

charged with the murder of two Americans, engaged in revolutionary activity in Nicaragua, contrary to the code of war of all civilized nations which would have granted them a trial.

Some senators are bitterly criticizing Secretary MacVeagh's Boston speech on the tariff question.

The "power site monopoly" was the object of attack in a bill offered in the house by Representative Mann, chairman of the committee on interstate and foreign commerce. It provides that before dams across navigable or non-navigable streams can be constructed, permission and approval must be obtained of the secretary of war and the chief of engineers and makes it unlawful to deviate from such plans. Applicants

must guarantee free power to the United States government. The government also is given authority to regulate absolutely the charges that may be made to the public for the use of power derived from such sources.

Representative Joseph E. Ransdell of Louisiana was re-elected president of the rivers and harbors congress. The congress will meet in Washington in 1910. The resolutions were unanimously adopted and a committee appointed to present them to the president, the vice president and the speaker of the house. The resolutions adopted make an appeal to congress for an appropriation of fifty million dollars for river and harbor work, and fifty million dollars annually for ten years thereafter express the belief that the rivers and

harbors bill should be placed on an equal footing with the other great appropriation bills, and condemn what is declared to be the present method of appropriation whereby the river and harbor bill carries only what may remain after the other budgets have been authorized. It is declared that unless the waterways of the United States are so improved as to provide the proper transportation facilities this country can not hope to increase its domestic commerce or extend its foreign commerce as it should, or to take advantage of the opening of the Panama canal, in order to compete with the markets of the world.

Speaking to newspaper correspondents President Zelaya of Nicaragua has made this statement: "The United States unjustly condemns my administration. I proposed to Secretary of State Knox that he submit the case to investigation of a committee of his own choosing, agreeing to surrender my rights to the president if the charges in his letter to Isidoro Hezera, former Nicaraguan minister to the United States were sustained. Secretary Knox has not replied. Defenseless against the hostility of a powerful nation, I must submit, although I have been condemned unheard."

The president has nominated William J. Mills to be governor and William H. Pope to be chief justice of the territory of New Mexico.

The Michigan commandry of the Loyal Legion has sent to the senate resolutions protesting against the acceptance by the government of the statute of Robert E. Lee.

General James Clarkson, surveyor of the port of New York, will continue in his office until April 18th next. That is said to be a sort of concession to the insurgents.

**NEBRASKA PRIZE WINNERS**

At the national corn exposition, held in Omaha during the first part of December, prizes were awarded as follows:

For the best ten ears yellow dent corn; Nebraska only: Harry Seltz, De Sota, first, \$50; Roland Smith, De Sota, second, \$30; Chas. Gram, Bennington, third, \$15.

For best ten ears white dent corn; Nebraska only: Chas. J. Brush, Auburn, first, \$50; Otto Zeib, Papillion, second, \$25; Roland Smith, De Sota, third, \$12.50.

For best ten ears corn, other than yellow or white dent; Nebraska only: Jos. M. Veik, Humphrey, first, \$35; Chas. J. Brush, Auburn, second, \$15; H. H. Rahlf, Falls City, third, \$15.

Winner for the sweepstakes for the best ten ears in Nebraska: Henry Seltz, De Sota, first, \$155.

For best single ear dent corn, any color; Nebraska only: Wm. Lonergan, Florence, first \$5; Aye Bros, Blair, second, \$4; Ed Grim, Blair, third, \$3.

For best twenty ears corn, any variety; Nebraska only: Francis Seltz, De Sota, first, \$225.

For best peck hard winter wheat; Nebraska only: Edward Weeth, Gretna, first, \$120; F. J. Dolezol, Morse Bluff; second, \$10; Charlie Paasch, Millard; third, \$4.

For best peck red winter wheat; Nebraska only: S. M. Arnold, Aurora; first, \$75; John Denker, Phillips, second, \$16; C. W. Francisco, Inland, third, \$4.

For best peck wheat, other than hard or red winter; Nebraska only: A. E. Hinricksen, St. Paul, first, \$50; Henry Harner, Gretna, second, \$5; Detlef Stelk, Grand Island, third, \$4.

For best peck white oats; Nebraska only: W. D. Stelk, Phillips, first,

\$85; J. N. Fenerstin, Leshara, second, \$5; F. G. Sloup, Sprague, third, \$4.

For best peck black oats; Nebraska only: Arnold Martin, DuBois, first, \$40; R. W. Hopkins, Tilden, second, \$5.

For best peck oats, other than white or black; Nebraska only: Detlef Stelk, Grand Island, first, \$35; Austin Taylor, Omaha, second, \$5; R. W. Hopkins, Tilden, third, \$4.

