

GENERAL NEWS

WHAT THE DISPATCHES TELL.

The News Boiled Down and Presented in Convenient Form for Busy Readers.

A census bulletin on illiteracy among white children shows a greater percentage among those of native-born parents than those of foreign-born parents.

Dr. Finlay, chief sanitary officer, says in his September report that not a single case of yellow fever originated in Havana. This has never occurred before in thirty years.

The State Railroad Commission of Kentucky has forwarded to the Interstate Commerce Commission a formal complaint against the alleged consolidation of railroad lines in Kentucky.

Forty-one out of forty-three professors of economics have affirmatively answered a query sent from New York as to the advisability of a reduction or repeal of import duties on trust-made articles.

J. P. Morgan & Co., during the present year, are estimated to have received \$42,190,000 in profits for engineering great combinations. The greatest profit was in promoting the United States Steel Corporation, and this is put at \$20,340,000. Several combinations are yet to be heard from.

The grand jury at St. Louis has indicted Edward Butler on the charge of paying to Delegate Kelley a bribe of \$47,500 for members of the House of Delegates who put through the ten-year lighting bill in 1899. In the list of witnesses are the names of six members of the alleged boodle combine.

Secretary Root last week issued an order for a further reduction of the enlisted strength of the army to 59,866 men. Last July an order was issued for a reduction of the enlisted force from 100,000, the maximum strength, to 66,711. The reduction to 59,866 men will be gradual, being dependent upon the casualties in which are included expiration of enlistments. A separate order was issued by Secretary Root directing that the Porto Rican regiment be also reduced from 85 to 55 men in each company.

One by one Senator Morgan's fond hopes of ever having the Nicaragua route substituted for that of Panama are fading. He had great confidence that a clear title could not be established by the Panama Canal Company, which sells its rights to the United States for \$40,000,000, and that therefore his pet ditchway would have to be reverted to. But Attorney General Knox's decision that the title of the French owners of the Panama canal is good leaves no obstacle in the way of proceeding with the plans for purchase.—Charlotte Observer.

There is much actual regret in Washington over the recall of Chinese Minister Wu, which takes effect immediately. Mr. Wu has been a great favorite in diplomatic and offi-

cial circles. He has entertained royally and has always contributed more than his share to the lighter enjoyment of every social affair. To the newspaper men he has been uniformly courteous and all will regret his departure. He has been appointed Minister of Commerce, and will be charged with the important duty of negotiating the new commercial treaties with foreign nations, a duty for which his long experience in this country has peculiarly fitted him.

When the result of the Danish elections was known there was a general belief that a majority favorable to the sale of the Danish West India islands to the United States had been elected. The lower House was in favor of the sale, and it was thought a small majority of members of the Landsting would also vote for the ratification of the treaty. For some time the question has been under discussion. The vote was taken last week and it resulted in a tie. This will end the matter at least until another Danish election.

An interesting announcement has just been made by General Corbin. It is to the effect that General Young will succeed General Miles when the latter retires by age limitation next August. General Young, however, will be retired by age limitation in January, 1904, and his successor is not announced. Among army officers the belief is current that General Corbin will be the next General Commanding, but it is known that Secretary Root hopes before then to have the position abolished and a general staff substituted.

In printing a fine full-page portrait of Mr. J. W. Folk, the St. Louis Circuit Attorney, who has brought about the exposure of bribery in St. Louis and the conviction of bribe-givers and bribe-takers, the Outlook remarks: "For nearly a year he has been the central figure in the most remarkable prosecution of political knavery since that of the Tweed Ring in the early seventies. This prosecution has resulted in the conviction, not only of bribe-takers, but of bribe-givers, and has brought home to the rich and influential classes of St. Louis the extent to which the responsibility for civic corruption rests upon them. Mr. Folk was nominated for his present office against his protest, but, having been elected, has discharged its duties against still stronger protests from party leaders who put him in nomination. Democratic corruptionists, as well as Republican, have been prosecuted without fear or favor."

Fate of the Non-Union Miners.

