## DAY IN THE -HOUSE

Boutelle Placed on the Retired List of the Navy. -

SOME NEW JUDICIAL DISTRICTS

Bill Designed to Give War Veterans the Preference in Appointment to Civil Positions Was Overwhelmingly Defeated.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 17,-Under sus WASHINGTON, Dec. II.—Under sus-pension of the rules, the House today passed bills to divide Kentucky and West Virginia into two judicial districts, to cre-ate another District Judge in the North-ern District of Ohio, and to refer to the Secretary of the Interior for investiga-tion the claim of the State of Texas for moneys expended in public improvements in Greer County before the December ses-sion of the Supreme Court placed it with-in the jurisdiction of Oklahoma. An at-tempt was made to pass a bill to give soldiers and saliors of the Civil War, the Spanish War and the War in the Philippine Islands preference in matters of appointment and retention in positions in the acceptance. Philippine Islands preference in matters of appointment and retention in positions in the executive departments of the Governments, but it aroused opposition on the ground that it would practically shut out of the Government for years to come all civilians and was overwhelmingly defeated. One hundred and two private pendon claims were passed.

feated. One hundred and two private penalon claims were passed.

Just before the House adjourned a fine
tribute was presented to Representative
Charles A. Boutelle, who served 18 years
in Congress, and who has been re-elected
to the 17th Congress. Littlefield (Rep.,
Me.) asked unanimous consent for the
consideration of a bill to place him on
the retired list as a Captain in the Navy,
Mr. Boutelle having been in the Navy
during the Civil War. Mr. Littlefield
said that Mr. Boutelle's condition was
such that he undopbiedly would resign.
The condition of the Maine Representatives and although some of them were inclined to protest against the proposed
legislation as establishing a dangerous
procedent, no objection was made, and the
bill was passed.

The Speaker first recognized Brownell
(Rep., O.), who moved to suspend the

The Speaker hist recognized Browner (Rep., O.), who moved to suspend the rules and pass the bill reported by the Civil Service Commission, to give preference to bonorably discharged soldiers in the executive departments of the Government. After an internation debate the

the executive departments of the Gov-ernment. After an interesting debate the &&bill was &efented, h to 196.

Hepburn (Rep., Ia.) asked if it would be in order to move an amendment to strike out that portion of the bill provid-ing that "persons thus preferred shall not be removed except for cause, upon charges and after hearing." The Speak-er replied that it would not. Brownell explained that the bill as originally in-troduced was the bill prepared by the explained that the bill as originally in-troduced was the bill prepared by the G. A. R. It simply extended the provis-ions of the existing law, giving prefer-ence to honorably discharged soldiers and satiors of the Civil War, malmed or suf-fering physical impairment, to all sol-diers honorably discharged. The com-mittee had further extended it to the War with Spain and the War in the Phil-lippines.

ippines. Hichardson (Dem., Tenn.) asked why the soldiers of the Mexican War were not included. In this era of good feeing, why not include the soldiers and soldiers of all the wars? Brownell replied that there was less reason for including the soldiers of the Mexican War now than when the original bill, was passed.

passed.

Gillett (Rep., Mass.), chairman of the Civil Service Commission, protested vigorously against the bill. He said that it was vicious, although drawn doubtless, with good intentions. It would, he declared, practically shut out civillans from Government service for years to come. It would place at the top of the preferential list all the soldiers and sallors of the War with Spain, regular and volunteer alike, amounting to 20,000 the ors of the War with Spain, regular and volunteer allke, amounting to 200,000, the 190,000 now in the service and 25,000 who would be enlisted in the re-organization bill. It would, therefore, give preference to 250,000 men and for many years would keep civilians off the rolls. The regulars, he said, were not entitled to be in a preferential class. The soldiers of the Civil War enlisted as a sacred duty. The regulars did not enlist for the same resean. Many of them went into the Army because they liked the service. Why they liked the service. Why should they go to the top of the list? They are rewarded with pensions; why also reward them with perference for ap-pointment in the civil service?

pointment in the civil service?

Hepburn also opposed the bill on the ground that it made an appointment a vested right. Grosvenor (Rep., O.) took the same position. Suiper (Dem., N. Y.) supported the measure, which he said has been been from the civil services. supported the measure, which he said had been asked for by every Grand Army post in the country. McCall (Rep., Mass.) opposed the bill because he said it would create a military caste. The soldiers fought to maintain a free government, the fundamental principle of which was equality before the law. He holleved the soldiers of the country were entitled to the most liberal treatment, but the Government service should be open to sil. It was a size upon the littellisence of the was a slur upon the intelligence of the soldiers to give them preference:
On sortiles puts the bill was defeated.
51 to 1854

urgent deficiency bill, carrying \$182,-500 for contingent expenses of the House of Representatives, Indian affairs, District of Columbia and the National Home for Disabled Volunteer Soldiers was

sion bills and then, on motion of Little-field, passed a joint resolution to appoint Representative Boutelle on the tired list as a Captain in the United States Navy. Lettlefield said there was no exact parallel to the case of Boutelle. but there were eight instances in which Congress had placed officers on the retired list of the Army and Navy. Williams (Dem. III.) asked if Boutelle had not been re-elected to the next House. Littlefield replied that he had, but that his had taken an unfavorable turn and that it would be impossible for him to serve. He said Boutelle undoubtedly would resign. Underhill (Dem., Ala.) said he was opposed to the principal involved in the bill, but he would not ob-

The House at 5:15 P. M. adjourned.

