

# TALES OF WEST POINT HAZINGS

## Cadets Sheridan and Hobson Tell of Their Experiences.

### THIRTY-FIVE WERE EXAMINED

Special Committee From National House of Representatives Will Also Look Into the Cause of the Death of Booz.

WEST POINT, Dec. 19.—Some interesting testimony was brought out today by the court of inquiry which is investigating the alleged hazing of cadets at the academy here in connection with the recent death of former Cadet Booz.

Thirty-five cadets were examined during the morning and afternoon session and of these one was the brother of Lieutenant Hobson of Merimac fame; another was the son of Gen. Phil Sheridan, and the third, Mark Brooks, of Pennsylvania, nephew of General Brooks, who is an officer of the court.

All three told of hazings they got during the encampment of 1896 at the time Booz was their classmate, and not one of them said that the treatment received or the things they had to do were either brutal or degrading.

Hobson's worst ordeal was when he had to stand on his head in a bath tub in which there was about ten inches of water. He said he was partially strangled but was all right in a few minutes. Young Phil Sheridan was made to ride a broomstick along the street in commemoration of his illustrious father's ride and he had to keep shouting, "Turn, boys, turn." At the time, he did not think this was humiliating, he said, although he did not relish the task.

In nearly every instance the witnesses said that all the more brutal forms of hazing were obsolete and, while "bracing" was still practiced secretly, it was against the regulations and if anyone were detected violating these regulations he would be summarily dealt with and severely punished.

There are about a score or more of Booz's classmates to be examined and there are several of the first class men to be heard from as well as some of the officers.

**WILL PROBE CASE TO BOTTOM.**  
WASHINGTON, Dec. 19.—The special committee appointed by Speaker Henderson to investigate the circumstances connected with the death of Oscar L. Booz, who is alleged to have died as a result of injuries received from a hazing while cadet at West Point, today decided to enter upon the investigation immediately after the holiday recess. The committee has determined to probe the case to the bottom.

**WESTBOUND RATE SITUATION.**  
Passenger Agents Are Very Well Satisfied With Present Conditions.

NEW YORK, Dec. 19.—The Times prints the following:  
The west bound committee of the Trunk Line Association has just held its last meeting of the current year, closing the first year of the existence of the joint passenger arrangement. To this is due the present satisfactory condition of the westbound passenger rate situation which, according to the unanimous testimony of the passenger agents expressed at the meeting, is better than it has ever been at the end of any previous year.

At the meeting a proposition was made to change the New York-Chicago rates of the differential lines so as to make them conform with those of the Erie, which would mean that the West Shore, the Lehigh Valley, the Lackawanna and the Baltimore & Ohio would have to charge \$18 for the trip instead of \$17. The proposition was laid over until the next meeting.

**AMERICAN PROPERTY SEIZED.**  
Plant of National Asphalt Company Confiscated by the Venezuelan Government.  
NEW YORK, Dec. 19.—The Tribune prints the following:  
A cable message received at the offices of the National Asphalt Company, from its agent in Venezuela, announces that a revolution has broken out in that country. No details were contained in the message.  
The revolution, it is said, is probably the outcome of an attempt on the part of the president and the cabinet of Venezuela to deprive American corporations of their property and rights.  
The National Asphalt Company will be one of the principal sufferers from this. The company owns large concess-

ions and mining titles in the state of Bermudez, Venezuela. The company has been in actual possession of the Bermudez asphalt lake for twelve years and in this time it has built up the village of Guanaco and erected buildings, shops and a railroad.  
Several attempts have been made by the government of Venezuela to cancel the company's possessions, but these attempts have always failed. At four o'clock on December 13, President Castro personally told United States Minister Loomis at Caracas that two government commissions had proved the company's rights to its property. At 6 o'clock on the same day it is alleged that the president seized the entire property and divided it among others.  
General Avery B. Andrews, vice-president of the company, has appealed to the United States government for assistance. In a letter to the shareholders he says:  
"The financial interests represented in this matter are so great that we feel justified in asking prompt and positive action upon the part of the United States government. Every legal remedy has been exhausted and a failure to intervene will result in great loss to the company."  
"It must be borne in mind at all times that the Venezuelan government has taken our entire property and that the issue is a clean cut one between a responsible American company and the Venezuelan government."

