

CURRENT EVENTS OF THE DAY

Comprehensive Review of the Important Happenings of the Past Week Culled From the Telegraphic Columns.

A grain elevator was destroyed by fire in East St. Louis, entailing a loss of \$1,000,000.

Judge Lewis E. McComas has been elected United States senator to succeed A. P. Gorman, of Maryland.

The reorganized Union Pacific railroad had to pay \$20,402.50 fees to incorporate under the laws of Colorado.

The U. S. battle-ship Maine has arrived at Havana. Visits were exchanged between Commodore Sigbee and Spanish officials.

President Eaton, of Beloit college, will inspect the work of the board of American foreign missions in China, under invitation.

The observations of the eclipse in British India were successful, conditions being most favorable. Many valuable photographs were secured.

William Hepburn, an alleged counterfeit, was arrested in a lonely cabin in Placer county, Cal., and all the paraphernalia for counterfeiting was found in his possession.

Russia will demand the immediate payment by Turkey of the \$28,000,000 war indemnity yet due, as a means of making the sultan more docile in the treatment of the Cretan question.

The National Stockgrowers' convention is in session in Denver, Colo. About 1,000 delegates, representing 21 states and territories of the West, Northwest and Southwest are present.

On Friday a gale sprung up on Put-in-Bay, Lake Erie, and the ice commenced to break up. Two hundred fishermen occupying shacks built on the ice, were in imminent peril, but made shore in safety, assisted by rescuers, who put off in boats and battled with the ice floes.

The body of L. Dickerson was found in the ruins of a building destroyed by fire at Spencer, Ind.

John C. Beresford, a cadet of the noble family of that name is engaged to marry Miss Emily, the third daughter of Adrian Iselin, of New York.

British ship Samonea, while being towed in Liverpool harbor, ran into the ship Wendura, lying at anchor, and both vessels were seriously injured.

Collis P. Huntington, in an affidavit filed in a suit brought against him, makes oath that he has no intention of removing his residence from New York to San Francisco.

Western roads have agreed to make the same reduced rates to the Mardi Gras in New Orleans as last year. Tickets will be sold February 14 to 20, and will have a final return limit of March 19.

A Mafia murder was revealed at New Orleans by the finding of a trunk in the open street in the rear of the city hall, which contained the body of an Italian, with the head almost cut from the body.

Four members of the crew of the schooner Viking were taken in charge by the Boston police on the vessel's arrival, charged with attempting mutiny. They had threatened the captain's life and were placed in irons.

It is said by those in a position to know that there is not a map of Cuba in the war department that would give any guidance to an army which should land on that shore. There has not been a military officer connected with the government in Cuba since the disturbance there began.

Reciprocity negotiations continue to proceed in a manner satisfactory to Washington officials, but there is no present prospect that the treaties or agreements will be concluded in the near future. The negotiations with Peru are farthest along, and these reached a point where the draft of a treaty has been made.

Anti-Jewish riots have been renewed at Algiers. The mob invaded the Jewish quarter and pillaged the shops in the Rue de Babazum, driving the Jewish merchants out into the streets. A squadron of chasseurs was ordered to the scene and charged at the mob with drawn swords, but the mob reformed further on, cheering for the army. Revolvers and daggers were freely used. One man who was stabbed in the back and shot in the head died, and many were seriously wounded.

Acting Secretary Spaulding has decided in a case presented by the Canadian Pacific Navigation Company, that the transportation of American freight from Seattle or other American ports consigned for Alaskan ports, Victoria or Nauaimo, and at these ports transferred to British vessels, is a violation of our coasting laws and subjects the merchandise to forfeiture. The decision is a strong measure for the protection of the American coasting trade to Alaska in which there have been indications that British corporations hope to break into.

C. E. Maher, of Grand Island, Neb., surrendered to the Sacramento police, confessing that he had embezzled money belonging to Armour & Co., which he had collected while traveling as salesman for the company.

A St. Louis dispatch says: A gale of wind that reached the highest velocity of any experienced here since the tornado of May 27, 1896, prevailed Wednesday. Its highest velocity was 66 miles an hour, and up to noon two deaths, one fatal injury and several minor casualties had been reported.

FOR ANNEXATION.

The Hawaiian Treaty Discussed by Seven Governors.

