

NEWS ITEMS FROM WASHINGTON, D. C.

TREATY PLEAS WU TING FANG

Chinese Diplomat Thinks It Good So Far As It Goes.

New York, Dec. 29.—In conference with Wu Ting Fang, formerly representative of China at Washington, in regard to peace and the possible means of achieving it, the Publishers Press obtained the following interview: "I am glad to speak of international peace and justice upon the eve of my return to my own country after having succeeded in concluding a treaty of arbitration between my government and the United States. That is a good step.

"I am glad it is taken, but in my judgment the treaty does not go far enough, though it was the best that could be made at present. It is exactly the same as the 23 other treaties concluded by the government of the United States with foreign powers during Mr. Roosevelt's last term as president. These treaties reserve for the United States the right to settle all questions affecting the vital rights, independence or honor of the contracting powers. While nations that are armed insist upon this policy, other nations that are not sufficiently armed are not having their rights respected. My country, for instance, is not sufficiently armed and has been compelled to begin the reformation of its army and navy. China loves peace but other nations do not love peace enough to keep peace, so China must acquire armament that it really does not want to acquire. China is reforming its army and navy for self defense entirely, not for aggression."

CAN'T REACH EIGHTEEN-UP.

Taft's Brother Is Their Attorney, and Roosevelt's Relative Is Manager.

Shreveport, La., Dec. 31.—Declaring that if Mark Hanna had died six months sooner, he would not have been tried and sentenced to jail for having represented a corporation that had a case pending before a government department, ex-Senator Burton, of Kansas, today severely criticized President Taft and former President Roosevelt.

"The man higher up in the sugar fraud cases will never be molested, because Mr. Taft's brother is attorney for the sugar trust, and Mr. Roosevelt's brother-in-law is virtually the manager," declared Burton. "The sugar trust is the most powerful agency in federal politics. It exercises more power in forming the national policy than any other agency. To it I owe the trial which resulted in my imprisonment."

Burton was tried and sent to jail for a brief term for having represented a corporation which had interests in the hands of one of the federal departments.

"I first incurred the enmity of Roosevelt," Burton continued, "for having threatened to oppose his Cuban policy, which meant letting in Cuban sugar on a basis that threatened to throttle the infant beet sugar industry."

"After the passing of a few years, Taft comes along with his Philippine policy. Capital had begun to turn to the beet sugar industry again, and the Philippine industry started it away. Roosevelt opposed my Cuban policy, and at the same time he feared I would head a delegation at the national Republican convention for Mark Hanna. If Hanna had died six months earlier, there would have been no charges against me, and I would still be in the Senate."

Knocks Estrada; Boosts Madrid.

Washington, Dec. 28.—Estrada is a bully, a troublemaker, an ingrate, and is unprincipled and uneducated, according to John T. McCall, a California mining engineer here today from Central America. McCall said Madrid was a natural leader also that he was a talented gentleman and a fine executive. He said Madrid was held in high esteem by the better class of Nicaraguans, those not under Zelaya's thumb.

Screens to Save Trout.

Washington, Dec. 30.—Representative Hawley called the attention of Secretary Ballinger today to a complaint made by the Umatilla County Angling Club Association that trout have been killed by the wholesale in reclamation service canals and ditches of the Umatilla project. As a remedy, Secretary Ballinger gave instructions that district engineers should have the intakes of the ditches and canals protected with screens.

Stock Gambling Is Next.

Washington, Dec. 29.—President Taft proposes, if possible, to arrive at a means of preventing unnecessary stock market trading in the future deliveries of wheat, corn, cotton and other products. The president has invited a number of officials to confer with him on the subject, among them Secretary Knox, Attorney General Wickersham, Representatives Scott and Lovering, of Massachusetts, and Commissioner of Corporations Smith.

Ballinger Inquiry to Be Joint.

Washington, Dec. 31.—The Ballinger Pinchot investigation will be conducted jointly by the house and senate, according to an announcement made by administration officials today. Senator Nelson, of Minnesota, has been mentioned as a probable member of the joint committee that will look into the charges and counter charges brought against the department of the interior and the forestry department by Washington officials and various publications.

COAL LANDS, FARMS, TOO.

Mendell of Wyoming Prepares Bill Providing Agricultural Entries.

