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MORGAN ON THE CANAL

His Plea in the Senate for Nicaragua's Waterway.

MITCHELL ALSO FAVORS THE BILL

The Alabama Senator Says That Action Must be Taken at the Present Session or the Canal Would be Abandoned to Its Fate.

WASHINGTON, December 12.—Harris, President pro tem., called the Senate to order to-day in the absence of Vice-President Stevenson, who had not returned from Asheville, N. C. Call presented a resolution setting forth that the independence of the Island of Cuba is an object of great importance to the United States and requesting the President to commence negotiations with Spain for the recognition of the independence of the island and for the guarantee by the United States of the payment of such a sum of money as shall be agreed upon between the United States and Spain. The resolution went over till to-morrow. Call also presented a resolution declaring the further prosecution of the war between China and Japan will not be advantageous to the people of civilization, and that interests of the world require that all governments should unite in negotiating with Japan and China for a termination of the war. Without discussion the resolution was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

Allen next called up his resolution intended to expunge a portion of the Congressional Record and to send a resolution introduced by him last July to the Attorney-General. The latter resolution called for information concerning the Pullman strike. This resolution was adopted, but was reconsidered on motion of Pugh. Allen bitterly assailed this action, and also attacked the Attorney-General, to whom he attributed the action of the Alabama Senator. Pugh vigorously defended the attitude taken by Olney, and declared the position of the Senator from Nebraska was unreasonable and untenable.

At 2 o'clock the whole matter went over and the Senate on motion of Morgan took up the Nicaraguan Canal bill. The bill was read at length, and Morgan began his remarks by making a statement of the national and international aspect of the subject, upon which the Senate and House bills agreed. Careful calculations, he insisted, showed that the canal could be constructed at a cost that would yield a remunerative profit, so that it was a necessity; that it would be of the greatest importance to the United States; that it could be operated, and that there was nothing to render impossible the concessions made by the Central American government to the citizens of the United States. Finishing this general statement, the Senator devoted some time to the discussion of the characteristics of the country through which it is proposed to build the canal and its advantageous route compared with that of the Panama Canal route, and asserted that no such improvement could be given to commerce as the construction of this necessary complement to the Suez Canal. The route is feasible, the engineering work easy, and there will be no extraordinary work required at any place on the whole route. Morgan quoted from the report of Chief Engineer Menocal, who estimates that the canal could be built for $85,000,000, and said he thought the expenditure of the $4,000,000 already spent had demonstrated that the actual cost would be even lower than that estimated by Mr. Menocal. The two Houses of Congress practically agree that the cost of the canal would be about $70,000,000. Morgan concluded:

"The manner of raising the money is a matter that should not be allowed to affect its construction. The canal must be built under the fostering care of some government. We must act now or abandon the canal to its fate."

At the conclusion of Morgan's speech Mitchell of Oregon briefly expressed his hearty approval of the scheme to build the canal, and said he thought there was no great difference among the people regarding the propriety of the work of construction.

LANDS FORFEITED.

Milwaukee and St. Paul Did Not Live Up to Its Agreement.

WASHINGTON, December 12.—The President has issued a proclamation forfeiting to the United States certain lands in the Sioux reservation in South Dakota, alleged to have been owned by the Chicago, Milwaukee and St. Paul Railroad Company under an agreement between the company and the Sioux Indians ratified by an act of March 2, 1889. The lands involved are three lots in section 10 and two lots in section 15, township 104 north, range 71 west, covering 184 acres, and 640 acres in ranges 71 and 72 west in the same township in South Dakota, the plat of which was approved January 4, 1889, by the Secretary of the Interior. These lands were to inure to the company upon the conditions that it shall, within three years after the act takes effect, construct and put in operation its line of road as provided for in the agreement, and due notice of which was made within nine months after the act took effect. In case of failure to construct the road it was provided that the lands granted for a right of way, station grounds or other railroad purposes should be declared, by proclamation of the President, forfeited and shall revert to the United States, and be subject to entry under the provisions of the act.

Case Against Kellam.