New York, Jan. 26.—The Herald has obtained the views of some of the governors of states on the subject of annexation of Hawaii. The interviews follows:

Governor Leedy, of Kansas—I believe the Hawaiian islands should be annexed by the United States for these reasons: Within a short time a canal will be built across the Isthmus of Panama. This canal should be controlled by the United States. The nation having possession of these islands will command the road to that canal and will also possess the key to the Pacific ocean from a mercantile standpoint. My belief is that if we allow Hawaii to slip out of our fingers now, within 50 years our necessities will compel us to fight to get possession of the islands, and therefore it seems to me to be good policy to get them while we can do so in peace.

Governor Adams, of Colorado—While not enthusiastic, I believe the future commercial welfare of the United States would justify the annexation of the islands. But a hundred fold more important movement would be the building of the Nicaragua canal, as a guaranty of future power and empire. We need both, but first of all, the canal.

Governor Holcomb, of Nebraska—I am opposed to Hawaiian annexation. For a century it has been the well-defined policy of this country to avoid a line of action tending to entanglements with foreign powers. Annexation would be used as a pretext to appeal to the spirit of militarism of the people of our country.

Governor Stevens, of Missouri—I am opposed to the annexation of the Hawaiian islands, but cannot explain my position satisfactorily in an interview.

Governor Tanner, of Illinois, refused to express an opinion on the matter.

Governor Clough, of Minnesota—Hawaii is a case of gobble or see it gobble. If we don't take the Sandwich islands the British will. Uncle Sam sees a pearl glistening at his feet, and he has not the astuteness I ascribe to him if he does not pick it up.

Governor Bushnell, of Ohio—The United States should approve the annexation of Hawaii. I believe I voice the sentiment of 75 per cent of the people of Ohio. It would then be a naval stronghold, a commercial benefit and worth ten-fold the price asked for it.

Governor Lee, of South Dakota—The first duty of this country is to Cuba, to stop the butchery in that island at any cost. After that, if Hawaii is of any strategic value to this country and its citizens are desirous of annexation, it would probably be good policy to take the islands in.

DEBATE WAS BITTER.

Teller Resolution the Subject Before the Senate.

Washington, Jan. 27.—Today's session of the senate was characterized by a heated, almost acrimonious discussion of the financial question. For nearly two hours the Teller resolution was under consideration, the principal speeches being made by Allison, Berry and Hoar. The sharpest colloquy was at times indulged in between the advocates and opponents of the resolution, the debate often approaching bitterness. The feature of the discussion was a speech by Teller, author of the resolution, his statement calling out a suggestion from Hoar that he (Teller) have the speech stricken from the record. In response to an inquiry by Spooner, Vest admitted that he thought the system of coining referred to in the resolution meant the free and unlimited coinage of silver, that admission apparently giving satisfaction to the opponents of the measure.

Under the parliamentary fiction of discussing the Indian appropriation bill, the house devoted almost the entire day to a political debate, in which the main question was whether prosperity had come to the country as a result of the advent of the present administration. As speeches were limited to five minutes, many members participated, and partisan spirit kept the interest keyed up to a high pitch. The acrimony which usually characterizes such debates was almost entirely absent, and although good natured, some hard knocks were given and received. Smith, the delegate from Arizona, made an attack on the system of educating the Indians, and Walker moved to strike out the appropriation for the Carlisle school. No vote was taken on the motion to strike out.

BURNED TO DEATH.

Fate of an Aged Woman in Colton, Washington.

Spokane, Wash., Jan. 27.—A Colton special to the Spokesman-Review says: Mrs. M. J. Richardson was burned to death here. She lived with her daughter. When the latter returned from a visit to a neighbor, she found her mother's charred and blackened remains on the floor. Mrs. Richardson was over 70 years old, and feeble. She was addicted to the use of tobacco, and it is supposed that while lighting her pipe her clothing became ignited. Mrs. Richardson left a family of seven grown children, three daughters and four sons, all of whom were married, and most of whom live in and near Colton. She also had relatives at Milton, Or., who were notified by telegraph last night of the accident.

Paris, Jan. 26.—A duel with swords was fought this morning between two newspaper men, M. Verwart and Pierre LeFevre. The former was wounded in the arm. The dispute arose over the Dreyfus affair.

John Rodegas has renounced his intention to retire from the turf and will continue to race this season.

