

NEWS FROM THE NATIONAL CAPITAL

FORAKER CONFUSES POLICE

Accuses Witness of Telling Different Stories Than Before.

Washington, May 22.—Three members of the Brownsville, Tex., police force were questioned today in the investigation being conducted by the Senate Committee on Military Affairs. All testified concerning the incidents attending the Brownsville affray and all became somewhat confused under cross-examination by Senator Foraker when he called attention to discrepancies between their stories today and those told on the stand on a previous occasion.

Policeman Victoriano Fernandez testified that he heard the shooting, and as he ran downtown from his home he saw a man being shot by a soldier, where he found the bartender lying dead. He gave it as his opinion that the man had been killed by negro soldiers. He said he had seen no soldiers that night, as most of the shooting was over before he got downtown.

Senator Foraker called attention to the testimony before the citizens' committee in Brownsville two days after the affray, when Fernandez told a vivid story of having been chased by two negro soldiers, who fired several shots at him.

Says Nation Needs Roosevelt.
Washington, May 22.—Senator Bourne yesterday gave another interview advocating the renomination of President Roosevelt. He declared Roosevelt should serve another four years in the White House, not because he is Roosevelt, but because he is more than any other man, stands ready to carry out the policies of the American people, and because, to an unprecedented degree, he possesses the necessary courage to stand out against the rights of the people as against the alleged rights of the special classes.

Malcontents Gain Points.
Washington, May 16.—Governor Franz, of Oklahoma, and the delegation from that state, who are in Washington to confer with Chairman Sherman and members of the Republican congressional committee regarding the constitution adopted for the state of Oklahoma, have received a telegram announcing an appeal from the permanent injunction granted by Judge Penckaz at Tulsa, Okla., in the Woods county case, restraining the county officers from calling an election prior to November, 1908.

Grant Veterans Hold Reunion.
Washington, May 17.—An interesting feature of the next Republican National convention will be a reunion of the delegates to the national convention in Chicago in 1880 who for 36 years supported General U. S. Grant for the presidency for a third term. The call for the reunion has been issued by Colonel A. M. Hughes, of Columbia, Tenn., the only surviving member of the Tennessee delegation to that convention.

Green Bug Yield to Enemy.
Washington, May 16.—It was announced by the Agricultural department today that the "green bug," which has done so much damage to wheat and other small grain in Texas and Oklahoma, and in a few of the southern counties of Kansas, already is practically exterminated by its natural parasite, a very minute black fly. It caused great damage in 1890 and again in 1900 and a third outbreak is now coming to a close.

Warships Stay in Position.
Washington, May 17.—That the American warships now in Central American waters will be retained there for some time was indicated at the State department today. The Marietta is at Puerto Cortes, the Paducah at Point Barrios and the Yorktown is taking Minister Merry from Costa Rica to Acapulco.

Again Probing Brownsville Affray.
Washington, May 16.—The investigation by the senate committee on military affairs of the Brownsville shooting affray, was resumed today. It is expected that testimony will be offered against the negro discharged soldiers. Heretofore the testimony has been mostly in favor of the negroes.

Hotel Men Men Meet.
Washington, May 17.—More than 800 hotel proprietors and clerks from every state in the Union and from many Canadian cities are here in Washington to attend the 28th annual session of the Hotel Men's Mutual Benefit association, which convened today for a four days' session.

Barber Law in Highest Court.
Washington, May 17.—The case of Alfred Bergfeld vs. the State of Washington was docketed today in the Supreme court of the United States. The case involves the constitutionality of the Washington state law prohibiting barbers on Sunday.

Northwest Postal Affairs.
Washington, May 16.—Clarence E. Gay, has been appointed regular, Lizzie Gay, substitute, rural free delivery carrier, route 8, at Spokane, Wash. Herman J. Grand has been appointed postmaster at Johnson, Wash., vice L. S. Greer, resigned.

Special Delivery Stamp Not Needed.
Washington, May 16.—No special delivery postage stamps will be needed after July 1 to insure the immediate delivery of a letter. The affixing of 10 cents extra postage and marking the covering "Special Delivery" will suffice.

Cannot Enforce Higher Rates.
Washington, May 16.—The Interstate Commerce commission today decided that where there is force between the same points, as in the case of the shipper must be given the benefit of the lower.

New Quartermaster's Clerk.
Washington, May 17.—G. Olsen, of Oregon, has been appointed clerk of the quartermaster's department of the army at Portland.