#### INDIAN APPROPRIATION BILL. Matters Affecting Oregon Schools and Reservations.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 17.—The Indian appropriation bill was completed today by the House committee on Indian affairs. by the House committee on Indian affairs. It carries something like \$000,000 the exact aggregate not yet being determined. The number of Indian agencies is reduced from \$2\$ to 44, those omitted being the Lemi, Idaho; Neah Bay, Washington; Nevada, Nevada; Quapaw, Indian Territory; Sac and Fox, Iowa; Sileta, Oregon; Sisseton, South Dakota; Tulally, Washington. The estimates for various tellus are ton, South Dakota; Tuially, Washington. The estimates for various tribes are closely followed, but \$500 additional is given to the Klobebes and Shebts, of Utah. Provision is made that no police officer or other Government official in the Indian Territory shall expel any one from the territory of the collection of haxes, except in connection with leases and royalites. The clerks of the United States Court in the Indian Territory are allowed to retain all fees other than allowed to retain all fees other than in one day. No cure no cay. Price 25 cents

those in criminal, civil, probate and chan-cery cases, the clerks to pay their own cierk hire and necessary expenses. The estimates made no provision for contract Indian schools, but \$20,000 is nilowed for the Hampton state school, as this is not considered a sectarian school. An additional III,000 for the Salem, Or., school for an electric light and steam-heating plant, is provided. Two sections are added plant, is provided. Two sections are added to the bill, providing for telephone and telegraph lines and highways across in-dian lines and reservations, and another to allow the Slietz Indians of Oregon to sell or lease a portion of their reserva-tion. Challman Sherman expects to pass the bill before the holiday recess.

REAPPORTIONMENT BILL. House Committee Agrees to Report

It. WASHINGTON, Dec. 17.-The

oommittee on census, by a vote of 7 to 6, agreed to report the Hopkins reapportion-ment bill, leaving the total membership of the House at \$75, as at present, and rearranging a number of state delegations. The bill will not be taken up until after the Holidaya. The only change in the bill was an amendment requiring that the several Congressional districts of the several states should be composed of "contiguous and compact" territory. The purpose of the amendment is to prevent gerrymandering. Under the bill, the following states will lose one Representative rymandering. Under the bill, the following states will lose one Representative each: Indiana, Kanasa, Kentucky, Maine, Nebraska. Ohlo, South Carolina and Virginia. The following will gain one cach: Illinois, Louisiana. Minnesota, New Jersey, New York and West Virginia. Texas will gain two Representatives. Bused upon present political divisions, neither party will gain advantage in the new reapportionment proposed in the bill. The Republicans will gain five and lose five, and the Democrats will gain three and lose three. The basis of representation will be one Representative for each 208, 588 inhabitants.

#### SUBSIDY BILL PROSPECTS. Cannot Pass This Session, but May Be Revived Next.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 17.—The subsidy bill is not dead, for it may be revived in the next Congress, and there is every init cannot pass at this ses-sion. Already there has been organized a determined minority which will defent the bill and force an extra session if the friends of the subsky insist on put-ting it through. With the Army reor-ganization and revenue bills to be con-sidered together with ganisation and revenue bills to be con-sidered, together with the appropriation bills, the minority say there are enough things to talk about to kill the subsidy bill without any effort. If the subsidy men will come men will come to the conclusion that they cannot get this bill through, there will then perhaps be a possibility of get-ting the canal bill passed.

Representative Jones today introduced bill extending the free homestend law of the opened half of the Culville reserthat settlers may be relieved of paying \$1 50 for their lands.

The Secretary of the Treasury submits an additional estimate of \$25,000 for pur-chasing more land for the water supply protection at the Puget Sound

Presidential Appointments. WASHINGTON, Dec. 17.-The President day sent the following nominations to he Senute:

utenant-Colonel J. J. McClague, As-Commissary-General, to be As-Commissary-General, with the rank of Colonel; Major William L. Alex-ander, Commissary, to be Assistant Com-missary-General, with rank of Lieutenant-Colonel; Captain George B. Davis, Commissary, to be Commissary, with rank of Major; First Sergeant Ralph W. Jones, Company H. Forty-fourth United States Volunteers, to be Second Lieutenant; Past Assistant Surgeon George H. Burber, to be Surgeon; Samuel Bodeman, of Kentucky, to be an Assistant Surges John M. Bristo, of Pennsylvania, to an Assistant Surgeon.