The non-union miner, whose rights have been feelingly discussed in the daily press, whose "right to work" has been the principle for which the operators said they were battling, and who is to figure largely in the discussions before the strike arbitration commission, is fast disappearing from the anthracite region, the dispatches say. The companies have not dismissed them, says a Scranton

correspondent, "but with the stockade living quarters gone, and the almost impossible task of securing boardinghouses confronting them, the imported non-unionists have packed up and left." In some places, where the non-unionists remain, the strikers are refusing to return to work. Much sympathy had been expressed for the engineers and pumpmen, whose places were practically all filled by non-unionists. The miners felt that they ought to stand by these engineers and pumpmen, while the operators were said to feel that they ought to stand by the non-unionists, who had saved the mines from being flooded. But the non-unionists are emigrating and the strikers are getting their old places. This news of the hegira of non-unionists followed a dispatch that filled a column in the morning paper of Thursday of last week with stories of assault, dynamiting, and intimidation aimed at the non-union men.—Literary Digest.

THANKSGIVING PROCLAMATION.**President Roosevelt Designates November 27 as the Day for Festivity and the Returning of Thanks.**

Washington, October 30.—President Roosevelt yesterday issued his proclamation designating Thursday, November 27th, as a day of thanksgiving. The proclamation is as follows:

"According to the yearly custom of our people, it falls upon the President at this season to be the day of festivity and thanksgiving to God. Over a century and a quarter has passed since this country took its place among the nations of the earth, and during that time we have had, on the whole, more to be thankful for than has fallen to the lot of any other people. Generation after generation has grown to manhood and passed away. Each has had to bear its peculiar burdens, each to face its special crisis, and each has known years of grim trial, when the country was menaced by malice domestic or foreign levy, when the hand of the Lord was heavy upon it in drouth or pestilence, when in bodily distress and anguish of soul it paid the penalty of folly and a froward heart.

"Nevertheless, decade by decade, we have struggled onward and upward; we now abundantly enjoy material well-being, and under the favor of the Most High we are striving earnestly to achieve moral and spiritual uplifting. The year that has just closed has been one of peace and of overflowing plenty. For this we render heartfelt and solemn thanks to the Giver of Good; and we seek to praise Him not by words only, but by deeds, by the way in which we do our duty to ourselves and to our fellow men.

"Now, therefore, I, Theodore Roosevelt, President of the United States, do hereby designate as a day of general thanksgiving, Thursday, the 27th of the coming November, and do recommend that throughout the land the people cease from their ordinary occupations and in their several homes and places of worship render thanks unto Almighty God for the manifold blessings of the past year."

Mr. Carnegie at St. Andrew's.

Last week was notable in the academic world for a series of speeches singularly free from the usual conventionalities of such occasions, and singularly forceful and vital. Mr. Carnegie's address on the occasion of his installation as Rector of St. Andrew's University was not only strong in statistical statement of the recent industrial growth of different nations and as a presentation of the present condition of the different countries in the economical competition of the last ten years, but was also an eloquent plea for international peace, which Mr. Carnegie has greatly at heart. The address is significant of the striking changes of the last two decades. A Scotchman speaking at a Scotch university, but pre-eminently an American, who has made in this country one of the greatest fortunes in history, a business man installed as Rector of an ancient university—these were novel and significant features of an academic occasion. Mr. Carnegie spoke to a European audience as a citizen of the world, holding a position as a great philanthropist which enables him to take the attitude of a friend and speak with the frankness of a friend. He declared that it was impossible for Great Britain, by reason of her size, to rival successfully the productive countries of the magnitude of America, Germany, and Russia; that neither Canada nor Australia gives promise of much increase in population or industrialism, and that all thought of the material ascendancy, even with the Empire must be abandoned. America produces more steel than all the rest of the world; in the production of iron, coal, and textiles she has the lead: three-quarters of the world's cotton is produced here, and the value of her manufactures is treble that of Great Britain. Germany threatens to push Great Britain from even the second place; France is not likely to increase her trade, and remains a nation of the first rank only because of the virtue and frugality of her people. Invasions of Europe by American manufacturers are not to be apprehended, because America uses 96 per cent of her own manufactures. Mr. Carnegie called attention to the fact that within a quarter of a century the supply of Cleveland ironstone in Great Britain will be exhausted, and that the Cumberland supply is already nearly exhausted; which means dearer iron and steel. He made an appeal to Emperor William to use his influence towards the creation of the United States of Europe as a political and industrial union, declaring that this was the only way in which American commercial invasions could be successfully resisted. One Emperor having taken the first step towards the peace of the world in the Hague Conference, the other Emperor, he said, may some day play a great part on the stage of Europe by freeing the world from the paralyzing fear of war. Unless internal peace can be secured in Europe, the American Union, soon to embrace two hundred millions of the English-speaking race, would supply most of the world's wants.—New York Outlook, November 1st.