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CUBANS CELEBRATED. ARBITER WILL DECIDE. Independence Day and a Time of Mass Meetings and Rejoicing.

KANSAS CITY CHINESE FACTIONS' Troubles to Be Thus Settled. HAVANA, Feb. 24.—Independence day was celebrated with processions, mass meetings and general demonstrations of rejoicing.

Child Died of Bubonic Plague. CAPE TOWN, Feb. 24.—A white child died here today of bubonic plague, and three white children have been attacked by the disease.

WORK OF CONGRESS

Record of Fifty-Sixth Session, Which Ends Soon.

EVENTFUL IN MANY RESPECTS

Probably Most Important Legislation Was Act Reorganizing Army and Placing It on Permanent Basis.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 24.—The record of the Fifty-sixth Congress is now practically completed, and although a few important measures are still in the balance, it is possible to take a survey of the wide range of legislation considered and enacted. It has been an eventful Congress in many respects, inheriting as it did much of the work of reconstruction and expense made necessary by the credit of the war with Spain.

Another important achievement in insular legislation was that of enacting a law giving Hawaii a complete form of territorial government, with an insular Legislature and Judiciary, a Governor chosen from Hawaii, and a delegate in the House of Representatives. A Porto Rican commissioner also has been accredited to Washington.

Men Who Exercised Power. In the Senate, the death of Vice-President Hobart made the duties of presiding officer of the upper house devolve upon Senator Frye, of Maine, the president pro tempore.

Appropriations Unusually Large. The appropriations of the present Congress will reach an unusually large figure, aggregating for the two sessions approximately \$1,477,300,457. This is about \$100,000 less than the aggregate appropriations of the preceding Congress.

Reorganization of Army. The act reorganizing the Army and placing it on a permanent basis is the most important piece of general legislation enacted. Instead of planning a temporary extension of the Volunteer establishment made necessary in the war with Spain, Secretary Root devised a measure for a complete reorganization of the Army on modern military lines.

Financial Legislation. The financial legislation of the Congress has been of unusual importance, and has placed on the statute books the law establishing the gold standard, providing for the redemption and release of the interest-bearing bonded obligations of the United States, establishing a permanent gold reserve of \$100,000,000, regulating national banks, and making nu-

merous provisions respecting circulation and the tax on circulation. This measure was drafted by leaders of both houses prior to the meeting of Congress. After its passage some question arose as to the maintenance of the purity of metals under the terms of the bills.

The revenue legislation has been confined to an effort to reduce the taxation imposed when the war with Spain began. Prior to the opening of the present session a comprehensive plan of revenue reduction was framed by the Republican members of the ways and means committee. This plan was introduced at the opening of the session and passed before the holidays.

Hazing at West Point. Hazing at West Point has received attention in Congress, the Senate giving the prospect that strong restrictive legislation will be enacted.

Government Participation and Aid in the Louisiana Purchase Exposition seems assured. The Senate has passed a bill providing for a new basis of representation was enacted. The total representation is fixed at 38 members, or 29 more than in the present House.

Important General Measures. Among the other important general measures enacted are those giving "free homes" on the public lands acquired from the Indians, and known as the "free homes" act; providing a system of extradition for insular possessions, under which C. N. Neely was extradited to Cuba for alleged postal frauds; authorizing the "aggregating" of pension disabilities, and increasing to \$250 the allowance to widows in certain cases, on the lines of a recommendation by the A. B. I.; extending the mining laws to saline lands; providing a criminal code of laws for Alaska; allowing the employees of the navy-yards, arsenals, etc., 15 days' annual leave.

Out of the Ordinary. Aside from legislation, the two houses have seen several animated personal controversies. Charges of treason were made against Robert W. Wilcox, of Hawaii, but on inquiry by the House committee, the charges were found to be unfounded.

Four of the most important measures before the present Congress, namely, the Nicaragua Canal bill, the shipping subsidy bill, the Pacific cable bill, and the oleomargarine bill, have all passed the House of Representatives, and are now before the Senate.