NEW YORK, December 12. — Broker David L. Kellam, charged with conspiracy in raising money by selling notes obtained from H. Simons, President of the Prosser Falls and Priest Rapids Canal Company of Tacoma, was arraigned in the Tombs Police Court to-day. Kellam assumed the entire responsibility for what he had done, saying he believed he had a perfect right to change the date of the notes. Justice Grady held him in $2,000 bonds for trial by the general sessions. The case of Lawyer Haight, who is charged with uttering the false notes, went over until Wednesday.

THE PENITENTIARY AFFAIR.

Governor McGraw Talks of Coblentz' Defalcation.

CHEHALIS, Wash., December 12.—Governor McGraw returned from Walla Walla to Seattle to-night. Speaking of the affair at the penitentiary, he said the amount of Coblentz' defalcation might not exceed $12,500. The private memoranda kept by the superintendent of the factory and the superintendent of the warehouse after they began to suspect crookedness will probably enable the directors to estimate with tolerable exactness the amount Coblentz converted to his own use. The Governor does not accuse Woodlake and Dusenberry of being Coblentz' accessories. He says no inducements were held out to these men to talk, but they were given an opportunity. The Governor says that as far as he has been able to discover Dusenberry's actions were honest. Mr. Bisson, one of the bondsmen, was at Walla Walla yesterday, and stated his readiness to make good his portion of the shortage whenever ascertained. The Governor denied that when he was Sheriff of King county he filed written charges against Coblentz, as stated by a Tacoma paper. After the killing of Deputy Sheriff Poor, at the request of Sheriff Woolery, Poor's friends had written to Senator Allen asking for Coblentz's dismissal. Learning this, the Assistant Attorney-General protested that Coblentz was a most useful man in the service of the district, and at his instance wired Allen not to heed the letter. He had no acquaintance with Coblentz then. He appointed him Warden on the recommendation of the most influential Republicans both of King and Pierce counties.

CURIOUS COMPROMISE.

Settlement Effected by a Liquor Dealer With Government Officials.

SEATTLE, December 12.—A curious compromise has been made in a case where Aaron Jaffe, one of the proprietors of the California wine house, pleaded guilty before a United States Commissioner to the charge of wholesaling liquor without a government license. He was accused of manufacturing and selling, wholesale and retail, a concoction of his own manufacture purporting to be the genuine whisky of a well-known brand. The conditions of the release, which were complied with, were that he should pay the government for both a wholesale and retail liquor license from September 1 to the close of the present fiscal year; that he should also pay 50 per cent penalty for not taking out licenses; that he should give a good bond to the whisky manufacturers not to counterfeit again either their product or label and give up all labels printed, and finally should pay the costs incurred by the government in prosecuting the case. The cost to him was about $500, but he escapes a heavy fine and perhaps imprisonment. The settlement was made between Jaffe's friend, J. P. Gleason, Deputy Collector of Internal Revenue, and District Attorney Brinker.

NO FURTHER PROSECUTION.

Knox, Compton and Mullen Will Not be Brought to Trial.

SACRAMENTO, Cal., December 12.—It is not likely that either Knox, Compton or Mullen, members of the mediation committee during the recent strike, and who were indicted for murder, will ever be prosecuted. There has been a rumor to that effect afloat for some time, and the matter which gave rise to it has now come to light. It seems that a suit for $30,000 damages has recently been brought against the railway company by the wife of Edgar B. Griffey, the engineer who was killed in a collision at Davisville two years ago. The papers in the case show that General A. L. Hart, who has been defending the strikers in their trials in Woodland, has been retained by the railroad company to defend them in this damage suit. There is every reason to believe that besides a money consideration as a fee in the damage suit in which he was asked to act General Hart demanded and received from the railroad company an agreement to the effect that the members of the mediation committee should suffer no further prosecution for the part they took in the recent strike.

AN OLD MATTER REVIVED.

Suit by a Surety Company Against a Former Tacoma Man.

