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PAGES 1 TO 12

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REPORTS NO CHANGE

The Only News From the Seat of War in Africa.

DISPATCH FROM GENERAL ROBERTS

Many Unconfirmed Rumors of British Reverses in Natal—General Buller's Casualties.

LONDON, Jan. 28, 4:30 A. M.—The only news issued by the war office during the night was a dispatch from Lord Roberts, dated yesterday (Saturday), stating that the situation is unchanged, and that General French reports a reconnoissance of the enemy's position Thursday, when he found the Boers strongly posted at Pietfontein. The maps do not show any such place in the region of General French's operations, and it is probable that Pietfontein, 10 miles north of Colesburg, is the place alluded to.

A special dispatch from Colesburg, dated Wednesday, January 24, says that Commandant Lucas Meyer's commando surprised and surrounded a strong body of General Methuen's infantry, killing and wounding 23 and capturing 15.

The absence of news from the front is causing public attention to turn to the approaching opening of parliament, and speculation as to how the government will meet the attacks on it with regard to the causes and conduct of the war, a foretaste of which has already been given in the speeches of John Morley and others in the past week. The government's defense is perhaps foreshadowed by the speeches made at Birmingham last evening by Jesse Collins and J. Austin Chamberlain.

Relief of Mafeking.

LOURENCO MARQUES, Jan. 27.—It is reported on good Transvaal authority that Mafeking was relieved January 23.

NO EXPLANATION OFFERED.

London in the Dark as to the Cause of Warren's Move.

LONDON, Jan. 27.—The war office has no news of the catastrophe to Buller's force reported from Berlin, and discredits the story. Neither has the war office any explanation, at least for publication, of the abandonment of Spionkop, and there are no advices in this connection from British sources. The evacuation is today regarded as not so serious as at first thought, and commentaries are abusing the military authorities, both at the front and at home, for publishing hasty accounts of an incomplete, half-understood operation, thus alternately thrilling and depressing the nation.

The afternoon papers describe the general's dispatch as unpleasant reading to the British people, intensely mortifying to national pride, and damaging to the country's prestige, and scathingly denounce the greeting at the present time of reports which, the St. James's Gazette says, "display academic frivolity not uncommonly found in combination with conceit and practical incapacity." The Gazette sums up its position as follows:

"These dispatches show the folly which has prevailed throughout the period of the campaign, and which has exacted its usual tithe of lives and men."

There are signs of important movements developing in the north of Cape Colony. General French has succeeded in getting in touch with General Gatacre, possibly presaging a combination of the two columns and commencement of a concentration of forces, which is believed to be the groundwork of Lord Roberts' plan of campaign.

The war office announces that the casualties reported by Buller yesterday occurred in the battalions of General Lyttleton's brigade, which, so far as known at the war office, was not engaged in the capture or defense of Spionkop. It appears, therefore, that they are additional to the considerable casualties which Buller has reported as having occurred at Spionkop.

The defense committee of the war office met this afternoon, Lord Salisbury presiding.

There are reiterated rumors that the gravest kind of news from Natal is being concealed by the war office. It is even said that Buller's forces are in full retreat. It is impossible to confirm or deny the reports, as the officials maintain silence as to the rumors. They say they have nothing for publication. It is evident, however, from the war office announcement that the casualties reported by Buller occurred in Lyttleton's brigade, which, apparently was not engaged at Spionkop, that there has been severe fighting not yet reported.

Sir Michael Hicks-Beach, chancellor of the exchequer, came to London purposely to attend the defense committee meeting, and Joseph Chamberlain, secretary of state for the colonies, gave up other engagements for the same reason. Lord Wolseley, commander-in-chief of the forces, was also present at the meeting of the committee.

Suspense in London is quite as trying as at any time in the past fortnight. The Leader says:

"General Buller is very sorry to say that Spionkop has been abandoned. So we dare say is General Warren, for it knocks the bottom out of his tactics. His tactics were to move on Acton Homes with a week's supply of food and ammunition."

The Morning Post says:

"The Boers appear to have no lack of men, for it turns out that the affair of Tuesday at Cheveley was not a British but a Boer reconnoissance, and the Boer efforts against Ladysmith have increased."

There is no confirmation of the reports circulated in the United States that General Clery has been defeated by the Boers. When last heard from Clery was participating in Warren's movement.

The war office has decided to embody two additional militia battalions and another battery of artillery.

SPEECHES AT BIRMINGHAM.

J. Austin Chamberlain and Jesse Collins Defended War Policy.

LONDON, Jan. 27.—Joseph Chamberlain, who expected to attend the banquet of the Birmingham jewelers and silversmiths this evening, was unable to be present, owing to the holding of the meeting of the defense committee. His place was taken by the Hon. Jesse Collins, under-secretary of state for the home office, and J. Austin Chamberlain, civil lord of the admiralty.

