Times-Mountaineer.

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THE PENSION SYSTEM.

In view of the impending war clouds all over the civilized world, and especially in view of the present absurd bellicose attitude of Spain toward this country, there seems to be pressing need of an immediate interpretation by our lawmakers in congress of some clear definition of the relation of pensioners to military service in future wars; and it is strange that a note of warning has never yet been sounded by our great leaders of thought, through the metropolitan press, on the subject.

We all know by experience, that when the war is over, it will be too late for clear and cool judgment to prevail in this matter. Then a people, grateful to their brave defenders (and other potent agencies) will allow sentiment to predominate over caution, but now it could be, and should be, an easy matter. A pension for disabling wounds received in battle defending our country, should be a mark of honor, second only to that "red badge of carnage," the scar itself; and the pensioner ought to receive enough, should he need it, to keep him in comfort, safe from all fear of want. But that there is something radically wrong with our present system no man sees or is more ready to admit, yea more, to condemn, than the crippled and disabled veteran of the civil war, many of whom are compelled to subsist on what appears a mere pittance, being physically unable to earn more, while others who need it not, but are technically entitled, receive and squander an almost equal amount.

We cast no reflection upon the pensioner, he is not to blame, but the system is directly at fault. It is the system under which pensions are granted that we denounce. And this, in view of our impending trouble with a foreign country, is enough to cause any patriotic American to think of the after porbabilities of a war that might call forth all the fighting force of the land. We are a fighting people; we came of fighting stock, and would perhaps be fighting now but for a restraining hand under which we become very restive. Today, if necessity should arise, we could easily put into the field an effective force of 2,500,000 men with a reserve of an equal number. This seems an enormous force, but it is less than one in fourteen of the population, and conceeding that only the first quota would do the fighting, and comparing it to the number engaged during the entire four years of the last war (about 1,000,000) with the present pension allowance of $144,000,000 annually, if the same system should prevail, we would possibly, thirty years after any prospective war should close, swell our pension payments to $720,000,000, which added to our $144,000,000, would saddle upon us a burden of $864,000,000 yearly, and this would continue for years and years.

There is just one comfort for the peace-at-any-price man in this array of figures, that is it would place an embargo on any future fighting, and would cripple our country almost as much as though we were overrun by a foreign foe.

HAS A LEVEL HEAD.

Evidently the people of Washington made no mistake in selecting a governor last fall. Governor Rogers seems to be the right man in the right place, and has the courage to sit down upon the extravagances of the legislature in a commendable manner. By the exercise of the veto power he has saved the people of that state a neat little sum of money that was appropriated for the maintenance of the normal schools at Cheney and New Whatcom, and possibly will interpose his objection to other similar extravagances. Ever since Washington was admitted as a state profligacy has run riot in the management of public affairs, but at last a governor has been found who has the courage to call a halt, and gave the following level-headed reasons for vetoing the appropriation for the needless so-called normal schools:

"The outstanding indebtedness of the state today exceeds $2,000,000, and most of that is in warrants that drew 8 per cent interest. In consequence the people are now required to meet an annual interest charge of $160,000, or approximately $450 a day. This is a burden which the business of the state cannot afford to increase. With such an enormous indebtedness, it seems to me that it would be folly little less than criminal to branch out with more and unnecessary institutions requiring an annual expenditure amounting to many thousands of dollars.

"But aside from the question of indebtedness, the school system of this state is top-heavy. The common schools in every county are maintained but a few months in the year, except in the larger cities, while money is lavished for the benefit of a few in the higher branches. Hundreds of worthy boys and girls in all parts of the state are thus compelled to grow up with little or no education, and will therefore be forced to live lives unfitted to protect themselves as they should and to compete successfully with others who are more favorably situated. All the requirements of higher education in this state are amply provided for by the stete university at Seattle, which accommodates the western portion of the state. The agricultural college at Pullman, which in all respects is a university, serves the eastern portion of the state, and the normal school at Ellensburg suffices for Central Washington. In addition to these three institutions, every city is equipped with high schools.

"The normal school at Cheney and the normal school at Whatcom were not founded in respouse to the demands of necessity, but as a result of legislative trades. If this practice of trading for state institutions is to continue, then at the next session of the legislature the counties of the southwestern part of the state will be asking for a normal school or two, or perhaps another state university, and the counties in the southeastern part of the state will likewise demand a normal school, or something its equivalent, before giving their support to appropriations for any other state institution. The system might thus continue indefinitely, until every county in the state would be supplied with a luxurious university and the state be involved in millions of debt."

THE BIGGS-WASCO ROAD.