TACOMA, December 12. — Four years ago the Northern Pacific Express Company was robbed of a $2,000 package consigned to Ritzville, Wash. About the same time C. L. Jett, cashier of the local office, was discharged. It was suspected that he was responsible for the loss by carelessness, but no action was brought against him. Attorney A. L. Hoppaugh of St. Paul and Hugh Childs, general agent and inspector of the American Surety Company, are now in the city acquiring evidence in the action that has been brought in St. Paul against Jett by the American Surety Company. That corporation was on Jett's bond for $50,000, and made good to the express company the loss of the $2,000 package. Jett is now prosperous, is living in St. Paul, is employed as cashier in a wholesale house and is said to be possessed of considerable property. The suit is brought by the surety company as a civil action against Jett for the recovery of the $2,000 it paid on the bond.

Powers May Intervene.

VIENNA, December 12.—All foreign diplomatic relations at Constantinople have been suspended on account of Great Britain having taken the initiative in the matter of obtaining an interchange of views of the powers, with a view of taking joint action on the Armenian question. The Porte is very anxious at this turn of affairs. The Turkish Ministry, assisted by Kiami Sed and Chakir Pasha, sat continuously from noon Saturday until noon Sunday. The Sultan expects the powers to intervene.

Inferior Quality of Petroleum.

BERLIN, December 12.—The government has instructed the Hamburg Chamber of Commerce to inquire into the complaint of the inferior quality of recent importations of petroleum by the Standard Oil Company. It is charged that the Pennsylvania oil fields are exhausted and the oil recently imported came from Indiana and Ohio.

NOISE OF SOCIALISM.

The German Reichstag a Scene of Confusion.

SOCIALISTS REFU...

In the Belgian Chamber the Socialists' Speeches Had to be Drowned With Cheers for the King—Their Attacks Were Very Bitter.

BERLIN, December 10.—A disturbance occurred to-day in the Reichstag palace upon the occasion of the first sitting of the Reichstag. After President von Levetsow had made a reminiscent speech he called for cheers for the Emperor. The cheers were given heartily by all except the Socialists, who remained seated in spite of the excited and angry protests of the other members. A great uproar followed. The Socialists resented the attitude of the President, and Liebknecht rose in his seat, his manner being quite threatening. Ulrich also sprang to his feet and amid renewed cries of "Shame!" "Shame!" shook his fist at the other members. When order was restored the election of the officers of the House was proceeded with. When this had been concluded, President von Levetsow expressed his regret that he was unable to punish the disloyal Socialists. Singer thereupon arose and attempted to justify the attitude of himself and his fellow-Socialists. He was repeatedly interrupted, but was understood to say:

"We will never be compelled to cheer for one who recently told the recruits who were taking the service oath that, should circumstances arise, they would be ordered, against the will of the people, to shoot their own brothers, fathers and mothers for the one who is now introducing an anti-revolutionary bill which is directed against us. To cheer him would be irreconcilable with our honor and dignity."

The rest of Singer's words were drowned in a storm of vehement protests, which only subsided when Von Levetsow called the speaker to order. The House then opened a debate on the motion to abandon the pending prosecutions of some of the Socialist members, during which Premier von Manteuffel inveighed strongly against the conduct of the Socialists to-day. An adjournment was finally taken until Tuesday.

IN THE BELGIUM CHAMBER.

BRUSSELS, December 10.—The Socialists made an exceptionally aggressive demonstration during the debate on the royal civil list in the Chamber to-day. Their attacks were so bitter that eventually the Conservatives rose in a body and, led by the Premier, drowned the Socialist speeches with cheers for the King. The Socialists replied, "Hurrah for the people." The Conservatives continued to cheer and wave their handkerchiefs until the confusion became hopeless, and the Chamber adjourned.

FOREIGNERS IN PEKING.

The Imperial Edict That Was Issued for Their Protection.

NEW YORK, December 10.—A letter has just been received by the missionary society of the Methodist Episcopal Church from Rev. Dr. H. H. Lowry, a missionary of the society in Peking, China, containing the latest mail advices from that country. In the course of his communication Dr. Lowry says:

"There has been much anxiety here and at the ports over the possibilities of mobs, etc., and I think there is an unnecessary scare. The government will do all in its power to protect us, as witness the inclosed translation of the edict published in the Peking Gazette:

"'Imperial edict—From the time of their establishment the churches of all nations in Peking have enjoyed peace, and according to the treaty should be protected. The present breach of faith of Eastern dwarfs—the Japanese—has no relation to the foreign nations of the West. And because this year many men from every province are coming to Peking, we fear that there are ignorant ones, who will wrongfully distrust, and that evil-disposed vagabonds will take advantage of these circumstances to provoke disturbance. It is well, therefore, to take prompt measures for forestalling all such. Therefore, the Mayor of Peking and the censors of the five cities are commanded to charge those under their authority to strictly watch and suppress disturbance and protect foreigners. If there are those who disobey and cause disturbance, let them be immediately apprehended and severely punished with unusual vigor and no leniency be used in dealing with them. This is decreed.