The former, replying to a toast to "Her Majesty's Ministers," deplored the attitude of the press in regard to the war in South Africa. He said there had been no muddle in its conduct, and the facts, when known, would show there had been no war in which more foresight, skill and care had been displayed by the government than the present one. The reverses, he declared, only increased the determination to prosecute the work to the end. The war involved the question whether Great Britain would maintain her position or sink into an insignificant third-rate power.

Austin Chamberlain, in the course of his remarks, said that if Great Britain had shirked her responsibility the price paid would have been the loss in the near future of South Africa, and her separation in the not remote future from those great branches of the Anglo-Saxon stock whose loyalty—which was due to their confidence in Great Britain's power to see right done her subjects in every portion of the world—was so dear to Great Britain.

STARTLING RUMORS IN BERLIN.

Warren's Division Said to Have Been Defeated, With Terrible Loss.

BERLIN, Jan. 27.—It is said that the German foreign office has confirmation of the report that General Warren's division has been crushed.

Some of the papers here claim to have a telegram from Pretoria saying that General Warren was enticed into Spionkop, where the Boers fell upon him; that 17 of his cannon were captured, and that Buller's hasty retreat over the Tugela river alone can save him. The alleged Pretoria telegram adds that the British losses were 800 men killed and 1500 men wounded. The dispatch comes through Brussels, and does not receive much credence in this city.

THE MURDER OF AMERICANS

Cowboys Plan to Invade Mexico and Avenge the Killing.

DALLAS, Tex., Jan. 27.—A special to the News from El Paso says:

Friends of George Lunt and Charles Burns, of El Paso, reported last night to have been killed with four other Americans by General Torres at the recent round-up of Yaqui Indians, today made formal application to the United States consul, Charles W. Kindrick, at Juarez, for a full investigation of the affair. H. J. Coburn, now here from Bisbee, Ariz., says the cowboys and miners in Southern Arizona and New Mexico have organized, and are preparing to invade Sonora and avenge the murder of the six prospectors. They will fight against the Mexican troops for the independence of the Sonora and the Yaqui nation, and he is of the opinion that the contemplated movement will be crowned with success.

The El Paso Times, edited by Captain Juan S. Hart, Cuban interpreter for the evacuation commission, and a captain of the Immunes, will say tomorrow:

"The six men who are said to have been dispatched in Spanish style by Torres claimed to be American prospectors. They were by accident found near a Yaqui camp. No proof of any guilt had been presented to the world, only the news of a merciless death to each, probably ordered by Diaz himself. If an investigation of these facts turns out as reported, then Sonora may say good-bye to the Mexican republic. The history of Texas may be repeated. President Diaz should disclaim at once the accusation that his armies have shot innocent Americans in Sonora, and he should warn his authorities to avoid friction which can only end by a repetition of the Texas invasion."

BUBONIC PLAGUE SERUM.

Marine Hospital Service Will Be Ready if Disease Reaches America.

CHICAGO, Jan. 27.—A dispatch to the Tribune from Washington says:

Under the supervision of Dr. Walter Wyman, the marine hospital laboratory has begun the manufacture of a serum as an antitoxin for bubonic plague, to be used if the plague should reach this country. The work was begun two months ago, and it will be four months before it is completed. Dr. Wyman said tonight that he thought it better to be on the safe side. The serum being manufactured is what is known as the yersin serum, and is at present the only remedy known.

Plague Order Affects Rice Market.

SAVANNAH, Ga., Jan. 27.—The orders of the marine hospital service, prohibiting importations from foreign ports at which bubonic plague has appeared, have already affected the rice market. Rice from Asiatic ports comes especially under the ban, since it is almost invariably the case that rats accompany rice cargoes. Orders are already beginning to be received for carload lots of rice from San Francisco and other Pacific coast points, and the price has advanced half a cent a pound in consequence. The Pacific slope demand is supposed to arise from the large Chinese population.

Plague Serum for Honolulu.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 27.—The surgeon-general of the marine hospital service today had shipped to Honolulu 1900 doses of haffkine prophylactic. Fifteen hundred doses of this serum were sent to Honolulu about 10 days ago.

GOMPERS AT WHITE HOUSE

Advocated Legislation for the Workingman.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 27.—Samuel Gompers, president of the American Federation of Labor, accompanied by other representatives of labor interests, had a conference with the president today to urge upon him their desire that he should advocate certain legislation in which they are interested. They want an eight-hour law for all government work, a law to prohibit the product of convict labor to be transferred from one state to another, and a law to restrict the authority of the federal courts in the issuance of injunctions in labor troubles.

Mr Gompers filed with the president informal charges against Claude M. Johnson, director of the bureau of engraving and printing. The charges allege inefficiency and partiality in the conduct of the affairs of the office.