Of More or Less Importance. A number of other measures of more or less importance have received a certain degree of consideration, but will not pass at this session.

Important Treaties. Much of the time of the Senate has been occupied in important treaties, considered behind closed doors. This includes the Hay-Pauncefote treaty neutralizing the Nicaragua Canal; treaties with China and Japan, and the settlement of the Russo-American boundary.

Boers Must Shift for Themselves. LONDON, Feb. 25.—The Daily Telegraph publishes the following from De Aar, February 24: "Mr. Steyn addressed the Boers yesterday, and told them they must all shift for themselves, returning to Orange River Colony as best they could."

BOERS WERE ROUTED

Dewet's Forces Put to Flight by Plumer.

FORTY PRISONERS WERE TAKEN

All of Artillery Also Captured—Enemy Fled, Leaving Their Horses Saddled and Cooking Pots Full.

LONDON, Feb. 25.—A correspondent of the Daily Mail with Heniker's column, wiring Saturday, says: "General Dewet was routed yesterday."

VETERAN OF THE MEXICAN AND CIVIL WARS.



THE LATE COLONEL ROBERT POLLOCK.

by Colonel Plumer with whom were Colonels Heniker, Craddock, Jefferys and Drabro. This success was preceded by a series of desperate attempts on the part of the Boers to escape from the water front of the Orange and the Shalk Rivers.

General Dewet, after unsuccessfully attempting to cross the Brak at Klip Drift and the Orange at Read's Drift and Mark Drift, moved along the bank of the Orange with one gun and one pom-pom and laagered opposite Kameel Drift.

CONFIRMED BY KITCHENER. Defeat of Dewet's Command—Other Engagements and Casualties. LONDON, Feb. 24.—The War Office has received the following dispatch from Lord Kitchener:

"Middleburg, Transvaal, Feb. 24.—French report from Pretoria, February 22, that the result of the columns sweeping the country east is that the Boers are retreating in scattered and disorganized parties to the number of some 5000 in front of him."

"Amsterdam and Piet Retief have been occupied and troops are protecting the Swaziland frontier. French will push on, but is much hampered by the continuous heavy rains."

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Highborn an Able Official. WASHINGTON, Feb. 24.—The retirement of Rear-Admiral Philip Hichborn, for eight years past Chief Constructor of the American Navy, marks the passage from public life of one of the ablest naval men in our history.

construction corps. Admiral Hichborn retires by age limit March 4, but already has relinquished the active duties of his position.

MRS. NATION TIRED OF JAIL

Writes Judge Demanding Release—He Is Direly Threatened.

TOPEKA, Kan., Feb. 24.—Mrs. Carrie Nation, tired of jail life, has written Judge Hazen a letter demanding release. "I want you to quit your fooling," she writes, "and let me out of here. If you cause me to miss my engagements I won't feel like a ministering angel to you. It is time for you to recover yourself before the devil, your master, makes a clean sweep with you into hell. You know you are persecuting one of God's children who loves you for Jesus' sake. Let me out that I may go about my business of saving such poor devils as you. Write, or come to see me right off."

Judge Hazen has ignored the letter, placing it in the wastebasket with dozens of others received on the subject from different parts of the country. Some of these letters threaten the Judge. One from Bunker Hill, Kan., says a committee of 50 will administer a coat of tar

PORTLAND WINS OUT

Two Transports Are to Be Dispatched Here.

RESULT OF A LONG, HARD FIGHT

The Sound and San Francisco Wanted Them—One Will Bring Troops From Manila, Other Will Take Horses to Philippines.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 24.—As a result of the persistent efforts of Senator Simon, Representative Moody and General Beebe, Portland is at last to receive deserved recognition at the hands of the War Department. The transport Garonne will sail from Manila about March 15, bringing back the Thirty-fifth Volunteers, who will be disembarked at Portland and mustered out at Vancouver Barracks. Efforts will be made to secure some arrangement by which the companies of the Thirty-ninth and Forty-fifth Regiments mustered in there can be disembarked at Portland and sent to Vancouver, but this has not yet been definitely decided upon.