**A GAMBLING SHIP.**  
Proposition to Have a Floating Miniature Monte Carlo in the English Channel.  
NEW YORK, Dec. 19.—A dispatch to the Journal and Advertiser from London says:  
A syndicate has been formed to buy an obsolete Atlantic liner. It heretofore was a miniature Monte Carlo casino, moored her off the English coast; just outside the three mile limit and run a big game in the English channel off Brighton, the place chosen. Launches will run back and forth to meet the London trains.  
The boat will be a floating hotel as well as a gambling resort and visitors may live aboard as long as they please, in luxurious surroundings. Experienced croupiers will be imported from Monte Carlo and roulette will be the principal game played in strict accordance with Monaco rules.  
Nominally it will be a club, but any man belonging to any recognized club in Europe can easily obtain admission upon payment of a nominal fee. This is similar to the rule of the Osmond Club. A private part of the ship will be devoted to a restricted club like any London club, with heavy subscriptions and limited membership. This will be for private play.  
The promoters say making money is not so much their object as providing a place where Englishmen can gamble. They reckon the profits of the hotel and restaurant business will be sufficient to pay the expenses, so every reasonable concession will be made to gamblers.  
The cost of the ship and outfitting is estimated at \$250,000, while more than that will be subscribed to stake the bank.

**ENGLAND NOT INDIFFERENT.**  
London Times Says British Cannot Believe America Will Denounce Solomons International Agreement.  
LONDON, Dec. 19.—Sir Charles Dilke, in an interview published in the Daily Chronicle, emphasizes the statement that there are countries besides Great Britain interested in the Nicaraguan canal. He points out that France is interested by treaty so that the question cannot be treated, in his opinion, as merely between Great Britain and the United States.  
No great importance is attached by Sir Charles to the question of fortification of the canal in time of war. He thinks the matter is essentially and entirely commercial and that the fortification is being used as a standing horse for the public.  
The Times, commenting upon the "misconception in the United States of England's calm attitude regarding the Hay-Pauncefote treaty, says:  
"The idea that this calmness is due to indifference is absurd and betrays a curious unfamiliarity with English habits and methods. We are not disturbed, simply because we cannot bring ourselves to believe that a one-sided denunciation of a solemn international agreement, solely and confessedly because it is inconvenient, will commend itself either to President McKinley, Mr. Hay or the American people."  
"If Mr. McKinley stands by the Hay-Pauncefote arrangement, the action of the senate will not acquire international importance. He has just been re-elected and holds a strong position and if he has the courage of his convictions he has only to exercise his undoubted constitutional rights in order to render the proceedings of the senate innocuous. If he appeals boldly to the people can it be doubted that they would support him?"

**ENGLISHMAN PROZE TO DEATH.**  
Another Fatality Reported From the Dawson Trail.  
SEATTLE, Dec. 19.—Thomas Parker, a native of Lincolnshire, England, was frozen to death near the mouth of White river in the Klondike district, early in November.  
He and another man were building winter quarters and, when some distance from camp, Parker fell through the ice crossing a stream. He got out safely but dropped on the trail before reaching camp and froze to death. He was about 37 years of age.

## LONDON RAPID TRANSIT. Believed to Be the Only Solution of the Housing Problem.

NEW YORK, Dec. 19.—A dispatch to the Tribune from London says:  
Lord Salisbury rendered an indirect tribute to Earl Rosebery in bringing up the housing question at the Conservative conference at the Whitehall rooms. He grew eloquent in advocating the rehousing of the masses as the most urgent of all the issues of social reform and he took the precaution of referring to an old time speech of his on the subject, probably a proof that he was not a recent convert to the cause revived by Rosebery.  
Practical reformers not in politics make no concealment of the fact that philanthropy and municipal socialism have failed to relieve the congested centers of London's population and that the underground transit offers the only practicable solution of the housing problem by keeping the millions in the suburbs in touch with their work. The London county council has not attempted to grapple with the transit problem but has left private companies free to burrow deep in the clay strata underlying the metropolis.

