

BROWNSON'S SIDE THE CONTROVERSY

Contained in Letters on Command of Hospital Ships Submitted to House.

ABLE SEAMANSHIP NEEDED

Admiral Declares Surgeon Is No More Fitted for Commander Than Postmaster Is to Run Mail Steamer.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 23.—The Speaker laid before the House of Representatives today the response of Secretary of the Navy to the resolution introduced by Representative Gill, calling for the correspondence relative to designation of staff officers to naval commands.

An interesting paper among the latter is an endorsement by Admiral Converse, then chief of the Navigation Bureau, delivered on June 14, 1894, upon a proposition which originated with the joint board of medical officers of the Army and Navy to place hospital ships in command of naval surgeons.

Admiral Converse recommended against the placing of hospital ships in command in times of peace, and also against the placing of medical officers in command, even with civilian crews.

Admiral Converse held that it was necessary to discipline and efficiency that the officers and crews of such ships should be subjected to naval law and regulations and that the officers in command should be fitted by experience and training to navigate and command a vessel under all conditions of weather and unforeseen contingencies.

The new matter in the correspondence about which Congress particularly desired information consists of a long memorandum prepared by Admiral Brownson, then chief of the bureau, dated November 18, last, thereby anticipating the admiral's resignation by nearly a month.

Surgeons Not Seamen. Admiral Brownson holds that, whether hospital ships or not, such vessels as the Relief must accompany a fleet to fulfill their purposes and to do so must be navigated and handled in the same seamanlike manner which is required of all vessels to meet the needs of the high seas.

There is nothing in the training of a medical officer, the admiral contends, which fits him for such command. It requires just as skillful a navigator to pilot a hospital ship as it does to pilot a man-of-war, the difficulties are wholly independent of the internal arrangements of the vessel or the uses to which it may be put.

To call it a hospital ship does not fully describe the ship. It would be more nearly correct to state that a hospital ship is a sea-going vessel having a large hospital on board. Existing regulations give medical officers all necessary authority to control and care for their department on board such ships. Yet the surgeon-general, says Admiral Brownson, seems to believe that the navigation, safe conduct and general administration of a sea-going vessel are secondary to the regard the responsibility to command. Telegraph operators or cable engineers are not put in command of cable ships, nor postmasters in command of mail steamers.

Names His Objections. Admiral Brownson next enters into an analysis of the statutory law bearing on this subject, quoting the facts of March 2, 1874, and of August 5, 1881, and section seven of the personnel act of March 2, 1889, all of which he declares are prohibitive of the full exercise of command by medical officers.

Admiral Brownson concludes his memorandum by summarizing his objections to the proposed order in the case of the Relief as follows: First—It is directly contrary to law for the medical officer to exercise military command in any other than his own corps.

Second—Divided responsibility leads to confusion and poor administration.

Third—Experience with the Service in the Spanish-American War and with auxiliaries of the Asiatic station show conclusively that the only organization for the best auxiliary is to have a full naval crew and officers.

Fourth—A sea-going ship to be efficient must of necessity be commanded by a sea-going officer.

The last chapter in the correspondence, a new one also, is a reply by Surgeon-General Rixey to Admiral Brownson's memorandum under date of January 22. The Surgeon-General denies that he ever asked that medical officers be entrusted with the navigation of hospital ships. On the contrary, he had asked that the Bureau of Navigation select a sailing master and crew to navigate the ship, all orders to and from the sailing master to pass through the senior surgeon's hands, who will be in command. The Relief as an Army hospital ship was commanded by a medical officer, and there can be no question, he says, that medical officers are well qualified.

Merchant Sailors Efficient. The Surgeon-General states that neutrality of the hospital ships demand that line officers and fighting crews should not be put aboard. He contends that a merchant master and merchant sailors are as efficient in pilotage and navigation as the officers and fighting crews should be. He cites the Army transport service commanded by civilians as notably efficient in their administration. Naval, medical officers, he points out, met with the same resistance from the line in their claims on ships and on shore, yet since 1894, when this question was settled in favor of medical officers, this resistance of the bureau in regard to the command in the shore hospitals has been most satisfactory. Attention is called to the fact that the Relief destroyed her claims to neutrality on several occasions and even laid claim to prize money.

