

Brief Telegrams

Rose Beckett, once a famous ballet dancer, was found dead in her New York home. It is believed to be a case of murder.

Secretary Cortelyou delivered the annual address at the annual meeting of the American Academy of Political and Social Science at Philadelphia.

The Oregon state republican convention selected four delegates to the national convention and instructed for Theodore Roosevelt—for nomination for president.

Archbishop Messmer of Milwaukee has just issued a letter to the clergy in his Archdiocese in which he forbids them taking an active part in party politics.

Walter Wellman says that American publishers are almost frantic in their quest for an author who will write a novel that will command an enormous sale.

A dispatch to the London Times from Ghanze, Tibet, indicates that the local officers are suing with the British mission under Colonel Younghusband for peace.

Albert A. Ames, former mayor of Minneapolis, was arrested Thursday on an indictment charging him with accepting a bribe December 15, 1901, from Bessie Lee.

Great Britain and France have signed the colonial treaty. Political situation in Morocco and Egypt is unchanged, while the republic obtains three African concessions.

The operators and miners of the Ohio sub-district, embracing the Panhandle companies of West Virginia, adjourned after a fruitless conference of ten days over the wage scale.

R. M. Snyder, a capitalist, has formed a corporation to pipe natural gas from Independence, Kas., to Kansas City, furnishing the towns along the route, a distance of 160 miles.

Professor Borden P. Bowne was acquitted of the charges of heresy by the New York East conference, which also refuses to consider new charges filed against the Boston philosopher.

Nine candidates for the Cecil Rhodes scholarships from Nebraska universities and colleges completed their examinations at the University of Nebraska, looking to admission to Oxford.

The resolution asking the General Conference to restore the time limit for pastors was defeated in the New York Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church by a vote of 105 to 100.

Professor Bliss of the department of mechanical engineering of the New York University, has been delegated to go to St. Louis this month to in all the university exhibit at the World's Fair.

The house committee on military affairs authorized a favorable report on a bill appropriating \$60,000 to purchase a temporary home in the District of Columbia for disabled volunteer soldiers.

Prince Cetewayo, grandson of the famous Zulu King who was captured by the British in South Africa twenty-two years ago, is a student in London, and devoting much of his time to law and history.

The house committee on industrial arts and expositions has decided to postpone further consideration of the Jamestown, Va., exposition appropriation of \$3,000,000 until the next session of congress.

President Roosevelt has spent a total of forty hours aboard the naval steam yacht Mayflower, and always paid the expenses incurred by him self and guests, according to a report of Secretary Moody.

The Baltimore Equitable Life Insurance company went into the hands of a receiver upon the application of State Insurance Commissioner Wilkinson and upon an answer filed by the company, in which the appointment of receivers was consented to.

Mr. Leishman informs the Department of State that in obedience to its instructions he has requested the imperial Ottoman Government to exert every possible means to prevent an asylum being given to the murderers of Missionary Laboree in Turkey.

Judge Benton, in the circuit court at Richmond, Ky., has thrown out on peremptory instructions of mental incapacity all the various wills left by the late Gen. Cassius M. Clay. This leaves the general's property to his natural heirs and cuts off Dora Clay Brock, who at one time received considerable notoriety as the youthful wife of the noted aged statesman.

Senator Frye has introduced a bill providing for the retirement of letter carriers who have reached the age of 65 years and who have served for thirty-five years. The bill gives the retired carriers pay at 80 per cent of the salaries they were receiving at the time of retirement.

The House passed the Philippine shipping bill, amending it so that it goes into operation July 1, 1906.

William E. Curtis writes of the bettered condition of the women of India, more of whom are now being educated than ever before in the history of the country.

THAT FATAL MINE

FORTY-FIVE OFFICERS AND MEN PERISHED.

THE FIGHT OFF PORT ARTHUR

Rear Admiral Uriu Announces the Great Japanese Victory—Says that in the Engagement the Islanders Sustained No Losses.

