NO CHANCE OF WORK

Programme in Senate Will Be Same as Last Week.

CANAL BILL TO BE SIDE TRACKED

Establishment of Ship Subsidy as Regular Order Displaces It—This Measure and Hay-Pauncefote Treaty Will Occupy Time.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 9.—The Senate will continue to give its attention to the Hay-Pauncefote treaty and the ship subsidy bill during the present week, taking up first one and then the other as may suit the convenience of those who may wish to speak on the two measures. During the last session of Congress the Nicaragua Canal bill was made the special order of business for Monday next, but the establishment of the ship bill as the regular order will have the effect of displacing the canal bill, preference being given under the Senate rules to a regular order over a special order. It is understood that Senator Morgan, who has charge of the canal bill, will not press that measure until the treaty for the abrogation of the Clayton-Bulwer treaty is disposed of. On this account, the friends of the ship bill do not apprehend that he will make any opposition to the continuance of the consideration of that measure. He has, indeed, said that he would be content to allow his bill to follow closely in the wake of the ship bill.

Three or four Senate speeches are promised in opposition to the subsidy bill, and it is expected that most, if not all of these already in sight will be made during this week. Among those who probably will speak on the subject are Senators Clay, Vest and Berry, all of whom oppose the bill. Senator Vest is an especial advocate of free ships.

There are differences of opinion as to what effect the taking of a vote on the fortification amendment to the treaty will have upon the time of disposing of that instrument, but a majority of the Senators express the opinion that the vote upon the treaty itself will follow very soon after the vote upon the amendment. The indications are that the amendment will be adopted and as thus amended the treaty will be ratified. Opponents of the treaty will offer other amendments, but they do not count upon having them favorably acted upon.

The Senate will not sit Wednesday on account of the centennial celebration of the establishment of the seat of government at Washington, and there is a possibility of adjournment from Thursday until Monday of next week.

IN THE HOUSE.

Reduction of War-Tax and Appropriations Bills Will Likely Pass.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 9.—The programme in the House for the coming week contemplates the consideration and passage of the legislative, executive and judicial appropriation bill and the bill for the reduction of the war revenue taxes. Wednesday will be dies non, so far as legislation is concerned, as on that day the exercises in connection with the centennial celebration of the removal of the seat of government to Washington will be held in the House.

The legislative appropriation bill is not expected to consume more than two days at most, probably only one, and the leaders expect that the remainder of the week will suffice to pass the war revenue reduction act.

It is probable that special interests which do not receive the consideration of the bill, which they think they are entitled to, will attempt to amend it. This is especially true of the brewing interests, which hope to secure a further reduction of the tax on beer from $1 60, a barrel as fixed by the committee, to $1 25 a barrel. A plan has been organized by which these interests believe they can accomplish their purpose. In order to secure this reduction, which will amount to about $7,000,000, that amount of revenue must be attained and those members who are working for a further reduction on beer will advocate the retention of the tax on bank checks and discounts which amounts to about the same sum. It is understood that many of the larger banks are not opposed to the retention of this tax on the ground that it reduces the number of small checks presented for payment and thus reduces the cost of the clerical force in the banks. Most of the Republican members of the ways and means committee do not believe a successful fight can be waged against any feature of the committee's bill.

AGAINST THE NEGRO.

Delegate Wilcox Opposes Importation to Hawaii.

HONOLULU, Nov. 30.—Statistics of immigration for the past few months show that there is a considerable movement of Orientals away from the islands. During the past three months, the departures of Japanese for Japan have exceeded the arrivals by over 700, and over 400 more Chinese have gone home than have come here. The steamship Aorangi, from Victoria, this week, brought the first lot of laborers that have been received here for some time. They are Italians. Only 80 were in the lot, but it is understood that more will come if these make a favorable report.

The question of getting negro labor from the Southern American States is being warmly discussed. There is great opposition to importing negroes in some quarters. Delegate Wilcox has declared himself strongly opposed to it, and he will work against it. He declares that if negroes are brought here it means the end of the Hawaiian race.

This city has just passed through the heaviest rain storm experienced in many years. Five and a half inches of rain fell in 12 hours on the night of November 25, and the result was some large floods in the residence districts.

The bark St. Katherine arrived here day before yesterday from San Francisco, having been 30 days making the trip. As a result of the slow journey, she lost 120 hogs, which were overcome by heat and died on the way. The brig W. G. Irwin and barkentine Planter have also arrived after equally long trips. All the vessels report an absence of trade winds.

Hawaii has celebrated for the last time the day known to Hawaiian history as Independence day. It is November 28, on which date, 75 years ago, England and France entered into a mutual treaty recognizing the Hawaiian Nation and agreeing to respect it as independent. This followed after the cession of the islands to Great Britain upon demands made by the Lord George Paulet, and the subsequent restoration of the monarchy by Admiral Thomas. When the Legislature meets it will probably abolish the holiday.

