

NO FREE SPEECH NOR PRESS

Fate of Newspapers and Statesmen in France.

THE REPUBLIC IS IN DANGER

Army Officers Expelled, Lawyers Disbarred and Correspondents Warned — What It Will Terminate in.

Paris, Feb. 28.—The new dictator-ship has decided to suppress the freedom of speech and the freedom of the press.

This decision was announced by Meline in the chamber of deputies this afternoon.

Four newspapers tonight were notified that unless they cease discussing the Dreyfus campaign tomorrow they will be rigorously prosecuted.

A number of correspondents of foreign newspapers were warned that unless they abandon their hostile dispatches they will be expelled from France.

It is even asserted that Blowitz, the correspondent of the London Times, was also warned.

Because of his courageous action as an officer in the war department and in the Zola trial, Colonel Picquart, by a decree issued tonight, was expelled from the army and placed under three years of police surveillance.

The lawyer who advised him has been suspended from the bar.

Esterhazy has received official permission to prosecute Mathieu Dreyfus.

The announcement was made that more rigorous measures of the same high-handed policy will soon be promulgated.

Concluding his official warning, Meline said:

"I trust it will be understood that if the agitation continues after yesterday's verdict we shall be in the presence of a party issue. Enough evil has already been done internally. The life of the nation has been checked. A part of the foreign press denounces us. This must be stopped, in the interests of peace, of the army, and of our foreign relations. The government must deal with the wound it desires to heal, and it will impose silence upon everybody. It will take such disciplinary measures as the circumstances demand. Nobody can continue the agitation in good faith, and after tomorrow the government will suppress all attempts to continue it. The government is applying the laws at its disposal, and if the weapons are insufficient, it will ask for more." (Great tumult.) "The vote of this house will prove that when patriotism is involved, there are no parties. Everybody rallies under that flag."

A CUT AT SAN FRANCISCO.

The Canadian Pacific Makes Low Rate to the East.

San Francisco, Feb. 28.—The Canadian Pacific threw a bombshell into the camp of the American railroad agents this morning by announcing that tickets would be sold from San Francisco to New York via Vancouver at \$40 first-class and \$30 second-class. The lowest first-class rates by the Central and Union Pacific are \$79. Agents here say that east-bound business by the Canadian road is slight at this season, and they don't fear demoralization, but they recognize the danger to Klondike business if these rates are enforced in the East. In fact, the Southern Pacific will have to meet the cut or see all Klondike travel go to Victoria and Seattle. Everything depends on the Chicago meeting. If the Canadian Pacific cannot be placated then the Southern Pacific will be compelled to cut the present rates nearly in half.

Crushed to Death.

San Francisco, Feb. 28.—Charles Lapan, superintendent of construction on the Call building, was instantly killed this afternoon, in the freight elevator on the Third-street side of the building.

Lapan was at work in the basement, and stepped on the freight elevator. It is believed he pulled the wrong rope, and when the elevator started up, attempted to jump out. His body was caught between the floor of the elevator and the first floor and was terribly crushed. Death must have been instantaneous, for his whole chest was crushed to a pulp.

W.H. Not Sell Cuba.

London, Feb. 28.—The Standard's Madrid correspondent says that he has found by an exhaustive canvass that all parties are amazed and indignant at the suggestion that Spain should sell Cuba, saying that it meant that the monarchy would be menaced by an irresistible popular movement supported by the army and navy. The financiers make the practical objection that, as the Cuban debt is almost entirely held by Spaniards, the price suggested would not satisfy half the compensation required. None of the ministers would entertain the suggestion.

Shipments From Canadian Points.

Ottawa, Feb. 28.—The Canadian government has decided to permit Canadian goods to be shipped from Vancouver and Victoria in American vessels free of duty by St. Michaels to the Yukon for the coming season. An order to this effect has been sent to the customs office on the coast. The order applies to the Yukon route by St. Michaels, and does not include Skagway.

Tacoma, Feb. 28.—The Midnight Sun is the name of a tiny craft about to sail for Alaska from Tacoma. The boat is flat bottomed, 24 feet long, 6 feet wide and 2 feet deep, provided with side paddle-wheels, a two-horse power boiler and a steam engine. Only her two owners will go in her with their outfit.

SHOT AT KING GEORGE.

Desperate Attempt of Would-Be-Assassins, Who Escaped.