ST. PETERSBURG—Forty-five officers and men perished on board the torpedo boat destroyer *Beztrazhni*, whose destruction by the Japanese has been announced.

TOKIO—A brief report from Rear Admiral Uriu of Wednesday's fighting off Port Arthur reach the navy department Thursday afternoon. It says Vice Admiral Togo's fleet attacked Port Arthur in the morning and succeeded in sinking a battleship of the *Petropavlovsk* class and one torpedo boat destroyer. The Japanese sustained no losses. One Japanese was wounded.

A detailed report of the engagement is expected hourly.

The first intimation of the result of Vice Admiral Togo's seventh attack off Port Arthur reached Tokio at 8 o'clock Thursday morning. It was received with intense satisfaction, particularly the reported destruction of the battleship *Petropavlovsk*. There was a note of regret, however, upon the reported death of Admiral Makaroff, for the Russian admiral commanded the respect of his opponents and the Japanese admired the manner in which he had rehabilitated the fleet after the first attacks upon Port Arthur, and the splendid fight he was making against

AWFUL DISASTER.

An Explosion on the Battleship Missouri.

PENSACOLA, Fla.—By the explosion of 3,000 pounds of powder in the after twelve-inch turret and the handling room of the battleship *Missouri*, Captain William S. Cowles, commanding, twenty-nine men were instantly killed and five injured, of whom two will die. The *Missouri* was on the target range with the *Texas* and *Brooklyn* at practice about noon when a charge of powder in the twelve-inch left-hand gun ignited from gases, exploded and dropping below ignited four charges of powder in the handling room and all exploded.

Only one man of the entire turret and handling crew survives. But for the prompt and efficient action of Captain Cowles in flooding the handling room and magazine with water one of the magazines would have exploded and the ship would have been destroyed.

Captain Cowles, completely overcome by the disaster, referred all newspaper men to Lieutenant Hammer, the ordnance officer. The latter gave out a statement of the explosion and its probable cause. According to him, about noon, after the first pointer of the aft twelve-inch piece had fired his string and the second pointer had fired the third shot of his string, the charge ignited. The fourth shot was being loaded, and from all indications the first half of the charge had been rammed home and the second section was being rammed home, when gases from the shots previously fired, or portions of the cloth cover, ignited the powder.

The breach was open and a dull thud gave notice of something unusual. No loud report was made, but flames were seen to leap from every

THE TWO HOUSES

WORK IN CONGRESS FOR THE PRESENT WEEK.

FEATURES OF LOWER BRANCH

WASHINGTON—Statehood and ship subsidy will be the feature of the house proceedings this week, with conference reports and minor bills to fill in the gaps. The committee on rules on Monday morning will decide on a program for the statehood bill. The rule on this matter, which will be brought in for adoption Monday, will call for consideration of the bill Tuesday, with debate limited probably to four hours. It is now the intention to dispose of this bill entirely on Tuesday.

The rule making a special order for the Gardiner bill, providing for a joint commission of members of the house and senate to investigate the whole question of ship subsidy during the recess of congress, will be brought forward by Mr. Grosvenor on Wednesday. Debate on this measure will consume probably six hours. The Alaska delegate bill will remain the "continuing order" and receive consideration whenever there is nothing else before the house.

The present plan of the leaders contemplates final adjournment April 28. There will be an effort to keep appropriation bills to the front all the time during the present week in the senate, and to this end the sundry civil bill will be taken up on conveying Monday. When it is disposed of the pension appropriation bill will be pressed and it is hoped that that bill will in turn be immediately followed by the general deficiency bill. The senate leaders are apprehensive of the effect of the consideration of various bills on the calendar and are exercising their ingenuity to keep them in the background.

There are some features of the sundry civil bill which will cause discussion and it is believed that it will hold attention during Monday and Tuesday. The pension bill usually goes through without debate, but it is probable there will be quite a little discussion on the pending bill.

If opportunity is offered Senator Hansbrough will endeavor to obtain consideration of the Indian agreement bills.

