

CLAIMS GO BEFORE JURY

PROCEDURE IN PROPOSED BILL OF SENATOR MULKEY.

State Would Save Money by Placing Adjudication of Claims Within Court Jurisdiction.

SALISBURY, Jan. 23.—(Staff correspondence.)—Senator Mulkey's bill to provide for the bringing of suits against the state is intended to place the adjudication of claims against the state within the jurisdiction of the courts instead of leaving the claims to a committee of the Legislature. Senator Mulkey is of the opinion that the state would save a considerable sum of money if parties having claims against the state were required to prove their claims to the satisfaction of a jury. Under the present system many claims have been allowed by legislative committees, although the state has no legal standing and are not proven by evidence that would be accepted in court. Persons interested present their claims before the committees, and have their friends intercede in behalf of their allowance. No one appears to defend the state, and no question is raised as to the legal sufficiency of the evidence. Often the amounts allowed are exorbitant. If Senator Mulkey's bill should become a law, suits must be brought, and the Attorney-General will defend. The case will be tried in the courts, and the judge will instruct the jury as to the law. The jury will be influenced by no political considerations. It will have only one claim before it. Instead of a score, as a legislative committee has. Both the claimants and the state would be more likely to receive justice in the adjudication of a claim if the proceedings were in the usual legal form.

There are some of the principal considerations upon which Senator Mulkey will urge the passage of the bill. He says he will add one more section which will protect the state from any speculative suits. This section will require that persons bringing suits against the state must first give bonds, with sufficient sureties, for the payment of the costs and disbursements in case the plaintiff loses the suit. With that added requirement, few persons would bring suits unless they had a valid claim.

To simplify the procedure on proof of documents in a foreign country is the purpose of Senate bill No. 32, introduced by Senator Sweek. The eighth subdivision of section 35 of the code is as follows:

"Documents of any other nature in a foreign country (may be proved) by the keeper thereof, together with a certificate under the great or principal seal of the country or sovereignty thereof, that the document is a valid and subsisting document of such country, and that the copy is duly certified by the officer having the legal custody of the original."

Senator Sweek's bill proposes to cut off all from and including the word "together," for the reason that in this day and age of the world there is no reason why the principles of law should be different. It is not an easy matter to get the principal seal of a foreign country, and often there is considerable delay and expense because of the present requirement.

Senator Mulkey's bill for an amendment to the law governing the place of trial of actions at law adds one more cause for which change of venue may be had. The provision which Senator Mulkey would add to the section 45 of the code is as follows:

"Whenever the county in which an action at law is pending is a party to such action, and a jury is waived, the court may, in its discretion, upon motion, change the place of trial of said action to an adjoining county."

The reason for the proposed amendment is that if the taxpayers of a county act as jurors in the trial of an action against a county, they are in a measure trying a case in which they are themselves interested.

It has been several times remarked by members of the Legislature that there should be a barber shop and a lunch counter in the Capitol during the session. A cigar stand and a footstool chair are regularly established in the rotunda of the Capitol just before the opening of a legislative session, but if any member wants a shave or a lunch instead of a cigar or a footstool chair, he must go to the street.

There are 30 men in the Legislature, and as many more who are members of the third house, or employed as clerks. Many of them, perhaps a considerable majority, room at private residences, rather than at hotels, and do not like to go downtown for lunch. If one of the rooms on the first floor were set apart for a lunchroom, the restaurant would do a good business and save the members the time it takes to walk downtown and back. A barber chair at the Capitol would also do a very profitable business, and would be a great accommodation to the members of the Legislature.

President Brownell today made appointments which complete joint committees for the investigation of state institutions and offices as follows:

Penitentiary—Representatives Davey, Huntley and Kramer; Senators Croisland and Smith of Yamhill.
Asylum—Representatives Riddle, Cornett, Blakley; Senators Farrar and Smith of Multnomah.
State Treasury—Representatives Edwards, Hodson, Webster; Senators Hobson and Pierce.
Secretary of State—Representatives Phelps, Miles, Nottingham; Senators Mays and Whiting.
Reformatory, Mute School and Blind School—Representatives Hansbrough, Purdy and Robbins; Senators Carter and Marsters.
"State Library and Soldiers' Home—Representatives Emmitt, Danneman and Banks. (Senators not named.)
State Printer's Office—Representatives Orton, Jones of Multnomah and Hawkins. (Senators not named.)

