

TOPICS OF THE DAY.

Mormonism in the South. President Anderson of the Southern Mormon mission field, says that there are 1,300 Mormons in South Carolina and 10,000 in 11 southern states.

Russia and Britain in Asia. Russia's Asiatic possessions are now three times the size of Great Britain's, but hold only 23,000,000 inhabitants, compared with England's 297,000,000 subjects.

Sir Thomas Lipton's Philanthropy. A large stone building four stories high has been erected in London as a depot from which Sir Thomas Lipton will dispense food to the London poor at cost price.

New Building Every Ten Days. In 1899 the Young Men's Christian association erected new buildings in the United States at the rate of one every ten days, many of them costing from \$50,000 to \$200,000.

Bradbury Easily the Oldest. The death of Richard W. Thompson leaves ex-Senator Bradbury, of Maine, easily first in age among the surviving members of congress going far back to the civil war. Mr. Bradbury is above 95 years old.

Those "Lead Deposits" in Kentucky. When the new cabinet officer, the secretary of mines and mining, gets his office in good running order he should make an investigation of the peculiar characteristics of the lead deposits in Kentucky.

An Unfair Discrimination. Of the \$55,581,817 given to educational institutions in 1899, only \$438,000, or less than one per cent., went to colleges in the southern states, and these states contain about one-third the population of the country.

Will Ignore the Warning. Prof. Sumner told the senior class of Yale that 99 per cent. of the marriages nowadays turn out unhappily. And probably 99 per cent. of his hearers will go right ahead and get married, just as if the professor had not warned them.

Bonds for Western Banks. More than \$1,250,000 worth of government bonds have been bought by a firm of Kansas City brokers in the last few weeks, principally for the bankers in Kansas and western Missouri. The bonds have been obtained for the purpose of issuing circulating bank notes under the new act that passed the senate last week.

Will Add Ninety-Three Rooms. Contemplated additions to the capitol building at Washington will make 93 more rooms available for the house and senate. These additions will cost about \$3,000,000. The capitol was started in 1795 and as it stands to-day, with the grounds surrounding it, the huge edifice represents a cash outlay of nearly \$20,000,000—an investment that would have started its original projectors.

Novels in Public Libraries. Fiction constitutes only 25 per cent. of the annual book product of the United States, but 75 per cent. of the circulation of public libraries consists of novels. The extraordinary demand for works of fiction, and especially for certain books which happen to be the favorites of the hour, presents a perpetual and a knotty problem for the authorities of all public libraries.

Grant Change in Four Years. The gold standard bill passed by the senate last week practically ignored the president's recommendation that greenbacks, when redeemed in gold, shall not be reissued except for gold. The bill was passed by a vote of 46 to 29. Less than four years ago it took a house bill to authorize the sale of the three per cent. bonds to maintain the gold reserve and substituted for it by a vote of 43 to 34 a bill for the free coinage of silver.

Without Leaving His Address. Three hundred women in Trenton, N. J., paid \$1 each to a glib canvasser who rented rooms in a central office, employed several clerks and agreed to give a \$10 silk petticoat to every woman who would pay \$1 and induce ten of her acquaintances to invest the same amount for a similar garment. Two or three of the petticoats were given out, an "unavoidable delay" occurred, and one morning the operator was found to have left town without leaving his address.

Status of Paul Revere. One of the statues which will be placed in Copley square in Boston is of Paul Revere on his famous midnight ride at the outbreak of the revolution. He is shown just as he has reined his horse to call to a farmer that the work is almost lifelike; the horse preserves some of the momentum of his dash and is full of fire, while the figure of Revere shows the intense excitement of his wild journey.

DAMAGED BY SOLDIERS.

Various States Where Spanish-American Wars Were Camped Have Filed Claims Aggregating \$132,000.

Washington, Feb. 27.—Secretary Root has sent to the house claims for damages alleged to have been caused by United States troops during the American-Spanish war principally when encamped or traveling. The claims aggregate \$132,000, and by states are: Alabama, \$13,345; Delaware, \$625; Florida, \$3,169; Georgia, \$11,140; Illinois, \$51; Indiana, \$29; Kentucky, \$195; Massachusetts, \$185; Minnesota, \$45; New Jersey, \$160; New York, \$107; Pennsylvania, \$56,371; South Carolina, \$24,082; Tennessee, \$3,990; Texas, \$1,091; Virginia, \$14,555; miscellaneous, \$2,946. The draft of a bill is submitted giving the secretary of war authority to have claims examined up to January 1 next and to certify the results to the secretary of treasury for payment.

