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DEFENSE CLOSES ITS CASE TODAY

Government Will Then Introduce Evidence in Rebuttal.

TWO DEFENDANTS TESTIFY

Dr. Gesner Denies That He Made Contracts for Timber Claims. Marion R. Biggs Says Procedure Was Legal.

Noon today is the time set by the defense in the case of the United States against Williamson, Biggs and Gesner to close its testimony and make ready for the arguments of the attorneys. It is not thought, however, that the case will be given to the jury before Monday, as the Government has some evidence to introduce in rebuttal, which will consume the larger part of this afternoon and force the case either to be given without argument to the consideration of the jury, or held over Sunday.

All of yesterday was filled with the testimony of Dr. Gesner and of Marion R. Biggs, who both told again the stories related at the first trial in regard to the transactions which have since involved them in disnute with the law.

Before the defense began its case in the morning Mr. Heney asked to bring out one or two points in the prosecution that he had overlooked before closing his case. He first introduced the credentials of M. R. Biggs, showing him to have been appointed United States Commissioner on June 3, 1902, but the defense conceding that the defendant had been regularly qualified as a Commissioner on the date mentioned, the paper was not placed in evidence.

Irwin Rittenhouse, the secretary to Mr. Heney, was recalled to the stand once more and questioned as to the testimony of Biggs in relating the fact that Ben F. Jones had not agreed to give a mortgage for his claim, though asked to do so by Biggs. The witness was also asked in regard to the testimony of Biggs telling of his first talk with Gesner about taking the claims, in which Biggs had advised Gesner how to proceed to take the land. This testimony was evidently used under the presumption of the prosecution that the defendants would not be placed upon the stand, in which event the prosecution would have the benefit of all testimony favorable to the cause of the Government.

After Mr. Rittenhouse had been excused from the stand, the defense resumed its case by beginning once more to impeach the testimony of the Government witnesses. Extracts were read from the testimony of Campbell A. Duncan, Benjamin F. Jones and others to show that they had made conflicting statements at the second trial, as compared with the testimony given at the first hearing.

Dr. Gesner was called as a witness by the defense, and did not leave the stand until during the early afternoon. Following him came Marion R. Biggs, whose examination was pushed by both sides until after 5 o'clock, upon the directions of the court to finish the examination before adjournment.

Dr. Gesner Testifies.

Dr. Gesner commenced his story by telling of his long residence in Prineville and of his going into partnership with Williamson and Wakefield. The witness was asked about the existence of trouble between the cattlemen and the sheepmen, and Mr. Heney objected in order to find whether or not it would be permitted for him to go into the question in rebuttal. The court allowed the questions to be asked, and it is probable that the Government will put witnesses upon the stand in rebuttal to show that there was but little trouble at that time, and also that the hostility which existed was between the different sheepmen. The witness told how the cattlemen had killed sheep in the night. He said they would not honor the title held by the wagon-road company because they considered it to have been gained by fraud. It was for both of these reasons that the firm wished to gain control of deeded land, in order to protect its property from assault.

Dr. Gesner admitted that he had told the persons mentioned in the indictment, or most of them, that he would lend money upon the claims, if they wanted to file upon them and take them up. He also admitted that he had also told them the claims would be worth $500 to him if deeds had been secured for them. But the doctor denied most emphatically that he had ever had an agreement with any one at any time that he would buy the land or that the claimants should sell it to him. Those who took the claims were at liberty to sell them to whomever they pleased.

Prior to lending money on the claim, or making any arrangements, the witness had consulted with Mr. Biggs, so he testified, and had asked his advice as a lawyer about the transaction. Biggs had told him that it would be lawful for him to lend money upon the land, and to take a mortgage upon it, or even to intimate how much the claims would be worth provided title had been issued, but under no circumstance could any contract or agreement of sale be made. At the time he consulted Mr. Biggs the witness thought the advice he had received was the law, and said that if he had got out of bounds it was not at all intentional.

Mr. Williamson had never been present at any of the conversations held between the witness and the applicants, so Dr. Gesner testified, and it was not until some time in the month of July, 1902, that Williamson had been told that Gesner had lent money on the claims, and not until much later that Williamson had been told that the witness had intimated to those who had filed upon them that the claims would have a certain value to them when titles had been obtained.