We are creditably informed that all preliminary arrangements have been made by the incorporators of the Columbia River Southern R. R. Co., for securing the necessary funds for building the proposed railroad from Biggs to Wasco, and that construction will begin about the first of May. Ordinarily this would be only a passing item of news, but the construction of a railroad from Biggs to the great wheat producing section surrounding Wasco has more than ordinary significance to The Dalles. A railroad built into that section will undoubtedly do the principal carrying trade of that country, that is the wheat will be moved out over the road and the imports will be hauled in over it; and if the proposed road terminates at Biggs, on the line of the O. R. & N., the wheat will pass on to Portland over that line, never stopping at The Dalles or any other intermediate point. More than this, Wasco is near the wool producing sections of Southern Wasco and Crook than is The Dalles, hence much of the wool from Antelope and all parts of Crook county will be shipped direct from the terminus of the proposed road.

It is unnecessary to enlarge upon the ultimate result of The Dalles losing the trade of those sections which it has hitherto enjoyed. But it is well to take into consideration how such an event can be prevented. That the Columbia River Southern road will be built at least as far south as Wasco is almost a foregone conclusion, for there is a field for such a road, and wherever there is sufficient traffic to justify, roads will be built, but The Dalles cannot afford to allow it to terminate at Biggs. It must be continued from that point on into this city if we would retain the trade of the country to the south. If from Biggs the road were extended on to The Dalles, every bushel of wheat and every pound of wool shipped over the road would be brought to this place for re-shipment either by boat or over the O. R. & N., since the competitive freight rates here are sufficient inducement.

If The Dalles would prevent the trade from Sherman, Southern Wasco and all of Crook slipping away from it, all that is necessary is to raise sufficient capital to continue the Biggs-Wasco road from the former point to this city, otherwise the trade will be lost. Posibly to build such the road would require the expenditure of $150,000, which ought to be readily raised here, or if not it could be secured from abroad at reasonable interests rates, and by its expenditure The Dalles would retain its precedent as the chief distributing point of the Inland Empire; but if we allow a road to terminate at Biggs we will be only a way station on the main line of commerce. The proposition is one every property owner in the city should consider, for in the ability of The Dalles to hold the trade of the surrounding country rests its future.

NO LIGHT AHEAD.

If the mission of the advance agent of prosperity is outlined by President McKinley's inaugural address and by his message to the special session of the 55th congress, the gloom that hung over the unfortunate administration of Grover Cleveland was sunlight compared with the darkness in which every beam of hope is wrapped for the coming four years. In neither of his state papers does the president offer any remedy for the depressed times, except a continuance of the present money standard and an increase of taxation.

To accomplish the first end—the continuance of the gold standard—he has but one remedy to suggest. It is to increase the revenues so that the holders of government securities—credit currency—may readily convert their paper into gold coin at will. To set the wheels of factories and commerce in motion he suggests increased duties, higher taxes, more revenue. To increase prosperity among the producing classes he offers to increase the price of everything they must buy, and with the exception perhaps of the wool grower and sugar planter, holds out no inducement in the way of an enlarged market or advanced prices. The cure for all ills, the system to be adopted that is to restore confidence and prosperity is simple, yet it brings no ray of light upon the dark horizon, for it is taxes, taxes. The proposed new prosperity-restoring measure is expected to create $112,000,000 more revenue than the present law; that is just that much more money will be collected from the people and thrown into the coffers of the government than at present, and will be divided among the different schedules about as follows:

A—Chemicals	$ 3,500,000
B—Crockery and glassware	4,000,000
C—Metals	4,000,000
D—Wool	1,700,000
E—Sugar	21,750,000
F—Tobacco	7,000,000
G—Agricultural	6,250,000
H—Liquors	1,800,000
I—Cottons	1,600,000
J—Jute, linen and hemp	7,500,000
K—Wools	17,500,000
R—Wools, manufactures of wools	27,000,000
L—Silks	1,500,000
M—Pulp and paper	50,000
N—Sundrics	6,200,000

Can the ordinary producer or consumer find a ray of hope in this array of figures? Let us examine them, and see upon whom the burden will fall most heavily. Our sugar is to cost us $21,750,000, jute and hemp (grain and wool sacks) $7,800,000, raw wools, $17,500,000 and manufactured woolens $27,000,000 more than at present. These four articles enter largely into the comfort and necessity of the masses, those who earn their living by actual toil, those who can least afford to pay the expenses of maintaining the government under an extravagant administration. Almost three-fourths of the proposed increased revenue falls upon these four articles, upon articles largely consumed by the producing classes. With nothing but increased taxation offered by the advance agent of prosperity as a remedy for present ills, there is little to encourage the already overtaxed people. There is scarcely a ray of hope, a beacon light of prosperiry in the future.