A RAILROAD CHANGE.

Consolidation of General Agencies of Three Western Roads.

OMAHA, Neb., Jan. 27.—It is announced at Union Pacific headquarters that the Union Pacific, Oregon Short Line and the Oregon Railroad & Navigation Company have decided upon the consolidation of general agencies. Heretofore each road has maintained separate general agencies in the same towns. From this on one agent will look after the business of all three roads in the various cities. In the East the joint agent will be a Union Pacific man, in Short Line territory a Short Line man will be the agent, and on the Pacific coast the business will be looked after by Oregon Navigation men. It is announced the men thrown out of positions by this consolidation will be taken care of elsewhere.

A Vanderbilt Engagement.

NEWPORT, R. I., Jan. 27.—The report of the engagement of Alfred G. Vanderbilt to Miss Elsie French, of New York, is generally credited in this city, and it is believed that it will be formally announced upon the return of the young lady from her present trip abroad with her mother, and that the marriage will follow shortly.

DANGER OF RETREAT

Buller's Position Described by a London War Critic.

SAFETY LIES IN AN ADVANCE

Warren May Yet Defeat the Boers at Another Point—Reported Relief of Mafeking.

LONDON, Jan. 27.—Spencer Wilkinson, whose articles on the war situation have attracted much attention here and abroad, wrote the following review of the situation for the Associated Press at midnight, after the war office had given out a telegram from General Roberts, dated at Cape Town, Saturday, saying there was no change in the situation:

"The affair of Spionkop appears very like a reverse at the decisive point of the decisive battle. According to General Buller's telegram, General Warren was determined to take the hill because it commanded the enemy's other positions. Having taken it Tuesday night, he abandoned it Wednesday night, presumably because he was unable to hold it. The published words of General Buller's telegram have the tone in which a reverse is announced. Whether the mishap can be made good it is impossible to say.

"A general attacking has, to some extent, the power of making his own decisive point. General Warren may yet beat the enemy by successes at some other point, or he may retake Spionkop and keep it, but unless, one way or another, the battle now going on can be won, there is no probability of Ladysmith being relieved.

"General Buller, unless successful, will be in a critical position, for his army's retreat would be a difficult operation. The main Boer force is as near to any point on the railway as is General Warren's wing of Buller's army, and the Boers have the advantage of speed. For this reason, as well as because of the importance of his purpose to relieve General White, we may expect General Buller to do his very utmost before giving up the attempt, and in this necessity lies the best hope of success.

"The American civil war showed how rifled firearms, by rendering assault difficult, produced battles lasting several days, and as, since then, the range and rate of firing have been daily increased, the prolongation of the duration of battles was to be expected. But without a fuller knowledge than the telegrams as yet afford, it is not yet possible clearly to interpret the episodes of the unfinished fight.

"The report from Boer sources that Mafeking has been relieved is credible, for Colonel Plumer has been persistently working in that direction, and there has been enough time since he was last heard of, near Gaberones, for him to cover the intervening distance. Moreover, the Boers have wisely been concentrating their forces at more decisive points, but it requires confirmation."

TO SACRIFICE LADYSMITH.

Roberts, It Is Said, Is in Favor of Moving on Bloemfontein.

NEW YORK, Jan. 27.—Dispatches from London say that the military experts, newspapers and people in the street take a gloomy view of the situation on the Tugela, it being the general belief that Buller's flanking movement has failed as completely as his frontal movement of last month. The idea prevails that the war office has news which it is keeping from the public, and that the list of casualties which was given out yesterday does not cover the losses of General Warren from "the annoying fire" spoken of by General Buller.

Since the flanking movement began, January 10, General Buller has reported 60 killed and 598 wounded and 60 missing. It is remembered how his casualty list grew from day to day after the defeat last month, and it is feared the losses of the past few days have been frightful. Buller is criticised for the form of his message, which reads as though he was trying to saddle the blame for defeat upon Warren.

The new British reverse is likely to have a disheartening effect upon the beleaguered garrison of Ladysmith, but for whom the campaigning would have been conducted on a very different plan. Letters written when the siege of Ladysmith began were very sanguine. A letter written about the middle of December said the besieged had rations for six weeks, and, according to all reports, the food question must be pressing. The latest message from Ladysmith reported 12 deaths in one day from enteric fever and dysentery.

Lord Roberts, at Cape Town, has been almost forgotten in the excitement over the fighting at the Tugela. Roberts is in no way responsible for the operations for the relief of Ladysmith, for they have been conducted under advices from the war office in London. It was said some time ago that Roberts favored leaving Ladysmith to its fate and marching on Bloemfontein, the capital of the Free State. It is understood that Roberts' advices indicate there will be fighting in the western district soon, the British armies having been reinforced, and the plight of Kimberley being urgent.

