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LENDING THE SURPLUS.

Secretary Shaw's First Communication Upon Financial Legislation.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 5.—Secretary Shaw's first communication on financial legislation is contained in a letter to Representative Sulzer, of New York, concerning the latter's bill to deposit Government funds at interest in national banks throughout the country. The letter says:

"I find on my desk awaiting my arrival, your letter of January 12, referring to House resolution 112, and asking information as to the amount of interest which the Government would have realized had the proposed law been adopted as a part of the National Banking Law."

"The surplus money in excess of \$50,000,000 working capital had been deposited in clearing-house cities in proportion to the relative capital of each bank therein, with no other security than a prior lien upon the bank's assets, the Government would have realized 2 per cent upon the funds so deposited. It would have received \$2,000,000. Aided in this way, the banks referred to would have been able to increase credit accommodations to the people in the sum of \$20,000,000."

"This computation was made at the instance of my predecessor (one year ago) and was based upon quarterly rather than daily balances."

"I think some provision for the deposit of surplus funds belonging to the United States Government with National banks upon security other than Government bonds would be wise, though I doubt the limitations as to the amount of capital and surplus contained in the bill. I also question the wisdom of mandatory provisions of law. On the contrary, I think there should generally be a fair latitude of discretion. Authority to act in a given line is generally sufficient."

"LESLIE M. SHAW."

ADVERSE TO SCHLEY.

President Thinks the Majority Verdict Ought to Be Sustained.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 5.—The Post tomorrow will say:

"It was stated last night that the President's response to the application of Admiral Schley would be made public next Saturday. It is understood it will be adverse to Schley. A visitor at the White House with whom the President talked on the subject quoted the President as saying he thought the verdict of the majority report ought to be sustained."

Silver Cane and Loving Cup.

KNOXVILLE, Tenn., Feb. 5.—The principal event of today's programme for the entertainment of Admiral Schley was a grand parade at 11 o'clock. Admiral Schley, escorted by Knoxville Knights Templar in full regalia. The procession was reviewed by Admiral and Mrs. Schley from the Courthouse Square, after which a public reception was held by them in the Woman's building, where thousands of persons shook hands with Admiral Schley. The formal address of welcome was extended by President W. B. Lockett, of the Chamber of Commerce.

Coeur d'Alene Commandery, Knights Templar of Knoxville, presented to Admiral Schley a handsome silver-headed hickory cane. The hickory was cut from the site of Admiral Farragut's birthplace and early home, 13 miles west of this city. Tonight Admiral Schley was the guest of honor at a banquet in the Woman's building, when a handsome gold and silver loving cup was given to him on behalf of Knoxville citizens.

Day's Work in French Mines.

PARIS, Feb. 5.—The Chamber of Deputies today adopted a bill regulating the period of daily work in the mines. This bill provides that a nine-hour day shall be instituted at the coal pits at the end of six months from the day the measure is adopted. At the end of two years, a day's work shall be reduced to eight and one-half hours, and at the end of another two years it shall be reduced to eight hours.

Admiral Remy Ordered Home.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 5.—Orders were sent forward from the Navy Department today to Rear-Admiral Remy, directing him to proceed home with his flagship, the Brooklyn, which is now at Hong Kong. She will probably go to the New York Navy-Yard to be overhauled.

President's Trip to Charleston.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 5.—President and Mrs. Roosevelt and a party who will accompany them to the Charleston Exposition will leave here for the South next Monday night in a special train over the Southern Railway. The return journey will begin Thursday, February 13.

MANY DEFECTS IN IT

Land-Leasing Bill Does Not Meet Settlers' Views.

MOODY POINTS OUT ITS FAULTS

Not Likely to Meet the Indorsement of the House Committee as It Stands—General Wood's Circular Letter.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 5.—President F. C. Lusk, of the American Cattle-Growers' Association, was heard today by the House public lands committee in favor of the Millard bill for leasing the public grazing lands.