To Suppress Train-Robbery. WASHINGTON, Dec. 17 .- Representative Ray, of New York, in the House, and Senator Hoar, in the Senate, today in-troduced bills "for the suppression of train-robbery in the territories of the United States and elsewhere." vides the death penalty for those guilty of a "bold-up," in case the death of any person on the train results. In case no

Newlands today introduced a bill for the construction of reservoirs for the storage of water on the Humboldt River, in No. vada, and for the disposition and settlement of public lands within reach of the stored waters.

Military Academy Bill. WASHINGTON, Dec. 17.—The Military Academy bill was reported to the House today. It carries \$698,151, which is \$346,598 below the estimates, and slightly above

G. A. R. ENCAMPMENT.

Claims of Denver Turned Down by Executive Committee,

ST. LOVES, Dec. 17.-The executive committee of the G. A. R. held a meeting today to decide on a place for the next National encampment, which will be held September 10, 1901. The cities desirous of securing the encampment are Denver, Washington, Cleveland and Pittsburg, Hours were spent in debate, and while no place was definitely chosen, the claims of Denver were "turned down" by a vote of 8 to 1. This does not settle the matter Lanham (Dem., Tex.) moved the passage, under suspension of the rules, of a bill to suthorize the Secretary of the interior to fix the boundary between Texas and Okishomu and to inquire into the claims of the State of Texas for moneys expended while Greer County was a part of Texas. The bill was passed, the its provided that city would secure the site provided that city would secure. the site, provided that city would se railroad rate of 1 cent a mile. This mat-ter was the point on which the committee and the Denver representatives disagreed, the Denverites claiming that the rate was practically assured, while the executive committee refused to accept the evidence and set a new date to consider the claims of other cities. January 21 was determined as the date, the place of meeting to be announced later by Commander Ras-sieur. The Cleveland representatives stat-ed that the 1-cent rate had been promised by the Central Traffic Association The delegates at the meeting seemed to be of the impression that Cleveland would be the place selected for the special meeting, and that that city would be se-

lected for the encampment Transfer of Fountain Grove. SANTA ROBA, Cal., Dec. 17.—By the terms of deed filed for record here today, Thomas Lake Harris and wife, of New York, transfer to Kanai Nagasswa, Miss Nicholas, Miss Margaret Parting, of this city, and Robert Morris Hart and Mary Elizabeth Hart, of New York, their Mary Elizabeth Hart, of New York, their entire remaining interest in the property known as Fountain Grove, a short distance north of Santa Rosa. The consideration named is \$60,000, and a peculiar clause in the deed provides that the grantees shall hold a life tenure and the property finally is to revert to the one who lives the longest, and to his heirs and assignees. Fountain Grove was the home of the celebrated community founded here some home of the celebrated communit founded here some 25 years ago b Thomas Lake Harris, the mystic. It is one of the finest and most productiv properties in Sonoma County, and i commonly regarded as worth at least \$250.

Stops the Cough and Works Off the

#### THE MONROE DOCTRINE

OCCASION MAY ARISE TO APPLY IT TO FRANCE.

Latter Government Is Seeking to Enlarge Its Guiana Territory in South America.

NEW YORK, Dec. 17 .- A special to the Times from Washington says: The territory until recently in dispute etween Brazil and France, and which has been decreed to belong to Brazil, may shortly become an object of a dispute between France and the United States, should the Monroe doctrine be violated. The territory lying south of French Guiana, in the State of Para, and containing 10000 source miles was and containing 100,000 square miles, was claimed by Brazil and France, and Switzerland was made arbitrator. Her decision was in favor of Brazil. It is now report ed that some French financiers, anticipating that the decision would be favorable to France, had already invested their capital in this territory. They are now, it is said, trying to engineer a deal by which the French Government will buy this land

The State Department has absolutely no nowledge on the subject. Its attention, however, has been called to the matter, and the attempt of the French capitalists to secure government aid in getting their money back will be watched with interest. money back will be watched with interest. There is hardly any question, it is said at the department, that such action would be a violation of the Monroe doctrine, and would cail forth a protest from the United States. As long as the claim was in its original form, France might have maintained that she was simply rectifying her boundaries and that the United States cannot object to that. Even in that case a rectification of boundaries which involves an area of 100,000 square miles would be closely scruting d. France has would be closely scrutinized. France has, however, forfeited the right to make that claim by submitting the matter to ar-bitration by Switzerland. The territory has been officially decreed by the Swiss tribunal to be outside the boundaries of French Gulana

INDUSTRIAL COMMISSION.

