HE ACTS ALONE

Mayor to Employ New Sewer Experts

TO REPORT FACTS TO HIM

Contractors Given Permit to Repair Manhole Bottom.

REPORT SAID TO BE FALSE

While Mayor Does Not Credit This Story, He is Determined to Have a New Investigation Made.

The breach between Mayor Williams and the members of the Council is widening. crediting the tales of "false reports" that he has heard, the Mayor has ordered a new examination of the Tanner-Creek sewer. He will employ experts himself, and they will report to him alone.

After this is done, some action, negative or affirmative, will be taken by the Mayor on the recommendation of the Council that proceedings be begun against City Engineer Elliott and his assistant. The Mayor hopes to have the new report in his hands in less than a week.

Written permission has also been granted to Elner & Riner, the contractors of

the sewer, to repair the bottom under the manhole at Sixteenth and Alder streets. This permission is the result of a con-ference held Tuesday afternoon between the Mayor, the City Engineer and R. M. It was not announced until yesterday morning, when the Riners began the repair work.

Permit to Repair One Spot.

"I have given Mr. Riner permission to spair the bottom under the manhols, hich is considered dangerous," said Mayor Williams yesterday. pressly stated that he shall not touch any other portion of the sewer. I will also engage three or four men upon whom I can absolutely rely to go through the sewer and make an examination. If they find that the sewer can be repaired and be placed in a serviceable condition, I am in favor of the property-owners payidentally Mayor Williams is one of

the largest property-owners in the assess-

have been told that the experts who went through the sewer for the Council committee were induced to make a false report. I don't say that such is the case, but I have been told so. People who said they had gone through the sewer have told me there are three rings of brick in every place except where the timbers interfered; there only two rings were laid, and one or two brick might be laid flat.

Wants the Actual Facts. "I don't believe in cheating a man out of his money simply because we have the chance, and I want to get the actual facts of the sewer's condi-tion for myself."

It was suggested that the members of the Council investigation committee might not altogether like the idea of the Mayor's employing experts to do the same work as those engaged by the committee.

erate on this, but no matter what they think about it. I cannot surrender my

authority to any one."

The Mayor did not altogether ap-

prove of the committee's report recommending that City Engineer Elliott and Assistant Scoggin be removed from office, and some sorehess was manifested by members of the Council when he did not act according to the recommendation. If, by any circumstance whatever, the Mayor's experts report a different condition of things from that said to be existing by the commit-tee's report, an open rupture and prob-able deadlock between the Mayor and the Council may be looked for.

"Report O. K.," Says Greenleaf.

"If the men engaged by the Mayor will make an honest report they will find conditions really worse than we said they were," said R. S. Greenleaf, one of the committee's examiners, last evening. "Our report was softened down, for we put nothing in it but what was seen by all four of us. We did not report what any one individual saw or thought. We suggested at the time that a Councilman or some other official go with us, that we would be sustained should the sewer be patched that it was not necessary."

As to the bridge investigation, nothing further has been done because no qualified expert has yet been engaged

CHINESE ARMY DRILLS.

Three Companies, Commanded by Americans, Said to Be at Work.

Fresh hope in the sincerity of the Chinese reform army has been instilled into the breasts of applicants for offices by the receipt of acknowledge-ments from General English, which ex-plain more fully the scope of the work and depict coming glory on the bloody field. Letters have also been received by recruits already accepted, and they ontain information startling in the

In support of the dreams of glory or the part of the recruits it is announced that three companies of reformers are drilling in Portland at the present time, their drillmasters being American of-ficers. These men have been uniformed and carry on their warlike prepara-tions without regard for international

Doubting Thomases are of the opin ion that there is a grand scale of kingdom-enatching being prepared in these United States. From the fact that Gen-eral English has shown nobody his credentials and writes answers to applications in anything but military terms, it is deduced by some that those at the head of the movement are sol-diers of fortune who intend to make depend on the outcome of the campaign being recruited. Others treat the matter as the huge practical joke of some retired Army officer, while there are some who believe the thing is not with-

out elements of sincerity.
Colonel Gantenbein, of the First Oregon, states emphatically that he looks upon the whole proceeding as a fake of the first water. He points out that the men at the head of the movement are evidently without knowledge of mili-

recruiting the nucleus of an army among the Americanized Chinese, placing them under the command of American officers and taking them across the sea to face a force many thousands of times their superior shows that there is no substantial bottom to the scheme. Those military men who have filed applications for positions with the army are divided in their opinion. Some declare they believe the movement to be without foundation, while others regret that their applications were filed and announce that they have arrived at the decision that they are the victims the decision that they are the victims of some practical joker, who believes in

operating on a large scale.