On cross-examination Dr. Gesner stated that if Mr. Williamson was in Prineville in June, 1902, though he did not remember his having been there at that time, it was possible that they had held some conversations about the timber-land question. The witness stated that his herders had made lines between the Williamson & Gesner holdings and those of Morrow & Keenan, and that he did not think there had been any difficulty between the two companies about the range. Neither was it to get control of the water and deprive Morrow & Keenan of its use, that the witness was eager to file upon all claims having springs upon them. The principal object in taking the claims was the quality of the timber.

Threatened by Cattlemen.

Mr. Heney asked the witness who the cattlemen were that had threatened the firm of Williamson & Gesner and ordered its sheep kept off certain portions of the range. After some hesitation, Dr. Gesner said that the two men were Joe Lister and J. H. Gray, two cattlemen in that section.

The attorney drew an emphatic denial from the witness by asking him if Morrow & Keenan's sheep had not been killed on the Williamson range at the instigation of Gesner. The witness said that the sheep had been run over onto the range and killed by the cattlemen.

Mr. Heney then went into the association of the witness with the Government witnesses during this and the previous trial. He asked if the witness did not have a brother-in-law in the saloon business in Portland and if the witnesses were not in the habit of congregating at his saloon. The attorney asked if the witness had not had many meetings with John S. Watkins at the saloon. The defense objected to the questions, and Mr. Heney said he was frank to admit that in his argument he was going to explain the inconsistencies of the witnesses for the Government by showing that they had held many conversations with the defendant. The court allowed the questions, and Mr. Heney questioned the witness concerning conversations alleged to have been held almost daily since the opening of the first trial. In each instance the witness stated that, though he might have seen the men at the saloon or have spoken to them, it was simply to pass the time of day, and nothing more.

Marion R. Biggs Testifies.

Marion R. Biggs, another of the defendants, was the next witness called. He told practically the same story as in the first trial, and corroborated Dr. Gesner in what he had told of their consultation about taking the claims, his warning against a contract, and various other things brought out by the questions.

The witness told of the method followed in his office and testified that no man was allowed to make a filing without having the questions read over to him and being sworn as to their truthfulness. To his knowledge, no one had ever sworn falsely in his office. He did not at the time think Gesner was doing anything contrary to the law, and did not now. Mr. Biggs testified that he had seen Jefferson D. Evans execute the note in security of the money lent by Gesner upon the claim taken by the applicant. After that, when the money had been returned from the Land Office, he had told Evans to come to the office and get the note, which had never been done. The note was produced and offered in evidence.

This testimony was in direct opposition to that of Evans, who emphatically denied ever having given a note.

Mr. Biggs stated that he had never filled out the application of final proof of any applicant unless the person was present and knew what was being done, nor did he ever change the claim first filed upon for another without directions to do so by the person making the filing.

On his cross-examination Biggs stated that he had never authorized Boggs to transact any business unless the witness was present, for the reason that Boggs was drunk most of the time and could not be trusted. Upon this Mr. Heney had the witness identify a letter written to the Land Office in The Dalles, where he had stated that he had told the applicants to go to Smith, the County Clerk, and to Boggs to complete their filings.

On redirect examination Mr. Wilson asked the witness about the visit of Special Agent Neuhausen to Prineville. Mr. Heney objected when the witness testified that Neuhausen had formed a favorable opinion of the claims. Mr. Heney asked what Neuhausen had said.

"Well, he said," remarked Mr. Biggs, "these claims are all right, Biggs. You fellows have done right and will get your claims, and I will recommend them."

The attorneys for the defense gave Mr. Heney the laugh, but the attorney for the prosecution didn't seem to care.

"Laugh, if it amuses you," he said. "I enjoy it as much as you do, if that was what was said."

The examination of Mr. Biggs being finished, Judge De Haven asked the attorneys for the defense when they could close their case, and Judge Bennett said that all the testimony of the defense would be in by noon today, unless the cross-examination was longer than expected. Court was then adjourned until this morning at 10 o'clock.

STARR HAS BEEN LOCATED

Missing Witness Will Be Arrested by Government Officers.

