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LANSDOWNE'S RESPONSE. Indicates Early Action by England on the Treaty Amendments. WASHINGTON, Feb. 20.—Ambassador Choate has called the State Department a brief outline of the interview yesterday between himself and Lord Lansdowne, respecting the Hay-Pancofote treaty.

RETENTION OF PHILIPPINES Urged at a Meeting of the Geographical Society. NEW YORK, Feb. 20.—The retention of the Philippines was strongly urged this evening at a meeting of the American Geographical Society.

Whisky Trust Case Decided. CINCINNATI, O., Feb. 20.—Judge Rufus B. Smith, of the Superior Court, has rendered a decision that is regarded as important in its bearing on trusts.

New Minister From Colombia. WASHINGTON, Feb. 20.—Dr. Carlos Martinez Silva, the Colombian Minister of Foreign Affairs, appeared at the State Department today to arrange for the presentation of his credentials as Minister of Colombia to Washington.

Denial by H. G. Otis. WASHINGTON, Feb. 20.—Statements having been published that General Harrison Gray Otis was seeking the office of Pension Commissioner, General Otis tonight authorized a denial of the publications, saying that they were without a shadow of foundation.

\$31,000 SHORTAGE

Discovered in the Books of the Oregon Land Office.

COVERS YEARS 1894 AND 1895

Total Collections in That Period Were \$90,680 03—Only \$59,739 30 Accounted For—Ex-Clerk Davis Will Explain.

SALEM, Feb. 20.—The discovery of a defalcation of \$30,940 73 is the substance of the report made today by the joint committee appointed to examine the books and accounts of the State Land Department. The alleged misappropriation occurred in 1894 and 1895, under the administration of George W. Davis, as clerk of the board.

The report is as follows: "We, your committee appointed under concurrent resolution No. 5, beg leave to report as follows: "That we have checked up the school funds back to and including the year 1894. That for the years 1894 and 1895 we find that the clerk of the State Land Board has collected money for the amount of \$30,940 73, which said sum has never been turned over to the State Treasurer.

"We submit herewith a statement showing those we have found to date. There may be others that we have not found, owing to limited time at our disposal, having used the greater part of our time before we came to this.

Recommendations. "A few things from the limited time at our disposal we have learned, and note the following: "Many parties holding certificates of sale which are fast becoming valueless take deeds for same, to avoid paying state and county taxes. This should be remedied by statute, or in some way, if possible.

"The bond of the clerk has generally been fixed at \$5000, which would seem to be a very small amount, considering the amount of money handled. Prudence, at least from a business standpoint, would require a larger bond.

BETTER FOR INVESTORS. Presidential Term in Venezuela to Be Lengthened.

WILLEMSTAD, Island of Curacao, Feb. 20.—Advices received here from Caracas, Venezuela, say that a convention will assemble there today (Wednesday) to form a new constitution for Venezuela. It is reported that the President's term of office will be extended from two years to seven, and it is believed General Castro will remain President as long as he can lawfully do so.

Daughters of the Revolution. WASHINGTON, Feb. 20.—After the preliminary opening exercises at today's session of the National Society of the Daughters of the American Revolution, Mrs. Nesbitt presented a resolution to the effect that the statements recently circulated attacking the board of officers should receive the disapproval of the society.

Schenkberger Advises Surrender. PRETORIA, Feb. 20.—Reports from Lydenburg say that Acting President Schenkberger, addressing a gathering of burghers recently, told them he now recognized that their cause was hopeless and that a prolongation of hostilities was futile.

WILL MR. DRESSER EXPLAIN?

SALEM, OREGON, February 20, 1901.

To the Editor: Considerable surprise has been expressed to me by a large number of the gentlemen who were delegates from Multnomah County to the last Republican State Convention at the course taken by Hon. A. S. Dresser at this session of the legislature in voting for the office of United States Senator.

In the last Republican State Convention the county of Multnomah had seventy delegates and the county of Clackamas fourteen. Mr. Dresser came to me before the meeting of the State Convention (which was held on the 16th of April, 1900), and asked me to use my influence with the Multnomah delegation to have a Clackamas man chosen for the office of joint representative for the counties of Multnomah and Clackamas, and further desired me to exert myself with the Multnomah delegation to secure the nomination for him.

GRAHAM GLASS JR.

If elected to the Oregon Legislature I promise to join with such other republican members as may desire a caucus for the nomination of a republican candidate for United States Senator in a call for the same. I agree to participate in the caucus and abide by its result. I also agree to vote in the caucus on every ballot which shall be taken therein for Henry W. Corbett for United States Senator, and in the event of his nomination by the caucus, or in the event that there is no caucus, or that I participate in no caucus I agree to vote in the House and in the joint convention for Henry W. Corbett on every ballot which shall be taken for United States Senator and to continue doing so until released by Mr. Corbett himself.