RUFE MAKES GOOD PROMISE

Tells Grand Jury About Franchise Grant—Doomed to Prison.

San Francisco, May 17.—Abraham Ruef made good his declaration that he would, following his charges of plea to guilty in the extortion case against him, turn state's evidence and assist the bribery graft prosecution in its campaign against municipal corruption. Ruef, obeying a subpoena from the grand jury served upon him at the Fillmore street prison house shortly before 3 o'clock yesterday, went in the charge of Special Agent Burns, Elmer Biggs and another guard to the grand jury chambers in Native Sons' hall, where he took the witness stand and submitted to an examination that lasted from 3:30 p. m. until after 5 p. m.

When the ordeal was over, he called the newspaper men around him and said that he had promised the grand jury to divulge nothing. District Attorney Langdon and Assistant District Attorney Hendon refused to make any statement whatever. From Mr. Burns it was learned that the only matter on which Ruef was questioned was the alleged bribing of Mayor Schmitz and 18 servants by the United Railroads to grant to that corporation a change in its franchise allowing the electrification of its 250 miles of street railway system in this city.

SCHMITZ ABDICATES OFFICE
Signs Agreement to Let Committee of Citizens Name Officials.

San Francisco, May 17.—Mayor Schmitz last night signed an agreement to be guided in his appointments during the rest of his term by a committee of seven. This committee is composed of representatives of local commercial associations.

Schmitz from now on will be mayor in name only. He willingly signed the agreement, as he is a nervous wreck and unable to carry on the affairs of the city.

Before concluding arrangements with Schmitz, the committee called upon F. J. Heney, and explained its plans. Mr. Heney said it would not conflict with the graft prosecution.

The practical abdication of the mayor will result in the appointment of a new chief of police at once to restore order and a new water commissioner to clean the city and repair the streets. More drastic actions will then follow.

ONLY ONE IN ELEVEN PASSES.

Examination of Talesmen in Haywood Case Reveals Prejudice.
Boise, Idaho, May 17.—During the one session of the Haywood trial held yesterday 11 talesmen were examined before a satisfactory juror was secured to replace William Van Orsdale, the grocer, as No. 2, who was excused yesterday from the state. As excused yesterday the defense exercised its first challenge by relieving Allen Pride, a farmer, as No. 5. Mr. Pride had testified during his examination that he had invited to dinner the deputy who served him with a jury summons. He and the deputy talked the case for some time, their talk being particularly upon Harry Orchard, who is to be the principal witness for the state. A talesman was called to replace Pride, but his examination was deferred until today.

Will Prosecute Harriman.
Washington, May 16.—That the inquiry conducted by the Interstate Commerce commission into the conduct of railroads controlled by E. H. Harriman, will result in prosecutions was plainly shown by the publication today of the report and recommendations of Frank B. Kellogg and Charles A. Severance, counsel for the commission. Within a short time the commission will take up this report, vote upon it and transmit to the department of Justice the evidence tending to show that the Harriman school of railroad financing has operated in violation of the Sherman anti-trust laws and other statutes. The publication of this important report caused a pronounced shock to some of the members of the commission.

Eight Million in a Year.
Butte, Mont., May 17.—At a meeting of the stockholders of the Anaconda Copper Mining company, held today at the offices of the company in Anaconda, all of the old directors were re-elected. The report of John D. Ryan, president of the Anaconda Copper Mining company, submitted to stockholders, shows that the corporation for the year that ended Dec. 31, 1906, earned a profit of \$8,842,669. The balance on Dec. 31, 1906, was \$7,240,572, which, with the profits for last year, amounted to a surplus of \$16,083,241.

Oppose Clark's Nevada Interests.
Los Angeles, May 17.—According to a special dispatch from Rhyolite, Nev., the Brock and Smith railroad interests there, embracing the Goldfield & Tonopah road and the Tonopah & Tidewater line, have combined for mutual benefit and to oppose the Clark railroad interests in Nevada. It is stated that the Smith line will build its terminals at Rhyolite, where the Brock line already exists. The result of the alleged combination would be an alignment of the Southern Pacific and Santa Fe against the San Pedro road.

Carmen Make Headway.
San Francisco, May 17.—The Geary street road has granted the demands of the striking carmen and will resume operations on a basis of \$3 for an eight day week. The board of supervisors notified the officials of the line last Monday that, unless the company started its cars, it would take the road and operate it. The line runs from the junction of Geary, Kearney and Market streets to Golden Gate park. This is a victory for the men.