The Paris municipal council, in constructing a similar system as a public work, has cheapened the process by borrowing the money required at low rates. The London county council might have accomplished the same result and the facilities for economic financing were more important here than in Paris, for deep level tunnels are more expensive than tunnels close to the surface and viaducts and open cuttings are intractable in London.  
There are signs that the money required for the carrying out of the numerous underground transit schemes is raised with difficulty and that some of the best London undertakings will be kept back on this account. The metropolitan district railways are floating it difficult to obtain on suitable terms the capital needed for the substituting of electric power for steam on the old underground system and the report of the London and Globe finance corporation, which has been financing the Baker Street Waterloo Railway, shows that the unfinished line needs large amounts of capital.  
Rumors are current that the Yerkes syndicate has been approached with proposals for the purchase of the Waterloo and Baker Street concession, the completion of the line in connection with the Charing Cross and Hampstead enterprise, but the reports are premature. There are a good many electric undertakings which the syndicate of Chicago capitalists can have, but not on their own terms. The underground electric railways may be some good investments if the Central London in its annual report exhibits a full margin of profit and no serious depression from plant and rolling stock in consequence of the immense traffic, but investors are not sure of their ground.  
The cost of all these enterprises would have been greatly reduced if there had been a comprehensive transit scheme and if the London county council had undertaken the work with the credit of the metropolitan government behind it.

**REFORM HAS BEEN CHECKED.**  
Civil Service Reform League Attacks the Administration.  
WASHINGTON, Dec. 19.—The committee of the National Civil Service Reform League appointed to investigate the condition of the federal civil service and the enforcement of the reform law and rules under the present administration has submitted a report saying that the progress of the reform in its application to the federal service has been seriously checked.  
The committee asserts that the law has not been thoroughly and honestly enforced and that conspicuous opportunities for its extension have been set aside. Figures are presented showing that, during the year ending June 1 last, 4,640 federal appointments were made through competitive examinations while 9,123 were made without such examinations, 2,242 being temporary appointments and 2,400 appointments in the census office.  
Of presidential appointments the committee says they have been controlled almost exclusively by senators and representatives or unofficial political leaders whose selections the president had ratified.

**NEW PRESIDENT AND MANAGER.**  
Changes in the Personnel of the Flemington Coal and Coke Company.  
NEW YORK, Dec. 19.—A meeting of the directors of the Flemington Coal and Coke Company has just been held and several important changes have been made in the personnel of the company.  
Joseph T. Redding, president of the company, tendered his resignation, as did also S. H. Simpson, vice-president and general manager. In their places George Clinton Gardner was elected president and general manager.  
Mr. Gardner was until recently in charge of the coal department of the Pennsylvania Railroad. The significance of the change is that J. B. Haggin, former partner of the late Marcus Daly in the copper business, now has practically full control of the company. The treasurer, H. E. Moller and the secretary, R. F. Leavitt, continue in their positions. Mr. Moller was formerly assistant secretary of the Anaconda Mining Company before it passed under the control of the Amalgamated Copper Company.

**DEFAULTER DISCOVERED.**  
Disappeared Last July and Was Found in Cattle Business Near El Paso.  
DENVER, Dec. 19.—H. M. Henderson, formerly assistant cashier of the First National Bank of Greeley, Colorado, who disappeared last July, has been located in a small town near El Paso, Tex., on the Mexican side of the border.  
After Henderson left Greeley, the bank officials made an examination of his books and discovered, it is said, a shortage of nearly \$20,000. A diligent search for him has since been made and recently a dispatch came from El Paso saying that a man answering Henderson's description was engaged in the cattle business near there. Further investigation resulted in his identification as the missing Greeley man. An officer from Greeley has gone to El Paso to bring Henderson back for trial.  
Henderson entered the service of the bank when he was 17 years of age and has been in its employ twenty years. He was highly esteemed by the bank officials and occupied a respectable place in the community. Henderson has a wife and one child.

