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PACIFIC CABLE TALK

House Committee and Manufacturers Confer at the Capital.

EFFECT OF WIRELESS TELEGRAPHY

It is Admitted that the Marconi Plan Has Depressing Influences—Several Companies Ready With Offers—Other Washington Matters.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 13.—The effect of wireless telegraphy on the future of the submarine cable was developed to some extent in the house committee on commerce in connection with the hearing on the proposed Pacific cable. The hearing was largely attended. Vice President Ward of the Pacific Commercial Cable company, continuing his statement, said he believed the company he represented would be able to make exclusive traffic arrangements from points beyond the Philippines and connecting with China and Japan.

He maintained that while there was no purpose to set up a monopoly, yet it was likely his company would have exclusive traffic arrangements with the far east. He also stated that there would be questions as to the right of the United States to land a cable on foreign shores. Representative Stewart of New Jersey interposed the statement that Germany's present course against Venezuela showed that the German government made little distinction between public and private rights, so that a government cable station would have about the same status as a private station.

Chairman Hepburn asked a series of questions as to the effect of wireless telegraphy on the submarine cable. Mr. Ward replied that the new system presented a serious question. He was not certain that the Pacific cable project would have been undertaken if the long-distance experiment had occurred earlier. As to the claims that wireless signals had been conveyed 2,000 miles across the Atlantic, Mr. Ward said that if the claims were made good they would deter people from laying any more cables.

When asked as to the effect thus far on the cable business, Mr. Ward said that it had depressed cable interests. Mr. Stewart wanted to know if the cable companies had not chased Marconi out of Canada, to which Mr. Ward answered that he believed the cable companies had insisted upon certain exclusive rights they held.

James Ford stated that the Asiatic association doing business in the Orient favored private control. It was opposed to the government entering the field of private enterprise. President Strymer of the South and Central American cable system made an extended argument favorable to government control of the Pacific cable, citing incidents of the Spanish-American war, showing the importance of governmental control of the cable. In one case cited, the Spanish minister of marine cabled Admiral Cervera to leave Santiago. If this dispatch had not been intercepted, Mr. Strymer said, the battle of Santiago would not have been fought and the conduct of the war might have been changed.

Thomas E. Hughes, representing an American company which produces cable, stated that as good cables could be made in the United States as in any other part of the world, and he asked that American capital have the advantage of doing the work.

ASKS PRESIDENT TO INTERFERE

Urged that He Prevent Shipment of American Supplies.

CHICAGO, Jan. 13.—The Chicago branch of the American Transvaal league met here tonight and adopted a petition calling on President Roosevelt to enforce the neutrality law. A large number of signatures of prominent men, judges, lawyers and others, was obtained.

The petition is in the form of an argument and sets forth that the United States is conceded to be a neutral nation in the war between England and the South African republics.

It is contended that if the augmentation of Great Britain's military supplies from the port of New Orleans were stopped, the South African war would come to a speedy end. It is announced that horses and mules designed for use of military operations are within the meaning of the "military supplies" as used in the treaty of Washington.

The president is therefore called upon to strictly enforce article 6 of that treaty.

PHILIPPINE INSURGENTS FLEE

Americans Destroy Their Barracks and Hamlets.

MANILA, Jan. 13.—The new received from Batangas province is cheerful. The expedition to Litoon in Batangas has been a complete success. The columns under Colonels Wort and Wells have destroyed a number of barracks and hamlets, and enough rations to keep 20,000 Filipinos for six months. There was not a single American casualty during the entire expedition. The enemy fled before the Americans, many of them were killed and several surrendered.

Major Henry Allen, formerly governor of the island of Leyte, and now chief of the insular constabulary, who has been making a tour of inspection through the islands of Leyte and Mindanao, has returned to Manila and reports that the native constabulary is fully able to control the situation in the province of Misamis in northern Mindanao, where he thinks the situation has been much exaggerated. Previous reports concerning this province caused Generals Davis and Wade to request that it be returned from civil to military control. With the exception of the church of the entire town of Quinque, in Bulacan province, Luzon, has been burned to the ground and thousands of Filipinos have been rendered homeless.