Athens, March 1.—An unsuccessful attempt was made today to assassinate King George. The king was returning from Phaleron, at 5 o'clock in the evening in a landau, accompanied by the Princess Maria, when two men, who were hidden in a ditch alongside the road, opened fire with guns upon the occupants of the carriage. The first shot missed, but the second wounded a footman in the arm. The coachman whipped up his horses and the party dashed away at a gallop.

The miscreants fired seven more shots after them, none of which took effect, and the king and the princess returned to the palace unhurt.

The king states that one of the assassins was dressed in gray clothing, and his majesty declares he could easily identify him. When the second shot whizzed past the carriage, the king rose and stood in front of his daughter, in order to shield her. One of the horses was slightly wounded. One of the assailants knelt in the middle of the road and aimed straight at the king, who noticed that the man's hand was shaking. The shot missed, and the king had a clear view of this man, who his majesty says was barely 20 years old. He continued to fire after the carriage until it was out of range. His companion did not leave the ditch.

BLOWN ON THE FLATS.

The Oregon Struck by a Terrific Gale in Juneau Harbor.

Seattle, March 1.—The steamer Topeka arrived here tonight from Juneau. The officers of the Topeka report that in a terrific wind storm at Juneau last Sunday the steamer Oregon was blown ashore on Juneau flats. She was lying in Juneau harbor at anchor when the gale struck her, and, after straining at her anchors for some time, she began to drag, and then at tremendous speed she was hurled on the flats. Several horses were thrown heavily against the side of the vessel as she struck, and some were killed.

Severely shaken, the vessel was thrown about, and the fierce wind was piercing cold. When the gale abated, at high tide, the vessel was floated. Fortunately, the flats are soft, and the Oregon suffered no injury.

LA CHAMPAGNE SAFE.

Anchored Off the Newfoundland Banks With Shaft Broken.

New York, March 1.—The Holland-American line steamer Rotterdam, from Rotterdam, arrived at quarantine tonight, with Third Officer George Unswoorth and nine seamen of the overdue French liner La Champagne, who were picked up from a lifeboat Thursday, February 24, in latitude 43° 10' north, longitude 57° west. The men, when taken aboard the Rotterdam, were in a helpless condition, having been in the ship's lifeboat for six days and nights. The men were all more or less frostbitten.

Unsworth stated that La Champagne broke her tail-end shaft Thursday, February 17, at 5 P. M., in latitude 45° 27', longitude 51° 52'. The steamer being helpless, Captain Perrott anchored. The steamer was on the edge of the Newfoundland banks, and there being a possibility of the steamer not being picked up in her position, Captain Perrott decided to send a lifeboat in search of assistance.

La Champagne carried 304 passengers, and was nearly two weeks overdue.

BURNED AT SEA.

Terrible Experience of Crew and Passengers of Steamer Legislator.

Boston, March 1.—The British steamer Legislator, Captain Tennant, bound from Liverpool for Colon, was burned at sea February 16, in latitude 31° 23' north, longitude 44° 10' west. The fire broke out February 13, and burned fiercely for three days, during which time Fireman Thomas Roberts was burned to death, Second Officer James Bateman and Seaman William Angell were drowned by the capsizing of a boat, Third Officer Martin and Steward John Gaffney went adrift in a boat, and Chief Cook Fred E. Lee, crazed by fearful burns, jumped overboard. The rest of the crew of 30 men, with two passengers, Dr. Mortimer and wife, of London, were rescued by the fruit steamer Flowergate and brought to this port, arriving here today. Four of the crew, Chief Engineer Traugher, Second Engineer John Holden, Fourth Engineer Robert Milne and Charles Ibbittson, were so severely injured that they were taken to the marine hospital upon arriving at this port. Holden is not expected to live.

SEVEN YOUNG PEOPLE KILLED.

Chicago, March 1.—An omnibus containing nine persons, eight of whom were young men and women, who were on their way to attend a party in the hotel at Blue Island, was struck by a Grand Trunk passenger train at the Western avenue crossing south of Blue Island, at 9 o'clock tonight, and six of the pleasure-seekers were killed almost instantly. None escaped serious injury. The train was running at a high rate of speed, and approached the crossing after rounding a sharp curve.

ALFRED TENNYSON'S BROTHER.

London, March 1.—Frederick Tennyson, eldest brother of the late poet laureate, died yesterday.

THE NUNEZ FILIBUSTERS.

Tampa, Fla., March 1.—General Emile Nunez, Dr. Nunez, J. Ecartaya, John O'Brien and five members of the last Cuban expedition, arrived here this afternoon from Key West. Mr. Ecartaya reports matters on the island as satisfactory to the Cuban cause.