GOOD CHANGE FOR ARMY.

Post Exchange System Promotes Health and Morals of Soldiers.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 9.—A report of General J. C. Breckinridge, Inspector-General United States Army, to the Lieutenant-General commanding the Army, urges an increase of the Inspector-General's Department, in order to put it on a more efficient basis, and also calls attention to the uncertain and hampering effects of detailed instead of permanent officers in that department.

A lengthy chapter of the report is devoted to conditions in the Philippines, setting forth the initial lack of a properly organized system of land transportation in the islands, and scarcity of well-equipped pack trains, and improvements effected in those conditions.

"The evolution of the Army ration" is dwelt upon at some length. General Breckinridge also touches upon the success which sugar and sweets have attained as a part of the soldiers' food, especially in the tropics. The success that has attended the establishment of post exchanges at garrisons throughout the country is noted, and it is stated that the consensus of opinion in the Army generally is that the present exchange promotes the morals, temperance, discipline and health of the men, as compared with the former regime. Sales of liquor are confined to soft drinks, beer and light wines, a radical departure from the old system, when whisky was one of the articles issued by the Subsistence Department.

Fees in Indian Liquor Cases.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 9.—Representative Jones, of Washington, has introduced a bill, general in character, which provides that where Indians are summoned as witnesses to give testimony in cases where charges are brought against individuals or other parties for selling intoxicating liquors on Indian lands, such Indians shall be entitled to mileage and other costs only when they are in no way incriminated. Such Indians as have purchased liquors under these conditions, or have furnished other Indians with money for making such purchases, will be cut off from this allowance. The bill, however, provides that all Indians, incriminated or not, shall be obliged to give testimony when called upon.

To Amend Pension Laws.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 9.—Representative Jones, of Washington, is seeking to amend the pension laws by lifting from the soldiers the necessity of proving that the disability for which they seek pensions did not exist prior to their enlistment. His bill on this subject provides that in all cases where the services of a soldier were accepted, and he was mustered into the Army, no further questions should be asked concerning his physical condition prior to enlistment. In many cases the soldier of the Civil War has been prevented from securing a pension because of his inability to prove that his disability did not exist prior to his enlistment.

Otis Not Looking for Position.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 9.—It can be definitely and authoritatively stated that the report that General Harrison Gray Otis is in Washington seeking an official appointment is without foundation or fact. General Otis himself is authority for the statement that he has not applied for any appointment whatever under the Administration. He is not in Washington on an office-seeking mission, and declares that there is no warrant whatever for the published statements to the contrary, as the Los Angeles Times engages his entire attention.

SIX-DAY BICYCLE RACE.

Sixth Annual International Contest Opened Today in New York.

NEW YORK, Dec. 10.—The sixth annual international six-day bicycle race at Madison-Square Garden was started at midnight tonight, before over 6000 people. The race is held under the auspices of the American Bicycle-Racing Association, and 14 riders of international reputation began the 142 hours' grind. They represented as many pairs who will race for the six days as teams. No man will be allowed to ride on the track more than 12 hours in any day, but the two men in teach team may relieve one another at any time that suits them. At the end of the six days' racing $4000 in prizes will be distributed among the riders. Long before 8 o'clock the crowds began arriving at the garden, and by the time the pistol sent the men off on their journey the seats around the track and the great space inside the rail were filled. The track this year is banked very steep, and is several feet higher at the outside than that of last year. The management saw fit to do this in order to prevent "loafing," which was much in evidence at the previous races. This will make the race much faster continually, but probably will cause many spills.

Following are the pairs who were counted in time to start in the race, the man first mentioned in each pair being the one who started first for the team:

C. W. Miller, Chicago, and Robert Walthour, Atlanta; Hugh McLean, Scotland, and Arthur McLean, Scotland; Oscar Aronson, Sweden, and Oscar Babcock, New York; W. C. Stinson, Boston, and Frank Waller, Germany; John Dubois, Brocton, and Lloyd Krebs, Newark; Harry Elkes, Glens Falls, and Floyd MacFarland, San Jose, Cal.; Harry Bloecker, Brooklyn, and Frank Albert; Jean Gougoltz, France, and Caesar Simmar, France; Karl Kiser, Germany, and Fritz Ryser, Germany; Rudolph Miller, Italy, and H. Aucoutrior, Italy; Charles Turville, Philadelphia, and Louis Gimm, Pittsburg; T. C. Colgan, Trenton, and Dickerson; Burns Pierce, Boston, and Archie McEachern, Toronto. The Lawson brothers, John and Gus, sent their entry in too late, and did not start. Fritschka and Lingenfelter, the German team; Maresca and Sassard, the Italian team, and Nikoden and Hoffman, the Berlin team, failed to qualify, and were not allowed to start.

