

COMMERCE DEPARTMENT

BILL CREATING IT IS DEBATED IN THE SENATE.

Feasibility of the New Secretary Would Have Too Much Power—Amendments Necessary.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 16.—The Senate today for a brief time had under consideration the bill creating a Department of Commerce, and the discussion tended to show that the measure will have to be amended in many particulars before it can receive the approval of the Senate.

Several objections were raised to the transfer of the proposed department of commerce to the State Department. It was pointed out that if the bill, as reported, became a law, it would create the greatest department in the Government.

A bill was presented and passed providing that persons living in Porto Rico and the Philippine Islands should be treated as citizens of the United States.

On motion of Hear resolution, amended, and the Senate passed a resolution concerning the execution of duties on supplies and comforts sent to Boer prisoners in Bermuda.

The House concurrent resolution providing for McKinley memorial exercises by Congress in the Hall of the House of Representatives, February 2, was adopted.

Mallory, rising to a question of privilege, called attention to an article in a New York newspaper of the 14th inst., purporting to give a poll of the Senate on the subject of an isthmian canal.

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DATE OF THE LAUNCHING

BUILDER OF EMPEROR'S YACHT VISITS WASHINGTON.

Condition of the Tides, as Well as Prince Henry's Convenience, Must Be Considered.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 16.—Rear-Admiral Robley D. Evans, who has been charged with the preparation and execution of the naval programme at the reception of Prince Henry of Prussia, called upon Dr. von Holleben, the German Ambassador, at the embassy today, and consulted with the embassy officials, in order that he may conform his arrangements to those of the visiting party.

It may be stated upon authority that the Kronprinz Wilhelm will not deviate from his course and go for Hampton Roads, as heretofore reported, but will bear Prince Henry directly to New York, where the naval demonstration proper will take place.

The following squadron has been assigned to Rear-Admiral Evans by the Navy Department, to welcome the Prince: Flagship, the battle-ship Illinois, protected cruiser, the Albatross, and the cruiser Hartford.

Admiral Evans will have with him the same staff that was selected to accompany him to the Asiatic station. Captain George Converse, as commander of the flagship Illinois, will be his flag captain; Lieutenant Frederick L. Chapin, his flag lieutenant; Lieutenant Thomas Washington, flag secretary, and several other officers.

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THE TUNNEL DISASTER

CORONER'S INQUEST TO DETERMINE THE RESPONSIBILITY.

Trouble Caused by Poor Lighting and Ventilation—Station Manager's Testimony.

NEW YORK, Jan. 16.—The coroner's inquest to determine the responsibility for the death of 17 persons on the New York Central tunnel last week was begun today. Coroner Scholer presided. District Attorney Jerome and attorneys representing the various interests at stake were in attendance. The District Attorney addressed the members of the jury in part as follows:

It is your duty to say whether these victims died through the negligence of any person. This is your province, and if you go beyond it you yield, perhaps, to public clamor, and you do not thereby aid the cause of justice.

Policeman Patrick H. Fox said he asked Walker, engineer of the White Plains train, what caused the accident, and Walker replied: "There was a train passing, and the smoke and steam shut off the signals."

During the afternoon session Joseph H. Franklin, manager of the Grand Central station, was on the stand. The District Attorney questioned him. He admitted that he had received many complaints from trainmen regarding the signal lights in the tunnel.

So especially during the winter months in New York." District Attorney Jerome asked, "there are many days on which the signals in the tunnel can be seen only very short distances."

The witness admitted this was the case. On the day of the wreck, however, he considered that conditions were very favorable. He said that 22 signal trains ran through the tunnel every day.

Franklin said he was under the orders of President Newman, of the New York Central, to have the signals in the tunnel changed to the old system.

For the first course were handed sugared cakes, caviar, fried grasshoppers, dried fruits and Ning Po oysters. They followed successively at short intervals duck, chicken, roast beef, and other delicacies.

The Manchurian negotiations continue, but the progress is slow. Russia, in spite of her protestations of firmness, is disposed to compromise.

In a disturbance here last evening between three Japanese soldiers and an American sentry, one of the Japanese was killed and the sentry was badly bayoneted.

New Remedy for Consumption. NEW YORK, Jan. 16.—According to a notice to the Journal and American, the Central Mail prints a dispatch stating that at a meeting of the Paris Academy of Medicine a report was read which recounts some remarkable results of a new method of treatment of consumption.