During the hearing Representative Moody brought out the fact, previously unobserved, that the military wagon roads in Oregon, controlling a grant of 150,000 acres, could, under the pending bill, control 30 acres of grazing land for every one of their present holdings, or nearly half of the entire state of Oregon. The friends of the bill admitted that this was a correct construction of the proposed law, although it was not framed for that purpose. Mr. Moody also called attention to the fact that while the bill permitted homestead entries, it virtually blocked the operation of the homestead by failing to provide that persons making homesteads on lands under lease could secure any leasehold, and that homesteaders in the range section of Oregon, where transportation facilities are limited, unless they had the use of sufficient range to enter the stock business, could not make a living.

Representatives Jones of Washington and Mondell of Wyoming also took part in the discussion. It is evident from today's hearing that the leasing law will receive the endorsement of the committee until it meets the views of the settlers and stock-raisers generally in the Western states.

John P. Irish also appeared in advocacy of the bill and criticized the petitions from Eastern manufacturers and others against the bill, alleging that they were prepared and circulated by George H. Maxwell, president of the National Irrigation Association, who, he asserted with positiveness, was in the employ of the railroad companies.

Governor Wood's Circular Letter.

Senators and Representatives who oppose any concessions to Cuba are expressing themselves rather emphatically in regard to the propriety of General Leonard Wood's letter urging reciprocity. Several Senators were heard to remark that it was about time that communications from the Government were received through the proper channels and not in the form of circular letters. It is pointed out that Miles was severely reprimanded for expressing his opinion to the public, while Wood has gone to the length of sending circular letters to Congressmen. At the same time, this is all said under the breath, and the men talking this way do not want their names used. One Senator said: "The fact is a great many of us want some appointments and we do not care to get into a row with the administration. The power of patronage is just as great now as it has been in past administrations and none of us want to incur the displeasure of the President who makes the appointments."

It is not believed that President Roosevelt has specifically exerted his power, but it is a fact that those who are seeking appointments for their friends do not want to place themselves in the position of openly opposing his policy.

Several members of Congress are in hopes that the President will ensure Wood for attempting to influence Congress, but the flat-footed announcement comes that Wood's action has the approval of both the President and the Secretary of War. There may be comment in Congress upon Wood's action, but no resolutions of censure will ever receive serious consideration in either branch.

Minister Wu's Criticisms.

Minister Wu is a diplomat who does not hesitate to say very nearly what he thinks, and his speeches have often criticized American officials and even the American Congress, or propositions of the American Congress relating to China. Wu has criticized Otis for excluding Chinese from the Philippines and he has criticized those who favor Chinese legislation to further exclusion now. But he is regarded by the State Department as a valuable man in this country to retain good relations with China, and, therefore, his government has never been asked to "call him down" for his utterances.

Labor Leader Gompers criticized him for referring to "labor agitators" as those who are forcing the proposed drastic Chinese exclusion legislation. Wu comes back by saying that he did not mention any names and had not intended to give offense to anybody in the expression, but added that "if the shoe fits, Gompers can wear it."

Miles' Bid for Popularity.

Notwithstanding the disclaimer of General Miles that he is not a candidate for the Presidency, it is believed that he has made a second bid for that high office in opposing military posts near large cities, for the reason labor organizations are also opposed to troops near cities where they may be used to quell disturbances. The first bid of Miles was in endorsing the canteen law of the last Congress, although he had previously favored the regulation canteen. Miles and the President are said to have disagreed rather earnestly on the latest proposition, and it is known that the other high officials of the board are opposed to the contention of General Miles.

Baker City Bank Change.

The Controller of the Currency has authorized the conversion of the Citizens Bank of Baker City into the Citizens National Bank of Baker City, with a capital of \$100,000.

Oregon's War Claims.

Senator Mitchell succeeded today in having an amendment adopted to the

WILL ABANDON THE COLONY.

England Proposes to Withdraw From Wei Hai Wei.

LONDON, Feb. 4.—According to the Calcutta correspondent of the Daily Mail, the British Government has decided to abandon its intention of fortifying or garrisoning the colony of Wei Hai Wei, China, and will withdraw all its troops from that place and transfer its control to the civil authorities. It seems doubtful, even, continues the correspondent, if the colony will be retained in its present position from a military point of view, except by enormous expenditure.

