The Oregonian

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PORTLAND, THURSDAY, DEC. 13, 1906.

CONCERNING HERETICS.

The condemnation of Dr. Crapsey for heresy and his final retirement from the Episcopalian ministry have reawakened discussion of the question whether heresy trials benefit or injure the cause of religion. Many devout people feel serious misgivings upon the subject. They incline to the opinion that the loss from such disturbances of the peace of the religious world exceeds the gain. This, for example, is the view of Dr. Henry Preserved Smith, himself a famous heretic, who speaks from sad experience. In The Independent for December 6 Dr. Smith points out that a heresy trial almost necessarily results in a conviction because it turns on ecclesiastical law and according to the strict letter of the law of any and every church a man who departs from the straight limits of the creed is a heretic and merits whatever penalty the church is able to inflict.

In the strict course of legality every church is absolutely bound to an inflexible creed and to an unchanging interpretation of it. Progress is always unlawful from the ecclesiastical point of view. It is also illogical; for each denomination claims to have found a system of eternal truth, and to speak of improving such truth is absurd. One might as well try to improve the rule for finding the area of a circle or the Pythagorean theorem. If the creeds of the churches were true a thousand years ago they are true today. The progress of science and the advancement of the human mind have nothing to do with the question. Progress and advancement have never disturbed Archimedes' rule for finding specific gravities. It is accepted today exactly as he laid it down, and it will continue to be thus accepted until the end of time.

To be definite, if the statement that Jesus was born of a virgin was ever true it is still true. The lapse of time cannot affect it any more than it can affect other historical facts. A man either believes it or he disbelieves it. There is no middle course possible. One cannot say that he believed Columbus discovered America in 1492 in a symbolical or ethical sense while he denies it as an actual event. Neither can Dr. Crapsey honestly say that he believes Jesus was born of a virgin spiritually while at the same time he does not believe it physically. The proposition is clear, definite and unmistakable. Either Jesus had an earthly father or he had not. Dr. Crapsey believes that he had an earthly father. The church believes that he had not. To reconcile these two views is impossible. The attempt to do so is sheer word juggling which conduces neither to intellectual profit nor spiritual edification.

From the ecclesiatical point of view the man who accepts progressive opinions is both illegal and illogical. Truth cannot progress. New truth can be discovered; but no new truth can be discovered which conflicts with old truth. When such a case seems to arise it is because either the new or the old is not truth. Between the two propositions, both of which are true, conflict is impossible. The statement that Jesus was born of a virgin must be accepted exactly as it reads or it cannot be accepted at all. It is true or it is false, and there the matter must end for an honest mind. A church which permits its ministers to modify its creed thereby tacitly admits that it has not received a system of eternal truth. To tolerate the slightest taint of doubt upon a single article of a creed is to confess the invalidity of the whole. No creed is stronger than its weakest part. The origin of its every statement is identical. It all comes from the same source. That source is supposed to be the Almighty. He is said to have revealed the creed, not some fractions of it, but the whole of it. Every item stands on the same basis. The authority of each and every part is the same. It must stand or fall in its entirety. The Almighty in making a revelation cannot be supposed to exhibit a set of statements some of which are true and some false. If some parts of the creed are false, which ones are they? Had the Almighty done such an incredible thing as to intermingle truth and falsehood in our creeds, surely he would have given us some means of discriminating between them. He would not have left such a very important matter to the fallible and uncertain intellects of our Crapseys and Preserved Smiths.

That the dogma of the virgin birth is an essential part of the Episcopalian creed the church authorities all agree. Even Dr. Briggs, of Union Theological Seminary, another distinguished heretic, asserts unequivocally that such is the fact. Dr. Crapsey denies the virgin birth. He says that Jesus must have had an earthly father. The church says one thing. Dr. Crapsey says the opposite. The church declares that its view comes directly from the Almighty. Dr. Crapsey makes no such claim for his opinion. He quotes no higher authority for it than the fallible human intellect. The antagonism between him and the church is flagrant and irreconcilable. In denying one item of the creed he denies the whole, for he impeaches its inspiration. The church does well, therefore, to speed his departure, and, one is constrained to add, he does well to take it.

