

PENITENTIARY AFIRE

Nebraska's State Prison at Lincoln Burning.

THE LOCAL MILITIA WAS ORDERED OUT

All of the Convicts Were Moved to Place of Safety—Lincoln's Fire Department on the Scene Working Heroically.

Lincoln, Neb., March 2.—Fire which started in the state penitentiary last night seems certain to destroy the entire main building, together with the cellhouse and other buildings. Just after 2 o'clock this morning a telephone message came, saying the room in which the telephone instrument was located was in flames, and must be vacated. This cuts off the only means of immediate communication with the prison, which is nearly four miles from the business district of the city. Between 1 and 2 o'clock, however, a member of the Lincoln fire department telephoned that the penitentiary proper was doomed and that the fire was spreading. Before the flames had gained great headway, Warden Davis gave orders to release the convicts from the cells and march them to the prison yard under double guard. The removal was accomplished without disorder.

The origin of the fire is unknown. When first discovered, the officers of the institution all set to work with the small fire-fighting apparatus of the prison. Water was used in abundance, but assistance from the city fire department was called for. A short time after midnight Warden Davis said he did not have the fire under control, but he could not tell how bad it was burning in the upper story, and at the front of the building its spread was slow. Later the report came that the fire was a very bad one.

At 1:40 A. M. the city fire department arrived, and began throwing water on the walls. The flames had gained too great headway, however, and the firemen directed their efforts to saving of the remote buildings.

By request of the warden, Chief of Police Hoagland sent all available policemen to aid in preserving order. Later, as an additional measure of safety, Lieutenant-Governor Savage ordered out the local company of state militia. Captain Ringer, with a majority of the members, is at the armory, and a Burlington engine and coach will start with them at 8 o'clock.

SURRENDER OF BOTHA.

No Confirmation of the Rumors Current in England.

London, March 2.—The Daily News says:

"We learn that Commandant-General Botha offered to surrender on certain conditions and that four parliques are still in progress. It is believed that Mrs. Botha brought proposals from her husband to Lord Kitchener."

The Sun says it is officially announced that Botha has surrendered to General Kitchener. The Fall Mall Gazette credits the news of Botha's surrender, but a representative of the press learns that neither the war, foreign or colonial office has any information confirming the report. The war secretary, Mr. Broderick, announced in the house of commons this afternoon that he had no official information of the surrender.

Manchester, En land, March 2.—The Evening Mail says General Botha formally surrendered to General Kitchener shortly before 10 o'clock this morning.

TOO EARLY FOR WITHDRAWAL

The Cubans Are Not Able to Form a Stable Government.

New York, March 2.—Several of the passengers on the steamer Havana, which has just arrived from Havana, express the opinion that Cuba is not in a political condition to receive her independence. Dr. W. C. Phelps, of Buffalo, said:

"Uncle Sam must stay in Cuba. Everybody with whom I conversed in Cuba wants the United States to stay there. It is only the rabble, or negroes, consisting of about 30 per cent of the entire population of Cuba, who yell for 'free Cuba,' and these shiftless people are 'fire eaters.' If they got their freedom some other nation would step in and take the island away from them for debt. I must say that the streets of Havana are clean, and that the general health is remarkably good. The great trouble in Cuba is that there is nothing fit to eat."

Joseph Howard, the journalist, says: "If the United States tries to leave Cuba next June, as is talked of, soldiers will have to get back there pretty quick to avert a state of anarchy which would undoubtedly follow their withdrawal. Capital is apprehensive. There is no trade. All are waiting. Americans and the capitalists want the retention of the United States troops."

Trouble Among Recruits.

San Antonio, Tex., March 2.—General McKibben, commanding the department of Texas, was advised late today of trouble among the recruits en route for San Francisco. He at once ordered a detachment of 20 men under command of Captain Beall, Third Infantry, and Lieutenant Perry, Seventh Infantry, to go to Ennis, Tex., to meet the train bearing the recruits and deal with the situation as found. No particulars are known here.

A RAID AT MIDNIGHT.

Rum Destroyers of Topeka Participate in Riot—One of Their Number Shot.

Topeka, Kan., Feb. 28.—J. W. Adams lies at a hospital, hovering between life and death. He was shot during a raid on a North Topeka wholesale liquor house.