TRUE AND HE'S GLAD OF IT

Rev. Dr. C. Brown's Final Play to the Galleries.

A SPECTACULAR CONFESSION

The Sainly Sinner Acknowledges His Guilt, Expresses Contrition and Then Quits the Church.

San Francisco, Jan. 27.—Rev. C. O. Brown, now of Chicago, has confessed to the Bay conference of the Congregational church that a portion of the charges connecting his name with that of Mattie Overman are true. He appeared before the conference very unexpectedly, expressed the deepest contrition for his backsliding, resigned himself to fate, was chastened and dropped out of the Congregational ministry, shook hands with the chasteeners and ended by declaring that he was glad of it all.

The opening of the conference which was to consider the Brown case was delayed until nearly 3 o'clock on account of the jubilee procession, and the main issue was further postponed by some desultory talk. This was not done, however, with the slightest idea that Dr. Brown would appear, and it was a surprise when he entered and was introduced by his namesake, Rev. C. O. Brown, of Oakland, at whose house he has been staying since his arrival on the coast.

Dr. Brown smiled, shook hands with a friend, and, coolly removing his overcoat, proceeded to read a long statement which declared with elaboration and supplication that "a small part of the accusations against him were true," stopping several times during the recital to recover a studied calm demeanor.

The confession was referred to a committee which unanimously decided that he be dropped from the roll of Congregational ministers, and this recommendation was adopted by the conference. In his confession he says: "A small part of the accusations against me were true. For any wrong which I had done, I had sought forgiveness both of God and man, I had turned utterly and with abhorrence from it long before I was publicly accused. In the mad tumult of that cyclone which fell upon me, pursued by the papers for 150 consecutive days, with every nerve on fire, with mental powers in confusion and moral sensibilities benumbed, it seemed almost right to defend myself, my family and the friends who instantly espoused my cause, by methods which are justified in warfare. But, brethren, I feared then, I fear no longer. Today I can say with Christian, 'I fear nothing so much as sin,' and with Tholuck, 'I thank God for the conviction of sin'."

"There were several times during the progress of the first council when I would gladly have told the brethren all. 'I do not wish to be understood as accusing the young woman, who begged me to refrain.

"No action but my own could then deprive me either of my pulpit or of my fellowship in Chicago. I confess to the Dubuque and Chicago associations that I did them a grievous wrong in accepting fellowship of the one and seeking that of the other. I herewith request that my name be dropped from the roll of the Chicago association."

Dr. Brown read the confession to the Bay conference, and in every tone of his voice was a tremulous plea for mercy. After the conference had rendered its decision of expulsion he seemed somewhat broken in spirit. Nevertheless he tried to keep a brave front, and when asked what he thought about the action of his brother ministers, replied: "It is all for the best, I suppose, yet it is hard for me to bear."

SAVED BY HIS COOLNESS.

How the President of a Trust Company Stood Off a Would-Be Robber.

St. Louis, Jan. 27.—About noon today a thin, well-dressed young man walked into the private office of Judge Madill, president of the Union Company, and, pointing a revolver at the gray-haired financier's head, demanded \$5,000 in cash, threatening to kill him if the money was not paid. Judge Madill's coolness saved him. He engaged the man in conversation until detectives arrived and handcuffed him. The would-be robber, whose name is unknown, was taken to the Four courts and locked up.

When searched, a small bottle of nitro-glycerine was found in his pocket. The police spent all the afternoon trying to get him to reveal his identity, but failed. The young man is 22 years old, with very dark complexion, lowering eyes, gold-rimmed spectacles, and a walk that approached a stride. He wore a long overcoat, and a peculiar looking cap.

Fatal Head-End Collision.

Elizabeth, Ky., Jan. 27.—By a head-end collision of two freights on the Louisville & Nashville, near Upton, this morning, three men were killed and four badly injured. The killed were William Oiler, engineer; Lee Ellison, brakeman, and an unknown tramp.

Helena, Ark., Jan. 25.—The river situation here is beginning to be alarming, owing to the rapid rise and the poor condition of the levee. At the Williamson place, about three miles below here, there is an opening of about 20 feet, through which the water will come if the river gets five feet higher. A great deal of cotton will be ruined.

The striking miners and the mine operators of Northern Colorado have decided to submit their differences to the state board of arbitration.

DEATH IN THE FLAMES.