FRANCHISE-GRABBERS IN PORTLAND.

Two sets of franchise-grabbers have "buncoed" Portland in the last three years—the one home talent, the other imported from Los Angeles. The purposes of each were the same—to capitalize for millions of dollars the free-granted use of the streets, sell out and put the millions in their pockets. Home talent "turned the trick" and cleaned up $4,000,000. The Los Angeles talent was "frozen out" after securing the franchises, and is in a fair way to be beaten out of $100,000 which it put into the scheme and $100,000 bond which it gave the city.

The strangers from California imagined Portland was "easy." And so it was, as the franchise loot of the local grabbers made evident. But in supposing themselves the equal of the Portland plutocrats and scions of first families, who put the $4,000,000 job through the City Council and the State Legislature, they erred. The home gang contained artists more finished. They knew how to play the game of filching franchises from the public, under the guise of disinterestedness and righteousness and of "realizing" the profits. While the imported stock evidently knew some of the tricks of "buncoing" a City Council, they were not clever enough in other respects to "make good." They have nothing, while home talent has a princely sum of money.

And now what is it natural to expect that the local grabbers are saying? That the Los Angeles men were moneyless sharpers? That the scheme of the strangers was to grab franchises and sell out? That they city has been "taken in" by mountebanks? That the Council and the Mayor should have known better than to allow the public to be thus outraged? Yes, these are the sentiments of the $4,000,000-grab plutocrats. It's a case of the pot calling the kettle black.

Evidently they think the public has forgotten their grab and their deals with the Matthews political machine in the Portland Council and the Oregon Legislature. The blanket franchises put through the City Council in December, 1902, and January, 1903; delay in enactment of the new charter in the Legislature in January, 1903, until one of them should pass the Council and the Mayor, in order to escape restrictions of the new charter; consequent consolidation of the two streetcar systems and high capitalization of the franchises; election of A. L. Mills to the Legislature, through a deal with the Matthews machine, and to the Speakership in January, 1905, in order to secure enactment of a law validating the franchise transfers thus far made; and then the sale of the consolidated car system in June, 1905, for $6,000,000—of which $4,000,000 was for franchises—these matters and their many details are not forgotten. Portland has been "worked to a finish" by franchise-mongers. Home grabbers have proved themselves no better than imported ones; in fact, the public has suffered more from the local brand.

The city will have a claim against the United Railways and its bondsmen for $100,000 penalty, should it not carry out its franchise contract. The city will proceed to collect, in that event, and should do so. But it has no way of collecting penalty from the men who pocketed the $4,000,000 at its expense.

MONEY TIGHT, SECRETARY EASY.

In his congratulatory letter to Secretary Shaw the President says:

> People tend to forget year by year that the Secretary of the Treasury stands between them and business disaster. This report of yours shows how every year some crisis has occurred which might have had the most serious effects if it had not been met just as you met it.

This statement appeared in a Washington dispatch printed on the fourth page in yesterday's Oregonian. On the fifteenth page of the same issue it was announced in the market reports that the New York stock market was booming in response to the relief given by the Secretary of the Treasury. In other words, the Wall-street gamblers who had "overplayed" themselves and had been driven to the high-priced money sharks for call loans at enormous rates were, with the aid of the Secretary of the Treasury, enabled to continue their plunging. The legitimate operations of trade and finance very seldom, if ever, bring about such a "crisis" as Secretary Shaw is complimented for relieving. Instead they are brought about by overspeculation by gamblers.

No business man engaged in legitimate buying and selling of any commodity can stand the strain of call money at from 10 to 50 per cent, and even higher, as is not infrequently the case when an active market is in evidence. But the stock gambler, who buys and sells on margins, is no more appalled by such rates than he would be if he were borrowing this call money for the purpose of playing faro bank, where 100 per cent profit is a certainty if one is lucky enough to win. The people that profit by the accommodating system followed by Secretary Shaw do not "tend to forget" that the Secretary stands between them and business disaster. On the contrary, they know almost to a certainty that he can be depended upon to come to their relief.

