# A SPECIAL MESSAGE

## President Sends Communication to Congress on Jap Question.

The following communication has been transmitted to both houses of Congress by the President:

"I inclose herewith for your information the final report made to me personally by Secretary Metcalf on the situation affecting the Japanese in San Francisco. The report deals with three matters of controversy—first, the exclusion of the Japanese children from the San Francisco schools; second, the boycotting of Japanese restaurants, and, third, acts of violence committed against the Japanese.

"As to the first matter, I call your especial attention to the very small number of Japanese children who attend school, to the testimony as to the brightness, cleanliness and good behavior of these Japanese children in the schools, and to the fact that, owing to their being scattered throughout the city, the requirement for them all to go to one special school is impossible of fulfillment and means that they cannot have school facilities. Let me point out further that there would be no objection whatever to excluding from the schools any Japanese on the score of age. It is obviously not desirable that young men should go to school with children. The only point is the exclusion of the children themselves. The number of Japanese children attending the public schools in San Francisco was very small. The government has already directed that suit be brought to test the constitutionality of the act in question; but my very earnest hope is that such suit will not be necessary, and that as a matter of comity the citizens of San Francisco will refuse to deprive these young Japanese children of education and will permit them to go to the schools.

"The question as to the violence against the Japanese is most admirably put by Secretary Metcalf, and I have nothing to add to his statement. I am entirely confident that, as Secretary Metcalf says, the overwhelming sentiment of the state of California is for law and order and for the protection of the Japanese in their persons and property. Both the chief of police and the acting mayor of San Francisco assured Secretary Metcalf that everything possible would be done to protect the Japanese in the city. I authorized and directed Secretary Metcalf to state that if there was failure to protect persons and property, then the entire power of the Federal government within the limits of the constitution would be used promptly and vigorously to enforce the observance of our treaty, the supreme law of the land, which treaty guaranteed to Japanese residents everywhere in the Union full and perfect protection for their persons and property; and to this end everything in my power would be done, and all the forces of the United States, both civil and military, which I could lawfully employ would be employed. I call especial attention to the concluding sentence of Secretary Metcalf's report of November 26, 1906."

Secretary Metcalf's report is addressed to the President under date of November 26 last, and in part is as follows:

"In my previous report I said nothing as to the causes leading up to the action of the school board in passing the resolution of October 11, and the effect of such action upon Japanese children, residents of the city of San Francisco, desiring to attend the public schools of that city. A report on this matter will now be made.

"It seems that for several years the board of education of San Francisco had been considering the advisability of establishing separate schools for Chinese, Japanese and Corean children, and on May 6, 1905, passed the following resolution:

"'Resolved, That the board of education is determined in its efforts to effect the establishment of separate schools for Chinese and Japanese pupils, not only for the purpose of relieving the congestion at present prevailing in our schools, but also for the higher end that our children should not be placed in any position where their youthful impressions may be affected by association with pupils of the Mongolian race.'

"And on October 11 the board passed the following resolution:

"'Resolved, That in accordance with article X, section 1662, of the school law of California, principals are hereby directed to send all Chinese, Japanese or Corean children to the Oriental public school, situated on the south side of Clay street, between Powell and Mason streets, on and after Monday, October 15, 1906.'

"The action of the board in the passage of the resolutions of May 6, 1905, and October 11, 1906, was undoubtedly largely influenced by the activity of the Japanese and Corean Exclusion league, an organization formed for the purpose of securing enactment by the congress of the United States of a law extending the provisions of the existing Chinese exclusion act so as to exclude Japanese and Coreans.

"The number of schools in San Francisco prior to April 18 was 76. Of this number 28 primary or grammar schools and two high schools were destroyed by fire, and one high school was destroyed by earthquake, leaving 45 schools. Since April 18, 27 temporary structures have been erected, making the total number of school buildings at the present time 72.

"The Oriental school, the school set apart for the Chinese, Japanese and Corean children, is in the burned section. There is only one Japanese student attending this school at the present time, and there are no Japanese children attending any of the other public schools. I visited the Oriental school in company with the Japanese consul and found it to compare favorably with many of the new temporary structures erected in the city. The course of instruction is exactly the same as at the other public schools, and competent teachers are assigned for duty in this school. Nearly all of the pupils attending this school have to be taught the English language.