**HIGHWAY ROBBER KILLED.**  
Quickness and Accuracy of Aim Saved Life of a Chicago Man.  
CHICAGO, Dec. 19.—John, alias Red, Corbett, who has served several terms in the penitentiary, was shot and instantly killed late last night by Edward J. Grady, who surprised him with a companion in the act of committing a highway robbery.  
Grady fired, he says, only after Corbett had turned his revolver on him, and there seems to be no doubt that it was only his quickness and true aim that saved his life. The bullet from Grady's revolver struck Corbett in the heart and he fell dead in his tracks. Corbett's companion escaped.

**HER LADYSHIP SWINDLED.**  
Was Persuaded to Invest Her Thousands in a Bucket Shop.  
NEW YORK, Dec. 19.—A dispatch to the Herald from London says:  
The story of Lady Miles, widow of Sir Philip Miles, her thousands and a bucket shop is being told before the lord chief justice, the lady having sued Messrs. Duncan, of Waterloo Place, for

£8,127, the proceeds of a sale of consols.  
Duncan's is the name under which Henry Lowenfeld, of the Shaftesbury Theatre; A. A. Hannay and W. Stark do business as outside or "curb" brokers. They issued a book called "How Money Makes Money." Lady Miles saw this book in August, 1898, and wrote to Messrs. Duncan. Since then £10,000 or more of her money has passed through Duncan's hands.  
Lady Miles began with a three-share deal in August, 1898. By November, 1899, transactions involving about \$100,000 were open between her ladyship and Duncan's.  
"While the firm," said the plaintiff's counsel, "were ever ready with advice to Lady Miles about buying stocks and shares, whenever she bought they always sold."  
Toward the end of the dealings Lady Miles' daughter suggested to Messrs. Duncan that it would be a good thing to sell instead of buying. Mr. Hannay told her it would be ruinous to "sell a bear." Said Lady Miles:  
"I now see it would have been ruinous to him, so he did not sell." Lady Miles decided to go in more heavily. A statement of her account rendered on November 24 showed that the proceeds of the sale of her £8,500 in consols as well as some gold field shares had been absorbed.  
"A portion of your capital is used to deduct the value of your shares," was the way the firm put it. When she instructed them to close her speculative accounts she was told that all her money had been swallowed up besides which, she owed the firm the sum of £1,330.  
This meant that Lady Miles had lost altogether £10,713. She was being cross-examined when the case was adjourned.

**COAL OPERATORS MEET.**  
Largely Attended Secret Conference Held in New York City.  
NEW YORK, Dec. 19.—The independent anthracite coal operators have just held a secret meeting in this city which was very largely attended by the representatives of the collieries that have not been purchased by the representatives of J. Pierpont Morgan & Company of the New York, Ontario & Western Railway Company.  
Great reticence was manifested on the part of those who were present as to the details of business transacted. It is understood that some of the members were inclined to criticize the action of the Pennsylvania Coal Company in selling out to Mr. Morgan, and E. I. Fuller, in disposing of the Mount Pleasant mines to the Ontario & Western Railroad. All that could be learned of the meeting was contained in the following brief statement:  
"Special attention was given to a consideration of the means of disposing of the independent operators' tonnage, a plan for which was favorably acted upon. The details of this plan will not be made public for some time, perhaps not for two weeks."  
**CUBAN MARQUISE DEAD.**  
Descended From One of the Military Grandees of Spain.  
NEW YORK, Dec. 19.—Marquise Aurora de la Torre y Maclas is dead. She expected to sail for Cuba in a few days. She has not visited that island since the Spanish yoke was lifted. She belonged to one of the oldest families of Spain which in recent years refused to acknowledge the rule of the mother country. Many of her relatives fought in the cause of Cuban independence. She was descended from one of the grandees of Spain, who obtained honor and preferment for distinguished military service in the seventeenth century. General de la Torre, her father, served in the insurgent army in the ten years' war. He died in 1890.  
Owing to the political status of Cuba, the marquise and her husband left the island in 1895. Her husband died in 1897. She owned estates at Puerto Principe and her husband had an estate in the province of Matanzas. The marquise had a claim of \$40,000 against the government for damages done to her plantation in the Spanish-American war.