Senator McGinn's bill authorizing the Oregon City and Suburban Railway Company to construct a suspension bridge across the Willamette River at the foot of Ninth street, in Oregon City, provides that the bridge shall be so constructed that none of its piers shall be in the water at low stage of the river, and the superstructure shall be as high above the river as the present county suspension bridge leading across the river at the foot of Seventh street, in said city. The bill has passed the Senate, and will be called up in the House on Monday.

Senator Sweek is facing the winter blizzards that blow around the Capitol without an overcoat. The other night the senator went to the Eltham Club, and after spending a couple of hours in the Y. M. C. A. Annex, came out to the cloakroom and found his coat missing. It cost \$30 when new. He estimates its present value at \$50. If the member of the Legislature who took it (by mistake, of course) will return it, no question will be asked.

Representative Galloway, of Yamhill, is fathering a bill to regulate the sale of illuminating oil. Mr. Galloway says that nearly every state has a law like the one provided for in his bill. He says that much inferior oil is sold in Oregon because there is no law to prevent.

ALLEGED FORGER CAUGHT.
S. D. Watkins Most Answer Charge of Passing Worthless Checks.
BUTTE, Mont., Jan. 23.—A Billings special to the Miner says that S. D. Watkins, who is alleged to be one of the cleverest forgers in the Northwest, and who blazed a track across the continent with worthless checks, was formally charged with obtaining money under false pretenses in

THE FORT FIRED FIRST

(Continued from First Page.)

hoped, will show an early result, rendering it possible to raise the blockade. So long as the blockade exists, however, respect for it must be enforced. The action against Maracibo was undertaken for this purpose.

"It has been said," continued the Foreign Secretary, "that we went into this affair 'dashingly' with drums and trumpets. Dashing, I admit, from the moment we appealed to arms. But with drums and trumpets I can by no means admit. On the contrary, we went to the extreme limit of patience and long suffering. The Venezuelan government not only refused to settle the debts contracted with German citizens, but at the same time committed brutal acts of violence against Germans and German property."

"We made complaint of these matters through diplomatic channels, but did not succeed in making progress on this basis. One memorandum, communicated to us through a note, characterized our intended course in the affair as insulting, inadmissible, outrageous and preposterous. We made proposals to settle the controversy by arbitration as early as July, 1901, a time when, by way of exception, no civil war prevailed in Venezuela. In those days the President was fully able to satisfy his obligations. It was only of our charge d'affaires July 16, 1901, the following language was used:

"The Venezuelan government on one part and the Imperial Minister resident on the other part are each to select one representative who shall jointly examine the claims of German citizens growing out of the civil wars. In every case we both representatives agree on the payment of an indemnity it must be paid immediately. In those where they fail to report an agreement, the matter shall become the subject of several conferences between the Venezuelan government and the German Minister resident. Should these conferences also reach no result, then some outside authority, like The Hague International Court of Arbitration, must be selected to settle the disputed cases."

"The idea of submitting the matter to The Hague court therefore arose from July, 1901. President Castro did not even deign to answer this proposal.

"The assertion was made during the debate that the navy had acted contrary to international law in seizing merchantmen. With the beginning of the blockade a state of war was created between us and Venezuela, and the navy had the full right, and from its standpoint, also the obligation, to capture Venezuelan merchantmen. The English and Italians did the same."

