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SHANGHAI, Oct. 25.—Uncle Sam's representatives in China have their hands full. The war has increased their business a hundred fold. It has multiplied their responsibilities. The consulates are everywhere overrun with Americans. Claims for damages of all kinds are coming in, and persecuted missionaries are thicker than blackberries in August. Nearly every one has a valid ground for his claim, and the total damages will form a big bill for China to settle.

The busiest post of all is here at Shanghai. This is the center of foreign interest in China, and it is the center of mission interests as well. Since the war began the Americans from the whole Yangtze Valley and from the country north and south of it have rushed in, and there is still a steady stream going in and out of the American Consul-General's office. The Consul-General has had charge of the American diplomatic interests during the greater part of this year. Minister Conger has been panned up in the Legation at Peking, the telegraphic lines in the hands of the Chinese have transmitted little else than lies, and the real news of the State Department has been supplied from Shanghai.

It is a fortunate thing for us that our Consul-General has risen to the demands of his position. He has proved himself one of the ablest of the men who are here representing foreign nations, and he has kept the United States at the front. Five years ago he was comparatively unknown except in the Northwest. Today he is an international character. The great powers of Europe realize his ability and his prudence are recognized in half the newspapers of the United States. You have read of him and know that his name is John Goodnow; that he comes from Minneapolis, and was appointed by McKinley at the first of his term. You may have heard that he is 42 years of age, and that he was a business man, with a political bent before he entered the Consular service. These are matters of record, but they give you little idea of the man. You have to live with John Goodnow to know him. I have spent weeks with him, and I like him. Just before the war I took a 10 days' trip with him through the canals, a couple of hundred miles back of Shanghai, in a houseboat, and I can tell you he wears. Let me make his pen-picture.

Our Consul-General. John Goodnow is a combination of a diplomat, a business man and a political striker. He would not be out of place as Minister to Peking; he would fit well into any crowd of New York bankers and brokers, and he can hold his own among the politicians of a National convention. He is a blonde, about 6 feet tall, rather slender, but wiry and full of grit.

One thing I must about Goodnow is his sturdy Americanism. He has not an English hair in his head, not a foreign bone in his body. He believes in the living present, and that the United States is a part of it. His American eagle has wings which cover the world, and he thinks that President McKinley is directing its flight. He honors George Washington, I know, but when he came here an incident occurred which caused a great outcry among the old American residents. They said the act was sacrilegious, and they called upon the new Consul-General to remonstrate. Mr. Goodnow listened patiently, and when they concluded by asking him to pull down William and re-instate George, he replied:

"I prefer William McKinley to have the face of George Washington. He is as able as any President we have had, and I owe to him my presence here. As to George Washington, I am glad to have his face still look down from my walls. You may think his present place a secondary one, but gentlemen, this is a live Consulate. President McKinley is very much alive, and, if I remember correctly, President Washington has been dead some years."

Much of Consul-General Goodnow's business is with the missionaries. The United States does more mission work in China than any other nation, and Shanghai is the center of the American movement. Goodnow is a friend of the missionaries, and he pushes their interests. He recently got a big block of land for the stations from the Chinese officials, and he has done much to encourage the missionary hospitals, which he thinks are accomplishing great good. When he leaves Shanghai he often places the Rev. Dr. John R. Hykes, the head of the American Bible Society, in charge of the Consulate, and he makes it his business to watch the interests of American missions as well as American trade.

His Reason for It. His action in this respect was probably stimulated by a remark which President McKinley made when Goodnow visited him at the White House just before he left for China. As the President bade him good-bye he shook his hand and said:

"Now, John, there is one thing I want you to especially remember. That is that you are going out to China as the representative of the American people, not simply as the representative of American trade. I want you to push our trade interests in every possible way, but I want you also to keep your eye on the missions and so what you can for them; for remember that for every man who is interested to the extent of a dollar in trade there are a thousand who are dropping their necks into the missionary plate."