Senator Fairbanks also stands ready to seize the first chance that offers to press his bill for a new executive building in Washington.

COURT RULES WITH BRYAN.

Probate Judge Says He Can Remain Executor.

NEW HAVEN, Conn.—A decision denying in effect the application for the removal of William J. Bryan as executor of the estate of the late Phlio S. Bennett was rendered Saturday by Judge Cleaveland of the probate court.

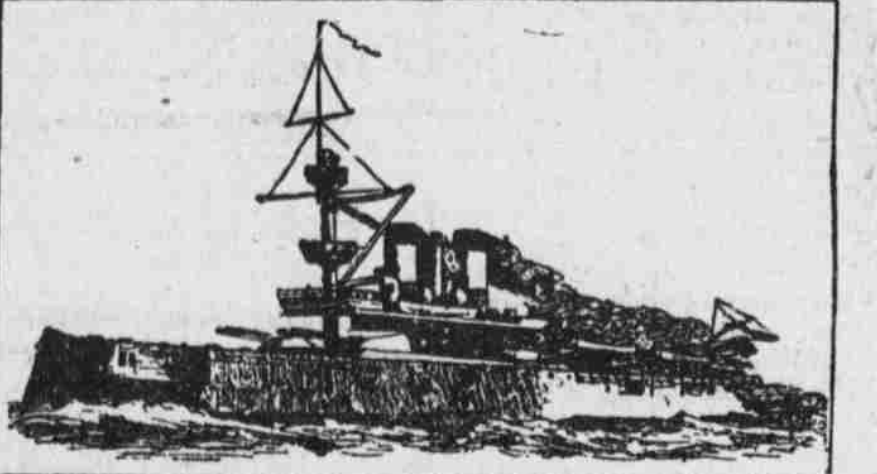
The application was brought by counsel for Mrs. Grace Imogene Bennett, the widow, and other residuary legatees on the ground that Mr. Bryan was acting contrary to the interests of the estate. The decision sustains a demurrer filed by Mr. Bryan's counsel and practically denies the application as far as the probate court is concerned. The matter will now go to the higher court on appeal.

The claim of the residuary legatees that Mr. Bryan was acting contrary to the best interests of the estate was based on the fact that he appealed as an individual and as a trustee from the decree of the probate court refusing to incorporate as a part of the will the sealed letter by which Mr. Bennett expressed a wish that Mr. Bryan should have \$50,000. It was claimed by the residuary legatees that this appeal is inconsistent with his duties as executor of the will and that he is unnecessarily delaying the settlement of the estate.

AFTER BEEF TRUSTS.

CHICAGO.—Prompted by complaints of ranchmen of the northwest, through Representative Martin of South Dakota, that it was their belief that a beef trust existed among the western packers to the restraint of trade and to the detriment of producers and consumers, the government has begun its investigation.

James A. Garfield, chief of the bureau of corporations of the department of commerce and labor, and assistant to Secretary Cortelyou, is in Chicago. He has come with Inspector Carroll of the department agriculture, purpose to make inquiry at the stock yards. Other men have been sent to Kansas City, Omaha and all the large cattle markets, while two representatives of the government have been sent to attend range meetings throughout the northwest among the cattle raisers. All of these men making investigations in various cattle centers are working under Mr. Garfield's orders. When they make their final report Mr. Garfield will compile his report to Secretary Cortelyou.



GEORGI POBIEDONOSETS A Russian Black Sea Battleship.

parts. The navy department expects advices from Vice Admiral Togo by night. It is known that he left in the vicinity of Port Arthur Thursday to return to an unknown base, and it is expected that he will reach telegraphic communication by night.

WASHINGTON—The Japanese minister has received a dispatch from his government embodying an official report from Admiral Uriu, regarding the engagement off Port Arthur, as follows:

"According to the report of the torpedo destroyer flotilla No. 3, our fleet approached Port Arthur on the 13th of April and sunk one battleship of the enemy of the *Petropavlovsk* type and one torpedo boat destroyer. No damage to our fleet. No report yet from Admiral Togo."