"I found the sentiment in the state very strong against Japanese young men attending the primary grades. Many of the people were outspoken in their condemnation of this course, saying that they would take exactly the same stand against American young men of similar ages attending the primary grades. I am frank to say that this objection seems to me a most reasonable one. All of the political parties in the state have inserted in their platforms planks in favor of Japanese and Corean exclusion, and on March 7, 1905, the state legislature passed a joint resolution urging that action be taken by treaty or otherwise to limit and diminish the further immigration of Japanese laborers into the United States.

"The press of San Francisco pretty generally upholds the action of the board of education. Of the attitude of the more violent and radical newspapers it is unnecessary to speak further than to say that their tone is the usual tone of hostility to 'Mongol hordes,' and the burden of their claim is that Japanese are no better than Chinese, and that the same reasons which dictated the exclusion of the Chinese call for the exclusion of the Japanese as well.

"The temper and tone of the more conservative newspapers may better be illustrated by an epitome of their argument upon the public school question. That argument practically is as follows: The public schols of California are a state and not a Federal institution. The state has the power to abolish those schools entirely, and the Federal government would have no right to lift its voice in protest. Upon the other hand, the state may extend the privileges of its schools to aliens upon such terms as it, the state, may elect, and the Federal government has no right to question its action in this regard. Primarily and essentially the public schools are designed for the education of the citizens of the state. The state is interested in the education of its own citizens alone. It would not for a moment maintain this expensive institution to educate foreigners and aliens who would carry to their countries the fruits of such education. Therefore, if it should be held that there was a discrimination operating in violation of the treaty with Japan in the state's treatment of Japanese children, or even if a new treaty with Japan should be framed which would contain on behalf of Japanese subjects the 'most-favored-nation' clause, this could and would be met by the state, which would then exclude from the use of its public schools all alien children of every nationality and limit the rights of free education to children of its own citizens, for whom the system is primarily designed and maintained, and if the state should do this the Federal government could not complain, since no treaty right could be violated when the children of Japanese were treated precisely as the children of all foreign nations.

"The feeling in the state is further intensified, especially in labor circles, by the report on the conditions in the Hawaiian islands as contained in Bulletin 66 of the Bureau of Labor, Department of Commerce and Labor. The claim is made that white labor has been almost entirely driven from the Hawaiian islands, and that the Japanese are gradualy forcing even the small white traders out of business.

"Many of the foremost educators in the state, on the other hand, are strongly opposed to the action of the San Francisco board of education. Japanese are admitted to the University of California, an institution maintained and supported by the state. They are also admitted to, and gladly welcomed at, Stanford University. San Francisco, so far as known, is the only city which has discriminated against Japanese children. I talked with a number of prominent labor men, and they all said that they had no objection to Japanese children attending the primary grades; that they wanted Japanese children now in the United States to have the same school privileges as children of other nations, but that they were unalterably opposed to Japanese young men attending the primary grades.

"The objection to Japanese men attending the primary grades could very readily be met by a simple rule limiting the ages of all children attending those grades. All of the teachers with whom I talked while in San Francisco spoke in the highest terms of the Japanese children, saying that they were among the very best of their pupils, cleanly in their persons, well behaved, studious, and remarkably bright.

"The board of education of San Francisco declined to rescind its resolution of October 11, claiming that, having established a separate school for Chinese, Japanese and Corean children, the provisions of section 1662 of the political code became mandatory."