John Goodnow is full of stories of his queer Consular experiences. His position is a curious one. He is the Judge of the highest court of Shanghai, and as such has jurisdiction of all Americans in his Consular district. As to some cases, he is practically the Supreme Judge for the whole of China. He has to deal with the Chinese officials, and he is one of the executives who rule the foreigners of Shanghai. As to the Americans, they use him for everything. Stranded sailors come to him for money to get home, and American women and men bring their troubles to him.

Not long ago a very pretty young woman, who frequently grows desperate over quarrels with her husband, called at the Consulate. She came to Goodnow's office, which, by the way, is a very hand-

some one. It has the most beautiful desk I have ever seen, and the carpet is a velvet rug. Goodnow was sitting at his desk when the woman came in. He looked as he always does, just as cool as the center seed of a well-iced cucumber, while she sputtered like a doughnut when first dropped into the boiling grease of the skillet. She almost screamed:

"Mr. Goodnow, I am going to kill myself! I am going to kill myself right here!"

"What!" said the Consul-General. "I don't think you mean it. I don't think you would be so impulsive as to kill yourself here and spoil my new carpet."

As a Peace-maker. This man, the woman more angry than ever; but her anger was turned from her husband to the Consul-General. However, Goodnow soon got her to tell him her troubles, and persuaded her to give up all idea of suicide and to go back to her husband, as though nothing had happened. She did so, and a few days later Goodnow saw the two walking along the Shanghai Bund arm in arm, cooling and shorting like turtle doves in the Spring.

One of the queer features of the Consulate is the jail. This is necessary, for the Consul-General has to punish the criminals of his own nationality. The jail is in the Consulate, and the prisoners are fed by the Consul-General at a cost of 30 cents each per day. The fact that they always come out fat is an evidence that the allowance is plenty, and the Consul-General's cook, I suppose, makes a profit off the feeding.

One of the curious characters in the jail is a young man who is flourishing much in the papers in his dispatches from Hong Kong regarding matters in Manila and China. He is our Consul-General at that place, and his position is said to be worth in the neighborhood of \$10,000 a year; Mr. Wildman is not only a diplomat, but also an author. He has published good books about the Malays and Straits Settlements, and is just issued, in a small volume, an up-to-date history of China. He is a man of taste and culture, with a penchant for Chinese snuff bottles and curious pets, one of his recent acquisitions being a young tiger cat, which he fondles in the intervals of his Consular and diplomatic labors.

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They were at the breakfast table. Mrs. Peckinham had succeeded, by executing a clever flank movement, in getting hold of the morning paper before the head of the house realized what had happened.

"Oh, pa!" she exclaimed, after looking to see whether there were to be any bargains in taffeta silk waists, or hats, or skirts, or fancy hose, or corset covers, or gloves, or "herringbone" cloth, or walking jackets, or velvet blouses, or colored dress goods, or anything of that kind. "It says here that laughing's good for the digestion. Why don't you try it? You know your digestion isn't what it ought to be at all. And that what he said was such a pleasant way to get cured, too."

"Yes, papa," Miss Peckinham added, "you surely ought to give it a trial. It would be so much better than taking medicine the time you are feeling so queer."

"Well," the old gentleman replied, "I dunno but it would. It's worth trying anyway. When is it that young Noddiekin coming to see you again?"

"Blushing and looking down," I expect Seal here this evening. I-I hope you don't object to his coming to see me, dear, darling, old dad, do you?"

"Oh, no! No! Not a bit of it! Have him come often. Every evening if you like. I want to give this new scheme a fair trial. Just leave the door between the hall and parlor open when you and your Seal are in there, please."

"Why, pa," the happy girl's mother asked, "what makes you want the door between the hall and parlor open when you and your Seal are in there, please?"

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The result was that the Tsung Li Yamen intimated to our State Department that Blair would be persona non grata, and Denby remained. I don't know the story told of Charles Page Bryan, when he was nominated Chinese Minister, stating that he had said he expected to go to China with the American flag in one

hand and the sword of Christ in the other, came from friends of Colonel Denby or not. Colonel Bryan told me that he never uttered those words, and he attributes their publication to other sources.