Will Cut Passenger Rates.
St. Paul, May 17.—General reductions in passenger rates to all points by the Great Northern railroad will soon be announced, to become effective July 1. A. L. Craig, passenger traffic manager, states that the Great Northern will allow all points on its system to receive the benefit of the lower rates provided by the Minnesota and North Dakota laws, 2 and 2½ cents.

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WHOLE DAY UNDER WATER.
Rival Submarine Boats Undergo Severe Test.

Newport, R. I., May 18.—With all hands well and contented, and with a bountiful supply of fresh air, and with records for submergence broken, the submarines Octopus and Lake rose to the surface of Narragansett bay at 4 o'clock this afternoon, ending a test of 24 hours under water.

The Octopus rose first, and the members of the naval trial board crowded about her, as the conning tower hatch flew open. The members of the trial board at once went below to see what conditions existed on board, and also to test their supply. Samples of air were bottled every two hours throughout the test for analysis by the board.

The Octopus blew out foul air only twice during the 24 hours she was at the bottom of the bay. It was computed that only one-fifth-fifth of her air supply was exhausted and, if these figures are correct, they tend to show that the boat could remain submerged 35 days, provided the food and fuel supply were sufficient.

SCHMITZ NERVOUS WRECK.
Would Follow Ruef's Lead and Confess, but Lawyers Restrained.

San Francisco, May 18.—Mayor Schmitz is on the point of a nervous collapse. He recognizes that the end is at hand. Ruef has already exposed his part in the bribery and the Parkside deal and in the next few days will continue the exposure, showing how the mayor figured in every corrupt deal put through during his administration.

The mayor realizes that two courses are open to him. He can either confess or hold out for a few weeks, when he will be tried, convicted and sent to the penitentiary. At present the mayor is hesitating between the two courses. Two of his attorneys want him to fight out and the third has urged him to confess.

Philippine Tribes Are Quiet.
San Francisco, May 18.—Brigadier General H. T. Allen, organizer and until recently chief of the Philippine constabulary, arrived here yesterday from Manila on the ship transport Thomas.

General Allen says there is little trouble in the Philippines now except in Leyte and Samar, where the hill tribes still worry the insular government. Agulnau is now living quietly on his ranch in the province of Cavite, where the former head of the insurrection, is attending strictly to his own affairs and not participating in matters political.

Minister Congo Reported Dying.
Pasadena, Cal., May 18.—Edwin Conger, ex-United States minister to China and recently resigned ambassador to Mexico, is critically ill at his home in this city. Dr. Conger came to Pasadena immediately after his return from Mexico in 1905. Since then he has been slowly dying. The end may come at any hour. Ex-Minister Conger first came into prominence as minister to Brazil in 1897. He was in Pekin during the Boxer siege, and conducted the negotiations for the United States after that city was captured.

Tai An's Death Will Cause Trouble.
Tokyo, May 18.—Japan is considerably concerned about the recent attitude of the Chinese papers on dynastic matters. The Manchukuo Shimpu interprets the comments of these newspapers as foreshadowing the beginning of a struggle for the succession, the dowager empress of China, being now 77 years old. The civilized world, the Manchukuo Shimpu thinks, may expect an upheaval at no very distant date.

Will Build Two Dreadnaughts.
London, May 18.—Orders have been given to lay the keels of two battleships of the Dreadnaught type. It has been understood that in case the proposal for disarmament took definite shape in the Hague conference only one Dreadnaught would be laid down. The order for two such ships is construed as Great Britain's acknowledgement of Germany's refusal to entertain the disarmament question.

PHILIPPINE WOMEN'S CIGARS.

The "Tabaco Grande," a Smoke That Lasts a Day—Rich Cagayan Valley.

The greatest consumers of Philippine tobacco are the Filipinos themselves. With a population of 8,000,000, practically all of whom, even the non-Christian tribes—are incessant smokers, usually including women and children as well as men, and with many districts where tobacco is not raised for family use, the consumption of tobacco must be many times the value of the export.

In the Cagayan a most unique custom prevails among the women, says the Scientific American, who smoke a huge cigar, the tabaco grande, which reaches a length of from thirty inches to three feet, and is several inches in diameter. These huge cigars are smoked off and on for a day and a half or two days. Sometimes a tabaco grande is suspended in the middle from a rafter in the dwelling, and all the women folk of the family puff in turn. The men smoke the cigarettes or the ordinary-sized cigar.