It has been openly charged by the New York papers on nearly every occasion when there is a stringency in the money market that some of the heaviest financial institutions in the street aid in bringing on these flurries by calling in 6 and 7 per cent loans in the morning and with the stringency thus created relending their funds at exorbitant advances later in the day. These artificially created crises are unworthy of the assistance of the Government, and when assistance is given them it acts as encouragement for illegitimate speculation. On more than one occasion it has been reported that the Government would relieve the stringency by the redemption of a portion of the 1907 4 per cents. As these are not very attractive holdings in prosperous times, when money, even for legitimate enterprise, is in demand at good rates, there are certain interests in Wall street that would like to unload on the Government and would do all in their power to create the emergency which could be used as an excuse for redeeming these bonds with interest not yet earned.

Aside from every other consideration, it is not at all in keeping with American policy that one man should have such enormous power as to admit of his juggling the vast wealth of the National Treasury as Secretary Shaw must when he "stands between them (the people) and business disaster." The United States is in need of a more flexible currency and a less flexible Secretary of the Treasury.

ANOTHER DREAMER.

More than most men of his generation Mr. Roosevelt has reason to agree with the Psalmist's cry that all men are liars. No sooner does he convict one double-tongued rogue than another appears. Judge Parker, late Democratic candidate for President, is the last to enter the lists and compete for the laurels of Ananias.

He found his opportunity in a rumor that Mr. Roosevelt wishes the Republican campaign committee to make restitution of the contributions which it received from the insurance companies. Mr. Parker takes this as an admission from the President that the committee received such contributions, and thereupon he deftly slips in his fairy tale. The Judge says that he charged the committee with receiving these contributions during the campaign and that Mr. Roosevelt then solemnly denied it.

As a matter of fact, nothing of the kind happened, as the New York Tribune clearly points out. Mr. Parker charged, not that the committee was receiving contributions from corporations, but that it was using the power of the Department of Commerce and Labor to blackmail the corporations, which seems to be something very different. Nor did Mr. Roosevelt deny that the corporations had contributed to the campaign fund, though he did emphatically deny the accusation of profiting by blackmail.

There has been more or less evidence heretofore that Judge Parker's conscience is of the strictly legal variety. It permits him to do or say anything whatever that will benefit his clients, and among his clients he includes himself. Perhaps it is natural for him to cherish resentment against the man who defeated him so badly, but he is unwise to permit his anger to betray him into falsehood; for in our day the liar and the scandal-monger have met with no more courageous and determined foe than our valiant President.

NEW BANKING LAW.

The bitter experience which Oregon suffered through the laxity of our banking laws, or, to be more accurate, the absence of any laws governing the operation of the custodians of the people's funds, has not yet been forgotten, and there will accordingly be considerable interest taken in the new bill which will be presented at the forthcoming session of the Legislature. The necessity for close supervision of banking operations is much greater during prosperous times like those with which we are now favored than it is when money is less plentiful and the speculative fever less rampant. The average man is inclined to optimism, and for that reason during times of "easy money" is prone to take chances which a little more stringency in the laws would make impossible.

There is, of course, a much greater degree of solidity and permanency in the present prosperity than in any previous era of good times, but that does not obviate the necessity for providing a law which will minimize the chances which both the banks and the speculators are taking. The bill proposed by the Oregon Bankers' Association has been sent over the state for the consideration of the bankers as well as others who are interested, and between now and the time final action is necessary there ought to be a pretty definite knowledge as to its merits or demerits and plenty of time for correcting any defects which may be pointed out. An exceptionally valuable feature of the proposed law is the clause which forbids the loaning of money by any bank to any officer or employe of the bank without approval of a majority of the directors or the executive committee, and in case of dishonesty each approving director is made personally liable for the shortage.

Another excellent provision against real estate speculation with bank funds is found in the clause which prohibits the purchase and sale of real estate only under certain conditions, which are such as to eliminate most of the risk attached to such real estate speculation. Severe penalties are provided for breaches of commercial faith in the handling of banking funds, and to all appearances the law as now outlined will be of material aid in protecting both banks and their patrons.