Washington, Dec. 28.—Representative Mendell, of Wyoming, chairman of the committee on public lands, has introduced, and will press to consideration, a bill providing for agricultural entries on coal lands. The bill is intended to make available for agricultural development the surface of the areas underlain with coal, much of which will not be developed as coal property for many years to come because of the inaccessibility of the deposits. Moreover, the bill is drawn with a view to permitting double use of all such land, one man to use the surface for farming purposes, another to develop the coal beneath.

The bill provides that lands known to contain coal shall be subject to homestead, desert land or Carey act entry, the rights to the coal to be reserved to the United States, together with the right of prospecting and mining. No desert entry made of such lands, however, shall embrace more than 160 acres, and all homestead entries shall be made in conformity with the requirements of the dry farm homestead law, except as to acreage involved.

Persons entering such lands may obtain patent to the surface rights. The coal deposits, under the bill, are made subject to disposal by the United States under the coal land laws, and the United States or its grantees shall at all times have the right to enter upon lands so patented for the purpose of prospecting for, mining and removing the coal, but the owner of the surface shall be entitled to damages resulting from such coal development. The surface entryman, however, is given the right to mine coal on or under his land for domestic purposes at any time prior to the disposal of the coal by the government.

JAPAN SEEKS NEW TREATY.

Ambassador Uchida Hopes Immigration Law Will Be Revised.

Washington, Jan. 1.—Among the first official acts of Baron Uchida, new Japanese Ambassador, will be a series of steps leading to a proposal to the United States for a modification of the Root-Takahira agreement which imposes limitations on the immigration of Japanese laborers to the United States. While the subject is now being spoken of in a conservative vein, it is said that such a duty is one of those especially imposed upon the new Ambassador by his government.

It is also reported that Japan wishes to terminate in 1911 its treaty of commerce and navigation with the United States.

To what extent Japan will ask for a modification of the Root-Takahira agreement has not been learned.

Mexico Acts Within Rights.

Mexico City, Dec. 30.—The Mexican government has acted wholly within its rights thus far and according to its legal methods in the matter of the American railroad conductor, Cook, said Charge d'Affaires Bailey, of the United States embassy, here tonight. "The crime with which Cook stands charged," continued Mr. Bailey, "is not ballable under the Mexican laws, and they have a legal right to keep Cook in custody six months before rendering a decision. He has been in jail four months. The case is waiting the return of the letters rogatory from General Manager Clark of the Mexican line, which have to do with the character of Cook."

Mexico Not Aiding Zelaya to Escape.

Mexico City, Dec. 28.—Government officials today denied the rumor that Senator Enrique Creel's mission to Washington had failed and Mexico would therefore aid Zelaya to escape. Whether Senator Creel's mission is successful or not, the officials declared, Mexico intends to side with the United States in the settlement of the trouble in Nicaragua. The minister of foreign affairs denied the existence of plans to take Zelaya aboard a Mexican gunboat and transport him from Central America to some European country.

Oppose Probe By Congress.

Washington, Dec. 29.—President Taft's views as expressed in his annual message to congress that a Congressional investigation of the sugar frauds might prove embarrassing in view of the inquiry now being made by the department of justice and the Treasury Department finds a warm advocate in Attorney-General Wickersham. He made it clear today that he was opposed to any such inquiry pending the endeavors of the two departments to punish the guilty and to recover the money wrongfully withheld from the government.

Dennett Asks For Probe.

Washington, Dec. 30.—Representative Maguire, chairman of the house committee charged examination of the accounts of the Interior Department, announced today that at the request of Land Commissioner Dennett, his committee would investigate charges recently made by Representative Hitchcock, of Nebraska, of improper purchase of furniture by the general land office out of the fund provided for the investigation of public land entries.

SAYS KNOX IS TO BLAME.

Zelaya Says Secretary Has Been Systematically Misinformed.

Mexico City, Dec. 31.—"Mr. Knox is not my judge. I am answerable only to my government."

Jose Santos Zelaya, who arrived this morning from Salina Cruz, thus replied to a question tonight as to what attitude he would assume should Secretary Knox seek to extradite him from this country. Zelaya refused to discuss such a probability, but strongly intimated that the secretary of state would not have the right to request his presence in the United States.

The former dictator's baggage included two valises bulging with American gold, and a third filled with paper money.

