

WHAT ALL THE WORLD IS DOING

Trend of Civilization in All Lines From Week to Week

POLITICS and GOVERNMENT

Executive.

Rebates to the Government.

The comptroller of the currency has charged Secretary Hitchcock of the interior department and Director Walcott of the geological survey with having made contracts with western railroad companies providing for the payment of rebates to the government contrary to the interstate commerce law. The charge occurs in connection with the execution of the irrigation law, where Secretary Hitchcock found that by entering into a contract with the railroads he could save the government about \$1,000,000, the railroads agreeing to reduce rates upon all materials intended for government use.

A Pension Office Scandal.

Vespasian Warner, the new pension commissioner, has notified several members of the board of review to show cause why they should not be dismissed or reduced on account of slipshod methods and especially for allowing pensions to members of a regiment that was never in the service of the United States.

Vespasian Warner. This regiment was organized in 1861 by Colonel McLane at Erie, Pa., and offered its services under the first call of President Lincoln for three months. Pennsylvania's quota was filled and the regiment was not accepted. Recently members of this regiment who applied for pensions under order No. 78 have been successful.

Census of the Philippines.

The census bureau has made public the results of its census of the Philippine Islands, the principal object of which was to form a basis for the establishment of a Philippine legislature. The population of the archipelago, composed of 342 islands, is 7,635,426. Foreigners number about 50,000, of whom three-fourths are Chinese. Of this number 7,000,000 are more or less civilized. The wild tribes form about 9 per cent of the entire population. The civilized tribes are practically all adherents of the Catholic church. The Moros and Mohammedans and the other wild peoples have no recognized religious belief. More than half of the population cannot either read or write in any language. A majority are engaged in farming small tracts of land, alternating this with fishing, while the women weave hats and cloths. Eleven per cent of the pupils in the school understand English. In 1902 there were forty-two newspapers. The rate of wages has been doubled since the American occupation.

Limit of Newspaper Mail.

The postoffice department has decided to draw the line against accepting as newspaper mail the various articles offered as premiums in connection with the Sunday papers, but which are not strictly germane to the newspaper itself. These include calendars, sheet music, patterns, postcards, cut-out animals, etc., and they will not be mailable after Sept. 1 except at the regular rates of postage.

Notes.

The first class battleship Minnesota was launched at Newport News, Va., April 8, christened by Miss Rose Marie Schaller of Minnesota. President Shonts of the Panama canal commission has created a favorable impression at the outset by defining the keynote of his policy as "direct business methods, publicity and absolutely no politics." He says there will be monthly reports of progress, funds expended and outlook. He will not resign his duties as president of the Toledo, St. Louis and Western railroad. After spending five days hunting coyotes and jack rabbits in Oklahoma President Roosevelt and his party started for Colorado April 13. During the hunt eighteen coyotes were killed. In Colorado he is to hunt bigger game under a special hunting license from the state game commissioner.

Legal and Criminal.

Alaska Under the Constitution.

In an opinion delivered by Justice White, April 10, the United States supreme court unanimously agreed that the constitutional provision for trial by jury exists in Alaska, although it has never been specifically extended there by congress. It was pointed out that the treaty by which Alaska was acquired provided that its inhabitants should have the rights of American citizens.

Senator Mitchell's Plea.

United States Senator John H. Mitchell entered a plea of not guilty to four indictments of the federal grand jury April 11 at Portland, Ore. He challenged the acts of the grand jury by charging that it was not legally constituted.

Beef Trust Indictments.

On April 13 three employees and one of the attorneys for Schwarzschild & Sulzberger, the New York packers, were indicted by the Chicago grand

jury. They were promptly arrested and released on bonds. They are charged with obstructing service on a much needed witness and helping him to escape to Canada.

Senator Burton Reindicted.

The federal grand jury at St. Louis has reindicted United States Senator J. R. Burton on the charge of accepting fees from the Rialto Grain and Securities company, for which he was alleged to have acted as an attorney before the postoffice department. This action is pursuant to the decision of the United States supreme court on disputed points of the former trial.

Philadelphia Bourse Purged.

On information made public by the North American quo warranto proceedings to annul the charter of the "con" or fake stock exchange which has occupied quarters in the Philadelphia bourse building, also notice of eviction May 1, was served. The crooks who have operated the "con" exchange turned over the control of the concern to the firm of Haight & Freese, a syndicate of bucket shoppers, in return for aid in fighting their legal battle.

General.

Rival Jefferson Banqueters.

The two Jefferson day banquets on April 13, one at New York and the other at Chicago, illustrated the existing divergence of views among the men who in the past have been prominent in the councils of the Democratic party. At Chicago the principal speakers were Mayor Dunne, W. J. Bryan, Mayor Johnson of Cleveland and George Fred Williams of Massachusetts, and the burden of their talk was denunciation of monopolies in any and all forms, while Mayor Dunne frankly advocated the national ownership of interstate utilities as the Democratic platform.

At New York Alton B. Parker, D. Cady Herrick, Mayor McClellan and others added their more conservative, but less specific, views about what should be done. Mayor McClellan made the hit of the occasion by owning up the lesson of defeat and proclaiming that public office should not be the sole ambition of Democracy.