Business has indeed supplanted patriotism and humanity throughout the world. The fear of disturbing business has prevented the United States recognizing Cuba and putting a stop the cruelest of cruel wars known for ages. The same influence has prevented the powers of Europe from checking the murder of Armenians by the Turks, and is operating today to prevent Greece from protecting the Christians in Crete. Were it not for the stock exchanges at London, Berlin, St. Petersburg and Paris none of the powers would interfere with Greece.

AND NOW WHAT?

The powers that be in Washington have decided to not consider the appointments of United States senators made by governors, hence Oregon, Kentucky and Florida will have to be content with one senator each until such a time as the legislatures of these states shall proceed to elect. The situation in Florida and Kentucky is somewhat different from that existing in this state. In those states the legislatures possibly will elect, at least they have not resorted to the revolutionary means adopted here to prevent an election, while in Oregon it is clear that no election can occur until one aspirant, namely, Hon. John H. Mitchell, is out of the way.

This brings Oregon into national prominence, especially when viewed from a partisan standpoint, and Mr. Mitchell has the key to the situation. It is important to the republican party that a republican should be seated from Oregon. He is needed to give the party prestige in the senate, but with Mr. Mitchell in the field no senator can be elected by the legislature, nor will one be recognized who holds an appointment from the governor. This gives Mr. Mitchell a decided advantage, one that enables him to dictate the lines upon which a compromise may be effected, and his claims cannot but be recognized by the administration.

With Mr. Mitchell removed from the contest, the Oregon legislature in special session would have little difficulty in making a selection. But how to get him out of the way is a question that no doubt will be perplexing to President McKinley. A cabinet position or a foreign consulate no doubt would be acceptable to Mr. Mitchell, and could he step into the interior department or become attorney-general probably he would consent to withdraw from the senatorial contest in this state, or possibly the appointment of consul to England or ambassador to Germany would be an inducement, but unless some such concession is made, it is evident he will remain master of the situation, and prevent the republican party from gaining control of the U. S. senate.

THE ISDAND OF CRETE.

Although only a small speck on the earth's surface when compared with the other great bodies of land, Crete is attracting more attention throughout the civilized world today than any other one country, since it may be the agency which will involve millions in war and result in the overthrow of at least one old and powerful nation. Possibly Crete would attract less attention were it not for Greece, but Grecian ambition and enterprise is bringing it into prominence, and bids fair to be the cause that will kindle the fires in European powder barrels and plunge the old world into general war. It is the purpose of Greece to wrest the island from Turkish control, so soon as the revolt in Crete, where Turks form a large element of the population, shall offer an opening, provided other powers keep their hands off, or in case it has the support of Russia and France.

The island of Crete has a population of only 300,000, who are restive under Turkish domination and want either independence or annexation to Greece. More than 2,000 years ago Crete was composed of several populous republics, forming a strong union that for a long time resisted all invaders. In 63, A. D., Crete was conquored by the Romans, and for nearly 1800 years has been subject to foreign domination, almost always being oppressed and disturbed. It was successively controlled by Romans, Mohammedans Arabs, Greeks, Venetians, and Turks. The latter wrested the island from the Venetenians in 1669, and Crete's history has since been a record of almost constant oppresion and bloodshed. Thirty years ago a revolt resulted in some reforms. The immediate cause of the present revolution was popular hatred of the Turkish governor, who caused the murder of many Cretans without provocation. A deeper cause was the perpetual persecution and oppression by Turkish powers and the direct violation of treaty agreements. Las July, a provisional government was formed, and a strong stand has been made against the Turkish forces.

WOULD PAY HERE.

While various sections of Eastern Oregon are contending for the establishing of a beet sugar factory in their midst, they are giving no attention to a more important, less expensive and more profitable industry, which is nothing less than a glucose factory. No doubt many sections of the Inland Empire are adapted to the culture of sugar beets, and a factory for converting them into sugar would be a valuable acquisition for any city; but it is questionable if anticipated results are realized should a beet sugar factory be established at any point east of the mountains. In the first place, beets to be converted into sugar require special and careful cultivation, much more attention than the ordinary farmer gives his crops. They must be cultivated during the entire growing season, and care must be exercised to prevent the bowl of the beet being exposed to the rays of the sun, by keeping the earth carefully "hilled" up around the base of the plant. The syrup obtained from beets that have been exposed to the sun's rays will not polarize, hence is valueless, and without very careful cultivation sugar-beet raising would be most disappointing to the farmer. Besides, a beet-sugar factory would require an outlay of at least $150,000, and since the saccharine in the beet diminishes the longer it is out of the ground, the factory could be operated perhaps not more than six months in the year, so unless a refining process were added which would require the outlay of another $100,000, the factory would be idle three-fourths of the year.

