Enteresting Collection of Current Events In Condensed Form From Both Continents.

Ona Melton, the American newspa per correspondent, who is confined with the Competitor crew in Cabanas, Cuba, is reported to be dying.

It is reported in Washington that President McKinley will shortly send a commission to Cuba to participate in the investigation of the Ruiz murder.

The United Press, having its principal office in New York, has made an assignment for the benefit of its creditors. The collapse was due to the withdrawal of four New York dailies.

Eight lives were lost by the wrecking off Pensacola bar, Fla., of an oyster sloop bound hence from St. Andrews. The craft was caught in a squall, was swamped and sank within a few min-

The sultan of Morocco has prohibited the usual pilgrimage of his subjects to Mecca, on account of the prevalence of plague in the districts through which they must travel on their journey to the

Captain Meyers, of the steamer Danabe which has arrived in Victoria, reports that the steamer Willapa is now complete wreck, waves having pounded her to pieces. The captain and passengers are still at Bella Bella.

A strike of steamfitters in New York, in which between 30,000 and 60,000 men may be involved, has been de-clared. The bosses refused to longer agree to the conditions set forth by the union and this precipitated the strike. Other unions threaten to strike in sympathy.

The secretary of state has sent the following identical note to all maritime powers, about thirty or thirty-six in number: "The Grant municipal inaugural committee has requested the president to officially invite the maritime nations to send warships to parcitipate in the ceremonies on April 27 next, when the Grant Monument Association will formally deliver to the city of New York the tomb of General Grant, erected by voluntary subscription, at Riverside park. It will be gratifying to this government if this invitation could be accepted."

The secretary of the treasury is in receipt of information from the minister of Tokio, Japan, that during the present session of the Japanese diet, a governmental coinage bill will be presented for consideration by that body, which will, if passed, change the standard of value in Japan from silver to gold. It s proposed to fix the government ratio between the two metals at 32 to 1. The unit of value will be a gold yen, which will be one-half the weight and value of the old gold yen, which is the same weight and fineness as the gold dollar States money.

Senator Lindsay, from the committee on judiciary, has reported the bankruptcy bill substantially as it was reported by Senator Teller, during the last congress.

Nineteen business buildings in Bloomington, Wis., were burned. The fire originated in a saloon at 1 o'clock in the morning. The total loss is \$50,-000, with light insurance.

The senate in executive session confirmed the nomination of Willis Vandeventer, of Wvoming, to be assistant attorney-general; Charles Schaller to be major, ordnance department of the

A draft of the treaties between the Transvaal republic and the Orange Free State have been concluded at Bloemfontein, the capital of the latter republic, and are published in Pretoria. They give the burghers in each state a frauchise in either republic and the two republics agree to support one another in case of attack. The treaties must be ratified by the volksraads of both republics.

The secretary of the treasury has authorized the collector of customs at Ferdinando to issue clearance papers to the suspected filibuster Bermuda, now at that port. These instructions were issued upon receipt of an affidavit made by the captain of the Bermuda, pledging himself not to enter Cuban ports nor to take on arms or ammunition to be transferred to another vessel on the high seas or to do any act in violation of the laws of the United States.

aspect. The stonemasons were attacked by sixty Italians, because they refused to quit work. Sheriff Kinney ordered the Italians to return to their cabins. in the southeastern portion of the hori-They refused, and were reinforced by Polacks, whereupon the sheriff and posse fired a volley at them. The men It sailed over the city to the northwest, ran from the field. Three Italian padrones have been arrested and brought to Lockport. Twenty-five men are at slowly, and seemed to be quite near the work on the canal under guard of a earth. Nothing but the light was dozen deputy sheriffs.

The Brooks locomotive works, of Dunkirk, N. Y., has resumed on full time. The force has been greatly increased during the past week. It is expected the full force will be employed

in all the departments before April 1. Sylvester Scovel, the correspondent, who was imprisoned in Cuba, has arrived in New York on board the Seguranca, from Havana. Mr. Scovel was in the best of health, and stated that a great deal of sympathy had been wasted on him, as he had been treated with great consideration and kindness.

DUTIES MAY GO UP.

In Important Tariff Amendment to B Introduced. Washington, March 31 .- The proposi-

tion that all goods imported after a certain date, before the enactment of the new tariff bill, shall be made to pay duties carried by the bill, is likely to crystalize into definite form.

