

DOES CONSTITUTION FOLLOW THE FLAG?

The Question Submitted to the Supreme Court.

CONTENTION OF ATTORNEY-GENERAL

The Meaning of the Treaty of Paris is One of the Discoveries to Be Made in Determining the Question.

Washington, Dec. 17.—Briefs in the cases involving the future political status of the territory acquired by the United States by treaty and conquest...

The opposing counsel in their brief filed contend that by the treaty of peace between the United States and Spain the Philippines became a part of the United States...

THE GRIST OF CONGRESS.

Amendment to Fortify Isthmian Canal

Washington, Dec. 17.—Senator Lodge, in charge of the debate on the Hay-Pauncefote treaty, this morning said that the amendment proposing to strike from the treaty the section which provides that no fortifications shall be erected...

In the house the rules were suspended and special messages on the calendar were taken up for passage. Brownell's bill, giving preference to civil service appointments...

MEMBERSHIP OF CONGRESS.

Washington, Dec. 17.—The house census committee this afternoon ordered favorably a report on the fixing the membership of the house at 357 for the next ten years.

EXTRA SESSION OF CONGRESS.

Washington, Dec. 17.—According to a statement made by a republican member of congress, today, who usually is correct in his forecasts, President McKinley has decided to call an extra session of congress in March...

TROUBLES FOR MARK HANNA.

Republican Leaders in the Senate Arrayed Against Him.

Washington, Dec. 17.—Mark Hanna's troubles in the senate are multiplying rapidly. There is a widespread feeling among the older and real leaders of that body to show him that while he may direct all the other affairs of the republican party...

THE BOER AND THE BRITISH.

A Handful of Dewet's Men Surrounded on Orange River.

London, Dec. 17.—The Evening Standard says: Fighting began at dawn today between the British and Boers, who were stopped recently from going south. They were surrounded at Orange river and after several hours fighting were defeated with heavy losses.

MOB LAW IN INDIANA.

Negro Murderers Are Lynched and a Race War Threatens.

Indianapolis, Ind., Dec. 17.—Governor Mount this morning ordered an investigation of the Rockport lynching, as reported by the morning papers. A telegram from Rockport says the negroes are fleeing from the town on account of the lynching. They fear a race war will break out as a result...

THE BOERS AGAIN DEFEAT THE BRITISH.

Fourteen Men in the Higher Ranks Killed.

MISSING, 18 OFFICERS AND 656 MEN

The News Casts a Gloom Over London, and to Make Matters Worse, Report Comes That Dewet Got Away.

GENERAL LEE SELECTED.

His Name Will Be Among Those in the Hall of Fame.

New York, Dec. 17.—New York University Senate has decided that the name of Robert E. Lee shall appear in the Hall of Fame. It informs the Sixth corps veterans, who protested, that it believes in so deciding it expresses the calm judgment and generous heart of the American people.

SIX MORE VICTIMS.

Dunkirk, N. Y., Dec. 17.—The remains of the last man missing from the Fredonia normal school fire, were found this morning. They are those of the janitor. Five bodies were found Sunday, making fifteen victims of the fire which occurred last Friday morning in the normal school.

A GREAT LOSS OF LIFE.

OF 461 PASSENGERS OF A STEAMER 271 ARE MISSING.

The Thip Gneisenau Goes on the Rocks With a Dreadful Loss of Life.

Malaga, Spain, Dec. 17.—It is feared the loss of life occasioned by the loss of the steamer Gneisenau will prove much greater than as first reported. At this place 130 of the survivors are being cared for.

The Ships Complement was 461, which gives 271 missing.

Some of them may have reached the shore, but as yet no rescue other than those made by the harbor authorities here have been reported. Of the survivors forty are seriously injured.

Among the officers saved is the nephew of Chancellor Von Buelow.

It is reported that Capt. Kroschmann, commander of the Gneisenau, committed suicide when he saw his vessel on the rocks.

The Last Number 147.

Berlin, Dec. 17.—Dispatches received here, says the Gneisenau's survivors numbered 314. This would make the fatalities 147.