FLOUR TRUST COLLAPSES.

Could Not Float Its Securities on the Market and the Federal Court Appointed Receivers to Take Charge.

Milwaukee, Feb. 27.—The United States Milling company, generally known as the flour trust, collapsed Saturday afternoon but the fact did not become known until Monday when Judge Jenkins, in proceedings ancillary to the United States court of New Jersey, appointed three receivers for the company, two of whom are now in charge of the property. The collapse of the company was due, it is said, to inability to float its securities on the open market.

WILL REMAIN AT LINCOLN.

Bryan, If Nominated for President, Will Not Make a Personal Canvass as He Did Four Years Ago.

Indianapolis, Ind., Feb. 27.—Local Democrats who attended the meeting of the national democratic committee say Bryan will not make a personal canvass in case he is renominated for president, such as he made in 1896, and that he will confine his speech-making to delegations which may visit him at his home in Lincoln. Some of Bryan's advisers feel that there is a popular prejudice against a presidential candidate making a canvass of the country.

WAKELIN'S DOUBLE CRIME.

Nebraska Farmer Killed His Wife, an ex-President of the W. C. T. U., Then Succeeded on His Former Wife's Grave.

Brook, Neb., Feb. 27.—Wilson Wakelin, a prominent farmer three miles north of this place, murdered his wife at 12 o'clock last night by cutting her throat with a razor. He then went to the graveyard where his first wife was buried, and standing on her grave cut two ugly gashes in his throat, falling forward on his face. Death in both cases was instantaneous. Mrs. Wakelin was very popular, being at one time president of the W. C. T. U. of Nebraska.

Puerto Rican Tariff Bill Modified.

Washington, Feb. 27.—The conference of house republicans last night on the Puerto Rican tariff bill assurances were given that the president believed the measure constitutional and would accept it if it came to him and an agreement was reached to limit the operation of the bill to two years and to reduce the duty imposed by it from 25 to 15 per cent. of the American tariff. As a result the republican leaders claim that the passage of the modified bill is certain.

Philip D. Armour's Will.

Chicago, Feb. 27.—The will of the late Philip D. Armour, Jr., was filed for probate here Monday. The instrument disposes of property valued at \$8,000,000, \$6,000,000 in personal property and the remainder in real estate. One-third of the estate is left to the widow, Mayo E. Armour, and two-thirds is given into trust to three executors for the surviving sons of the testator, Leslie and Philip D. III.

Awarded Certificates of Election.

Frankfort, Ky., Feb. 27.—The state contest board yesterday awarded certificates of election to all of the democratic contestants for minor offices. Immediately afterward the contestants were sworn in and repaired to the state house in a body, where they made a formal demand on the republican incumbents for possession of the offices, but the demands were not acceded to.

Decided Against Dewey.

Washington, Feb. 27.—The United States court of claims rendered a decision on the claim of Admiral Dewey for prize money on account of the destruction of the Spanish fleet in Manila harbor. The court decided against the admiral's contention that the enemy's force was superior to his and awarded him \$9,570.

A Jury of Eight Is Legal.

Washington, Feb. 27.—The supreme court decided that the provisions of the constitution of the state of Utah limiting juries in certain cases to eight persons instead of requiring the common jury of 12, were not in contravention of the federal constitution.

THE BOERS SURRENDER.

At Daylight on Tuesday Morning Gen. Cronje Unconditionally Capitulated to Roberts—He Is Now a Prisoner.

London, Feb. 27.—The Boers have suffered a serious reverse. Gen. Cronje and the troops under him have surrendered to the British. The news came in the form of an official dispatch from Gen. Roberts and was



GEN. CRONJE. (Second in Command of the Transvaal Military Forces.)

posted at the war office at 9:52 o'clock this morning. The dispatch is as follows:

"Paardeburg, Feb. 27, 7:45 a. m.—Gen. Cronje and all his force capitulated unconditionally at daylight this morning and is now a prisoner in my camp. The strength of his force will be communicated later. "I hope her majesty's government will consider this event satisfactory, occurring as it does on the anniversary of Majuba.—Roberts."