INCREASING MEAT TRADE.

Numerous experiments conducted at agricultural colleges in the West have demonstrated beyond question that whenever the price of wheat declines below 60 cents per bushel there is more profit in feeding it to hogs when the market for pork is normal than in selling it as wheat. By some authorities the figure is placed much higher, some experiments in this state a few years ago proving that with hogs selling around 6 cents per pound wheat was worth, for fattening purposes, nearly 90 cents per bushel—a figure much above the average for the past dozen years. That the advantage of feeding cereals to livestock and then marketing the stock is becoming more fully realized by the farmers of the entire country is shown by the official figures on the exports of meat and dairy products for the year now drawing to a close.

Exports of these products will this year, for the first time on record, exceed $250,000,000, a gain of more than 60 per cent in ten years. That this heavy gain in meat products is largely due to the increased amount of feeding of cereals is demonstrated quite clearly by the fact that the decline in shipments of breadstuffs has been in similar ratio to the increase in shipments of meat and dairy products. In 1898 this country exported breadstuffs to the value of $334,000,000, but for the twelve months now nearly closed the total will barely reach $200,000,000. There is, of course, comparatively little feeding of wheat to hogs in the Middle West, where low rates to the seaboard and a good milling demand enable farmers to get the best possible prices, but throughout the corn belt there is an increasing amount of corn converted into pork. Our exports of corn ran up as high as $209,000,000 in 1893, and from the same figure in 1900 dwindled to less than 100,000,000 bushels, although last year's enormous crop brought the exports for the fiscal year ending June 30 up to 117,000,000 bushels, an amount considerably in excess of that which will be shown in the final returns for the calendar year now ending.

That the size of the crop and the prices paid have not been factors of consequence in influencing this change in the form of marketing the corn is clearly illustrated by the average price of the grain, which in 1898 and 1899, when exports were heaviest, was but 36 and 39 cents per bushel, while this year the average export price has been hovering around 50 cents per bushel. The results in this change in the methods of marketing the greatest crop in the country could not be otherwise than to the advantage of the farmers. It has enabled them to get the products of their corn fields to market in a far more economical manner from the freight standpoint than by the old method of paying freight on a vastly greater bulk of corn before it is transformed into pork or dairy products.

It also enables the American packers to give employment to an increased number of operatives. The United States can well afford to drop out of the ranks of large grain exporting countries if by so doing we can make such astonishing gains in other directions. Our farmers as well as the country as a whole will be much better off when all of our corn is exported in the form of meat products and all of our wheat that is not needed at home goes out in the form of flour.

Captain Bodfish, of the whaler William Baylies, has been acquitted in Seattle, where he was on trial for murdering a sailor in the far north. Another charge of cruelty to a seaman awaits him, but as he has escaped conviction on the more serious charge, it is hardly probable that he will be troubled by the other. There was more than a smattering of truth in Rudyard Kipling's sealer's observation that "never a law of God or man got north of fifty-three," and some drastic punishment is undoubtedly administered by brutal captains. It should be remembered, however—and the Federal Court at Seattle has probably made due allowance for the fact—that loving words and pink-tea etiquette are hardly the proper things to use with such men as go before the mast on whaling voyages. The character or the disposition of any man is not improved by being cooped up for months and years in the ill-smelling forecastle of a whaler, and stern discipline is necessary to keep some of them in check.

It is evident that the Oregon City School Board intends to impress on the youth of its industrious town that a "licking" is no every-day affair. Under the new ruling the bad boy must wait till the next day to receive it, and then only at the hands of the superintendent and in the presence of witnesses. How times have changed since the rod and arithmetic went hand in hand toward the moral and intellectual uplift of the Nation. Discipline is necessary, now as then. Parents are often delinquent, oftener easygoing and careless. Still the formal sentence of a refractory boy to punishment by the tawse, and its more formal execution, is tinged with too deep a shade of humiliation always to have a salutary effect. Prompt whipping as the natural sequence of disobedience, and no fuss about it, served the past generation quite as well as the newer method promises to serve the young Americans now in knee breeches.