Mayor Dunne Installed.

Without public demonstration or ceremonial Edward F. Dunne was inaugurated as mayor of Chicago on April 10 in the council chamber, being accompanied by the retiring mayor, Harrison. His first act was to appoint Clarence S. Darrow as special counsel in the litigation with the street railway owners. Mr. Darrow is known widely as the defender of the miners before the strike commission.

Roosevelt's Retirement Plans.

The announcement made by President Roosevelt at Dallas, Tex., that he would be permanently through with his present position in four years, after which he would write the history of Texas, has set at rest the talk in some quarters about forcing his third term candidacy.

New York Republicans Plot.

The first serious cloud on the horizon of the Harriman-Odell Republican machine in the state of New York has appeared in the shape of a defensive and offensive alliance between Senator Platt and ex-Governor Black.

New York City's Vote Buying.

That \$574,000 was spent by the Republican and Democratic parties in the city of New York for the purpose of purchasing over 170,000 voters besides the patronage of the election machinery itself is the careful statistical estimate announced by John Gilmer Speed in Harper's Weekly, based upon personal investigations. Mr. Speed found that in each of the 1,550 election districts each party employed a captain, who in turn employed a number of assistants

at \$5 apiece for election day. These assistants in turn handed out the cash for votes, varying from \$1 for negroes to \$1.50 for Italians and \$2 for Americans.

H. C. Frick In Politics.

Pittsburg hears that its millionaire townsman, H. C. Frick, has decided to take an active part in national politics during the next presidential campaign, entering the field from New York instead of Pennsylvania. A Pittsburg paper says he refused the offer of the treasury portfolio in the Roosevelt cabinet.

SOCIOLOGICAL

The Women's National Council.

The triennial convention of the National Council of Women, with delegates representing 2,000,000 in all sorts of organizations, has been in session at Washington. Mrs. Mary Wood Swift of San Francisco, a sister of Major General Wood, presided.

After a warm discussion the council voted 23 to 4 for a resolution condemning polygamy and against the sending of a Mormon in the senate. The Rev. Anna Howard Shaw, president of the Woman's Suffrage association, sharply criticized the men who prated about wifehood and motherhood and said that the women must stand up for a husbandhood and fatherhood. As to the rearing of children, she said we must first make our country fit to rear children in.

Carnegie at Northampton.

Mr. and Mrs. Andrew Carnegie were the guests of honor at Northampton, Mass., April 12, when Carnegie House, the latest building of the Home Culture club, was dedicated. In his address Mr. Carnegie took occasion to approve of dancing as one of the club's means of entertainment. He also said he looked forward to the time when each community, seeing that religion in its essence is one, would come together without denominational differences and strive for the general good.

Cost of Women's Clothing.

Edward Atkinson, the Boston statistician, has published figures showing that a woman can clothe herself fittingly on \$65 a year, thus implying that most society women are unnecessarily extravagant.

SCIENTIFIC

Planet Mars Changing Color.

Professor Percival Lowell of the Flagstaff (Ariz.) observatory has notified the Harvard officials that the color of that portion of Mars known as the erythraean sea recently turned from blue green to chocolate brown. Professor Pickering of Harvard thinks that this change is merely climatic. The so called sea is not believed to be in reality a water area, but a level extent of vegetation. Winter is the present season on Mars, but the usual snow areas have not been observed by the astronomers.

Electricity Versus Eyeglasses.

Dr. Stephen Smith of the Battersea hospital, London, has recently arrived in America for the purpose of demonstrating to the medical profession the success of his new treatment for defective vision. It consists in the application of electricity to the ball of the eye and pressure without pain so as to rectify refraction. Less than a year ago he discovered this method by which people with far sight, short sight or astigmatism can be made to see better without spectacles than with them. He denies that his method is principally massage of the eye. He admits that massage is valuable as a stimulation to circulation, but insists that his method involves the correction by direct pressure on the part of the eye structure corresponding to the defect.

Map Showing Course of Czar's Fleet



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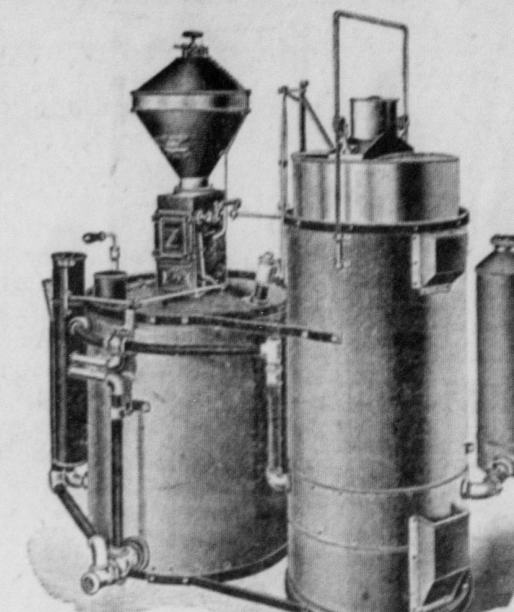
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