CHINA'S COMMERCIAL TREATY.

General Sharretre Says the Tariff Question Will Be Settled Soon.

VICTORIA, B. C., Feb. 6.—General Sharretre, United States Trade Commissioner to China, interviewed by the North China Daily News, Hong Kong, said regarding tariff questions and the new commercial treaty: "It seems well settled that there will be no obstacles in the way of a speedy settlement of the tariff question." He said that the interests of the United States are safe in the hands of Sir Ernest Satow and Sir James Mackay, the British Commissioners, and those of other countries in conjunction with the local merchants of the countries interested. He considers the negotiation of the commercial treaty a matter of far greater moment and difficulty, in which many conflicting interests will be involved, rendering a unanimous agreement hard to arrive at. He also expressed doubt as to the Chinese officials' willingness or ability to apply the drastic measures which might become necessary. The fundamental features of the new treaty would be said, he to open up fresh treaty ports, secure to foreigners the right to build and own property, to work mines, construct railways in the interior and generally to secure better trade facilities.

Developments in Northern China.

LONDON, Feb. 6.—The correspondent of the Daily Mail at St. Petersburg says he believes that important developments are pending in Northern China; that the Great Britain has taken a strong line with respect to the Manchurian convention, and that Russia and Great Britain are likely to arrive at a sort of self-denying ordinance to foster the commerce of Northern China to the exclusion of ruinous military rivalry.

China and Japan.

LONDON, Feb. 6.—Since the death of Li Hung Chang, cables the Shanghai correspondent of the Times, there has been a noticeable development in the friendly relations of China and Japan. This development is particularly marked in the attitude of Chi Li and Yankei Viceroy.

YACHT AT ST. THOMAS.

The Hohenzollern Reaches the Danish West Indies.

ST. THOMAS, D. W. I., Feb. 5.—The Imperial yacht Hohenzollern, which left Kiel January 18, arrived here this morning. Admiral Count von Baudissin, the commander, said that the Hohenzollern had an unusually fine voyage and that no incident of importance occurred during the trip. The Hohenzollern will leave Saturday for Bermuda, where she expects to arrive after a run of about twenty-one-half days. At Bermuda the yacht will coal and remain one day and a half. She will then leave for New York and hopes to make the run to that port in 40 hours.

Lodging the Prince's Suite.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 5.—Prince Henry, during his visit to Washington, will stay at the German Embassy. The German Ambassador's suite, however, will not accommodate the large array of attendants accompanying the Prince, and his suite will stay at the new Willard Hotel, occupying the entire floor above the office and lobby.

The Colorado Students Strike.

DENVER, Feb. 5.—Governor Orman today listened to statements from the members of the board of trustees of the State School of Mines, and also from students regarding the trouble which threatened disrupting that institution. After due deliberation he instructed the trustees to go to Golden, the seat of the school, and make a satisfactory and final settlement of the affair. An announcement was made this afternoon that an arbitration agreement had been reached between the students and the faculty, but this was emphatically denied by the students.

Creed Revision Committee Meets.

PHILADELPHIA, Feb. 5.—The Presbyterian committee on creed revision, appointed by the last General Assembly, met here today to continue the work of preparing the report to be presented to the General Assembly in New York next May. The committee will meet daily during the remainder of this week and part of next week. One of the most important questions to be decided at this meeting is that of textual revision.

Snow Storm in Texas.

DALLAS, Tex., Feb. 5.—A snow storm in North Texas and heavy rains in Southern Texas are reported. The fall of snow was very heavy. At Santa Ana there was a blizzard with 34 inches of snow. The snow was very heavy, and the wheat crop, which was almost a failure in this state last year.

Pension Board in Session.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 5.—The pension board of the G. A. R. met here today to hear various complaints and grievances of the members of the G. A. R. with respect to pensions and to take action with regard to pending pension legislation. The board will be in session several days.

Fire Near Albany.

ALBANY, N. Y., Feb. 5.—A fire on Van Rensselaer Island, just outside of Albany, today destroyed \$50,000 worth of property, and narrowly escaped destroying the big storage plant of the Standard Oil Company. P. J. McCordie, of New York, is the heaviest loser.