Six-Story Lodging-House Burned at Spokane.

Spokane, Jan. 26.—A fire in which the loss runs up to \$400,000 worth of property and at the very least five lives were lost took place tonight. The Great Eastern block at the corner of Post street and Riverside avenue, six stories in height, and constructed of brick, caught fire about 11:45 P. M., and in three hours was totally demolished.

All of the upper floors and part of the third floor were used for lodging purposes, and at least 150 people were asleep in the building when the fire started. While most of them escaped with only their night clothes, it is thought a number perished. What makes the horror greater, is that no one knows who is still imprisoned. As the people were removed from the burning structure or escaped themselves, they sought places of safety. The last out of the upper floors report forms lying in the hall, and women shrieking in the flames. The origin of the fire is supposed to have been in the engine-room.

The Great Eastern block was built in 1890 at a cost of \$250,000, and was owned by Louis Levinski, of San Francisco, who carried but \$50,000 insurance.

A thrilling rescue was that of Robert Masson, his wife and their 2-year-old son from the fifth floor on the Post street side. From a fire escape on the fourth floor seven feet to one side from their window, a fireman threw them a rope, which Masson made fast to the bed, and came down hand over hand, carrying his boy. Mrs. Masson followed. As she hung suspended far above the ground, the huge crowd watched with breathless interest. When she was grasped by the fireman a shout of joy went up.

The lives known to be lost are those of Rose Wilson, aged 18, and Rose Smith, an invalid, aged 20, besides Mrs. Davies, who jumped from a fifth-story window, and died two hours later. Others are supposed to be in the building.

ANOTHER CUBAN RESOLUTION

Urges the Government to Intervene in Behalf of the Patriots.

Washington, Jan. 26.—In the senate today Walthall of Mississippi presented the credentials of H. D. Money senator from Mississippi, to succeed the late Senator George, and the oath of office was administered to Money, who has been sitting as senator under appointment from the governor.

Walthall presented a joint resolution adopted by the legislature of Mississippi urging the United States government to intervene in the Cuban warfare on behalf of the insurgents, "peacefully, if it may be; forcibly, if it must."

The Teller resolution was then laid before the senate, and in accordance with notice previously given, Turpie, of Indiana addressed the senate in support of the resolution.

In the House.

At the opening of the house today Kleberg, Democrat, of Texas, and Dockery, Democrat, of Missouri, called attention to the roll of the house on the immigration bill printed in a New York paper today. They had been made to favor the bill and were opposed to it.

Boutelle, Republican, of Maine, chairman of the committee on naval affairs, reported back two resolutions calling upon the secretary of the navy as to the suitability of sites for making armor plate in the South, with recommendation that they lie on the table.

The report called attention to the fact that invitations had been issued for sealed propositions for land, building and machinery for an armor-plate factory which would be opened January 29 and the secretary, when these were opened, would send a special report to congress with all information. The resolution was laid on the table without division.

Curtis, Republican, of Iowa, then claimed the day for business from the District of Columbia committee.

To Examine the Yukon Delta.

Washington, Jan. 26.—Professor Pritchett, of the coast and geodetic survey, has practically completed arrangements for an expedition which will start for Alaska in the spring to make an examination of the delta of the Yukon river for the purpose of locating and marking if possible a deep-water entrance to the river.

For the carrying out of this work and the exploration of Copper river, congress has just passed a bill appropriating \$10,000. The bill will be signed by the president within a few days, and the money will be immediately available.

The expedition to be sent out is to be a joint land and water party, and will be under the direction of Lieutenant Helm, who is a skillful hydrographer. The expedition will leave San Francisco in April.

Tramway Around the Rapids.

Victoria, B. C., Jan. 25.—M. S. MacConly, who has just returned from Alaska, has under construction a steel tramway around the Canyon and White Horse rapids. He is building four tracks, and by the time the river opens, he says he will be able to handle 500 tons daily, taking boats and all.

Buried Alive in a Well.

Baraboo, Wis., Jan. 24.—The dead body of Albert Miller, who was buried alive at the bottom of a 40-foot well, Wednesday, was recovered today. Miller's rescuers worked day and night. The imprisoned man was heard to ask for a drink of water. But just as the life-savers were within a few feet of him, a second cave-in occurred, and from that time Miller's voice was hushed.