"I have no feeling against the American people at large, nor the government," he said. "Secretary Knox has been systematically misinformed, and public opinion in the United States has been prepared against me, but the real facts must become known in time, and it is to time I trust for my vindication."

"My relations with the preceding American government were exceedingly friendly. The situation contains many unfortunate conditions. Secretary Root had the complete confidence of Central America, and his policies were drawing the people closer together politically and commercially. I am afraid the attitude of Secretary Knox is undoing all that work throughout Latin America."

Zelaya said American marines engaged in several recent battles in Nicaragua, and that 20 of them were killed. He said:

"Do you know that there were 400 Americans fighting with the insurgents at Amalá? Do you know at the battle of Colorado Junction, on November 1, the bodies of 20 American marines were picked up by our forces, all dead, and all from American gunboats anchored in the river to protect American interests? The official explanation given me was that these men were deserters."

WIRELESS PLANS STOLEN.

Great Britain Mourns Loss of Years of Work and Secrecy.

London, Dec. 30.—The wholesale theft of wireless plans, models and sketches which, in the hands of an expert would reveal all the workings and innermost secrets of the wireless service of the British navy, is charged against Richard Knowlden, who was placed on trial at Portsmouth today.

Knowlden is a draughtsman attached to the torpedo schoolship Vernon. In his room were found no less than 90 plans for wireless improvements and coding books of the most confidential character. The authorities attach the greatest importance to the arrest, for they contend if the documents abstracted from the Vernon had reached foreign governments all the labor of recent years given to the perfecting of a wireless system for the British navy would have been rendered practically fruitless.

Valuable Ore Found Made.

Denver, Dec. 31.—According to an assay made today by Herman Fleck, professor of chemistry of the Colorado school of mines, the largest known body of pitchblende in the world has been discovered in a mine at Central City, Colo.

The discovery was made December 21, and the assay made by Professor Fleck shows, it is asserted, that the ore runs almost triple the highest percentage of all uranium ores ever discovered.

It is said the strike was made by the regular force of men engaged in taking out gold ore, and the assay, it is claimed, ran 85 per cent pure, whereas the previous best record was 30 per cent pure.

The mine is owned by Bishop Matz, of Denver, and is leased to Philadelphia capitalists.

Offer Taken Back Again.

St. Paul, Dec. 31.—The railroads today withdrew their offer to abide by the Chicago conference and re-employ striking switchmen as soon as they have strikes. The embargo on wheat shipments in some small towns of the state by the Great Northern road was removed. Railroad officials say that the strike is over so far as they are concerned. It was reported tonight that the old switchmen will go back to work on the Great Northern at Butte tomorrow. The Northern Pacific says that conditions on that road are satisfactory at Butte.

Submarine Saves Lives.

Toulon, Dec. 31.—The submarine Gigogne performed a remarkable life-saving feat in a recent storm. The boat was practicing diving in the open sea when the commander saw a fishing boat suddenly sink. The submarine immediately dived under the fishing craft, of which the masthead alone was above water. The valves were operated quickly, and the Gigogne rose to the surface, lifting the boat and holding it above water long enough to take off the crew.

Dickinson at San Juan.

San Juan, P. R., Dec. 31.—J. M. Dickinson, American secretary of war, arrived today on the converted yacht Mayflower.

Many persons gathered at the wharf. The visit of the secretary has been the occasion of elaborate decorations. Secretary Dickinson has been on an inspection of Santo Domingo, giving special attention to revolutionary conditions. He will also make an inspection of Porto Rico.

Seattle Discovers Leprosy.

Seattle, Dec. 31.—For the second time within 20 years a case of leprosy was discovered in Seattle today, and the victim ordered deported to the government leprosy colony in the Hawaiian islands. Eric Gove, a Scandinavian, who has spent the last 12 years in Alaska, is the afflicted man.

The Redemption of David Corson

By CHARLES FREDERIC GOSS

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CHAPTER XV.

During several months of loneliness and sorrow a great change had been taking place in the mind of Pepeeta, of which she was only vaguely conscious. The strain which she had been undergoing began at last to exhaust her physically.

Her vital force became depleted, her step grew feeble, the light died out of her eyes, she drooped and crept feebly about her room. The determination which she had so resolutely maintained to live apart slowly ebbed away. She was, after all, a woman, not a disembodied spirit, and her woman's heart yearned unquenchably for the touch of her lover's hand, for the kisses of his lips, for the comfort of his presence.