Resume of Japanese attending public schools in San Francisco as mentioned in the foregoing communication:

| | |
|---|---|
| Number of pupils | 93 |
| Number of schools they attended | 23 |
| Number of pupils at— | |
| 6 years old | 2 |
| 7 years old | 5 |
| 8 years old | 9 |
| 9 years old | 3 |
| 10 years old | 7 |
| 11 years old | 5 |
| 12 years old | 8 |
| 13 years old | 7 |
| 14 years old | 4 |
| 15 years old | 10 |
| 16 years old | 9 |
| 17 years old | 12 |
| 18 years old | 6 |
| 19 years old | 4 |
| 20 years old | 2 |
| Number of pupils at— | |
| First grade | 7 |
| Second grade | 10 |
| Third grade | 12 |
| Fourth grade | 16 |
| Fifth grade | 11 |
| Sixth grade | 13 |
| Seventh grade | 7 |
| Eighth grade | 17 |
| Number of pupils born in— | |
| Japan | 68 |
| United States | 25 |
| Number of— | |
| Girls | 28 |
| Boys | 65 |

"A boycott was maintained in San Francisco from October 3 to October 24 by members of the Cooks and Waiters' Union against Japanese restaurants doing business in that city. Nearly all of the leaders of labor organizations in San Francisco interviewed on this subject disclaimed any knowledge of any formal action being taken for the boycotting of these restaurants.

"As a matter of fact, a most effective boycott was maintained against nearly all of the Japanese restaurants located in San Francisco for at least three weeks. Pickets were stationed in front of these restaurants and every effort was made to prevent people from patronizing them. At times stones were thrown and windows broken, and in one or two instances the proprietors of the restaurants were struck by these stones.

"I am satisfied, from inquiries made by me and from statements made to me by the Japanese restaurant keepers, that the throwing of stones and breaking of windows was not done by the men picketing the restaurants, but by young men and boys who had gathered in front of the restaurants as soon as the boycott was instituted.

"Assaults have from time to time been made upon Japanese subjects resident in the city of San Francisco. I was informed by the chief of police that upon receipt of a communication from the Japanese consul he at once instructed captains of police to make every effort to stop these assaults, and, if necessary, to assign men in citizens' clothes to accomplish the purpose.

"These attacks, so I am informed, with but one exception were made when no policeman was in the immediate neighborhood. Most of them were made by boys and young men; many of them were vicious in character, and only one appears to have been made with a view of robbing the persons attacked. All these assaults appear to have been made subsequent to the fire and earthquake in San Francisco, and my attention was not called to any assaults made prior to the 18th day of April, 1906.

"I know that these assaults upon the Japanese are universally condemned by all good citizens of California. For months the citizens of San Francisco and Oakland have been terrorized by numerous murders, assaults and robberies, both at day and night. The police have been powerless. The assaults upon the Japanese, however, were not made, in my judgment, with a view of robbery, but rather from a feeling of racial hostility, stirred up possibly by newspaper accounts of meetings that have been held at different times relative to the exclusion of Japanese from the United States.

"While the sentiment of the state of California, as manifested by the public utterances of the Japanese and Corean Exclusion league, by articles in many of the leading newspapers in the state, by declarations of the political parties in their platforms, and by the passage of a joint resolution by the state legislature on March 7, 1905, is in favor of the exclusion of Japanese coolies, yet the overwhelming sentiment in the state is for law and order and for the protection of Japanese in their persons and their property.

"The chief of police of the city of San Francisco, as also the acting mayor of the city, assured me that everything possible would be done to protect the Japanese subjects in San Francisco, and they urgently requested that all cases of assault and all violations of law affecting the Japanese be at once reported to the chief of police.

"I impressed very strongly upon the acting mayor of the city, as also upon the chief of police, the gravity of the situation, and told them that, as officers charged with the enforcement of the law and the protection of property and person, you looked to them to see that all Japanese subjects resident in San Francisco were afforded the full protection guaranteed to them by our treaty with Japan.

"If, therefore, the police power of San Francisco is not sufficient to meet the situation and guard and protect Japanese residents in San Francisco, to whom under our treaty with Japan we guarantee 'full and perfect protection for their persons and property,' then, it seems to me, it is clearly the duty of the Federal government to afford such protection. All considerations which may move a nation, every consideration of duty in the preservation of our treaty obligations, every consideration prompted by 50 years or more of close friendship with the empire of Japan, would unite in demanding, it seems to me, of the United States government and all its people, the fullest protection and the highest consideration for the subjects of Japan."

# NEWS OF THE WEEK

## In a Condensed Form for Our Busy Readers.

### A Resume of the Less Important but Not Less Interesting Events of the Past Week.

A strike of New York railroad employes seems probable.