Ernest Starr, it is reported, has been located in a sheep camp on the Eastern slope of the Cascade Mountains, and will be taken in custody early this morning by one of the Government officers who is on his trail. Starr is the nephew of J. N. Williamson, who disappeared in the fastnesses of the mountains east of Eugene on Thursday last and who has been sought since that time by ten officers in the service of the Government. It was announced by the prosecution, in stating the case when the present trial opened, that Starr's testimony would prove conclusively that Williamson was connected with the conspiracy and that contracts had been made for the sale of the lands to the sheep firm. The disappearance of the witness weakened the case of the Government, and he has been sought earnestly since the opening of the trial.

If there is no hitch in the proceedings it is thought that Starr will reach Portland either this evening or Sunday morning, when, if it is not too late, he will be placed upon the witness-stand.

WILL ARMISTICE STOP FIGHTING?

Two Interviews With Sato Embody Two Conflicting Statements.

ONE SAYS JAPAN'S WILLING

Truce May Follow Exchange of Envoys' Credentials—Another Says Fighting Must Continue During Conference.

NEW YORK, July 28.—No statement was given out at the headquarters of the Japanese commission today relative to the visit to President Roosevelt of Baron Komura and Minister Takahira, the Japanese commissioners. Mr. Sato, Minister Resident to the Emperor of Japan, who is the official spokesman for the commission, said, however, President Roosevelt made no request for an armistice.

Inquiry was made of Mr. Sato as to the attitude of the Japanese on the question of an armistice, and he replied:

"Japan is perfectly willing to agree to an armistice after the credentials of both commissions have been examined and verified. The examination of credentials must necessarily be the first duty of the peace delegates to ascertain that all are qualified to act in the capacity which they represent. In the negotiations for peace that ended the Chinese war, I remember there was much delay because the credentials of one of the Chinese envoys did not bear the Emperor's seal granting him plenary powers.

"However, I think an armistice will be agreed upon after the commissions enter formally upon their work. It has been the custom in all peace negotiations to cease hostilities during the convention of the peace plenipotentiaries."

Mr. Sato was asked as to the definite powers of the members of his commission and he said:

"They have power to reject any proposal and commit the Japanese government to any document they may sign, subject, of course, to the sanction of the Emperor."

The reports that China intended asking an indemnity Mr. Sato had discussed, and regarding this he said:

"China could not ask any indemnity of Japan. It was her inability or unwillingness to keep Russia out of Manchuria that forced us into the war."

WILL NOT CEASE HOSTILITIES

In Another Interview Sato Says Japan Will Continue Fighting.

NEW YORK, July 28.—(Special.)—"There will be no cessation of hostilities on the part of Japan previous to or during the peace negotiations. My government assumes this attitude and will continue its policy of aggression in the belief that Russia will thereby be more ready to agree to terms and not prolong the adjustment of present difficulties."

M. Sato, chief of staff to Baron Komura, the senior Japanese peace commissioner, made this statement tonight and thereby puts at rest the rumor that an armistice is being arranged through the good offices of President Roosevelt. M. Sato's statement can be interpreted as an official expression of the attitude of the imperial government.

The newspaper men who called upon M. Sato asked him if Japan intended to cease hostilities pending the beginning of the peace conference. He replied:

"I don't think she will, either before or during the conference. Japan believes that only an aggressive policy will have the required influence on Russia and may cause her to accede more readily to Baron Komura's terms and prevent delay."

"Do you not think it unjust to Russia that on the eve of probable peace Japan should continue to assume the aggressive?"

"No, sir," was the emphatic reply. "That is the only way to bring Russia to terms."

HAS ABUNDANCE OF SINEWS

Japan Can Fight On Without Borrowing—Her Financial Needs.

LONDON, July 28.—The Statist this morning published an interview with Koretiyo Takahashi, the special finance commissioner of Japan, who reports himself as hopeful that peace will result from the coming negotiations. He bases this hope on the conviction that Japan's terms will be reasonable and that the true interests of Russia require that she make peace. The appointment of M. Witte, he adds, strengthens this hope. Should hostilities continue, Mr. Takahashi says, Japan is in a position to prosecute the war without serious difficulty, as she has on hand, as a result of the two recent loans, the means to carry on the conflict for a considerable time, and, if the war should continue, there is no question that she will be able to borrow further.