Speed will be the chief factor in the race, for among the men are Harry Elkes, the world's middle-distance champion; Stinson, who recently rode more than 40 miles in an hour; Floyd MacFarland, the handicap king, and Jean Gougoltz, the swift Frenchman. To offset these men's brilliant rushes to the front, the slower ones will have to use all the generalship at their command, and during the week there will be many an interesting moment. A man who falls is lost, for the pace probably will never drop below 14 or 15 miles an hour.

Shortly after the start the men showed speed. The first lap was made with Elkes in the lead, followed by Stinson, Miller, Aronson, Gougoltz, Dubois and Turville in the order named, with the rest well bunched. With the enthusiasm at its height, Gougoltz, on the seventh lap, broke into a wild spurt and gained 20 feet on Elkes. The latter and Stinson, by a spurt, caught up with him, but Gougoltz held the lead to the end of the first mile, which he made in 2:29 3-5. The score at 2 A. M. was: Elkes and MacFarland, 49.2; Simmar and Gougoltz, 49.2; Pierce and McEachern, 49.2; Babcock and Aronson, 49.1; Waller and Stinson, 49.1; Miller and Walthour, 49.1; Frederick and Fisher, 49.1; Colgan and Dickerson, 48.1; Dubois and Krebs, 49; Kiser and Ryser, 48; Muller and Aucoutrior, 49; McLean and McLean, 49; Albert and Bleecker, 48.2.

GOVERNMENT COTTON CROP

Report That It Had Been Offered in Advance Confirmed.

NEW YORK, Dec. 9.—A story to the effect that the Government cotton crop, which will be made public tomorrow, has been offered to certain cotton brokers in this city in advance, received corroboration today. Frank B. Guest, head of a cotton commission-house, said tonight that advance information was offered to him Saturday. He immediately notified President Hubbard, of the Cotton Exchange. The latter asked for a detailed statement, which was given, and this is to be used as a basis for Federal investigation. President Hubbard said tonight that he would go to Washington without delay and place the entire matter before the proper authorities.

TO CURE A COLD IN ONE DAY.
Take Laxative Bromo-Quinine Tablets. All druggists refund the money if it fails to cure. E. W. Grove's signature is on each box. 25c.

OUR POSTAL SERVICE

POSTMASTER-GENERAL SMITH SUBMITS ANNUAL REPORT.

Greatly Reduced Deficit Is Shown—A Boast that Free Rural Delivery Is Here to Stay.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 9.—Postmaster-General Charles Emory Smith has submitted his annual report to the President. In it the financial operations of the department for the last fiscal year are shown briefly in the following statement of revenues and expenditures:

Ordinary postal revenue	$100,598,423
Receipts from money order business	1,453,145
Receipts from all sources	$102,354,578
Total expenditures for the year	$107,740,267
Excess of expenditures over receipts	$ 5,385,689

The deficit for the year 1899-1900 is shown to be $1,225,088 less than the previous year.

The estimated postal revenue for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1902, is $116,633,042, and the estimated expenditure $121,178,349, leaving a probable deficiency of $4,634,307.

Rural free delivery, the report says, has proved to be "the most salient, significant and far-reaching feature of the postal development."

Besides swelling the postal receipts, the value of farms are enhanced, through the necessity for good roads and the opportunity afforded the farmer to keep abreast of the times by being put in closer communication with the outside world. The isolation and monotony which has been the bane of country life is sensibly mitigated through the effect of rural free delivery in placing the farm within daily range of the intellectual and commercial activity of the world. The farmer is also given cause to feel that he shares the governmental advantages of the townsman, which stimulates his loyalty and patriotism. "With all these results clearly indicated by the experiment as thus far tried," says the Postmaster-General, "rural free delivery is plainly here to stay."

Of the 21,000,000 of people scattered over 1,000,000 square miles of territory, to whose doors it is the task of the Government to arrange to carry the mails through rural free delivery, Postmaster-General Smith says that by the end of the current fiscal year one-sixth of them shall have been served and 4000 routes in operation. The net annual cost of a complete rural free delivery system is estimated at $13,782,224. On this point the report says:

"It will hardly be disputed that the great result of carrying the postoffice to every home, if it can be accomplished at such comparatively small cost, is an object well worth undertaking.

