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Vladimir De Pachmann. TALK No. 235. Putting It Off. Every day I hear people say that they have needed glasses for some time, but have simply been putting it off.

AEOLIAN COMPANY. Marquam Building corner Seventh St. Working for Alaska. Ready Enlists the Help of New York Chamber of Commerce.

WALTER REED. Eye Specialist. 153 SIXTH STREET OREGONIAN BUILDING. Little Hope for Reed. Second Operation Performed on the Actor Yesterday.

THE "OPEN DOOR." Italy Responds Favorably to the State Department's Note. WASHINGTON, Jan. 4.—Italy has returned a favorable response to the recent note of the state department respecting the "open door" in China.

Boer Trenches Shelled. PRERE CAMP, Jan. 4.—A vigorous shelling of the Boer trenches on the plain this morning forced the burghers to shift their position, after their horses had stampeded.

Box Was Not Shaken. So Democrats Have a Majority in Kentucky Committees. WILL BEGIN THE HEARING TODAY TO COMBAT THE PLAGUE.

Marine Hospital Service Will Have Charge of Philippine Quarantine. WASHINGTON, Jan. 4.—Prompts here are being taken by the officials here to deal with the bubonic plague in the Philippines.

THE PLAGUE AT MANILA. Epidemic First Broke Out in Neighboring Towns. VICTORIA, B. C., Jan. 4.—The Manila Times, just received here, states that "it has been learned from various authentic sources that in many of our neighboring towns a serious epidemic, bordering on plague, is raging.

SHOVEL AND PICK

Boers Working Incessantly at Their Trenches. FLANK ATTACKS BECOME DIFFICULT

Battle on the Tugela River is Expected Next Week—Extent of the Dutch Risings. LONDON, Jan. 5, 5 A. M.—This morning's news throws no further light upon the war situation.

It is fully expected that next week will see a heavy battle on the Tugela river, which is now the real pivot of the campaign. The Boers appear to be working incessantly with shovel and pick.

While the advance is delayed, flank movements are rendered most difficult because long marches are not done with celerity, and it is hard to time an attack with certainty.

The extent of the Dutch risings may now be measured by taking a line from Prieska, on the west, to Herschel or Barkly, on the east. Along the whole of this line, except at points actually occupied by the British, the population seems for the most part hostile.

New recruits are being built at Kimberley, and it is estimated that some 20,000 men are now in the field. The admiral's programme embraces the stationing of small squadrons at Durban, Simons bay, Port Elizabeth, Lorenzo Marques, and Cape Town, and sending an additional ship or two to Aden.

It is announced that Great Britain's agents and detectives are secretly watching the Italian port. It now appears that it is John Churchill, second son of Lady Randolph Churchill, and not Winston Churchill, who has been given command of a squadron of the South African light horse.

Lord Rosslyn has thrown up his engagement at the Court theater in order to join the yeomanry. The offer of Lord Rosslyn to provide at his own expense a completely equipped hospital for use in South Africa has been accepted.

The war office has invited Sir William Thompson to accept the post of chief surgeon to the forces in South Africa, instead of consulting surgeon.

PITCHER FALLS BACK. BELMONT, Jan. 4.—Colonel Pitcher, it is officially announced, being only on a raiding expedition, and for military reasons being unable to occupy Douglas permanently, has evacuated the town, bringing off all the loyalists.

Belmont, when he announced the necessity of evacuating the place, the inhabitants declared their lives were not safe five minutes after the troops left. Pitcher, therefore, invited them to accompany him to Belmont.

The volunteers of the town were totally inadequate to convey the refugees, so the troops gave up the transport wagons to the women and children. The Canadians, acting in accordance with the instructions of the British commander, kept every body lively by singing as they marched along, in spite of the sore feet occasioned by the heavy sand, which made marching extremely fatiguing.

Reinforcements Sent to French. ORANGE, British Jan. 3.—There was a small skirmish at Belmont this morning. The British fired a few shells, but the Boers did not respond.

British Artillery Divert Boers' Attention From Front Movements. BOER CAMP, Colenso, Jan. 2.—The British naval guns at Chevelo camp continue their ineffective long-range firing night and day, in order to divert Boer attention from the movements of troops.

Scouting From Ladysmith. HOOPF LAAGER, Ladysmith, Jan. 1.—The Garrison of Ladysmith during the night threw out feelers on all sides, exchanging shots with the Boer pickets. At midnight a couple of shells fell into the Boer camp, killing a burgher.

General Joubert preached in camp Sunday. Mr. Joubert, who has just arrived here from America, addressed the burghers this afternoon, dwelling on the expiring century witnessing the life struggle of a people.

Paris House Rumor. PARIS, Jan. 4.—A report was current in the house today that Buller had met with another check in his efforts to relieve Ladysmith.

BOX WAS NOT SHAKEN

So Democrats Have a Majority in Kentucky Committees. WILL BEGIN THE HEARING TODAY TO COMBAT THE PLAGUE.

Ballot for United States Senator Will Be Taken Tuesday—The Bribery Case. FRANKFORT, Ky., Jan. 4.—The joint legislative committees which will sit in the contest for governor and lieutenant-governor were drawn by lot, as provided by law, today.

The committee to hear the gubernatorial contest is as follows: Senators Frasier, Aldrich and Green, and Representatives Hickman, Berry, Finn, Renwick, Sledge, Lyon and Barton, all democrats, and Yarberry, republican.

In the lieutenant-governor contest the members of the Senate are Harrell, Coleman and Watson, and Representatives Crawford, Alexander, Baird, Bell, Holland and Sharp, democrats, and Representatives Reed and Lilly, republicans.

