

# NEWS FROM THE NATIONAL CAPITAL

## BROWN STOPS HOSTILITIES.

American Diplomat Prevents Bombardment of Amapala.

Washington, April 5.—Mr. C. Brown, the American minister, called at the State department today and inquired what authority Phillip Brown, secretary of the American legation to Guatemala and Honduras, had for his interference with the bombardment of Amapala, Honduras, by the Nicaraguan forces.

Mr. Brown's advice from his home government show that Mr. Brown went to Amapala, persuaded the Nicaraguans to cease firing for 24 hours and then went to La Union, Salvador, whence he issued a protest, saying that Salvador would regard renewal of the bombardment as a declaration of war against Salvador. State department officials refuse to disclose what Mr. Brown's instructions have been.

President Bonilla is still surrounded at Amapala, so far as the State department knows, but the bombardment of the town by Nicaraguan gunboats has ceased.

## ADVICE ON RAILROAD LAWS.

Stickney, Speyer and Whitridge, Offer President Suggestions.

Washington, April 5.—The president has received communications from A. B. Stickney, of the Chicago Great Western; James Speyer, of the banking firm of Speyer & Co., of New York, and Frederick Whitridge, a New York lawyer, all of them bending on the railroad situation. Mr. Stickney made a number of suggestions which he thought might be of value to the president in any legislation he might desire to recommend to congress.

The president today replied to Mr. Stickney's letter and requested that he elaborate to some extent the points he had already brought out. Mr. Whitridge has been invited to come here to confer with the president and is expected here within the next few days.

## Gives Island to Republic.

Washington, April 10.—That the Isle of Pines is not American territory was officially and judicially decided today by the Supreme court of the United States. The decision was rendered in the case of Edward J. Peasey vs. Nevada M. Stranahan, collector of the port of New York, and the opinion of the court was announced by Chief Justice Fuller, who said that up to the Paris treaty the Isle of Pines has been considered as an integral part of Cuba, and that it could not be held to be covered by article II of that treaty, which included only islands in the vicinity of Porto Rico.

## Boston Relieves the Chicago.

Washington, April 10.—The Navy department was informed today that the cruiser Boston has arrived at Acapulco, Mexico, on her way to Amapala, Honduras, to relieve the cruiser Chicago, which has been ordered, when relieved, to proceed to Magdalena bay, Southern California, for target practice. Information was received also that the gunboat Padua had sailed from Port Limon, Costa Rica, for Trujillo, Honduras, for the better protection of the interests of the United States on account of hostilities in that vicinity.

## Prosecute Poison Sellers.

Washington, April 4.—The department of Agriculture is making preparations to begin prosecutions under the pure food law and Dr. Wiley has given instructions to his inspectors to secure as soon as possible the samples on which the accusations will be based. The offending establishments have generally been located, and nothing remains except to obtain specimens of the articles. When these are procured charges will be formulated and supplied to the United States district attorneys in whose districts the offenders may reside.

## Hear Williamson Case in Fall

Washington, April 10.—The appeal of Representative Williamson will be argued in the United States Supreme court October 21, early in the fall term. Owing to the crowded condition of the docket, the court was unable to fix a date for argument this term, only a little more than a month remaining. It is probable that, had the argument been set for the present term, decision would have been deferred until fall at any rate.

## Land Restored to Entry.

Washington, April 6.—Forester Pinchot today recommended the restoration to entry of 359,000 acres of land that has been temporarily withdrawn adjacent to the Cascade forest reserve, but which was not added to that reserve prior to March 4 last. The land becomes subject to settlement immediately and becomes subject to entry after 90 days. Under the act of last session this land could not be permanently reserved except by act of congress.

## Believes Negroes Guiltless.

Washington, April 4.—Captain P. Lyon, of Company D, Twenty-fifth infantry, was the only witness examined today in the Brownsville investigation before the senate committee. His personal view that negro soldiers did not do the shooting attracted much attention, as he said at first he was convinced of their guilt, but his opinion was changed by the report of experts who examined the shells picked up in the streets of Brownsville.