MINNEAPOLIS, Jan. 16.—Dr. H. M. Bracken, secretary of the Minnesota State Board of Health, in a public address here today, declared that every child under five years found afflicted with smallpox ought first to be cured and then sent to jail for 90 days.

Accident to a Skating Party. MISKOLCA, Mont. Jan. 16.—At an early hour this morning, while a party of about 20 young people were returning from a skating party, their conveyance was accidentally overturned and rolled down a steep embankment a distance of about 100 feet.

Commander of South Atlantic Station. WASHINGTON, Jan. 16.—Admiral George W. Sumner, at present commanding the League Island navy-yard, has been ordered by Secretary of the Navy to command the South Atlantic station, and the battle-ship Iowa, now in Chilean waters, has been ordered around Cape Horn to Montevideo to serve as the flagship of the station.

Rockefeller's Gift to Vassar. POUGHKEEPSIE, N. Y., Jan. 16.—It was announced in the Vassar College tonight that John D. Rockefeller had promised to double every gift made to the college before commencement day, 1902, to a sum not exceeding \$50,000. Rockefeller's gifts to Vassar since his marriage last year and one residence hall to the generosity of Mr. Rockefeller.

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KAISER'S BROTHER COMING TO AMERICA.



PRINCE HENRY OF PRUSSIA.

I wish to announce that I have turned over its editorship and entire business management to Frank B. Noyes, who as publisher has been associated with me since the consolidation of the two papers last April. By this step I seek relaxation from those exacting duties which for several years have engrossed my time to the neglect of other matters and interests which now demand a larger share of my personal attention.

The decision arrived at today is the result of six weeks' consideration of the general subject of Chinese exclusion, the purpose being to bring all the Pacific Coast interests together into united support of one measure, a special committee, with Representative Newlands, of Nevada, as chairman, has been going over the different propositions and submitted the result of its work at the meeting held today.

Dr. Clayton Parkhill. DENVER, Colo., Jan. 16.—Dr. Clayton Parkhill, one of the most prominent surgeons in the West, died today of Bright's disease. Dr. Parkhill was born near Vanderbilt, Pa., in 1852, and graduated from Jefferson Medical College, in Philadelphia, and was one of the founders of Gross Medical College. He performed a large number of operations, and had extensively written for medical magazines.

Richard Patterson. PHILADELPHIA, Jan. 16.—Richard Patterson, vice-president of the National League of American Youth, died at his home in Wissahickon, a suburb of this city, last night, aged 52.

J. V. S. Oddie. NEW YORK, Jan. 16.—J. V. S. Oddie, secretary of the New York Yacht Club, died at his residence, in this city, today. Mr. Oddie had been ill for about two weeks of kidney trouble.

Lord Rockwood. LONDON, Jan. 16.—Lord Rockwood (Henry John Selwin Ibbotson) is dead. He was born in 1828.

Desperate Battle Under Ground. VICTOR, Colo., Jan. 16.—A desperate battle 40 feet under ground between three and officers and trusted employees occurred in the Great Independence mine on Battle Mountain, this morning. Between 50 and 75 shots were exchanged.

The Vienna correspondent of the Times, commenting upon an article published in the Vienna Fremdenblatt, in which it is alleged that the Emperor of Austria has expressed his desire to possibly a similar desire exists in America. In fine, it says, that Germany and perhaps the United States want to neutralize the advantage possessed by Great Britain in trade interests through the use in the latter country of the same language as is spoken in the United States.

The Hohenzollern's Band. KIEL, Jan. 16.—The Hohenzollern's crew, numbering 311 men, are now all on board that vessel. Tomorrow it will be stowing extra coal. The departure of the Kaiser's yacht, the Victoria and Alfred, is expected to be on Saturday if the ice threatens to close the canal.

Bridge Span Gave Way. INDIANAPOLIS, Ind., Jan. 16.—This afternoon the center span of the West Washington-street bridge, crossing White River, gave way with the weight of a work train, consisting of two trolley-cars and four teams. Twelve workmen were precipitated into the river, but all were rescued alive. Four were injured. Two horses were drowned and two had to be killed on account of their injuries.

Special Envoy to Spain. WASHINGTON, Jan. 16.—Dr. J. M. L. Curry has been appointed Special Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary to represent the President at the coming of age of the King of Spain. Dr. Curry is a native of Virginia, and was formerly Minister to Spain.

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