

WHAT ALL THE WORLD IS DOING

Trend of Civilization in All Lines From Week to Week

POLITICS and GOVERNMENT

Executive.

Taft to Soothe Panama.
It was announced officially, Oct. 19, at Washington that Secretary of War Taft had been requested by the president to go in person to confer with the president of the republic of Panama regarding the complaints which recently have been made by the people of Panama against the course of the United States. Secretary Taft is expected to start about the middle of November and will be accompanied by the Panama minister, Obaldia, and by William Nelson Cromwell. In his letter to Secretary



Secretary Taft.

Taft the president says that under no circumstances will the United States think of establishing an independent colony within the state of Panama nor of interfering in any way with the internal affairs of that state. The chief complaint of the Panamanians is that Americans are building up in the canal zone rival cities to Panama and Colon and are otherwise interfering with domestic trade.

Wynne Wants \$183,000,000.
The estimate for the next fiscal year of the postal service as submitted by Postmaster General Wynne, after scaling down many items for the sake of economy, is \$183,748,455. During the last fiscal year receipts were more than \$143,000,000, a gain of \$9,000,000 over the preceding year. The deficit was about \$8,000,000.

Removed For Slocum Disaster.
In forwarding to Secretary of Commerce and Labor Metcalf the report of the commission appointed to investigate the burning of the steamboat General Slocum at New York, President Roosevelt recommended the instant dismissal of the supervising inspector at New York, Mr. Riddle, and two local inspectors, Messrs. Dumont and Barrett, for laxity and neglect in performing their duties. Their successors are directed to conduct a thorough examination of the entire force at New York, so as to weed out objectionable characters. The president specially favored the recommendation of the commission that there be created by law a special body to investigate the laws which are supposed to provide for the safety of passengers on steamboats. He characterizes as gross infamy the conduct of the cork manufacturer at Camden, N. J., who put on the market cork weighted with iron.

Captain Henry Seeley, inspector of hulls at Boston, was appointed in Dumont's place, and Theodore Mersereau, now assistant inspector of hulls in New York, will succeed Barrett. Ira Harris, inspector for the second New York district, was appointed supervising inspector in place of Mr. Riddle.

Soldier Marries Negro Woman.
The marriage of Private Smith of the hospital corps at Fort Mott, N. J., to a negro woman who had nursed him from sickness to health at the time of the Spanish war has been brought to the attention of Major General Hainesworth at Washington. General Grant having recommended dismissal from the army "for the good of the service." The case was referred to Judge Advocate General Davis.

General.

Parker on the Philippines.
The Republican policy of imperialism as exemplified in the government of the Philippines was the subject of an address by the Democratic candidate, Judge Parker, to a number of visiting clubs at Esopus. He charged that the Republican party stood for subjugation of defenseless foreign peoples, while the Democracy stands for freedom. He said the Filipinos were restive under oppression and should have immediate assurance that self government will come as soon as they are reasonably prepared for it. He charged that besides paying the conquered Spaniards \$20,000,000 for the Philippines we had wasted over \$50,000,000 more and sacrificed over 200,000 lives, a wasting and sacrifice not yet ended. These figures are contradicted by the departmental records as interpreted by ex-Secretary Root, Secretary Shaw and other Republican speakers.

The President's Shaw Letter.
A sensational feature of the speech by Senator Culberson of Texas at the Carnegie hall Democratic meeting Oct. 20 was the reading of the text of a personal letter written by President Roosevelt to Dr. Albert Shaw, editor of the Review of Reviews, on Oct. 10, 1903, a few weeks prior to the Panama revolution. Although this letter was published in Walter Wellman's Washington correspondence last November, one part of it had been left out—that in which the president said that "privately" he should be delighted if Panama were independent, although he could not say so publicly, as that would

amount to an instigation of revolt. From this letter Senator Culberson concludes that the president was advised of the contemplated Panama secession, as the letter speaks of casting aside the proposition to ferment secession. The speaker objected to the distinction between private and public instigation of conspiracy and revolution.

Bryan's Indiana Tour.
W. J. Bryan closed his eight day cart-tail stumping tour of Indiana, during which he addressed approximately 250,000 people. In his later speeches Mr. Bryan took the ground that one good turn deserves another—that is, his friends should support Parker because Parker supported him. He also answered Candidate Watson by charging that the Populists were helping to elect Roosevelt.

Campaign Notes.
The Democratic candidate for governor in Massachusetts, William L. Douglas, has conducted a novel campaign by making a feature of colored posters, newspaper display and an automobile handshaking tour over the state. Papers of both parties will be used in advertising Mr. Douglas' personality.

Redfield Proctor was re-elected to the United States senate by the Vermont legislature Oct. 18, and the election was confirmed in joint session on the following day.

Under the suffrage amendment poll tax qualification only 1,174 negroes have been enabled to register for voting in the state of Louisiana. About 35,000 whites have also been disfranchised on the same grounds.

The leaders of Tammany Hall have decided to oppose in the courts the course of Superintendent of Elections Morgan in challenging men for registration at New York. The sensational incident of the campaign in that city was the arrest of Richard Van Cott, son of the postmaster, on the charge of colonizing floaters.

Chairman Scott of the Republican executive committee made his official prediction that Parker would be beaten worse than Greeley in 1872 and that Roosevelt's plurality would be greater than that of McKinley in 1896 or 1900. Maryland is the only doubtful state which he admits to be debatable.