ST. PETERSBURG—Vice Admiral Stark, formerly in command of the Russian fleet at Port Arthur, in an interview is quoted as saying:

"In my opinion the *Petropavlovsk* struck one of the contact mines laid off Cape Liao Shan, but which had been torn from its moorings by the terrible storms prevailing last week, and which drifted under the stress of the south gales into the roadstead. It could not have been a mine laid near the entrance of the harbor, because the latter are not contact mines, but are fired by an electric wire from the shore."

DUTY ON COAL MUST REMAIN.

This is What Austen Chamberlain Tells Anxious Petitioners.

LONDON—The combined efforts of the coal owners exporters, ship owners and miners have failed to induce Austen Chamberlain, the chancellor of the exchequer, to repeal the coal duty. A deputation representing all the above interests laid the case before the chancellor Tuesday and pleaded that the duty was disastrous to every industry connected with the coal trade and enabled their German and other rivals to displace British coal. Mr. Chamberlain in reply lengthily compared the arguments of the petitioners with the facts in his possession, and said there was no reason for the abolition of the duty. He said that the fact that the exports for the last year were the largest on record disproved the gloomy forebodings of the deputation.

New York Bank Goes Down.

NEW YORK—The federal bank, a state institution in this city, was closed and officials of the state banking department are in charge. David Rothschild was president of the institution until a few weeks ago, when reports having come into circulation that the bank was connected with the Globe Securities company, which loaned money on salaries, he resigned and was succeeded by William Woods, who, with Doolittle, had secured control of the bank. The bank's capital is \$250,000.

portion of the turret. A few seconds later another explosion, somewhat more fierce, occurred. This was in the handling room below, where 1,600 pounds of powder, or four charges ready to be hoisted above, had ignited. Fire quarters were sounded and in less than five seconds after the first explosion two streams of water were being played in the rooms, and when volunteers were called for every man of the ship responded.

Captain Cowles gave his commands and but for his presence of mind and that of the officers of the ship, the *Missouri* would have gone down. The second explosion occurred near one of the magazines and so hot was the fire that the brass work of the magazines was melted.

Smoke and the fumes of the burned powder made it almost impossible to enter either the turret or handling room. Every officer and man in the port and all but three in the handling room were killed.

Three minutes after the explosion all the dead had been brought on deck and the surgeons from the *Missouri*, *Texas* and *Brooklyn* were attending to those not dead.

The twenty-five men of the turret were found lying in a heap. They had started from the exit when the first explosion occurred and had just reached there when the more terrible explosion in the handling room occurred, which burned and strangled them to death. Lieutenant Davidson, the officer in charge of the turret, evidently had given some command to the men, as he was on top of the heap of men.

The accident is the most serious that has occurred in the American navy since the blowing up of the *Maine* in Havana harbor in 1898.

The bodies of the dead were hardly recognizable, the terrible and quick fire having burned clothing from the bodies of the men and the flesh hung to them in shreds. The faces were mutilated by the smoke and flames only. Only one man was breathing when the turret crew was rescued and he died a moment after he reached the deck.

Senate Confirms Baxter.

WASHINGTON—The senate on Tuesday confirmed the nomination of Irving F. Baxter as United States attorney for the district of Nebraska.

Pension Deficiency of \$1,500,000.

WASHINGTON, D. C.—Commissioner Ware of the pension bureau was before the sub-committee of the appropriations committee, which is preparing the general deficiency appropriation bill asking for \$1,500,000 to meet the amount required for pensions under order 68, the age pension order. The amount was to cover the expenditures up to July 1, this year. The amount has been included in the bill, but the democrats have given notice of a minority report and a contest over this item.

Have Faith in Kuropatkin.

Russians Believe Japs Will Be Driven Out.

