



Joseph Chamberlain, whose recent resignation from the English cabinet aroused so much comment, published a manifesto on October 5 in the form of a preface to a pamphlet in which he deals with the issues in English politics. In this pamphlet Mr. Chamberlain expresses in most vigorous terms his views on free trade and protection as applied to England.

A contract was recently made by the postoffice department for service on a new route in Alaska, extending between Valdez and Tanana, a distance of 620 miles, whereby the rate of payment is given as \$1,500 a round trip, which is to be made twice a month, between December 1 next and April 30, 1904.

Pope Pius X. on October 3 issued his first encyclical, which commemorated Pope Leo XIII.

A tornado struck the little town of St. Charles, Minn., on October 3, and seven persons were killed and about twenty-eight injured. The property loss was about \$300,000 with very little insurance. In the vicinity of Wau-paca, Wis., the tornado caused the death of five persons and much property damage.

Another disaster took place on October 4 when the passenger steamer Erie L. Hackley of Fish Creek, foundered in Green Bay, Wisconsin, and twelve persons were drowned. Nine were rescued.

A new cabinet has been formed in Serbia with the following as leading members: Premier, General Gruics; foreign minister, Andra Nikolics; interior minister, Stojan Protics, and war minister, Colonel Andrejevics.

The yellow fever situation at Laredo, Tex., remains practically unchanged. The total number of cases up to October 4 was given as sixty-one, while there have been five deaths. Reports from the fever-stricken vicinity of Mexico indicate that the disease will soon be stamped out, owing to greatly improved conditions.

Colonel Leonidas William Spratt, one of the surviving members of the South Carolina convention, died at Jacksonville, Fla., on October 5 in his 85th year. An Associated press dispatch says that he was editor of the Southern Standard, which was established in Charleston, S. C., in 1853. He advocated secession most strenuously. He was sent by the secession convention as ambassador to Florida to induce that state to cast its lot with South Carolina and succeeded in his undertaking. He wrote several well known scientific books. He was the first cousin of President Polk. Death was due to old age.

The United States government paid official tribute to the memory of Sir Michael H. Herbert, British ambassador to the United States, who died September 22, by special memorial services held in Washington on Octo-

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ber 6. This service is without precedent, but was instituted at the wishes of President Roosevelt.

Brigadier General William P. Carlin, U. S. A., retired, died on an east-bound Northern Pacific train on October 4 near Livingston, Mont.—General Carlin was about 70 years old and had served with distinction throughout the civil war.

The postoffice department investigation concluded on October 5, according to Washington advices of that date. It is expected that Fourth Assistant Postmaster General Bristow will make his report public in about ten days. The next step in the proceedings is the trial of some of the accused parties. The report of the investigation is contained in a voluminous report of about 350 typewritten pages.

At the convention of the "independent peoples' party" held in New York city on October 5, William S. Devery was nominated for mayor.

It was announced from the island of Trinidad on October 5 that emissaries of President Castro of Venezuela have arrived in portions of Venezuela with orders to collect forcibly not only the taxes but the custom house duties already paid by importers from May, 1902, to August, 1903. The amount demanded by Castro is about \$1,000,000, and merchants who refuse to pay are being imprisoned.

As a result of Premier Balfour's speech at Sheffield and his pamphlet on insular free trade, the duke of Devonshire, who was leader of the conservative party in the house of lords, has resigned the office of lord president of the council, and King Edward has accepted his resignation.

On October 5 a man appeared at the White house in Washington and made an attempt to see President Roosevelt. He was detained and made a struggle and a policeman as well as the man, who gave the name of Elliott, were slightly injured and taken to the hospital. It is believed that the man was insane.

The railroad interests represented by E. H. Harriman and James J. Hill seem to have formed an offensive and defensive alliance. It is thought that this step was taken in order to protect themselves against the combination of eastern lines.

At the session of the Venezuelan arbitration tribunal at The Hague on October 5, Wayne MacVeagh, senior counsel for the United States, concluded his argument in favor of Venezuela. In his speech Mr. MacVeagh declared his belief that the war against Venezuela instituted by England and Germany was not just or necessary, and that the war was "purely financial." At the conclusion of his remarks, the tribunal adjourned to November 4, when all the counsel will present their pleadings, only one representative of each nation being allowed to speak in reply. The pleadings are to be made in the order of the English alphabet.