LEYDS IN BERLIN.

Says the Boers Do Not Need to Apply for Mediation.

BERLIN, Jan. 27.—The North German Gazette this afternoon says that Dr. Leyds, diplomatic agent of the Transvaal, who has arrived here for the celebration of the emperor's birthday, was received by Count von Bulow, minister for foreign affairs, today. The Lokal Anzeiger publishes the report of an interview with Leyds, in which he was quoted as saying his presence in Berlin has nothing to do with politics, but is due merely to an invitation to a diplomatic dinner, which he had received from the imperial chancellor. He proposed to remain some days, but had no political designs.

Regarding mediation, Leyds said, the Boers had no occasion to appeal to any one. Everything was going splendidly. As to the conclusion of peace, his personal opinion was that Great Britain would have to return a large portion of the territory she had seized from the Boers, and the federal republics would, of course, obtain every guarantee that not a hair of the heads of their kinsmen would suffer. No words, he continued, need be wasted on the absolute independence of the two republics. Ladysmith, Mafeking and Kimberley, Leyds added, were simply prisons, with the sole difference that the British had to consume their own provisions.

PRO-BOER MEETING IN CHICAGO.

Speeches Made, Resolutions Adopted, and a Collection Taken Up.

CHICAGO, Jan. 27.—A mass meeting of nearly 3000 people in Music hall tonight inveighed against war and expressed sympathy for the Boers in their struggle against Great Britain. The meeting was under the auspices of the women of the Holland Society, who are raising funds for the Red Cross work in the Boer army. H. J. Schuyler, who is president of the Holland Society, was the first speaker. While he was speaking the Boer colors were carried down the hall and were cheered on their way to the platform. Dr. Emil G. Hirsch made an address on the horrors of war. He said that England's position was the outgrowth of a rude and naked spirit of greed.

The closing speech was made by Jenkin Lloyd Jones, who presented resolutions, which were adopted unanimously, declaring that the South African republics are fighting for the same eternal principles that moved our forefathers in their struggles against England a century ago, and that the hearts of the American people are with them in their brave and righteous effort to preserve their country and their homes from an invading foreign foe.

Several thousand dollars were raised through the sale of seats and collections, and will be devoted to fitting out a hospital corps for the Boers.

Boer Account of Monday's Fight.

BOER CAMP, Modderspruit, Upper Tugela, Jan. 23.—The British are now endeavoring to force, with 40,000 troops, the Spionkop route to Ladysmith. The firing on General Botha's position yesterday was terrific. The grass was fired, rocks dislodged and trenches pierced, but the battle was practically one-sided, the federals only firing 30 shots. A ball from a shell landed in General Botha's pocket. The only Boer casualties were some horses wounded.

The firing ceased at dark, but was resumed this morning in the vicinity of Ladysmith and here, but up to noon it lacked vigor.

Loyalty in India.

CALCUTTA, Jan. 27.—A monster meeting of Hindus and Mohammedans in the town hall here today passed a resolution expressing unswerving loyalty and attachment to the throne, and deciding to offer prayers for the victory of the British in all places of worship. The meeting also subscribed 63,000 rupees toward the Mansion House fund for the relief of the widows and families of the victims of the South African war.

London Volunteer Infantry Sail.

LONDON, Jan. 27.—The last detachment of the infantry section of London volunteers, numbering 134 men, left for Southampton this morning, en route to South Africa. The enthusiasm of the spectators was not so noticeable as on previous occasions. The battery section and ammunition column, completing the regiment, will leave next Saturday.

Beatrice Incident Closed.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 27.—The American shippers whose goods were on the British ship Beatrice, seized off the African coast by British warships, have had news to the effect that the vessel was released six weeks ago, and that the goods which were landed at East London have in large part been sold. Therefore, it is believed that this incident is closed.

Canadians Sail From Halifax.

HALIFAX, N. S., Jan. 27.—The second detachment of the second Canadian contingent to South Africa embarked on the Pomeranian today, marching through the city on their way to the transport. After inspection they were addressed by Lieutenant-Governor Daly and Mayor Hamilton, who wished them Godspeed.

Macrum Sails for Home.

PARIS, Jan. 27.—Charles E. Macrum, ex-United States consul at Pretoria, left here this morning for Cherbourg, intending to sail today.

CARNEGIE ON POPULARITY.

His Remarks at a Dinner Given by the Lotus Club, of New York.

