

WASHINGTON NOTES

Venezuelan Embroglio—The Bankruptcy Law—Anti-Trust Bills—Standard Oil Obstruction

Washington, D. C., Feb. 9, 1903.—(Special Correspondence.)—After two weeks of fruitless negotiation, the Venezuelan embroglio goes to The Hague tribunal for settlement. The proverbial greed and selfishness of Great Britain in demanding preferential treatment in the settlement of her claims is responsible for the failure to agree at the conference between Minister Bowen and the ambassadors of the allied powers. After having acted the part of a buccaneer and a pirate in her treatment of the South American republic in an effort to collect claims the validity of which are by no means attested, she insisted on a settlement prior to those European nations, particularly France, which had acted with some regard for decency and order. Minister Bowen, on behalf of Venezuela, rejecting this demand, the British ambassador broke off negotiations with Bowen, asked President Roosevelt to act as arbitrator, and, upon his refusal, the whole matter goes before the court of arbitration. It is supposed that the blockade of Venezuelan ports will now be raised pending a settlement of the controversy, but the cumbersome machinery of The Hague tribunal will delay this settlement perhaps for months. It is noticeable that while Germany primarily assumed the aggressive in the Venezuela case, her spirit of conciliation was freer in the end than that of England. These negotiations have served to furnish the world with another instance of the inherent hatred of England for America.

For five years in every sort of negotiation, this nation has been outgeneraled by British diplomacy for the reason that we have had a secretary of state, American by birth, but royalistic in sentiment and sycophantic by environment. Notably does this appear in the Alaskan boundary question, a treaty for which adjudication was recently sent to the senate for ratification and the details of which I gave in last week's letter. By temporary protocol arranged in 1899, Secretary Hay surrendered to the British government a considerable tract of territory despite the protest emphatically made by the public sentiment of the country.

The facts are that there is nothing to arbitrate. The treaty of 1825 made specifically plain and clear the limitations and boundary lines. The temporary protocol gave over to English authority a strip of land a hundred miles wide and some hundreds of miles in length without any just or

KNOWS NO DISTINCTION

Rich and Poor Alike Suffer From Catarrh in This Climate.

All observant physicians have noticed the enormous increase in catarrhal diseases in recent years, and the most liberal and enlightened have cheerfully given their approval to the new internal remedy, Stuart's Catarrh Tablets, as the most successful and by far the safest remedy for catarrh yet produced.

One well-known catarrh specialist, as soon as he had made a thorough test of this preparation, discarded inhalers, washes and sprays and now depends entirely upon Stuart's Catarrh Tablets in treating catarrh, whether in the head, throat or stomach.

Dr. Risdell says, "In patients who had lost the sense of smell entirely and even where the hearing has begun to be affected from catarrh, I have had fine results after only a few weeks' use of Stuart's Catarrh Tablets. I can only explain their action on the theory that the cleansing and antiseptic properties of the tablets destroy the catarrhal germs wherever found because I have found the tablets equally valuable in catarrh of the throat and stomach as in nasal catarrh."

Dr. Estabrook says, "Stuart's Catarrh Tablets are especially useful in nasal catarrh and catarrh of the throat, clearing the membranes of mucus and speedily overcoming the hawking, coughing and expectorating."

Any sufferer from catarrh will find Stuart's Catarrh Tablets will give immediate relief and being in tablet form and pleasant to the taste, are convenient and always ready for use as they can be carried in the pocket and used at any time as they contain no poisonous drugs, but only the cleansing, antiseptic properties of Eucalyptus bark, blood root and Hydrastin.

All druggists sell the tablets at 50 cents for complete treatment.

equitable reason being given therefor. The action of this commission (for which the treaty provides to decide the matter) in making this protocol permanent and permanently surrender sovereignty to this territory would not be accepted by this country, and the refusal would be accepted in every quarter as a reassertion of our ancient rights and a rejuvenation of our ancient spirit, which of late years has been dwarfed by commercialism.

The observation is made that England's stand in the Venezuelan case is not really for the collection of debts, but either for a trade monopoly or expansion of territory.

The intention of the secretary to now make this arrangement permanent by treaty is meeting opposition from senators in the northwest and there is doubt of its ratification. The opposition to this ratification may rest assured that their course will be approved by the country at large. The people generally will not approve a policy which surrenders American soil on this continent without any pretext save a love for British people and royal institutions, and at the same time squander millions of money and thousands of lives to make up that loss by an access of territory on another continent. This nation has been visited by many sore afflictions in her career, but history will search in vain for a period to which she can point with as little pride as to the administration of John Hay as secretary of state.

