that an enraged rabbit chewed up th' vermiform appendix of a buffalo that had invaded the sanctity of his home."

"You don't seem to see that that there Balaam's Ass was a miracle, St.," said the Postmaster, loyally flying as in duty bound, to the defense of the

kitchen floor an' went straight on up through the roof an' perched on the chimney for ten minutes before disappearin' in the clouds."

"What'd he say to that?" laughed St.

"Nothin'," said the Captain. "He looked at me out o' the corner o' his eyes, an' ambled off up the street, an' disappeared round the turn leadin' down to the beach."

"He prob'ly thought you was lyin' to him, an' took offense," suggested the Postmaster.

"No, I don't think so, because he came back the next afternoon about the same time," said the Captain. "He stopped at the gate jest as he did before, an' stickin' his nose over the fence he ast me if we had much lightnin' around here. 'Yes,' says I. 'That is, they have a lot o' what they call lightnin' around here, but it ain't knee-high to a Katydid 'longside o' the lightnin' they have further up the coast.' An' then I told him about a streak that come along one night on my father's farm up back o' Bar Harbor, an' stayed with us for five full days. Most lightnin' comes like a flash, does what it has to do and disappears, I says to him. 'But this here streak took a fancy to a sixty acre track o' woods we had, an' kep workin' away on it for five days, at the end of which time it had knocked down all the trees, burnt the timber, trunk, branch an' stump, an' then plowed up the field so we was able to sow it with corn when he'd got the job finished an' disappeared.' Ever been struck?" says he. 'Yes,' says I, 'dozens of times. Last time it hit me was summer before last. I was settin' right where I am now talkin' to an other jackass, when a bolt seven inches wide come in the kitchen door, through the house an' right out here right behind me. It took me between the shoulders an' when it got through with me I found myself settin' on the deck of a lumber schooner seven miles off York Harbor, makin' for Boston an' without a scratch, an'

over my hens without so much as a word of sorrow, an' turns the occasional visit o' the midnight skunk into a beautiful an' fragrant merr'y. Then that jackass begun an' told me what a blessin' them ottermoyleys was to the farmer. How it brought people into our midst, who bought our eggs an' butter, an' patterned our road-houses, an' eat our doughnuts. 'Maybe so,' says I. 'Maybe so! But I ain't noticed that I ever ast to have any people come into my midst. My midst ain't more 'n middlin' strong any ways,' I says, and it's got all it can do digestin' its own troubles without burdenin' itself with the trials of the gasolene aristocracy from the cities. As for the butter'n eggs, I says, 'all the butter 'n eggs they consume is the butter they spread on the country side, an' the eggs they scramble in the highway when their chariots o' fire bump into our waggins goin' around turns at forty miles an hour. They's profit in that, an' I ain't sayin' that some o' th' farmers up round here don't load their waggins an' sort o' lay around waitin' to be run into for the sake of a quick sale, but that sort o' thing don't breed no permanent prosperity.'"

"You was dead right about that," said St. Wotherpoon. "I've tried it myself, an' it don't pay, considerin' the time ye lose waitin' for an ottermoyle to come an' bump ye."

"Tain't good business anyways," said the Captain. "An I said as much to that there jackass, an' then he launched out into a long distance talk on prosperity in general; how much more real money they was in cireklyland than they used to be; what a boon to the country the trusts was, until finally I got so go-d-darned tired o' th' sound of his voice that I went to sleep, an' when I woke up he'd gone."

"An' ye mean t' tell us that this was a real jackass?" observed the Postmaster scornfully.

"Well, ye can judge for yourself," said the Captain. "The last talk I had with him was on the subject o' this

pullin' away on my clay pipe, which, by the way, the lightnin' had lit. I havin' only just filled it when the bolt come along. 'That's goin' some,' says he. 'I'd hate to be struck like that myself. 'You ain't in no danger,' says I. 'Lightnin' never strikes brass.' 'It killed old Annynias,' says he. 'Yes,' says I. 'That's one reason why I ain't afraid of it.' 'Because it never strikes in the same place twice?' says he. 'No,' says I. 'Because I ain't made of the same moral material,' says I. An' then he moved on again."

"He was a pretty clever ass, seems to me," said the Postmaster.

"He thought so himself," said the Captain. "Anyhow he thought he was smart enough to come back again a couple o' days later an' bring two of his friends with him. 'Good afternoon,' says he with an assine grin an' a wink at the other two. 'Is it says I. 'I ain't noticed the weather.' 'My friends an' I have come around to ask how the lobsters is runnin' this years,' he says. 'Oh, have ye?' says I. 'Well, I can't exactly say—ye might ask your friends to give an exhibition run up an' down the road, an' ye can see for yourself, only,' says I, 'ye'd better not let Tom Seevy ketch ye with em.' 'What's Tom Seevy got to do with it?' he asks. 'He's the town constable,' says I, 'an' from a bird's eye view of your friends I'm afraid they're under size. Ye'll be fined fifty dollars for havin' 'em in your possession.' He brayed for two hull minutes when I said that, but his friends wasn't p'ticularly pleased an' made off up to the hotel where they was stablin'. He sort o' lingered around 's if he hadn't had quite enough, an' after awhile he says: 'Any shootin' around here?' 'Well,' says I, 'it all depends upon what ye call shootin'.' If ye want deer an' pahrtridge, they ain't as plenty as they used to be, but if ye'd like to bring down a few shufflers ye can set right down here in my yard an' pop 'em by the dozen,' an' I Gorry, I says, 'I'll lend you my gun t' do with.' 'What's shootin' around here?' 'Well,' says I, 'it all depends upon what ye call shootin'.' If ye want deer an' pahrtridge, they ain't as plenty as they used to be, but if ye'd like to bring down a few shufflers ye can set right down here in my yard an' pop 'em by the dozen,' an' I Gorry, I says, 'I'll lend you my gun t' do with.' 'What's shootin' around here?' 'Well,' says I, 'it all depends upon what ye call shootin'.' 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