Protests Against Wilcox.

Washington, Dec. 17.—George Gear, of Honolulu, who is here to prevent the seating of Wilcox, the Hawaiian delegate to congress, placed the matter before the house elections committee this afternoon. He prefers no charge against Wilcox personally, but holds that his election is illegal because of insufficient authority for the holding of it.

The Franchise is Taxable.

Stockton, Calif., Dec. 17.—Judge Lind, of the Superior court, today decided, this morning that the grant of right, given to the Stockton Gas & Electric company to string wires and poles, is a taxable franchise. The decision means thousands of dollars to the city and county treasuries of the state.

A Sheldon Paper in London.

London, Dec. 17.—Dr. Joseph Parker's editorial management of the London Evening Sun began this morning. The first number contains a column of religious notes and three columns on the Boer war, one column of crimes, chiefly murders, and no sporting news.

Big Fire in Cleveland, Ohio.

Cleveland, Ohio, Dec. 17.—The plant of the Brown hoisting and engineering company was destroyed by fire this morning. A thousand men are thrown out of employment by the fire which caused a property loss of \$1,000,000.

Vote of Confidence.

Paris, Dec. 17.—During the debate in the chamber today on the amnesty bill a vote of confidence in the ministry passed. This, it is believed, answers the passage of the government's amnesty measure.

FLOWING UP BUGS.

Willamette Valley Farmers Believe They Are the Grain Aphid.

While plowing a summer fallow field that was cropped this season in wheat, Walter Yates of Lin county in the Willamette valley, found that he was turning up millions of little bugs that are in appearance identical with the grain aphid, the plowing is six inches deep, and the soil is being returned to the surface.

Two Weeks Ago Lon Locke, plowing on the J. Fred Yates farm, adjoining, discovered multitudes of bugs of the same kind, and all the farmers in the neighborhood declare them to be aphid.

Smallpox at Colville.

Colville is awakening to the fact that the disease which has been for a year past designated by the local physicians as Manila itch is in fact smallpox. In the past two months two deaths have resulted from this malady, and one victim has lost his sight. It is said that the state quarantine law is inoperative in seaward and border towns, where invasion of infectious diseases from foreign countries is possible.

The Standard is supposed to have special sources for war news, but its dispatches have not always been reliable.

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MISSING, 18 OFFICERS AND 656 MEN

The News Casts a Gloom Over London, and to Make Matters Worse, Report Comes That Dewet Got Away.

London, Dec. 15.—The fear that General Kitchener had not told the truth when he reported General Clement's defeat yesterday was confirmed this morning by a telegram from the commander.

Lord Kitchener's report, dated at Pretoria, December 14, says: "General Clement's defeat yesterday was confirmed by a telegram from the commander. The casualties were, I regret to say, very heavy. Five officers and nine of the other ranks were killed. There are missing eighteen officers and 556 of the other ranks."

These latter were four companies of Northumberland Fusiliers, stationed on the hill, and some of them and the other ranks were being telegraphed from Cape Town. The Boers suffered severely.

Lord Kitchener also reports that General Knox drove General Dewet north to Thabanchiku, on the Ladybrand line, where the British frustrated several attempts of the Boers to break through.

Dewet's force is reported to have numbered three thousand, and, according to Kitchener, their loss was considerable. The British recaptured the frozen country taken at Debestrop, one company, and several wagons. The gloom is thick today in London. The Boers' coup is stunning. A big crowd is at the war office looking over the list of casualties.

Nothing short of the capture of General Dewet can offset the defeat of General Clements, and Kitchener practically admits the why Boer leader has again got through the line at Thabanchiku.

Laughing Stock of the World.

London, Dec. 15.—In the commons today George Walsh, liberal, in referring to General Clement's defeat, said: "The news is one of our severest reverses, also General Dewet has broken through the British lines for the tenth time, making us the laughing stock of the world."

The Hay Pauncefote Treaty.