At any rate, Colonel Denby made a good Minister, and if he did hold his job about three times as long as the average Minister does, I don't see that it is any discredit to him. There is a story out here that he saved much money during his incumbency. The salary, you know, is little

more than \$12,000 a year, or, multiplied by two to reduce it to silver, \$24,000 in the money of the country. I met a man in Shanghai who told me that Colonel Denby had said that he had never saved less than \$8000 gold annually, and his whole term must have, therefore, netted him in the neighborhood of \$200,000. The banks here give from 5 to 7 per cent interest on time deposits, and Colonel Denby probably pulled a nice plum out of his interest account. After he left here he still reaped a good salary, for President McKinley at once gave him an appointment on the Philippine Commission, a place which, it is said, he might still be holding had he not declined a reappointment.

We have an excellent corps of Consuls in China. Fowler is doing good work at Chefoo, in keeping the Government posted on what the Germans are doing, and Anson Burlingame has a most important position at Amoy, where the Philippines have come into our possession. It is from his province that most of the Chinese of the Philippines come, and we have now about 30,000 Celestians there, who are more in charge of the Amoy. Many of them are rich merchants who have trade connections with their home city, and this brings an enormous business to the Consulate. I have not Amoy about any other Consulate in China, except Shanghai, showing a considerable surplus of fees above all expenses.

Steamer to Manila. There is a regular line of steamers from Amoy to Manila, the distance between the two points being about the same as from Manila to Hong Kong. Consul Burlingame thinks his province should be considered a part of the American sphere of influence, and he believes that Americans should work up trade there. That place is one of the few where the United States owns its own building. This is a good thing, adding materially to the standing of the Consul.

When I first visited Canton this year, I stopped with Hubbard T. Smith, who was then in charge of the American Consulate, serving during the interim between Dr. Edward Bedloe and his successor. Every one knows Mr. Smith as the author of "Listen to My Tale of Woe," "Swinging in the Grape-Vine Swing" and other hymn melodies, but all do not know that he is one of the best officers in our Consular service. He is one of the few men on the permanent list being used by the State Department to go from place to place, fill all kinds of vacancies and straighten up mismanaged offices. In Canton I found Mr. Smith close, but not too close, to Li Hung Chang. He was popular with the foreigners and successful with the Chinese. He kept bachelor's hall in one of the finest buildings in the foreign concession of Shanghai, which he had fitted up with electric lights and all other conveniences for the incoming Consul.

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NEW WORK FOR CONGRESS

IMPORTANT MATTERS WILL BE CROWDED INTO SHORT SESSION.

Only 11 Weeks for Actual Work—Cuba, Oklahoma, Oleomargarine, War Tax, Army, Extra Session.

WASHINGTON, Nov. 23.—Like all short sessions, the last session of the Fifty-sixth Congress will be a very busy one, and probably when the adjournment comes on the 4th of March, there will be a great deal of business that many people are interested in without considering the fact that there will be only three months of the session, and out of these three months about two weeks are usually taken up for the holiday recess, gives only about 11 weeks for real work. During these 11 weeks the appropriation

especially when all the revenue raised by it is not necessary. Probably one of the most important pieces of legislation for the Pacific Coast is the Nicaragua Canal bill. This bill passed the House at the last session, and is now in the Senate, set for consideration on the second week of the session. It is difficult to see how the opposition to this bill will be able to defeat it, as every vote ever taken on the Nicaragua Canal bill in the past Congresses has shown a majority in favor of it. At the same time the opposition is every fertile in its management of legislation, and the three months of the short session will possibly afford an opportunity by which the bill can be side-tracked. Of course the last Nicaragua Commission, for which the United States Government is paying \$1,000,000, can be used to good effect. It is not known whether the report of this commission will be ready when Congress meets. If not, a delay can be asked until the report is in. Then the report itself is of extreme length and would take several weeks for examination, and the opponents of the Nicaragua bill could demand time for reading and digesting the report. As a last resort they



UNITED STATES CONSUL-GENERAL WILDMAN, HONG KONG, CHINA, AND HIS PET TIGER CAT.

could read the report in the Senate, and that would mean practically the defeat of the legislation. It is stated that in the New York of the proposed Nicaragua Canal will be the Panama interests, and possibly a large lobby will be in Washington fighting the canal bill. At all events it looks like a spirited fight to the friends of the canal who will have to stand very firm if they are successful.