**TO WELCOME THE CENTURY.**  
Chicago Will Have the Most Elaborate "Watch Night" Services Ever Known.  
CHICAGO, Dec. 19.—Welcoming the new century and bidding farewell to the old is to be made the occasion of the most elaborate and impressive "watch night" services Chicago has ever known.

Leaders in the movement for a general celebration maintain that there are many sentiments associated with the event that should make it one of the most important in history. The Rev. H. G. Jackson, presiding elder of the Chicago district, said:  
"Nearly every church in my district is to hold 'watch night' services. Each pastor will arrange his own programme, which will be participated in by the pastor, congregation, Epworth League and Sunday school. There will be preaching, prayer meeting, song service, testimonials, social features, ending with silent prayer at midnight. After the stroke of the clock that ushers in the new century there will be general handshaking and congratulations."

**ENGLAND SHOULD ACCEPT.**  
Labouchere Says It Would Be Wise to Accept the Amended Treaty.  
LONDON, Dec. 19.—Henry Labouchere, discussing the Hay-Pauncefote treaty in Truth, says:  
"Although theoretically we are not masters of the Buez canal we are so practically, owing to our tenure in Egypt and our hold of the Red sea. I do not think the United States senate is wrong in inserting the Davis amendment."  
"The conditions are, therefore, first—whether we ought to risk creating ill feeling toward us on the part of the United States and, second—whether we should not be gainers by the construction of the canal even if it were in the military occupation of the United States."  
Having answered the first question in the negative and the second in the affirmative, he concludes:  
"Great Britain would be wise in accepting the amended treaty."

**CANADA'S CUP RACES.**  
Proposition to Hold Them Off Buffalo in Connection With the Exposition.  
CHICAGO, Dec. 19.—A proposition to sail the Canada's cup races off Buffalo at the time of the Pan-American Exposition has been received from Commodore Howes, of the Buffalo Yacht Club.  
The Buffalo yachtsmen are already making preparations on a large scale for the regatta the last week of July.  
**AMBIGUITY CAUSES FRAUD.**  
New York Produce Exchange Wants Precise Definition for Terms "Car," "Immediate," "Quick" and "Prompt."  
NEW YORK, Dec. 19.—The Journal of Commerce prints the following:  
A special committee of the New York Produce exchange has finished its important work and has reported to its members in its attempt to remedy an abuse

that has recently crept into the grain trade. The committee handed its report to President Howes with the recommendation that he call a special meeting of the trade with a view of having the work of the committee incorporated into the regulations governing the grain trade of the exchange.  
The trouble arises in the absence of uniformity of grain cars, which it is claimed gives western shippers an opportunity to juggle with orders from eastern buyers. It is charged that western shippers are able to send large or small cars according as the market between the date of purchase and date of shipment shall fluctuate.  
If the market declines, there is great inducement to send as large an amount of grain as possible at the purchase price and a large car is therefore selected. If, on the other hand, the market advances, there is corresponding incentive to send as small an amount as possible and a small car is selected.  
Another source of criticism is that western shippers have been placing their own construction upon what constitutes "immediate" and "quick and prompt" shipments and if the market shows a declining tendency there has, it is claimed, frequently been a marked disposition to stretch these terms to unreasonable limits.  
The committee in its report suggests giving to each term a specific meaning.