## Boundary Treaty is Made.

Washington, April 10.—It was officially admitted today that a treaty has been drafted with Great Britain providing for the appointment of a joint commission which will consider all questions connected with the water boundaries between Canada and the United States, including the whole subject of fisheries regulations for the great lakes and the Atlantic and Pacific seaboard.

## General Humphrey Reappointed.

Washington, April 4.—The president has reappointed Brigadier General Charles F. Humphrey as quartermaster general to succeed himself on the expiration of his present term.

## WILL BE NO STRIKE.

Railroads and Trainmen Have Reached an Agreement.

Chicago, April 5.—The differences between the Western roads and the members of the Order of Conductors and the Brotherhood of Trainmen were finally adjusted yesterday. The men abandoned their demand for a nine-hour work day and the roads made an advance over their previous proposition in the pay of baggagemen, flagmen and brakemen of \$7.50 per month.

The original demands of the men were for an increase of 12 per cent and for a working day of nine hours. The managers offered an increase in pay of 10 per cent and declined to grant the nine-hour day. The agreement was reached mainly through the efforts of Chairman Knapp, of the Interstate Commerce commission, and Charles Neill, United States labor commissioner.

The agreement, which goes into effect dating from April 1, follows:

The pay of conductors in the passenger service to be increased \$10 per month, that of baggagemen \$7.50 and that of flagmen and brakemen \$6.50 per month as applied to the schedules in effect November 1, 1906.

The railroads are not to make any reduction in crews or increase in mileage for the purpose of offsetting the increased wages given the passenger trainmen.

Overtime in the passenger service to be allowed on the basis of 15 miles per hour, to be computed for each part of the run separately. Time is to be paid on the basis of more than ten hours per day for a helper or construction train service are to make no increase in the rates paid for such service. The increases granted in the agreement are to apply also to rates for special services as specified in the individual schedule.

Upon roads having a better basis for a day's work or for payment of overtime or other allowances in all branches of train service, the acceptance of this agreement is not to act as a reduction. The Brotherhood of Locomotive Firemen was also granted by the railroads an increase of 10 per cent.

## NEW SPELLERS GAINING.

Champions of Simplicity Rejoice Over Number of Converts.

New York, April 5.—Chairman Brander Matthews, of the Simplified Spelling board, at its first annual meeting today submitted a report stating that at least 100,000 persons were using the form of spelling urged by the organization. Most of the criticism against the board's activity, Professor Matthews declared, had come from men of letters, but this had been more than offset by the support of men of science. Professor Matthews says President Roosevelt's warm attitude toward simplified spelling had also been a powerful factor in advancing the work.

Resolutions were adopted thanking Andrew Carnegie for the aid he had rendered the board and expressing the conviction that through the help thus rendered there "would be insured for countless generations a great diminution in the labor of teaching and learning with a proportionate increase in the things taught and learned; a vast increase in the facility of spreading ideas, and therefore a vast increase in each individual's stock of original ideas."

## REGARDED AS PERSONAL.

Hermann Explains Why He Made Way With Letterbooks.

Washington, April 5.—During the hour he was on the stand today Binger Hermann narrated the circumstances under which he ordered the destruction of his 35 private letterbooks, gave his reason for so doing, and also explained the distinction he drew between personal and official correspondence. While telling the story of the books, he for the first time displayed signs of emotion, and his earnestness and straightforwardness as he talked direct to the jury were convincing.

From his own testimony it was evident that Hermann never drew a fine distinction between the official and the personal in his correspondence with Oregon friends, in fact, the bulk of his correspondence with personal acquaintances at home was regarded by him as personal, notwithstanding much of it dealt more or less extensively with land office business.