This longing increased with every passing hour. Fatigue, weariness, loneliness, steadily undermined her still struggling resistance to those hungerings which never left her till at last, when the falling resources of her nature were at their lowest point, all her remaining strength was concentrated into a single passionate desire to look once more upon the face which she had so much loved to see, and which she had at least to discover what had befallen in his sin and wretchedness.

It was a long and tedious journey from New Orleans to Cincinnati in those days, and it told terribly upon the weakened constitution of the passenger. Her heart beat too violently in her bosom; a fierce fever began to burn in her veins; she trembled with terror lest her strength fail her before she reached her journey's end. It was not of death itself that she was afraid; but that she should overtake her beloved as he lay on his deathbed, and that she should witness the agonies of his death, and that she should witness the agonies of his death, and that she should witness the agonies of his death.

It was a cold December day. Gray clouds lowered, wintry winds began to blow, and she proceeded but a little way when light flakes of snow began to fall. The chill penetrated her thin clothing and shook her fragile form. She moved more like a wraith than a living woman. Her tired feet left such slight impressions in the snow that the feathery flakes obliterated one almost before she had made another, and she was haunted by the thought that every trace of her passage through life was thus to disappear.

Ignorant of the distance or the exact direction, and stopping occasionally to inquire the way, she plodded on, the exhaustion of hunger and weariness becoming more and more unendurable. All that she did now was to stagger on, and she had proceeded but a little way when light flakes of snow began to fall. The chill penetrated her thin clothing and shook her fragile form. She moved more like a wraith than a living woman. Her tired feet left such slight impressions in the snow that the feathery flakes obliterated one almost before she had made another, and she was haunted by the thought that every trace of her passage through life was thus to disappear.

The night had now deepened around her; but every foot of the landscape had been insidiously impressed upon her memory, and even in the gathering gloom she chose the road unerringly. There were only a few steps more, and reeling toward the door yard fence she felt her way to the gate, opened it, staggered forward up the path in the rays of light that struggled cut into the darkness, and with one final effort fell fainting upon the threshold.

The scene within the house presented a striking contrast to that without. In a great open fireplace the flames of the beech logs were wavering up the chimney. Seated in the radiance of their light, on a low stool, was a young boy with his elbow upon his knees and his cheeks in the palms of his hands. His mother sat by his side stroking his hair and gazing at him in fond, brooding love. The father was bending over a Bible lying open on the table, and had just articulated in slow and reverent tones the words of Jesus, "I was a stranger and ye took me in," when they heard a sound at the door.

Father, mother and son sprang to their feet and, hurrying towards the door, flung it open and beheld a woman's limp form lying on the threshold. It was but a child's weight up in his great arms and carried it into the radiance of the great fireplace, and in an instant he and Dorothea's wife were pushing forward the work of restoration. The little boy stood gazing wonderingly at her from a distance. The calm features of the Quaker were agitated with emotion. His wife knelt by the side of the pale sleeper, and her tears dropped silently on the hand which she pressed to her lips.

For many days Pepeeta's life hung in the balance, her spirit hovering uncertainly along the border land of being, and it was only love that wooed it back to life. When at length, through careful nursing, she really regained her consciousness and came up from those unathomable abysses where she had been wandering, she opened her eyes upon the walls of a little chamber that looked out through an alcove into the living room of the Quaker house.

The silence was suddenly broken by a voice feeble and tremulous, but very musical and sweet. It was Pepeeta, who gazed around her in bewilderment and asked in vague alarm, "Where am I?" Dorothea was by her side in an instant, and taking the thin fingers in her strong hands, replied, "Thou art among friends." Pepeeta looked long into the calm face above her, and gathered reassurance; but her memory did not at once return. "Have I ever been in this place before? Have I ever seen your face? Has something dreadful happened? Tell me," she entreated, giving with agitation into the calm eyes that looked down into hers. "I cannot tell thee whether thee has ever seen us before, but we have seen thee so much for a few days that we feel like old friends," said Dorothea, pressing the hand she held, and smiling. Pepeeta's eyes wandered about the room restlessly for a moment, and then some dim remembrance of the past came back. "Did I come here in a great storm?" she asked. "Thou did, indeed. The night was wild and cold."

open to those who suffer and are heavy laden. The Christ has found a faithful follower in him, Pepeeta. It was he who first divined thy story." "Then you knew me?" "We had conjectured." "Then I will stay, oh, I will stay a little while, and perhaps, perhaps—who knows?" she clasped her hands, her soul looked out of her eyes, and a smile of genuine happiness lit up her sad face. "Yes, who knows?" said Dorothea, gently, rearranging the pillows and bidding the invalid fall asleep again.