NEW YORK, Jan. 27.—Andrew Carnegie was the guest of honor at a dinner given by the Lotus Club tonight. There were numerous speakers, chief among them being Andrew Carnegie, President Lawrence, of the Lotus Club; President Seth Low and W. Bourke Cockran. In the course of his speech, Mr. Carnegie said:

"To be popular is easy; to be right, when right is unpopular, is difficult. When the passions are roused and the war fever rages, any man can be popular who howls for war, but the most valuable citizen of the state at that time will probably be the citizen who opposes the drawing of the sword. The heroes of political life are not those who stir the lowest passions of the people, but those who have stood against their governments, demanding justice for countries other than their own. I repudiate with scorn the immortal doctrine, 'Our country, right or wrong.' If my country is wrong, or my friend is wrong, I am their best friend if I endeavor to show both that for a moment they have been led astray, have deserted the path of honor, or mercy, or justice. I have never written a work which my conscience did not impel me to write nor stood for a cause that I did not consider holy. When my country is wrong, may she receive the lesson that righteousness exalteth a nation. The flag we all love and revere we love and revere for what it stands for. It should be the symbol of what is right, noble and just. He is no patriot who encourages his country to take the wrong path. Not he who follows but he who leads public opinion in the right path is the best citizen, who, above all others, should be most highly honored."

HERNANDEZ' REVOLUTION.

Insurgent Movement Spreading in Venezuela.

KINGSTON, Jamaica, Jan. 27.—In spite of the rigidity of the censorship, Venezuela mail news indicates continued activity by and in behalf of the Hernandez revolution, which is spreading, the government having failed to divert public excitement from domestic politics by alleged wanton provocation of the diplomatic complications with France. A week ago the insurgent headquarters were strongly established at San Fernando de Apure, under the popular triumvirate in behalf of Hernandez, who was advancing from the Colombian frontier, the populace acclaiming him as the only possible pacificator of the anarchistic element which was reducing the country.

Brazilian Force Ordered to Acre.

RIO JANEIRO, Jan. 27.—Brazilian gunboats, besides a force of troops, have been ordered to proceed to Acre to enforce the protocol agreed upon between Bolivia and Brazil, and to protect all citizens.

Ex-Minister Phelps Sinking.

NEW HAVEN, Conn., Jan. 28.—The condition of Hon. E. J. Phelps, ex-minister to England, who is ill with pneumonia at his home here, remained practically unchanged until last evening, when he was not so well, and shortly after midnight he was reported as still alive. This morning he was very weak, and it would not surprise those in attendance if he did not survive the night.

A GOEBEL VICTORY

First Test Vote in the Kentucky Legislature.

DEMOCRATIC MAJORITY OF SIX

Result Is Regarded as a Forecast of the Vote on the Contest for Governor.

FRANKFORT, Ky., Jan. 27.—The first actual test of strength between the republican and democratic forces in the Goebel-Taylor contest came today, and by the admission of the republican leaders proved a victory for Goebel. The democrats claim the result of today's struggle as decisive, while the republicans, although freely admitting a defeat, declare that they will fight to the finish, and have still strong hopes of retaining Governor Taylor in his seat.

The fight today came on the vote of the house in the contest brought by H. S. Vanmeter, of Fayette county, for the seat heretofore held by Henry S. Berry. Both sides realized the test of real strength would be made on this issue, and every effort was made to get out the largest possible vote. The vote in favor of Vanmeter was 51 to 45. Hayes (rep.) and Sledge (dem.) were absent. Berry had no vote because of his personal interest in the contest. Speaker Trimble did not vote. The matter came to a vote on the question of the adoption of one of two reports from the committee on the contest. The republicans, being in the majority on the committee, presented a majority report in favor of Berry. The one democratic member of the committee submitted a minority report in favor of the seating of Vanmeter.

The decision of the house was reached upon a motion to substitute the minority report in favor of Vanmeter for the majority report in favor of Berry. As the call proceeded, Representative Baird, who was considered doubtful by both sides, declined to vote. Cochran was the first democrat to vote for Berry, Egbert followed him, then came Girder, Lafferty, Orr, Hilion and Willingham. When the call was finished, the vote was 46 to 45, several members present not voting. Egbert changed his vote, making it 47 to 45 in favor of Vanmeter. On the call for absentees, Baird sided with Vanmeter, democratic cheers greeting him as he announced his vote. Three more democrats who had not responded to the roll call voted for the minority report, and the clerk announced the total, 51 to 45. The majority report, as amended by the minority report, was then adopted, and then Vanmeter was declared a member of the house.

There was much wrath in the republican ranks over the failure of E. F. Hayes, of Pulaski county, to vote. He failed to put in an appearance at the state house, and was seen at the depot a few minutes before a train left. After that the republicans saw him no more, nor could the members of the campaign committee locate him, although they spent the afternoon in the search. Adjutant-General Collier hurriedly impressed an engine on the Louisville & Nashville and made a flying trip to Lexington in the effort to find Hayes and bring him back. On reaching Lexington he was informed that Hayes had gone. He was compelled to return without his man.

