

Week's News Condensed.

Continued from page 1, this section. \$80,865,648, or an increase of \$7,243,948 over 1903. Our production of silver last year amounted to 65,969,864 ounces, valued at \$32,035,078, or an increase of \$1,689,864.

Lots of Philippine Coal.

According to the annual report of Brigadier General Humphrey, enough coal has been discovered in the island of Bataan, of the Philippine group, to supply the army, the navy and the government of the island with coal for 348 years. General Humphrey wants congress to appropriate \$50,000 to buy the coal lands, on which an option is now held by the government and which expires March 1 next year. The island of Bataan is off the southeast coast of Luzon. At present the coal used in the Philippines comes from Australia and Japan.

Wireless Station Covers Europe.

The German postoffice department is erecting a wireless telegraph station at Norddeich which is expected to cover a circuit of not less than 922 miles, or practically the entire area of Europe. Norddeich is at the most northwestern point of the German empire, and it is also the terminus of the Prussian railway system. The towers of the station are to be 213 and 2,500 feet high. The foundations have already been laid, and it is expected that it will be in operation by the first of the year.

Train Auditors on the Alton.

A set of train auditors or watchmen has been placed on the passenger trains of the Chicago and Alton. It will be their duty to check the collections of ticket and money by the conductor. The Alton expects to make a big saving in this way.

FOREIGN

London's Unemployed Parade.

The attention of the British public has been called once more to the increasing restlessness of the great mass of poor people existing in their midst by the demonstration of about 10,000 unemployed men and women, who marched through the streets of London to Hyde park, where they listened to speeches and adopted resolutions summoning parliament to initiate works of national utility. On the march they carried red flags and banners, among which occurred frequently this inscription: "Curse your charity! It is work we want!" It was only two weeks since the wives of the unemployed, leading or carrying their starving children, marched to Premier Balfour's house to demand measures for their relief. Since then the queen has started a fund for the poor, to which many prominent and wealthy people have contributed. It has reached \$400,000.

Balfour's Resignation Expected.

Two of the leading Tory newspapers strongly urged the resignation of Premier Balfour in view of the split among the Unionists over the fiscal policy advocated by former Colonial Secretary Chamberlain, and it was regarded as only a matter of a day or two when the cabinet met before the premier would retire and be succeeded by the Liberal leader, Sir Henry Campbell-Bannerman. The latter is known as a staunch adherent to home rule.

Norway's King, Haakon VII.

Prince Charles of Denmark, having accepted the offer of the throne of Norway as made in person by a parliamentary committee, proceeded to Christiania in the royal yacht accompanied by his wife and three-year-old son. He takes the title of Haakon VII., thus connecting with the last viking ruler of Norway in the fourteenth century. His wife becomes Queen Maud and his son the Crown Prince Olaf. Messages of congratulation have been sent to the young king by President Roosevelt, King Edward and other rulers. King Haakon is in his thirty-third year.

Korea Yields to Japan.

The government of the Hermit Kingdom was virtually transferred from Seoul to Tokyo on Nov. 29, when Marquis Ito and Baron Hayashi, in Seoul as the representatives of the mikado and backed by a powerful military force, compelled the Korean cabinet to sign the agreement for a Japanese protectorate in foreign and domestic affairs. A Japanese administrator is to be appointed to govern the country under the emperor, and all treaty ports are to be under Japanese administration, while diplomatic affairs are to be transferred actually to Tokyo. On the day that the agreement was signed 8,000 Japanese soldiers made a demonstration before the old Korean palace, and Japanese soldiers patrolled the streets. It was freely charged that a majority of the Korean cabinet was brought to favor the agreement by means of cash bribes. The minority retired to the palace and remained obdurate, but the seals were secured through friendly ministers, and thus the agreement had the color of legal form. Japanese garrisons will be stationed at important places.

Turkey Defies the Powers.