"This duty is emphasized and enforced when we consider some other phases of the postal question. In my last annual report it was shown that if a class of publications which now, under an evasion of the purposes of the law, pay the second-class rate of postage, were really made to pay the third-class rate, as they ought to do, it would bring an additional revenue to the Government of $12,343,612. The cost to the Government of this abuse is almost exactly equivalent to the estimated cost of broad National rural free delivery, and if it is a question between favoring a very limited number of publishers and favoring 21,000,000 of people who live on the farms of the United States, there ought to be no hesitation in serving the many rather than the few. The abuse should be uprooted as a public duty; the National delivery should be undertaken as a public policy, and when, through the overthrow of the wrong, the right can be established without the slightest additional burden, the appeal becomes irresistible."

The effort to eradicate the abuse of the postal provisions for second-class mail matter, the Postmaster-General assumes, is not made in order "to change the policy of the present law or to abridge the privileges it confers upon the regular and legitimate publications for the dissemination of public intelligence." But instead, says the report, "it is only sought to cut off the abuses which the law never contemplated, and which have crept in through the ambiguity of its provisions, or through doubtful interpretations that have opened a wide door for wrongful entries. It is aimed at the serial paper-covered books at the private 'house organs,' at the spurious trade journals and sheets of an exclusive advertising character; at bulk distribution which is falsely called subscription, and at the repeated turn and overturn by news agents of unsold periodicals. There is no objection to serving these purely private enterprises through the mails, but there is no reason why the Government should carry them at the second-class rate of 1 cent a pound, involving a dead loss to it of millions of dollars a year, when other articles of the same kind rightfully pay the third-class rate of 8 cents a pound." The Postmaster-General says some advance has been made in wiping out the abuse above referred to.

The report says that the postal service in the new island possessions of the United States has been materially advanced and strengthened. "Unfortunately," says the report, speaking of Cuba, "its administration was stained for a time by frauds and peculations of the most shameful character. But this was the crime of the agent, and not any fault of the system. The system was such that the frauds and peculations could not have been committed by any one official, however dishonest. They were made possible only through the collusion of officers who should have been a check on each other, and who entered into a conspiracy by which the safeguards dependent on a careful plan of checks were thrown down. When the facts were brought to light, immediate action was taken to right the wrongs and arraign the wrongdoers. The offense of those implicated was more than infidelity to the confidence reposed in them and more than ordinary malfeasance in office. Its turpitude was enhanced by the fact that it was the betrayal of a trust held for a people who were our wards, which carried peculiarly sacred obligations, and it merits the severest condemnation. The cases have passed to the custody of the courts, and early trial is expected."

The improvement of the last few years in the money-order system has been continued and even enhanced, says the Postmaster-General, and free delivery extended.

The report of the Second Assistant Postmaster-General is cited to show the increase in the number of routes over which mail is transported, and the good effects to the service of the order of last February prohibiting the consideration of bids for star route contracts, where the bidder resided off of the route he was bidding for.

A reasonably satisfactory mail service is being furnished the people of Alaska, and the number of complaints is surprisingly small. Arrangements have been made for weekly service over the two overland routes.

Senator Kuykendall's Objections.

Junction Times.

By request Senator Kuykendall has a very interesting communication in The Oregonian relative to the primary system of nominating officers. We are in favor of the primary system, provided it can be so arranged that the object of the law will be served. We have worked under the primary system in two different states, and the objections advanced by the Senator in regard to population centers did not obtain there. Usually the county seat had so many candidates that the ones from the outside were successful. However, when the vast territory of Lane is considered, its two mountain ranges and raging rivers, the Senator's objections are entitled to serious consideration. The wishes of the people should be first served, and while county conventions are enjoyable, a sort of reunion of enthusiastic followers, it has its objections. Delegates will pool issues and sometimes the ticket is simply, to a certain extent, a pyramid of swaps. The majority of the people of Oregon, irrespective of party, are in favor of electing United States Senators by a direct vote, and why not nominate by a direct vote? It is a poor rule that will not work both ways.

LET THE GOVERNOR APPOINT

The County Assessors Might Do Their Duty Impartially.

SALEM, Or., Dec. 7.—(To the Editor.)—The rivalry among the several counties of the state as to which shall pay the least proportion of state taxes is fast approaching the acute stage.

Prosperity has been proclaimed throughout the country for the past four years, actually exists at present, and bids fair to continue for some time to come; yet the assessment rolls of the different counties show constant depreciation in property values. Had the breezy Nebraskan known this, he might have made better use of it as a campaign jeremiad than he did of the negro clause in our state constitution.

Not content with the efforts of the Assessors to reduce valuations, some of the county authorities, seeing the depreciation (?) of property in other counties, as reported to the Secretary of State, have hastened to make an additional horizontal reduction of a certain per cent on values before making returns to the state officers. At this juncture comes the eloquent Senator from Clackamas County with a bill printed in The Sunday Oregonian of December 2, and to be introduced at the next session of the Legislature, providing for the election of Assessors in several districts in each county. It is the abandoned project of precinct Assessors in a new dress.