The report of the secretary of the treasury indicates that on February 1 the total circulation of money in the United States was \$2,355,738,834. Estimating our total population at 79,914,000, this gives a circulation per capita of \$29.48. On the same date, the interest-bearing public debt amounted to \$914,541,330.

The Thomas Jefferson Memorial association, of which Admiral George Dewey is president, has issued an address to the people, the purport of which is an appeal for funds to erect in Washington a suitable memorial to the author of the Declaration of Independence. This memorial will likely take the form of a suitable monument, and in this day when the teachings of this greatest of democrats and statesmen are ignored in the administration of government, it is meet and proper that the people should respond liberally to the appeal and at the same time resolve to bring the government back to the moorings to which Jefferson would have kept it.

Hobson, who sunk the Merrimac in Santiago harbor to hide a navy department scandal and kissed the women who crossed his pathway over the country because his lack of judgment could not be hidden, has resigned his commission in the construction and repair department and will take the lecture platform. It is said he aspires to a congressional career.

Mr. Jenkins of Wisconsin, author of the resolution as to the advisability of government ownership of coal mines and railroads, has introduced a joint resolution proposing an amendment against polygamy as the sixteenth amendment to the constitution.

Secretary Root in a recent speech declared the probability that "another war is sure to come, no matter how much we may long for peace." The administration must be contemplating another field for "benevolent assimilation."

The refusal of the senate to adopt Senator Rawlins' resolution calling for court-martial proceedings in a score of cases in the Philippines has directed public attention anew to the kinship of this refusal to an imperialistic policy. The result has been the exposure of a number of instances in which American army officers have been guilty of extreme cruelty and without provocation.

President Roosevelt has signed the bill amending the bankruptcy law of 1898.

The bill modifies the existing law in several important particulars, the principal one of which is a provision in regard to preferred creditors. Under the existing law those who had received payments from a person who had soon afterward been declared bankrupt could not have other claims passed upon without surrendering the amount received. This provision was modified so as to allow the creditor to retain the money received unless the previous payment was fraudulent. The change is in conformity with a decision of the supreme court.

Another amendment provides four new objections to a discharge, intended to prevent persons from going through bankruptcy, the most important of which are the giving of a false mercantile statement or the making of a fraudulent transfer of property. The bill also provides that it shall be an objection to a discharge

if a voluntary bankrupt seeks to go through bankruptcy more than once in six years.

Another amendment provides that the appointment of a receiver for a corporation which is insolvent is an act of bankruptcy, entitling the creditors to choose their own trustee. Another important change is one which gives the federal courts concurrent jurisdiction of suits to recover property which has been fraudulently transferred.

Other amendments allow the wives of bankrupts to testify in the proceedings, provide for an increase of the fees of referees and trustees to an average of about 50 per cent over the fees allowed by the present law, and prohibit the courts from allowing greater fees than the law permits in any case, and add to the list of debts from which a bankrupt cannot be relieved by a discharge from bankruptcy. The new list includes debts to wife and children and alimony. The list of corporations which may go into bankruptcy is increased by adding mining corporations.

The decision of Premier Laurier of the Dominion of Canada to raise the head tax from \$50 to \$100, in order to bar the Chinese, has failed of its purpose, and in deference to the wish of labor unions, an order will likely be issued to rigidly exclude them. This will be of great interest to the United States for the reason that 75 per cent of the Chinese arriving in the Dominion are afterward smuggled across the border. Vancouver is the principal port of landing.

Mr. Hale called attention in the senate to an alleged combination among attorneys to maintain excessive fees in claims filed with the Spanish treaty claims commission. These, he said, have been placed at 33 1-3 per cent, as shown by a report of the commission. He did not suppose that the commission would report the full amount of the claims—\$61,000,000—but that, even if a reasonable amount was reported, the attorneys would still receive in fees over \$3,000,000.

A pension at the rate of \$30 per month has been granted to the widow of Admiral Sampson. This was done under the general law of congress governing the commissioner of pensions in extraordinary cases. The medical record of the case is not without interest to all those who have followed the stirring events that began with the blowing up of the Maine and ended with the sea battle off Santiago.

For fully five years prior to his death, so the sworn record attests, Sampson was seriously afflicted with aphasia, an affliction of the mind which partially destroys and at times wholly so the mental faculties. The claim is now made by Sampson's friends, in extenuation of his seemingly erratic conduct, that he was not responsible for many acts that earned for him the opprobrium of the American people. It is now claimed he never wrote the dispatch claiming the Santiago victory and ignoring Schley, but that his flag lieutenant was the author. The authorship by him is also denied of the famous "Gunner Morgan" letter, and his censorship of the Maclay history.