The sultan of Turkey having taken a positive stand against conceding the right of European powers to dictate the finances of Macedonia, the international fleet, composed of English, German, French, Italian and Austrian ships, assembled at the Piræus was ordered to proceed Nov. 24 to carry out

the mandate of the powers. On the other hand, Bulgaria has resolved to march troops in Macedonia unless the demonstrations of the allies bring about order and reform. The sultan intimated that the powers might be better engaged in preventing massacres in Russia than in acting with Russia to prevent outrages in Macedonia.

Russian Peasants Now Rise.

Emperor Nicholas presided at the first full meeting of Count Witte's cabinet and signed two new decrees, one for freedom of the press and the other for freedom of assembly. These had previously been promised, but they were not made into definite administrative orders. At the same time it was intimated that the czar had decided to grant universal, equal and secret suffrage.

Following the discontinuance of the workmen's strike the agrarian movement became alarming, and in the central provinces many of the present conscripts refused to take the oath unless lands were given to them. By a scanty majority of twenty the zemstvo congress at Moscow accepted the first sections of the programme drafted by the executive committee, declaring agreement with the czar's manifesto of Oct. 30. A demand was made for the immediate abolition of martial law in Poland.

The workmen's council in calling off the industrial strike asserted that a great victory had been achieved and that the lives of 1,500 Cronstadt mutineers had been saved. The prospects of popular support for Count Witte grew brighter from day to day, and the government was taking a firmer stand in consequence. The extreme revolutionists declared they would now devote their energies to preparing a universal political strike to sustain their programme when the national assembly meets. They expect to be aided by the famine and the plague.

COMMERCIAL

Mutual's Salaries Reduced.

The trustees of the Mutual Life Insurance company at New York voted to reduce the salaries of the principal executive officers so as to effect an aggregate saving of \$225,000 a year. This brings the salary of President McCurdy down from \$150,000 to \$75,000. All agents are to go on salary hereafter. Nothing in this action is taken to commit the trustees to a continuance of the McCurdy regime.

Steel Trust's New Plant.

The United States Steel corporation has recently purchased 2,500 acres of land on the south shore of Lake Michigan in Indiana with the expectation of

erecting soon a manufacturing plant on an enormous scale. The improvement will be nominally under the management of the Illinois Steel company. The plant will consist of blast furnaces, open hearth furnaces, coke ovens and various mills for the production of steel products.

It was reported at Washington, Pa., that the steel trust had absorbed 60,000 acres of coal lands in that section at an expense of \$10,000,000. This is expected to make the trust independent of coal troubles for several decades.

Tarbell as a Rebater.

The main point of popular interest elicited by the insurance committee from the testimony of Gage E. Tarbell, the Equitable's manager of agencies, was that he had received the agent's commissions on policies taken out on his own life since he became vice president of the society. His policies amounted to about \$500,000. Nevertheless he professed to believe that this was not rebating.

The Mutual Reserve Life was next under investigation, its actuary, George D. Eldridge, telling how the former president, E. B. Harper, had received 10 cents on every \$1,000 of insurance, amounting up to \$48,000 at the time of his death. When Harper was succeeded by Frederick E. Burnham part of these commissions were turned over to a special or "yellow dog" fund for the protection of the company in any way the president might see fit.

Ginning Report Booms Cotton.

On the strength of the census bureau's report of the amount of cotton ginned to Nov. 14 the price of cotton advanced Nov. 15 about 100 points, or \$5 on a bale. This means that the pound rate went up from nearly 11 cents to nearly 12 cents on a pound. The trade has been predicting an 8,000,000 bale crop, but the report showed only 7,498,167 bales. During the day about 1,500,000 bales changed hands at New York, and Joseph H. Hoadley, who had been conducting a bull pool, realized enormous profits, running into several millions. In five minutes \$50,000,000 was added to the market value of the cotton crop. The Hoadley syndicate included a large number of farmers through the south. Corresponding losses were sustained by the Price bear pool. Farmers in the Hoadley syndicate were said to be calling a mass meeting for Dec. 3 to agree to hold out for 15 cents a pound. Following cotton's advance there was a general rise in the leading speculation stocks. The money stringency of last week has disappeared, as Wall Street banks were able to restore their reserves.