On October 4 it was reported that news had been received from the frontier of fighting between Turkish and Bulgarian troops at Demir-Kapla, both sides sustaining losses. The refugees in the mountains are suffering severely from cold and hunger and measures

are being taken to relieve the worst cases of suffering. A conference was recently held between the czar and Emperor Francis Joseph of Austria and as a result the governments of Russia and Austria have sent instructions to their ambassadors at Constantinople to insist upon the carrying out of reforms by the Turkish government and also the speedy pacification of the disturbed provinces.

Mr. Joseph Chamberlain, until recently colonial secretary for Great Britain, delivered a speech outlining his plans before a large audience at Glasgow, Scotland. In that speech Mr. Chamberlain declared that the coming struggle in England is to be greater in its consequences than the Boer war.

In connection with the rumors that a scandal of wide-reaching character had developed in the management of the Cripple Creek campaign of the Colorado national guard, Governor Peabody of that state on October 6 gave out a statement to the effect that a court-martial will be ordered to investigate the facts. According to an Associated press dispatch under date of Denver, Colo., October 6: Among the charges to be investigated are said to be: Padded payrolls, the employment of superfluous generals and colonels, who draw the salary of their rank, but who perform sergeant's duties; general extravagance in the purchase of supplies for the commissary department; the charge that certain officers have been securing a rake-off from contractors; the issuance by wholesale of transportation between Cripple Creek and Denver to officers and enlisted men, their families and friends, and charging the same to the state. The charge that the bookkeeping of the camp is kept in such a way as to admit of grafting; the surreptitious raising of men with a 'pull' from non-commissioned officers to captains, majors and colonels; the erection of quarters for each colonel, thus involving the state in a heavy, but practically needless expense; the purchase of spoiled beef for the enlisted men at very high prices; carelessness and recklessness in the handling of finances that is said to be appalling.

The fusion conference committee held a meeting in New York city on October 6 for the purpose of replacing Grout and Fornes by new candidates for comptroller and president of the

board of aldermen. W. F. Hinrichs of Brooklyn was selected in the place of Edward M. Grout, and E. J. McGuire of Manhattan in place of Mr. Fornes.

The republicans of Rhode Island met in state convention at Providence on October 6 and nominated the following state ticket unanimously: Governor, Col. Samuel Pomeroy Colt; lieutenant governor, George H. Utter; secretary of state, Charles P. Bennett; attorney general, Charles F. Stearns; general treasurer, Walter A. Reid.

The threats of unknown men against the Northern Pacific railroad were carried out on October 6 when at a station several miles west of Helena, Mont., a portion of the tracks were blown out by dynamite, the roadbed being torn up badly and traffic tied up for some time. Another outrage of the same character took place on the same day at Aver, Mont., when an east-bound freight train was blown up by dynamite and the fireman and engineer narrowly escaped serious injury.

Wilson S. Bissell, former postmaster general, died at Buffalo, N. Y., on October 6. Mr. Bissell was born in December, 1847, and served under President Cleveland as postmaster general from 1893 to 1895. He was a successful lawyer and at one time was associated with Mr. Cleveland in the practice of law in Buffalo.

In view of the menacing attitude of Russia, the Japanese residents of Jeff-Wie-Ju have filed a petition asking that a Japanese warship and troops be sent to protect their interests. As this province is in Korean territory, this action is considered in some quarters as an infringement of Korean integrity. It is also announced that Japan has no right to interfere in the question of the evacuation of Manchuria, which question solely concerns Russia and China. It is rumored that a plan is on foot that Japan take half of Korea and Russia the other half, but this rumor lacks official confirmation.

The state department at Washington was informed on October 8 that the American-Chinese commercial treaty had been signed at Shanghai, and that the Japanese-Chinese treaty would be signed the same day. The treaty signed with this country has its principal points set forth as follows: First, settlement of the long vexed question

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