"'Kuang Hsu, 20th year, ninth month, 14th day (October 12, 1894.)'"

Storage Battery Trust.

PHILADELPHIA, December 8.—A financial deal of considerable importance has just been consummated whereby the Electric Storage Battery Comwany of this city has acquired all the rights, patents, etc., of the Consolidated Electric Street Railway Company; the battery patents and rights of the Brush Electric Company of Cleveland; the battery patents and all interests in connection with batteries and the good will of that branch of the business of the General Electric Company; all the property, rights, patents, etc., of the General Electric Launch Company, and the Electric Launch and Navigation Company, and the rights, licenses and patents of the Accumulator Company. The completion of these purchases virtually places in control of the Electric Storage Battery Company all its former competitors in the business of supplying storage batteries, and puts an end to all litigation over patent rights.

New Japan Commercial Treaty.

WASHINGTON, December 10.—The new treaty with Japan was sent to the Senate to-day. It was accompanied by a long letter from Gresham, showing the importance of the convention and urging its ratification. In executive session the treaty was referred by the Senate to the Committee on Foreign Relations without reading. It is understood there will be no opposition to this treaty by the Pacific Coast Senators for race reasons.

TERRITORY OF INDIANOLA.

Berry of Arkansas Proposes a Division of Indian Territory.

WASHINGTON, December 7.—The bill introduced in the Senate to-day by Senator Berry to provide a temperory government for the portion of the Indian Territory occupied by the five civilized tribes provides that a Territory shall be formed to be known as Indianola. Among the first provisions made is one that any time in the future the boundaries may be changed or any portion attached to any other State or Territory by the action of Congress without consent of the inhabitants of the new Territory. The bill provides for a Governor and a Secretary of the Territory, a Delegate to Congress, and a Legislative Assembly, the latter to be composed of a Council and House of Representatives, the Council to consist of twenty-one members and the House of forty-two, the sessions to be held biennially and to continue for sixty days. The Territory is to be divided into twenty-one counties. All male citizens of the United States who are actual residents and over 21 years of age are to have the right to vote, as are also all male Indians who are citizens of any tribe in the Territory. It is provided that no law shall be passed by the Legislature interfering with the primary disposal of the soil or with the titles of the Indians of the various tribes or their manner of holding the same. Indian homesteads are made inalienable and are exempt from taxation. The bill provides for a complete judicial system and adopts a large number of the laws of the State of Arkansas. All the provisions of treaties heretofore made by the United States with the civilized tribes, except so far as the treaties relate to land titles, are abrogated and repealed, and all governments established by the tribes abolished. The lands now held in common by the several tribes are to be divided in severalty among the members of the tribes, each to have a homestead of 140 acres, and after this division the residue is to be sold and the proceeds divided among the Indians.

WAR TO THE KNIFE.

The Pacific Insurance Union Holding Stormy Sessions.

SAN FRANCISCO, December 7.—The affairs of the Pacific Insurance Union are in a most critical condition, so critical in fact that it would take very little to bring about a dissolution of that important body. Some of its members, it is charged, are not living up to the terms of the compact, but are cutting rates and doing other things which the union was organized to prevent. Dissatisfied members are also withdrawing from the union. The latest to do so is Arthur E. Magill, manager on this coast of the Home Insurance Company of New York and Phœnix of Hartford. His resignation has been tendered by him to the union. Other resignations, it is reported, are about to be sent in.