Candidate Davis ended his 1,300 mile trip in West Virginia, during which he addressed 100,000 persons.

Ex-President Cleveland addressed a Democratic mass meeting at New York, Oct. 21, and was greeted with great enthusiasm.

Foreign.

Australia's Legislative Tie-up.
Since the recent defeat of the Federal Labor party in Australia on the question of giving preference to unionists in employment, the cabinet of Premier Watson, which resigned, has been superseded by a coalition of four free traders and four protectionists headed by Mr. Reid. Nevertheless no legislation of importance has been accomplished owing to the combination of extreme protectionists with the defeated labor party. There is already talk of the dissolution of the commonwealth.

Elections Called in Italy.
Premier Giolitti of Italy has requested the call of a general election. The plan is to appeal to the country in defense of order and liberty. This announcement has increased the activity of the Socialists throughout the country. Mail advices show that the tele-

Weather and Exhaustion Halted Battle.
After nearly two weeks of the most desperate fighting between the Russian and Japanese armies in Manchuria, with over half a million men in action along a thirty mile front, and with over 100,000 men killed or wounded on both sides, the greatest battle in all history ceased temporarily in the face of cold rains, flooded rivers and impassable roads. Sheer exhaustion of the troops engaged made this interludic most welcome and enabled the wounded to be cared for and the dead to be buried. Neither Kuropatkin nor Oyama admitted defeat, and both generals held their lines in readiness for the first favorable opening to renew the terrible struggle. Kuropatkin had been re-enforced by the entire Eighth army corps and Oyama had called for 70,000 more troops.

The Russian army in the first six days of the battle had been disastrously beaten back, as told in our last report, losing heavily in men and guns. But on Oct. 16 Kuropatkin got in touch with his reserves, turned on his pursuers and repulsed the Japanese center along the Shakhe river. Then came the desperate assault of the Russians on the Japanese position on Lone Tree hill, which was captured, with thirty-five Japanese guns. Further Russian advances were checked by the Japanese and all fighting was greatly impeded by rains and floods.

graph censorship of the Italian government concealed the real gravity of the recent general strike which paralyzed the industry of the country for a few days. The royal decree fixes the general elections for Nov. 6 and Nov. 13 and the reopening of parliament Nov. 30. There are evidences that the Italian army has been honeycombed by the Socialistic propaganda.

Site For Peace Palace.
The government of Holland has settled the difficulty over the acceptance of the Carnegie peace fund by deciding to build the palace of peace on a plot between The Hague and Scheveningen. Work will be begun at once.

Tibet Still a Trouble Spot.
The failure of the Chinese government promptly to ratify the Anglo-Tibetan treaty recently negotiated at Lassa is causing the British government some alarm. At the same time the Tibetans say they are unable to pay the indemnity of 75 lacs of rupees in three years. Germany and Russia are thought to be using their influence at Peking against signing the treaty. The returning British expedition in Tibet was reported snowbound in a fortress near Boutan.

Philippine Commerce Increasing.
The bureau of insular affairs at Washington reports that the commerce of the Philippine Islands has increased more than \$1,000,000 during three-quarters of the last fiscal year. For the first time since American occupation the United States leads in the amount of merchandise sent to the islands.

SOCIOLOGICAL

An Intercity Servant League.
The intermunicipal committee of household study, which has recently been organized, is made up of women in New York, Boston and Philadelphia who seek to better the conditions of domestic service. Its bureaus in these three cities were put in operation last week, and the public is invited to cooperate. The plan contemplated not only furnishes good servants at moderate wages, but also the education of housekeepers as to their duties toward servants. While opposing fake employment agencies, the intercity committee says it has no intention of competing with any existing business. It has no theories and charges no fees for information or publication. Its work is entirely co-operative and educational. It is backed by some of the most prominent women in the cities concerned.

Notes.
The distinguished Jewish author, Israel Zangwill, has come from England to this country for the purpose of interesting American Jews in the establishment of a colony for the Hebrew race in east Africa. He believes the Jews should acquire the art of self government in this way.

Nora Stanton Blatch, the granddaughter of Mrs. Elizabeth Cady Stanton, who is a senior in civil engineering at Cornell, is said to be perfecting plans for the organization of women political clubs in the leading coeducational schools and colleges of the country with the object of securing political equality for women.

President Francis told the American Street Railway association at St. Louis that the world's fair had lost at least \$1,000,000 through being compelled to close on Sunday.

The public bequests in the will of Mrs. Sarah E. Potter, widow of Warren B. Potter of Boston, aggregate about \$3,000,000, all of which goes to public institutions in that city and vicinity.

The Chicago Medical society has begun an investigation into charges against eighteen prominent physicians because of paying commissions to outside doctors for referring cases. Evidence had been gathered by sending decoy letters to all the leading physicians of the city.

IN ALL the "prosperity" promises by the republicans for the past twelve years, no class has found itself so badly deceived as the farmers and workingmen. The trusts and millionaires only have had "prosperity," and they raked it all off the farmers and working classes—and you can't find any of the latter who will not say so. The strikes all the time for twelve years are proof of the fact here stated. Farmers complain and workingmen complain. The trust magnates alone rejoice and are glad.

A fellow isn't in the swim when society throws him overboard.

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