WHITE SQUADRON READY

Battleships Are Anchored Off Key West.

ARE CONVENIENT IF NEEDED

Alarming Rumors Concerning the Situation in Havana—American Consulate Strongly Guarded.

Jacksonville, Jan. 25.—A special to the Times-Union and Citizen, from Key West, says:

There has been much excitement in this city during the last 24 hours, due to an alarming telegram from Havana, stating that the streets had been flooded with anonymous ultra-Spanish circulars, calling upon all anti-Americans to mobilize and raid the American colony. Captain-General Blanco, fearful that the rabid element of the city might attempt such violence, has placed an extra military guard around Consul-General Lee's office. Many of the Americans of the city, who believe they are in real danger, have prepared their affairs for any emergency.

This news is what gave rise to the rumor that Consul Lee had been assassinated. The feeling of uneasiness felt here because of the proximity of Cuba to this city, has been allayed, especially since this morning at 10 o'clock, when Admiral Sicard's imposing fleet of battleships, consisting of the New York, Indiana, Massachusetts, Iowa and Texas, arrived off the bar. The Maine, Montgomery and Detroit, and the torpedo boats Cushing and Dupont, left the harbor at 10 o'clock and joined the fleet, the whole making an impressively formidable appearance, and one inspiring confidence in the strong right arm of Uncle Sam. The squadron will sail for Tortugas in the morning.

The Spanish consul here was uneasy over the repeated rumors to the effect that General Lee had fallen a victim to assassins, and wired to the authorities of Havana for the truth.

An important message was received here at 11 o'clock for Admiral Sicard, but there is no way of transporting it to the fleet.

The commander of the naval station received a message from General Lee this afternoon. He says the city is safe, but there is suppressed excitement in the American colony. The white squadron is anchored at Key West and will sail for the Tortugas tomorrow.

Great Excitement in Madrid.

Madrid, Jan. 25.—The report that American warships have been ordered to Cuban waters has caused great excitement here. The Imparcial, in the course of a violent article, says: "We see now the eagerness of the Yankees to seize Cuba."

A grand banquet was given at the palace this evening in honor of the name-day of the king. The members of the cabinet and the principal members of the diplomatic corps were present.

The cabinet met afterwards and decided, so it is reported, to address a manifesto to the country. One minister, in the course of an interview, said the government was quiet and tranquil respecting the movements of the American warships which were fully known to the minister of marine.

Lack of Official News.

Washington, Jan. 25.—So far as could be learned, the administration has no advice from Havana today. Both the state and navy department affirm that nothing had been heard from General Lee, and professed to look upon the lack of news as a good sign. On the other hand, the city was full of rumors, ranging in importance from the statement that the white squadron had sailed from Key West, to that of Lee being assassinated in Havana. Inquiry, however, failed to find any basis for the sensational reports.

THE ECLIPSE OBSERVATIONS.

Conditions That Prevailed in India at the Time.

Bombay, Jan. 25.—The eclipse of the sun was accompanied by a rapid fall in temperature. An earthy smell pervaded the air, and the scene resembled a landscape under a wintry English sun. The duration of totality was two minutes, with a marvellous corona of pale silver and blue.

The conditions were favorable at both Professor Sir Norman Lockyear's camp near Vizadroog (on the Malabar coast), and at Professor Campbell's camp near Jour.

The native astrologers predicted terrible calamities. The natives swarmed to devotional exercises, and there was general fear, but no great alarm. The Nizam of Hyderabad liberated 50 prisoners, giving each a gift of money and clothes.

London, Jan. 25.—The morning Post publishes a dispatch from Professor Lockyear, from Rajapur, saying that 60 spectrum photographs were secured. Some of these have been already developed and are found to exhibit changes in the aspect of the chromosphere. The dispatch says the weather was perfect, and that Lord Graham's cinematograph work proved quite successful.

A Missing Lieutenant.

Salt Lake, Jan. 25.—A special to the Tribune from Rock Springs, reports the disappearance of Second Lieutenant Joseph Driggs, of the Eighth United States infantry, who was in command of a detachment of soldiers at Camp Pilot, Butte, Wyo. He left his post on January 16. He was at Fort Douglas last Wednesday, and afterward registered at a hotel here, but did not occupy his room.

ORDERED TO HAVANA.

Big Battle-ship Maine Going South on Short Notice.