At midnight a crowd of citizens, heavily armed with revolvers, sledgehammers, crowbars and a battering ram, broke into the wholesale liquor house of "Cash" Curtis, on West Curtis street, and smashed the beer casks found there. Three policemen drove the crowd back. Both the policemen and the citizens fired their revolvers, and J. W. Adams, a carpenter, was taken in a hack to Riverside hospital, where he lies in a precarious condition.

Dr. M. R. Mitchell and Rev. F. W. Emerson were arrested. Rev. Mr. Emerson was taken to the police station, where he was booked under the charge of resisting an officer. His left hand was cut and bleeding. He was allowed to go upon his own recognizance. Dr. Mitchell took the injured man to the hospital and was allowed to stay and administer to him without giving bond.

The three policemen, Patrolmen Downey and Boyles and Private Watchman Conners, claim that Adams was shot by his own crowd while he was retreating from the place where the liquors were smashed, and Adams says he was shot by a policeman. Officer Downey says he did not arrive at the scene of the trouble till it was about over. Officer Boyles, who carries a Colt's 44-caliber revolver, claims that the two shots he fired were in the air, and that he did not aim at anyone. Dr. Mitchell and Dr. Charles W. Hammond, who cared for Adams at the hospital, say that he was shot with a 32 or 38-caliber revolver.

CLASH OF AUTHORITY.

Commander of Transport Refused to Allow Custom-House Men Aboard.

Vallejo, Cal., Feb. 28.—The naval transport Solace, direct from Maula and Honolulu, came to the navy yard Sunday and the same evening she was followed by four customs inspectors from San Francisco.

When the officers attempted to board the vessel for the purpose of making a search for dutiable goods they were met with a protest by Commander Winslow, who refused them permission and denied their right to make a search.

Under the law, the commander of a man-of-war is recognized as an officer of the customs service, and, therefore, is bound to prevent smuggling. Consequently his ship is exempt from visits of customs officers. Commander Winslow holds that the Solace is also entitled to such exemption under this clause, and that is where he differs from the customs inspectors, who have already seized several articles that have been landed from the vessel. Commander Winslow has appealed to the collector of the port.

On the last trip of the Solace a large quantity of bric-a-brac and other goods, brought from China, was confiscated by the customs officials.

AN ARMISTICE DECLARED.

Kitchener and Botha Meet to Arrange for the Boers' Surrender.

London, Feb. 28.—The Daily Chronicle this morning publishes under reserve a rumor that Lord Kitchener has met General Botha to arrange terms of surrender of the Boers, and that an armistice of 24 hours was granted the Boer commandant general to enable him to consult with the other commandants. According to the Daily Chronicle, the cabinet council yesterday considered this new turn of affairs.

"It is reported that General Lewis Botha is now between Ermelo and Middleburg," says a dispatch to the Daily Mail from Pietermaritzburg. "and that two peace delegates from Belfast, Messrs. De Kock and Meyer, have been shot."

End of the War Seems Near.

New York, Feb. 28.—There are few additional details of the route of the Dutch forces in South Africa, says the Tribune's London correspondent; but there is a buoyant feeling in military circles, and the end of the war seems near. There may be unforeseen accidents, but no military expert in London expects that the war will be prolonged beyond the 1st of July. It is reported that there were wagers in Johannesburg at the opening of the year that the mines would be operated by the first week in July.

Chinese Loss at Kueng Chang.

Berlin, Feb. 28.—A dispatch from Count Von Waldersee says over 300 Chinese were killed when they attacked the Germans at Kueng Chang recently. Hoffmeister's column, which started thence, will return to Pao Ting Fu.

Cause of the Conflict

The conflict between the Haytiens and Dominicans, on the northern frontier of Hayti, was caused by the occupation by Haytian troops of some territory in dispute.

Brazil and Portugal at Odds.

Oporto, Feb. 28.—It is understood the Brazilian government will demand explanations from Portugal for the attempt made to abduct the daughter of the Brazilian consul here, and place her in a convent against her father's wishes. A collision between the police and people last night resulted in numbers on both sides being injured. The police invaded the institute in search of the students, and the professors protested to the government.

OATH OF ALLEGIANCE.