The subcommittee of the ways and means committee, consisting of Dalzell, Tawny and Grosvenor, have considered the legal aspects of the plan carefully, and obtained opinions from lawyers to the effect that the plan is constitutional. One of them said today they will prepare an amendment which will declare all imports made on and after April 2, 1897, shall be dutiable at the rate finally fixed in the bill.

Two More Amendments Adopted. Washington, March 31.-The house today was an hour and a quarter securing a quorum. An amendment was adopted placing a duty of \$1 a ton on stating that Georgia and Alabama demanded protection for it.

There was a sensational scene in the afternoon when Johnson of Indiana protested against taking the time of the house in irrelevant discussions; he was ordered to take his seat and refused, but finally did so. As chairman of the committee of the whole, Mr. Sherman was about to summon the speaker the second time Johnson arose, and the speaker was actually called in to sub-

An amendment was adopted increasing the duty on common yellow and brown earthenware from 20 to 25 per cent. Cylindered and crow glass, silvered, was put in cast polished plateglass, silvered, paragraph and lookingglass plates were made dutiable at 10 per cent ad valorem.

In the Senate.

Washington, March 31.—Senator Hoar, chairman of the judiciary committee, today reported favorably the bill to prevent the use of kinetoscopic exhibitions of prizefights in the District of Columbia and the territories. It also prohibits the mailing of prizefight pictures or their receipt from common

carriers. A heavy penalty is provided. The senate adopted a resolution making \$250,000 immediately available for the improvement of the Mississippi river from the head of the passes to the mouth of the Ohio river.

More Plums Distributed. .

Washington, March 31.-The president sent the following nominations to the senate: State-Charlemange Tower, of Pennsylvania, to be envoy extraordinary and minister plenipotentiary to Austro-Hungary; Anson Burlingame Johnson, of Colorado, consul at Fuchau, China; William S. Hallenburger, of Pennsylvania, second assistant postmaster-general.

Interior-Thomas Ryan, of Kansas, first assistant secretary of the interior; Henry Clay Evans, of Tennessee, commissioner of pensions.

WOULD ANNUL THE TREATY.

California Beet-Sugar Producers Prepare

a Memorial to Congress. San Francisco, March 31.-A memorial to congress in the form of a peti- Coroner Richmond attempted to hold an of the United States. The proposed orial to congress in the form of a peti-unit of value will, therefore, be the ex-tion signed by the people of this state inquest on the body of Mrs. Payne, a act equivalent of 50 cents in United who are interested in the beet sugar in- negro woman, and the husband of the dustry is being extensively circulated. dead woman and her neighbors resisted. The petition is a protest against the The coroner and constables were driven continuance of the Hawaiian treaty of away by a mob headed by Payne. They 1875, and against the proposed annex- returned an hour later, accompanied by ation of the islands. It sets forth that nearly a dozen policemen, heavily the treaty has been operative against arm d, and the trouble was renewed. the revenues of the United States, as well as vitally detrimental to the beet sugar industry here.

It appears that under the treaty, during the years 1890-95 inclusive, goods to the value of over \$15,000,000 from Hawaii were admitted free, showing attempt to get possession of the dead that in the interchange of business between the two countries the islands enjoyed 78 per cent of the total volume, and the fight was resumed. and this is naturally increased under the augmenting imports of sugar without a corresponding increase in their imports from the United States. This would indicate that the treaty is only partially reciprocal; that the United States has been unnecessarily deprived of a vast amount of customs revenue would appear to be indicated by statisties footing up to over \$72,000,000 lost during a period of twenty-one years of commerce with the islands.

The petitioners point out that as the conditions have entirely changed since 1875, the government should foster an industry that will make the country self-supplying, rather than perpetuate greatest confidence. The specific object morning the mayor issued a proclama by subsidy a foreign business largely owned by foreigners who employ chiefly mongolians.

Airship Seen in Omaha.

Omaha, March 31.-The mysterious airship was seen again last night for he is convinced the Spanish government the third time by a number of reputable citizens. It hove in sight about the decision of the Spanish commission The strike on the Erie canal, at Pen- time that church was over, and in half dleton, N, Y., has assumed a serious an hour had traversed the heavens, and had once more disappeared. It was seen by people in all parts of the city. This time the airship came into view zon. It showed a big bright light, too big for a baloon, and glowed steadily. and there disappeared behind the houses and bluffs. It moved very visible.