Washington, Dec. 15.—The administration and senate steering committees have reached an agreement to accept the two amendments offered by Forsaker to the Hay-Pauncefote treaty bill. The first strikes out the provision requiring it to be laid before and ratified by other nations; and the second makes the Hay-Pauncefote treaty superior to the Clayton-Bulwer treaty in all particulars, where the latter is inconsistent with the former.

The Beer Tax.

Washington, Dec. 15.—Barthold's amendment to reduce the beer tax was defeated on a vote in the house, 139 to 68. This leaves the beer tax reduction as recommended by the committee having out of the war tax reduction bill in charge.

No Special Tax on Express Companies.

Washington, Dec. 15.—The house, by a rising vote of 96 to 87, this afternoon rescinded the amendment of yesterday to the war revenue bill, providing for a special tax on express companies, which sustains the ways and means committee. The tax amendment was lost, by a vote of 76 to 55.

Brewers' Lobby Gives Up.

Washington, Dec. 15.—The brewers' lobby has practically given up the fight and it is not likely that a great effort will be made to reduce the tax on beer beyond \$1.00 a barrel.

War Tax Reduction Passes House.

Washington, Dec. 15.—A motion to recommit the war tax bill to the ways and means committee was lost by a vote of 139 to 155. The bill then passed by a vivvo vote.

The Pension Appropriation.

The pension appropriation bill was taken up, after the passage of the bill reducing the war tax, and in fifteen minutes it passed the house. The general debate on it lasted less than ten minutes. It carries an appropriation of \$145,000,000.

BOERS MAY COME TO OREGON.

A Number of Them Have Their Eye on This State.

A letter received in Portland asks for information about Oregon, with a view of settling a hundred or more Boers in the state.

THE MORRISON-CASTLE CASE.

The Young Woman Will Be Released From Jail on Bond.

Eldorado, Kans., Dec. 15.—The Morrison-Castle murder case will go over to the spring term of court. In the meantime Miss Morrison's lawyers will make application for her release on a bond, which, it is believed, Judge Shinn has already made up his mind to grant. It is not believed that another jury could be secured in the county to try the case.

QUEEN VICTORIA'S SPEECH.

Parliament is Prorogued Until February—War Loan Bill Passed.

London, Dec. 15.—Parliament was prorogued today until February. The queen's speech was as follows: "My Lords and Gentlemen: I thank you for the liberal provision for the expenses of the operations of my army in South Africa and China."

BRYAN TO START A PAPER.

It Will Be a Weekly and Be Named "The Commoner."

Lincoln, Dec. 15.—W. J. Bryan announces his entrance into journalism and will start a weekly paper called the Commoner in January. He expects to lecture some, but will devote most of his time to the paper.

STORM IN SAN FRANCISCO.

The City Was Cut Off From Outside World for Ten Hours.

San Francisco, Dec. 15.—A storm of unusual proportions visited this coast yesterday, doing considerable damage in some sections. Telegraph wires were prostrated, and during the morning San Francisco was completely cut off from telegraphic communication with the outside world.

The wind reached a velocity of nearly 60 miles an hour in the city and was of greater velocity in exposed sections.

Shaking Up New York's Finest.

New York, Dec. 15.—As the result of political pressure brought on the police commissioners there was a big shakeup today of the force. Chief detective McClintock was dismissed and ordered out of duty at central station. He was succeeded by George Titus, a young police captain, and there are many other changes.

Paddy Ryan is Dead.

New York, Dec. 15.—A special to the Journal and Advertiser from Albany, N. Y. says: Paddy Ryan, one time champion pugilist of the world, was defeated by John L. Sullivan in their famous fight in Mississippi, died at his home in Glens Falls, N. Y., this afternoon.

John Addison Porter Dies.

Pomeroet, Conn., Dec. 15.—John Addison Porter, former secretary to President McKinley, died this morning at his home in this place, of cancerous ailment. He was supposed to be convalescent.

Arbitration Conference.

Chicago, Dec. 15.—The national industrial arbitration conference commenced here this morning. Carroll Wright, United States labor commissioner, is the principal speaker today.