Nine-tenths of all the tobacco raised in the islands, and practically all that is used commercially, is produced in the vast Cagayan valley of Central and Northern Luzon, a region of which even many Americans in the islands have little first-hand knowledge. The valley is out of the general line of travel, and attention was not directed to it during the insurrection; its people were pacific.

Yet here is one of the most fertile valleys in the Philippines. Perhaps it is among the richest in the world. For a period of more than 140 years tobacco has been raised on the overworked lands of the valley without artificial fertilization. It is the custom of the Cagayans to raise one crop of tobacco and one crop of corn on the same land in one year. In two succeeding years two crops of tobacco and three crops of corn have been produced from the same soil.

The bulk of the tobacco in the Cagayan is raised like so much hay. Little attention is given to the details of curing and harvesting, which in the case of so intricate a crop demands both scientific and experienced treatment. Most of the good tobacco land is the overworked land, which consists mainly of small pockets, belts and patches, with occasionally greater areas of level land lying along the bed of the Cagayan river and its tributaries, which doubtless formed the bed of the river at an early period.

MEASURING HEAT OF SUN.
Description of Delicate Instrument Used for Making Record.

The instrument in the observatory on Mount Whitney, by which the variations of the sun's heat are measured, might be called an electrical thermometer. It is an apparatus so large as to occupy a building of considerable size, yet the essential part of its mechanism, which makes the record, is a fine thread of platinum, connected electrically with a balance of marvelous delicacy. The beam of the balance is a filament of spun glass five inches long and less in diameter than a hair, "in the middle of which is a concave mirror as big as a large pinhead."

This mirror (which weighs two and a half milligrams—about as much as the hind leg of a fly) is fastened upon a square piece cut from a dragon fly's wing, and the whole affair is supported from a fiber of spun quartz crystal two feet long and one-fifth-thousandth of an inch thick.

Outside of the building is queer-looking machine provided with a large circular mirror, which is controlled by clockwork in such a way as to face the sun at all hours and to throw a reflected beam into the mouth of a great tube that enters the observatory. A single ray of the sunshine thus conveyed is permitted to fall upon the platinum thread, through which a current of electricity continually passes.

It is well known that the electrical resistance of platinum varies with its temperature; and so, by measuring the resistance of the thread the heat of a sun's ray thrown upon it is determined. So accurate, in fact, is the determination that a variation of one-millionth of a degree Fahrenheit can be distinguished.

Changes in the temperature of the platinum thread cause the wonderful little balance to sway, while another ray of light allowed to fall upon its tiny concave mirror is reflected upon a measuring scale. Thus, as the dot of reflected light runs along the scale one may observe with the eye the variations in the amount of heat conveyed by the sunbeam, which comes through the tube from outside the building.

When desired, however, the measuring scale is replaced by a slowly traveling photographic film, which makes a permanent record of the fluctuations of the solar temperature, convenient for printing, filing and subsequent reference.—The Reader.

Looked Into the Wall.
A rather peculiar case of absent mindedness that related of Peter Burrows, an Irish lawyer. A friend who called on Burrows at an early hour one morning found him shaving with his face held close to an empty wall. "What on earth are you assuming that attitude for?" he asked.

"To look in the glass," was the reply. "But there's no glass there," laughed the acquaintance.

"Bless you! I didn't notice that before," said Burrows, and then calling his servant he asked him what had become of the mirror.

"Why, sir," said the man, "it was broken six weeks ago."

Had Not Been Decided.
A Missouri lawyer tells of an assault and battery case that was recently tried in a Kansas city court.

To the first witness called the presiding magistrate put this question: "Why did you not go to the aid of the defendant when this fight occurred?"

"Because," answered the witness with a smile, "I didn't know which one of them was going to be the defendant."

RUFE PLEADS GUILTY

Failed San Francisco Boss Throws Himself on Mercy of Court.

WAS SURPRISE TO PROSECUTION
Still Declares Himself Innocent of Charge, but Changed Plea for Sake of Family.

San Francisco, May 16.—Abraham Ruef, better known as Abe Ruef, the acknowledged adviser of Mayor Schmitz, and once the recognized dictator of municipal affairs in this city, pleaded guilty to the charge of extortion in Judge Dunne's department of the Superior court yesterday afternoon. Sentence will be pronounced upon him two weeks hence.