Strike Is Declared.

New York, March 31 .- A strike of steamfitters in the city in which between 30,000 and 60,000 men may be involved, was declared today, when over 1,100 steamfitters refused to work. The bosses announced Saturday that an agreement hitherto existing between them and the employes would no longer be considered, and those who wished to report for work this morning must sign in Thibet, is the loftiest inhabited the new rules. The men refused to point in the world. It is 17,000 feet

CUBA'S LITTLE NAVY

Insurgents Said to Be in Possession of a Cruiser.

The Crew Mutinied, Took Possession of the Vessel and Turned It Over to the Insurgents.

Jacksonville, Fla., March 31 .- Passengers arriving here from Havana say that a rumor is in general circulation here to the effect that the crew of one of the Spanish cruisers mutinied a few days ago and took possession of the ship, turning it over to the insurgents, who have already begun to make captures of small Spanish war vessels of the coast guard. The Spanish officials bauxite not refined, the Republicans deny the story, but it has received corroboration from other sources.

General Rivera Captured.

Havana, March 31,-General Hernandez Velasco, continuing operations in the hills of Pinar del Rio, with the troops under his command, was engaged yesterday morning at Cabazeadas, Rio Hondo district, with an insurgent force of 100 men under General Ruiz Rivera. The insurgents were dispersed, and their position captured after an hour's fight-

The troops captured a number of prisoners, including Major General Rivera, his chief of staff. Colonel Bacallao and adjutant, and Lieutenant Terry. General Rivera and Lieutenant Terry were both wounded.

Rivera, who succeeded Antonio Maceo in command of the insurgent forces in Pinar del Rio, is considered next in military importance to General Maximo Gomez.

The insurgents left ten men killed. The troops, pursuing the enemy, captured a quantity of arms, ammunition, dynamite caps, etc. The troops had one man killed, and Lieutenant Wolgesraffen and twenty soldiers wounded.

General Rivera and his chief of staff, Colonel Bacallao, were brought in prisoners at San Cristobal, Pinar del Rio, last evening. Lieutenant Terry, adjutant of General Rivera, who was made prisoner at the same time, died on the way to San Cristobal. He was wounded by the explosion of a Spanish shell during the engagement at Cabazeadas.

To Stop an Expedition.

receipt of a telegram from Washington. the Vesuvius, which has been watching filibusters, weighed anchor and steamed to the south, leaving six of its men ashore. The boat has gone to Biscayenne bay to endeavor to prevent a Cuban filibustering expedition from leaving, but will probably be too late.

BATTLE OVER A CORPSE.

Result of an Attempt by Negroes to Prevent an Inquest.

St. Joseph, Mo., March 31.-Knives and clubs were used in a race war last night, and several deaths may result.

A hundred negroes were gathered, and they refused to give the body up to the coroner. The police and negroes fought with knives, clubs and revolvers, while the body of the dead woman was carried out of the house. A despearate body was again made by the negroes after it had been placed in the wagon,

The body was taken into the morgne. where an inquest was held. Several hundered negroes gathered about the place, but were held at bay by the police guard that was placed about the premises. The inquest has not been concluded.

Commission to Cuba.

New York, March 30 .- A Herald dispatch from Washington says President McKinley has decided to send a special commission to Cuba. The president has in view a close personal friend and a man of considerable legal ability, in of the special commission's visit to Cuba will be to take part in the intended investigation of the alleged Lee has absolutely refused to join in this investigation on the ground that will not conduct a fair inquiry, and the will be a "whitewash" for all officials concerned in Ruiz' death.

Drowned at a Ford.

Gainesville, Tex., March 31.-Miss Ruby Smith, daugther of Alderman Smith, of this place, and Albert Thompson, a young man who was accompanying her from Era to this city. were drowned last night five miles west of here in attempting to ford a creek that had become a raging torrent, as a result of the unprecedented rainfall of yesterday and last night.

Annexation of Hawaii.

Washington, March 31.- Representative Spaulding, of Michigan, today introduced a joint resolution providing for the annexation of Hawaii to the United States. It gives consent of congress that the Sandwich islands be made into the state of Hawaii, with a republican form of government.

The Buddhist monastery of Haine, above sea level.