Jersey's Big Revival On.

In many of the larger cities of New Jersey a revival has been started through the efforts of the Rev. Dr. J. Wilbur

Chapman. The local churches are acting generally in harmony with the movement. The entire state has been mapped out into revival districts, and noontime meetings for business men are being held. Dr. Chapman himself began with a great meeting at Jersey City, after which he was heard in Paterson, Newark and elsewhere. His principal associate is the noted singing evangelist, W. S. Weeden.



Dr. J. Wilbur Chapman.

Altogether about 125 evangelists and singers are engaged. In all the districts union meetings are being held at some central point, all the churches assisting and the choirs being combined into large choruses. Altogether it is the most imposing crusade the state has ever witnessed. At Paterson a big religious service was held in one of the principal saloons, and next day meetings were held in the big plant of the American Locomotive works, where 4,000 men are employed. The silk mills will be treated in the same way.

Church Federation a Fact.

The plan for a "federal council of the churches of Christ in America" was almost unanimously adopted by the delegates to the interchurch conference on federation at New York. The only dissenting voice on the final vote was that of Professor James Q. Dea, Baptist, of Brown university, who strenuously objected to the exclusion of the Unitarians or any other body on doctrinal grounds. As adopted the seventh article declares that other Christian bodies may be admitted by a vote of two-thirds of the members voting and of the bodies represented, and thus the Unitarians might come in if they accepted the divinity of Christ. At the start thirty religious bodies are included, estimated to contain 20,000,000 communicants.

The stated objects of this council are "to express the fellowship and unity of the Christian church," to bring American Christian bodies into harmony, to encourage fellowship in religious activities, to secure a larger influence for the churches in promoting the application of the law of Christ in all human relation and to assist in organizing local branches. The council is to have no authority over the constituent bodies as to creed or form of worship, but may advise and recommend a course of action. The first federal council will meet in December, 1908, and thereafter once every four years. The officers are to be a president, a vice president from each of the constituent bodies, two secretaries, a treasurer and an executive committee consisting of seven ministers and seven laymen. The plan is to become operative when twenty of the thirty bodies approve it.

The Presbyterian Church South, with nearly 250,000 communicants; General Council Lutheran church and about a hundred minor Protestant bodies remain unaffiliated. There is nothing to prevent the Roman Catholic church from entering into this agreement.

The last day of the conference resolutions were adopted amounting to a religious and social platform the main points of which are uniform divorce laws, restriction of intoxicants, private capital for the common weal, ethics in education and church comity. In the second resolution exception was taken to the word "graft" in denouncing the corruption in business and politics, but it was decided to let the word stand.

Close Communion Abolished. The first definite expression of union to come out of the interchurch conference occurred when twelve delegates of the regular Baptist church and twelve of the Free Baptists adopted resolutions declaring that no doctrinal difference, such as close communion or open communion, should hereafter pre-

Horrible

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vent their acting together as one denomination.

MISCELLANEOUS

Jewish Relief Near a Million.

The American national fund for the relief of the victims of Jewish massacres in Russia has passed the \$500,000 mark and is expected to reach a million.

Accidents.

The steamer St. Hilda of the London and Southwestern Railway company, while on its way to a French port, was totally wrecked on the pontes, and 123 persons were drowned. She was within 100 yards of the Jardin lighthouse.

The Norwegian steamship Turbin was wrecked on Mud Island, Nova Scotia, her crew of eighteen men perishing with her.

The German torpedo boat S-126 collided with a cruiser during maneuvers at Kell and sank. One officer and thirty-two seamen were drowned.

At Glasgow, Scotland, a fire started in a tenement house got beyond control while thirty-nine people were burned to death and scores were injured.

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