But with the manufacture of glucose the conditions are different. A factory with a capacity of five tons a day can be erected at an expense of $10,000, and the products from which it is made are not perishable, Indian corn and potatoes being the most common. Corn yields about seven pounds of glucose to the bushel and potatoes ten, while the estimated cost of manufacturing is about one cent per pound. Glucose, or grape sugar, commands ordinarily 4½ cents per pound at wholesale, hence a factory operating anywhere near a line of transportation could afford to pay farmers 37½ cents per bushel for potatoes, and 25 cents for corn. The demand for glucose is comparatively unlimited, it being used largely in the manufacture of table syrups and confectionaries and in the brewing of beer and ale.

We believe there is not a glucose factory on the Pacific coast, hence the field for one is open here, and undoubtedly the enterprising individual who turns his attention to it will strike a mint on a small scale, and at the same time create a ready market for two farm products that are sure crops in this vicinity and in fact in all sections of Eastern Oregon. No better location than The Dalles could be found for such a factory, since it can offer cheap freight rates in all directions, cheap fuel and pure water, three necessary requirements for all manufacturing industries.

IT IS UNFORTUNATE.

The refusal of the senate to seat the republican appointees from Oregon and Kentucky is, viewed from a partisan standpoint, a misfortune to both the leading parties. With those two men in the senate, the republicans would have a clear working majority in that body, especially on all questions of tariff, and with the aid of a few gold democrats they can safely count on, would be able to enact the most radical legislation that could be desired even by the firmest advocate of the single standard. But with these seats vacant during the special session of congress, the efforts of the republican leaders will be hampered, and should they fail to redeem their pledges they will have the excuse that they did not have full control of congress, hence will go before the people at the next general election with the claim that, given a majority in the senate, they will enact legislation that will foster prosperity.

Since the American people learn best by experience, it was desirable that, after a republican president and house were elected, the senate should also be republican, and the program mapped out in the national platform should be enacted. Four years of high tariff, gold standard, and an administration of public affairs in the interest of monopolies, trusts, railroads and banking syndicates would be sufficient evidence to the people of the mistake they made at the polls last fall. It is indeed unfortunate that there is not a majority in the senate in harmony with the administration so that the fullness of the republican "object lesson" could be realized.

ST. PATRICK'S DAY.

It is little moment at this day and age whether the patron saint of Ireland, the good St. Patrick, was born on the 17th of March or whether that was the date of his death, the day is observed by the Celt wherever he may be found on the wide face of the earth, and is commemorated as his anniversary with sacred reverence. Dear to the heart of every Irishman is the name of St. Patrick, and around it cluster the hopes and expectations of a people long exiled from their native land, when their memory calls them back to the green hills and verdant plains of their own old Ireland. They have made the missionary who first brought Christianity into the island their patron saint and native hero; and on this day when they pin the little sprig of shamrock upon their bosoms, a fond dream passes before their vision of the time when Ireland shall take her position in the family of nations, when she shall be a free and independent state, when the yoke of British tyranny shall no longer chafe the Irish neck. On this day of all others does the undying love of native country predominate in the breast of the Irishman; on this day his hopes point to the time in the dim future when all of Erin's son's may say Ireland is free.

EDITORIAL NOTES

The new postmaster-general may well be termed a man of affairs. He has eight marriageable daughters.

An exchange says ex-President Harrison is not much of a protectionist any more, and thinks he can worry along with his infant industry without any help from the administration.

The total appropriations made by the Washington legislature were $1,125,789.40, a reduction of $355,791.84 below the appropriations of two years ago. Thus the fusion legislature has not done so badly after all.

Secretary of state Sherman is not the same spirit as was Senator Sherman. When senator he favored the recognition of Cuban independence. As secretary of state he favors a pacific and non-interference policy.

Crete and Cuba may well be said to be in the same box, both are struggling to throw off the yoke of tyranny, which they would speedily accomplish if the sympathy of the millions availed anything.

Now the mills, not the mints, will be opened, and the American farmer will get living prices for his products in a protected market.—Salem Statesman. When will this happy event occur? And who will be the purchasers in the "protected market?"

It is stated that Spain is willing to sell the Cuban patriots their independence for $125,000,000. No doubt Spain would willingly make such a sale after she has been whipped by the patriots, but if the war continues much longer the island will scarcely be worth the price.

The attempt of the secretary of state to abolish state boards and commissions by shutting off their pay is commendable but futil, and will result in endless litigation. An executive officer cannot assume legislative duties. The power that created the boards and commissions is the only one that can remove them.

Where are those investments in numerous enterprises that were to be made all over the country so soon as the reins of government were turned over to the advance agent of Prosperity? We hear of but few enterprises starting up, though there are plenty of failures, reduction of wages and throwing men out of employment.

Prosperity built upon borrowed capital is worse than no prosperity at all. All the Pacific coast had sad experience in this line, its railroads, its cities and its farms having been built and developed on money borrowed from the east or from Europe, and now when pay day has come, every industry feels the drain that is made upon the wealth of the country to pay interest and installments on the principal.