E. G. Sebree, the republican campaign manager, declared last night that the vote on the contest today would be a crucial test of strength, and expressed himself as confident of at least 50 votes for Berry. After the house had adjourned he said:

"They knocked us out. There is no doubt about that. I felt sure of 50 votes, of course, including Hayes, and counted on 10 democratic votes for Berry. However, this is not the vote for governor, although the seating of Vanmeter increases the odds against us. I presume the democrats will decide the other contest now pending as this one has been decided. We will fight it out to the end, however. The people may be sure of that."

The democratic leaders, without exception, claim that the seating of Vanmeter foreshadows accurately the seating of Goebel. The house now stands 60 democrats, including Vanmeter and Speaker Trimble, and 40 republicans, the senate 26 democrats and 12 republicans. The senate democrats, on a vote in the gubernatorial contest, can have but a possible maximum of 24, as Goebel will have no vote, and Senator Hill, a Goebel man, is incapacitated by illness, and has never qualified. Both sides admit the senate to be very evenly divided. Seventy votes are necessary on joint ballot to seat Goebel as governor.

This was the last day allotted to the contestees, Governor Taylor and Lieutenant-Governor Marshall, for defense in the pending gubernatorial contest. The boards adjourned promptly at 10 P. M. tonight, to meet Monday afternoon, when the arguments will begin. Each side will be allowed 10 hours for argument, the boards having fixed that time with the agreement of counsel.

Senator Harrell's Trial.

LOUISVILLE, Ky., Jan. 27.—The trial of State Senator A. B. Harrell, charged by John H. Whallen with securing money under false pretenses, was begun here today. Whallen, the first witness, told of his meetings with Harrell in this city. Harrell, he said, wanted $10,000 to stop the contest, saying he had letters that would damage Goebel. Whallen said he and Harrell agreed that the latter was to get $5000 to stop the contest, but that Harrell was not to throw his vote in any way. Colonel Whallen agreed to this, after informing Harrell that he was not bribing him to vote, but simply paying him to produce valuable evidence.

Upon the conclusion of the testimony for the commonwealth the attorneys for Harrell, without calling upon Harrell or any other witness to testify, moved that the warrant be dismissed, but this was overruled, and Harrell was held to answer to the grand jury under bond in the sum of $1000.

WEBSTER DAVIS' AMBITION.

Wants to Be Vice-President on the Ticket With McKinley.

KANSAS CITY, Jan. 27.—Webster Davis, assistant secretary of the interior and ex-mayor of Kansas City, has ambition to become President McKinley's running mate this fall, according to the Evening Star. The Star says:

"Davis' closest friends here in Kansas City do not hesitate to express the belief that he went to South Africa on some mission other than in search of health. One of Davis' warmest admirers tells of a conversation he had with the assistant secretary of the interior in Washington nearly a year ago.

"'I called on Mr. Davis in regard to a pension claim. He introduced me to Cornelius Bliss. Bliss talked of the future of Davis in politics. After we talked with Mr. Bliss we went over to see the president. Mr. McKinley declared that Davis was destined to be a great man in the nation. The president questioned me closely about the standing of Davis in the West, and said that Missouri should be very proud of him.

"'After we left the White House, Davis told me he was slated for the nomination for vice-president. He declared that the president had taken up the subject with him voluntarily. McKinley believes that Davis can carry Missouri for the republican ticket. He was sent on his stumping tour of Ohio, and out West for no other purpose than to let the people see him. The trip to South Africa is nothing more than a move on the political checkerboard to bring Davis into prominence.'"

ANTI-IMPERIALIST LEAGUE.

Planning to Work at Elections in Close Congressional Districts.

CHICAGO, Jan. 27.—The Times-Herald tomorrow will say:

"The American Anti-Imperialist League, which was organized at the anti-imperialist conference held here in September, claims to have an effective organization in 36 states, Oklahoma and the District of Columbia. The officers of the league, while uncommunicative as to methods, admit that it aims to make itself felt in close congressional districts everywhere for the election of congressmen this year who will be against the retention of the Philippines. Connection with the Bryan cause is denied. Bourke Cockran's recent expression of friendliness for Bryan is taken to be significant in this connection, also the declaration of Andrew Carnegie that he will not contribute to the republican campaign fund this year, but may contribute to the Bryan fund. Both are in this organization.

"The states claimed to be organized are: Alabama, Arkansas, California, Colorado, Connecticut, Florida, Georgia, Idaho, Illinois, Indiana, Kansas, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, Mississippi, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, New Hampshire, New York, North Carolina, North Dakota, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, South Dakota, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, Vermont, Virginia, Washington, West Virginia, Wisconsin."

Utah Will Try It Again.