"The present diplomatic situation is as follows: A plenipotentiary selected by Venezuela, Minister Bowen, the United States Minister to the Republic of Venezuela, arrived three days ago from Caracas. He has had conferences with the representatives of Germany, Great Britain and Italy. We can only hope that the negotiations will soon reach a result, that we shall soon get satisfaction and that we can raise the blockade. "But, gentlemen, it must not be forgotten that blockading forces, so long as the blockade lasts, absolutely must command respect for the blockade in the territory assigned to them. This was the probable reason for the action of the German ships against Fort San Carlos, during the past few days. We are without any official news from there. Yes, gentlemen, we have hitherto received but one dispatch from the commander of the Falke, dated Caracas, January 22, and it says that, according to trustworthy information received by him from Maracibo, the ships Veneza and Panther bombarded, set fire to and destroyed Fort San Carlos, January 21. This easily explains why we have no news. It can hardly be otherwise. Two or three ships are engaged in the operations. In such a situation it is quite impossible for the Commodore to send one of these ships to the nearest telegraph station, Caracas, in order to transmit a dispatch, for he would then have to do without this ship for at least two days, which is impossible, owing to the presence of only two or three ships on the blockade. The Commodore can not use the land lines through Venezuela, but must depend upon the nearest naval station, Curacao."

"How far the price cannot be determined in the United States, it is determined at this distance. In other words, Maracibo is too far from the scene of action to enable us to follow the action in its details. But I believe I can unconditionally assume that you will all agree that our Commodore out there acted from a full and correct appreciation of the situation, and that our blue-jackets will maintain the honor of our flag."

The general debate on the budget was closed today, and the House adjourned on January 23.

PREPARE FOR EMERGENCIES.

German Aggression Causes Demand for More Battleships.

OREGONIAN NEWS BUREAU, Washington, Jan. 23.—The constant agitation which Germany is causing by bombardment of Venezuelan ports may result in a larger increase for the Navy than has heretofore been expected. The question of trouble with Germany seems to be uppermost in the public mind and among officials. A war growing out of the present embargo is deemed possible by a great many public men. It may not come at the present time, but in order to be prepared for any emergency there is a feeling that the Navy of the United States should be strengthened very materially by the building of more battleships.

If the present strained situation is relieved the bill that is under consideration will probably pass without amendment, but otherwise there is an indication that many more ships will be built.

WAVE RED RAG AT BULL.

German Parade Captured Gunboat Before Angry Hungry City.

LA GUAYRA, Jan. 23.—The former Venezuelan gunboat Restaurador, now in possession of the Germans, arrived here at 2 o'clock this afternoon from Puerto Cabello and anchored near the shore. Her presence caused great popular indignation. At 3 o'clock several rifle shots were heard in the distance. Shortly afterward the Restaurador left her anchorage and moved to a position outside the harbor and under the protection of the guns of the British cruiser Tribune.

The Restaurador had been armed, equipped and manned by the Germans since the capture. Her anchorage close into the shore was taken by the populace, in view of the Maracibo occurrences, as a direct provocation to retaliation. It is not known where the rifle shots of the day were fired, but it is believed that the provocation of the rifle shots was moving from the shore was timely, as the hungry, unemployed populace of La

Guayra, excited by recent events and driven to desperation by their condition, had applied to the local authorities for arms and proposed making a night attack on the gunboat.

Excitement against the Germans is running high here.

ANOTHER STORY OF FIGHT.

Venezuelans Fired First Shot, and Germans Answered It.

LONDON, Jan. 24.—In a dispatch from Villavieja, Caracas, the correspondent of the Daily Mail says: On Wednesday the German gunboat Panther, which was insecurely anchored off San Carlos, moved in close to the Castillo battery, which fired one shot as a warning. The Panther disregarded the hint. Another shot was fired from the Castillo battery. Thereupon the Panther fired first and the German cannonade for half an hour, when she retired.

The Veneza immediately began a heavy bombardment of Fort San Carlos, seriously damaging the fort and the houses in the vicinity.

BOWEN CONTINUES WORK.

Hostilities Do Not Prevent His Negotiations for Peace.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 23.—Notwithstanding the irritation felt in Government circles at what is regarded as the purely military action of the German ships, the Venezuelan forts by the German warships, the conclusion is that this incident will not prevent Mr. Bowen from successfully carrying out his mission of peace. The utterance of Count von Bismarck in the Reichstag yesterday are regarded here as conveying the intimation that the German warships are acting by direct orders from the German government, the intention of averting themselves for the repulse of the Panther in its first attack upon these forts. However this may be, the United States Government cannot, at this moment, see with proper excuse for entering into this quarrel between Germany and Venezuela.