For best peck barley; Nebraska only: Arnold Martin, DuBois, first, \$27; J. D. Hosik, Abie, second, \$5; Roy E. Hileman, Gretna, third, \$4.

Robinson trophy for best exhibit from Nebraska county: Won by Douglas county; value \$200.

**A VICTIM OF HIGH FINANCE**

High politicians act with shrewdness, and leading financiers are still more careful. The following outline may serve as diet to intellectual appetites:

Mr. Crane was selected by the president on the recommendation of a man as unpopular with professional politicians as Mr. Crane is himself.

It was received with disfavor by both of the senators from Illinois.

Mr. Taft expressed the wish for unconventional candor on the ambassador's part, along the lines of his own Shanghai speech.

The most daring speech made by Mr. Crane; the one in which he spoke of hold-up finance, was expressly approved at the time by the secretary of state.

Mr. Crane endeavored repeatedly to obtain instructions from the secretary, or any of his assistants. Finally, in despair, he telephoned to the secretary that he would be compelled to leave without even passports. The secretary assured him that no instructions were needed, and that if any suggestions occurred to the department they would be sent to San Francisco.

On Saturday afternoon before Mr. Crane was to sail a certain gentleman called at Valley Forge. He was a partner of one of the leading financiers in the world—a financier who had a large part in the Chinese loan. Mr. Knox's telegram was sent on the following day. It stated a reason so frivolous that scarcely anybody has taken it seriously.

One of the leading authorities on diplomacy in this country has stated that this pretext was ridiculous. Everything that was in the Chicago article had been published before; nobody paid any attention to it; and Mr. Crane's name did not appear.

Another of the leading authorities on diplomacy in this country has stated that Mr. Knox proved beyond doubt his unfitness for the post he holds.

The newspaper organ of the great financier referred to received Mr. Knox's rebuke to Mr. Crane with a howl of delight. It stated gleefully that at last we had a secretary of state who was his own master. It meant, perhaps, not exactly his own master, but, if dominated, not by the president of the United States.—Collier's Weekly.

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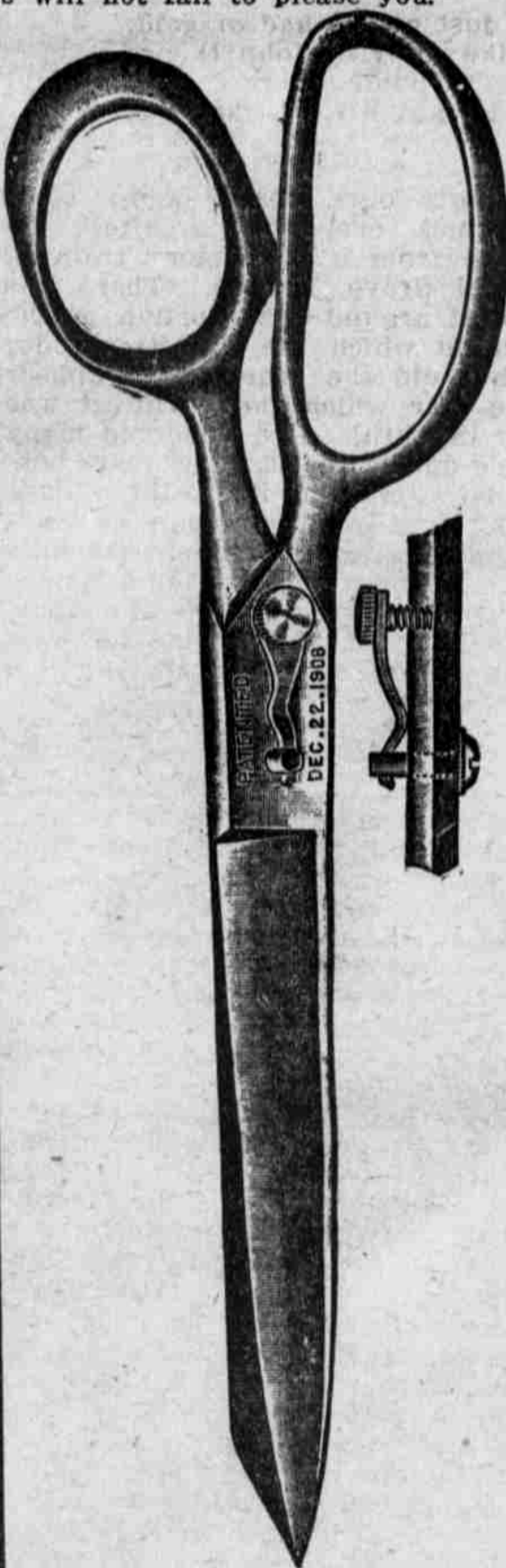
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