The German Reichstag is confronted with the problem whether or not it is best to maintain a large fighting force in Southwest Africa. The conservative element, which is not impressed with the value of some of the Emperor's territorial possessions in distant lands, seeks to reduce the force in Southwest Africa from 12,000 to 2500 men. As the latter number would be insufficient to cope with the natives, the Emperor demands that the necessary appropriations for the larger number be forthcoming. There are a great many black men in Darkest Africa who would probably live just as well and die just as happy had they never been discovered by Germany or any other European power. For this reason, the withdrawal of the German troops will not cause weeping and wailing among the African natives.

Congressman Cushman's bill of fare for luncheon to the Alaska delegates shows his democratic tastes. Corn beef and cabbage is a wholesome, nourishing, inexpensive dish. Our Washington dispatches very properly specified a part of the menu, but there is significant silence concerning oyster cocktails or the liquid variety.

It must be gratifying to every American to learn officially that no death has occurred on the Panama Canal work since last July. We have learned a lot from the Japanese on the subject of sanitation. Here is one reason for the immunity from fatal disease.

Through the high rates for fire insurance Portland is helping domestic and foreign corporations to pay for San Francisco losses. In common with the remainder of the country, we will probably have to meet the assessment several years.

Some humorous real estate man suggests that Seattle and Portland work together for each other's interests. When the Columbia River bridge at Vancouver is finished, why not consolidate the two cities under the name of Utopia?

For scientific research next year, the Carnegie Institute has appropriated $660,000. Why not devote a part of it to teaching hens to lay one egg a day when the product sells at 45 cents a dozen?

The Government has bought a war balloon whose capacity is 80,000 cubic feet of gas. Some such thing has been needed since Colonel James Hamilton Lewis left Washington.

Good luck to the Pacific Ocean Exposition to be held in San Francisco in 1913. Its greatest exhibit will be the new San Francisco.

In holding up confirmation of Cabinet appointments, is the Senate trying to discipline the President?

Full franchise for the Porto Ricans? President Roosevelt says they know how to use it, but do they?

COVERS GRAFTERS' TRACKS

Nebogatoff Court-Martial Excludes Evidence Ships Were Rotten.

ST. PETERSBURG, Dec. 12.—Vice-Admiral Rojestvensky was placed on the stand today in the trial by court-martial of Rear-Admiral Nebogatoff, in an attempt to bring out testimony as to the unfitness for battle of Nebogatoff's squadron, which the defense hitherto had vainly endeavored to introduce.

The anticipated sensational charges of fraud in the building and fitting out of the ships were barred by a ruling of the court that all evidence before the day of the Battle of the Sea of Japan was incompetent and counsel for Nebogatoff was unable to establish any defectiveness in the Russian shells or ammunition. When Rojestvensky was asked if, in view of the condition of Nebogatoff's squadron, any alternative but surrender was possible, he requested permission not to reply.

Death Sentence on Rebel Leaders.

EKATERINOSLAV, South Russia, Dec. 12.—Courtmartial here today imposed the death sentence on eight leaders of the armed uprising of December last, the object of which was the establishment of a military republic in Ekaterinoslav Province. Many others who participated in the revolt were condemned to the mines for life.

SEATTLE TO GRAY'S HARBOR

Company Asks Franchise and Will Build Electric Road.

ABERDEEN, Wash., Dec. 12.—(Special.)—All rumors of a possible electric road from Gray's Harbor to Puget Sound were made clear tonight by the introduction in the Council of an ordinance asking for franchises for streets on the South Side for the Puget Sound Electric Railway Company. The company has surveyed a route to Tacoma and Seattle and has secured the right of way. Thirty acres of land was recently purchased here for terminals.

Gray's Harbor, Seattle and Tacoma capitalists are back of the proposition. The ordinance will be considered at a special meeting of the Council tomorrow.

Dairymen Elect Officers.