WILL BE A DULL WEEK.

Worthy of Much Importance in Either House of Congress.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Jan. 13.—The really important work of the house of representatives, aside from the Nicaraguan bill, is still in the committee stage, so that there is little of importance to be considered during the coming week. Monday will be given to bills affecting the District of Columbia. After that the pension appropriation bills will be passed. Although this measure carries about \$139,000,000, it follows the department estimates and does not involve any serious issues, so that after a brief explanation its passage usually follows promptly.

The ways and means committee has a few minor bills on the calendar, for the redemption of revenue stamps made worthless by the repeal of certain features of the war revenue act. With the disposal of these bills there will be little to engage the attention of the house, and there promises to be several periods of adjournment, during which time the committee will complete the largest measure to be brought before the house. The chief interest of the week will center in hearings on Cuban reciprocity, to begin at 10 o'clock Wednesday morning, before the ways and means committee.

Negotiations Not Yet Begun.

LONDON, Jan. 13.—The Constantinople correspondent of the Daily Mail, writing January 11, says that negotiations for the release of the American captive, Miss Stone, and her companion, Mme. Tsilka, have not yet been opened by the brigands. M. Garguili, the dragoman of the American legation, and W. W. Peet, treasurer of the missionary society in Constantinople (who have left Salonica for the interior to meet Miss Stone's captors), have been instructed, according to the correspondent, to negotiate only with persons bringing letters from Miss Stone, without which it would be impossible to be certain that the prisoners were still alive.

Urges the English Tongue.

MANILA, Jan. 13.—Commissioner Bernard Moses, head of the department of public instruction for the islands, has delivered an address to the teachers of Manila, in which he urges instruction of Filipino children in English. He said the members of the wealthy Filipino class were making a great mistake in sending their children to Spanish schools, as the consequent neglect in English instruction would injure their position.

Schley Passes a Quiet Day.

SAVANNAH, Ga., Jan. 13.—Admiral Schley passed a quiet day at the home of General W. W. Gordon, where he is visiting. He attended religious services this morning at Christ church, Episcopal, and this evening at the Independent Presbyterian church. Each house was crowded with attendants upon the services.

Frauline Brandt Dead.

NEW YORK, Jan. 13.—Frauline Kathie Brandt, grand niece of Richard Wagner, died today in this city. She was a member of the German stock company at the Irving theater. Her father is a prominent theatrical manager of Berlin.

HIS POINT IS CARRIED

Burkett Succeeds in Having the Census Bill Recommitted.

ASKS PERMANENT ORGANIZATION

Provision is Wanted in the New Measure that Will Properly Classify Laborers Under the Civil Service—Other Washington Matters.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 11.—The house spent the day considering the Hopkins bill, to create a permanent census bureau. While the general sentiment was in favor of a permanent bureau, there was strong opposition to the bill as drawn, on the ground that it was not well matured. There also was an overwhelming demand for a provision to place the present employees of the census bureau under the protection of the civil service law and the bill finally was recommitted with instructions to report back a bill containing a plan for a detailed organization of a permanent census bureau to include also a provision to place the present employees under the civil service. The fight to recommit was made under the leadership of Mr. Burkett of Nebraska, the new member of the appropriations committee.

A bill, was passed unanimously to give Mrs. McKinley the free mailing privilege during the remainder of her life. The house then adjourned until Monday.

At the opening of the session Barney of Wisconsin, from the committee on appropriations, reported the pension bill and gave notice that he would call it up on Monday after the disposal of the District of Columbia business.

On motion of Hopkins of Illinois the house then went into committee of the whole and took up consideration of the bill to create a permanent census bureau.

Hopkins, in support of the bill, explained that the subject of establishing a permanent bureau had been agitated for many years. General Francis A. Walker, superintendent of the Ninth and Tenth census, and Porter, superintendent of the Eleventh census, as well as the present director, united in strongly recommending it on the ground that it would not only decrease the cost, but would increase the value of the results.