Philippine Ex-Rebels Swearing by the Flag—American Sentiment Spreads.

Manila, March 1.—Pro-American sentiment is spreading in insurgent strongholds. Six hundred and sixty-five persons voluntarily took the oath of allegiance at Camaling, province of Albay, at one time reported as the worst insurgent center, and 584 took the oath at Calamba.

Captain Chase, with a detachment of the Twenty-first regiment, in a three days' scouting expedition, dispersed 200 insurgents and destroyed their main camp, that of Pedro Babellos. Lieutenant James, with a detachment of the Eighth infantry, raided a ladrone rendezvous at Macquiling, island of Polillo, killing two men, securing 175 prisoners and destroying 20 tons of rice and other insurgents' supplies.

The armored cruiser Brooklyn has returned here from Hong Kong. Additional evidence against Carman and Carranza, the merchants accused of dealing with the insurgents, has developed. The investigation into the charges against them is being vigorously prosecuted.

Aguinaldo's Uncle.

Guguinto, Province of Bulacan, March 1.—Jose Serapio, an uncle of Aguinaldo, and formerly an insurgent colonel, has been appointed governor of Bulacan province. There were several candidates, including two army officers, but the United States commission was unanimously in favor of Serapio, who surrendered during General Lawton's progress northward and who has since been such a consistent friend of the United States that Aguinaldo published an order degrading his uncle.

There were considerable protests against Serapio's appointment, chiefly from a delegation which represented the interests of the friars. The commission announced that it had investigated the allegations made against Serapio and found them to be untrue. Captain Greenough, of the Forty-first regiment, was appointed treasurer, and Lieutenant Wells, of the Thirty-second regiment, was appointed supervisor. The other officials appointed were natives. All the appointments practically were made on General Grant's recommendations.

Although by reputation Bulacan is not the easiest province to govern, all the local leaders and most of the inhabitants are now friendly to the United States. The question of the selection of a capital for the province was submitted to the vote of the delegations. Malolos, the former seat of the insurgent congress, is the best town, but Bulacan has always been the seat of the government and was easily first. The ballot was the first free voting in the Philippines, excepting at the town elections held under military orders. The delegates enjoyed it immensely. Judge Taft, in admonishing the delegates, said that since they had the reputation of being gamblers, they must abide by the result and show their capability of abiding by the suffrage.

During the course of his speech announcing his appointments, Judge Taft said nowhere had a military commander shown such benevolent consideration for the interests of the people as had General Grant. The appointment of a native governor indicated the commission's confidence in the Tagals.

The concluding scene of the commission's visit to the province was most dramatic. General Grant presented to Serapio a flag which once belonged to General Grant's father. The Filipinos received the flag enthusiastically, and cheered General Grant and the commissioners.

Two Miners Killed.

New Whatcom, Wash., March 1.—An explosion in the Blue Canyon mine a few minutes after 6 o'clock tonight killed Ed Mulligan and Dick Daley, two of the day gang. The night shift had not yet gone in. Daley left a wife and four children. The cause of the explosion is not yet known. The bodies have been recovered.

Washout in Baker County.

Boise, Idaho, March 1.—By the washing out of a bridge on the O. R. & N. at Burnt river, traffic on the line is interrupted. The conditions are such that they cannot transfer, and there will be no through train until tomorrow evening. All trains were stopped today, but the Oregon Short Line is running specials east from Huntington.

Washington Volunteer Pensioned.

Washington, March 1.—Through the efforts of Senator Turner, a pension of \$8 a month, from October 6, 1899, has been allowed Henry K. Harrison, of Spokane, Wash. This is one of the first pensions granted to members of the First Washington volunteers. Harrison served as a corporal in company L of that regiment.

Postoffices Discontinued.

Washington, March 1.—The following Washington postoffices will be discontinued March 1: Cooper, Garfield county; Haynie, Whatcom county; Mosher, Snohomish county, and Steptoe, Whitman county.

To Save Big Trees.

Washington, March 1.—A committee appointed by the California club is in this city making efforts to prevent the destruction of the Calaveras big trees. A bill providing for the purchase of these trees by the government has passed the senate, but at this late day it seems improbable that it will be brought before the house. The committee has decided to raise a fund by popular subscription for the purchase of the trees.