Anti-Oleo Law Invalid.

CADILLAC, Mich., Feb. 5.—Judge C. C. Clutten, in the Circuit Court here, today declared the state law prohibiting the sale of colored oleomargarine to be unconstitutional.

GAS MAINS BLOW UP

Thirteen Lives Are Lost in a Chicago Explosion.

CAUSES BUILDINGS TO COLLAPSE

About a Hundred Persons Injured—Flames Gushing From the Manholes Set Fire to the Wreckage.

CHICAGO, Feb. 5.—Thirteen lives were lost, many persons slightly injured, two buildings at 32 and 34 Twenty-second street were wrecked and \$300,000 damage done by an explosion of gas tonight at



"DON'T NOBODY CARE FOR ME?"

The intersection of Twenty-second street and Archer avenue. The dead are: OTTO TROSTLE, 35 years, butcher. MRS. OTTO TROSTLE, 35 years old. OTTO TROSTLE, Jr., 2 years old. LENA TROSTLE, 7 years. ANNA TROSTLE, 9 years. MAMIE TROSTLE, 11 years. FRED TROSTLE, butcher, nephew of Otto TROSTLE. SOPHIE KNIGHT, domestic in Trostle family. MARY ROSENTHAL, 32 years old, 2111 Purple street. MRS. M. KAUFERT, 34 Twenty-second street. EDWARD KAUFERT, 14 years old. MAMIE KAUFERT, 4 years old. ANDREW KOLB, roomer with Mrs. Kaufert.

Ten Bodies Recovered.

CHICAGO, Feb. 6.—At 2 o'clock this (Thursday) morning, 10 bodies had been recovered from the ruins of the Trostle building. They had been identified as follows: Otto Trostle, Lena Trostle, Sophie Knight, Otto Trostle, Jr., Mrs. Mammie Trostle, Fred Trostle, unknown man and unidentified woman.

For Union of Democracy.

NEW YORK, Feb. 5.—Prominent Democrats from many states will attend the reception to be given at the Manhattan Club, February 27, when plans for reuniting the party in the Nation will be discussed. General Patrick A. Collins, Mayor of Boston, will speak on "The Democracy of New England." Ex-Senator David B. Hill will have for his subject "The Democracy of the Middle States." General Charles E. Hooker, of Mississippi, will respond for "The Democracy of the South." Some equally prominent Democrat, probably from Illinois, will be invited to speak for the Democrats of the Middle West, while the views of the party men in the far West will be expressed by one of their number to be decided upon later. Edward M. Shepard will have for his subject, "Washington."

Preaching a Holy War.

PESHAWUR PUNJAB, India, Feb. 5.—There is considerable unrest at Cabul and elsewhere in Afghanistan. The fanatical element is predominant, and trouble is feared. Hadda Mullah, who was prominent in the rising which ended in the Tirah campaign, is preaching a holy war. He is said to have the Amer of Afghanistan under his influence.

Death of a Chickasaw Woman.

DENISON, Tex., Feb. 5.—Mrs. Senara Short, aged 61, the most noted woman of the Chickasaw tribe, is dead at her home at Emmett. She had figured prominently in the rising which ended in the Tirah campaign, is preaching a holy war. He is said to have the Amer of Afghanistan under his influence.

New Miners' Scale.

INDIANAPOLIS, Ind., Feb. 5.—At the opening meeting of a joint scale committee of miners and operators today a motion was carried that a sub-committee, consisting of two operators and two miners from each state, take up the matter of a new scale.

CUBAN ANNEXATION

Republic Invited to Become a Part of the Union.