When it was about concluded to borrow, Japan decided that it would be best for her own interest and fairer to those making the loans to give special security, said M. Takahashi, and she can continue to do that, pledging railways and public works. Japan's profits from railways are more than $5,000,000 annually; her profits from the tobacco monopoly are more than $15,000,000, from the camphor monopoly over $500,000, making in all security to a very large sum. Besides, the land and income taxes allow of a large increase.

Asked whether Japan would have to borrow should peace be declared, M. Takahashi answered in the affirmative, pointing out that large sums would be necessary for the development of Formosa, Corea and Hokkaido. Should Japan be intrusted with protection over Manchuria until China was in a position to give effectual protection, he continued, it would be necessary to put out a considerable sum. Besides, it would be of the utmost importance that Japan pay the loans raised at home, as the return of this money would result in stimulating trade and the development of the country.

Should an indemnity be paid by Russia, M. Takahashi concluded, it could be used to pay off the internal loans and provide for the winding up of the war, but there would still be a large sum required for the development of Japan and her dependencies.

MAKE ALL GIVE ACCOUNT

Suit Against Equitable Directors Will Begin Next Week.

ALBANY, N. Y., July 28.—Attorney-General Mayer stated positively tonight that the omnibus suit against members of the old board of directors of the Equitable Society to compel an accounting of their trust, especially where there has been a wasting of the funds of the society, will be commenced next week.

MUTUAL RESERVE DENIES ALL

Answer of Life Insurance Company to Vanderpoel Charges.

NEW YORK, July 28.—The policy-holders of the Mutual Reserve Life Insurance Company have received a statement from the board of directors of the company, which apparently was made as a public reply to the report of the examination by the New York State Insurance Department, which was printed today. Chief Insurance Examiner Vanderpoel in his report charged the Mutual Reserve Company with concealment of judgments against the company amounting to $182,767, exaggeration of its surplus by over $200,000 and a fixed policy of delay in settling claims.

A statement issued by the company today declares that there is not a single fact to support the allegations of the Insurance department that payments are delayed, and adds a table of figures to show that gross assets exceed gross liabilities by $74,497 more than did the company's statement of December 1, 1894. The report says that during 1902, 1903 and 1904 the company has paid in cash on death claims $7,027,814.

Morton Discharges Haynes.

NEW YORK, July 28.—Paul Morton, president of the Equitable Life Assurance Society, today notified Archibald C. Haynes, a leading general agent of the Equitable Society in New York City, that his contract with the Equitable was terminated. Mr. Haynes resigned some time ago. It is said that about $700,000 has been advanced to Mr. Haynes by the society, but that this will be offset by his interest in renewals.

ATTEMPTS NEW OUTRAGE

Negro Murderer Escapes From a Swamp and Seizes Little Girl.

PLAINFIELD, N. J., July 28.—A negro believed to be Charles Long, who murdered Matthew Cunningham, of Trenton, and later escaped from Dismal Swamp, in South Plainfield, attempted today to carry off one of the little girls of a fresh-air camp at Netherwood.

The negro failed in his attempt to get away with the girl, although he dragged her screaming into the woods. There he was forced to leave her and flee for safety.

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WOULD ABSORB ANOTHER ROAD

Harriman Wants to Gather Illinois Central Into His System.

IS LARGEST STOCKHOLDER

With Bankers and Securities Company, He Almost Controls, but Vanderbilts, Astors and Illinois May Interfere.

CHICAGO, Ill., July 28.—(Special.)—Startling reports were in circulation today regarding the Illinois Central and its future. It was stated that the Union Pacific is after it and wishes to consolidate it with the Harriman system proper.

While the Illinois Central is probably regarded as a Harriman road, it is really and always has been an entirely independent system, but the day's report credits Harriman with the desire to have it surrender its independence and become an integral part of his system. It is stated that he has offered to lease the road and to give its stockholders 8 per cent on their holdings. The road has been paying 6 per cent, but during the current year has declared two extra dividends of ½ of 1 per cent each, which practically places it upon a 7 per cent basis. Doubtless a reliable guaranty of 8 per cent would prove attractive to many of its stockholders.

Has Opposition to Ambition.