CHAPTER XVI. In due time the vessel upon which David had embarked arrived at her destination, the city of New York, and the lonely traveler stepped forth unnoticed and unknown into the metropolis of the New World.

With an instinct common to all adventurers, he made his way to the Bowery. Amid its perpetual excitements and boundless opportunities for adventure, David resumed the habits formed during that period of life upon which the doors had now closed. His reputation had followed him, and the new scenes, the physical restoration during the long voyage, the necessity of maintaining his fame, all conspired to help him take a place in the front rank of the devotees of the gambling room.

He did his best to enter into this new life with enthusiasm, but it had no power to banish or even to allay his grief. He therefore spent most of his time in wandering about among the wonders of the swiftly-growing city, observing her busy streets, her crowded wharves, her libraries, museums and parks. This moving panorama temporarily diverted his thoughts from that channel into which they ever returned, and which they were constantly wearing deeper and deeper, and so helped him to accomplish the one aim of his wretched life, which was to become even for a single moment unconscious of himself and of his misery.

Among the many acquaintances he had made in that realm of life to which his vices and his crimes had consigned him, a single person had awakened in his bosom emotions of interest and regard. There was in that circle of silent, terrible, remorseless parasites of society, a young man whose classical face, exquisite manners and varied accomplishments set him apart from all the others. He moved among them like a ghost—mysterious, uncommunicative and unapproachable.

From the time of their first meeting he had treated David in an exceptional manner. In unobtrusive ways he had done him little kindnesses, and proffered many delicate advances of friendship, and not many months passed before the two lone, suspicious and ostracized men united their fortunes in a sort of informal partnership and were living in common apartments.

There was in Foster Mantal a sort of sardonic humor into which he was always withdrawing himself. In one of their frequent conversations the two companions had grown unusually confidential, and found themselves drifting a little too near that most dangerous of all shoals in the lives of such men—the part.

(To be continued.)

LET THE WEAKLINGS DIE!

Theory of an English Sociologist Recently Indorsed by Figures. G. C. Hill, an English "sociologist," announces that it is mathematically a mistake to suppose that human life is lengthening. He thinks that in the British Islands at least it can be proved mathematically that everything done to prevent sickly children from dying soon, cuts down the length of the "average lifetime" after 40. Writing in the Sociological Review he shows that in thirty years from 1870, the death rate among male infants under 5 years, was cut down from 75 to 58 in the thousand. The rate was cut down in one degree or another so that there were fewer deaths at all ages under 35. At 35 there was almost no change in thirty years. At from 45 to 55 he shows the British death rate going up from 19.6 to 20.8 in the thousand. Between 55 and 65 years it rose from 33.9 to 35.5.

His argument agrees with that of a considerable school of "sociologists," who agree with the sociology of the American Indians. By putting their babies in the cold water of the nearest stream, the Indians learned easily which were too weak to make a success in life as fighters and hunters. On the other hand, the biographies of men who have done most to civilize the world by great discoveries and inventions show that as children they were often so weak that they were kept alive only by the greatest and most loving pains.

Others who have minds as mathematical as that of Mr. Hill are now working out calculations showing that as the people of Europe get more to eat from the United States and South America they are growing taller and living longer for the same reason that natives of Missouri, Kansas and Texas measure half a foot taller than natives of Japan and China. Until a generation ago, sociologists of the highest Chinese education took the view taken now by Mr. Hill in England. They applied it chiefly against girl babies. It was a Chinese sociological custom to leave the undersized, superfluous girl exposed in the open air to starve to death.

Unprejudiced.

Mike McGinnis was being examined for jury duty in a murder trial. "Mr. McGinnis," asked the judge, "have you formed or expressed an opinion as to the guilt or innocence of the prisoner at the bar?" "No, sir," replied Mike. "Have you any conscientious scruples against capital punishment?" "Not in this case, your honor," Mike replied.—Success.