A CLASH INEVITABLE.

Costa Rica and Nicaragua Apparently Upon the Verge of War.

New York, Feb. 28.—A dispatch to the Herald from Panama says: Advice received today from Costa Rica state that at a banquet given on Sunday night, President Iglesias said the situation between Costa Rica and Nicaragua is such that war is inevitable.

Further advices from Costa Rica say that on February 20 there was a large popular demonstration in which more than 5,000 persons showed their approval of the attitude of the government toward Nicaragua, and more troops were sent on February 20 to the frontier. Hostilities with Nicaragua are expected at any moment. Many prominent members of the American colony have offered to aid the government with men and money. One of them, James Bennett, offered to give \$60,000. The French colony has also promised to take up arms in defense of Costa Rica in the event of war.

Since the unsuccessful revolution broke out in Nicaragua on February 5, which President Zelaya charges the Costa Rican government with aiding, there has been little communication with the Costa Rican capital. Messages sent from here are in plain language at sender's risk and subject to censorship.

A special commissioner arrived at Colon a few days ago with a dispatch from Washington. Replies were sent to Port Limon by the steamship Newport. It is stated that the same commissioner had a private conference with the government authorities here. His object is to enlist Colombia on Costa Rica's side should the Greater Republic of Central America or the triple alliance declare war against her.

AUTONOMISTS WANT PEACE.

Cuba Libre's Hour of Triumph Near at Hand.

New York, Feb. 28.—A dispatch to the Tribune from Havana says: In the uncertainty of the relations with the United States, the importance of the recent action of the autonomist party is overlooked. Its central committee has formally approved the plan which is confession of the failure of the present scheme of autonomy and an offer to the insurgents to concede everything except the withdrawal of the Spanish flag.

Its significance is in the fact that Senor Govin, of the autonomist cabinet, was a leading spirit in the meeting, and offered the resolutions for treating with the insurgents, which contain a series of propositions outlined by Bibra two weeks ago when the radical autonomist party was formed. These cover everything but independence.

The transiguates are still hostile to the government. Among them the Maine inquiry is adding to the smothered anti-American feeling. The authorities profess ability to hold it in check.

NINE LIVES LOST.

A Tremendous House in Charleston, S. C., Burns With Fatal Results.

Charleston, S. C., Feb. 28.—Nine lives were lost in a fearful fire which raged for a short time here this morning. At 2:10 A. M., a policeman on duty noticed big sparks flying from the tenement house at 160 Church street. The officer found that a blaze was issuing from one of the windows on the first floor. The doors were broken open and the family on that floor rushed out without injury. Somebody yelled that a family of women were sleeping on the third floor. The police rushed upstairs and when they reached the top floor the lifesaving work was stopped by the flames, which seemed to be over the entire floor. Screams from dying women were heard, and Officer Bagley rushed in and pulled out three charred bodies. The quick work of the fire department checked the flames, but not until nine lives had been lost. The dead are: Mrs. Rebecca Knickmeyer, Albert O'Neill, Caswell O'Neill, Josephine Knickmeyer, 7 years old; Katie Knickmeyer, 19 years old; Leona Knickmeyer, 9 years old; Francis Knickmeyer, 6 years old; Lillie Knickmeyer, 3 years old; a baby of Mrs. Knickmeyer, 1 month old.

BRANDING SEALS.

The Process Described in the Electrical Review.

New York, Feb. 28.—The Electrical Review will publish today the first authentic account of branding fur seals by electricity to prevent the destruction of the female seals. The article is written by Elmer E. Farmer, of Stanford University, who accompanied the United States fur seal commission to the Pribilof islands last August, when the experiment was tried.

The electrical apparatus consists of a small dynamo operated by a gasoline engine and a branding cauterized similar to that used by physicians. The young female seals were marked by drawing the hot platinum cauterized across the back, which resulted in destroying the fur so that even if the seal were afterward killed the commercial value of the fur would be destroyed.

It is probable that the experiments will be carried further by means of improved electrical apparatus.

A writer in the Fortnightly Review writes that 55,000 families, each with a 100-acre farm in Canada, could supply all the wheat England needs.

Wound Around the Shaft.

Pendleton, Or., Feb. 28.—Clarence Dupuis, aged 22, was fatally hurt by being wound around the shaft at the woolen mill late last night. Dupuis was employed in the picker-room, and went below to remove a belt without waiting for the machinery to stop. A set pin in the shaft caught his blouse, whirled him over and over, breaking many bones and hurting him internally, so that he died several hours afterward.