The czar has fixed February 19 as the date for parliamentary elections.

Millions are said to be on the point of dying from the famine in China.

The Oklahoma constitutional convention has adjourned for the holidays.

Japan is in a position to put an army of 750,000 men in the field if necessary.

Ten congressmen have gone to Panama for the purpose of viewing the big ditch.

Students at Annapolis college lynched a negro for an assault on a white woman.

The Interstate Commerce commission will recommend a law to prevent car shortage.

A captain in the notorious Twenty-fifth regiment of infantry has been shot by a negro private.

The president may issue an appeal through the Red Cross for aid for the Chinese famine sufferers.

General Harrison Gray Otis, of Los Angeles, is seriously ill.

The government has purchased a site for a Federal building at North Yakima.

The Chicago & Northwestern railroad will build a new $20,000,000 depot in Chicago.

The house of commons has voted to grant home rule to the Transvaal and Orange River colonies.

Governor Mead has appointed a special committee to investigate the shortage of coal in Washington.

Charles G. Washburn has been elected congressman from Massachusetts to succeed the late Rockwood Hoar.

Senator Ankeny has urged upon the War department the necessity of improving the Upper Columbia river.

There is little doubt in London circles but that James Bryce will be the next British ambassador to the United Staets.

A Montana man whose cereals won a gold medal at the St. Louis fair has found there is not a particle of gold in his medal.

A new Yonrk woman before committing suicide directed that her two Angora cats be forwarded to the president. Her wishes have been complied with.

Testimony heard by the Interstate Commerce commission indicates that traffic conditions are much worse in the South than in any other part of the country.

In its annual report the Panama Canal commission says preliminary work has been completed and actual construction of the canal will go forward rapidly.

Four rich Nebraskans have been convicted of land frauds.

Oregon miners will ask the next legislature for a state mining inspector.

Railroad men and shippers attribute much of the car shortage to excessive prosperity.

## PORTLAND MARKETS.

Butter—Fancy creamery, 30@35c.

Eggs—Oregon ranch, 35c per dozen.

Poultry—Average old hens, 11@12c per pound; mixed chickens, 11@12c; spring, 11@12c; old roosters, 9@11c; dressed chickens, 14 @ 15c; turkeys, live, 17 @ 17½c; turkeys, dressed, choice, 20@22c; geese, live, 10c; ducks, 15@16c.

Fruits — Apples, common to choice, 50@75c per box; choice to fancy, $1@2.50; pears, $1 @ 1.50; cranberries, $11.50@12.50 per barrel; persimmons, $1.50 per box.

Vegetables — Turnips, 90c@$1 per sack; carrots, 90c@$1 per sack; beets, $1.25@1.50 per sack; horseradish, 9@10c per pound; sweet potatoes, 2½@2¾c per pound; cabbage, 1¼@1½c per pound; cauliflower, $1.25 per dozen; celery, $4@4.50 per crate; lettuce, head, 30c per dozen; onions, 10@12½c per dozen; pumpkins, 1¼c per pound; spinach, 4@5c per pound; squash 1@1¼c per pound.

Onions — Oregon, 75c@$1 per hundred.

Potatoes — Oregon Burbanks, fancy, $1@1.10; common, 75@85c.

Wheat — Club, 65@66c; bluestem, 67@68c; valley, 66@67c; red, 63c.

Oats — No. 1 white, $25@26; gray, $24.50@25.

Barley — Feed, $21@21.50 per ton; brewing, $22.50; rolled, $22.50@24.

Rye—$1.40@1.45 per cwt.

Corn—Whole, $26; cracked, $27 per ton.

Hay—Valley timothy, No. 1, $11@12 per ton; Eastern Oregon timothy, $14@16; clover, $7@8; cheat, $7.50@8.50; grain hay, $7.50@8.50; alfalfa, $11.50; vetch hay, $7@7.50.

Veal—Dressed, 5½@8c per pound.

Beef — Dressed bulls, 1@2c per pound; cows, 4 @ 5c; country steers, 5@5½.

Mutton — Dressed, fancy, 8@9c per pound; ordinary, 6@7c.