With a relict of antiquity for secretary of state, a third-rate lawyer for attorney-general, and Yankee merchand, who has no idea of wild Indians or Western territory, at the head of the interior department, President McKinley has an official family around him that is liable to lead him into stony paths ere long.

All parties in the United States senate seem agreed that those who have been appointed to the senate by governors, where legislatures have had opportunity to elect and have neglected to do so, shall not be seated. This leaves Mr. Corbett's chances a little uncertain, as it possibly will be held that Oregon really had a session of the legislature.

The appropriation for the governor's office for the next two years in Washington is $38,240, secretary of state $19,930, state treasurer $7,330, attorney-general $10,500, state auditor, $11,740, supreme court $63,000, superior judges $66,300. Besides there are a batch of other state officers, boards and commissions for which $88,000 was appropriated. Truly, Washington is an office ridden state.

The trouble in Crete is assuming even a more tangled aspect and all Europe stands aghast at the prospects of a general war. Russia apparently is playing a double game with Turkey, looking to the occupation of Constantinople so soon as the Greeks shall engage the Turks in frontier warfare. In such an event there will be a general war among the European powers, or Great Britain and Germany will be forced to back down from their present stand.

Can the governor appoint a senator when the legislature refuses to elect one? This is the conundrum on the solution of which the organization of the senate depends. If the appointments of the governors of Kentucky and Oregon are valid the senate will have a republican majority. Otherwise the combined forces of the democrats, populists and silver republicans will control. The senate has heretofore held that the governor could not appoint a senator under such circumstances. It remains to be seen whether the senate can change its mind to suit the occasion.

The supreme court of the United States is supposed to be composed of men who rise above party prejudice and who are men fair minded and liberal in every respect, but this supposition is not well founded at least in every instance. Justice Field, the patriarch of the court, who has "one foot in the grave and the other near by," was too much of a partisan to resign so long as a democrat was president, because it was certain a democrat would be appointed as his successor. Now he is ready to step down and out and allow President McKinley to appoint a republican to the supreme bench.

The framers of the Dingley tariff bill propose that it shall produce $70,000,000 more revenue annually than the Wilson law. The chief increases are from additional duties on sugar, lumber, wool and flax jute, four articles of daily consumption and general use by the producers. It is proposed that the poor shall be taxed on consumption of sugar and woolen apparel, the home builder on the lumber used in the construction of his house and the farmer on his grain sacks, while the millionaire will pay no more for his champaigne and diamonds. This is the medicine that is to make us prosperous.

Oregon is already beginning to feel the bad effects of the failure of the legislature to organize, and as time goes on the effect will be more serious. Not only is the state being run on credit, but those who perform services for the state are unable to get evidences of their claims in a form that makes them negotiable except at a ruinous discount. The result will be that all supplies furnished the different state institutions will be put in at exorbitant prices, and when the final payment is made, it will cost the state an addition of about 50 per cent on everything consumed in the different departments.

The proposition of Judge Northup, of Multnomah county, to withhold the state taxes and apply them on county indebtedness, would be a dangerous proceedure for any county, besides it would be a violation of the law which requires the first money collected by the county to be applied in the payment of the state tax. It is very true the tying up of the state taxes, amounting to $600,000, in the state treasury would be a serious inconvenience to business, but it will not remain there long before the governor will call an extra session of the legislature to get it out.

THE ORDER IS ISSUED.

Cretan Ports Will be Blockaded Sunday Morning.

ROME, March 18.—A dispatch from Canea announces that a blockade of Crete will begin Sunday morning, and a notification to this effect will be addressed to the governments at Athens and Constantinople. It is further stated the powers will also communicate the steps taken to the governments of neutral states. The limits of the blockade will be between longitude 23:4 and 23:50 east, and latitude 35:48 and 34:25 north.

The blockade will be general against Greek vessels, but other ships will be allowed to land goods, provided they are not destined for Greek troops or for the interior of the island.

Finally the admirals have caused a request to be addressed to the Greek officials to recall their ships from Cretan waters. If they do not comply, force will be used Sunday morning to compel them to withdraw.