Another opinion is that some shrewd grafter has worked on the nerves of the Chinese until he has succeeded in getting them in line for the movement, thereby hoping to reap profits in the contracting of arms and in the demand of a large salary.

KERAMIC CLUB EXHIBIT OPENS China Painters of Oregon Display Creditable Work.

The first public exhibit of the Oregon Keramic Ciub, a recently formed organ-isation of the china painters of the state, is thrown open at 10 o'clock this morning in the rooms of the Camera Club, Mac-leay building. The showing made by these artists is most creditable, and those who visit the exhibit will be surprised to learn that there are so many following this line of art and that such fine work is being turned out by them. Not one of

DENIES HIS GUILT

Major Rees Tells His Story at the Court-Martial.

EXPLAINS ALL HIS ACTIONS

Relates Why He Falled to Deposit Money in the Bank, and Tells Why He Borrowed Different Sums From Officers.

VANCOUVER Wash., Nov. 30 .- (Staff Correspondence.)-Major Harry L. Rees told his story to the officers of the courtmartial today. Whether the rapid fire of cross-examination by Judge-Advocate Morrow made it look like a sieve or left it a Gibraltar is for the court to deter-

When the court convened at 1:20 P. M. the defense opened its case with the testimony of Lieutenant-Colonel William H. being turned out by them. Not one of Comegys, Deputy Paymaster-General, sta-the exhibitors prepared for this show, for tioned at San Francisco. Colonel Come-

MEN CHARGED WITH SETTING INCENDIARY FIRES BOUND OVER TO GRAND JURY



A. B. Coon, alleged master-fireburg, and Barney Miller and J. B. Bachelor, his alleged employes, who are charged with having set fire to a house at 265 Fifth street Saturday night, endangering the Bree of the occupants, were arraigned before Judge Hogue, in Police Cours, pesterday morning. The trie sat mutely in court while their attorney, Walter Wolfe, entered pleas of not guilty in their behalf and waived preliminary examination. Being unable to furnish ball, they were sent to the County Jail to await their appearance before the grand jury.

it was only arranged a few days ago, so that the pieces shown are only what they had on hand. Next year it is the intention of the club to create competition by offering prizes, and to prepare in advance. There will be a certain standard placed on work for exhibition and that not reaching it will be rejected.

Of those exhibiting this year each has a special line of work, and the efficacy of this method is proven by the splendid work which results from it. Mrs. Annabelie Parrish shows some especially fine work in miniatures and flesh work done under glass. The tones and texture of her flesh work stand inspection under the strongest magnifying glass and are enamels, done in exquisitely small and dainty designs for jewelry is a novelty. One of her finest pieces is a Lemoge transparent enamel on copper of "The Sacred Heart." A copy of a design taken from the Sevres Museum by tals artist, who studied in France, was exhibited by the New York Keramic Club in that city and was reproduced in Harper's Maga-gine. She also shows many fine copies

from the Louvre. Mrs. F. A. Routledge has excelled in several particulars. A dull finish vase, in black, white and brown effects, will be considered by many her best, while those who prefer luster work will rave over a mug done in copper-luster effect. The vase mentioned resembles a piece cloisonne. She exhibits the only tea. in a rose design shows her careful work in

may be said to be jeweled paste work and conventional designs, although a beautiful punch bowl done in a grape design and a handsome luster-work jug show her to be versatile in her art. Miss Parker's jewel work is delicate and beau-tifully executed, and her conventional designs are exquisite. A large medallion trates the latter.