Pork—Dressed, 6@8c per pound.

Hops—11@15c per pound, according to quality.

Wool—Eastern Oregon avernge best, 13@18c, according to shrinkage; valley, 20@23c, according to fineness; mohair, choice, 26@28c.

## NOT READY FOR CITIZENSHIP.

### Congress Will Disappoint Porto Rico, With Roosevelt's Consent.

Chicago, Dec. 22.—A dispatch to the Tribune from Washington says:

In spite of the president's recommendation no citizenship for the people of Porto Rico will be granted by this congress and probably not by the next one and probably not before the next one either. The leaders both in the house and senate have come to the conclusion that the time is not yet ripe for such action. They have presented the matter to the president, and he is now aware that his recommendation in this regard will not be acted upon. There are said to be grave matters of public policy involved which might be seriously complicated if citizenship should be granted at this particular time to the people of Porto Rico. A general understanding therefore has been arrived at. There is an understanding in congress that the president will acquiesce in this decision because it has been put up to him frequently by some of the strongest men at the capitol.

Briefly stated, the objection to citizenship for Porto Rico is based upon the existing condition of the population of that island. A large per centage of the people are of mixed strain of Spanish and negro blood. The proportion of illiteracy is naturally large. Much progress has been made in the school system, but it is still approximately true that 75 per cent of the persons of school age are not receiving instruction.

## NAVY EYES TURBINE ENGINE

### Will Not Finally Adopt Until Demonstrated the Best.

Washington, Dec. 22.—The most important engineering problem of the present day affecting marine propulsion, in the opinion of Rear Admiral C. W. Rae, chief of the bureau of steam engineering, whose report was made public today, is that of the steam turbine. Involving such radical changes, Admiral Rae says, the bureau has preferred to wait before adopting it extensively, until it had been demonstrated as unquestionably the best system of propulsion for naval purposes.

It is expected that, when the three scout cruisers now building, two with turbine and one with reciprocating engines, are completed and their trials have been held, comparative data of the utmost value will be obtained. An officer of the bureau is now abroad making a thorough investigation of marine turbine installations already in operation and in contemplation and in addition the work of erecting at Annapolis, Md., experimental turbine engines, condensers, pumps, etc., is proceeding.

## TREASURE CHEST STOLEN.

### Thieves Rob Wells-Fargo at Reno of Large Amount.

Reno, Nev., Dec. 22.—Wells Fargo & Company's express box, said to have contained $30,000, was stolen from the company's office here last night after the arrival of the train from Tonopah. Edward Crofton, the messenger, continued on his way to San Francisco.

Efforts of the local police and sheriff have been unavailing to capture the thieves. Charles Ferrell, the detective appointed on the case, stated this evening that the robbers were doubtless criminals who have been hanging about the station with the purpose of stealing part of the Mohawk ore shipments, which have been stopped on several occasions during the last few days.

J. J. Burke, Wells-Fargo agent here, admitted today that the amount of the robbery would reach the first estimate, $30,000. He will know exactly how much was stolen when advices reach Reno from Tonopah tomorrow.

### Will Signal New Year.

Washington, Dec. 22. — The naval observatory will send this year, as usual, four series of New Year's eve telegraphic time signals to announce the exact instant of the beginning of the new year in each of the four great standard time zones of the United States, namely, Eastern, Central, Mountain and Pacific. The system followed will be the same as heretofore, and like that in use daily at noon. Each series begins five minutes before the hour and the clock tick, following a silent interval of ten seconds, marks the exact hour.

### Colorado Town Shaken.

Glenwood Springs, Colo., Dec. 22.—A violent trembling of the earth was felt on both sides of the Grand river in the neighborhood of Newcastle about 9 o'clock this morning. The actual cause of the disturbance is uncertain, though many attribute it to an explosion of accumulated gas in the Wheeler coal mine, which runs north and south beyond Newcastle. One theory of today's disturbance is that the earth settled, the displacement having been caused by fire, which slowly burned away the coal vein.