Knights of old—crusaders who went to conquer the world, could not hope to succeed unless they were in virile, hearty health. A man cannot face difficulties if his stomach isn't in good order. Disordered digestion will make a sluggish coward out of any man. It makes his mind stagnant, and he cannot think quickly enough to accomplish anything. It makes his movements slow, and takes all of the snap out of him. Every man in business in America has a fight on his hands just as much as ever had belted knight. It is a matter of life and death, just the same with him as it was with the crusader. Indigestion and all the ills that go with it, most frequently start in constipation. That keeps all sorts of impurities in the body, forces them into the blood, and so deranges the whole system. Constipation is one of the commonest ills, and to it are traceable most of the disorders that make people sick. Once it gets a firm hold on a man, it is most difficult to overcome it. Temporary relief can be obtained in a thousand ways. There are medicines on the market that will help as long as you take them. There is only one remedy that is a *real* remedy—that you don't have to keep on taking forever. That is Dr. Pierce's Pleasant Pellets. The "Pellets" are tiny, sugar-coated granules, mild and efficient in their action. They effect a *permanent* cure. You don't become a slave to their use, as with other pills.

If you will send 21 one-cent stamps to cover cost of mailing *only*, we will send you FREE the most useful medical book extant. This is Dr. Pierce's Common Sense Medical Adviser, in plain English; a book of 1008 pages, profusely illustrated, the great expense of preparing which has been covered by the sale of 680,000 copies at the regular price, $1.50 per copy. Address, World's Dispensary Medical Association, No. 663 Main Street, Buffalo, N. Y.

HUNDREDS OF BILLS

The Senate Flooded With New Measures of All Kinds.

DOUBLE-HANDED DEAL

Russia is Alleged to be Playing into the Hand of Greece to Annihilate Turkey.

Thousands Made Homeless By the Mississippi Flood—John Hay Will Succeed Bayard at the British Court.

WASHINGTON, March 16.—In the senate today 438 bills and eight joint resolutions were introduced. They embraced nearly every phase of the public service. Allen's batch of bills numbered about 75. They included bills directing foreclosure of the government lien on the Union Pacific road; to prevent professional lobbying; defining the powers of the judiciary, etc. Bills introduced by Hale related to a cable between the United States, Hawaii and Japan, and to the twelfth census.

There was a general laugh at one of the pension bills of White, "for the relief of William J. Bryan." Lodge's bills included those to amend the immigration laws, and for a Hawaiian cable. Bankruptcy bills were presented by Nelson and Lindsay. Morgan reintroduced the Nicaragua canal bill and a joint resolution to abrogate the Clayton-Bulwer treaty. Numerous bills, relating to Pacific roads were presented, including that of Morgan to create a board of trustees for the Union and Central Pacific. One of Thurston's bills provided for the increase of all pensions.

THOUSANDS ARE HOMELESS.

Result of the Flood in Eastern Arkansas, 2000 Homeless.

MEMPHIS, Tenn., March 16.—Nearly 2000 homeless, half-starved persons rescued from the overflowed districts of Eastern Arkansas are being cared for in this city today. The refugees are mostly negroes. The citizens' relief commission is practically backed by unlimited capital, merchants, bankers and corporations having subscribed great sums to prosecute the work of rescuing the inhabitants of the territory 40 miles north and south of Memphis. The entire government fleet, stationed here, through Captain Fitch, the engineer in charge, has been pressed into service.

The situation today is critical. News is expected hourly of breaks in the levees, and when this happens loss of property and stock will reach into the thousands.

The first loss of life has been reported. A family of five negroes have been drowned at Marion. Sensational stories of wholesale drowning at Nodena, Ark., are denied by steamer hands fresh from the scene.

The gauge today reads 36.4 feet. Railway trains arrive and depart without reference to schedules. All tracks except the Iron Mountain are submerged. Kansas City & Little Rock road uses the Iron Mountain roadway. It is expected that by night rescue steamers will land another thousand refugees on Chickasaw bluffs.

WHY THE EFFORT FAILED.

The Abandonment of the Fight for The Senatorial Appointees.

WASHINGTON, March 17.—The determination of the republican managers of the senate not to give time to the consideration of the cases of appointments by governors of states was reached only after it was found that the democrats were determined to resist the seating of the appointees as long as they could talk, and that they would be aided in this by the silver republicans and the populists. There is a feeling among many senators who really believed that the governors had a right to appoint in the cases of Montana and Washington four years ago that, it having been settled by a vote of the senate against admission, it is well to make it a precedent for the future, and make legislatures responsible for the vacancies of a state in the senate except in cases of death or resignation, when the legislatures are not in session and appointments are provided for.

One senator, discussing the Oregon case, said that, if the Oregon appointment was sustained, that hereafter it would be in the power of 11 men in the senate, by refusing to go into organization, to prevent forever the election of a senator and make the governor the sole official to choose senators.

AN ALLEGED COLLUSION.

Russia is Said to be Secretly Supporting Greece.

NEW YORK, March 16.—A cable dispatch from the Press correspondent at Athens says:

"I learn that secret negotiations are proceeding between King George and the Russian government. This information comes from an absolutely trustworthy authority. Russia is undoubtedly playing a two-faced game with Turkey and with the powers. There is an understanding that when the Greek army crosses the frontier Russia shall find a pretext to seize Constantinople.