Holding a Special Scasion in Phila-

delphia. PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 17.—The Indus-trial Commission began a special session at the Manufacturers' Club here today. Representatives of all the important in dustries in Pennsylvania have been in-vited to appear. It is expected that much information of economic and industrial value will be collected. The first witness was J. Gordon Grey, secretary of the Manufacturers' Club. Chalrman Albert Clarke asked Mr. Grey to state the ob-ject and status of the Manufacturers' Club. He said every industry in Phila-delphia, also many industries through-out the country and abroad, are repre-sented in the club. He said that during the past four years conditions had im proved. In many cases factorels were worked overtime, and wages had been largely increased. Mr. Grey asserted that the manufacturers had not participated in this prosperity to any extent, as the in-creased price of raw material prevented a proportionate increase in profits. Raw material costs more, and wages are high. he said, but the manufacturers are unable to secure relatively higher prices for the finished articles.

Captain Steedman Convicted. WASHINGTON, Dec. 17.—Captain Richard R. Steedman, Eleventh Infantry, was tried by general court-martial at San Juan, Porto Rico, on a charge of conduct unbecoming an officer and a gentleman. The court found him "guilty of conduct to the prejudice of good order and military discipline." and sentenced him to be reprimanded in general orders and reduced in rank 50 numbers on the list of Captains of infantry. Captains of infantry.

Norfolk Navy-Yard Fire.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 17 .- It is said at the Navy Department that a serious loss has been suffered by the Navy in the fire at the Norfolk Navy-Yard yesterday. The money loss is of secondary importhe fire destroying valuable records that cannot be replaced, and many necessary plans which can only be re-placed at much expense in time and

Kentucky Sails for Port Said. WASHINGTON, Dec. II.—Captain Chester cabled the Navy Department today from Smyrna notice of the departure of the Kentucky for Port Said, on the way

PRIZEFIGHTING PROHIBITED

Resolution Adopted by City Council

of Chiengo CHICAGO, Dec. 17.-There will be no CHICAGO. Dec. 17.—There will be no more prizefights held in Chicago unless Mayor Harrison vetces an anti-fight resolution almost unantmously adopted by the City Council tonight. The insatisfactory ending to the Gans-McGovern contest at Tattersall's last Thursday night silrred up ao much feeling that the Council decided that all possibilitie encounters should be probabiled in the Toture. According to the resolution adopted no According to the resolution adopted no permits for sparing or boxing exhibitions can be issued by the Mayor, and the Chief of Police is held responsible for the law being carried out. It is believed the Mayor will sign the ordinance, as it passed by a vote of 53 to 14. The penalty prizefighting according to the state law, is from one to 10 years' imprisonment in the penitentiary for each offense.

THE DAY'S BACKS.

Races at Tanforan. SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 17.-Results at

Five furlongs, selling-Cougar won, Adaecond, Courtier third; time, 1,49%, ven and one-half furlongs-Hohen won, Lamachus second, Glissande third; time, 1:334.

Five furlongs, selling—Touch won, Ph's Archibald second, Thracia third; time,

One mile, selling-Tappan won, Walkenshaw second, Astor third; time, 1:45½. Seven furlongs, purse. The Lady won, Prejudice second, Labergia third; time,

Races at New Orleans.

NEW ORLEANS, Dec. 17 .- Fair weather favored today's racing. The results: One mile—The Bloomfield finished first, but was disqualified: Belle Simpson won. Domatige second, Star Cotton third; time

Selling, five furiongs-Animosity won, Divonne second, Gracious third; time, 1:02. Mile and a quarter, seiling—Admetus won. Silver Coin second, Hood's Brigade third: time, 2:12. One mile, handlcap—Frangible won. Ida Ledford second, Mint Sauce third; time,

1:43. Seven furiongs, selling-Locust Biossom won, Judge Magee second, Heroics third; time, 1:31. Selling, six furiongs—Sir Christopher won, Diggs second, Dousterswivel third; time, 1:15%

bese stakes interest of course centers the Brooklyn handicap. The Brooklyn handicap of 10,000 for s-

year-olds and upwards, \$200 each, half forfeit, or only \$15 if declared by February 20; to the winner, \$200; to the second \$1500, and to the third \$500; weights to be announced February 1; one mile and a quarter.

FAST SIX ROUNDS.

Ruhlin and Maher in a Furious Bout in Philadelphia.

PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 17.—Gus Ruhlin and Peter Maher met tonight at the Penn Art Athletic Club in a six-round contest Arr Atmetic Club in a six-round content that proved to be one of the fastest and most furious bouts of that length between heavy-weights which has been seen for some time. Under the local laws no desome tifne. Under the local laws no decisions are permitted, judgment as to the outcome being left to the spectators. The consensus of opinion was that Ruhlin had by far the better of the fight, and clearly outclassed the Irishman, notwith-standing Maher put up one of the gamest battles that he has ever done. Both men were in excellent shape, and from the first sound of the bell to the end of the fight went at it hammer and tongs. Maher was especially active in the first three rounds, after which he did not show the same form, but apparently avoided the heavy swings of Ruhlin. Attendance, 600.

Amateur Billiards NEW YORK, Dec. 17 .- Albert Cutler Boston, won the amateur class B billof Boston, won the amateur class B bill-lard championship of the A. A. U. at the Knickerbocker Athletic Club tonight. Cutler had previously defeated Kellogg, of Chicago, who in turn bent Hendrick, of this city, but Hendrick tonight de-feated Cutler, and while he tied with the Hostonian on games won, Cutler won on his average of the last three games played.

FOR AN OPEN RIVER.

Petition of Lewiston Commercial Club Reaches Washington.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 12. Representa-tive Moody, and presumably other mem-bers of the Oregon delegation, has been petitioned by the Lewiston Commercial petitioned by the Lewiston Commercial Club in the interest of opening up the upper Columbia and Snake Rivers. The Lewiston club seems to have the right idea in mind in its petition, for in closing, they dwell on the following very pertinent facts:

"An open waterway to the ocean would so stimulate settlement, development and production in all the industries now con-ducted in idaho, and Eastern Oregon and Washington, that several ratiroads would, perforce, quickly follow and gridiron the territory described, and thus aid in upbuilding the richest portion of the Iniand Empire, which would then easily rank with the most productive, most prosperous, and most progressive sections of

The Inland Empire as a whole possesses grain lands worth \$30,00,000 when under favorable transportation conditions; livestock integests now valued at \$6,00,000; fruit lands, prospectively worth \$10,000,000; lumbering interests awaiting cheap transportation, to have a valua-tion above \$150,000,000; a grand tota, in three items alone of \$500,000,000, not countmillions in coal and ores and manufacturing, all awaiting the life ing influence of an open river to the sea and consequent ample and economical transportation facilities. Even now, with development in its infancy, the grand total of 80,000 carloads of these products have been crowding for shipment."

The body of this netition draws up to

have been crowding for shipment."
The body of this petition, drawn up in the interest of the "Inland Empire," meaning the 6,200,000 acres, including the northeastern corner of Oregon, Asotin County, Washington, and Nex Perces, Letah, Idaho and a part of Shoshone Counties, Idaho, is drained by the Snake and Clearwater Rivers and their tributaries, which effort the color taries, which afford the only natural, logical commercial outlet for this district, and were it not for the obstructions at The Dalles and Cellio, and a few rapids and obstructing boulders, these streams today would afford the relief streams today would afford the relief sought. The population of the district is about 50,000, but it is said that the opening of the rivers would benefit nearer 25,000 people. Yet this same territory, if properly developed, would easily accommodate 10,000,000 people. The grain belt of this section, comprising over 2000,000 acres, has a producing capacity conservatively estimated at 25,000 CO bush, onservatively estimated at 25,000,000 bushels annually, and yet, because of the inof cats and bariey, and 284,000 bushels of flax a total of 6.854,000 bushels. This means over 7000 carloads, more than can ception was that, as low be moved before next season,

The facts set forth are the same as were presented by 'fr. Libbey, of Lew-iston, to the Portland Chamber of Com-merce, recently, and then set forth at length in The Oregon'an.

### MICHIGAN LEGISLATURE.

State Senate Killed the Blanket Tax-

the stie Atlen Bill. LANSING, Mich., Dec. 17.-The special chalbn of the State Legislature culled by Governor Pingree to enact legislation or viding for the taxation of railroad a other corporation property upon its actual cash value this falled to meet the wishes of the Governor. The blanket taxation measure passed by the House last Friday was killed today in the Senate, where a motion indefinitely to postpore action on the bill was carried by a volume. action on the bill was carried by a vote of 12 to 12. The Senate then voted to adjourn. An adjournment of the House adjourn. An adjournment of the flouse concurrently with the Senale tomorrow is looked for. The Senale also, by a vote of 17 to 5, refused to allow Governor Pin-gree to use the Senate chamber for a banquet hall tomorrow evening.

Dr. Parker's New Paper. LONDON, Dec. II.—The first issue of the London Sun, under the editorship of the Rev. Dr. Joseph Parker, pastor of the City Temple, appears this afternoon, The column where the day's betting is usual-by published, contained, under the caption "Latest News." the "wares of sin is "Latest News," the "wages of sin is death," and other familiar texts, followed up by vigorous protests against gambling. The article declares, "If a paper cannot live six days without pandering to the Five furiongs, purse-Espirando won, Genua second, Mountain Dew third; time, 1.08.