The Subsidy Proposition. The subsidy shipping bill reached the stage of report in the last session of Congress. The Senate committee on commerce and the House committee on merchant marine and fisheries reported almost identical bills for a subsidy amounting to about \$3,000,000 a year to be paid to new ships flying the American flag. It is well understood that the men behind the subsidy bill will do everything in their power to get it through. There is a possibility that in the Senate it will clash with the Nicaragua Canal bill, and possibly the friends of the Nicaragua Canal will have a compromise with those of the subsidy bill in order to secure the legislation. If such a compromise could be brought about, both bills would pass. If there should be a deadlock between the interests, both bills would fail. The general impression is that if this Congressional session does not pass the subsidy bill, the next Congress will, and for that reason it may be allowed to go through without the long debate in the Senate. If the friends of the subsidy bill should determine to pass it, even if it forced an extra session, the opponents would probably come down, as the Democrats, who are the principal opponents of the subsidy bill, desire an extra session, in many instances, have been found very onerous, and men in all walks of life are objecting seriously to the imposition of these taxes, which are very great to themselves, but which cause a great deal of

War Revenue Reduction. What is considered one of the most important pieces of legislation to be enacted at this session is the reduction of the war revenue tax. There is great complaint in many sections of the country of the present tax, and since there is a good surplus in the Treasury, it is thought that a portion of the taxes imposed by the war revenue act of 1898 can be dispensed with. The ways and means committee has been called to meet some days before Congress convenes to consider a bill to either repeal or amend the war revenue act. Of course, it is well known that it cannot be entirely repealed, as the revenue is necessary, but it will be reduced, and possibly materially changed. The stamp taxes, in many instances, have been found very onerous, and men in all walks of life are objecting seriously to the imposition of these taxes, which are very great to themselves, but which cause a great deal of

Oleomargarine Again. The House of Representatives has set December 6 for the consideration of the bill amending the oleomargarine act and causing more stringent regulations to be made for the enforcement of the oleomargarine law and to prevent oleomargarine from masquerading as butter anywhere. This bill has been urged by the dairy interests of the United States, and will cause a great deal of disappointment among those who do not want it. The probabilities are that it will pass the House, but the Senate can defeat it by prolonging debate. Republican Senators will naturally be interested in it, but the Democrats will oppose it with vigor because there is danger that such legislation as this will be followed by legislation against cotton seed oil, which harms so many people, and also against olive oil and other manufactures used for food.

Army Legislation. The most important matter to come up before the session of Congress, however, from almost any point, is that of Army legislation. It is well known that the Administration would like provision to be made for an army of 100,000 men. In this connection they would like to have a regular army skeleton of 50,000 men, with officers sufficient for that number, and with further provision that in times like the present, or until the Philippines are pacified, that it can be enlarged to 100,000 men, just as the present regular army of 27,000 men is now enlarged to 65,000 by the addition of enlisted men to each company, troop and battery.

In connection with the Army legislation there is a possibility of the last political campaign being thrashed over, although it is more than probable that the Democrats will not feel much inclined to discuss the last campaign. They will oppose an increase of the regular Army, but it looks as if the Administration and the Republican majority were determined to increase the regular army either to 50,000 or 75,000 men, and to provide for a temporary force large enough and strong enough to put down the Filipino insurrection. If the Democrats put up opposition to this to such an extent as to force an extra session, an extra session will be called, and then the Republican majority will legislate as it pleases. At all events the Republicans are determined not to go backward on this subject, and they will force through such Army legislation as will meet the present demands.