"The understanding, so far as King George is concerned, is that in the general conflict in the Balkans, which is sure to be followed by fighting on the frontier and the dissolution of the Turkish empire, which would follow a seizure of Constantinople by the Russians, Greece is to be encouraged to seize Macedonia, with the czar's promise in advance that she shall be permitted to retain the province."

TROUBLE FOR TARIFF MAKERS.

Two Proposed Amendments to the Dingley Bill.

WASHINGTON, Mar. 17.—Two amendments to the tariff which will be offered in the senate promise to compromise the Dingley measure before it gets through the upper house. The most important is that of Elkins, proposing a discriminating duty on all imports coming to the country in American bottoms. This is supposed to represent the wishes of American shipowners, who hope by making such legislation to promote American shipping interests. Opposition has developed from the fact that it was feared that this would divert trade to Canadian ports, whence importation would be by rail. The plan will at least excite much debate.

The second amendment is that of Pettigrew, proposing that any importer who could prove that the article he wished to bring in was controlled in this country by a trust, should be entitled to enter his goods free of duty. This will undoubtedly receive some support in the senate, as it is aimed at the trusts, but its adoption would result in ruining the Dingley measure as a revenue producer, hence there will be a most vigorous effort to kill it. It may prolong the discussion of the bill.

WAS PROBABLY KIDNPPED.

Mysterious Disappearance of an 11-Year-Old Heiress.

ST. LOUIS, Mo., March 17.—Ella Burden, 11 years old, who is heiress to a large fortune, has been missing from her home since Monday. She lived with her grandmother, Mrs. Burden, at 5032 Minerva street, and left home Monday for the Dozier school, where she was regarded as one of the brightest and prettiest of several hundred pupils.

At 3:30 in the afternoon, the usual hour, she left the school for home, and went part of the way with other girls to a point where she usually took a car for home. Nothing has been heard of her since.

The only theory for her disappearance is that she has been kidnapped and hidden by her captors until sufficient ransom is offered. A large reward is offered for her return.

Range Cattle Are Dying.

MINNEAPOLIS, Minn., March 17.—Specials from Mandan and Dickinson state it is generally believed that 75 per cent of the range animals have already succumbed to the winter, the chinook yesterday coming too late to save them. It is impossible to travel over the range, and no exact figures can be had. Bad Lands ranges, which have been overcrowded in past years, will have but few cattle this season. It is stated that Pierre Wibaux puts his loss at $1,000,000. About 250,000 young Utah cattle which he put on the range last fall are all dead.

Down With the High Hat.

SAN FRANCISCO, March 16.—At the meeting of the board of supervisors yesterday, Supervisor Rotanz introduced an ordinance which makes it a misdemeanor punishable by both fine and imprisonment for a woman to wear a high hat in the theater. Owners and managers of theaters are prohibited from admitting women to their theaters whose hats are above the limit prescribed by law. The ordinance was referred to the judiciary committee, which will report on the measure at the next meeting of the board.

John Hay Ambassador to England.

WASHINGTON, March 16.—The president today sent to the senate the following nominations:

Ambassador extraordinary and minister plenipotentiary from the United States to Great Britain, John Hay, of the District of Columbia; to France, Horace Porter, of New York; secretary of the embassy of Great Britain, Henry White, of Rhode Island.

Battle at the Philippines.

NEW YORK, March 16.—A special cable to the Herald from Manila says 2000 troops under Solodo were led on March 9 by the native guides into an ambush near a strong position occupied by the rebels. The latter, 8000 in number, attacked the Spaniards and defeated them. The Spaniards retreated in confusion, after almost a hand-to-hand fight. The extent of the Spanish loss is unknown.

Tariff Bill Taken up.

WASHINGTON, March 16.—The newly appointed ways and means committee of the house met this morning to take up the new tariff bill. Probably the committee will be in session most of the day, as the democratic members desire to criticise the bill and offer amendments.

Only a Mass of Ruins.

ST. LOUIS, March 16.—Nothing remains of the big block bounded by Eighth and St. Charles streets and Washington avenue, occupied by the Ely-Walker Dry Goods Company, but a mass of ruins. At 1 o'clock today the flames had not entirely been subdued. A coaservative estimate made today places the loss at $1,600,000.

Blockade Not Yet Proclaimed.

CANEA, March 16.—Noon—The admirals of the foreign fleets have not yet proclaimed a blockade of the island. The Greek squadron, with the exception of two vessels, have left Cretan waters, and the two vessels referred to are preparing to leave.

Important Battle in Uruguay.

MONTEVIDEO, March 18.—A battle between the federal troops and the revolutionists took place yesterday near Paysandu. Upwards of 1000 were killed or wounded. It is not yet reported which force was victorious.