The union held two very important meetings to-day to consider what was best to do in the circumstances. Proceedings were secret, but it is said that they were stormy. It was plainly pointed out that unless members stood together and made a determined fight against the deserters the union would be disrupted. It was finally resolved that such a fight should be made, and that union companies would stand together to the last ditch. A dissolution would lead to many cancellations of policies on which premiums have not yet been paid. It is understood that about one-fourth of the premiums on policies are allowed to remain on credit, and should they not be collected companies on this coast would lose about $3,000,000.

DUNRAVEN'S CONDITIONS.

Same Terms as in Last Year's Races and Earlier Than October.

LONDON, December 8.—An intimate friend of Lord Dunraven was questioned to-day concerning the report that Lord Dunraven had already forwarded to the New York Yacht Club a challenge for the American cup. The gentleman interviewed appeared not to be aware that a challenge had been sent, but added that a letter might have been sent with the view of gaining time under the ten months' notice clause of the deed of gift, which letter under certain conditions might be construed as a challenge. He was certain that if a challenge were sent it would not hold good unless the cup committee granted the two conditions demanded by Lord Dunraven. One of these conditions is that the race be sailed on terms identical with those in the Valkyrie-Vigilant contests. The other is that the race be sailed earlier than October. He believed that after the letter announcing the cup committee's decision had been received by the Royal Yacht squadron a letter had been sent to J. V. S. Oddie, Secretary of the New York Yacht Club, offering to challenge for the cup on the conditions mentioned.

Medals for Army Officers.

WASHINGTON, December 9.—By direction of the President a medal of honor in the name of Congress has been awarded to Captain Frank T. Baldwin, Fifth Infantry, for distinguished gallantry in the action with hostile Indians near McClellan creek, Tex., November 8, 1874, when that officer led two companies of troops against a band of Indians considerably outnumbering his forces and succeeded in rescuing two white girls, who had been taken captive. Similar medals were awarded to-day to Major Miles Moylan, U. S. A., retired, for gallantry in action with Nez Perce Indians at Bear Paw Mountain, Mont., September 30, 1877, and to Captain E. S. Huggins, Second Cavalry, for conspicuous bravery in an engagement with hostiles near O'Fallon creek, Mont., April 1, 1880.

How They Feel in New York.

NEW YORK, December 10.—The Chamber of Commerce to-day adopted the following resolutions: That the commercial and industrial interests of the country need a rest from tariff agitation; that our fleet in Chinese waters should be reinforced; that railroads should be permitted to make pooling agreements; that the representation of the American agricultural products abroad should not be discontinued.

JAPAN IS NO SUITOR.

China Reminded She is the One Suing for Peace.

CHINA'S TEMPORIZING POLICY.

No Further Peace Proposals Will be Considered Unless Sent by a Regularly Accredited Ambassador From the Chinese Court.

TOKIO, December 8.—Japan has notified China that no further peace proposals will be considered unless sent by a regularly accredited Ambassador from the Chinese court. At the same time Japan reminds China that it is not Japan that is suing for peace. Japan is dissatisfied with China's temporizing policy, and claims that China is seeking concessions in advance of a formal conference looking to a settlement.

WHAT JAPAN WOULD ACCEPT.

WASHINGTON, December 8.—The announcement that Japan was willing to accept an indemnity of 400,000,000 yen and the cession of territory now occupied by her forces as a condition for the termination of the war without further delay, and that the demands were to be increased if hostilities were prolonged, is similar to those that have appeared in the Japanese newspapers for some time past. Such statements are regarded here as merely the opinions of the writers as to what Japan should insist upon. The authentic news now at hand shows that the negotiations have progressed no further than an insistence by Japan upon the condition that the Chinese government shall send an Ambassador to Tokio to make its overtures, and this information is credited by the officials of the Japanese legation here, who have been of the opinion for some time past that the appointment of a Chinese Ambassador to sue for peace would probably be the first move in that direction which would be acceptable to the Japanese government and people.

STILL EXPLAINING DETRING'S FAILURE.