There is also a desire to reorganize the Army staff in connection with all Army legislation. It is doubtful whether the bills must pass, and some provision must be made for an army to take the place of the army which will be mustered out on July 1, 1901, and various other legislation must get through. If this fall, there will be an extra session, and it is impossible to find any member of Congress who wants an extra session. Certainly, the Administration will be glad to avoid it, and only the utmost necessity would compel President McKinley to call an extra session of Congress immediately after adjournment of the present Congress. There will probably be a short session of the Senate, which is necessary for the inauguration of the President and Vice-President, and to confirm such nominations as the President may deem necessary. The confirmation of officers, however, at this time is not so important, because the same President has been re-elected.

The impious caddy will sell his golf-ball for gold.

will be successful. The staff departments are fighting all such proposed reorganization very hard, and the staff departments are a power in Congress.

Congressional Apportionment. There is a possibility of the Congressional apportionment bill becoming fully as important as the Army bill in the matter of partisan politics. A large number of Republicans are determined to reduce the representation of the Southern States because the negroes of those states have been disfranchised. There is no possibility of passing such a bill as that at the short session, especially with the liberal rules for debate in the Senate. Just as Gorman and the Democratic minority defeated the last elections bill in the last Congress, will the Democratic Senators of the present Congress defeat an apportionment bill which will take away a large part of the representation of the South, reduce the power of the South in the House of Representatives, in the Electoral College and in all National conventions. An extra session would be necessary to pass any such apportionment bill as that.

The probabilities are that while this will be tried, it will not meet with favor. Republicans representing states like Delaware, Maryland, West Virginia, Ohio, Indiana, Illinois and Kansas, where the negro vote cuts an important figure in every Presidential election, will not be likely to pass a measure which practically acquiesces in the disfranchisement of the negro in the South. If the Republicans support a bill reducing the representation on account of disfranchisement, they will recognize such a measure in a legal manner. The probabilities are that an apportionment bill will pass based upon population, and that it will pass at this session. As nearly every state Legislature will assemble this winter, they can, under the apportionment act, redistrict their states in accordance with the number of members to which they will be entitled. As this will be urged, and as it will probably soon be observed that the proposed reduction of representation in the South is practically impossible at this session, the apportionment on a nonpartisan basis is likely to pass, it may be that these states will be determined enough to put it over until the next session, and fight it out at the long session of Congress. The 57th Congress will not be affected by any apportionment legislation any way, and as it is Republican by a good majority, in both branches, the Republicans will decide to see how a proposed reduction in the South will be accepted.

About Our Islands. Although the Philippines were discussed up one side and down the other in the last session of Congress, we are likely to have a deal more of talk in this session. Not only on the increase of the Army bill, but in case the Republicans decide to press what is known as the Spooner bill, placing the government of the Philippines absolutely in the hands of the President, there will be a great deal of talk in the Senate. In the House it can be shut out, but in the Senate there will be abundant talk upon it. Legislation for the Philippines, if attempted, would cause a great deal of discussion, but aside from simply passing the Spooner bill, it cannot be readily seen what necessity there is for legislation now or until the islands are pacified. From a Republican point of view, and that is the view that must be accepted—there is no necessity of Philippine legislation for the Philippines. Some may pass for Porto Rico, and Cuba offers possibilities, but not probabilities. In the way of legislative concern, the constitutional convention which is now in session at Havana is not likely to conclude its labors in time for this session of Congress to act. Consequently further than desultory discussion of the Philippine question, there is no likelihood of improvements in Cuba. Little is likely to be done.

This prediction can be made with some authority; that unless the Cuban constitutional convention acts, and unless there is reference to what Cuba owes to the United States, and proposes a constitution which will guarantee the safety of life and property in Cuba, and which is accepted by Congress and the Administration. There is danger that this constitutional convention will overdo itself, and it may provide loopholes by which the island can be robbed of its sugar, its coffee, its bituminous contracts. It is incumbent upon the Cubans who are forming the constitution to have a frugal government, because the limited population of the island cannot stand heavy taxes.