April 10, 1900. A. S. Dresser

a figure "2" before the amount, thus increasing the credit by \$3000. The next error was found in the entry on September 4, 1894, when \$323 49 was increased to \$323 63. A close inspection of the figures shows the error of slightly different shade was used in writing the additional figure.

How He Was Whitewashed in 1895. The report of the committee which examined the accounts in 1895 is as follows: "House of Representatives, Salem, Or., Feb. 22, 1895.—Mr. Speaker: Your committee, appointed under House concurrent resolution No. 3, to examine the books and accounts of the Board of Commissioners for the sale of school and university lands, have completed our labor, and beg leave to report as follows: "We have, with the assistance of competent accountants, pursued our investigation in as thorough manner as the time at our disposal would permit. The

THE SIOUX MAY RISE

Indians Seriously Contemplate Opening Hostilities.

COUNCIL MEETINGS WERE HELD

If Their Demands Are Not Complied With by the Authorities at Washington, They Declare There Will Be Trouble.

OMAHA, Feb. 20.—Information from direct reports, obtained by the World-Herald, indicate that the Sioux Indians are seriously contemplating an uprising, if demands now being formulated for submission to Washington are not complied with. Several council meetings have already been held, particularly among the Ogallala Sioux, and preparations are now being made for a great council to select delegates to Washington.

NUMBER IS DECREASING.

Fewer Students at Presbyterian Seminaries.

NEW YORK, Feb. 20.—Much discussion has been caused among theologians by the report of the decrease in attendance at the Princeton Theological Seminary. Interest was heightened by the belief prevalent in Princeton that the conservatism of the old Presbyterian institution was responsible for the marked falling off in attendance.

Resentment of Cubans. NEW YORK, Feb. 20.—A dispatch to the World from Havana says: "The resentment of the Cubans against American interference with the formation of a government has unquestionably been increased by the demands made by Secretary Root, the Military Governor's newspaper organ now admits that the constitutional convention will probably refuse the concession of coaling stations, and will also reject American supervision of foreign affairs."

SUMMARY OF IMPORTANT NEWS

Congress. Lents made two sensational speeches in the House. Page 2. The House passed the sundry civil bill. Page 2. The general deficiency bill was taken up by the House. Page 2. The question of panama tube mail service was discussed by the Senate. Page 2. There is no hope of getting pensions from the Government for Oregon Indian War Veterans at this session of Congress. Page 3. Philippines. The general agent of the abaca-cana Commission was arrested for aiding the rebels. Page 3. Belgians are implicated in a plot to kill an American officer. Page 3. General Davis will take up the duties of Provost Marshal of Kansas. Page 4. Foreign. The Chinese have offered to compromise, which the foreign envoys have accepted. Page 3. The Von Waldsee expedition may be abandoned. Page 3. Kitchener's report escaped capture by the Boers. Page 2. Domestic. Mrs. Nation refuses to give bond to keep the peace, and remains in jail. Page 2. Manufacturers in the first degree was vetoed in the Senate. Page 4. Northwestern Pennsylvania is being swept by a blizzard. Page 1. Northwest Legislatures. Wednesday routine of the Oregon, Washington and Idaho Legislatures. Pages 4 and 5. The Oregon House has debated the pilot bill by a vote of 45 to 13. Page 4. The Judge of Multnomah County will not receive from the Legislature power to appoint officers of elections. Page 3. Republicans of the Washington Senate will try to force the Jones reappointment bill through at once. Page 5. In the Oregon Legislature Wednesday Corbett received two more votes, or 34, for Senator. Page 4. Complete statement of the changes in the new Portland calendar. Page 4. The Oregon Senate favors abolition of fish-traps. Page 5. Pacific Coast. A shortage of nearly \$31,000 has been discovered in the accounts of the Oregon Land Office for 1894 and 1895. Page 1. Commercial and Marine. Stock markets weak on account of coming holiday. Page 11. Northwestern wheat crop smaller than estimated. Page 11. Portland gaining prestige as a wheat exporter. Page 11. Otto Gildemeister spoken again. Page 10. German bark Edmund reaches San Francisco. Page 10. Last September ship arrives out. Page 10. Portland and Vicinity. Law Enforcement League permanently organized. Page 8. Effort will be made today to pull the steamship Almond Branch away from Morrison-street bridge. Page 10. Articles incorporating Lewis and Clark Exposition will be filed today. Page 12. City Council is wrestling with fire limit ordinance. Page 10.