SINKING IN THE MUD.

Promote Word Is Necessary to Raise the Maine.

Havana, Feb. 28.—The wreck of the Maine is slowly but surely sinking into the mud. Before the hull can be raised it will be necessary to move the guns and deck debris. For lack of proper appliances, practically nothing in this line has been accomplished.

The cloudy weather and rain made the work of the divers unsatisfactory today, and very little was done. It is said that a hole has been made by the divers in one of the forward hatches, and it is hoped that a number of bodies will be recovered.

The court of inquiry sat longer than usual today, the six divers being examined more in detail than heretofore. At the afternoon session the examination of the divers was continued. A civilian whose testimony is said to be of importance, was also examined. The name of the witness and all particulars of the evidence are withheld.

Late today, the paymaster's safe, with \$22,500, and his papers, was taken from the wreck. Beyond this, no statement is made as to the value and nature of the contents. A large quantity of water ran out when the safe was raised above the surface.

The complaint is still made that the electric lamps are of little use to the divers, as the light is faint and uncertain, and to hold them takes one of the diver's hands. They have assuredly proved of little value in the present investigation.

So far as reports made public go, workmen on the Right Arm with the assistance of the naval divers are laboring hard to recover the bodies under the hatch which led to the fireroom platforms. It is hoped the bodies will be taken out tomorrow.

The Havana papers print long extracts from the American papers but of course only of delayed news. All the Americans are anxiously waiting the arrival of tomorrow's mail.

Consul-General Lee says he has received no news of importance from the state department.

The Spanish cruiser Alfonso XIII has been towed to a buoy further within the harbor to make room for the cruiser Vizcaya which is expected here tomorrow or the next day from New York.

The wounded are reported as doing well today.

The wrecking tug Right Arm is engaged in removing such parts of the wreck as it is possible to handle in advance of the arrival of strong tugs and derricks from the north. It is believed the divers from the fleet and Right Arm will remain at work when the Mangrove leaves. The Fern will be the only United States vessel in the harbor after the Mangrove goes.

A TRANSPORT SERVICE.

Plant Line Said to Be Prepared to Land Troops in Havana.

Tampa Fla., Feb. 28.—Although the officials of the company have not so stated publicly, nearly everybody here understands that the Plant system has completed arrangements for the transportation of troops and munitions of war to Havana on short notice. All of the ships have been placed in condition for an emergency. Should war be declared it is said that the company has perfected plans to land a large body of troops in Havana within 36 hours after their arrival at this place. Troops can be transported from Washington and New York to this port in from 24 to 30 hours. The company has also made arrangements it is said to land promptly men and arms at Key West and all strategic points on the coast of Florida and at Mobile.

BATTLESHIPS TO BE LAUNCHED

An Important Event to Occur at New York Soon.

Richmond, Va., Feb. 28.—The officers of the Newport News shipyard announce that the double launching of the battleships Kentucky and Kearsarge will take place March 24, and will be the first double launching of first-class battleships in the world.

Governor Bradley and staff will come from Kentucky, and Miss Christine Bradley will christen the Kentucky with a bottle of water taken from the spring from which Abraham Lincoln drank when boy, while Mrs. Winslow, wife of Lieutenant Wilson, U. S. N., will stand sponsor for the Kearsarge. The ships could be put in commission in six months if necessary, but the contractors have no hurry orders.

The Illinois, the third big battle-ship building at Newport News, is only a month or two behind the others.

SPANIARDS EAGER FOR WAR.

London, Feb. 28.—According to a special dispatch from Madrid reports received there from the United States to the effect that public opinion in the latter country is becoming more excited owing to the impression that the Maine disaster was not due to accident are "restirring popular feeling here (in Madrid) and the conviction is increasing in ministerial circles that the worst must be expected."

Continuing the dispatch says: "The government has no choice if the United States adopts a threatening attitude for the prospect of war is popular with all parties and the more excitable newspapers are already urging the government to take measures to enable Spain to strike the first and decisive blow."

TOWN NEARLY DESTROYED.

Tacoma, Wash., Feb. 28.—Floods and avalanches have partly destroyed the town of Monte Cristo, situated in the heart of the Cascade mountains. The railroad connecting the place with Everett has been washed out, and the lack of railroad connections has caused the concentrator and the part of the Monte Cristo mines which John D. Rockefeller owns to shut down.

In 1897 Ohio furnished almost 37,000 tons of grindstones.

ARID AND SEMI-ARID LAND.

A Study of Conditions in the Pacific Northwest.