The proposed measure will not remedy existing obnoxious conditions, but will tend to aggrevate them. Whereas, the contest to escape state taxes is now carried on among the counties, under the scheme above mentioned it will be continued and multiplied among different sections of each county. Now the responsibility for the present state of affairs is divided among 33 County Assessors, while the proposed law would scatter it among a much large number of individuals, none of whom would feel the weight of it enough to control him in any great degree. Carried to its logical conclusion, the process would soon make the payment of state taxes scarcely more than a voluntary contribution, when the mendicant state should ask alms.

Of course all taxation is more or less odious. It is and always will be human nature, in bodies politic as well as in natural persons, to avoid taxes and try to impose them upon others. The vice of the present system is that the state is made to suffer in its revenues from this ever-present condition without the least power to control it. The late State Board of Equalization had many demerits, but it had the merit of being a step towards giving the state some control over the valuation of property for the purposes of state taxation. Unless the present system of listing and valuation is reversed or otherwise greatly improved, direct taxation for state purposes will have to be abandoned and the state revenue raised by some scheme of indirect taxation—probably by an enlargement of the system of licenses now in use as to insurance companies, medical practitioners and other occupations.

If the state is to raise revenue by direct taxation, it should, by its own officers, directly list and value the property to be taxed. It is idle for the state to prescribe the rate of taxation without having at the same time the power to fix the value to which the rate is to be applied in computing the amount of taxes to be collected. If you will allow me to fix the value of my taxable property, as my County Assessor does now, I will give you, acting for the state, free rein to fix the rate of state taxation. As you increase the rate I will decrease my valuation, perhaps to the vanishing point.

To establish the rate, to enumerate the objects of taxation and to fix their values are three elements necessary to the just and proper exercise of the power of raising the public revenue. For state purposes they should never be separated in execution but should all be controlled by state authority.

Instead of diffusing responsibility into infinitesimal parts as the proposed law would do, to the detriment of the public service, authority ought to be lodged with the Governor to appoint assessors for each county or, perhaps better, for each of certain specified kinds of property including all that should be taxed.

Each assessor should be appointed with reference to his qualifications to judge of the value of the property he is to assess and should be, as far as possible, disinterested in the result of his work. The responsibility for equal and uniform taxation would be centered in the Governor and could not be avoided or transferred to another. The result would certainly be beneficial. It could not be worse than present conditions. G. H. B.

SLOAN WANTS NO MOUNTS

Will Not Ride in America Until He Clears Standing in England.

CHICAGO, Dec. 9.—Jockey Tod Sloan declared here today that racing associations of America need not prepare to refuse him a license to ride; that he does not intend to ask any club in this country for the privilege of taking mounts until he has either cleared his standing with the Jockey Club of England, or been absolutely turned down. Sloan has decided to practically risk his future reputation on the treatment he gets when he returns to England next Spring.

After reading the report that Tom Williams, of the California Club, had cabled to England to secure additional information on the case with the idea of refusing to allow Sloan the privilege to ride at Oakland if the facts warranted it, Sloan said:

"Mr. Williams is a splendid turfman, and if he has cabled to England for information, he probably does it sincerely. However, I don't intend to ride at Oakland or any other California track. I am going to California for recreation. I have been fully prepared for the reports that followed the word from England. A fellow has to stand for them. A lot of people are asking questions and in such a way as to make it appear there is more behind the case than is now known. This matter cannot be fully settled until the Jockey Club of England makes a more complete statement or at least gives official notice. That will not come probably for several months, or until I apply for a license."

The West Doesn't Want It.

Minneapolis Journal, Rep.

The Journal heartily concurs in the declaration of the Republican platform regarding the importance of a strong merchant marine, and in the views of the President favoring proper legislation to that end, but it is opposed to paying shipbuilders millions of dollars a year for many years in order to accomplish a result which, from present indications, will come about in due time through the operation of natural causes. The Journal does not believe that any considerable number of the people of the Middle West, of the Northwest, or of the South are in favor of the passage of a ship-subsidy bill, and it believes the better the question is understood the fewer people will favor it. It is a measure for the benefit of a comparatively few, and while it would largely increase their profits and give an artificial stimulus to the development of an important branch of industry, there is reason to believe that shipbuilding will continue to prosper and grow without it.

John C. Strunk, of Middle Smithfield, Pa., is in 94 years old, and has never been outside the county in which he was born.

SCANDAL RIFE IN JAPAN

MUNICIPAL AFFAIRS OF TOKIO FURNISH THE SUBJECT.

Worst Feature Is Involvement of Cabinet Minister—Honors to Rear-Admiral Beardsley.