In conclusion the Surgeon-General says: It is necessary that the medical officers have authority in their own corps and further that medical officers' authority be recognized in all matters of organization. Hospital ships should be run according to regulations laid down a year ago by the Secretary of the Navy and this should be done in the interests of peace and tried to the satisfaction of the department and the country so that in time of war medical officers may know where they stand in the care of thousands who may be entrusted to their care.

Will Submit Currency Problems. WASHINGTON, Jan. 23.—The House

committee on banking and currency today decided officially to ask Secretary Cortelyou, Controller Ridgely and the members of the American Bankers' Association to appear before it and state their views regarding the advisability of injecting elasticity into the currency and of the guarantee of the National bank deposits.

CUTS ALL HIGHER SALARIES

B. & O. Makes Horizontal Reduction Due to Depression.

BALTIMORE, Jan. 23.—Attributing the action to depression in business, resulting in largely decreasing railroad earnings, the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad tonight announced a reduction of 10 per cent. in the pay of all officers and employees receiving over \$100 per month, bringing down to \$100 all monthly salaries between \$120 and \$100 per month. The cut becomes effective February 1. The reduction will apply to all officers from the president down.

ENGLISH RATE GOES DOWN

Normal Conditions Reflected in the Bank of England's Discounts.

LONDON, Jan. 23.—The rate of discount of the Bank of England was today reduced from 5 to 4 per cent. The reduction of the bank rate was a foregone conclusion, owing to the rapidly improving financial conditions prevailing everywhere, which caused the market for discount rates to fall to 3 1/2 per cent. The return of cash from the country considerably swelled the reserve, which further increased in the receipt of gold from Egypt and Australia, as well as bar gold now en route to London. This will include \$5,000,000 worth of gold which probably will be received by the Bank of England on Monday. Further influences tending toward the reduced bank rate are the improved conditions prevailing on the Continent, forecasting reductions in the bank rates of France and Germany and the likelihood of a return of gold from America to London, thus relieving the demand on London by the Bank of England on Monday.

The announcement of the reduction of the bank rate had a favorable effect on the London stock exchange, where a reduction of only one per cent. was anticipated. Americans, which opened around parity, improved 1/2 to 1 per cent. for active issues.

Business was not brisk, but values continued to hold until the New York opening was received, when the market sagged under selling orders and closed dull.

FAILS TO QUASH INDICTMENT

Action of Depositors as Jurors Sustained Against Treadwell.

SAN FRANCISCO, Jan. 23.—James Treadwell, of the Insolvent California Safe Deposit & Trust Company, this morning, before Superior Judge Dunne, asked through his attorney, ex-District Attorney Lewis F. Byington, that the indictments against him be dismissed because five of the grand jurors who found the indictments were depositors in the defunct bank. It was his argument that a personal feeling entered into their findings and that they had a feeling of malice toward the defendant. This view of the situation was not taken by Judge Dunne, and the request was denied. The court granted Treadwell 20 days to file a bill of exceptions.

Clothes Financial Barometer.

NEW YORK, Jan. 23.—"When the American people start in to wear their old clothes, it does not take long to bring business back to normal," said John W. Gates yesterday, in discussing the financial and business situation in the country. It was Mr. Gates' first appearance in the financial district since he went to Texas early in December. He came to town to attend the board meeting of the Republic Steel Company.

He said there was a steady increase in the steel business, the Republic Company now operating 20 per cent. of its capacity after having been shut down to 18 per cent. of its capacity in December. From now on he expected a steady increase.

Not Accountable for Coolies.

SAN FRANCISCO, Jan. 23.—Captain I. H. Hathaway, of the Pacific Mail steamship Magnolia, was today exonerated by Commissioner Heacock of blame in connection with the escape of Chinese immigrants from his vessel.