TOUR OF INSPECTION

All Important Rivers and Harbors of the West to be Visited.

HOUSE COMMITTEE WILL VISIT COAST

June the Time for the Trip—The House Military Committee Plans a Like Journey—Galveston, Tex., First to be Visited.

WASHINGTON, March 4.—The river and harbor committee of the house has informally decided on a junket to the Pacific Coast next June, with a view of inspecting the more important rivers and harbors of the West. It is proposed to first stop at Galveston, then proceed to Southern California, and up the entire Pacific Coast. Invitations have already been received from various chambers of commerce in California and Washington to have the committee visit ports in those states, and the Oregon delegation will unite in an invitation to the committee to visit Portland, the mouth of the Columbia river, and other important points in Oregon.

Representative Tongue expressed this desire to the committee, and Mr. Moody will make a special request that the Upper Columbia be visited, so that the committee may realize the importance of overcoming the obstructions at The Dalles and Celilo. The delegation hopes that its invitation may be supplemented by others from chambers of commerce and similar bodies of Portland and other Oregon cities.

The house military committee has also planned a Pacific Coast trip. They expect to visit the important points and army posts on the coast, with a view of gathering information as to the harbor, transport and shipping facilities, and the capacity and condition of the barracks. Portland and Vancouver barracks are among the points to be visited.

AMERICAN FORCE IN CHINA.

Chaffee Has Orders Further to Reduce It.

WASHINGTON March 4.—Carrying out the policy inaugurated by the state department when it changed its military force in China into a legion guard, the war department has sent orders to General Chaffee to reduce still further his force. The general has now under his command about 1,800 men, composed of Troops 1, K, L and M, Sixth Cavalry; Battery F, Fifth Artillery, and the Ninth Infantry. Although nominally a legion guard, General Chaffee's force is rather a formidable offensive quantity, and not desirous of retaining an unnecessary menace to the Chinese court and in order to hold out inducements for its early return to Pekin, the United States government sometime ago determined upon a further reduction of the American force, and the orders went forward.

Considerable discussion was left to General Chaffee in the selection of the troops to remain, and it is assumed at the department that the Pekin dispatches announcing that these consist of two companies of the Ninth Infantry, under Major Robertson, is correct. If the other powers represented at Pekin can be induced to follow this policy, it is hoped that a long step will have been effected toward the restoration of normal conditions at Pekin.

Great Telephone Combination.

YORK, Pa., March 4.—A movement has been inaugurated in this city having in view the organization under one management of all the independent telephone lines in Pennsylvania, Maryland, Virginia and West Virginia. A committee of officials from the various lines in this state has been appointed to work out the basis on which the different companies will be admitted to the new organization. The new company will be capitalized at \$27,000,000, and its promoters contemplate that it will ultimately embrace under one management all the lines in the United States.

Million-Dollar Mining Deal.

Spokane, Wash., March 2.—The Chronicle states today that the transfer of a \$1,000,000 interest in the Palmer Mountain Tunnel Company is now being completed in London by Manager John Boyd. A stamp mill and concentrator costing \$400,000 will be erected on the company's property in Okanogan county. The tunnel is now in 9,000 feet, and has cut 23 veins of ore. The interest now being sold is treasury stock, and the \$1,000,000 is to be used in further development.

\$2,500 Fire at Walla Walla.

WALLA WALLA, Wash., March 4.—A fire occurred in a house belonging to H. V. Fuller at Nowell and Clinton streets, tonight, damaging it to the extent of \$1,500, and destroying \$1,000 worth of furniture. The property is fully insured. The cause of the blaze is unknown.

ARE AFRAID TO REFUSE.

The Demands of Russia Embarrass the Chinese.

PEKIN, March 4.—Prince Ching and Li Hung Chang met this morning and had a long consultation over the new demands of Russia regarding Manchuria, which virtually mean absolute Russian control, while at the same time China would be responsible should anything go wrong there. Both of the Chinese plenipotentiaries admit that they fear to refuse these demands, although recognizing that compliance means the loss of a province to China. They also think that compliance might mean trouble with other powers, for Russia announces that only Russians and Chinese will be allowed to trade there, except at the greatest disadvantage. Prince Ching will request the advice of the other ministers.