Failures for the Week.

New York, Dec. 15.—Dun's Review says: The failures for the week are 240 in the United States against 218 last year and 26 in Canada against 38 last year.

Editor Ottendorfer Dying.

New York, Dec. 15.—Oswald Ottendorfer, the editor of the Staats Zeitung, this afternoon is said to be dying.

Paris Exposition Deficit.

Paris, Dec. 15.—The Matin says: Paris exposition deficit is about \$414,000.

FORECAST OF CONGRESS.

CONGRESSIONAL WEEK BEFORE THE HOLIDAYS WILL BE A BUSTY WEEK.

Wilcox, Delegate From the Territory of Hawaii is Sworn In—War Tax in House.

Washington, Dec. 15.—The last congressional week before the holiday recess will be a busy one. In the house the pension bill will be passed in a hurry. Thursday the river and harbor bill will receive attention and Friday will be devoted to claims.

The senate will continue to consider the Hay-Pauncefote treaty in secret, and will not give to the ship subsidy talk. During the week the army re-organization bill will be reported and placed on the calendar.

Wilcox Sworn In.

Washington, Dec. 15.—The credentials of Robert Wilcox, as the delegate from the territory of Hawaii, were presented to the house and he was sworn in. The house then went into consideration of the war tax bill.

The Senate went into executive session soon after meeting at noon.

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Shaking Up New York's Finest.

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A FINANCIAL PANIC THREATENS IN GERMANY.

There is Already a Slump in Mortgaged Bonds.

TWO BANKS HAVE CLOSED DOORS

One of Them the Hypothek Bank, Which Was a Big Concern—A Financial Crisis is Being Experienced in Berlin.

New York, Dec. 14.—A dispatch to the Journal and Advertiser from Berlin, says: The pessimistic speech of Baron Fleischmann, secretary of the imperial treasury, in the Reichstag Monday, in which he told the country to prepare for a period of hard times, as the financial situation was gloomy, has caused a sensation in the money market.

There has been such a slump in the price of mortgage bonds that unless confidence is restored the economic stability of Germany will be imperiled, some of the banks and bankers may find themselves in serious difficulties and a financial crisis of unparalleled gravity may be precipitated in Berlin.

The first Preussische Hypothek bank and Deutsche Grundschuld bank are unable to meet the strain and the government has appointed receivers in both cases.

GEN. DEWET SLV AS A FOX.

The Boer General is Leading the English a Merry Chase.

London, Dec. 14.—The Daily Express publishes a rumor of a serious disaster to the British army.

According to this report the Boers attacked the camp of General Clements in the Barbeton district, capturing the camp, killing a number of British officers and taking prisoners all the British troops, including four companies of Northumberland fusiliers.

The Fox Dewet.

New York, Dec. 14.—A dispatch to the Tribune from London says: The "Fox," is still shield and running to cover at Reddersburg, with his pursuers close behind. General Dewet instead of following the direct road from Rouxville to Wepener, where he would have been headed off by the columns sent to intercept him, has circled around Knox's forces, recrossed the Caledon river ahead of them, and reached the Smithfield road and doubled back upon his first track.

Dewet is at Bay.

London, Dec. 14.—The Evening Standard says a telegram has been received to the effect that General Knox has compelled Dewet to make a stand and an engagement is now in progress. Many of Dewet's men have been captured it is said.

RADICAL ELEMENT DOWNED.

The Conservatives in the Federation of Labor Control.

Louisville, Dec. 14.—The conservative element in the American Federation of labor voted down resolutions championed by the radicals.

One was a bitter pronouncement against trusts and monopolies in general and the other a declaration in favor of a co-operative commonwealth and government ownership and control of all means of production and distribution.

For both of them much more moderate substitutes were adopted after long debate. Throughout the debate the opponents of the resolutions claimed that the latter was the only solution of the industrial problems.

COUNTERFEITERS ARRESTED.

Three Men Caught in San Francisco Making Bogus Money.