It was shown that under the revised law officers of vessels cannot be held strictly accountable for the escape of coolies, if they can show that reasonable care was taken to prevent evasion of the act.

Wheeling Steel Works to Resume.

WHEELING, W. Va., Jan. 23.—The Wheeling Steel & Iron Company is preparing for immediate resumption of work in the steel and tube departments of the big plant in Bessemer. The former will probably start February 9. Nearly 2000 men will be employed.

Shut Down Locomotive Works.

PROVIDENCE, R. I., Jan. 23.—The local plant of the American Locomotive Works will be shut down the first week in February for an indefinite period. The force which in December numbered 1008, has gradually been reduced to 500.

Discount Rate Reduced.

PARIS, Jan. 23.—The Bank of France today reduced its rate of discount from 3 1/2 to 3 per cent.

ONE GUILTY, ONE INNOCENT

German Court Convicts Lynar, but Sets Von Hohenau Free.

POTSDAM, Jan. 23.—The military court of honor ordered by Emperor William to try General Count von Hohenau, formerly an adjutant to the Emperor and commander of the guard corps, and Major Count Johannes Lynar, completed its hearing today. Count Lynar was found guilty of abusing his authority on six counts, four of which related to insults to subordinates, and on five other counts charging moral lapses, and was sentenced to 15 months in jail. Count von Hohenau was acquitted. Von Hohenau a short time ago was obliged to resign his position in the army because he was accused of being one of the so-called "court camarilla" exposed by Herr Harden, editor of Die Zukunft. The names of both General von Hohenau and Major Lynar were brought constantly into the testimony during the recent Harden-Von Moltke trial.

MOB ROUTED BY POLICE

(Continued from First Page.) Their services, however, were not needed. Later in the afternoon a crowd gathered on the lake front, but it was broken up by a few officers sent for the purpose by the chief of police. Nobody was seriously hurt during the excitement, although some of the marchers will have sore heads and backs for a few days. Many of them seemed to

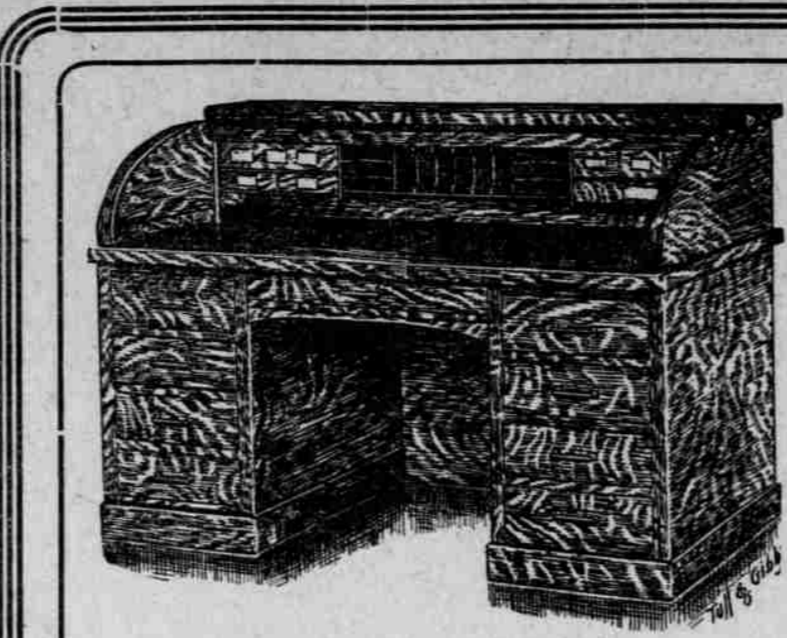


Table listing prices for Roll-Top Desks, Typewriter Desks, and Flat-Top Desks in various materials like oak and mahogany.