PARIS—A dispatch to the *Matin* from its St. Petersburg correspondent says:

"The Russians have the fullest confidence that General Kuropatkin will soon drive the Japanese out of Korea."

"While a strong army blockades Ping Yang another army corps will advance of Seoul; these being the only points wherein serious resistance is expected."

"The empress was so shocked by the disaster to the *Petropavlovsk* that she has been obliged to keep to her bed. She got up a few hours Saturday."

"The emperor is working hard and is not receiving anyone, not even the high court officials."

Japs Use Submarine Boats.

ST. PETERSBURG—M. Sverine, manager of the *Novoe Vremya*, says he has seen a letter, dated March 19, from Dr. Volkovitch, who was drowned on the *Petropavlovsk*, in which it is alleged that Vice Admiral Makaroff and his staff declared that the Japanese were using submarine boats and that Port Arthur was not defended by Russian mines.

Iowa Man at Head of University.

DANVILLE, Ky.—Dr. Frederick W. Hunt of Fairfile, Ia., who was recently elected president of the Central university of Kentucky, to succeed the late Dr. W. C. Roberts, has announced his acceptance and will take charge of the university soon.

Give Out No War News.

ST. PETERSBURG—On account of the holidays the committee on military affairs sat for only an hour today, leaving their office at 10 o'clock. Later official dispatches from the scene of war will not be made public until Tuesday.

Disease Among Jap Troops.

ST. PETERSBURG—According to the reports of spies, the Japanese troops in Korea have been ravaged by various diseases. One of these diseases, called "imblon," is a kind of intermittent typhus. Another, called "souda," which has not yet been studied by European doctors, produces premature senility. The patients lose their teeth, become extremely weak, and the nails are twisted back on the fingers. Dysentery is said to be very prevalent among the Russians at Harbin.

SOON TO BE OURS.

France Nearly Ready to Turn Over Panama Canal.

PARIS—All the papers necessary for the transfer of the Panama canal to the United States are now completed. They include lengthy inventories and schedules of the property belonging to the company, both in Panama, here and elsewhere. These have been carefully gone over and checked up by W. A. Day and Charles W. Russell (the assistant attorney general who came from Washington to assist in the transfer of the property), and the officers of the company. The most important paper is the contract for the sale. This sets forth all the preliminary negotiations between the United States and the company, leading up to the transfer and the final ratification of the transfer by the stockholders of the company. The consideration is stated to be \$40,000,000. The signing of the contract will occur immediately after the meeting of the stockholders next Saturday. However, as the meeting probably will last until late, the signing may go over until Monday. President Bo will sign for the company.

WILL BE NO TICKET SELLERS.

Half a Dollar in the Slot Will Open World's Fair Turnstiles.

ST. LOUIS—It has been decided by the World's fair to install electrical devices instead of having ticket sellers and ordinary turnstiles during the exposition period.

The Lindell entrance will be the main gate to the exposition. There thirty-two turnstiles are being installed, and through this entrance alone it is estimated that at least 500 persons can pass every sixty seconds.

To gain admission to the grounds a person must approach the turnstile and place a half dollar in a slot. This money, as it ascends, is still visible and releases a lever which unlocks the turnstile. The person can then pass through the gate and the minute that he is inside the turnstile is locked.

Individual gates are being installed for children. At these turnstiles a quarter will operate the mechanism.

With a decent supply of good will any man can be honest on a desert island.

Death of a Guilty Couple.

CHICAGO—James H. Johnson, a railroad switchman, and Mrs. Mary McGrath, said to have come to Chicago recently from St. Louis, were found dead in bed Sunday in a cheap hotel in Archer avenue. The couple registered at the hotel Saturday as man and wife and were assigned to a room. Escaping gas in their room started an investigation, and when the door was forced open both bodies were found lying side by side on the bed. Gas was escaping from a jet in the room.

His Great Endowment Will Be Known as the Hero Fund—Trust Placed in the Hands of a Commission of Prominent Men.