In reply to questions Hopkins said that 3,460 clerks had been employed in the bureau, 2,700 being still employed. If the pending bill passed, he said, the force would be reduced this year to 800, next year to 750, in 1905 to 500, and thereafter to 200.

Grosvenor of Ohio asked if it would not be wise to authorize the president to extend the civil service law over the surplus clerks. Hopkins replied that the subject had been canvassed by the house and senate committee and it had been thought that such action would not be expedient.

Burkett of Nebraska opposed the bill, contending that it was improper and inopportune and asserting that the course of the debate today demonstrated that the proposed legislation had not been well matured. He declared that the only persons who had agitated the subject of a permanent census had been the superintendents of past censuses and others directly interested.

Mr. Burkett moved that the bill be reported to the house with the recommendation that it be recommitted, with instructions to report back as a substitute a bill providing for the detailed organization of a permanent census bureau, and with a provision therein to place the present employees of the bureau within the classified service. The motion was carried.

ANTICIPATE PEACE OVERTURES

Negotiations for Cessation of Hostilities Will Be Started Soon.

AMSTERDAM, Jan. 11.—The Boer delegates in Holland evidently anticipate that some kind of peace overtures will be made shortly, though they are reticent as to their reasons for this belief. They maintain that the demand for an unconditional surrender must be abandoned.

It is privately admitted that the delegates will not reject what they call "any fair offer of terms." If the negotiations are started by a neutral power the delegates will earnestly seek to obtain a modus vivendi, which will reconcile Kruger's desire for complete independence with the terms offered by Great Britain.

GRAIN MEN WILLING TO TELL

Do Not Propose to Be Caught Napping as Packing House Men Were.

KANSAS CITY, Jan. 10.—The Interstate Commerce commission, whose members arrived on an early train from Chicago, began its investigation of eastbound grain rates from Kansas City. The investigation in Kansas City conducted by the commission last summer was considered a fiasco, as all those called denied having knowledge of illegal rate cutting, but the present hearing is taken more seriously. Before the first testimony was taken the forty or fifty shippers and freight agents summoned were at sea as to what to expect. This time the grain men have decided to tell all they know about the situation and it is believed that the railroad officials will also tell enough to absolve themselves from further liability. The investigation will, it is believed, be confined to looking into the charge that freight rates on grain and grain products from western points to the Atlantic seaboard are being cut in violation of the tariffs.

RAISES INSURANCE RATES

Chicago Gets a Taste of the Medicine Being Given Other Cities.

CHICAGO, Jan. 9.—As a result of fire losses of 1901, exceeding \$1,000,000 in this city, the Chicago Underwriters' association decided to raise rates and ordered them into effect at once. It is believed that the increase ordered will swell the aggregate premiums of the city over \$300,000. The advance on the contents of all non-preferred, non-sprinkled, non-fireproof risks, except single occupancy risks, is 10 per cent.

The most notable advances are: Provision warehouses and contents, 10 cents; coal, 50 cents; street car barns, from 25 to fifty cents; contents of street car barns, from 50 to 75 cents; grain elevators, 25 cents; contents, 25 cents; malt elevators, 25 cents; contents, 50 cents; lumber 25 cents; furniture finishing establishments, 25 cents; contents of public storage warehouses, 25 cents.

IN HONOR OF LATE PRESIDENT

Gov. Nash Asks that McKinley Anniversary Be Observed.

CANTON, O., Jan. 10.—Every governor in the United States has been asked by Governor G. K. Nash, chairman of the Ohio auxiliary of the McKinley National Memorial association, to issue an appeal to the citizens of his state or territory to set aside January 29, President McKinley's birthday anniversary, as "McKinley day."

This action was brought about by the desire of the committee to make the day one of universal observance. In the opinion of the association the inauguration of January 29 as a day of observance will eventually become a virtual holiday, as Washington's and Lincoln's birthdays, and it is thought that no one state will fail to respond to the request.