The gem of Miss Kate Gibbs' collection is a plate with an original border in raised paste and luster work, and a cen-ter of growing daisles which look real enough to pick. Old Dutch pitchers done by Miss Gibbs are also very good, and she shows good specimens in floral designs. Mrs. James Snyder has not had the experience that the other exhibitors have, but her floral work shows that uch may be expected of her in the ture. Mrs. James Mann also shows most promising work in floral and con

Mrs. Mary Tonsing's best work is in figures and strong, rich coloring. A num-ber of steins she exhibits are much admired, the figures being characteristic and the tones of the background very rich. Mrs. A. L. Reed, who has recently me to Portland, has a handsome exhibit, a tea set of quaint design, mounted on dark bases and showing excellent work in raised paste, being the most at-tractive. Mrs. Reed also shows many floral designs. The only exhibitor outside of Portland is Mrs. Laura E. Pope, of Oregon City. Gold over raised paste work may be said to be Mrs. Pope's specialty, her floral effects in this being very fine. A tea set done in this work over a delicate green background is exquisite, and three other sets in her col-

Nearly every exhibitor shows one or more enameled pieces. These are gen-erally referred to by the painters as "ex-periment pieces," for it is harder to fire ction are also excellent. periment pieces," for it is harder to fire such work than any other. It is likely to come out of the kiln with white blotches all over it, and in some instances use of war-loving American youths to a piece will have to be painted three further their plans, it being also fear-ed times before it takes the fire properly, ed that the pay of the soldiery will. The enamel work on copper referred to is interesting. The copper used is thin and pliable, being cut into shape with scissors, then enameled over before being painted. The copper used cannot be pro-cured in this country. The work shown by the club is all excellent, and ceramic art is shown by this exhibit to compare with anything in oils, water colors or pencils, so other artists must look to their laurels in the future.

BUSINESS ITEMS. tary forms and military etiquette, that they are making moves no discreet of-ficer about to launch a revolution would make, and that the very idea of allays all pain, curse wind colle and diarrhose.

gys said that he had selected Major Rees for the Paymaster's service in the Philippines: that during the several years Rees was under him he had performed his duties faithfully in every respect; that he had watched Rees closely, had always found him efficient, industrious, reliable and very careful in his accounts. His whole testimony was distinctly favorable whole testimony was distinctly favorable to Rees as regards the latter's character and ability as an officer and paymaster.

Colonel Huston, commander at Vancouver, next testified about Major Rees in much the same strain. The accused Paymaster next took the stand. He proved not to be a ready talker, but under the frequent questions and promptings of his counsel told his story

Rees Telis Story

ter my office has received and disbursed very large sums of money, but never until the present instance has a question ever been raised in my accounts. I have been inspected at irregular intervals, av-eraging probably twice a year. Once while serving in the Philippines a whole year elapsed without inspection of my

Early in October this year Colonel Mills, of the Inspector-General's office, accompanied by Mr. Kent, chief accountant of that office, came to inspect me. I gave them every facility in my power, and they went over all my accounts for the period of my having the office in the Department of the Columbia. "They discovered the first error dated

December 12, 1803. No error prior to that was found. The actual work on all books and reports of my office after December 1. 1902, was done by Mr. Dana W. Morey "Taking up this Specification No. 1, showing a difference of \$100 between the reported and the actual bank balance, I have no knowledge or memory whatever

Being handed several other specifica-tions relating to similar differences, Ma-jor Rees denied all knowledge of them

Continuing, he said:
"I began to have a lot of trouble with the books; they seemed to show disorgan-ization. Several errors by the bank complicated matters still more. One was the issuance of two original bank receipts for the same amount. This would have shown a surplus of the bank balance. Next. I deposited about \$600, and the bank re-ceipt was forwarded to Colonel Tucker, chief of my office, who inadvertently pinned it into the stubs of his own office

"Coming to the statement that I did not always redeposit the entire sums re-maining in my possession after my pay trips to the Sound. I will say that it was not always possible to do so at once; I could not, anyway, until ascertaining how much should be deposited from balancing the pay rolls and accounts. Then, my mind not being clear as to whether the books showed the proper balance, I hesi-tated to deposit all the money, and, there-fore, sealed it up and put it in the safe until such time as I could discover the

Did Not Blame Clerks.

"I do not hesitate to say that I have never questioned the integrity of my clerks for the reason that they have had to do with nothing but the books, but I do question the integrity of the books. I know that I have never spent any of the money, and I am still convinced that there is an error in my books. I had never been able to get the accounts straightened up to my satisfaction. I was not well, and I asked for a leave of absence, which, had it been granted, would have meant an inspection of my

accounts before I could leave.
"The leave was not granted, but when an inspector finally came June 17, I de-posited the \$376.74 in order to balance my accounts according to my books."
Under direction of his counsel, Major
Ress then took up the matter of the loans
from Captain Baker and Charles Baren-

"About the middle of June, this year I was greatly worried and troubled by private matters. I needed money hadly to pay obligations growing out of famlly matters, matters relating to the divorce of my wife and myself. I had been forced to borrow \$1200 to settle a

ceived a threatening letter."