WASHINGTON, December 8.—A telegram has been received in this city from Kobe to the effect that Mr. Detring, Commissioner in the Chinese customs service at Tien Tsin, arrived at that place November 26 and expressed the wish of personally delivering to Count Ito a letter from Viceroy Li Hung Chang. As under the circumstances this proceeding was considered anomalous and contrary to usage, Count Ito refused to meet Detring. At the same time Mr. Detring received telegraphic orders from Prince Kung, President of Tsung Li Yamen, recalling him to China. Accordingly he left Kobe November 29, but before going he sent the Viceroy's letter to Count Ito by post. The object of the letter was to ascertain the conditions upon which peace might be restored. It is also stated that Li Hung Chang had obtained the sanction of the Emperor of China to the mission of Mr. Detring, which had for its object the purpose of confidentially ascertaining the views of the Japanese government, but Mr. Detring's sudden return to China under orders of the President of the Tsung Li Yamen appears to throw some doubt upon the accuracy of this statement.

THE OTHER VIEW.

LONDON, December 8.—According to advices received from an excellent authority upon the subject of the negotiations for peace between China and Japan the negotiations are not making as rapid strides as supposed. It seems that Japan intends to insist upon stronger and more tangible proofs of China's submission before talking peace.

TO BE INVALIDED HOME.

TOKIO, December 8. — A report, to which much credence is given, is current here to the effect that Field Marshal Yamagata, commander of the Japanese army, is so seriously indisposed that it has been decided necessary for him to be invalided. The Court Chamberlain has started for the front with a message appointing Lieutenant-General Nodezu a General, and the latter will assume command of the first Japanese army. Captain Miura has been appointed to the command of the cruiser Yoshima, and the late harbor-master at Sa Se Bo has been made Governor of Port Arthur.

HANNEKEN RAISING AN ARMY.

CHE FOO, December 8.—Commissioner Detring says that Colonel Hanneken, the Commander-in-Chief of the Chinese forces, is raising 100,000 soldiers to be officered entirely by Europeans, mostly German. Some of these officers have already arrived, and others are on the way to China. Seven thousand soldiers have been ordered to reinforce Tung Chow, fifty miles west of Che Foo, and are being supplied from Wei Hai Wei.

FRANCE WANTS A SHARE.

LONDON, December 8.—The Standard's Paris correspondent says: It is rumored in diplomatic quarters here that France means to have a share, if the powers seize territory, in the event of the disruption of China. It is supposed that she covets Formosa, which Admiral Gourcet blockaded in 1884, occupying Kelung and the mines in the vicinity. Anyhow, it is doubtful whether she will allow Japan or any other power to seize Formosa. It is understood here that the Japanese have set their hearts upon signing a treaty of peace in Peking. The Japanese Minister here stated recently that Japan meant to have a treaty of Peking as Europeans had a treaty of Paris.

INOUYE'S VIGOROUS POLICY.

SEOUL, Corea, December 8. — Count Inouye, the Japanese Minister, is taking vigorous measures to restore internal order. Radical changes are being made in the Departments of the Interior, Justice and Education. A combined force of Japanese and Coreans was conveyed by steamer to Asan and marched thence to Kongji to attack the Tong Haks. This force routed thousands of Tong Haks, and killed a large number.

CHINA CAN BORROW THE MONEY.

LONDON, December 8.— The Central News says that China has been offered all the money that the treaty powers are likely to allow Japan to claim as indemnity, on the basis of a 4½ per cent gold loan secured by the uncharged revenues of the treaty ports.

WAR MATERIAL FOR CHINA.

SHANGHAI, December 8.—The British steamer Guy Mannering is landing from Hamburg war material valued at £175,000.

FORESTRY RESERVATIONS.

Amendments to the Bill Agreed Upon by Western Representatives.

WASHINGTON, December 10.—A number of Western Representatives, including Coffeen of Wyoming, Pickler of South Dakota, Hermann and Ellis of Oregon, Doolittle and Wilson of Washington, McRae of Arkansas, Caminetti of California, Hartman of Montana, Hall of Minnesota, and Wells and Lynch of Wisconsin, have agreed upon a series of amendments to the bill to protect forestry reservations, which came up in the House to-day, and went over by unanimous consent. They will be offered to the bill when it is called up to-morrow. The amendments provide that for the sole purpose of preserving the living and growing timber in forest reservations the Secretary of the Interior may eliminate so much only of the dead or matured trees thereon as may be necessary to preserve the remaining timber. The Secretary is to designate, appraise and advertise for sale the dead or matured trees in limited quantities to suit the purchaser. The proceeds of the sales are to be expended in the care and management of the reservation. Upon recommendation of the Secretary of the Interior and with the approval of the President and after due notice any public lands embraced within the limits of any forest, which shall be found better adapted to agricultural than to forest uses, may be restored to the public domain; and lands in any forest reservation, the character of which may be shown to be mineral, in accordance with the mining laws may be restored to mineral location and entry. Prospectors and mineral claimants are to have access to the forest reservations for the purpose of prospecting, locating and developing their mineral resources.