President Feeds Trainmen.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Jan. 10.—The president had with him at lunch yesterday the attorney general, the secretary of agriculture and a notable gathering of representatives of organized labor. They were: E. P. Sargent, chief of the Brotherhood of Locomotive Firemen; E. E. Clark, grand chief conductor of the Order of Railway Conductors; P. H. Morrissey, grand master of the Brotherhood of Railway Trainmen; H. B. Perham, president of the Order of Railway Telegraphers, and A. B. Arthur, chief of the Order of Locomotive Engineers.

Dog Saves Master's Life.

IOWA FALLS, Ia., Jan. 10.—If Michael Featherstone recovers from his injuries he will owe his life to a faithful dog that appreciated the man's danger and came to his rescue. While tying up an unruly bull the beast turned on Featherstone, and before the man knew what happened the bull threw him over his shoulders and against the barn wall, leaving the man in an inanimate mass on the floor. His life was saved by his dog attacking the animal.

Schley Bill Introduced

WASHINGTON, D. C., Jan. 10.—Representative Hooker introduced a resolution reciting that Commodore Schley was the senior commander in the battle of Santiago; that he was in absolute command of that battle and he is entitled to the credit due to such commanding officer for the glorious victory which resulted in the total destruction of the Spanish ships.

GERMANY IS DOWNCAST

Takes Gloomy View of Financial and Economic Situation.

DIET AND RICHSTAG RECONVENE

Count Von Buelow and Baron Von Thielmann Address the Respective Bodies on Repressed Conditions—Matters Foreign in General.

BERLIN, Jan. 9.—The speech from the throne, read by the imperial chancellor, Count von Buelow, at the opening of the Prussian Diet today, took a gloomy view of the economic situation. It pointed out that the revenue from the state railroads in 1901 fell considerably short of the estimates and that the whole results of the financial year were disappointing.

In the budget for 1902 the revenue is estimated below that of the current year, but the balance between the revenue and the expenditure is to be maintained without having recourse to a loan.

The speech announced plans for legislation providing for the housing of state workmen and of officials earning small salaries. Considerable credits are demanded for the extension of the state railroads and the promotion and construction of light railroads.

A new canal bill, to complete the system of waterways, will be submitted.

The concluding portion of Emperor William's speech pointed to the necessity of adopting measures against the agitation in the Polish districts of eastern Prussia, declared that the upholding of the political and economic position of the German element there was necessary for the self-preservation of Prussia, and promised that the government would fulfill its duty in cultivating the German national spirit in that region, in combatting with firmness all tendencies hostile to the state. In this course the government counted on the support of the German population of east Prussia, as well as on the assistance of the whole nation, which regarded any attempt to drive out the German language as an attack on its national honor and dignity.

The Reichstag reassembled today after the Christmas recess, with a rather slim attendance, and the discussion of the estimates began. The statement of the financial condition of the empire by Baron von Thielmann, secretary of state for the treasury, was even more pessimistic on the subject of the declining trade of Germany than were his earlier utterances in that connection.

"My former references," said Baron von Thielmann, "to the deterioration of the financial position, which were regarded in many quarters as pessimism, have been confirmed. Affairs have become even more unfavorable than we are able to foresee, as owing to the economic depression the receipts have fallen off considerably and the individual states of the empire are no longer able to bear their matricular contributions. Especially is this so in the case of the small Thuringian states."

PLAN TO PREVENT A CRISIS

Delegate Buchanan Suggests Compromise on Arbitration.

MEXICO CITY, Jan. 9.—Now that the compulsory arbitration plan can be reported to the Pan-American conference by the committee under an amendment of the rules which has been suggested by W. I. Buchanan of the United States delegation. The amendment will be to the effect that when a single committee reports two proposed treaties, one unanimously and the other signed by the majority, the former shall be recorded in the main protocol at the termination of the conference and the latter in a supplementary protocol.

When this amendment is introduced it will have the support of the ten signatories of the United States delegation, and, perhaps, one or two more. If carried, the arbitration committee will present the two proposed conventions, one by virtue of which all the nations represented at the conference will adhere to The Hague plan and the other embracing the compulsory scheme of arbitration.