### Suffrage Bill is Passed.

Vienna, Dec. 22.—The universal suffrage bill passed the upper house after a remarkable sitting of that chamber, which lasted from 11 o'clock this morning until 10:30 tonight. One of the members voted for the principle of plural franchise. This principle was combated with energy by Baron von Beck, the Austrian premier, who made an eloquent plea for universal suffrage, on the ground that the failure to grant it would cause serious trouble.

### Declines Silver at 70 065

Washington, Dec. 22.—The Treasury department today declined to purchase any silver at the quoted price of 70.065 cents per fine ounce. Two thousand ounces were offered at that price.

# IN THE NATIONAL HALLS OF CONGRESS

### Thursday, Dec 20.

Washington, Dec. 20.—Senator Foraker occupied the attention of the senate in its last session before the holiday recess today in an extended criticism of the basis of the president's action in discharging the negro troops of the Twenty-fifth Infantry on account of the Brownsville raid. He was replied to briefly by Lodge, while Scott sustained the demand of the Ohio senator for a full investigation of the matter by the senate military committee. A resolution declaring for such an investigation is before the senate for action at its next meeting.

Washington, Dec. 20.—After being in session for three-quarters of an hour today, the house adjourned until January 3, 1907. Empty desks greeted the speaker when the house convened, and the desire to get away for the holidays was superior to the inclination for business.

Mondell, of Wyoming, succeeded in passing the bill extending to May 15, 1907, the time in which entrymen may make final settlement on the Shoshone Indian reservation. Then Payne, of New York, called up his resolution relating to the distribution of the president's annual message to the several committees in accordance with a custom that has existed since the foundation of the government.

The house passed the resolution and adjourned at 12:45 p. m. A hundred members waited to extend the season's greeting to Speaker Cannon.

### Wednesday, Dec. 19.

Washington, Dec. 19. — President Roosevelt's message dealing with his action in dismissing from the army the negro troops of the three companies of the Twenty-fifth infantry furnished the one topic of interest in the senate's session today. A lively debate followed the reading of the message as to what should be done with it.

Foraker wanted it sent to the military committee with instructions to make further investigation, should the committee deem it necessary. He said that in reality much that appeared to be testimony was not testimony, as much of it was not under oath. On objection from Clay, the senate postponed action until tomorrow.

The pension calendar was cleared by the passage of more than 200 private pension bills.

At the suggestion of Senator Lodge, President Roosevelt's Panama message will be printed for the senate in "normal" spelling. Kittredge secured the adoption of an order for 20,000 copies.

Washington, Dec. 19.—In the house today Lacey, of Iowa, took a pronounced position in opposition to the adjournment of congress for the Christmas holidays, declaring that "it is idiotic for the house to adjourn and then jam all legislation through under whip and spur during the closing days."

Clark, of Missouri, declared that the statement made by Lacey about the idiocy of adjourning for the holidays was the most sensible thing he had said for the past 12 years.

After considerable discussion on a proposed increase of clerks an absence of a quorum was revealed and the house adjourned.

### Tuesday, December 18.

Washington, Dec. 18.—The senate today devoted nearly four hours to consideration of unobjected bills on its calendar. The result was the passage of a number of measures of minor importance. Among those passed was one authorizing a government loan of $10,000,000 to the Jamsetown Tercentennial Exposition company, and another providing for an investigation of the industrial, social, moral, educational and phyisical condition of women and child workres in the United States by the department of Commerce and Labor. The urgent deficiency appropriation bill was also passed.

Washintgon, Dec. 18.—During the session of the house today the Indian appropriattion bill was passed practically as it came from the committee on appropriations. The early morning session was devoted to the consideration of District of Columbia business. The exodus of members has already commenced for the Christmas holidays.

### Monday, Dec. 17.

Washington, Dec. 17.—A pictorially illustrated message from President Roosevelt portraying conditions as he found them on the isthmus of Panma during his recent visit occupied the senate during the greater portion of its session today. Printed copies of the message, handsomely bound, were placed on the desk of each senator and the reading of the document was closely followed. Preceding the Panama message, the president's recommendation respecting public lands and the naval personnel were received and read.

The senate agreed to the holiday adjournment resolution and will be in recess from the end of the session Thursday next until January 3.