TO REACH THE POLE.

Peary, the Explorer, Expects to Succeed

New York, March 31.—The Advertiser says: Lieutenant Peary recently laid a plan for Artic research before the council of the American Geographical Society. The plan includes the reaching of the North Pole. It was heartily IT WAS A SPANISH WARSHIP indorsed by the council, and subscriptions toward its accomplishment promised. Should the plan succeed, the United States will reap the glory.

Lieutenant Peary's plan, as now ma-tured, is considered by Artic explorers one of the most feasible yet advocated. First of all, it is not to be an expedition in the usual sense of the term. It will, besides Lieutenant Peary himself. include only one or two white men. one, he will be a surgeon, and if two the other will be a scientist. The party will be conveyed by a chartered whaler to the point on the western coast of Greenland which Peary has so often made his base of exploration. At this point live a tribe of Eskimos. They form the most northerly settlement of human beings, as far as is known, upon the globe. They know the explorer, and have every confidence in him.

From them he will select five or six young married couples, and will with them push along the northwest coast of Greenland as far as possible, and perhaps into the archipelago which it is believed surrounds the North Pole. All their goods, including dogs and sledges, will be taken with them and when no further progress can be made north, they and Peary and his companions will be landed at some spot and a new colony formed. The ship will have a supply of provisions for three or more years, and make its way back to civilzation before the ice closes in. From this base point the two or three white men will make their explorations.

Lieutenant Peary figures that this colony will not be over 360 miles from the pole. The Eskimos will be able to withstand the climate and he believes they will be contented so long as they have enough food. The women will be taken along to do the cooking and attend to the clothing and footgear.

As soon as the ice conditions are propitious an attempt will be made to reach the pole. The Eskimos and their dog sledges will be used if possible, but in any case the white explorers will push on until the stars and stripes have been planted near if not on the pole

LANDS OF THE STATE.

Jacksonville, Fla., March 31 .- On Occupied in Washington by Persons Who Pay No Rent.

Olympia, Wash., March 31,-State Land Commissioner Bridges declares the old board of land commissioners was derelict in the matter of leasing public lands. He claims that 90 per cent of the school lands are occupied by persons who do not pay the state a cent, thus depriving the school fund of from \$35,000 to \$40,000 per annum. In Spokane, section 16 is occupied by 400 families and business housse, rent free, while in Tacoma a worse state of affairs prevails, and land in the business center of the city, comprising thirteen acres, is bringing in no revenue. Timber from these tracts have been cut and no returns whatever made to the state The loss to the state of this timber alone is about \$40,000.

Commissioner Bridges will send no tices of vacation to all persons occupying state land without an official contract. These trespassers number 2,800 througouht the state. Valuable farming land in Whitman, Garfield, Spokane, Walla Walla, Lincoln and Columbia counties is occupied by persons who do not pay a cent to the state. In Spekane the land used for building purposes should, it is said, bring the state \$500 per annum.

The new school law simplifies this system of leasing land. Henceforth the county auditor will act as the agent for the state land commissioner and it will be his duty to lease lands subject to the commissioner's approval. Mr. Bridges will secure leases from all trespassers by July 1.

Critical Day at Helena.

Helena, Ark., March 31.- foday has been the most critical day in the history of the city. The river has been steadily rising and stands at 50.6 feet. All night the wind blew and the waves beat on the levee and weary hands piled sacks of dirt where the breaches were shown. It was a gallannt fight whose judgment Mr. McKinley has the and it left everybody exhausted. This tion reciting the desperate conditions surrounding the city and requesting that stores be closed and all able-bodies murder of Dr. Ruiz. Consul-General men be sent to the front. The proclamation met with a hearty resposne and in a few minutes several hundred men with spades in hand were taking the places of tired men who had labored all but watching and working still goes on.

Three Men Blown to Atoms.

Philadelphia, March 29 .- A terrific explosion occurred this afternoon at the Dupont chemical works, on the banks of the Delaware river, at Gibbstown N. J., by which James Henderson, Car. Wright and Thomas Stiles were blown to atoms. The separating building and four other buildings were blown to splinters. The destroyed factory was used in the manufacture of dynamite and Atlas powder.

President of the Northern Pacific. Chicago, March 31.-The Post's Washington special says a report is in circulation among the Washington

men and fatally injuring three others.