YOKOHAMA, Nov. 20.—The whole empire is ringing with the Tokio municipal scandals, the worst feature of the case being the involvement of one of the Cabinet Ministers. Party feeling, which always runs high here on the slightest friction, is now especially intense, and it is at present impossible to predict the outcome. It would be particularly unfortunate if, just at this juncture, when international questions are of such supreme importance, and the government is in hands amply capable of managing them, a comparatively trifling matter is to be allowed to throw the control into feebler hands.

The controversy on the municipal scandals is developing a curious and characteristically Oriental state of affairs in the matter of newspaper libel suits. The libel laws have heretofore been practically inoperative on account of the system of vicarious atonement in common vogue, every native paper having a dummy editor whose only function is to go to jail whenever his paper is sentenced for libel. The result is a flood of personal abuse which can be stayed only by an elaborate system of blackmail, the more unscrupulous of the journals combining both the disease and remedy in their plans of attack upon public and private reputations.

The association of Japanese journalists has started an anti-cruelty crusade, having for its impulse the extraordinary silence of the European and American papers upon the Russian and French outrages, especially the massacre by the forces of the former nation upon the Amoor River. It is noted by the foreign press here as somewhat extraordinary that the chief protest against these countries should emanate from a "heathen" nation, and from one to which the Western world was only a short time ago reading moral lessons upon barbarity and administering the severest rebukes for its want of civilized spirit and methods in the conduct of warfare. The Buddhists have been stirred into unwonted activity by the Chinese situation. One evidence if this is the issuance of an excellently written pamphlet in English entitled "an appeal to all ecclesiastics in the world," asking the latter to revise their methods of missionary work so as to help China instead of seeking to overthrow her social life and thus bring on moral chaos.

Rear-Admiral Beardsley, of the United States Navy, is the recipient of many attentions from the Japanese, as he was a member of Perry's expedition, having been a midshipman at the time the landing was made at Uraga, which led to the opening of Japan to the world. In connection with his visit a movement is on foot to mark by some fitting monument the spot made historic and famous in the annals of the empire.

NEXT IMPORTANT STEP.

Said to Be Presentation of Powers' Agreement to Ministers.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 9.—The next important step in the Chinese situation will be the formal presentation to the Chinese plenipotentiaries of the agreement arrived at between the representatives of the powers at Pekin for reparation for the Boxer outrages. In just what manner this will be done, Mr. Conger has not informed the State Department, although the probability is that the document will be handed to the Chinese by the dean of the diplomatic corps. As has been stated, the telegram is simply a statement of the terms upon which the powers will negotiate with China for final settlement, and is laid before the Chinese officials as a matter of form. The negotiations for final settlement will come later, after the Chinese have been given a reasonable opportunity for the consideration of the conditions laid down by the powers. The complete agreement deciphered from the code is now in the hands of the President. Officials decline to make its text public in advance of the receipt of information that it had been formally accepted by the powers, although the advices which have heretofore come from Mr. Conger leave no doubt that this will be the case. The essential features of the agreement already have been outlined in the press dispatches.

MEANS PEACE IS DESIRED.

Envoys So Take Removal of General Tung Fu Hsiang.

PEKIN, Dec. 9.—All the foreign envoys except Sir Ernest M. Satow, the British Minister, have received instructions from their governments agreeing to the joint note proposed at the last meeting. Another meeting will probably be called for Tuesday next. Should the British Minister have received his instructions to sign the joint note by that time, communication will be immediately opened with Prince Ching and Li Hung Chang, who are in daily touch with the court by the Chinese telegraph.

Prince Ching says Emperor Kwang Hsu is ready to return as soon as assured that the negotiations will allow him to come under conditions consonant with his dignity and safety.

The removal of General Tung Fu Hsiang from the command of the Chinese forces surrounding the court is considered by the foreign envoys to be a very important step, as showing the real desire of the government to come to terms. His banishment indicates that the court recognizes the expediency of obeying the demands of the powers.

ALL CREDIT DUE AMERICA.

Russia Says This Nation Brought About Existing Entente.

ST. PETERSBURG, Dec. 9.—The Novoe Vremya, in an article evidently inspired referring to the recent dispatches from Dr. Morrison, in Pekin, to the London Times saying all the credit for securing softened terms is given by the Chinese to the Russians, remarks:

"The credit for the existing entente really belongs to America. England begrudges President McKinley his just prestige because he has emphasized America's friendship for Russia."

The Russian journal regards the alterations which America has procured in the peace preliminaries as of the greatest importance.

Execution of Yu Hsien Is Certain.

LONDON, Dec. 10.—"General Chaffee wrote a letter to Count von Waldersee," says the Pekin correspondent of the Morning Post, "complaining of the removal by French and German troops of the astronomical instruments from the wall of Pekin, but the letter was returned to him on account of its tone. He has notified the foreign envoys that all persons are prohibited passing the American guard on entering the south gate of the palace owing to the frequent cases of looting. The Ministers are offended at this individual assumption of authority.