It is known that E. H. Harriman has wished to control the Illinois Central for over a year, when it was found that he had bought enough stock to be the largest individual stockholder. As he is in absolute control of the Union Pacific system, it was thought a natural sequence that he would in time form some sort of an alliance between the two systems. But in this he has been strongly opposed by the Vanderbilts and the Astors, who are represented on the board of directors, although, it is said, President Fish has from the start leaned toward Harriman.

There is another vital consideration in that the Governor of Illinois is also ipso facto a member of the board of directors and that the State of Illinois must needs be considered in any deal of the kind discussed in La Salle street today.

Evidence Harriman Was Buying.

Circumstantial evidence of what Harriman was trying to do was had a few months ago, when the Union Pacific authorized an increase of $100,000,000 in its preferred stock. This very large increase was not understood at the time, but subsequent developments indicated the intention; it was to exchange the shares of the Illinois Central for the Union Pacific at a certain pro rata with the idea of controlling the Illinois Central, or else to turn over a large equity of the latter to the Union Pacific, using the Union Pacific's additional preferred shares as reimbursement.

Since Mr. Harriman was found to be the largest stockholder, Kuhn, Loeb & Co., Harriman's financial backers, have been steadily accumulating Illinois Central stock. It was seen that on all week days Illinois Central always was the single issue that remained strong, the exception being explained by the steady accumulations that were going on. This week, while the reports from New Orleans regarding yellow fever were so alarming, Illinois Central, instead of being adversely affected, rose rapidly, pursuant to the tremendous buying that was going on. Yesterday, in the last hour of the session, the shares rose 3 points. Today in the two first hours they jumped from 172¼ to 175½.

Securities Company as Go-Between.

Besides the personal holdings of E. H. Harriman and Kuhn, Loeb & Co., it is said that the Illinois Central values held by the Railroad Securities Company will be turned over to the Union Pacific. This Railroad Securities Company was organized in 1896 by Harriman, originally under the name of the American Securities Investment Company, but nothing was done with it until 1900, when the name was changed to the present title. It was given out at the time that the object for which the concern was formed was to purchase and hold railroad securities; the capital was $20,000,000, divided into $10,000,000 of preferred and $10,000,000 of common, of which $2,300,000 of the preferred and $5,300,000 of the common have been issued. It was found, however, that the real object of the organization was to deposit 80,000 shares of Illinois Central stock, against which bonds were put up. E. H. Harriman, Stuyvesant Fish, J. W. Harriman and Otto H. Kuhn, (the last named a partner in Kuhn, Loeb & Co.), control the company, all of whose assets, it was said today, will be turned over to the Union Pacific.

While railroad men and brokers here doubt that Harriman will be able absolutely to put Illinois Central under the control of his Union Pacific system, because of the opposition of the Vanderbilts, the Astors and the difficulties which the State of Illinois itself might present, it is conceded that the Union Pacific's equity will be so large that the Western road will practically dominate the Illinois Central.

May Build Philippine Roads.

Harriman arrived in the city today, accompanied by Mrs. Harriman and a party of friends, and for several hours he was in conference with E. P. Ripley and other railway officials. It was said Mr. Harriman intends to investigate the conditions surrounding the building of the Government railroad in the Philippines, and to that end he will leave for Manila after staying in San Francisco for a few days. Mr. Harriman declined to talk with newspaper men "about railroads, insurance, rate legislation or anything else." He left for the Coast this evening.

GOVERNMENT PAYS COST

Bodies of Bennington's Victims Will Be Sent Home.

SAN DIEGO, Cal., July 28.—The bodies of the Bennington's victims, who were buried in the military cemetery on Point Loma, are not to remain where they were laid with impressive ceremonies. Now that they are at rest, the officials have discovered that after the Maine disaster Congress enacted a law, providing for the transmission of the bodies of dead sailors to their homes. After the explosion the undertakers telegraphed to the nearest relatives of the dead with instructions regarding the disposition of the remains. In many cases answers were made that the bodies should be shipped at the Government's expense. Accordingly the bodies of the 49 boys were interred, unembalmed, in the little burial ground on the hill. Now Paymaster Morris is telegraphing to relatives that upon request the bodies will be disinterred and sent home at the expense of the Government. So far such requests have come for two of the bodies, and it is likely that a majority of them will be exhumed and sent away.