ABOUT A LITTLE WORD.

Negroes Wish to Be Admitted to Labor Organizations.

PHILADELPHIA, December 10.—A vigorous effort will be made by leading colored men at the labor conference to be held in Denver this week to have the word "white" stricken from the constitution of the labor organizations. To-day's issue of the Christian Recorder, the organ of the African Methodist Episcopal Church, contains an open letter to John Burns, who has come to this country from England for the purpose of attending the conference, to espouse the cause of the colored men in the fight for equal rights. The letter says in part:

"In the name of the rights of labor we ask you to make some notes for your countrymen at home concerning more than 8,000,000 workmen in this country, who suffer the greatest injustice at the hands of organized labor in the United States. In the name of these colored workmen we urge you to report upon the conditions which exist in this country and to recommend that there be no cooperation on the part of the British trades unions until the American trades unions shall give all workmen in this broad land equality of opportunity.

"Mr. Powderly made a magnificent stand for justice at Richmond, and his influence began to wane from that moment. Mr. Gompers has attempted to do something, but he stands almost alone. There are a few leaders like these, who, unable to inaugurate an agitation for equality, would welcome from you a fraternal word of warning to the effect that they who would demand their rights must respect the rights of others."

ANOTHER HOLD-UP.

The Texas and Pacific Road Selected This Time.

FORT WORTH, December 9.—The eastbound Texas and Pacific passenger train was held up at a trestle seven miles west of here at 5:50 P. M. to-day. Several shots were fired from the front end of the train, and the passengers were warned to keep their heads in the windows. The train was detained ten or fifteen minutes, during which time those who caught a glimpse of the proceedings saw three masked men with guns leveled marching the engineer and trainmen in and out of the baggage car. When they finished their work the robbers made the engineer back the train over a trestle, and while it was crossing disappeared in a thick forest. The passengers kept so close while the train was being robbed that they did not know much about what was going on, and the railroad men and express officials will not make any statements. It is not known how much booty was secured. The robbers had possession of the express car until they accomplished their object. One valuable package is known to have been obtained. The safe of the messenger was carried off. It is learned on good authority that upward of $100,000 was secured. The passengers say the whole thing was done so quickly that there was little of a story to tell.

THE AMOUNT SECURED.

FORT WORTH, December 10.—The train held up on the Texas and Pacific is now said to have been robbed of $140,000 in money, gold bullion en route from San Francisco to Washington, and Texas and Pacific certificates.

MADAGASCAR EXPEDITION.

The Appropiation Bill Has Passed the French Senate.

PARIS, December 10.—The Senate today passed the Madagascar appropriation bill by a vote of 267 to 3. M. Honotaux, Minister of Foreign Affairs, told the Senate that the only object of Madagascar expedition was to civilize the land. This was to be done in virtue of a French protectorate, which would be established on the lines followed in the United States. M. De Freycinet, President of the committee appointed to consider the appropriation, said that with the assumption of the Madagascar protectorate the period of French colonial expansion should be ended.

The Nicaraguan Bill.

WASHINGTON, December 10.—Speaker Crisp to-day informed Representative Geary that the Nicaraguan canal bill would be given recognition. Geary believes that there will be action on it this session, and is inclined to believe it will be favorable to the canal's construction.

RIGHTS OF SHIPPERS.

Report of the Interstate Commerce Commission.

VARIETY OF SUBJECTS TREATED

It Declares in Favor of a Single Classification of Commodities for the Whole Country — Congress Can Prescribe Rules Regulating Commerce.