Washington, Jan. 26.—Within 48 hours, for the first time since the insurrection broke out in Cuba, three years ago, the United States government will be represented in the harbor of Havana by a warship. The decision to send the United States battle-ship Maine was finally reached at a special meeting at the White House this morning, between the president, Secretary Long, Assistant Secretary Day, Attorney-General McKenna and General Miles, and it is a striking fact that, with the exception of Secretary Long and the attorney-general, not a member of the cabinet knew of the intention to take this radical action. It is denied, however, that some such move has long been in contemplation, as evidenced in the following statement of Secretary Day, made this afternoon: "The sending of the Maine to Havana means simply the resumption of friendly natural relations with Spain. It is customary for naval vessels of friendly nations to pass in and out of the harbors of other countries with which they are at peace, and British and German warships have recently visited Havana. This is no new move. The president has intended to do it for some time, but heretofore something has happened to postpone it.

"The orders to the Maine mean nothing more than I have said, and there is nothing alarming or unfriendly in them. The Spanish minister here is fully informed of what is going on, and, so far as I know, has not made the slightest objection to it."

Further, Mr. Day said that Consul-General Lee had not sent for a warship. This statement shows that the movement was made deliberately, and that it could not have been taken if there were serious apprehensions of its results to Havana. The general belief here, however, is that in Madrid, rather than in any Cuban town, is the trouble to be looked for, if there should be any misapprehension of the purpose of our government in sending the Maine to Havana. The temper of the opposition newspapers in the Spanish capital has been threatening for some time, and it may require the strong hand of the news censor to repress utterances that would lead to rioting.

Admiral Sicard's orders were not made public in their text at the navy department, but it was stated that the substance of them was in the statement made by Secretary Long. The orders were not directly to the Maine, for the reason that she is now attached to the squadron, and the naval regulations require all such orders to go through the superior officer. There is some question whether the telegram reached the admiral before he sailed with his squadron from Key West for Tortugas harbor. The belief is that it did not, but this will make little difference in the programme, inasmuch as the telegram will be sent to the admiral by one of the torpedo-boats, or by some other means of conveyance. The details of the Maine's movements are believed to be left to the arrangement of Admiral Sicard, but it is thought that the ship, which put to sea with the squadron, will return to Key West before going to Havana.

The German ships to which Assistant Secretary Day referred in his statement are the Carlotta and the Geyer, both training-ships and not of formidable type, though one sufficed to settle hastily the recent Haytian difficulty. Their touching at Havana is not believed to have been significant, as their cruise was arranged in all details last September, and the some ships are due at Charleston, S. C., early in February.

UNPROFITABLE EXPERIMENT.

Seventeen Reindeer Killed on an Atlantic Steamer.

New York, Jan. 26.—Seventeen reindeer were executed by hanging on the voyage from Hamburg on the steamer Glendon, which reached here after a tempestuous voyage of 14 days. Fifteen others survived the trip, but one of them has a broken kneecap, which has been rudely bound in splints. The 15 are all that are left of a herd of 40 reindeer started from a small village in Finland a month ago, destined for a journey of more than 10,000 miles to the Klondike region.

The reindeer are not a part of Uncle Sam's plan for relieving the miners. They were purchased by an old Klondiker, who believed there was money in shipping reindeer there to the land of gold as beasts of burden. They were shipped on the Glendon. It has no stalls for cattle, and the reindeer were tied to stanchions.

The Glendon left Hamburg January 7 in a gale which rolled the ship like a barrel. Two of the reindeer had their necks dislocated before they vessel had been out three hours, and the next day three more were killed. The fifth day brought a gale from the west, which speedily produced five more dead reindeer. In the gale of last Thursday six more were killed and the legs of three of these were fractured in half a dozen places.

Government Will Prosecute.

Paris, Jan. 26.—The government will prosecute M. Gerault-Richard and the Comte de Bernis for their conduct in the chamber of deputies during the recent disturbance.

Reduction in Wages.

Wheeling, W. Va., Jan. 25.—The employees of the Wheeling steel plant, in Benwood, about 500 in number, have been notified of the second reduction in wages within 12 months. The present reduction affects all employees of the company, and runs from 12 to 25 per cent.

London, Jan. 26.—The colliery accident near Mons, announced in a dispatch from Brussels, resulted in the death of 17 persons.