## War on Livestock Firm.

Kansas City, Mo., April 5.—The Livestock commission men who are members of the Livestock exchange at the stockyards, have declared a war on the Co-operative Livestock Commission company, an independent concern, and a boycott on all packers who purchase cattle, sheep or hogs from the Co-operative company. The reason given for the boycott is that the company sells cattle below price quotations and sends out circulars to shippers charging the commission men and stock exchange with dealing unfairly.

## How Germany Understands It.

Berlin, April 5.—The statement made at the British foreign office today that Great Britain had not in any way altered her request that the question of the limitation of armaments be included in the program of the coming peace conference at The Hague caused some surprise in Berlin, as the German foreign office understands that Great Britain does not insist on the question being formally included in the program, but only reserves the privilege of raising the question in the conference, thus leaving the other powers free.

## Strikes Out 350 Counts.

Chicago, April 5.—As a result of 19 motions for dismissal of counts in the indictments against the Standard Oil company, of Indiana, charged with accepting illegal rates on shipments of oil, Judge Landis today in the United States District court ordered 350 of the counts stricken out. The government attorneys expressed but little concern at the dismissal, saying there are still 150 counts on which the indictments stand.

## Two-Cent Fare for Michigan.

Lansing, Mich., April 5.—The senate today, 27 to 3, passed a bill requiring a 2-cent per mile passenger fare on all Lower Peninsula railroads, the net earnings of which exceed \$1,200 a mile.

## TORNADO IN SOUTH TO GIVE UP PLUNDER

Sweeps Through Louisiana, Mississippi and Alabama.

## CLAIMS A SCORE OF VICTIMS

Portions of Four Towns and an Insane Asylum Devastated—Loss Placed at \$500,000.

New Orleans, La., April 6.—Probably 15 lives were lost today by a tornado which swept across portions of three Gulf states and which was traceable for a distance of 300 miles. The tornado moved from west to east over the southern extremity of Louisiana and Mississippi, and striking into Alabama for a short distance. Portions of four towns were destroyed, and damage approximating \$500,000 was done.

The tornado began at Alexandria, La., soon after 1 o'clock yesterday morning, instantly killing four persons there, fatally injuring three and seriously wounding 13 others.

Soon after daylight it reached the Mississippi river, killing four persons at Jackson, La., while at Bayou Sara, Ala., at least half a dozen others were killed. There was one fatal injury at Jackson.

The tornado next appeared at Carson, Miss., where great property damage was done. About noon near Selma, Ala., the inhabitants saw the clouds rise into the air and the storm disappeared.

The insane asylum at Jackson, La., was almost wholly wrecked, with a loss of about \$200,000. In addition to three female inmates killed many sustained injuries. Two negroes were killed on a nearby plantation. Reports from the surrounding country indicated that there was probably more loss of life among the negroes, whose flimsy cabins quickly collapsed before the wind.

## HONOR MEMORIAL DAY.

Commander-in-Chief of Grand Army Issues Proclamation.

Zanesville, O., April 6.—Commander-in-Chief Brown, of the Grand Army of the Republic, today issued his Memorial Day proclamation, of which the following is a summary.

On Thursday, May 30, will occur the annual ceremony of parading the graves of the dead, and the commander-in-chief calls upon the posts to see that the last resting place of every Union soldier, sailor or marine in their respective localities is fittingly decorated.

Wherever practicable, public commemorative services of the heroism of the dead should be held at some central point. Department commanders are charged with the duty of patriotic instruction in the public schools insofar as the cooperation of the school authorities can be secured. Let Friday, May 24, or the last day preceding Memorial Day, be set aside for this laudable purpose.

In accordance with a time-honored custom, each post will attend divine service in a body on Sunday, May 26, to render praise and thanksgiving unto the God of nations for the manifold blessings of the past and the undiminished enjoyment of the fruits of an enduring peace won by the Union arms.

## CZAR TO ABDICATE.

Will Appoint Grand Duke Michael Regent for Infant Czarovich.