Among the bodies to be buried, those of the following have just been sent away: C. L. Burns, to Chicago; Andrew Kamerer, of Londonville; Joseph Newcome, to Quincy, Mass.; Emil Dresch, to Newark, N. J.; Clive W. Brockman, to Des Moines, Ia.; William Fickweiler, to La Porte, Ind.; John C. Barchus, to Clarinda, Ia. Charles O. McKeon's remains will be forwarded to Fenton, Mich., this evening.

The condition of the injured at the private hospitals shows little change except that C. Schultz has recovered sufficiently to be removed to the Barracks Hospital and W. A. Holley is improving. A. J. Worthen is holding his own. D. Sullivan has a fighting chance and D. R. McClintock and Harvey C. Dean are doing well. P. Nieman, G. H. Hallett, F. G. Muller and L. A. Greise are classed as most seriously ill at present. Skin grafting will have to be performed on about 15 of the wounded men.

At St. Paul's Episcopal Church, at 10:30 o'clock this morning, was held the funeral of Ensign Newman K. Perry, the only officer who lost his life. Rev. J. A. M. Richey was in charge, assisted by Bishop J. H. Johnson, of Los Angeles, and Captain Stone, of the flagship Chicago. Commander Young and officers and men of the Bennington, officers and men from the Chicago, active and retired Army officers, Councilmen, heads of city departments, companions of the military order of Loyal Legion; officers from Fort Rosecrans, officers of the Naval Reserve, local Federal officials and officers and members of the Chamber of Commerce were present. The general public was not admitted, owing to the limited capacity of the church. The remains will be taken to Stockbridge, Mass., for interment, leaving here tomorrow afternoon.

COURT OF INQUIRY ORDERED

Navy Department Assigns Three Officers to Bennington Case.

WASHINGTON, July 28.—The Navy Department today at the request of Rear-Admiral Goodrich, ordered Captain Moore, Commander of the cruiser Chicago at San Diego, and Captain Thomas Phelps, stationed at San Francisco, to report to the Rear-Admiral at San Diego for duty. Commodore Stevenson, retired, was ordered from San Francisco yesterday. It is indicated that these three officers, with a junior officer as recorder, will compose the court of inquiry into the Bennington disaster.

Dispatches received at the Navy Department today from San Diego said that the examination of the outside of the hull of the Bennington had been completed and showed it to be intact. Regarding the condition of the injured, the last dispatch says:

"Patients doing well; no deaths since last report."

AMERICANS CRY "BANZAI"

Exchange of Toasts Between Taft Party and Japanese Officials.

TOKIO, July 28.—General Terauchi, Japanese Minister of War, entertained Secretary Taft and party today at a luncheon and garden party in the famous gardens surrounding the arsenal. The Cabinet, elder statesmen and many officers of the army and navy were present. The party numbered 250.

Lunch was served in a temporary pavilion, which was almost covered with American and Japanese flags. General Terauchi escorted Miss Alice Roosevelt and Mme. Terauchi was escorted by Secretary Taft. President Roosevelt was toasted by General Terauchi, who also led the cheering for him. When Minister Griscom proposed the health of the Emperor of Japan, the Americans present arose and gave three banzais and three American cheers. General Terauchi proposed the health of Secretary Taft and Miss Roosevelt.

Secretary Taft, in toasting the Japanese army, dwelt chiefly on its record in the Chinese war and the Boxer uprising, and on questions connected with its organization and leadership. He did not refer to the present war.

Both Minister Griscom and Secretary Taft heartily thanked the Japanese for their kindness. The Secretary eulogized Griscom's services as Minister. Marquis Ito then chanted an Oriental poem composed in honor of the visit of the Americans.

After the lunch, an hour was spent in viewing the extensive gardens.

BANQUET IS GIVEN BRYAN

Tells Wisconsin Democrats He Will Absorb Foreign Ideas.

MADISON, Wis., July 28.—Wisconsin Democrats to the number of 500 tonight gave a banquet to William J. Bryan. Several Republicans were also present. The guest of the evening was received with tremendous cheers, which continued several minutes.