ASHLAND, Or., Dec. 12.—(Special.)—E. T. Judd, of Marion County, was elected president of the Oregon Dairymen's Association at today's session. A. T. Buxton, of Washington County, was chosen first vice-president, and D. Perrozi of Ashland, second vice-president. F. L. Kent was re-elected secretary and treasurer. There was a largely increased attendance at today's session, which concluded the 15th annual meeting.

The feature of the day's meeting was the address by E. H. Webster, of the dairy division of the Department of Agriculture at Washington. He urged the dairymen of Oregon to improve their dairy herds by using the best stock obtainable to make the greatest possible profits out of the great dairying industry in this state.

Conference of Grainbuyers.

BERLIN, Dec. 12.—As a consequence of the international movement among buyers of American grain to compel American sellers to change the terms of the standard grain contract, representatives of the German, Belgian, Spanish and Swedish Chambers of Commerce met on the Bourse here today to consider taking common action. The idea is to make American sellers responsible for the laying down of merchantable grain at European ports, instead of, as in the standard contracts, placing the loss upon the European buyer if the grain arrives in bad condition. The controversy turns principally upon corn, although wheat is also considered. It was decided to confer with the British Chamber of Commerce.

Gillette Taken to Prison.

HERKIMER, N. Y., Dec. 12.—Chester E. Gillette was taken from the jail today by Sheriff Klock and a deputy and started for Auburn State Prison at noon. While waiting at the railroad station, Gillette was surrounded by a crowd.

Mrs. Gillette consented to remain behind to avoid possible scenes on the way and she was promised that she might visit her son tomorrow. She will go to Auburn tonight. Mrs. Gillette had a farewell breakfast with Chester in his cell and just at the close of the visit the mother became hysterical.

"I can stand it no longer," she shouted, and a guard led her to another part of the jail. An hour later she went back to her son's cell and bade him farewell.

Jews to Be Brought West.

CHICAGO, Dec. 12.—Realizing the necessity of doing something to relieve congested conditions of the Jewish quarters of Chicago, New York and other large cities, leading New York Jews are planning to divert Jewish immigration to the West.

Jacob Schiff, the New York banker, who is in Chicago at the present time, discussed the subject yesterday with Judge Julian W. Mack. The plan contemplates the organizing of an association to be financed by Mr. Schiff and other leading American Jews, which will undertake to send Jewish immigration to the South and to the extreme Western part of the country.

Forrester Will Surrender.

DENVER, Dec. 12.—Robert Forrester, geologist of the Utah Fuel Company, indicted by the Federal grand jury at Salt Lake in connection with alleged coal land frauds, arrived in Denver today and announced to reporters who called on him that he would surrender to the Federal authorities here and give bonds.

United States District Attorney Earl M. Cranston said this afternoon that he had been notified by attorneys for Mr. Forrester that he would surrender here and give bonds tomorrow morning.

Navy Needs More Drydocks.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 12.—In the opinion of Rear-Admiral Mordecai Endicott, Chief of the Bureau of Yards and Docks, whose annual report was made public today, there is urgent need for additional drydocks. The establishment of a docking station on the South Pacific Coast is again recommended. Admiral Endicott regards as the most important item in the bureau estimates the increase recommended for the maintenance of navy yards.

Christmas Gifts for Navy.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 12.—Christmas boxes and parcels for the enlisted men of the Navy serving in Cuban waters will be delivered without cost if they are addressed in charge of the depot Quartermaster, Newport News, Va. All such packages should be distinctly addressed and plainly marked "Christmas Package." Similar arrangements were recently made for the Philippine service.

Dangerous Counterfeit Issued.

NEW YORK, Dec. 12.—One of the best counterfeits that has recently come to the notice of the Government authorities found its way to the sub-Treasury yesterday. It is a $10 silver certificate bearing the Buffalo imprint. The back of the bill is even a closer counterfeit of the original bill than the face, but both are good enough to deceive any but experts.

EVADED WIDOW'S WILES.

Arizona Gold Mine Owner Pursued by Designing Woman.

CHICAGO, Dec. 12.—The Chronicle today says that the story of a man who has traveled half way around the world and most of the distance on foot to escape the wiles of a woman who he asserts has matrimonial aspirations in which he figures as the prospective husband was unfolded to the Chicago police yesterday.