SALT LAKE, Jan. 27.—In compliance with the revised statutes of the state of Utah, Governor Wells has published a proclamation calling an election to be held Monday, April 2, next, for the purpose of electing a representative in congress to fill the vacancy caused by the exclusion of Brigham H. Roberts.

Mason Called on to Resign.

CHICAGO, Jan. 27.—By an almost unanimous vote of the old Tippecanoe Club, of Chicago, Senator Mason was today requested at once to resign his seat in the United States senate, and the secretary of the club was instructed to strike his name from the roll of honorary members of the organization.

GRIDIRON CLUB DINNER.

Annual Event of the Washington Correspondents.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 27.—The fifteenth annual dinner of the Gridiron Club was given at the Arlington hotel tonight, and, like its predecessors, was the most successful event of the season. The club is composed of 40 Washington correspondents, who make the last Saturday evening in January a notable occasion, as it is the anniversary of the organization. The banquet hall was handsomely decorated, the ceilings and walls covered with laurel, smilax and maiden-hair ferns, while palms and other tropical plants filled every window and corner of the room. Through all this mass of green were more than 1000 electric lights of all colors. The tables were banked with flowers, orchids and roses predominating, while many vases of the American Beauties adorned the room.

Henry Litchfield West, of the Washington Post, the new president, occupied the head of the table, which was made in the shape of a gridiron, and around which were gathered 200 guests and the members of the club.

As usual, the unique features and daring burlesques, together with the good-natured skits aimed at prominent guests, formed the principal part of the entertainment. These were interspersed with songs by a quartet, solos and witty speeches, all making a thoroughly enjoyable evening. The menu was an exquisite affair, being a little volume bound in leather, each page having the name of a member, together with his vignette set in a reduced front page of the paper he represented. It was designed as a souvenir of the fifteenth annual dinner.

The initiation of two members was made the text for a burlesque on imperialism. The club "expanded," for the new members raised the president to the rank of emperor and "crowned" him. Reports from colonial governors and vassal states and the conferring of titles were rudely interrupted by "Uncle Sam," who seized the crown and drove the "decorated officials" from the room.

A minstrel show with really new jokes amused the guests. Several songs written for the occasion were given, a verse being allotted to Mr. Bryan, with an allusion to "16 to 1." Another lamented for Senator Frye, because, as president of the senate, he had to listen to senators instead of enjoying his fishing sport.

The speeches were especially good. Senator Depew and the Chinese minister being at their best, while the remarks of Messrs. Bryan, Frye, Gorman, Chandler, Tillman, Hanna and Beveridge were of the usual high order. The speakers were placed upon their mettle by the happy introduction of Mr. West, who presided throughout the dinner with dignity and ability.

Among the guests were the following: Senator Frye, president of the senate; Hon. William Jennings Bryan, Hon. Arthur P. Gorman, Mr. Wu Ting-fang, the Chinese minister; Senators Depew, Beveridge, Burrows, Chandler, Hanna, Jones (Ark), Penrose, Shoup, Tillman, Wolcott and Rawlins; Representatives Dalzell, Clark, Cummings, De Vries, Bowersock, Hall, Landis, McClellan, Lawrence, Swanson, Tawney, Underwood and Wheeler; Major-General John R. Brooke, Rear-Admiral George W. Melville, Rear-Admiral Aaron A. Weaver, Colonel Theodore A. Bingham, J. Addison Porter and General B. Cortelyou, secretaries to the president; Gerard A. Lowther and Lieutenant-Colonel Arthur Hamilton Lee, British embassy; Assistant Secretary of War George D. Meiklejohn, General Marshal Ludington, Colonel S. C. Kellogg, Lieutenant-Colonel Culver C. Sniffin, Captain Lansing F. Beach, U. S. A.; J. D. Yoemans, interstate commerce commission; Frank H. Vanderlip, assistant secretary of the treasury; Henry S. Pritchett, superintendent of the coast and geodetic survey; Louis A. Pradt, assistant attorney-general, and William I. Smith, of Honolulu.

Fire in San Jose.

SAN JOSE, Cal., Jan. 27.—The works of the Electric Improvement Company were destroyed by fire early this morning. The loss is estimated at $100,000; insurance, $50,000.

Daily Treasury Statement.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 27.—Today's statement of the condition of the treasury shows:

Available cash balance	$289,439,614
Gold reserve	213,206,321

SHIP SUBSIDY BILL

Its Chances of Passing the House Are Slim.

JAMES J. HILL OPPOSES IT

Friends of the Measure Patching It Up to Make It Acceptable to a Majority.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 27.—So strong is the opposition to the shipping subsidy bill in some quarters of the republican party that a great many amendments will be made before it is reported to either house. The change of front of James J. Hill, who supported the bill in the last congress, but opposes it now, has set a great many advocates for the bill to thinking, because of Hill's influence in the Northwestern states. It will take only a few republicans in the house to defeat the bill, and unless it is greatly modified, even its friends do not expect that it will pass.