**TRYING TO GET MILLIONS.**  
American Family Believes that the English Court of Chancery Owes It a Fortune.  
NEW YORK, Dec. 19.—A dispatch to the Journal and Advertiser from London says:  
The Corey family, of Nebraska and Kansas, has been trying to get a fortune of \$200,000,000, alleged to be lying in the English court of chancery. Elisha Corey, of Omaha, who believes himself to be heir to two millions, is the leader of the project, while Jay Corey, of Towanda, Kas., thinks his share is thirteen millions.  
Letters circulated declare that gold, stocks and bonds belonging to the Corey family and held by the English court for 65 years are now about to be secured. Inquiries having been made through official channels, the court of chancery replied that not a penny of the Corey estate was held.

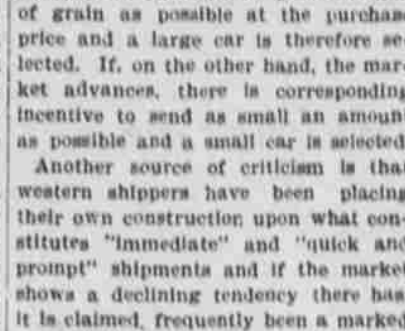
**VENEZUELAN CABINET.**  
Serious Differences of Political Leaders Paralyze the Administration of Public Affairs.  
NEW YORK, Dec. 19.—A dispatch to the Herald from Valparaiso, Chile, says:  
Efforts of the various political elements to form a cabinet have practically paralyzed the administration of public affairs. Much damage to the country has resulted and the crisis has caused great discontent.  
President Errazuriz is at his country residence awaiting the result of the protracted endeavors of the political leaders to reconcile their differences. His hope is that they will agree upon a ministry in harmony with the aspirations of all parties regarding the presidential electoral convention.  
His desire is that this body shall be composed of the moderate and liberal elements of the country.

**ANOTHER AIR SHIP.**  
Said to Be Better Than Zeppelin's and is Backed by Austrian Emperor.  
NEW YORK, Dec. 19.—A dispatch to the Journal and Advertiser from Vienna says:  
An Austrian engineer, William Kress, has invented an air ship which is pronounced to be better than Zeppelin's. The emperor's attention being called to the model, he has become much interested and expressed the belief that it would be successful.  
Kress not having money to build a large ship, the emperor said he would fix that and contributed \$1000 out of his own pocket. Numerous others followed suit and Kress will build the ship.

**CHECK TO GOVERNMENT.**  
Spanish Chamber of Deputies Again Disagrees With the Cabinet.  
MADRID, Dec. 19.—The minister of marine, Rear-Admiral Ramon, in the course of an interview on the subject of the slight reverse suffered by the government yesterday during the discussion in the chamber of deputies of the special naval budget for the increase of the navy, said he alone was not responsible for the check to the government, since the question at issue had been decided by the whole cabinet. The ministers will meet today to discuss the situation.

**CHILE WILL SEND AN EXHIBIT.**  
VALPARAISO, Chile, Dec. 19.—The chamber of deputies has passed a bill appropriating \$50,000 for the Chilean exhibit at the Pan-American Exposition in Buffalo.  
A prohibitionist will kick just as hard as any one else when he finds water in the milk.

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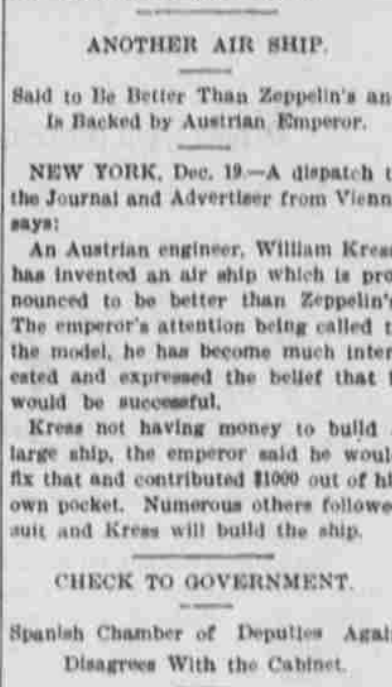
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