At this juncture a letter (with a two volumes are rare. They were purportion probably containing the date torn off) was introduced. It was signed | lector.

"A. S. Burt, Coi. U. S. Army, Retired," and in effect demanded Rees' attention to W. R. Blake's claim, or steps to force such attention would be taken. "This was what sent me to a Mr. Herron, of Salem, to borrow \$1200," continued Major Rees. "I had paid Herron about \$100 in small amounts, when about the middle of June, being much worried and fearing further trouble, I borrowed \$500 from Captain Baker and \$400 from Barenstecher to Baker and \$400 from Barenstecher to enable me to settle with Herron."

At about this point Mr. Long arose to say for his client that the deposit of \$975.74 on the same date was simply

Denies He Used Money.

"I had the Government money in my possession all the time," continued the Major, "but hever used a dollar of it. I have tried my best to repay Captain Baker. I intend to pay him every cent. I had paid him \$160 and I handed him \$50 more this morning.

\$50 more this morning.
"Barenstecher readily loaned me the \$400. I wanted to give him a note, but he handed me a check. I told him flatly that I had no funds at the bank, but he said he would not present the check but would hold it as evidence of the loan. It was all a fabrication about my promising to take up my check with a Government check. Afterwards finding I couldn't pay Barenstecher, I offered him my note, indorsed by several property-owners. His partner took it to the bank, but the bank refused it and so it was returned. I had hoped for money from an aunt at Walla Walla. Yes, I intend to repay Baren-stecher if I have to work it out at a dollar a day. Yes, those two debts are the only ones of importance that I

Taking up the cross-examination, Judge-Advocate Morrow began very rapdidy to question the Major. The latter admitted that he owed \$300 to another man in Portland. Regarding the threatening letter and its effect upon the Major and attendant circumstances the witness seemed unable to make all connections clear to the prosecuting officer. Rees admitted having received the letter several months prior to June, and explained how the date came to be torn off as he had pulled the letter out of a file. "How, then, was it not until June that your fears became so aroused by the letter?"

Didn't Have the Telegram. "Why, I got a telegram in June from the same parties to the same effect, which

stimulated my fears. 'Have you got that telegram?"

"If you borrowed that \$500 from Cap-tain Baker to pay Herron, why did you tell him, as the Captain stated yesterday, that you needed the money for the pur-pose of reimbursing the Government, as you were about to be inspected and there was an error in your accounts?" "If I made that statement to Captain Baker it was erroneous."
"But the Captain wrote you a letter

inclosing one which he threatened to send to the Paymaster-General if you did not pay, and that inclosure contained the statement the Captain says you made?"
"I was away at the time."

"But when you returned you read that letter and you never questioned that statement or protested to the Captain." "I was very busy and did not read the letter carefully." "If on June 16 and 17 you deposited

2076.74 to balance your accounts according to your books, and the books have eince been experted and that balance was found to be correct, then Mr. Morey's acounts were correct, were they not?

The Major did not answer directly, but again went over the ground about various errors which had left a confusion in his mind about the account. In effect, how-ever, he appeared to admit that the error might be in his mind. "How was it that you should have so

frequently after your return from pay trips deposited only part of the sums left over in your possession?"
"As I before stated, I was not clear

about the bank balance."
"Did you deposit certain portions of the eft-over sums and put the rest in the

The Major was not clear on that point, but insisted that he had always kept lovernment money separate from his are vate money and always had the undeposited amounts either stored in the Portland Hotel safe or in his office safe. At this juncture the court adjourned un-til 10 A. M. tomorrow.

UNABLE TO HELP MOTHERS.

Boys Running Errand Forbidden to Work by Child Labor Board.