Zelaya Is Re-Elected

MANAGUA, Nicaragua, Jan. 9.—(Via Galveston.)—The presidential electoral vote was counted in the presence of the Nicaraguan congress. General Santos J. Zelaya was declared re-elected unanimously for a term of four years.

IMPERIAL PARTY IN PEKIN

Gorgeous Display Accompanies Return of Royal Party to Capital.

PEKIN, Jan. 8.—A telephone message from Mia Chia Fu station, outside the city, says the special train bearing the emperor and empress dowager is just arriving. Thousands of officials have assembled there to receive their majesties. The entire route to the entrance of the palace is lined with troops.

The imperial cortege entered the Forbidden City at 1:30 o'clock. It was the most brilliant Pekin ever witnessed. The procession consisted of a thousand gorgeously attired noblemen mounted upon glitteringly caparisoned horses. The emperor, the empress dowager, Prince Chuan, the empress and several princesses were borne in yellow chairs, their escort carrying hundreds of gay banners and silk umbrellas. The troops of General Yuan Shi Kai, governor of Pe Chi Li, preceded the emperor. The foreign community assembled on top of the Chien gate.

The emperor and empress dowager entered the temple in the gate and burned incense. The dowager empress upon emerging from the temple saw the foreigners peering down and bowed. A double row of soldiers, kneeling, lined the four-mile route.

BEATRICE WOMAN KILLED.

Mabel I. Sisson, Wife of J. L. Ashby, Crushed by Car.

BEATRICE, Neb., Jan. 8.—A message received here announcing that Mabel I. Sisson was killed in a street car accident at Chicago, was a terrible shock to her widowed mother, Mrs. Mary H. Sisson, who lives here. Mabel was married last July to J. L. Ashby, a Chicago rubber moulder, and came here to visit her mother during the holidays. She returned to her Chicago home Saturday and arrived in Chicago next forenoon. Mabel was born at East St. Louis Ill., twenty-four years ago and in 1879 came here with her parents. She was later employed by the Jones Dry Goods company of Kansas City as a clerk and remained in that capacity for several years. She resigned to accept a traveling position with the Ayres Publishing company of Chicago. Her father, Dr. W. J. Sisson, who was widely known as an able physician, died nine years ago. Her husband, her mother and one brother, W. D. Sisson, a prominent business man of Fremont, survive her. Mabel was prominent here in social circles.

IOWANS GOING TO ISLE OF PINES

F. J. James of Fairfield on His Way to Form Eastern Colony.

NEW ORLEANS, Jan. 8.—T. J. James of Fairfield, Ia., passed through here en route to the Isle of Pines, just south of Cuba, which has been reserved by the United States. Mr. James goes there to make arrangements for the extensive colonization of the island by farmers from Iowa. A large tract of land has been acquired in the island by a company incorporated under the laws of Iowa. Thirteen families from the town of Spirit Lake are already settled there and are well pleased with the country. Their letters home are so satisfactory as to promise a large emigration here, and Mr. James goes to the island to put the lands in condition to receive the emigrants.

He Worked Nebraskans.

RICHMOND, Ind., Jan. 8.—A man giving the name of W. H. Hughes, now under arrest in this state, proves to be a valuable catch. He is wanted for wholesale swindling in Nebraska, Illinois, Iowa, Missouri and several other states and has rewards aggregating \$2,800 hanging over his head. Hughes' game was to claim to represent either the National Cloak company, New York, or the Curtis Publishing company, Philadelphia, and the two concerns have tried for a long time to land him.

Louisiana Purchase Commission.

LOGAN, Jan. 8.—Chairman Milliman of Logan and Secretary Moore of Ottumwa have issued a call for a meeting of the Iowa commission on the Louisiana Purchase exposition, to be held in Des Moines, January 17. The commission will ask for an appropriation of about \$200,000.

Methodist Clergy Assaulted.

VINTON, Jan. 8.—Rev. F. L. Love, a Methodist pastor, was assaulted in his own home here by a burglar, who inflicted a head wound. He will recover.