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CORBETT GOES OUT

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TARIFF BILL RIDERS

Proposed Amendments to the Dingley Bill That Will Cause Long Discussion and Delay

A St. Louis Heiress Supposed to Have Been Kidnapped While Returning Home From School—Senators Made by Governors Will Not Be Seated.

CARSON, March 17.—Today, at Dan Stuart's monster arena, near this city, in the presence of between 3000 and 4000 people, Robert Fitzsimmons defeated James J. Corbett in what was probably the most scientifically contested battle in the pugilistic history of the world, and wrested from him the title of champion of the world.

The fight, which lasted for 14 rounds, was fiercely contested throughout, and is generally conceded to have been won on its merits. During the first few rounds, however, and in point of science throughout the fight, Corbett seemed to have the best of it, but a tremendous blow over the heart from Fitzsimmons' right carried him to the floor unconscious, and he did not rise until after the referee's fateful "One-two-three-four-five-six-seven-eight-nine-ten and out" had been counted, proclaiming to the world the advent of a new pugilistic champion in the person of Robert Fitzsimmons.

Fully 3000 people, including about a dozen women, were in the arena when the fighters arrived in the ring at 11:59. Time was called at 12:07, and the champions began punching each other in real earnest. For the first seven or eight rounds Corbett seemed to have the better of the fight, being the most skilled in his sparring, and landed many heavy blows on his opponent's face and body, causing blood to flow freely, but he lacked strenght and endurance, and showed visible signs of fatigue. The fourteenth round, which resulted in Corbett being knocked out is reported as follows:

Corbett's lead blocked. Jim lands that left jab again on Fitzsimmons' head. Counters with a terrible right swing on Corbett's neck, and has Corbett going back for a few moments. Fitz lands a terrible left-handed jab on Corbett's stomach and Corbett goes to his knees with a frightful look of agony on his face. The timekeeper calls the seconds—one, two, three, four, five, six, seven, eight, nine, ten—but Corbett comes to his feet. He rushes at Fitz and endeavors to strike him. There is a terrible uproar; the decision has not been given yet. George Siler decides that Fitz wins, the blow that did the business landed over Corbett's heart and he collapsed. The last round lasted just 1 minute and 45 seconds.

The fight was satisfactory to the sports who attended, and all were willing to concede that it was fair and that Fitzsimmons was entitled to the honors he won.

Before the fight began Billy Jordan, of San Francisco, entered the ring and made this announcement:

"Frank V. Dunn, of Boston, in behalf of John L. Sullivan, will challenge the winner of this contest to fight for $5000, and he will put up $1000 as a deposit (Jordan held the money up) in the hands of the New York World."

This announcement was greeted with cheers and Sullivan was called for. When he reached the ring he said:

"Gentlemen, there is no necessity of me saying anything more. I mean what I say. I am going to try one more battle. There is a good fight in me yet."

Billy Madden then entered the ring and said:

"I have deposited $2500 with Warren Lewis, of New York, for Joe Goddard to fight the winner of the fight, giving him his own time inside of one year. I also have a check for $2500 for Sharkey to fight the winner, which will be deposited at once."

Encouraged a Mob.

NEW YORK, March 16.—The Herald correspondent in Rio de Janeiro telegraphs that the Russian minister has used his influence with the government to secure the expulsion from the country of the London Times correspondent. The plea is that the correspondent joined in demonstrations with republicans adverse to the interests of the Russian government. This means that certain property belonging to the Russian legation was destroyed by an anti-monarchist mob, and it is claimed by the Russian officials that the disorderly element was spurred on by the republican youth of this city.

ONLY FOUR SURVIVORS.

Results of the Ville Ste. Nazaire Disaster is Appalling.

NEW YORK, March 18.—Of 82 persons comprising the passengers and crew of the steamer Ville Ste. Nazaire, which sailed from this port March 6 for Port au Prince, Hayti, only four are known to have survived the disaster which befell the craft a few hours later. These four passed through an experience such as fortunately has been the lot of but few, seeing one after another of the 31 others who left the steamer in a large boat perish of exposure to the cold or die of hunger, some suffering during the seven days in which they drifted helplessly without sail or compass, pangs that drove them to madness before death came to their relief.

Among the survivors is Senor Tagado, a San Domingan, who was compelled to witness the death of his wife and four children without being able to alleviate their sufferings. What became of the 44 persons besides these mentioned above can only be surmised, although there is a remote possibility that one or more of the three boats in which they left the sinking steamer in the midst of a fierce storm off Cape Hatteras, has been picked up by a sailing vessel.

Voluntary Liquidation.

HILLSBORO, March 18.—The special meeting of the stockholders of the First National bank of this city voted yesterday to go into voluntary liquidation. A private bank will in the meantime be organized, and will continue in business.

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