The Child Labor Commission, having in and the lists furnished by employers of the ages of their employes, yesterday made a few trips to such as hired young sters under 14 years of age. Employers were informed that they would have to discharge the children at once, regard-less of any cause, charitable or otherwise, for which they had them in their

In one specific case the law will work hardship. Ben Selling hires three boys, elow the age limit, to run errands on Saturdays. Week days they go to school. In the case of two, the mothers are widows and need the money the boys bring

Mr. Seiling was visited by Mrs. Millie R. Trumbull, of the Child Labor Com-mission, yesterday and told that he would have to discharge the boys. He explained

"These boys," he said, "are not injured by the work they do for me, and the money they earn is of material aid to their mothers."
"I am sorry," said Mrs. Trumbuil, "but the law says you cannot employ

So Mr. Selling will have to tell the three boys when they come to his store Satur-day that he cannot hire them any longer.

CANTATA IS A SUCCESS. "Faith and Praise" Sung Before Large Audience Last Night.

The sacred cantata, "Faith and Praise," by John A. West, was sung be-fore a large audience in the First Bap-tist Church last night by a chorus under the direction of Miss Ella Frances Hoberg, who was assisted by Miss Cornella Barker, violinist, and Mrs. E. W. Cham-bers, accompanist. The cantata was well sung and the chorus showed evidence of careful training. The singers: Soprano-Mrs. Thamer, Mrs. Joplin, Mrs. Currie, Miss Chamberlin, Miss Compton Miss Hughes, Mrs. Poppleton, Miss Norcross, Miss Barth, Miss B. Soderback, Miss Soderback, Mrs. Dunn, Miss Norland, Miss Schmadeka, Mrs. Konkar, Miss Anderson, Miss Palmer. Contralto-Mrs. Huriburt, Mrs. Ruff, Miss Stewart, Miss Smith, Miss McClung, Mrs. Coleman, Miss Bell, Miss Lundby, Mrs. Maulbetch. Tenor-Mr. Ackles, Mr. Hutcheon, Mr. Shearer, Mr. Tripp, Mr. Currie, Mr. Schoeppe, Mr. Ruff. Bass-Mr. Stevenson, Mr. Joplin, Mr. Stewart, Mr. Craw-ford, Mr. Huriburt, Mr. Meserve, Mr. Cormack, Mr. Trengrove.

Rare Books Are Sold.

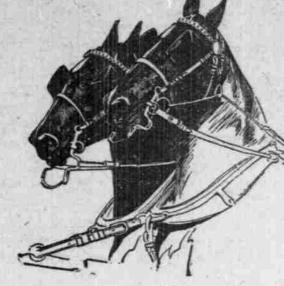
NEW YORK, Nov. 30.—Two of the rar-est books in the collection of Americans, made by the late Bishop John Hurst have just been sold at auction. One was a copy of the Mohawk prayer book, printbeen forced to borrow \$1200 to settle a judgment against me. I owed W. R. Blake, my father-in-taw, a sum of money, and through his agency I received a threatening letter."

a copy of the Monawk prayer rook, printed in this city by William Bradford in 1715. It brought \$1300. The other was a copy of the second edition of Ellot's Indian Bible, and It sold for \$100. chased by an agent for an unknown colTHE STUDEBAKER

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PORTLAND, OREGON

TO ATTACK THE LAW

Local Option Measure to Be Tested in Courts.

TEXAS PRECEDENT INVOKED

Court of Appeals in That State Held Statute Authorizing Special Subdivisions for Prohibition Elections Was Void.

An attack will be made on the localoption law to test the constitutionality of the provisions which permit prohibition elections in subdivisions of pre-cincts. As the law stands 10 per cent of the registered voters in any contiguous group of precincts can call a prohibition election. The Court of Ap-peals of Texas, a state which has a local-option law similar to that in Oregon, has decided that the provi-sions of the Texas statute authorizing "Yes."
"Why should you have held out just uch sums arbitrarily?"
The Major was arbitrarily?"

Hood River and the saloon district of Roseburg "went dry." The two pre-cincts of Hood River were grouped with three outside precincts and the whole subdivision was carried for pro-hibition by four votes, Anti-prohibi-tionists in Hood River now propose to fight the result of the election on con-stitutional grounds. They will set up that while voters may by petition designate an existing precinct or county for prohibition, they cannot arbitrarily create a subdivision by grouping pre-

Dry Towns Embarrassed.

All the towns that will be "dry" after January 1 face financial embar-rassment for a large part of their rev-enue hitherto has been derived from saoon licenses. Plans are under way in some of them to have the Legislature re-enact their charters whereby they had power to collect license money. If that were done their charters, being later enactments than the local-option law, would take the precedence and prohibition elections could not be called in their municipal limits.

