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DECLINE TO MARCH. Veterans, Feeling Slighted, Will Not Take Part in Inauguration.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 27.—Veteran soldiers of the Spanish and Civil Wars have officially declined to participate in the inaugural parade March 4.

General Duester's letter and its indorsement by the various organizations follows: "Washington, Feb. 27.—A. Noel Blake-

WASHINGTON, Feb. 27.—A. Noel Blake-man, Chief of Staff—Dear Sir: In view of the published general order No. 5, February 26, headquarters of the grand marshal, I have the honor to state for his information that none of the veteran organizations of the Civil War or of the Spanish-American Veterans with which I have been able to communicate will take part in any of the inaugural ceremonies next Monday.

"The undersigned, in behalf of the veterans' organizations they represent, respectfully have read the foregoing communication addressed by Major-General Sickles, United States Army, to the chief of staff of the grand marshal, and we heartily concur therein.

Word was received tonight from the Twenty-third Ohio Regiment, which the President commanded in the Civil War, that the survivors are too old to take the long journey to Washington and endure the fatigue of an inaugural march.

How in Austria Reichersberg. VIENNA, Feb. 27.—There was a free fight today between Pan-Germans and Czechs on the floor of the Reichersberg. Herr Schoenerer was especially prominent in creating disturbance.

PORT OF PORTLAND Shall Governor Geer Veto the Bill or Sign It?

RECOMMENDATION TO BE MADE Members of the Commission, Legislators and Leading Taxpayers Hold a Meeting and Discuss Features of the Measure.

Taxpayers and members of the Legislature and the Port of Portland Commission met in the office of President Mohler of the O. R. & N., yesterday afternoon for a conference on the Port of Portland bill, which is pending before Governor Geer.

President Mohler's Statement. At the request of several gentlemen, we have invited the interested members of the Port of Portland Commission to pass upon the features of the new bill, as there seems to be some very different opinions as to its future effect, especially upon navigation.

Improvements of the river and bar, and the construction of a dredge, are all essential and necessary to a proper development of the commerce of this port, and, no matter what may be said to the contrary, we cannot hold our position unless we show the proper spirit of enterprise.

Deep Channels Imperative. H. W. Corbett was elected chairman, and the debate opened with Mr. Wilcox on the floor. He began by calling attention to section 2 of the new bill, which authorizes the issue of \$300,000 bonds for a dredge, raffles, and dredging.

Pro-American sentiment is spreading in the islands. Page 2. A ladronde rendezvous was raised in Polio Island. Page 2. Aguinaldo's uncle was appointed Governor of Bulacan Province. Page 2.

The Cuban convention approved the scheme of relations with the United States. Page 2. The envoy at Pekin have taken up the question of indemnity. Page 2. Several bodies were taken from the Diamondville, Wyo., mine. Page 10.

Republishers of the House of the Washington Legislature have agreed to pass a Congressional apportionment bill. Page 2. The Governor of Oregon has filed a large number of acts of the late Legislature. Page 4.

the interest. For example, \$70,000 bonds at 5 per cent would reduce the working fund to the extent of \$300 additional interest. Bonds had been issued under the previous act to build a dredge, but the proceeding was not legal.

Senator Smith reviewed the work of the commission, and the delegation united for the project when President Mohler showed the necessity for it. "Mr. Wilcox's principal objection at Salem was against the dredge," said the senator.

"I was asked my opinion of the dredge and I said it would not pay," answered Mr. Wilcox. "You were very positive in your opposition to the dredge," said Senator Smith.

President Mohler explained the interest of the O. R. & N. Co. in having deep channels and a dredge. The Port of Portland Commission, he said, had done good work. Such had been the reports of the company's river men.

Further personalities were shut off by Mr. Ladd's declaration that it was not the Legislature, but a meeting of taxpayers, Mr. Wilcox and Senator Smith laughed at the humor of the point of view which he had taken.

What the O. R. & N. Will Do. "Certainly do," replied President Mohler. "Our own steamers would dock here instead of at San Francisco. We would give the dredge between \$300 and \$500 worth of business a year."

He said it would pile up taxation, and in the end a city of surprise and indignation against the Port of Portland Commission and all its projects.

President Mohler suggested that nearby cities had built drydocks and taken a dredge, raffles, and dredging from the dredge, and he declared that the only possible object of such action was that the plunderers and vultures might have an opportunity to prey upon the private lands of the Philippines.

Text of Philippine Amendment. The Philippine amendment, as agreed to, is as follows: "All military, civil and judicial powers laid over to govern the Philippine Islands, acquired by Spain by the treaty of Washington, November 7, 1898, shall, until otherwise provided by Congress, be vested in such manner as the President of the United States shall direct for the establishment of civil government and maintaining and directing the inhabitants of said islands in the free enjoyment of their liberty, property and religion."

Senator Smith explained that the unissued balance of \$100,000 of Port of Portland bonds had been called in by the new bill, and the dredge issue limited to \$300,000, so that the actual increase was only \$200,000.