It is again stated that when the United States exercised its good offices to the extent of bringing the allies and the Venezuelan government into negotiations, it exhausted its proper functions in that direction and could do no more. Mr. Bowen again declared to be not the representative of the United States, but of Venezuela, and the State Department is very careful to preserve the appearance of impartiality in preparing a joint reply. The departure of the German Charge from Caracas after the presentation of his ultimatum (with the ensuing attack upon the Castillo battery), and the repulse of the Panther by the Venezuelan forts, is regarded as affording motives but not excuses for the continuing hostility of the German men-of-war. It is understood in an effort to prepare a joint reply. The departure of the German Charge from Caracas after the presentation of his ultimatum (with the ensuing attack upon the Castillo battery), and the repulse of the Panther by the Venezuelan forts, is regarded as affording motives but not excuses for the continuing hostility of the German men-of-war. It is understood in an effort to prepare a joint reply.

Reports from London today that Mr. Bowen came to Washington with documentary evidence of the collision of the German revolutionaries in Venezuela for the overthrow of Castro lack confirmation here. Mr. Bowen being unwilling as yet to affirm or deny them. It is stated that the revolutionaries are in no trouble in securing ammunition and arms from some source.

ALLIES IN FULL ACCORD.

Agreement Not to Raise Blockade Without Guarantee.

LONDON, Jan. 23.—At the German Embassy a representative of the Associated Press was informed today that the British and German governments were acting in perfect harmony, and quite agreed that the blockade could not be raised until a satisfactory guarantee had been offered by President Castro. When Minister Bowen arrived in Washington, he thought he was the bearer of such a guarantee, but the German Embassy officials asserted it has turned out that he only had President Castro's promise, which had previously proved unsatisfactory. If Mr. Bowen could secure some other guarantee the blockade would be raised, but negotiations to this effect are continuing until the matter is settled by Baron Speck von Sternberg, the German Charge d'Affaires, in Washington.

J. H. Scholberg, the Venezuelan representative here, referring to the report circulated in the United States that he was awaiting permission to publish information showing that Germany has been supporting General Mitos in the latter's efforts to overthrow Castro, said today that there were no new developments in the case. He was merely awaiting documents from Caracas to prove the assertions of Great Britain and Germany had been assisting the Venezuelan revolutionists. These documents, it was added, are in the hands of Minister Bowen as part of Venezuela's case.

Mr. White, the United States Charge, called at the Foreign Office today, but the visit had no connection with the Venezuelan subject, and the Embassy has not received any instructions in the matter from Washington.

REASONS FOR BOMBARDMENT.

German Foreign Office Answers Three Questions Plainly.

BERLIN, Jan. 23.—The correspondent of the Associated Press has received written replies from the Chief of the Foreign office to three questions, as follows: First—Why did the ships bombard Fort San Carlos? Answer—Official news regarding the Panther's reasons for forcing the entrance of the Lagoon of Maracibo has not yet been received. So far as the situation can be understood from here, the seizure of the lagoon was necessary to an effective blockade of the harbor of Maracibo. Otherwise it would have been possible to render the blockade completely futile. Apparently Fort San Carlos tried to prevent the entrance of the Panther into the lagoon, and it must have been therefore necessary to silence it.

Second—Why did the German ships alone take part in the bombardment? Answer—The fact that only German ships took part in the bombardment is obviously explained. Maracibo harbor lies in the western part of the coast line, and that is being blockaded by the German forces.

Third—When will the blockade be raised? Answer—No decision has yet been reached by the powers as to when the blockade of the Venezuelan coast shall be raised.

STARVED BY BLOCKADE.

Charcoal Burners of Los Roques Die of Hunger and Thirst.