Should Be Another State. There ought not to be any question about the admission of Oklahoma at this session of Congress, and the State of Oklahoma ought to appear at the next Congress with two Senators and two Representatives. The territory has nearly 400,000 population, which is a population which is not a floating mining-camp population, here today and gone tomorrow. The territory has been marvelously prosperous, and it would be absurd for this Congress to be called into session, which shows such a large population, especially as there are at least seven other states with a smaller number of people, who long have had the right to become States, and in the Senate and House of Representatives.

Oklahoma, New Mexico and Arizona were tied together to a certain extent when they were admitted to their admission. Arizona and New Mexico are kept out because of the large proportion of Spanish population, general illiteracy and the almost certain fact that their admission would mean four additional free-silver Senators. There was a danger at one time that Oklahoma would add two more free-silver Senators if she was admitted, and that danger is now past. Oklahoma is safely Republican, safely for sound money, and if admitted now by a Republican Congress, would probably be a Republican for many years to come. There are no other states in the territory to turn to silver, and although it lies between Kansas and Texas, and is situated somewhat by Populism, the redemption of Oklahoma this year would indicate that Oklahoma people from Kansas, Nebraska and other states in that region are on the right road in politics. Oklahoma is entitled to admission, and the probabilities are that it will secure it at the coming session of Congress.

Mouth of the Columbia. Of vast importance to Oregon and Washington is the river and harbor bill, which ought to pass at this session. The short session of Congress two years ago passed a river and harbor bill, and it will be remembered that the hard fight was over the Nicaragua Canal provision which it contained, and which was finally yielded by the Senate, and the irrigation proposition which the Senators from mountain states insisted should be included in the bill. The mouth of the river and harbor bill was passed at the long session, and that makes it necessary for something to be done this session, or works on rivers and harbors will be badly damaged by failure of money to continue them and take care of them. If a river and harbor bill is passed, it seems almost certain that provision will be made for the channel at the mouth of the Columbia River, a provision earnestly recommended by all the engineers who have passed upon it, and which it is understood that the approval and sanction of the majority of the members of the river and harbor committee of the House and the commerce committee of the Senate. This deep-water channel, which is the mouth of the Columbia, followed by a deeper channel to Portland, will probably mean the establishment of a navy-yard on the Columbia River, or at least the building of a Government shipyard, which is already been acknowledged as of prime necessity and importance.

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will be successful. The staff departments are fighting all such proposed reorganization very hard, and the staff departments are a power in Congress.

Congressional Apportionment. There is a possibility of the Congressional apportionment bill becoming fully as important as the Army bill in the matter of partisan politics. A large number of Republicans are determined to reduce the representation of the Southern States because the negroes of those states have been disfranchised. There is no possibility of passing such a bill as that at the short session, especially with the liberal rules for debate in the Senate. Just as Gorman and the Democratic minority defeated the last elections bill in the last Congress, will the Democratic Senators of the present Congress defeat an apportionment bill which will take away a large part of the representation of the South, reduce the power of the South in the House of Representatives, in the Electoral College and in all National conventions. An extra session would be necessary to pass any such apportionment bill as that.

The probabilities are that while this will be tried, it will not meet with favor. Republicans representing states like Delaware, Maryland, West Virginia, Ohio, Indiana, Illinois and Kansas, where the negro vote cuts an important figure in every Presidential election, will not be likely to pass a measure which practically acquiesces in the disfranchisement of the negro in the South. If the Republicans support a bill reducing the representation on account of disfranchisement, they will recognize such a measure in a legal manner. The probabilities are that an apportionment bill will pass based upon population, and that it will pass at this session. As nearly every state Legislature will assemble this winter, they can, under the apportionment act, redistrict their states in accordance with the number of members to which they will be entitled. As this will be urged, and as it will probably soon be observed that the proposed reduction of representation in the South is practically impossible at this session, the apportionment on a nonpartisan basis is likely to pass, it may be that these states will be determined enough to put it over until the next session, and fight it out at the long session of Congress. The 57th Congress will not be affected by any apportionment legislation any way, and as it is Republican by a good majority, in both branches, the Republicans will decide to see how a proposed reduction in the South will be accepted.