The senate completed its drawing at the morning session, and the incident connected with it was when Senator Howard, republican, objected to Senator Geobel's name being placed in the box.

The house was occupied till late in the evening with the drawing of the legislative committees, and there was nothing noteworthy in the proceedings until after the members seated themselves at the table. The first name drawn was that of Senator Howard, republican, who had objected to Senator Geobel's name being placed in the box.

Speaker Trimble invited Haswell or any other republican member to shake the box, but they declined to do this, saying this was the duty of the clerk. Berry (rep.) asked the speaker to allow members to inspect the box, in order to verify the names drawn, which Mr. Cantrell (dem.) said the charges were serious and that as long as they had waited till the drawing was practically complete, he thought they should verify the names.

Each detachment was sworn in separately, every man "dressing" his boot in the queen's halling from the hands of the lord mayor.

Large Band Attacked a Boer Laager, but Was Dispersed. PRITORIA, Jan. 2.—Since starting, the British have captured 140,000 sheep. The machinery now in working order at Vanzenburg reports from Derdepoort that the Kaffir stations have been destroyed and the inhabitants are fleeing.

Steyn's Latest Proclamation. CAPE TOWN, Jan. 3.—Intelligence has been received here from the Free State to the effect that President Steyn has issued a proclamation declaring that every white man, irrespective of nationality, is to be considered a burgher, and is liable to be compelled to fight for the defense of the country.

DR. M'GLYNN'S CONDITION. Strange Disease Robbing Him of His Vitality. NEWBURGH, N. Y., Jan. 4.—The Rev. Dr. Edward W. McGlynn, pastor of St. Mary's Roman Catholic church, in this city, has been confined to his room by illness, and his condition is such that a cause alarm among his large circle of acquaintances.

Sullivan Nominated for Senator. JACKSON, Miss., Jan. 4.—The joint democratic caucus of the Mississippi legislature tonight nominated Senator W. V. Sullivan as the United States senator to fill the short term of one year, ending March 4, 1901.

GOVERNOR CRANE INAUGURATED. BOSTON, Jan. 4.—Wm. Murray Crane was today inaugurated as governor of Massachusetts. TO PATCH UP RATES. Object of a Conference of Passenger Men at Boston.

Thrilling Experience of Passengers on the Chicago & Great Western. CHICAGO, Jan. 4.—A special to the Chronicle from Galena, Ill., says: Travelers on a Chicago & Great Western passenger train had a thrilling ride and a narrow escape from death at Galena Junction today.

Sawmill Boiler Exploded. CINCINNATI, Jan. 4.—A boiler in the sawmill of Charles Stout, eight miles east of here, exploded and killed three employees and injured the owner.

THE FINANCIAL BILL. Little Likelihood of the Senate Adopting a Silver Amendment. LOW BOND FEATURE OPPOSED. Culberson Candidate for Democratic National Committee Chairmanship—Oregon City's Public Building.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 4.—Any attempt to figure out a majority in the senate to pass any kind of bimetallic amendment shows that it all the silver democrats should vote for it, there would be but 37, while if Carter, Shoup, Clark, Pritchard and Warren should also vote for an amendment similar to that offered by Chandler yesterday, there would still be three votes lacking for a majority.

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A feature of the present financial bill which caused a great deal of trouble and objection on the republican side is the provision for 2 per cent bonds. Some of the republicans, however, think that the bill is altogether too low a rate of interest, and that 3 per cent would be low enough.

Senator Culberson, of Texas, is being pushed by certain of his friends for chairman of the democratic national committee, in place of Jones of Arkansas. There is a good deal of dissatisfaction in some quarters on account of the way Jones has been managing the party, and Culberson's successful political experience in Texas has marked him as a man who might be good in national affairs.

Public Building at Oregon City. Representative Tongue today introduced a bill appropriating \$200,000 for the construction of a public building at Oregon City for the use of the post and land offices. He realizes that there is little hope of passing this bill this session, but will urge it strongly in the next session, in case it has to go over.

Oregon Land Bills. The public land committee, of which Representative Moody is a member, will be organized tomorrow. As soon as that committee gets down to business, Mr. Moody will attempt to secure the favor of immediate transportation of dutiable goods to the port of Astoria. This bill is more strongly recommended this year than before, and will probably pass.

Washington Judicial Districts. Congressman Cushman will urge congressional action for the division of Washington into two judicial districts, to be divided east and west; Spokane and King counties to be among those in the northern district, and Pierce and Walla Walla to be among those of the southern district. Congressman Jones had already introduced a bill for a division along the Cascade range.

Cushman will introduce a joint resolution favoring a constitutional amendment for the election of senators by the people; also for a survey and estimates of the cost of draining the irrigation lands of the north-eastern district, and a bill for a free portage railway at The Dalles.

EFFECT OF DRAINAGE CANAL. Clear Water in Chicago River—At the Controlling Works. CHICAGO, Jan. 4.—The clear waters of Lake Michigan have invaded the Chicago river as far as Harrison-street bridge, in the south branch. At sunset last night the water had taken on a clearer tinge as far south as Twelfth-street bridge.

Runaway Train. Thrilling Experience of Passengers on the Chicago & Great Western. CHICAGO, Jan. 4.—A special to the Chronicle from Galena, Ill., says: Travelers on a Chicago & Great Western passenger train had a thrilling ride and a narrow escape from death at Galena Junction today.

Saturday's Gold Shipment. NEW YORK, Jan. 4.—Two million dollars in gold will be taken from the clearing-house tomorrow by banks in this city. Arrangements to that effect were made today, and unless additional orders are received tomorrow, it is believed \$2,000,000 will represent the amount of next Saturday's gold shipment.

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