During his speech Mr. Bryan said he intended to take an extended European trip, and for that reason he heartily appreciated the present opportunity to present ideas and principles of the Democratic party. He maintained that the question of politics was the overwhelming one just now. He said that he wanted a long foreign trip in order to bring back what he could to promote good government.

T. E. Ryan, Democratic National committeeman, proposed Bryan for the Presidency in 1908.

Kaiser Going to Copenhagen.

COPENHAGEN, July 28.—It is semi-officially announced that Emperor William will arrive here during the afternoon of July 31.

THREE MORE DIE OF YELLOW FEVER

Disease in New Orleans Almost Confined to the Italian Colony.

FUGITIVES SPREAD PLAGUE

Cases Appear at Scattered Louisiana Towns and at Tampa—War on Mosquitoes—Quarantine in Central America.

PROGRESS OF YELLOW FEVER.

NEW ORLEANS, La., July 28.—The following report as to the progress of yellow fever in New Orleans is up to 6 P. M. today:

New cases, 21.

Total cases to date, 227.

Deaths today, 3.

Deaths to date, 47.

New foci, 8.

Of the deaths today one occurred at the Emergency Hospital and was one of the cases transfered there yesterday.

The institution has now 19 cases under treatment and today discharged its first patient as cured.

NEW ORLEANS, July 28.—Although the unofficial reports made public today showed a larger number of deaths than yesterday, there were only three, and the appearance of a number of new cases. The men of science who are warring against the yellow fever plague ended the day's labors confident that the situation was still well in hand and with no immediate prospect of becoming alarming.

Today's official report of yesterday's progress of the disease shows that the entire section above Canal street was free from a single new case, and that the fever was spreading only in the poorer habitations of the down-town section, with new cases isolated except in the heart of the French Market quarter. The health authorities continued to hold also that the plague remains an Italian infection, all except two of the 26 cases reported today being of that nationality. Almost without exception since the beginning of the fever, those who have fallen victims to the disease have been of the poorer classes, many of them not long residents of the United States, and therefore unacclimated.

Today's deaths have been principally of Italians. The first death in the emergency hospital occurred today. The hospital was opened yesterday with 13 cases, and an equal number was added today. Into the hospital are being sent the worst cases. It is, therefore, expected that the mortality in this direction will be unusually high.

Many Cases Recovering.

So thorough has been the inspection of the city that it is believed that every existing case has been found, and is now included in the 305 cases which have been announced. Many of these are on the road to recovery, and it is expected that with the perfect scientific treatment that has been arranged for there will be a reduced mortality rate which in the early stages of the disease has been admittedly high.

The most annoying feature of the situation now is the disposition of practically every town in adjoining states to tighten the quarantine against the city. That is due to the feeling beyond the city that 200 cases means a serious situation, and the fact that the escape of Italians from the infected French market center has resulted in the appearance of cases of fever at various points.

One case has been reported at Tampa, Fla., of an Italian refugee from New Orleans, and there were reported cases in Louisiana, La Fourche, Ascension, St. Mary and Plaquemine Parishes. Shotguns are now being put on public roads in parishes outside of New Orleans to turn back every Italian who makes his appearance, and the bars have been put up all over the state against that nationality. Two Italians who managed to board a Mississippi Valley train yesterday were locked in a car which was sidetracked at Baton Rouge last night, and sent back to New Orleans today.

Quarantine in Foreign Lands.

The Morgan line steamer Excelsior, whose passengers were detained at Havana, brought news on her arrival here that Cuba is to send a commission of yellow fever experts to study local conditions in New Orleans. Other points in the country are also to be visited.

Meantime the advices received through the Associated Press of quarantines put on by the Central and South American countries and the Indies against New Orleans are arousing the population to a supreme effort to wipe out the infection. It is known now that Havana, Costa Rica, Vera Cruz, Tampico and other former centers of yellow fever are taking precautions to protect themselves against communication with New Orleans. Nicaragua, however, is an exception, and her Consul has informed the authorities here that no bar will be up against the city. There is little advantage in that, however. The sentiment here at present is strongly in favor of minimizing the danger of further infections from ports where fruit steamers touch, and practically all lines have determined to send their steamers elsewhere.

The system of inspection which went into effect today contemplates a visit to every house in the city, so that no case of sickness may escape detection. The city has been divided into a large number of

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