Resolutions were agreed to directing an investigation by the department of Commerce and Labor of the International Harvester company to ascertain whether it effects restraint of trade; also directing the senate judiciary committee to report what authority congress may have under the commerce clause of the constitution to prevent interstate commerce in child-made goods.

Washington, Dec. 17.—The house began the last week before the Christmas holidays with a determination to dispose of as much legislation as possible, to make way for the more active work which will devolve on it when congress again convenes. To this end several small bills were passed under suspension of the rules. The Indian appropriation bill was taken up and 15 of the 57 pages completed when it was laid aside for the president's message concerning the Panama canal, which consumed more than an hour in its reading, being listened to by a large number of members.

The pictorial feature of the message afforded an opportunity for good natured comment, the innovation of cuts in a state paper being looked on with favor. Messages from the president on public lands and the naval personnel were also read.

### State Rights in Australia.

Sydney, N. S. W., Dec. 20.—Joseph Hector Carruthers, premier of New South Wales, has entered a strongly worded protest against any interference on the part of the imperial commonwealth in the rights of the state governments in state affairs. He declares that the Australian states declined to permit Alfred Deakin, the prime minister of the commonwealth, to speak in their behalf, and that any resolutions adopted at the colonial conference concerning state matters would be ignored unless the individual states were represented.

### Fulton Looks Out for Counties.

Washington, Dec. 20.—Senator Fulton today secured the promise of the senate public lands committee to amend the bill repealing the timber and stone act so that 20 per cent of the receipts from the sales of public timber shall be paid to counties in which the timber is cut. This is in lieu of taxes. The bill provides that hereafter public timber not in forest reserves can only be acquired by purchase at not less than its appraised value.

### North Dakota Has No Coal.

St. Paul, Dec. 18.—A special to the Despatch from Grand Forks, N. D., says that the fuel situation today presents the most critical condition that has existed in the history of the state. Careful inquiry in every portion of the northern half of the state shows that there is not a town in which coal could be had to supply immediate needs and in dozens of places there is not a pound to be bought, the dealers having been out of fuel for days and weeks.

### Opposes Blanket Increase.

Washington, Dec. 19.— Representative Littauer, a member of the committee on appropriations, talked with President Roosevelt today on the question of increasing the salaries of government employes. The president is understood not to favor a blanket increase of 20 per cent, although he is said to feel that there are many men in the government service who deserve more than they are receiving.

### Pay Lawmakers By the Day.

Washington, Dec. 18.— Representative Gaines introduced a bill today providing that senators and representatives shall receive $13.75 a day, their pay to be deducted from their salaries for each day they fail to attend sessions. The sickness of members or illness in their families are the only valid excuses.

### Was There Congo Lobby?

Washington, Dec. 19.—Senator Patterson in a resolution has asked that the charges by a New York newspaper in relation to a lobby having been sent to the United States at the last session of congress to influence senators concerning Congo Free State legislation be investigated by the senate committee on foreign relations. The resolution recites that the lobby is alleged to have been maintained by a foreign government and that a consular official sent communications to senators in an effort to influence them.

### Reclamation Bill Strikes Snag.

Washington, Dec. 19. — What are considered defects in the act for the reclamation of arid land were pointed out in a general discussion in the senate today of a bill to amend that act. No action was taken. Senators desired to indulge in further debate. The bill requires estimates for proposed reclamation work to be sent annually to congress and amendments were proposed making a direct appropriation necessary before the work can proceed.

### May Agree on One Classification.

Chicago, Dec. 19.—An effort is to be made by the railroads to obtain a universal and systematic classification of freight in response to the demands of the shippers and to the suggestions of the Interstate Commerce commission. The first step in this direction was taken by the Central Freight association, which has asked the Eastern lines to join it in considering the question. The plan is to appoint committees which will confer together and see if a uniform classification cannot be agreed upon.

### Penalty for Making Campaign Gifts.

Washington, Dec. 18.—The Tillman bill, forbidding national banks and other corporations authorized by congress, as well as corporations in general from contributing to election funds, was ocnsidered yesterday by the committee on elections of president and vice president, which decided unanimously to report the matter favorably, with the addition of an imprisonment clause as well as imposition of a fine for offenders.