London, April 6.—The Daily Mirror claims to be in a position to announce upon the "highest authority" that the emperor of Russia proposes to abdicate within a month and that Grand Duke Michael will be appointed regent during the infancy of the czarovich. For the past three or four weeks, the paper says, events have been proceeding in this direction with lightning-like rapidity in St. Petersburg, but the secret has been well kept.

"Lately," says the paper, "the emperor's mind has given way even more completely, and he has shown himself incapable of performing the smallest duties of his rank."

## Warrants for Trainmen.

Colton, Cal., April 6.—Coroner Van Wier today swore out warrants for the arrest of the employees of the Southern Pacific who were held responsible for the wreck on March 28, in which 25 people were killed and 75 injured. The following are the names of the men against whom warrants were issued: L. R. Alvord, foreman of the switching crew; J. G. Crusemeyer, switchman, Clarence Warming, engineer. The complaints charge them with causing the death of H. F. Walters, of Sacramento, who was among the killed.

## Japanese for Alaska Mines.

Seattle, Wash., April 6.—The mining camps of the North are keenly feeling the shortage of labor despite the fact that \$4.50 a day and board is offered. So acute is the situation that mining operators in Southeastern Alaska and the Atlin district in British Columbia are importing Japanese labor, which jumps at a chance to make the wages offered. Within a few days 35 Japanese laborers, who will draw from \$4 to \$4.50 a day, will be sent North. As far as known, this is the highest price ever paid common labor.

## Road Got Mineral Land.

Reno, Nev., April 6.—The department of the Interior is to sue the Southern Pacific company at once to cancel all patents issued to the railroad in the White Horse mining district on the claim that the land was agricultural. It is now alleged that the land for which the railroad received patents was developed into a great producing district and the action will affect lands worth millions of dollars for mining.

## Rejects Bering Tunnel Scheme.

St. Petersburg, April 4.—The cabinet today rejected a proposal made on behalf of an American syndicate for the construction of a railroad tunnel under Bering straits, by which it was hoped ultimately to connect the Trans-Siberian with the Canadian Pacific railroad.

Harriman Coal Companies Offer Government Stolen Land.

## PROPERTY IS WORTH MILLIONS

Asks Immunity in Return, but Only a Small Part of Stealings Is Offered.

Washington, April 4.—It was learned tonight that the Harriman corporations, whose ramifications extend to coal land and other vast interests in the Far West, are offering to restore to the government properties they have heretofore claimed as theirs by good and ample title. They prefer to do this rather than be prosecuted.

Coal land worth in the aggregate millions of dollars is to be restored to the public domain, as a result of the recent activities of the Interstate Commerce commission. The commission several months ago investigated the land frauds in Wyoming, Colorado and Utah. It was found that this whole section was honeycombed with corruption and its records indicated that the general land office had been either hopelessly incompetent or worse in permitting the railroad companies and their allied corporations, the Union Pacific Coal company, the Utah Fuel company and the Colorado Fuel and Iron company, to secure, by various and devious methods, control of great areas of the richest coal land in the West.

The Union Pacific Coal Company is a subsidiary corporation of the Union Pacific Railroad company. All the stock of the coal company, except qualifying shares for directors, is owned by the railroad company. The coal company secured control of a large amount of scrip and used it to secure entry of land, which was rich in the finest bituminous coal of the Wyoming field.

As it is the coal company is anxious to return the valuable land to the government and end the matter. But the matter will not be allowed to end there. While there is no possible defense to the title under which this scrip has been claimed, this, though very valuable, constitutes only a small part of the coal land now held by the Union Pacific railroad, the Union Pacific Coal company, the Union Fuel company and other concerns.

## JAPANESE SMUGGLED IN.

Hundreds Cross Border From Canada and Mexico.