About Our Islands. Although the Philippines were discussed up one side and down the other in the last session of Congress, we are likely to have a deal more of talk in this session. Not only on the increase of the Army bill, but in case the Republicans decide to press what is known as the Spooner bill, placing the government of the Philippines absolutely in the hands of the President, there will be a great deal of talk in the Senate. In the House it can be shut out, but in the Senate there will be abundant talk upon it. Legislation for the Philippines, if attempted, would cause a great deal of discussion, but aside from simply passing the Spooner bill, it cannot be readily seen what necessity there is for legislation now or until the islands are pacified. From a Republican point of view, and that is the view that must be accepted—there is no necessity of Philippine legislation for the Philippines. Some may pass for Porto Rico, and Cuba offers possibilities, but not probabilities. In the way of legislative concern, the constitutional convention which is now in session at Havana is not likely to conclude its labors in time for this session of Congress to act. Consequently further than desultory discussion of the Philippine question, there is no likelihood of improvements in Cuba. Little is likely to be done.

This prediction can be made with some authority; that unless the Cuban constitutional convention acts, and unless there is reference to what Cuba owes to the United States, and proposes a constitution which will guarantee the safety of life and property in Cuba, and which is accepted by Congress and the Administration. There is danger that this constitutional convention will overdo itself, and it may provide loopholes by which the island can be robbed of its sugar, its coffee, its bituminous contracts. It is incumbent upon the Cubans who are forming the constitution to have a frugal government, because the limited population of the island cannot stand heavy taxes.

Should Be Another State. There ought not to be any question about the admission of Oklahoma at this session of Congress, and the State of Oklahoma ought to appear at the next Congress with two Senators and two Representatives. The territory has nearly 400,000 population, which is a population which is not a floating mining-camp population, here today and gone tomorrow. The territory has been marvelously prosperous, and it would be absurd for this Congress to be called into session, which shows such a large population, especially as there are at least seven other states with a smaller number of people, who long have had the right to become States, and in the Senate and House of Representatives.

Oklahoma, New Mexico and Arizona were tied together to a certain extent when they were admitted to their admission. Arizona and New Mexico are kept out because of the large proportion of Spanish population, general illiteracy and the almost certain fact that their admission would mean four additional free-silver Senators. There was a danger at one time that Oklahoma would add two more free-silver Senators if she was admitted, and that danger is now past. Oklahoma is safely Republican, safely for sound money, and if admitted now by a Republican Congress, would probably be a Republican for many years to come. There are no other states in the territory to turn to silver, and although it lies between Kansas and Texas, and is situated somewhat by Populism, the redemption of Oklahoma this year would indicate that Oklahoma people from Kansas, Nebraska and other states in that region are on the right road in politics. Oklahoma is entitled to admission, and the probabilities are that it will secure it at the coming session of Congress.

Mouth of the Columbia. Of vast importance to Oregon and Washington is the river and harbor bill, which ought to pass at this session. The short session of Congress two years ago passed a river and harbor bill, and it will be remembered that the hard fight was over the Nicaragua Canal provision which it contained, and which was finally yielded by the Senate, and the irrigation proposition which the Senators from mountain states insisted should be included in the bill. The mouth of the river and harbor bill was passed at the long session, and that makes it necessary for something to be done this session, or works on rivers and harbors will be badly damaged by failure of money to continue them and take care of them. If a river and harbor bill is passed, it seems almost certain that provision will be made for the channel at the mouth of the Columbia River, a provision earnestly recommended by all the engineers who have passed upon it, and which it is understood that the approval and sanction of the majority of the members of the river and harbor committee of the House and the commerce committee of the Senate. This deep-water channel, which is the mouth of the Columbia, followed by a deeper channel to Portland, will probably