San Francisco, Dec. 15.—Wm. D. Fitch, Emmet D. Fitch and his son were arrested this morning while counterfeiting in this city. One hundred molds, a large number of batteries, a full counterfeiter's outfit, and 3200 counterfeit ten dollar pieces and a number of fifty cent pieces were taken. The men made a full confession. They had intended to counterfeit \$50,000 and spread it through the state during the holidays.

STILL UNABLE TO AGREE.

The Jurors in the Morrison-Castle Murder Case Still Out.

Eldorado, Kans., Dec. 14.—Judge Shinn says the Morrison case jury to their hotel at 9:30 o'clock last night and instructed them to resume their deliberations at 8:30 o'clock today. They have informed the court that they are hopelessly of different minds as regards the French army cost \$125,000,000 a year, the German \$130,000,000, the British \$100,000,000 and the Russian \$152,000,000. The figures include posts and fortifications. If this bill passes the war department will need \$115,000,000. There is another cost not included in the figures which is a necessary incident to an army and as such a part of its cost as the pay of its soldiers. That is the pension system. We are appropriating for that purpose \$145,000,000 a year. Our total charges, heretofore, for military purposes are \$260,000,000 per year—an amount greater than the entire military expenses of those two military rivals—France and Germany.

Hot Air or Draught in Next Century.

Hot or cold air will be turned on from spigots to regulate the temperature of a house as we now turn on hot or cold water from spigots to regulate the temperature of the bath during the coming century. Central plants will supply this cool air and heat to city houses, in the same way as now our gas or electricity is furnished. Rising early to build the furnace fire will be a task of the olden times. Homes will have no chimneys, because no smoke will be created within their walls.—December Ladies' Home Journal.

Economy in Profanity.

The English law of libel makes profanity a money saving virtue. If you call a man a thief, and can not prove it, you are liable. If, however, you garnish your description by one of the adjectives usually deemed unfit for publication, any libel action brought against you will fall through. The law says your profanity proves that you have lost your temper, and, therefore, you are not actionable for your words.

A Fair for Portland.

If plans go well, the Native Sons, aided by the Pioneers, Indian War Veterans and members of the Historical society, will give a fair in Portland next fall, the proceeds over and above all expenses to go toward the erection of a building in one of that city's parks in which relics of the early history of Oregon may be permanently placed.

The Six Day Race.

New York, Dec. 14.—Narrowed down to six sows, barked and strained teams, the six day bicycle race in Madison Square Garden has now become a contest of the nations. At the beginning of the fifth day of the contest only one American team is left in the race, Elkes and McFarland who with Bierer and McEachern, Canadians, have covered over 2000 miles.

State Funds of the Order.

Indiana, Dec. 14.—Thomas Yont was this morning appointed receiver of the Order of Women Friends. The defaulting treasurer, W. B. Wilcox, shortage is \$36,000, all of which he lost in stock speculation. Just before his death, he made a clean breast of the story to Grand Recorder Linn, in October last.

Bank Growth of Wheat.

Wichita, Dec. 14.—Wheat is growing so rank in the Arkansas valley wheat belt, embracing a territory that produced over 40,000,000 bushels last year that the farmers are advertising to take stock free for the purpose of eating it down.

Terrible Catastrophe.

Canton, Dec. 14.—The falling overboard of a man from a passenger boat on the West river near Hokould and the rush of some 400 passengers to one side of the vessel, which caused her to sink, was the cause of over 200 persons being drowned.

Trainsmen to Assist.

St. Louis, Mo., Dec. 14.—Secretary Perham, of the railway telegraphers, today said the trainmen will be glad to have agreed to assist the strikers by refusing to take any orders from the non-union operators.

Earthquake Shock.

Joplin, Mo., Dec. 14.—An earthquake shock occurred here at 7:45 o'clock this morning, lasting a minute. Houses rattled and trembled, but no damage was done.

Bicycle Manufacturer Dead.

Los Angeles, Dec. 14.—Adolph E. Schroeninger, president of the Western Wheel company of Chicago, died here last night.