After a private conference with his four attorneys in Judge Dunne's chambers and after they had withdrawn from his case because of the resolution he had taken to change his plea and avoid trial, Ruef, to the utter astonishment of the prosecution, arose in court and announced in a dramatic address that after long and earnest consideration he had determined to withdraw his plea of not guilty and enter a plea of guilty. He asked that the jury be dismissed and the trial abandoned.

Ruef read his statement from manuscript which he had prepared in the presence of his attorneys a few moments before Judge Dunne's chambers opened. He showed in his voice, in the expression of his face, in his quiet and unassuming attitude and by the tears that again and again overflowed his eyes, the great emotion and the utter humiliation he suffered. The pathos of the scene was communicated to the crowd that thronged the courtroom.

Though Abraham Ruef has formally declared himself to be guilty of the charge on which he was about to be tried, he nevertheless proclaims his innocence. He confesses that he is guilty of having connived at the corruption in municipal affairs, but he denies with all the emphasis a man in his unhappy position can command that he is guilty of the crime of extortion charged against him. He declares that his sole motive in accusing himself in open court was to save the lives of those who are nearest and dearest to him, his aged father and mother, his maiden sister and a niece.

CANNOT BELIEVE ORCHARD.
Possible Jurors in Haywood Case Reveal New Prejudice.

Boise, Idaho, May 16.—The unexpected uncovering of a vein of prejudice against Harry Orchard and his testimony during the further examination of talesmen in the Steunenberg murder case yesterday led to the first sharp wrangle between counsel and involved the name of President Roosevelt in an acrimonious discussion.

The jury box was finally filled with 12 talesmen subjected to examination and temporarily passed by both sides at 3:40 o'clock in the afternoon and the court announced that it was in order for both sides to exercise peremptory challenges. Counsel for Haywood asked for a few moments' delay and for five minutes they gathered around the chair of the prisoner and engaged in earnest consultation as to their course on the men occupying the jury box.

The state exercised its right first and excused William Van Orsdale, a grocer, who has occupied seat No. 2 since the opening day of the trial. George F. Maw, a young farmer with some strong objections to the acts of certain elements in the labor unions of the country, was then called to the vacant place. The state passed him and he was still in the hands of the defense when adjournment hour was reached.

The trial will not be resumed until 2 o'clock this afternoon.

Paid to Join Plotters.
St. Petersburg, May 16.—A terrorist conspiracy directed against the life of Emperor Nicholas was revealed today by the arrest at Tzarok-Selo of a soldier of the guard regiment, who today confessed to murdering a large bribe to assist in the murder. All the threads of this conspiracy, which differs from former attempts, are not in the hands of the secret service men. It is thought that the money used is a part of the proceeds of several political robberies committed last fall and winter, when big hauls were made.

Carry Own Stevedores.
New York, May 16.—Today 100 men from New England were put to work on South Brooklyn piers. The Prince Eitel Frederick arrived from Kingston with 50 negroes, who had been added to the crew, that they might do the work of the stevedores. The scheduled sailing of steamers will be made on time, and, according to the steamship officials, with nearly full cargoes. The steamship companies declare they are moving ships with the aid of nonunion men. The strikers say there is no wavering in their ranks.

Probing Denver Land Fraud.
Denver, May 16.—The special Federal grand jury, the first to be held in Denver in many years, called to probe into coal and timber land frauds, convened here today. The work will be in charge of Ernest Knoebel, special assistant to the attorney general, who has devoted most of his time of the last year to land investigations, and Ralph Hartzell, acting United States district attorney. A dozen witnesses from St. Louis and Milwaukee arrived today.

Drumhead Courtmartial Retained.
St. Petersburg, May 16.—The council of the empire rejected the bill which was passed April 30 by the lower house abolishing trials by drumhead court martial.

The choir seems to be of equal importance to those who are willing, instead of those who can sing.

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When desired, however, the measuring scale is replaced by a slowly traveling photographic film, which makes a permanent record of the fluctuations of the solar temperature, convenient for printing, filing and subsequent reference.—The Reader.

Looked Into the Wall.
A rather peculiar case of absent mindedness that related of Peter Burrows, an Irish lawyer. A friend who called on Burrows at an early hour one morning found him shaving with his face held close to an empty wall. "What on earth are you assuming that attitude for?" he asked.

"To look in the glass," was the reply. "But there's no glass there," laughed the acquaintance.

"Bless you! I didn't notice that before," said Burrows, and then calling his servant he asked him what had become of the mirror.

"Why, sir," said the man, "it was broken six weeks ago."

Had Not Been Decided.
A Missouri lawyer tells of an