One mile, selling-Tappan won, Walken-

The Colombian War.

COLON, Dec. II.—The British gunboat Pheasant arrived at Panama Saturday, iThe British steamer Taboga, seized by the Colombian Government some time ago, left today with an armed Colombian expedition to quell a disturbance at Chepo. The government force is expect. ed to achieve an easy victory.

Roland Reed Repovering. NEW YORK, Dec. 17,-It was said at St. Luke's Hospital tonight that Roland Reed had passed the crisis, and is now Reed had passed the cri on the road to recovery.

Bubonic Plague in Argentina BUENOS AYRES, Dec. 17.-Five cases of what is believed to be bubonic plague have developed in Tucuman, in the Ar-gentine Republic.

PILES CURED WITHOUT THE KNIPE won, Diggs second, Dousterswivel third; time, 1:18%.

Brooklyn Jockey Club Stakes.

NEW YORK, Dec. II.—The Brooklyn Jockey Club, through its secretary, Hugh D. McIntyre, is out with a list of stakes for the coming season. All time stakes for the coming season. All time stakes force on Wednesday, January 7, —1991. There are six stakes for horses 3-year-old and upward, four for 2-year-olds exclusively, and three for 2-year-olds. Of CURE FOR STRIKES

MATTERS DISCUSSED BY THE CIVIC FEDERATION.

Speakers Representing Capital and Labor Were Vigorously Opposed to Compulsory Arbitration.

CHICAGO, Dec. 17.—Men who in the past have bitterly opposed each other n industrial contests filled Steinway Hall in industrial contests filled Steinway Hall at tonight's conference on arbitration, a conference which began here today. The first day and night sessions were taken up with papers read by representatives of capital and labor looking to the same end—a cure for strikes. From the tone of the addresses it seemed plainly evident that both sides were vigorously opposed to compulsory arbitration, and if a recommendation on the subject of a mmendation on the subject of National board results from the present gathering, the recommendation will in all probability specify that all the board's work shall be along the line of volun-

probability specify that all the board's work shall be along the line of voluntary arbitration.

The night session was called to order at 8 o'clock by Franklin MacVeagh, the presiding officer. Mr. MacVeagh, after declaring that nothing is more pressing than the need of some method of adjusting differences betwen capital and labor, suggested that the question of arbitration by disinterested judges was not alone to be considered. The advance of organization on both sides, and especially the increasing prevalence of National organizations, he said, have made it possible in many cases to solve various questions by conference by the persons interested without the aid of arbitration. Mr. MacVeagh said he could not agree that there is a great and growing chasm between capital and labor. Said he:

"Much of the dividing line between employer and employed is fading out, even while we think it is so deep and permanent. For instance: The greatest strikes of the present day are not between capitalists and laborers at all: they

manent. For instance: The greatest strikes of the present day are not between capitalists and laborers at all; they are between employes and employed—beween workingmen called managers or superintendents and the workingmen called workingmen strikes with which capital-ists have nothing to do except to take their punishment and loss. There are still some industrial disputes in which still some industrial disputes in which the capitalists themselves are one of the two parties—as in strikes of building trades—though even there the important capital in the case is not that of the contractor, but that of the owner of the building who usually is a poor, helpless sufferer and hanger-on, entitled to the sympathy of all charitable hearts. But the greater strikes and lockouts, such as those on restroads or in each misch has the greater strikes and lockouts, such as those on railroads or in coal mines, are the contentions of two sets of employer or two sets of wage-earners and the stock-helders, the capitalists, in many cases women and children and savings banks, women and children and savings banks, are generally even more helpless and suffering than the general public itself." He spoke of the growing tendency to-ward corporate methods of doing busi-ness, which he said was destroying the

exclusiveness of capital, and said:
"When America shall be wise enough
to take the point of view that legalized proporations are necessary for all the peo ple; and then see to it that they are hoth organized and administered for the people and under the clear eye of the public authorities, as the National banks are only better, as experience teaches better ways, then with great strides the hostile distinctions between capital and labor will become still more meaningless and will still further pass away." Henry Herit, president of the National

ounders' Association, was introduced Mr. Herit said in part:

long as the wage-earner believes or is taught to assume that society is in league to rob him as an individual of some of the purchasing power of his service, so long must society reckon with him to his control of the control of the control of the him in his collective capacity. The employer who elects to ignore this fact is as much of a menace to the industrial peace as that agitator who plays upon the prejudice and inflames the passions of the men he falsely serves. There is only one certain rule of action. It was long ago called the golden rule."