The killed are: Calvert Rooms -- 3 J.

friends of ex-Secretary Lamont that he is about to become president of the Northern Pacific railroad. Fatal Boiler Explosion. Augusta, Ky., March 31.-The boiler The two women were identified by relaof a sawmill exploded today, killing two tives at the morgue.

A CYCLONE IN TEXAS

Great Damage Done in the Vicinity of Austin.

LOSS OF LIFE IS REPORTED

Were Unroofed and Trees Were Split Asunder by the Terrific Wind.

Austin, Tex., March 30 .- Today the city and country was visited by a cyclone that did great damage. The wind came from the southwest, and blew at a rate of about sixty miles an hour for nearly twenty minutes, tearing down trees or splitting them asunder with terrific force. Several electric towers were blown down, and quite a number of houses in the residence portion were blown down, and in several cases narrow escapes from death are reported. The new unoccupied residence of Burt McDonaly was blown down, striking against the residence of William Vining, knocking in one side of the building. Two children who were in the room playing narrowly escaped. The roofs of a number of residences were torn off, and in addition to doing much damage to the state university, the wind blew off the entire roof of the adjoining dormitory. Great damage was done to the building, and the property of the 20 students therein, many of whom fled for their lives when the roof was carried away. The roof was carried 100 yards, crushing the roof of a cottage in which four people were seated, but none were even injured, though

they were entombed by falling debris. A church just to the north of the university had the entire east side blown in and was unroofed, the wind carrying the roof a block away. The residence of Dr. Graves, immediately north of the church, was lifted from its foundation and twisted completely around and set down in the same place, so badly damaged, however, that none of the doors could be opened to permit the escape of the frightened inmates.

The small town of Clarksville, near this city, was swept by the wind, and many horses were killed by flying debris, while a number of small houses were blown down, though fortunately the inmates were not killed. Several were badly maimed, however. With the terrific wind came a driving rain, that was little short of a flood, and swept everything before it.

Persons arriving on the evening trains bring reports from the surrounding country that the storm was general in this section.

The small town of Bua was roughly handled by the storm, quite a number of houses being blown down, and one or two persons killed, though their names are not obtainable, owing to the fact that most of the telegraph wires are down, and news is very meager.

This is the worst storm that has ever visited this section, and it has laid waste everything in its track, but fortunately so far few deaths are reported. the sun came out as brightly as though nothing had happened.

Calvert, Tex., March 30.-Late deproperty will reach into the thousands. Many fine dwellings were demolished. At Calvert an old lady and two children were in their house and were fatally injured by the coliapse of the building, which was partly burned, notwithstanding the torrents of rain. The loss to property in and around Calvert is estimated at \$100,000. Many roofs and chimneys were blown down. People living here for twenty-five years say they never witnessed such a fearful storm. All telephone as well as telegraph lines were prostrated.

Bad Fire in Portsmouth, Virginia.

Norfolk, Va., March 30 .- A fire occurred at Portsmouth this morning, making many families homeless and causing \$100,000 damage. Fire originated in Whitehirst's hall, corner of Green and Glasgow streets, and burned the block to London street. A high wind swept the flames southward, and at 2 A. M. the steeple of the Catholic church, three blocks away, caught fire from a brand. In less than half an hour the edifice was in ruins. The flames spread to a row of residences on High street, and, while they were burning, the flying sparks caused another blaze in Newton, about a mile away. Assistance was rendered from Norfolk and while the fire was at its height the militia was called out to protect property and aid the firemen.

Made a New Record.

San Francisco, March 30 -The Merchants' Exchange has a dispatch from London announcing the arrival of the night. Tonight the wind has abated, British ship Militiades, which sailed from this port on December 29, making junta. the trip in eighty-four days. This is the fastest time on record for a sailing vessel between San Francisco and London. The Miltiades was grain laden, chartered by G. W. McNear.

To Abolish Capital Punishment. Denver, March 29.—The state senate passed the Engley bill providing for the abolition of capital punishment. The bill recently passed the house, and now only awaits the governor's signa-

New York Hotel Mystery.

New York, March 30. - Anthony Marshall, who was found unconscious yesterday in the Marine hotel, while two women were lying dead in the same apartment, all having been overcome by illuminating gas, died today in the hospital where he had been taken, without recovering his senses.