Quay's Friends Lose Hope.

The best judges of the situation in the senate say they are unable to determine what the vote is likely to be on the seating of Quay. It is interesting to note, however, that the opponents of seating are much more confident than they were a short time ago, while Quay advocates have begun to lose hope. There is a possibility of the case being called up some time next week, if the debate on the financial bill lags. It is quite probable that the case will be settled with only a very few speeches, the legal aspects of the case being well known, and the further fact being apparent that it is only Quay's personal pull that can overturn former precedents.

Discussion of the Race Question.

Democratic leaders, and especially the senators and representatives from the South, are hoping that Senator Pritchard and other republicans will continue the discussion of the race question in the South, as they are already making the claim that protection of the negro votes will be made an issue by the republicans. The democrats of the South are aware there is no hope for themselves in the national fight, and each is trying to save himself on the bugaboo of negro control. Just what Pritchard's object is, is hard to say, although he is forcing a great many populists to support him in North Carolina, but it is believed he will lose heavily in the white districts.

NEW PUBLIC BUILDINGS.

Additional Amounts Required by the Increase in Cost of Materials.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 27.—Chairman Meyer, of the house committee on public buildings and grounds, has received from Assistant Secretary of the Treasury Taylor a detailed statement of the additional amounts required for public buildings now under construction throughout the country on account of the large rise in building material. The list shows the present limit of cost and the proposed limit as follows:

	Present Limit.	Recommendation.
Boise, Idaho	$150,000	$200,000
Butte, Mont.	200,000	300,000
Helena, Mont.	300,000	375,000
Oakland, Cal.	250,000	282,000
Salem, Or.	100,000	110,000
Salt Lake, Utah	300,000	500,000
Seattle, Wash.	300,000	775,000

FUNDS AVAILABLE.

For River and Harbor Work on the Pacific Coast.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 27.—Chairman Burton, of the rivers and harbors committee, has received from General Wilson, chief of engineers, United States army, a statement of the funds available the first of the year for the river and harbor work throughout the country. Among the items mentioned are the following:

Deep-water harbor, Santa Pedro bay	$576,858
Oakland harbor	348,102
Port Orford harbor	140,850
Entrance to Coos bay and harbor	137,513
Columbia river at Three-Mile Rapids and construction of boat railway	220,350
Columbia and Lower Willamette river below Portland	140,924
Columbia river below Tongue Point	111,550
Gray's harbor and bar entrance	347,940
Waterway connecting Puget sound with Lakes Union and Washington	170,000

PHIL ARMOUR, JR., DEAD.

Son of the Chicago Millionaire Died Near Santa Barbara.

PASADENA, Cal., Jan. 27.—News has been received of the sudden death of Phil D. Armour, jr., at Montecito, near Santa Barbara. Until Thursday young Mr. Armour appeared to be in his usual health. He was ill 24 hours, and his death was due to congestion of the lungs. That was all the family here were informed about his untimely end. Armour left Pasadena the first of last week and had been at Montecito about ten days.

A special train was engaged to take relative and friends from Pasadena to Santa Barbara. On the advice of his physician, P. D. Armour, sr., father of the young man, did not go, his health being delicate. Mr. Armour is standing the shock well. His son was 31 years old. He left Chicago three weeks ago in excellent health and came to Pasadena with his party in his private car.

LOS ANGELES, Cal., Jan. 27.—The remains of Philip D. Armour, jr., will leave Pasadena for Chicago on the regular Santa Fe eastbound overland tomorrow morning. The funeral services will be held at Chicago, Wednesday.

Was Lincoln's Partner.

SAN FRANCISCO, Jan. 27.—Charles Maltby, who for three years was associated in business with Abraham Lincoln at Waynesville, Ill., is dead, aged 88 years. He was born in Vermont, and during an active life occupied many positions of public life.

Commission to Test Coins.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 27.—President McKinley has designated the following as commissioners to test and examine the weight and fineness of the coin reserved at the several mints during the calendar year 1899: Senator John P. Jones, Representative E. J. Hill, Dr. E. S. Pritchett, superintendent coast and geodetic survey; Professors A. Lattimore, university of Rochester; H. H. Nicholson, university of Nebraska; John A. Matthews, Columbia university; Dr. Cabell Whitehead, bureau of mines; Marcus Benjamin, Smithsonian Institution; Calvin Cobb, Boise, Idaho; Thomas B. Miller, Helena, Mont.; Edward Harden, New York; E. H. Rich, Fort Dodge, Ia.; Francis Bledler, Chicago; Hon. John H. Perry, Connecticut. The commission will meet in Philadelphia, February 4.