PITTSBURG—It was made known here Friday that Andrew Carnegie has created a fund of \$5,000,000 for the benefit of the "dependents of those losing their lives in heroic efforts to save their fellow men or for the victims themselves, injured totally." Provision is made for medals to be given in commemoration of heroic acts. The endowment is to be known as "The Hero Fund," and consists of \$5,000,000 of first collateral 5 per cent bonds of the United States Steel corporation.

The trust is placed in the hands of a commission composed of the following gentlemen: W. L. Abbott, Edwin H. Andrews, W. W. Blackburn, Edward M. Bigelow, Joseph Buffington, W. E. Frein, J. B. Jackson, Thomas Lynch, Charles C. Mellor, N. Miller, Thomas Morrison, Frederick P. Perkins, Robert Pitcairn, H. Kirk Porter, James F. Reed, W. L. Scaffe, William Scott, W. H. Stevenson, E. M. Wilnot-secretary.

The commission held its first meeting here Friday and made known the project. It is learned that the scheme was conceived by Mr. Carnegie immediately after the Harwick mine disaster, when he summoned to New York Mr. Taylor, chairman, and Mr. Wilnot, manager, to discuss with them plans for the relief of the sufferers from this catastrophe.

On this occasion Mr. Carnegie announced to Messrs. Taylor and Wilnot his intention to endow a fund for heroes, outlining his plans, and asked that they consider the project and write him regarding it, making such suggestions and giving such ideas as might occur to them. This they did, and on March 12, just before his departure for Europe, Mr. Carnegie forwarded a letter to Mr. Taylor announcing the plan and stating that the certificate for the bonds had been placed in his hands.

Mr. Carnegie warns the commission against the danger of interference or conflict with the pension funds for municipal employes that exist in many cities and urges it to act in harmony with such funds. This, as is the case with all the details of the fund's administration, is left to the commission.

The claims upon the fund for some years cannot exhaust it. After some years pensioners will become numerous. Should the commission find, allowing liberally for this, that a surplus will remain, it has power to make grants in case of accidents (preferably where a hero has appeared) to those injured.

The fund embraced by the fund is the United States and Canada and the waters thereof.

BRavery IS TO BE REWARDED.

Proctor Bill to Be Reported Upon Favorably.

WASHINGTON—Senator Proctor today introduced a bill, which will be favorably reported by the committee on military affairs, to authorize the president to reward distinguished or especially meritorious service rendered by certain officers of the active list of the army. The bill provides for the creation of a distinguished service list, to include five colonels, six lieutenant-colonels, eighteen majors, ten captains and five first lieutenants.

Appointments to the distinguished service list are to be made on the specific recommendation of a board, as near permanent as may be, of five general officers of the active list of the army.

Cotton Crop of India.

WASHINGTON—The government of India has issued its final general memorandum on the cotton crop of British India, for 1903 and 1904, showing that the area under cotton of 17,670,599 acres, is over 1,000,000 acres larger than the corrected area of last year, which was then the highest returned. The official figures of the estimated yield is 2,874,893 bales. The estimate total yield for this season (excluding the returns from Assam and Mysore, which did not report last year) is approximately the same as for the last season.

Panama Wants Recognition.

PANAMA—It has been decreed by the government that all the consular representatives of nations who have not formally recognized the republic of Panama will be unable to continue official relations with the government until such recognition has taken place.

Afflicted with Trachoma.

WASHINGTON—There was landed at Tacoma, Wash., recently fifty Filipinos who were brought to the United States under contract to take part in the Philippine island exhibit at the St. Louis exposition. Thirty-nine of the number were afflicted with trachoma, a disease of the eye. Under a ruling by the attorney general natives of the Philippine islands and Porto Rico are not aliens within the meaning of the immigration act and they had to be admitted. Congress will be asked to meet such cases arising hereafter.

FUND FOR HEROES

FIVE MILLION DOLLARS FOR THOSE SAVING LIVES.

IT IS CREATED BY CARNEGIE