THE SOLDIER DEAD.

Arrangements Being Made for Their Interment at the Presidio, San Francisco, and at Arlington.

Washington, Feb. 27.—The quartermaster general's department is making arrangements for the interment of the bodies of about 700 soldiers who lost their lives in the Philippines or in Cuba. About 500 of these were brought home from the Philippines on the transport Hancock, which arrived at San Francisco about a week ago. All not claimed for private interment will be buried in the national cemetery at the Presidio, San Francisco. Nearly 200 soldiers' bodies which were brought home from Cuba will be buried in the national cemetery at Arlington the latter part of this week.

Want the Date Changed.

Sioux City, Ia., Feb. 7.—An effort is being made to change the date of the national populist convention set for May 9 at Sioux Falls, S. D. M. L. Fox, of Sioux Falls, a leading South Dakota populist, in an interview here yesterday said that Sioux Falls is a little afraid of the weather just at that season will be unpleasant and it is thought if it can be put off until a later date conditions probably would be more favorable.

Arthur Sewall on Hawaii.

Washington, Feb. 27.—Mr. Arthur Sewall, candidate for vice president with Bryan in 1896 and the chief of Maine shipowners, is in Washington on his return from Hawaii. He is urging the early improvement of Pearl harbor and says it is the finest body of water in the Pacific. He thinks it will be the rendezvous of great commercial fleets and the principal city of the Hawaiian group.

For State Schools of Mines.

Washington, Feb. 27.—A bill is now before the house appropriating out of money arising from the sale of public lands and from other sources, \$25,000 for a school of mines in each state and territory. A favorable report from the committee on mines and mining points out the growing necessity for such scientific investigation and instruction.

Burglar Was Too Hot to Hold.

Chicago, Feb. 27.—A burglar descending a fire escape from one of the upper stories of an apartment house was lassoed last evening by William Faulkner with a rope. The noose was drawn taut and the burglar pulled into the window. He then attacked Faulkner, knocked him down and escaped through the latter's residence.

Carter's Last Hope Gone.

Washington, Feb. 27.—The United States supreme court to-day denied the application of Capt. Oberlin M. Carter to bring his case into that court. Carter, it will be remembered, was convicted of embezzling nearly \$2,000,000 while acting as the government's army representative at New Orleans.

Drank Several Kinds of Poison.

St. Louis, Feb. 27.—Louis V. M. Campbell, a patient in the city insane asylum, created considerable excitement by escaping from his ward, in a fit of frenzy, he demolished things generally and ended his life by drinking several kinds of poison.

WHAT CONGRESS IS DOING.

Proceedings of Our National Lawmakers from Day to Day in Condensed Form—Resolutions and Bills.

Senator Culberson (Tex.) on the 21st gave notice in the senate of two amendments he will propose to the Puerto Rican tariff bill. The greater part of the session was given to the Hawaiian government bill, but little progress was made. Senator Penrose (Pa.) gave notice that the next day he would call up the resolution providing for the seating of Matthew S. Quay....The house debated the Puerto Rican tariff bill, Messrs. Bromwell (O.) and Henry (Tex.) speaking against the measure and Messrs. Ray (N. Y.) and Long (Kan.) for it. Mr. Lentz (O.) introduced a bill to provide for the public distribution of a United States map to all schools in the United States. The president's message transmitting the reply of the secretary of state relative to the resolution about the opening of Consul Macrum's mail was then read.

Senator Penrose (Pa.) refrained from calling up the Quay case in the senate on the 23d on account of those senators who were absent attending the democratic national committee meeting and gave notice he would call it up the next day, which caused a brief parliamentary squabble. Close attention was paid to the reading of Washington's farewell address by Senator Foraker (O.), at the conclusion of which the senate adjourned....The house debated the Puerto Rican tariff bill and also held a night session on the same bill, but there were no noteworthy incidents. Mr. Richardson (Tenn.) introduced a resolution to regulate tin plate trusts and Mr. Wheelock (Ky.) one for an investigation into the assertions made by Mr. Macrum, late consul of the United States at Pretoria, that his mail was tampered with by the British.