Washington, March 4.—Information has reached the immigration bureau of the Department of Commerce and Labor that hundreds of Japanese have arrived in Mexico destined for the United States. Inspector Braun, who was sent to Mexico to investigate, telegraphed today that he had interviewed several hundred Japanese, principally laborers, who are now in Mexico. Many of them are in straitened circumstances. They have no intention of remaining in Mexico, but do desire to come to the United States. They expect to obtain employment on the railroads of the West and Southwest. Some of them have already applied for admission to the United States and have been denied.

## WANTS TO REGAIN STRENGTH.

Russia Says Time Is Not Ripe for Limiting Armament.

St. Petersburg, April 4.—According to Professor De Maerens, who was received in audience by Emperor Nicholas yesterday, Russia believes the time is not ripe for the discussion of the question of limitation of armaments, as practical results cannot be obtained, but if the United States and Great Britain are determined to bring the subject before the conference Russia is not inclined to insist on its exclusion.

In consequence of the unsuccessful war Russia's army and fleet are far below her normal strength and she is not willing to restrict her freedom of action in regaining her naval strength.

## Twenty Men Burn.

San Francisco, April 4.—Twenty men were burned to death and 20 seriously injured in a fire which destroyed an Italian hotel at Seventeenth and Convent streets in the Potrero district shortly after midnight this morning. The injured were of the laboring class and were asleep in their rooms when the fire started. Before they could be aroused the flames had spread through the building. The walls fell and the inmates were buried in the ruins, 20 being taken out dead and dying by the firemen.

## Four Jurors Are Accepted.

San Francisco, April 4.—Three of the first talesmen who will sit in the jury box, subject to peremptory challenge, were passed by the prosecution and the defense as a result of the second day's proceedings in the trial of Abraham Ruef for extortion. One having been passed by both sides the first day, four talesmen have now been temporarily selected. When this number has been increased to twelve they will be subject to peremptory challenge, the defense having the right to excuse ten jurors and the prosecution five.

## Detweiler Escapes in Auto.

Battle Creek, Mich., April 4.—A. K. Detweiler, of Toledo, indicted for bribery at San Francisco, was located in a private residence here this afternoon, but escaped arrest by leaving the house by a rear door and was whisked away in an automobile five minutes before the detectives called at the house to effect his arrest. It is thought Detweiler's destination was Belle Isle, 12 miles north of here, where he could reach catch a Grand Trunk train for Canada.

## Rejects Bering Tunnel Scheme.

St. Petersburg, April 4.—The cabinet today rejected a proposal made on behalf of an American syndicate for the construction of a railroad tunnel under Bering straits, by which it was hoped ultimately to connect the Trans-Siberian with the Canadian Pacific railroad.



Many amateur photographers who cannot have a regular dark-room will find the device here illustrated very useful and convenient. If desired it may be constructed so as to allow folding up when not in use, by using hinges at A and B and making the sides flexible.

The bottom and frame are made of wood and the walls are constructed of light-proof cloth, formed by gluing black paper between two pieces of black cloth. The back should be full enough to allow plenty of room for the operator and the cloth should be tied securely around his waist to exclude every possible ray of light. It is well to paint the whole interior a dull black, so that any small leakage of light will not be reflected. The ventilating tube and drain pipe should be bent as shown, to exclude the light, and the ruby glass should be carefully fitted for the same purpose. It is also desirable to have a hinged shutter, S, to cover the ruby glass while waiting for the plate to develop. This is to prevent any unnecessary exposure to

the ruby light, as any light, no matter how colored or subdued, has some effect on the sensitive plate or film. The drain pipe shown on this outfit may be omitted if desired, although it is convenient at times and gives a better circulation of air.—Stewart H. Leland, in Popular Mechanics.

THE PORTABLE DARK ROOM.