BY A PARTY VOTE The Senate Passed the Army Appropriation Bill

AFTER AN EXCITING SESSION It Contains Republican Propositions for Temporary Government of Philippines and for Future Relations With Cuba.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 28.—The Senate passed the Army appropriation bill at 12:54 o'clock, containing the propositions of the Republican majority for the temporary government of the Philippines and for

the future relations between the United States and Cuba. Many amendments were offered to both propositions, but were voted down. The original Spooner amendment was amended regarding franchises by Hoar, the latter proposition having been accepted by the majority yesterday.

Not since the enactment of the resolutions declaring a state of war to exist between the United States and Spain has there been such an avalanche of passionate oratory as the Senate listened to today. Throughout the session the Army appropriation bill was under discussion, the controverted questions being the Spooner Philippines amendment and the Platt Cuban Amendment.

On the fortifications appropriation bill, and it was agreed to. The most important action of the conference was the revision of the Senate conferees upon the amendment providing for the purchase of land on Cushing's Island, in Portland Harbor, Maine.

That no officer of the Army, whether regular or volunteer, and whether in or out of the United States, shall receive by executive or military authority or otherwise any pay or allowance whatsoever than such as is provided for by statute law, and any such officer who shall be convicted by court-martial of violation of this provision shall be dismissed from the service.

Teller's Amendment. Teller gave notice of an amendment to the Philippine section as follows: "That the Constitution of the United States is hereby extended over and declared to be in force in the Philippine Islands, so far as the same or any provision thereof may be applicable."

His purpose in offering the amendment, he said, was to ascertain whether those who say the Constitution does not extend over the Philippines are willing that it should be extended over the islands. He had no idea that the United States ever would surrender the Philippine Islands.

Rebellion Against Sultan of Wadal. TRIPOLI, Feb. 27.—A rebellion has broken out against the Sultan of Wadal, owing to the many executions. Ahmed, son of the late Sultan Ali, has been proclaimed King by the rebels. A French force is reported to be half way between Tust and Wadal.

BAD FOR THE BOERS Increasing Number Falling Into British Hands.

HOPEFUL FEELING IN LONDON Additional Captures by General French—Operations Will Soon Be Reduced to a Dacoit Stage—Plague at the Cape.

LONDON, Feb. 27.—General French's most recent success, combined with the other advantages gained by the British forces in South Africa, have created a representative of the Associated Press, a most hopeful feeling in the War Office here. Lord English, Under-Secretary for War, described it today as being "the thin end of the wedge," and this also is the opinion of the military critics, who reiterate that while the war cannot be expected to end with a sudden stroke, this constant capturing of men, guns, supplies and horses, means that the operations will soon be reduced to a Dacoit stage.

It is not believed to be at all likely that General Kitchener will grant any armistice, as a preliminary to peace, or, if he does, he will not let the War Office know of it until he learns the result. In fact, small reliance is placed on such an offer, for even if General Botha gave in, the War Office is inclined to consider that any action would only affect the force under his immediate individual command, and that the same policy which is now being pursued would have to be continued against the other Boer forces operating in the vicinity far removed from the Boer Commander-in-Chief.

The War Office selected the double anniversary of the battle of Majuba Hill and General Kelly-Kenny's dispatch to Lord Roberts, dealing with the events immediately preceding the surrender at Paardeburg. The dispatch contains no news, but it threatens to reopen the discussion regarding the responsibility for the attack on the Boer lines at Middelburg, Tuesday, proved so costly to the British. Only last evening, in the House of Commons, Mr. Broderick, the War Secretary, said that General Kelly-Kenny was in command. Freshbury, however, through his dispatch concludes as follows: "Lord Kitchener, the Chief of Staff, was present at all times. In accordance with the instructions conveyed to me in your note of February 17, I recognized the position as conveying to me your lordship's orders, and acted thereon."

Special dispatches from Pretoria locate General Botha at Middelburg. They point out that he is probably making for the headquarters of Commandant Viljoen and the seat of the Boer Government, beyond Roosenburg. Lord Kitchener has been at Middelburg for three days, but there is no indication from any other quarter, other than that relied upon by the Daily Chronicle, that Botha has surrendered.

Rats Spreading Cape Town Plague. CAPE TOWN, Feb. 27.—Seven fresh cases of bubonic plague were reported yesterday. Two of the victims are Europeans, a man and a woman. The dead body of a Kaffir was found near the beach yesterday. In a majority of the cases the spread of the disease is traceable to rats. The principal difficulty encountered by the authorities in their efforts to prevent the plague from spreading is the concealment by the colored people of its existence among them. In consequence of the gravity of the situation, the government has taken over from the corporation control of everything connected therewith, and is engaging a large corps for a thorough cleansing of the city, the burning of undesirable houses and the destruction of rats.

Another Capture by the British. PORT ELIZABETH, Cape Colony, Feb. 27.—A private message received here says Scheepers's Langer, near Willowmore, has been captured by the British. The main body of the Boers was absent. About 40 burghers and the whole of the supplies were taken.

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SILVELA MAY BE SPAIN'S PREMIER.

MADRID, Feb. 27.—The Queen Regent today consulted with the Presidents of the Senate and Chamber, and both of these officials advised Her Majesty to entrust Senor Silvela with the work of forming a Cabinet. Senors Silvela and Sagasta afterward were also consulted.

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