Dr. Koch is said to have discovered another anti-tuberculin.

WORLD'S WHEAT CROP.

The Yield of Last Year the Smallest in Six Years.

Chicago, March 30 .- The Times-Herald's Washington special says: The world's wheat crop for 1896 was 2,428,393,000 bushels. This fact will be officially announced by the secretary of agriculture in a report to be issued this week. Although the total wheat crop was 118,000,000 bushels less than in 1895, it was larger than earlier estimates indicated. This was largely due to an increase of 59,000,000 bushels in the final estimates of the central statistical bureau, over the November estimate of the minister of agriculture of that country. The crop for 1896 was the smallest in six years.

Regarding the distribution of the crop of the United States for 1896, the report will state:

The increase in price which began in the fall of 1896 so stimulated sales that many parts of the country are now left with only sufficient for seed. All sections report an exceptionally small percentage on hand, the general average being 20.6, against 26.3 last year, and showing but 88,000,000 bushels in farmer's hands March 1. An unusually small amount of the crop of 1895 remains-but 3 per cent, against 4.7 per cent of the 1894 crop so held a year

A larger proportion than usual must be retained for home consumption. The average percentage so retained is 48.3, against 41.1 last year, when the inducements to export were weaker.

TWO AMENDMENTS ADOPTED.

House Proceeding Very Slowly With Tariff Bill.

Washington, March 30 .- The progess of the house on the tariff bill today was even slower than yesterday. Only five more pages of the 162 pages of the bill were disposed of, making fourten pages in all in the two of the five days allowed for consideration under the five-minute rule. At this rate, only thirty-one pages of the bill will be disposed of before the bill comes to a final vote. Only two amendments were adopted today, each an amendment on the ways and means committee. All the questions involved in the tariff, with occasional incursions into the realms of the financial theories, furnished fruitful topics for the members. Fully two hours were spent in the discussion of whether the foreigner or the consumer paid tax. This question bids fair to consume much more time before the debate closes.

Bailey, the leader of the oppostion, " was absent almost all day, and Richardson and McMillin bore the brunt of the hard fighting. The Democratic policy, so far as it has been disclosed, seems to be to attack the bill at every point, making trusts the especial object of assault. The Republicans are trying to advance the consideration by refraining from debate, but they are forced by the attacks of the opposition to defend their measure.

MUTILATED COINS.

The storm was over in an hour, and The Penalty for Passing Defaced

Money. Washington, March 30 .- Letters by the bushel have been pouring in on the treasury department, asking for infortails of the storm show that the loss of mation concerning the new law in relation to the passing of mutilated coin, although those seeking the information might, in a majority of cases, have secured it from the United States district attorney or secret service officers of their respective localities.

In brief, it may be explained that the law is in the main an extension of that against counterfeiting. It provides that the passing of mutilated or defaced coins or the mutilation of defacement of coin for any purpose shall be held to be a criminal offense, punishable by imprisonment for a period of one to five years and a fine of \$100 to \$2,000. Under this law the practice of presenting ladies with coins of gold or silver, with the initials of the donor engraved thereon, to be worn as bangles, will be a criminal offense.

The law also drives out of existence a number of people who have made a living by purchasing mutilated coins at a reduction from their face value and plugging up the holes so skillfully that the original mutilation could not be discovered. Even this kind of tampering with money will be regarded as an offense under the statute.

The Laurada's Voyage.

Philadelphia, March 30.-The famous filibustering steamer Laurada arrived in the Delaware last night, after having successfully landed the most important expedition yet sent from this country to Cuba, and tonight is anchored in the river below Wilmington. Hope for the Laurada's safety had been practically abandoned by all except those connected with the Cuban

Wichita Lands to Be Opened.

Perry, O. T., March 30 .- Recent advices from Washington are that the Wichita country, owned and occupied by the Kiowa, Comanche and Apache Indians, will be opened by May 1. The gold and silver excitement in the Wichita mountains has drawn hundreds on the border of this country, and the opening is expected to be of more note than any previous opening of the Indian territory lands.

Washington, March 30 .- Snee the change of administration, over 80,000 applications for positions have been filed at the postoffice department. The number is said to be somewhat smaller than four years ago. All the papers have been recorded and classified and the cases made up to date. Up to the close of business today the appointment division of the interior department has recorded 1,000 applications for presidential positions under the interior department