The tale in which a flight from the United States to Germany and back to this country again was included, was related by John Novatne, half-owner of a gold mine near Prescott, Ariz. Novatne arrived in Chicago with but 15 cents in his pocket after having walked all but seven miles of the distance from New York. He is now 66 years of age; first came to the United States in 1897, and went immediately to the gold fields of Arizona, where, he asserts, he later acquired a half interest in one of the largest mines in that section. Then, according to his story, he returned to Austria, where he recounted his good fortune to relatives and friends. Again he came to the United States, but upon his second return to his native country Novatne's love affair began, as did also his subsequent financial misfortunes.

"I was in a cafe at Paris one night," he said yesterday, "when I made the acquaintance of a young woman—a widow—who at once fell desperately in love with me. I returned the affection at the time, but I soon grew suspicious, for she asked so many personal questions. She wanted to know the value of my mine, and wanted to know exactly how much money I was worth, then she suddenly proposed marriage. I was surprised at the offer, but she insisted. 'I will marry you whether you like it or not,' she said, but I decided right there that there would be no marriage, so I left."

The miner then told of his flight through various European countries, and of the pursuit of the widow. Finally he embarked on an American-bound steamer and arrived in New York last October. The day after landing he learned for the first time, he said, that the other person interested in his mine had defrauded him out of his share and had sold the property to a corporation.

The once-wealthy and much-sought-after passed the night on a cot at a municipal lodging-house. Today he says he will resume his long walk to Arizona, where he will seek to regain possession of his mine.

COVNENTION ON INSURANCE

Morton Summons Presidents to Confer on Reform.

NEW YORK, Dec. 12.—President Paul Morton, of the Equitable Life Assurance Society, has called a meeting of the presidents of more than 30 of the principal life insurance companies in the country to be held in New York City on December 21 to form an association. Among the reasons given by Mr. Morton for the organization are: To prevent extravagance and reduce expenses by encouraging uniformity of administration and to consider whether to advocate or oppose legislation.

Mr. Morton says he believes great improvements can be made in the administration of life insurance and its cost cheapened to the public.

INSPECT INSURANCE ELECTION

Factions Agree to Let State Superintendent Appoint.

NEW YORK, Dec. 12.—Ways and means for supervising the coming election of directors of the Mutual Life Insurance and the New York Life Insurance Companies were considered at a conference held at the New York office of the State Superintendent of Insurance.

Representatives of the Policyholders' Association suggested that the State Superintendent of Insurance appoint five insurance inspectors of election for each company. This arrangement was satisfactory to the various interests present, and the representatives of the companies and the Policyholders' Association agreed to submit lists of names of men who would be agreeable to them to serve as such inspectors.

PROVIDES FUND TO EXPAND

Great Northern Will Issue $60,000,000 in Preferred Stock.

NEW YORK, Dec. 12.—At a meeting of the directors of the Great Northern Railroad, it was voted to authorize an increase of $60,000,000 in preferred stock and to give stockholders the opportunity of subscribing therefor at par. Payments on new issues are to be at periods extending over two years, and on all such payments the company will pay interest at the rate of 5 per cent per annum until the full amount is subscribed for. The present amount of Great Northern stock outstanding is very nearly $150,000,000, so that the new issue, when it becomes stock, will bring the total amount up to $210,000,000. According to a statement given out today, the proceeds of the sale of the new stock are to be used "to pay for additional equipment, for addition to and improvements of existing lines and for acquisition, by purchase of their securities or otherwise, of such lines as the directors may decide to be necessary.

Close Congo Debate Friday.

BRUSSELS, Dec. 12.—Cloture will be applied next Friday to the debate in the Chamber of Deputies on the Congo Independent State, and the government will ask the Chamber to accept M. Huysman's motion favoring the annexation of the state and the recognition of the concessions granted in King Leopold's private domains.

COMMONS PICK UP GAUNTLET

Reject Lords' Amendments and War Between Houses Begins.