The transport Arab, now at Seattle, has received orders to sail to Portland and load the 300 horses recently purchased by Quartermaster Jacobs and now held at Vancouver Barracks. The remainder of her accompaniment will be filled up with mules from San Francisco and other points which will be immediately forwarded to Portland. This recognition of Portland has been gained after a long fight, and against great counter-efforts, as both Puget Sound and San Francisco have been working persistently to get these two transports.

DR. JORDAN IN REPLY.

Ross' Discharge Not Due to His Views—Not Right Man for Place.

STANFORD UNIVERSITY, Cal., Feb. 24.—Dr. David Starr Jordan, president of the Leland Stanford University, discussing the report of the committee of economics on the dismissal of Professor Ross from the university, said: "The statements of Professors Seligman, Farnam and Gardner is not, as might be supposed, a mere publicity report of an authorized committee of the American Economic Association. If we are correctly informed, this body declined to appoint a committee of investigation. These three gentlemen form a self-constituted committee, or represent only a minority of this association."

Want Prohibition Law Enforced. WICHITA, Kan., Feb. 24.—A public mass meeting of citizens of Wichita, under the auspices of the Ministerial Association, was held here today, and a resolution passed demanding the enforcement of the prohibitory law. No specific time was set for the "jointists" to close their places, and doubt is expressed that the citizens will ever adopt hatchet-smashing as a means of compelling them to quit business. The meeting was surprisingly temperate and the people who attended, most of them through curiosity, were disappointed at its tame nature. The resolutions will be presented to the Mayor, County Attorney and Sheriff tomorrow. It is said that no effort will be made by those officers to charge the present system of allowing saloons to run for city revenue.

SUMMARY OF IMPORTANT NEWS

Anglo-Boer War. Dewet's commands were routed by Plumer. Forty prisoners and all of artillery were captured. Page 1. Kitchener reports summary of large losses inflicted on Boers up to February 15. Page 1. It is reported from a Boer source that General Delarey has been captured. Page 1.

China. Execution, Tuesday, of Chih Siu and Hsu Cheng Yu, has been ordered. Page 2. The imperial edict regarding punishments has been delivered to powers. It meets requirements. Page 2.

Congress. Resumes the work of the 66th session. Page 1. The Nicaragua Canal bill is not likely to be reached in the Senate this week. Page 1. Senators held several conferences and may get together on Cuban question, thus avoiding an extra session. Page 1.

Domestic. The War Department will dispatch two transports from Portland. Page 1. Mrs. Nation has written Kansas Judge demanding her release from jail. Page 1.

Northwest Legislatures. Oregon Legislative halls were yesterday cleared of everything loose by visitors. Page 2. The ultimate result of the railroad fight in Washington is division of the state. Page 6.

Pacific Coast. Washington mother, in fit of insanity, drowned her six children in a well. Page 3. Weiser, Idaho, is to get a steam laundry, a distillery and a fruit cannery this summer. Page 3. Sodaville farmers' institute, which proved a success, was addressed by prominent college professors. Page 3.

Portland and Vicinity. Senator-elect Mitchell's trip from Salem to Portland an ovation. Page 10. Democrats who voted for a Democrat for Senator, satisfied with Mr. Mitchell's election. Page 10. Colonel Robert Pollock, U. S. A., retired, died at Cornelius. Page 5. Senator Andrew C. Smith defends the action of the Multnomah delegation in changing the personnel of the Port of Portland Commission. Page 8.

New legislation will effect large saving to taxpayers in city and county affairs. Page 9. Morrison-street bridge will be reopened for pedestrian travel in a few days. Page 5. Memorial services for Dr. Thomas Van Sooy at the Methodist Church, University Park. Page 8. Damage at lower entrance of Cascade Locks, caused by flood of 1894, repaired. Page 10.