Whatever may be the facts in these instances, it is now known that the navy department was aware of his incapacity, and yet at the same time placed him in command of the United States naval forces. What must be said of the criminal stupidity of the "board of strategy," headed by Crowninshield of the bureau of navigation, in placing the issues of a war with a foreign power in the hands of a man known to be mentally weak? In justice to Sampson's memory, we may well believe his mental insufficiency. But that does not excuse the stupidity of the navy department in placing him in command, nor its injustice in the persistent persecution of Schley. Crowninshield proved his calibre by running the battleship Illinois upon a sand-bar within ten days after taking command and yet he was the director of naval engagements in the war with Spain! There are a number of incidents connected with this war of which the less said the better, it seems.

The naval appropriation bill was reported to the house Friday, carrying \$79,048,420.15. The chief recommendation of the committee is that more officers be provided, and that members of congress shall be allowed

LIKE HER OLD SELF

THE STORY OF A GIRL ON THE PACIFIC COAST

Both She and Her Mother are Enthusiastic Over a Wonderful Event in Their Lives

Miss Maud E. Cable, of Chico, Butte Co., Calif., is a bright, vivacious girl of fifteen, with the glow of health in her cheeks. A few months ago, however, she was sick and weakly. How this wonderful change came about is best told in the words of her mother, Mrs. Rose Cable, who says:

"My daughter was in a miserable state of health and I feared she could not live. It began with irregularity in the natural functions of her sex, accompanied by severe headaches, heart and stomach trouble, and finally she broke down entirely. The doctor said she had anaemia, which, he said, meant that her blood had turned to water.

"The pain in her head was so severe that she was hardly able to bear it; her stomach so weak that she could eat nothing but soup. Her liver was congested and torpid, her nerves all unstrung and her complexion just like a dead person's. She grew worse in spite of the doctor's care and finally her hands and feet began to swell.

"An advertisement in the papers led me to have her try Dr. Williams' Pink Pills for Pale People and she began to feel better almost immediately upon taking them. She grew better every day. When she had taken them two weeks she had gained eight pounds, and fourteen by the time she had taken five boxes. Her color has come back and she looks like her old self. She has gone to work again.

"I feel very grateful for what Dr. Williams' Pink Pills have done for her, for I am sure they saved her life."

Anæmia is not the only disease which succumbs to the potent influence of Dr. Williams' Pink Pills for Pale People. They are an unfailing specific for such diseases as locomotor ataxia, partial paralysis, St. Vitus' dance, sciatica, neuralgia, rheumatism, nervous headache, the after-effects of the grip, palpitation of the heart, pale and sallow complexions and all forms of weakness either in male or female. They are sold by all druggists, or direct from Dr. Williams' Medicine Co., Schenectady, N. Y. Price, 50 cents per box; six boxes \$2.50.

to name additional cadets to Annapolis. It is claimed that there will be insufficient officers to man all the new ships when ready to go into commission. The committee declares this deficiency will amount to about 500 men, and that Nebraska's share of this number will be 15.

The senate passed two bills during the last week, the claim for each being made that it is a step toward trust legislation. The first was by Senator Elkins to prevent rebates and commissions by railroads in interstate and foreign commerce. The fact that Elkins has large railroad interests which profit by these discriminations is sufficient to raise a doubt as to the sincerity of the bill.

The second is by Senator Fairbanks to expedite the hearing and determination of suits of equity pending or hereafter begun under the Sherman law.

The Littlefield anti-trust publicity bill was brought up for discussion in the house Friday and thirteen hours' debate was allowed, the bill being passed Saturday by a vote of 245 to 0. Six republicans refrained from voting.

An attempt was made by the democrats to amend the bill so as to make it more effective in its provisions, but the amendments were in every case voted down.

Congressman Shallenberger offered one of these amendments, which is the same as embodied in one section of his own anti-trust bill, and is as follows:

"That if any corporation engaged in foreign or interstate commerce at the passage of this act shall thereafter issue any stocks, bonds or certificates of capitalization in excess of the actual cash value of the money or property or property rights owned by the said corporation, the above facts to be determined by the interstate commerce commission, all such stocks, bonds or evidences of capitalization issued in excess of actual values in possession of the aforesaid corporation shall be subject to an annual tax of ten per centum of their face value, to be paid into the treasury of the United States on the thirtieth day of June of each year, so long as the same shall re-