LONDON, Dec. 12.—The hostility between the House of Lords and the House of Commons has now reached an open stage. The lower house, after debating the matter all day, tonight rejected all of the amendments of the House of Lords to the education bill by a vote of 416 to 107, the Irish members voting with the government. On a motion by Augustine Birrell, President of the Board of Education, a committee was appointed to draw up the reasons for the rejection of the amendments.

The final scene was one of intense excitement. Lord Lansdowne, leader of the opposition in the upper chamber, and many other peers were in the galleries and listened to the concluding speeches.

Mr. Birrell, who throughout the debates has adopted a conciliatory attitude, repudiated on behalf of the government the idea of being offensive toward the peers.

Mr. Balfour, leader of the opposition, declared that the government's action was a challenge to the House of Lords. The method the government had adopted, he declared, left not the smallest hope for a compromise. Mr. Asquith, Chancellor of the Exchequer, with equal heat, retorted that if the bill was lost the responsibility for wrecking it would be with Mr. Balfour.

Amid the greatest excitement a division was called for, and the members of the House surged into the division lobbies. When the vote was announced there was great cheering by the government members.

TEST CASE ON AFRICAN COLONY

Kaiser Wants Reichstag Dissolved If Appropriation Is Rejected.

BERLIN, Dec. 12.—Emperor William has authorized Chancellor von Buelow to dissolve the Reichstag and order new elections if the supplementary appropriations asked for by the government are not granted by the House.

The question of the Reichstag appropriating enough money to keep the present army in German Southwest Africa in the field is, according to the conviction of the government, equivalent to the question whether the colony shall be given up or retained. An appeal to the country, if necessary, will be made on that issue, the government's position being that if the present garrison of German Southwest Africa is reduced from 12,000 to 2500 men, as the Center party and the extreme left contend should be done, the insurgent natives will obtain possession of the colony.

CONSTITUTION FOR TRANSVAAL

Recruiting of Chinese Labor to Cease Immediately.

LONDON, Dec. 12.—Letters patent were issued today granting a constitution to the Transvaal. The terms were fully outlined by Mr. Churchill, Under-Secretary for the Colonies, in the House of Commons July 31. There is no change in the provisions as finally approved by King Edward. Members of the Legislature will receive salaries of $1500 yearly.

Under the letters patent the recruiting of Chinese for work in the Transvaal will cease immediately and the entire system of Chinese labor must be stopped a year after the first meeting of the Legislature. The latter is given the right to put an end to the system earlier if it desired.

CAN LIVE ONLY FIVE DAYS

Shah Rallies After Relapse—People Indifferent to Illness.

TEHERAN, Persia, Dec. 12.—The condition of the Shah remains practically unchanged, although today he rallied slightly after yesterday's relapse. The condition of his heart and the repeated syncopes lead to the consensus of opinion that the Shah cannot live more than five days. The palace officials no longer conceal the seriousness of the situation.

Public business is proceeding as usual. Excepting perhaps his entourage and persons having intimate relations with the court, few people seem to be affected by the state of the Shah's health, and general indifference, if not apathy, extends even to Parliament.

RAISULI LEADS HOLY WAR

Calls on Moors to Arm Against Christian Invasion.

NEW YORK, Dec. 12.—A cable dispatch to the Times from Tangier states that at all the country markets within 30 miles public criers have announced an approaching Christian invasion and called upon the people to be prepared for a holy war. The cries stated that Raisuli would supply money, rifles and ammunition to all who did not possess them. This news created a profound impression.

Chinese Rebels Well Armed.

PEKIN, Dec. 12.—Confirmation reached Pekin today that the rebels who recently entered Ping Kiang, Province of Kiang Si, constitute a considerable, well organized force, equipped with modern weapons. They came from Konan Province. The movement, which is anti-dynastic, is quite new, having no connection with other uprisings or disturbances in Central China. The rebels at Ping Kiang are not molesting the Chinese inhabitants or the foreign missionaries.

IT'S GREAT TO BE JUST A CANDIDATE—WHEN THE OTHER MAN HAS TO MAKE ENEMIES.

—From the Chicago Record-Herald.