Foes of prohibition think they have the dry" element beaten to a frazzle in three of the six counties that "went dry" No-vember 8, namely, in Gilliam and Yamhill, where the election has been set aside by the County Court as Illegal, and in Coos where the County Court has been en-joined from proclaiming prohibition. These counties were to have been "dry" after January 1. The counties in which prohibition is evidently to be enforced are Benton, Tillamook and Curry,

Prohis Predict Trouble. Prohis declare that rumsellers are storing up trouble for themselves in the future, and should beware of the wrath to come. Cold-water partisans insist that prohibition has been knocked out in Gilliam, Tambill and Coos on mere techni-calities. "Whether those technicalities are accidental or intentional." they say, "the will of the people cannot long be

I. H. Amos, big prophet of the prohis, avers that whether the failure of prohi-bition in the counties mentioned came from negligence on the part of his followers or from trickery on the part of the liquor people will make no difference in the long run, for, if the mills of the ds grind slowly, they get there just the

CHARTER BOARD TO MEET. Amendments to Be Discussed Tonight.

The revived charter board will hold its third meeting tonight in the Council chamber, City Hall, for consideration of amendments to the municipal charter, and will endeavor to finish up the work for which it has thus far vainly invited the legislative delegation to conference. It is certain that not more than four or five members of the Legislature will be in at-tendance, and probably not that many. The only State Senator who will be present is C. W. Nottingham, who was out of the city when former meetings were held. The board has already adopted four of advertising special assessments sewers and streets; one for enabling the Council to suspend the general franchise provisions of the charter in granting street-car companies use of streets for track connections and short extensions, and one for simplifying cierical work in the City Auditor's office when the City Council declares an assessment for street and sewer Improvements.

Amendments that will be considered to night are one to require deposits of city funds to be secured by municipal, Port of Portland, school bonds or other standard securities, instead of by security companies; one to require the City Auditor to send to property-owners postal card notices of the City Council's resolution to organization of a new China, and foremost among those is the body of Chinese Freemisons, who desire China for the pure Chinese. With not only the expectation, but the hope that they may have the opportunity of establishing themselves and realizing the success of their wish they are rapidly preparing themselves for any possible developments. improve a street or sewer; one to author-ize improvement of several streets in a given district simultaneously by one proany possible developments. ceding; one to remove from civil service the Chief of the Fire Department and such city employes as laborers, streetcleaners and carpenters, and perhaps one to make the City Engineer the engineer of the Water Department.

The board has already adopted a resolution recommending to the lawmakers that all amendments be submitted to electors of the city for ratification or rejec-A lively debate is sure to arise out of

the proposal to amend the civil service, for the plan now in the charter is the especial pet of the charter framers. CHINESE TROOPS ARE DRILLING Portland Celestials Hope Some Day

to Go to War.

That Oriental affairs are not entirely confined to the Orient is evidenced by the fact that at least three companies of se in Portland are daily drilled in the science of modern warfare and the use of modern arms.

This fact has just been developed, and helind it is concealed a part of the inner history of the Chinese Empire of today. Various parties are at work for the re-

As any solution to the problem of China's future is apt to include the strife of warfare, the Chinese of this section who are supporters of the Ming or Freemasons' movement are anxious to be prepared for this probable event and are sparing no pains or labor to be ready to answer the call. Drillis are held regularly in Portland and it is said that the instruction takes place under the command of Americans who have been drilled in tactics and other mat-

ters of military knowledge, Prairie Fire on Rosebud Reservation. NORFOLK, Neb. Nov. 30.-A prairie fire on the Rosebud reservation has burned ver an area of nearly 100 square miles between Bonesteel and St. Elmo and is still burning. Bonesteel City had a nar-row escape from destruction. Several thousand tons of hay have been dessrroyed

and a number of ranch buildings burned.

Given Post in Porto Rico. MADISON, Wis., Nov. 20.-Granam L. Rice, ex-Railroad Commissioner of Wisconsin, received word today of his ap-pointment as Commissioner of Immigra-tion to Porto Rico.

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Commences our Annual Holiday Special Sale. It's full of great opportunities for those who seek special holiday bargains in Furniture, Crockery, Cut Glass, Pictures and Draperies. Watch our windows and tomorrow's advertisement for details.

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