The next speaker was Samuel Gompers, president of the American Federation of Labor. Mr. Gompers received a warm welcome. At the outset, Mr. Gompers stated that he desired to take postability to secure reasonable transporta-tion rates, but 175,000 acres was cultivated during the past season. The yield in cereals for 150 is roughly estimated at advised the gentleman whose remarks 5.450,000 bushels of wheat, 1,120,000 bushels

"One of the things to which I took exception was that, as an officer of the Atchison, Topeka & Santa Fe Railroad, he should undertake in this conference to present his side—the side of the railroad in a strike which is still in progress—

without a representative of the sirikers being hure to present their side of the controversy, (Applause.) It seemed to me that if the opportunity at this conference is to be taken advantage of for ference is to be taken advantage of for the presentation of the raliroad's side of this controversy, due notice might have been given to the representative of the Order of Raliway Telegraphers, in order that he might be hese to listen to what was said, and refute it if nec-essary, (Applause.) I am not prepared to say that what the gentleman said was unfive, but one story is very good only until the other side is told." until the other side is told."

Continuing, Mr. Gompers said that from the statement of the Santa Fe official it would appear that all the overtures toward conciliation or arbitration in such disputes as that between the Santa Fe and its telegraphers came from the em-ployers. Mr. Gompers asserted that, on phoyers. Sr. Sompers asserted that, on the contrary, where there had been one offer from the side of associated capi-tal, there have been hundreds on the side of organized labor. The employed he said, had become accustomed to hear their proffers of conciliation met with the answer that there is "nothing to arbi-trate." He added, however, that he was not unmindful of the fact that there was a growing disposition on the part of employers toward a more conciliatory pol-icy. This, Mr. Gompers believed, was due to the growing strength of organized labor. Conciliation between two parties having diverse interests, he said, is only passed when they have either equal power or nearly equal power. Admitting that strikes ought to be avoided, in the interest of both capital and labor, Mr. Compers declared that there were some more dreadful than strikes. He

'We strike; people in China don't strike, I wonder whether those who would try to prevent the strikers from striking, or those who would punish the workers for striking, would like to change the condition from that which obtains in our country to that which obtains in China. If the absence of strikes was the measure of civilization, then China ought to stand at the head of the world. (Laughter and applause.) We shall insist upon the right to quit work whenever it becomes Iris-some to us, and we shall always insist on our right to strike, for any reason or for no reason at all."

The morning session was called to or-der by Franklin McVeagh, chairman of the committe on arrangements. Colonel D. White, United States Com-missioner of Labor, said, in part: "Personally, I have always been in favor of boards of arbitration of any kind. Any board that will aid in bringing about conciliatory efforts, and, failing in them, rational and discreet arbitration, has ap-pealed to me as a method to be desired. not us a solution of the great labor strug-gle, but as a help of vast importance, and I still feel that the existence of a board of conciliation and arbitration established by states, to which resort can be had volof states, to which resort can be shad vol-untarily, has a balancing effect morally in the community. Nevertheless, I do not hesitate to declare that the real results to be reached by arbitration and concili-ation can be secured far more effectively and in a far more acceptable manner through the trade board-as its exists to-

must have a far greater effect than any abstract treatment of the doctrine of con-ciliation and arbitration. The doctrine is all right, but what we wish to know in this country, is just how the doctrine works when practically applied, and the experiences abroad teach us that there never was a time in industrial warfare in England when both sides were better or-ganised and never did they work together with such harmony. These experiences are positive results, and positive results need but little comment."

Dr. Hermann Justi, commissioner of the Illinois Ghopers' Association, not only outlined a plan of conciliation and arbitration, but urged that the capitalists must organize to deal with the labor problem as a prerequisite of the success of any plan of conciliation or arbitration. John Mitchell, president of the United Mineworkers, was received with vigorous applause. He said that in the recent contest in the antiractic coal fields of Fennsylvania, the mineworkers' organization had endeavored to arbitrate their differences before striking.

The afternoon session was opened by
E. Dana Durand, secretary of the United
States Industrial Commission. Mr. Du-

John B. Tobin, of Boston, general pres-lident of the Boot and Shoemakers' Union, spoke of the method of conference under which the boot and shoe workers and their employers have got along together with a minimum amount of trouble. R. H. Jeffrey, of Columbus, O., thought the deplorable conditions of employe and employee and employ pleyer were due to the fact that both were actuated by supreme selflahress. W. Connelly, of the Memphis Commercial-Appeal, also spoke.

Chairman McVeagh announced the following committee on resolutions and plan of action, chosen by the committee in charge of conference: A. C. Bartiett, vice-president of Hibbard, Spencer, Bartlett & Co.; H. W. Herit, president National Foundry Association; Hermann Junstl, commissioner Illinois Coopers' Association: G. Watson French, vice-president of the Republic Iron & Steel Company; E. D. Kenna, vice-president Atchlson Bailway; C. H. Castle, president Stove Founders' National Defense Association: Samuel Gompers, president American Federation of Labor; John Mitchell, president United Mineworkers of American Federation of Labor; John Mitchell, president United Mineworkers of American Chairman McVeagh announced the folpresident United Mineworkers of Amer-ica: Martin Fox, president Iron Molders Union of America: F. P. Sargent, grand master Brotherhood of Locomative Firemen; Henry White, general secretary United Garment Workers of America; James M. Lynch, president International Typographical Union.