CARACAS, Jan. 23.—It is reported today that the Dutch cruiser De Ruyter, which arrived at La Guayra Wednesday from the island of Los Roques, which is mostly populated by charcoal-burners, found that 12 men and five women had died of hunger and thirst there as a result of the blockade measures of the allied powers, which

prevented schooners from carrying provisions and water to the island.

BOMBARDMENT IS RENEWED.

Gunboat Panther Crosses Bar Into Lake Maracibo.

MARACAIBO, Jan. 23.—At 3 o'clock this afternoon Fort San Carlos was in the possession of the Government forces and the bombardment by the German warships was still going on. There has been no material change in the situation. The gunboat Panther was the only vessel to come inside the bar. Communication with the fort is very difficult. Great excitement prevails in Maracibo.

TO RESIST GERMAN LANDING.

People of Maracibo Take Up Arms at Call of President.

MARACAIBO, Jan. 23.—President Arraruen, of the State of Maracibo, has by a decree published last night called to arms all citizens from 16 to 60 years of age, belonging to the militia, in order to resist the possible landing of German forces at Lake Maracibo. About 500 men immediately answered the call.

WILD FLOWERS OF ALASKA

As Many as 150 Varieties Have Been Found in the District of Nome.

Washington Star.

Mrs. Volney W. Hoggatt, a native of Kentucky, is with her husband, Judge V. T. Hoggatt, at the Riggs. Mrs. Hoggatt is now an enthusiastic Alaskan, and talking of the country and the 150 varieties of beautiful wild flowers, said: "People who have never visited the Territory of Alaska are not familiar with its resources and conditions generally. It is a little incredulous when we speak of the soil, the climate, the experiments and conditions that exist and have existed perhaps centuries before this great empire came under our government."

"From time immemorial, since the first sowing of the seed in this northland by the hand of the all-divine planter, the wildflower has borne life from its soil and lifted its graceful head and beautiful face upturned to the sun and blue sky, with as much vigor and subsistence as any houseplant or outdoor flower in California. As many as 150 varieties of wildflowers have been found in the district of Nome, between the 66th and 68th degrees north latitude, along the coast of Bering Sea. I have spent hours and days among the hills and lowlands gathering the little waxen petals of every tint and color—so beautiful and dainty in texture and color that they seemed as you studied them that the sweet breath of heaven had but merely touched them, and left the blushes of love messages upon their petals. I found myself acquiring somewhat of a persistent fondness for these feather-tinted flowers, that I might find one to outlive the other in color. I have walked miles upon the driftwood, along the overflow of Snake River (a name very appropriate to this river from its tortuous windings), in search of the cowslip of the deep yellow hue, with long rubbery stems; also a small white lily with shell-like tinted center, with these same long rubbery stems, which grew along the water's edge. They seemed conscious that I was in search for them, for they were in hiding here and there among the driftwood."

"The foothills and lowlands that slope down to the sea, through the months of June, July and August, are veritable gardens of wildflowers, mosses, ferns, etc. The red mosses in the moss upon which the reindeer subsists, it takes the place of grass and grows everywhere in abundance. It is of a silvery gray and carious shades of green; turns gray after frost, but remains nutritious. The reindeer feeds everywhere for the wildflowers and ferns. As you wander through the lowlands following the small streams toward the marshy Sawtooth range, with its snow-white cap forming background to the soft old green of the foothills below, covered with wildflowers, you see a picture of grandeur and beauty. "Among these foothills flowers are to be found in extraordinary growth and strength; the white and blue violet, sweet williams, bluebells, lilies of the valley, buttercups, marguerites as large as beautiful as the cultivated ones. The tall forget-me-not in the rich, delicate blue, and the white can be found by the acre, spreading its fragrance. These, to my mind, are the most bewitchingly beautiful of all."

"There are a number of varieties of ferns also—the species of the maidenhair fern, the brake leaf, the old wood fern, etc. Then, too, there is the little delicate flower that pops its head up in the Spring as soon as the birds begin their song—only not so early in Alaska as in more moderate climates."

SEVERE BLOW TO SILVER.

MEXICO CITY, Jan. 23.—The news of

the passage of the substitute Philippine currency bill by the United States House of Representatives is regarded here as a serious blow to silver.