Private Calvin, of the Ninth United States Infantry has been acquitted of the charge of manslaughter brought against him for killing a French soldier who was endeavoring to pass a post where Calvin was a sentinel.

RUSSIA PRESSING CHINA.

To Rush Through the Manchurian Treaty.

LONDON, March 4.—Sir Ernest Satow and Mr. Conger, after consulting with the missionaries, have decided, according to the Pekin correspondent of the Morning Post to reject the Chinese proposition, made on the suggestion of M. Picheon that they should act as representatives of the Ministers of the powers to discuss with the Chinese plenipotentiaries the missionary question, and the claims of native converts.

"They are convinced, however," says the correspondent, "that the Chinese are ready to agree to some arrangement for settling this matter."

"The Russians are taking advantage of the existing situation and are pressing Li Hung Chang hard to rush through the Manchurian convention," says the Pekin correspondent of the Times. "More than one power besides Japan and England have remonstrated with China against the negotiations that are proceeding at St. Petersburg. The time has come when the powers would be justified in interfering in order to prevent China negotiating with a single power, while the peace negotiations remain uncompleted."

Commenting editorially upon its Pekin advices, the Times says: "The United States and Germany might perhaps be supposed to recognize the mischief China's policy entails, but President McKinley at all events seems bent on peace at any price."

FOR SMALL SETTLERS.

Congress Begins to Understand National Irrigation.

WASHINGTON, March 4.—Congress is beginning to recognize that the national irrigation propaganda is not a scheme to irrigate vast tracts of private lands at public expense, thereby putting money into the hands of speculators and those already well able to take care of themselves; but that it contemplates the reclamation and putting upon the land of bona fide settlers—home builders. When this idea becomes firmly grounded in the minds of eastern men—that the land is not to be reclaimed and then jobbed away in large tracts, but that it is to be safe-guarded so that it will become available for the small settler who wants to take up forty or eighty acres, and build a home upon it and stick his plow into the soil and let the water follow his furrow, then there will be very little opposition to storing, by the government, of the flood waters of the west, so as to make it available for such use.

Ordered to Manila.

Washington, March 2.—Orders were issued today for the Third battalion of the provisional regiment organized at San Francisco to take passage on the transport Indiana on the 5th inst. for Manila. This battalion has been assigned to the Twenty-eighth infantry and will constitute the first battalion of that regiment.

British Steamer's Bad Luck.

Bernuda, March 4.—The British steamer Castino, after being two days out from this port for New York, has returned for the second time with her propeller loose. The vessel sailed from Liverpool on January 19 for New York. Being blown out of her course and short of coal, she put in at St. George's for coal, February 12. After receiving a supply she proceeded on her voyage, but returned with a loose propeller February 18. Repairs were made and again she proceeded February 26.

Large Vein of Cole Discovered.

CENTRALIA, Wash., March 4.—It is reported that a large vein of coal has been discovered east of this place. It is said that the quality is equal to that of the Roslyn coal. An expert, who is prospecting in that locality, says that there is no question but that coal can be mined here in abundance.

WEEKLY TRADE REVIEW.

Encouraging Reports Come From the Western Centers.

Bradstreet's says: Trade reports from the distributive centers at the West continue encouraging, while such measures of trade volume as bank clearings and railway earnings indicate a considerable gain in business over a year ago. Soft spots are, of course, to be found, notably in the manufacturing branches of the cotton and the wool trade, but advice from the dry goods and clothing distributors are encouraging, and it is thought will help business. The strength of iron and steel this week recalls the boom of 1899. It is probable, too, that the broad and strong consumptive demand and not the operations of pools or cliques, is responsible for the steady advances. Practically all markets report iron and steel higher, but special activity is noted at Pittsburg, Birmingham and Chicago; St. Louis alone reports foundry iron consumers indifferent.

The cereals are without notable change, wheat and corn being fractionally lower in a dull, scalping market. Lumber is strong in price, pending the resumption of general building operations. Western advices are especially bullish. Chicago has done the heaviest business ever recorded in yellow pine and white pine. Stocks have been broken badly by the active demand. Hard woods are rather slower to respond, however, and are still unsteady, not to say weak. Copper is less active for export, but hold firm, while tin is again lower on foreign advices.