RESOLUTION BY NEWLANDS

It Also Authorizes a Twenty-five Per Cent Reduction of Duty on the Present Sugar Crop.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 5.—Representative Newlands, of Nevada, of the ways and means committee, who was the author of the resolution annexing Hawaii, today introduced a joint resolution inviting the Republic of Cuba to become a part of the United States, first as a territory and then as a state of the Union, to be called the State of Cuba; and also authorizing a 25 per cent reduction of duty on the present crop of Cuban sugar, in consideration of Cuba's granting preferential rates to the United States. The resolution continues the 25 per cent reduction of duties to the period prior to January 1, 1902. Newlands, in explanation of his resolution, said:

"All those who have appeared to voice Cuba's needs and requirements have indicated that an invitation to Cuba of annexation would be accepted. Annexation by force would not be justified. It must be accomplished, if at all, by the free act of the Cuban people. At present there is no machinery in Cuba by which the popular will can be tested, but the Cuban constitution has been adopted. The Cuban Congress will meet in February, a Cuban government will be organized, and the United States will then have the government and control of Cuba to its people. Cuba then will be in a position to express her will."

NOT A FORCE BILL.

Congress to Be Asked to Investigate the Southern Franchise Question.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 6.—Representative Crumacker, of Indiana, author of the resolution presented to the Republican caucus Monday night, and to be further considered at a caucus next Monday night, authorizes the following statement as the general purposes of the movement to correct any impression that it is in the nature of a "force bill":

"The resolution submitted to the caucus was designed to secure full investigation of the suffrage question, not only in Southern States, but in all States where imposed material restrictions upon manhood suffrage. There is a general belief that a number of states have disfranchised a large portion of their citizens, that the colored population, by the operation of state laws, is entirely eliminated as a political quantity and yet it counts in apportioning representatives among the states. It is the general belief that the Southern states have at least 25 representatives in the House and the electoral college resting upon a fictitious basis. If this be found to be true in fact and representation be reduced accordingly, it would go a long way toward settling the race question. Such a method would have none of the characteristics of a force bill. It would require no force for its execution. Disfranchising states would suffer a reduction of political power which they could regain by educating their citizens and admitting them to the privilege of the ballot. The whole question would rest with those states."

"But the caucus is asked simply to authorize a thorough investigation of the whole question through a congressional committee appointed and equipped with the usual powers of investigation, and when the facts as they really exist, are laid before Congress and the country, such action may then be taken as the situation requires."

Mining Injunction Modified.

HELENA, Mont., Feb. 5.—The Supreme Court has modified the injunction granted by Judge Clancy to E. Augustus Heinze and the Johnston Mining Company, restraining the Heise & Montana Company from operating the Leonard, Gambetta and Piccolo mines. The decision exempts the Leonard mine from the operation of the injunction, but continues it in force as to the Gambetta.

SUMMARY OF THE DAY'S NEWS

Congress.

Congressman Moody points out the defects in the Millard land-leasing bill. Page 1.
Newlands introduced a resolution in the House for the annexation of Cuba. Page 1.
The Senate passed the urgent deficiency bill. Page 2.

Foreign.

Europeans still disputing over their attitude during the Spanish war. Page 3.
Salsburgh discussed the recent peace negotiations. Page 4.
England will abandon her rights in Wei Hai Wei. Page 3.

Domestic.

Thirteen persons were killed by a gas explosion at Chicago. Page 1.
The woolgrowers' convention places itself on record in favor of oleomargarine. Page 12.
Governor Van Sant asks for funds to fight the railroad merger. Page 3.

Pacific Coast.

Governor McBride's ultimatum brings Capitol contractor to time. Page 4.
Flax mill is practically assured for Salem. Page 4.

Portland and Vicinity.

Annual report of Fish Warden Van Dusen. Page 5.
Contributions for aid of Willamette University continue to pour in. Page 4.
Successful bidders on star mail routes in Oregon. Page 12.

Marine.

Decline in freight rates retards steamships from the grain trade. Page 5.
German bark Barnack, from Hamburg, is off the river. Page 5.
Remarkably quick dispatch given the steamer Indravelli. Page 5.

United States.

British shipowner discusses conditions in the United States. Page 5.

Portland and Vicinity.

City Council decides to pave Fourth street with wood blocks. Page 8.
Forty-nine graduates receive High School diplomas. Page 10.
Portland fraternalists still much exercised over Actor James Neill. Page 14.
Southern Pacific allows settlers 10 days stop-over at every station in Oregon. Page 10.
Retail grocers clash with wholesalers over new credit system. Page 14.