## RESTORED SKYSCRAPERS REPLACE FRISCO RUINS.



JUNCTION OF MARKET, KEARNEY AND GEARY STREETS. The picture shows the new and the old San Francisco Chronicle buildings, the Monarch Block, the Mutual Bank and the Cull buildings. These are all situated near the junction of Market, Kearney and Geary streets. San Francisco has not seen fit to abandon the skyscraper, in spite of the lesson of the great earthquake. The huge structures are again towering to heaven. Around Jefferson Square, which is planted with palm trees, buildings of the most diverse types are already erected, and, indeed, are almost completed. The photograph of Jefferson Square gives an excellent idea of how the steel-frame building is constructed. The great skeleton is erected first and it is then filled in with brick and cement. This plan is really a great saving of time, for the tiers are filled in simultaneously, so that one sees, as it were, a series of buildings rising at one time from many aerial foundations.

## HOW LOEB GOT HIS START.

Roosevelt Picked Him Up Accidentally While at Albany. William B. Loeb, secretary to President Roosevelt, and by reason of that position one of the most influential men in Washington, began to fight his battle seriously in Albany, N. Y., where he was an unassuming, rather timid court stenographer when Roosevelt was a member of the New York State Assembly. His salary might have been larger, and with several others of his calling, he used to frequent the crumbling State capitol, hoping to get an occasional job of typewriting for some one of the newspaper correspondents. One day in 1890, directly after Roosevelt's inauguration as Governor, when such work seemed uncommonly scarce, the Governor himself stepped out of the little private office into the "big room," where is received everybody, politicians and ordinary worms of the dust, impartially, and asked that a good stenographer and typewriter be sent in. "You go in, Loeb," some one said. Loeb "went in" and made pittocks to the tune of Roosevelt's dictation for an hour or two. Some time later he delivered the typewritten copy. It must have been up to the Roosevelt standard, for, next day, when the Governor repeated his request for a stenographer, he said, "Send in the man I had yesterday; he's all right."

From that day on the young court stenographer was busy, for Roosevelt made him his private secretary. Later he took him to Washington and made him his secretary, while Vice President. When Roosevelt was elected President, Cortelyou put Loeb in as assistant to Cortelyou, then serving the President as secretary. Cortelyou's promotion to a cabinet place lifted Loeb to the proud level of secretary to the President, with attendance at cabinet meetings a part of his duties.

Shopping Politeness. "Never point, my dear," said the mother gently. "But, mamma," objected the little girl, "suppose I don't know the name of the thing?" "Then let the salesman show you all he has in stock until he comes to the article that is desired."—New York Press.

A Normal Disadvantage. "Why do reformers so often come to grief?" "I have often asked the question," answered Senator Sorghum. "I think it must be because they take up politics as an incidental diversion instead of as a regular business. It's the difference between the amateur and the professional."—Washington Star.

A man may be born with ability, but he has to hustle for experience.

Imaginary Powers. "What is the extent of his mental powers?" "Great. He thinks he's a wonder in many ways. In fact, all of his ability is in his head."—Kansas City Times.

A man isn't known so much by the company he keeps as by the line of talk he hands out to his neighbors.

It's hard on the aeronaut when he takes a drop too much.

Julia Foster Avery. Upon a little Philadelphia girl, Julia Foster Avery, aged 15, was placed the mantle of Susan B. Anthony when the famous woman suffragist was dying. Little Miss Avery is now in special training to make the advancement of woman's suffrage her life work, and, indeed, has already begun her activity as a leader.

A short while before her death Miss Anthony called Julia and her mother, Mrs. Rachel Foster Avery, vice president of the National Woman Suffrage Alliance, to her bedside. Miss Anthony took the child's hand, "Julia," she said, "I am going to will you my position as head of the women of this country. You are the best fitted for that place of all the girls I ever met."

In order to qualify herself for the position of a world leader Julia is

studying German, French and Esperanto, Roberts' Rules of Order and constitutional history of the governments of all large countries. She has written a poem dedicated to the cause of suffrage. Her spare time between scholastic duties at Swarthmore is spent practicing oratory and studying the speeches of famous men and women.