Wheat, including flower, shipments for the week aggregate 5,233,313 bushels against 3,424,302 bushels last week.

Business failures in the United States for the week number 167, as against 231 last week.

Canadian failures for the week number 28, as against 24 a week ago.

PACIFIC COAST TRADE.

Seattle Market.
Onions, new yellow, \$3.50 @ 4.25.
Lettuce, hot house, \$1.60 per case.
Potatoes, new, \$1.18.
Beets, per sack, \$1.25.
Turnips, per sack, 75c.
Squash—2c.
Carrots, per sack, 75c.
Parsnips, per sack, \$1.25 @ 1.50.
Celery—60c doz.
Cabbage, native and California, 2c per pounds.
Butter—Creamery, 25c; dairy, 15 @ 18c; ranch, 15c @ 18c pound.
Cheese—14c.
Eggs—Ranch, 20c; Eastern 20c.
Poultry—13c; dressed, native chickens, 14c; turkey, 15c.
Hay—Puget Sound timothy, \$15.00; choice Eastern Washington timothy, \$19.00.
Corn—Whole, \$23.00; cracked, \$24; feed meal, \$24.
Barley—Rolled or ground, per ton, \$20.
Flour—Patent, per barrel, \$3.40; blended straight, \$3.25; California, \$3.25; buckwheat flour, \$6.00; graham, per barrel, \$3.25; whole wheat flour, \$3.25; rye flour, \$3.80 @ 4.00.
Millstuffs—Bran, per ton, \$15.00; shorts, per ton, \$16.00.
Feed—Chopped feed, \$19.00 per ton; middlings, per ton, \$23; oil cake meal, per ton, \$29.00.
Fresh Meats—Choice dressed beef steers, price 8c; cows, 7½c; mutton 7½c; pork, 8c; trimmed, 10c; veal, 10c.
Hams—Large, 11½c; small, 11½c; breakfast bacon, 13½c; dry salt sides, 8½c.

Portland Market.
Wheat—Walla Walla, 56c; Valley nominal; Bluestem, 57c per bushel.
Flour—Best grades, \$3.40; graham, \$2.60.
Oats—Choice white, 45c; choice gray, 43c per bushel.
Barley—Feed barley, \$16.50 brewing, \$16.50 per ton.
Millstuffs—Bran, \$16.00 ton; middlings, \$21.50; shorts, \$18.50; chop, \$16 per ton.
Hay—Timothy, \$12 @ 12.50; clover, \$7 @ 9.50; Oregon wild hay, \$6 @ 7 per ton.
Butter—Fancy creamery, 22½ @ 25c; store, 13c.
Eggs—14c per dozen.
Cheese—Oregon full cream, 18½c; Young America, 14c; new cheese 10c per pound.
Potatoes—40 @ 60c per sack; sweets, \$1.65 @ 100 pound.
Vegetables—Beets, \$1; turnips, 75c; per sack; garlic, 7c per pound; cabbage, 1½c per pound; parsnips, 85c; onions, \$2.75 @ 3.00; carrots, 75c.
Hops—New crop, 12 @ 14c per pound.
Wool—Valley, 13 @ 14c per pound; Eastern Oregon, 10 @ 12c; mohair, 25 per pound.
Mutton—Gross, best sheep, wethers \$4.75; ewes, \$4.50; dressed mutton, 6½ @ 7c per pound.
Hogs—Gross, choice heavy, \$5.25; light and feeders, \$5.00; dressed, 6 @ 7c per pounds.
Beef—Gross, top steers, \$4.50 @ 4.75; cows, \$4.00 @ 4.50; dressed beef, 6 @ 7c per pound.
Veal—Large, 7 @ 7½c; small, 8½ @ 9c per pound.

San Francisco Market.
Wool—Spring—Nevada, 11 @ 13c per pound; Eastern Oregon, 10 @ 14c; Valley, 15 @ 17c; Northern, 9 @ 10c.
Hops—Crop, 1900, 15 @ 20c.
Butter—Fancy creamery 18c; do seconds, 17c; fancy dairy, 15; do seconds, 12c per pound.
Eggs—Store, 22c; fancy ranch, 26c.
Millstuffs—Middlings, \$17.00 @ 20.00; bran, \$15.00 @ 16.00.