Senator Penrose (Pa.) succeeded in getting the Quay case before the senate on the 23d after a sharp parliamentary squabble. His motion for considering the question was finally carried by a vote of 34 to 28. Senator Daniel (Va.) then delivered a speech in which he vigorously supported Mr. Quay's right to a seat. At the conclusion of Senator Daniel's speech the Hawaiian government bill was taken up and Senator Morgan (Ala.) resumed his speech. Senator Vest (Mo.) and Senator Foraker (O.) also delivered speeches on the bill. The report of the conference on the financial bill was then read....The house debated the Puerto Rican tariff bill and agreed to take a vote on the measure on the 27th. A night session was also held to consider the bill.

Throughout the session on the 24th the senate had under consideration the Hawaiian government bill. The discussion took a wide range and Senator Tillman (S. C.) made a characteristic speech. In the course of which he made an attack upon Senator Morgan (Ala.), and vigorously opposed many provisions of the bill, particularly those which related to suffrage. The bill introduced by Senator Pettigrew (S. D.) to add states embracing public lands to support a school of mines was passed....The debate on the Puerto Rican tariff bill in the house brought out a speech by Mr. Tawney (Miss.) scoring Mr. Littlefield (Me.) for his speech of the previous day. Several other speeches were made for and against the bill. Mr. Phayer (Mass.) closing the day with a defense of the anti-imperialists.

The discussion of the right of Mr. Quay to a seat in the senate as a member from Pennsylvania was begun on the 26th by Senator Turley (Tenn.). He presented a constitutional argument against the seating of Mr. Quay. The Hawaiian government bill was then taken up and a lively discussion ensued between Senators Tillman (S. C.) and Spooner (Wis.), in which the former admitted that ballot boxes had been stuffed and negroes shot down in the south to maintain white domination. Little progress was made on the bill. Senator Depew (N. Y.) introduced a bill to establish the University of the United States. A bill was introduced by Senator Clark (Wyo.) for the admission of Arizona as a state....The house took up the Puerto Rican tariff bill and extended the general debate upon it for another day.

The Timid Idol.

Helen, five years old, was sent to bed alone, on the third floor, Louise being sick and kept down in her mother's room. It was the first time Helen had thus taken on the grown person's burden, and she was so good about it that presently her elder sister crept up into the room to see how she was getting along and to tell her story. She found her with hands clinched around her doll and with her eyes and mouth screwed up tightly. Helen opened her eyes with a start and gasped: "Oh, sister!" "Why, what's the matter, Helen?" "Well, you see, this doll is afraid, and I have to hold her hand. She is 'fraid of foxes and tigers!" "Nonsense, dearie," the sister said. "Oh, but she's afraid of more than that—robbers and—burglars!" "Well, why didn't you tell her that mamma and sister were right down stairs?" "Well, 'at is 'e funny part of it. I kept saying just as fast as I could: 'My mozzer is right down 'tairs; my sister is right down 'tairs; my mozzer can hear me if I call—but 'at doll kept right on being 'fraid!'"—N. Y. Commercial Advertiser.

A Change of Color.

A man at election time tried to sell some kittens with blue tory ribbons on, and failed. The next day he tried to sell them with yellow liberal ribbons on. "Why," said some one, "they were tories yesterday!" "Yes," he said, "but their eyes are opened since then, and they have become liberals."—Sir Algernon West's "Recollections."

The Way of It.

"It's no trouble at all to get married," remarked the girl with the new engagement ring. "No," replied her married sister with a sigh. "The trouble doesn't begin until shortly after the ceremony."—Chicago Evening News.

"Charity Begins At Home."

Be kind to your body. Remember it is fed not by thoughts of what you think you'll do, but by the strong volume of vital force which the heart distributes. Treat your life's blood well. Hood's Sarsaparilla is a medicinal sister of charity, and aids to keep you in good health as nothing else can.

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HE INTERIOR WALLS of every church and school should be coated ALABASTINE. It safeguards health. Hundreds of tons used yearly for this work.

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