OFFICE FURNITURE—OUR ENTIRE LINE INCLUDED IN THE GREAT CLEARANCE SALE

Those who have had occasion to inspect our splendid showing of office furniture will recognize the advantages offered for selecting good, dependable pieces to meet any demand in the furnishing of the office.

Table listing prices for Flat-Top Desks—Single and Double Styles, Office and Directors' Table, and Standing Desks—Single and Double Styles.

Table listing prices for Desk and Office Chairs, including Typewriter Chairs, Rotary Chairs, and Arm Chairs.

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regard the whole thing as a huge joke until they came in contact with the police.

Reitman and two of his followers who were arrested at the same time as he, were arraigned in court on charges of disorderly conduct and inciting a riot.

ACTRESS LOSES APPENDIX

Operation on Mrs. C. S. Albert Said to Have Been Successful.

CHICAGO, Jan. 23.—Mrs. Charles Stanley Albert, formerly Miss Sarah Truax, the actress, underwent an operation for appendicitis at the woman's hospital here today. Mr. and Mrs. Albert were married in the hospital yesterday. Physicians at the hospital say that Mrs. Albert's condition is satisfactory tonight and predict a speedy recovery.

Northwestern People in New York.

NEW YORK, Jan. 23.—(Special.)—Northwestern people registered at New York hotels today as follows: From Portland—H. C. Wortman, at the Woodward; E. J. Bartholomew, at the Pelmore; George W. Travis, Jr., at the Belvidere.

Miners Indorse Woman Suffrage.

INDIANAPOLIS, Jan. 23.—The convention of the United Mineworkers of America was addressed by Miss Laura Gregg, of Kansas, fraternal delegate from the National Woman Suffrage Association. The delegates indorsed the movement by a rising vote. It is considered probable that the convention will not formulate a wage scale until after it has been determined whether the operators will meet the miners in joint conference on January 30. It is also considered probable that a joint wage conference may not follow the convention immediately.

FUN MAKERS ARE SEVERELY CUT

Come in a Hurry, and Take Advantage of the Biggest Talking Machine Values Ever Offered in This Town—Sale Nearing Close.

When modern talking machines and high-grade record cabinets are offered at retail for less than manufacturer's cost, it is really a rare opportunity. The pleasure and entertainment afforded by a talking machine is practically limitless and once installed in the home will prove the most popular feature of home amusement. In this great closing-out sale of the East Side company's stock, regular \$15 machines may be purchased for \$6.40; \$23 kinds at \$11.00; \$25 styles at \$12.75, etc. While beautiful record cabinets formerly sold at \$10 are now marked \$5.10; styles, \$5.10; regular \$25 styles, now \$12.50, etc., etc. Remember, every machine and cabinet in the stock is included in the special sale, with the exception of certain contract goods. Prices are really figured on at spot cash basis, but if you prefer to purchase on payments, we will grant any reasonable concession, so that the offer may be taken advantage of by all who would like to own a fine talking machine outfit. Don't overlook the fact that we carry the biggest stock of records, too, and that our new sound-proof individual demonstration parlors are the handsomest and most convenient in town. Make it a point to call at once, for the stock is going fast, and the sale can only last a few days longer, at the most. Store open evenings during sale, Eilers Piano House, 257 Washington street, corner of Park.

ly and possibly may not be held in this city. It is said by prominent miners that indications are that the operators are in no hurry for a wage settlement and are now averse to the stimulation to the market that would attend uncertainty as to the future of coal production. In view of the fact that an open winter has cut down the demand for coal and the industrial depression has reduced the consumption of steam coal.

Schlitz Purity is Supreme. The materials we use are the best we can buy. And a partner in our business selects them. The goodness of Schlitz is due largely to them. But the supremacy of Schlitz as a home beer has been gained by the fact of its absolute purity. Purity is not so conspicuous as some qualities in beer, yet it is very expensive. That is why it is rare. But what does it matter how good a beer is if it is not a pure beer? If its use is unhealthy? If its result is biliousness? Schlitz beer is known as the pure beer the world over. Sherwood & Sherwood, 8 Front Street, Portland.