"Yeng Lu, who is now acting as the adviser of the Chinese Court, enjoys the favor of the Empress Dowager and is forming regiments which may be trusted to defend the court.

"I am informed that the execution of Yu Hsien is certain whenever the envoys demand it."

THANKED BY THE QUEEN.

Victoria Replies to King Carlos' Message at Banquet Saturday.

LISBON, Dec. 9.—King Carlos has received from Queen Victoria the following telegram in response to the one sent by His Majesty yesterday:

"I am greatly touched by your kind telegram. I sincerely thank you, my dear nephew, for it, and for the good wishes you entertain toward me and mine. It is with the greatest pleasure that I recognize the cordial and friendly understanding between Portugal and England."

After cordial farewells to the Portuguese officials, and an exchange of salutes, the British squadron sailed at noon. At Saturday's banquet on board the British battle-ship Majestic, when King Carlos, Queen Marie Amelie and Prince Luis Philippe, together with members of the Cabinet and other dignitaries, were entertained by Vice-Admiral Rawson, the Portuguese Premier, De Castro, toasting "Queen Victoria and Great Britain," saluted "the alliance that has long existed in treaties and has been confirmed in recent acts."

He said the significance of alliance was "an assurance that our rights will be respected and our dominions maintained."

Sir H. G. McDonnell, the British Minister, in responding, thanked the government of King Carlos for the "friendly attitude, maintained with such correctness, toward Great Britain during the war in South Africa, which has been warmly appreciated by the government of Queen Victoria." "The confirmation of alliance which unites us indissolubly," said the British Minister, "is here in the presence of the Channel squadron. Ancient ties are drawn closer by recent events. The British Government desires that a firm and durable alliance may be ever maintained." In conclusion, he proposed "the prosperity of Portugal and the happiness of the royal family."

ANOTHER BLOW FOR KRUGER.

Netherlands Disavows Responsibility for Kind Letter of Minister.

THE HAGUE, Dec. 9.—The Government of the Netherlands has instructed the Dutch Minister in London, Baron von Golstein van Oldenaller, to disavow in the name of the government all responsibility for the letter addressed to Mr. Kruger by the president of the Chamber of the Staats-General, Dr. A. van Naamen van Fomnes, approving his "noble purpose" and expressing a hope that the independence of the two Dutch Republics would be secured.

Czar Not Disposed to Assist Kruger.

LONDON, Dec. 10.—"Mr. Kruger received a message from the Czar Friday night," says the correspondent of the Times at The Hague. "It was couched in very friendly terms, but the fact that its existence has been kept a close secret is sufficient to indicate its author's intention to abstain from any active steps tending toward intervention. The Czar naturally pleads his illness as a sufficient excuse for not interfering.

"Mr. Kruger when cheered by the crowd on his return from the cathedral today turned and roundly rebuked those near him for such a desecration of the Sabbath."

American Locomotives Accepted.

LONDON, Dec. 10.—The Daily Mail has received the following by mail from its Calcutta correspondent: The Porte commissioners recently invited tenders for locomotives. The lowest English tender quoted £1544 for each locomotive and wanted nine months to complete the order. The lowest American tender quoted £1260, and asked for six months. The latter was accepted, subject to the approval of the government.

United States as a World Power.

BERLIN, Dec. 9.—The National Zeitung devotes its first page today to a carefully prepared editorial dealing with the United States as a world power. After pointing out the enormous progress, economically and politically, of America in the world's affairs, the editorial declares that in both respects the United States is arrayed against Europe.

German Members Arbitration Court.

BERLIN, Dec. 9.—The German members of the International court of arbitration at The Hague will be: Dr. Bingner, president of the Senate of the High Court; Herr von Frantaius, Councillor of the Foreign Office and Councillor of the High Court, and Professor von Bar, of the University of Goettingen.

Czar Continues to Improve.

ST. PETERSBURG, Dec. 9.—A satisfactory bulletin issued at Livadia today concerning the Czar's condition says:

"His Majesty's weight is increasing, and the organs affected by typhoid have returned to their normal condition."

Funds for British War Purposes.

LONDON, Dec. 10.—"We believe," says the Daily News, "that the government will propose in the House of Commons to go into committee of ways and means for raising money for war purposes. This may lead to considerable discussion."

Arabi Pasha Will Be Pardoned.

LONDON, Dec. 10.—The anniversary of the accession of the Khedive, says the Cairo correspondent of the Daily Express, will be signalized by the pardon of Arabi Pasha, who will thus be enabled to return from Ceylon.

Souvenirs of Lord Nelson Stolen.