THE SANTA FE STRIKE. Trainmen and Officials Will Hold

Conference in Chicago Today. TOPEKA, Kan., Dec. 17.—General Man-ager Mudge, of the Santa Fe left for Chi-cago this afternoon in his private car. Mr. Mudge sald his visit had absolutely nothing to do with the strike, but the strikers say his visit there is oc-camoned by the conference held between the officers of the different trainmen's or-ganizations and the officers of the road. Mr. Dolphin, president of the O.R. T., also left for Chicago tonight, and some interesting developments may be looked for at once. It is the purpose of the general manager and the officers of the strikers' and trainmen's organizations to hold ers' and trainmen's organizations to hold a conference in Chleago tomorrow with J. W. M. Barr, third vice-president of the road. The trainmen's officers, together with the officers of the striking telegraphers, will represent to Mr. Barr that the grievances of the telegraphers should be settled at once. If he refuses to take steps toward the settlement of the difficulties, the officers will then inform him that a strike may be then inform him that a strike may be expected at once. Part of the plan of the officers is thought to be the setting of a certain date upon which the strike will be ordered, if the telegraphers are not provided for. President Dolphin see very jubilant this evening over the ultimate outcome.

THE METRIC SYSTEM.

Jeweler Finds It Useful in His Business. ASHLAND, Dec. 15 .- (To the Editor.)-

From seeing a letter in The Oregonian of December 18 from W. Hampton Smith regarding the adoption of the metric sys-tem, I am constrained to give my experience in its use. Being a jeweler, using tools and ma by the metric system I found it very convenient in ordering to use that system so I bought a 30-centimeter rule with millimeter graduations, for use in meas-

ring stones, mainsprings, etc. Later, ecoming interested in photography, and there finding some formulas weights and measures, I bought a gradu These measures I use the same as the old system, measuring millimeters with the rule, mixing developer with the gradu-ate, without ever thinking about the corresponding inches, ounces, scruples, drams, minims, etc. I make no mental calculations that 1 centimeters is about an inch or that 100 cubic centimeters is nearly 4 ounces; when that is desired, a

foot rule or a graduate divided into ounces and drams tells quickly and more satisfactorily than an arithmetical calcu-lation could. After using the metric system but a short time, and only as needed in cer-tain work, the mention of certain weights and measures calls up as clear a mental image as does the mention of a certain number of inches, chains, roods, gollons,

Not desiring to enter into any controversy in the matter, I have given only personal experience, yet one cannot help thinking that if nearly all civilized peo-ples, including the Servians and Bulgar-ians, could change, the people of the United States could also. H. L. WHITED.

Girl Students as Firemen. CHICAGO, Dec. 17.—A bad blaze, which threatened the destruction of Foster Hall, at the University of Chicago, Sunday, aroused the "co-eds" who live in the hall, and forced them to assume the role of and forced them to assume the role of firemen in a hastily improvised pitcher brigade. When the fire was discovered they immediately rushed to the scene with pitchers of water, but found they were unable to reach the blaze, as it was on the rost. Securing a ladder, one of the young women climbed on the roof, and as fast as her companions brought the nitchers poured water on the fire the pitchers, poured water on the fire. It preved too strong for them, however, and it was not until the firemen had arrived and torn off the slate roofing that the blaze was extinguished. The damage was small.

Bryan and the Party's Future. OMAHA, Dec. 17.—Hon. W. J. Bryan, who will be the principal speaker at the annual banquet of the Jacksonian Club. January 7, has announced that he will on that occasion talk about the future poli

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FRENCH AMNESTY BILL.

Chamber of Deputies Rejects an Amendment.

PARIS, Dec. 17.—In the Chamber of Deputies today, during the debate on the amnesty bill, Vaselle, Radical Socialist, moved an, amendment excluding forgers and false witnesses from its provisions. He explained that ordinary criminals should not be allowed to profit by amnesty, and he added "there is nothing viler and baser than forgery and lying testimony." He did not desire to revive the Dreyfus agitation, but he did not make them to find their hands tied should PARIS, Dec. 17.-In the Chamber of testimony." He did not desire to revive the Dreyfus agitation, but he did not wish them to find their hands tied should a fresh fact come to light. The Premier, M. Waldeck-Rousseau, opposed the amendment on the ground that it would revive the whole Dreyfus controversy. The Chamber voted confidence in the Premier by rejection of the amendment, the vote standing 34 to 30.

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