WASHINGTON, December 9.—The eighth annual report of the Interstate Commerce Commission, which was sent to Congress yesterday, ranges through a variety of subjects, opening with that of court decisions, noting the case of Brimson and others. The Supreme Court held that Congress may employ any appropriate means to accomplish the object of the law granted to it by the constitution, and that Congress has plenary power to prescribe the rules regulating interstate commerce; that provisions of the 12th section of the act to regulate commerce, requiring the courts to use their process in aid of inquiries before the commission, are constitutional and valid; that in a proceeding to complete the attendance and testimony of witnesses before the commission or to compel the production of books, papers and documents, in a case of which under the constitution a Federal court may take cognizance, the failure to obey an order of the court requiring the giving of such testimony or the production of documents before the commission is properly punishable as contempt of court.

Regarding criminal and civil procedure under the law the commission, calling attention to misapprehension upon this point, explains that its duty is to report to the Department of Justice facts concerning alleged violations of the penal clauses of the act, and says this does not clothe the commission with detective or prosecuting functions, its connection with the criminal side of the law ending with such report to the Department of Justice. The report says that it is the duty of shippers, railway managers and citizens generally to assist the government in running down violations of statutes designed to protect their interests. Transportation should not be regarded as a part of the private business of shippers. It should be viewed as an agency provided under government sanction. It recommends that the carrying corporations be made indictable and subject to fine for violation of the act. The report presents at length a statement of the work of the commission and discusses the long and short-haul clause. Due observance of that clause, it says, will encourage legitimate and restrain illegitimate competition in the carrying trade.

Speaking of the classification of freights the commission refers to the progress already made toward harmonious railway operation, which is desirable for the public interests, and explains the necessity of providing single classification of commodities for the whole country. The advance in the past, it asserts, demonstrates that uniformity is practicable, and the failure to secure satisfactory progress in this work is due to the fact that the three classifications now in use have been separately developed by the associated lines operating in sections where the classifications apply, and that each group of carriers has accomplished its separate task, but seems unable to agree upon and enforce a single classification. Uniform classification, the report says, depends upon the passage of a statute requiring its accomplishment, and the commission recommends that it be directed to make and prescribe within a time to be named for such classification.

UTAH COMMISSION'S REPORT.

WASHINGTON, December 9.—The annual report of the Utah Commission submitted to the Secretary of the Interior yesterday reviews the general performance of its duties in the supervision of the elections in that Territory. The commission says the registration of voters preparatory to the general election was made in fairness. About 3,000 registration offices were apportioned among the twenty-six counties and over 1,000 judges of election appointed. The total amount of appropriations for the commission for the fiscal year was $32,000, and the disbursements $26,673.

GREAT BRITAIN IGNORED.

The Officials Down in Nicaragua Very Independent.

KINGSTON, Jamaica, December 10.—Somewhat startling news has been received here. It comes direct from Nicaragua. The treaty between Great Britain and Nicaragua has been quietly ignored by President Zelaya's officials. General Cabeza has been named Governor of Mosquito on a salary of $300 per month. His brother has been named Governor of Corn Island, which is just off the coast of Nicaragua. Recently he obtained the concession for a number of years to use the island, it is said, as a coaling station. In the event of a completed Nicaraguan canal Corn Island will have an immense value both as a coaling station and owing to its strategic situation, practically commanding the Atlantic entrance to the canal. The Governor obtained this remarkable concession from President Zelaya while Governor of the island.

The case of the Moravians has been duly submitted to the government of her Britannic Majesty, setting forth all the facts as well as the attempt of the Nicaraguans to sell the valuable properties of the missionaries. General Cabeza's decrees in the Mosquito reserve, where inconsistent with the treaty of Managua, have been refused recognition by Great Britain. General Barrios, the Nicaraguan Minister to England, specially appointed by his government, was so informed in London. Nicaragua is practically under a dictatorship. Under the new constitution formulated by General Zelaya, the President, any one denounced to the government of Nicaragua as unfriendly to it may be fined $50,000 or have his property confiscated.

Criminal Libel Charged.

SAN FRANCISCO, December 8.—In the Police Court this morning Judge Low held Thomas Flynn, editor of the Wasp, to be tried before the Superior Court on charge of criminal libel preferred by Arthur McEwen.