LONDON, Dec. 10.—Several relics of Lord Nelson, including his watch and many of the medals awarded him, were stolen from the Greenwich Hospital Saturday after the attendants left. The police have no trace of the thief.

SCHOOL FUND LOSSES.

(Continued from First Page.)

ture, and these laws it follows strictly. Every effort is made to secure attorneys who can be relied upon, and the greatest vigilance is exercised in order to avoid losses due to bad titles or poor values. The work of bringing order out of the chaotic condition of the records, which work was begun by Clerk E. P. McCornack, has been continued by his successors, and the present incumbent is perfecting a complete set of records in his office. But in spite of the greatest vigilance and the most perfect system of record-keeping, losses will be sustained, and outside expenses must be incurred. But it is believed that $40,000 per year is too heavy a loss to the school fund interest on account of outside expenses and losses by bad loans, and that this sum can be reduced $25,000 or perhaps $30,000 per year by giving the board greater liberty in the investment of funds and by providing that county and state indebtedness shall be paid with money borrowed from the common school fund. Whether anything can or should be accomplished in this direction is a timely question, and one worthy the attention of members of the Legislature.

President's Message Too Long.

Chicago Tribune.

The annual message of the President should be a state paper of interest and value which every American should read. It should contain only matters of such paramount importance as to deserve that the President of this great Republic should call the attention of the National legislature to them. If this principle governed the writing of messages most Americans would read them and be instructed thereby. As it is, the only faithful students of most of the messages are the proof-readers. The day before a message is printed every business man says he means to read it. When he sees the columns and pages it covers he sighs and puts it by, to be read at a "more convenient season"—a season that never comes. President McKinley has broken many records. He will save himself much labor by making next time a Presidential message record. He can do that by leaving out of the message he is to send to the next Congress a year hence everything contributed by his Secretaries that is not important and interesting, and trusting to his own arts of composition alone. Then his message will be read through by ten thousand people where only one reads it through now.

The Non-Irritating Cathartic

Easy to take, easy to operate—

Hood's Pills

Light Green Hair

Do you want this color for your hair? Then we can't help you. But if you want your gray hair restored to the beautiful dark, rich color it used to have, Ayer's Hair Vigor will give it to you every time. You know it's not a dye,—it's a hair-food. There is no need of looking old before your time.

If you do not obtain the benefit you desire from use of the Vigor, write the Doctor about it. He will tell you just the right thing to do. Address, Dr. J. C. AYER, Lowell, Mass.

LITTLE ACTUAL FIGHTING.

Americans Easily Rout Filipinos—Recent Engagements.

MANILA, Dec. 9.—While the captures of supplies and the occupation of new points are quite numerous, the engagements involving actual fighting are comparatively few. Apparently the insurgents are falling back at all contested points, sacrificing their possessions in most cases and satisfied to save themselves.

A detachment of the Forty-seventh Infantry from the Island of Catanduanes, off the southeast coast of Luzon, relinquished an attempt to land near Pandan. On anchoring, the Americans were fired upon by 60 riflemen, and after a short engagement they cut the anchor chain and sailed for Catanduanes with two killed and two wounded. The names have not yet been received here. Captain R. T. Ellis, of the Thirty-third Infantry, captured in the mountains near Barbar a large quantity of Krag, Mauser and Remington ammunition, together with a signal outfit, a printing press and other equipment. All of this was destroyed. Thirty rifles and several hundred cartridges were secured at Victoria.

A detachment of the Fourth Infantry captured Major Garlon and three officers of lower rank in the town of Pasay. Another detachment destroyed General Ugui's camp. The enemy had fled, but the Americans subsequently rounded up 25 insurgents. General MacArthur has approved the death sentences passed upon several additional prisoners convicted of murder, arson and pillage. In a few other instances he has commuted death sentences to imprisonment.

POSITION OF AMERICANS.

Correspondent Says It Is Becoming Increasingly Hopeless.

LONDON, Dec. 10.—"Reliable advices from Manila show that the position of the Americans is becoming increasingly hopeless," says the Hong Kong correspondent of the Daily Mail. "Money is freely subscribed to purchase arms and ammunition that are imported for the insurgents. The Americans will never capture the real contraband-running vessels. While in order to flatter the official view that trade is flourishing goods are permitted to be freely imported to Manila, they are distributed from that point to the insurgents, who are murdering and pillaging all native sympathizers with the Americans."

Montana's Official Vote.

HELENA, Mont., Dec. 9.—The official canvass of the vote in Montana shows the following result:

Bryan, 37,146; McKinley, 25,375; Debs, 708; Woolley, 298; Donnelly, 118.

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Lovely Limoges French China

Delicately tinted translucent French China. Gold handles and clouded gold edges. Price them and they are yours. Single pieces sold as well.

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