AGAINST LAND-LEASING BILL.

LINCOLN, Neb., Jan. 23.—Governor



The Ills of Women Act upon the Nerves like a Firebrand.

The relation of woman's nerves and generative organs is very close; consequently nine tenths of the nervous prostration, nervous despondency, "the blues," sleeplessness, and nervous irritability of women arise from some derangement of the organism which makes her a woman. Herein we prove conclusively that Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound will quickly relieve all this trouble.

Details of a Severe Case Cured in Eau Claire, Wis.

"DEAR MRS. PINKHAM:—I have been ailing from female trouble for the past five years. About a month ago I was taken with nervous prostration, accompanied at certain times before menstruation with fearful headaches. I read one of your books, and finding many testimonials of the beneficial effects of Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound, experienced by lady sufferers, I commenced its use and am happy to state that after using a few bottles I feel like a new woman, and pains all gone. "I am recommending your medicine to many of my friends, and I assure you that you have my hearty thanks for your valuable preparation which has done so much good. I trust all suffering women will use your Vegetable Compound."—MRS. MINNIE TETZ, 620 First Ave., Eau Claire, Wis. (May 28, 1901).

Nothing will relieve this distressing condition so surely as Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound; it soothes, strengthens, heals and tones up the delicate female organism. It is a positive cure for all kinds of female complaints; that bearing down feeling, backache, displacement of the womb, inflammation of the ovaries, and is invaluable during the change of life, all of which may help to cause nervous prostration.

Read what Mrs. Day says

"DEAR MRS. PINKHAM:—I will write you a few lines to let you know of the benefit I have received from taking your remedies. I suffered for a long time with nervous prostration, backache, sick headache, painful menstruation, pain in the stomach after eating, and constipation. I often thought I would lose my mind. I began to take Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound and was soon feeling like a new woman. I cannot praise it too highly. It does all that it is recommended to do, and more. "I hope that every one who suffers as I did will try Lydia E. Pinkham's remedies a trial."—MRS. MARIUS DAY, Eleanora, Cal. (May 28, 1901).

Free Medical Advice to Women.

Mrs. Pinkham invites all women to write to her for advice. You need not be afraid to tell her the things you could not explain to the doctor—your letter will be seen only by women and is absolutely confidential. Mrs. Pinkham's vast experience with such troubles enables her to tell you just what is best for you, and she will charge you nothing for her advice.

Another Case of Nervous Prostration Cured.

"DEAR MRS. PINKHAM:—Allow me to express to you the benefit I have derived from taking Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound. Before I started to take it I was on the verge of nervous prostration. Could not sleep nights, and I suffered dreadfully from indigestion and headache. I heard of Lydia E. Pinkham's wonderful medicine, and began its use, which immediately restored my health. "I can heartily recommend it to all suffering women."—MRS. BERTHA E. DEINKINS, 254 Lapidate St., San Francisco, Cal. (May 21, 1901).

\$5000 FORFEIT if we cannot forthwith produce the original letters and signatures of above testimonials, which will prove their absolute genuineness.

Lydia E. Pinkham Medicine Co., Lynn, Mass.

the passage of the substitute Philippine currency bill by the United States House of Representatives is regarded here as a serious blow to silver.

Against Land-Leasing Bill.

LINCOLN, Neb., Jan. 23.—Governor

Mickey, in a message sent to the Legislature today, took a decided stand against the Dietrich land-leasing bill, introduced in Congress by the senior Nebraska Senator. The bill provides to take to each person the privilege of leasing 3 sections of land for grazing purposes.

Acts Gently;

Acts Pleasantly;

Acts Beneficially;

Acts truly as a Laxative.

Syrup of Figs appeals to the cultured and the well-informed and to the healthy, because its component parts are simple and wholesome and because it acts without disturbing the natural functions, as it is wholly free from every objectionable quality or substance. In the process of manufacturing figs are used, as they are pleasant to the taste, but the medicinal virtues of Syrup of Figs are obtained from an excellent combination of plants known to be medicinally laxative and to act most beneficially.

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