

THE NEWS IN BRIEF.

Jealousy is the compliment we pay to our superiors. An electrical omnibus line began operation in Berlin. The church cannot be measured without its cornerstone. America needs good parents even more than good politics.

Hell is a hole with a great big entrance, but a very small pit. Truth may be bruised and laid up, but it never gets heart failure.

John F. Gowey, of Washington, United States general consul at Yokohama, is dead.

The report of the minority voice in the heart should always be given a hearing.

Paderewski has left the city of Mexico after a most successful series of performances.

Suit has been commenced by the sugar trust to test the constitutionality of the war tax.

Connecticut trolley lines last year carried 59,084,702 passengers and the steam lines 50,269,468.

A large conflagration destroyed five business houses at Carbondale, Ill., with a loss of \$50,000.

A new emperor is said to have been selected in China. His name is Pong-siu and he is 9 years old.

John J. Elwell, one of the best known citizens of Cleveland, O., and a hero of the civil war, is dead.

Dr. Samuel Pennington, president of the Newark City National bank, and who was the oldest living graduate of Princeton college, died last week.

John Z. Little, the actor, is dead in Brooklyn, aged 62 years. He was a native of Philadelphia and was at one time manager of a theater in Chicago.

A bacteriological examination of rats caught at Port Melbourne, Australia, wharf, has established the fact that the vermin are infected with the plague.

Mrs. Sallie Balke of Cincinnati died at the hospital in Kansas City of injuries received in the Missouri Pacific wreck near Independence, Mo., on February 27.

The outbreak of bubonic plague at Buenos Ayres has been semi-officially recognized as a "mild type." There have been twenty-three deaths within two months.

Mrs. Lucinda H. Stone, widely known as the "mother of women's clubs" and a writer and educator of note, is dead, at the age of 86, at Kalamazoo, Mich.

Holland Reed, the actor, who has been sick for the past four months in St. Luke's hospital, New York, has been discharged and is on the road to full recovery.

William Redmond announces that he will resign his seat in the Dublin council as the result of the passage of the resolutions to present an address of welcome to the queen.

Kansas City has a Charles M. Sheldon. He is an editor, too, but his paper is the Missouri Valley Farmer. He has recently received a large quantity of the mail of the Topeka man.

In Scott county, Arkansas, Zeb Leonard, a farmer, took his wife and four-year-old son to a secluded spot and shot and killed both of them. He buried the bodies and, returning home, burned his house.

Dr. A. C. McGiffert, professor in Union Theological seminary, who is charged with heresy by Dr. Birch, stated clerk of the New York presbytery, will not withdraw from the church to avoid trial.

Dr. Leslie E. Keeley's will was filed for probate at Dwight, Ill. All of his property is bequeathed to his wife, except \$100,000, which is given to Milton R. Keeley in trust, to be distributed according to private instructions.

The departure of the Kentucky legislature from Frankfort capital has given the city a more quiet appearance than it has had at any time in the last two months. No new warrants in connection with the Goebel assassination were issued.

A. M. Moreland, secretary of the Carnegie Steel company, limited, filed his separate answer in the Frick suit. He simply states that he is the successor of F. T. P. Lovejoy and that he has read Andrew Carnegie's answer and joins in the same.

Chief Wilkie of the secret service has received a new counterfeit \$5 silver certificate, series 1896, check, letter B, plate number 30. The note is printed from photo-cut plates on two pieces of paper, with red and blue silk threads between.

The Ohio house passed the Griffin bill, appropriating \$1,000,000 for the Toledo centennial, in its original form, by a vote of 60 to 40, which gives it a constitutional majority. The finance committee had recommended the appropriation be cut in half.

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It is reported at Kenosha, Wis., that the tannery belonging to the N. R. Allen. Sons has been sold to the leather trust. The consideration is said to have been \$4,000,000. The tannery employs some 1,200 men, and is said to be paying nearly \$500,000 a year.

Savannah, Ga., is being decorated in anticipation of the visit of Admiral and Mrs. Dewey on March 21 and 22. Every white military company in South Carolina, Georgia and Florida has been invited to become the guests of the city and take part in the military parade.

Senator Sewell has introduced a bill changing the name of the Paris, of the Paris line, to the Philadelphia.

At Kingston, Jamaica, a general and fifteen men have landed on the way to Colon. They say they are Argentinians and are going to join the Colombian revolutionists.

BILL IS AGAIN PASSED

Senate Adopts Conference Report on Porto Rico Measure.

STEWART VOTES WITH MAJORITY

Tillman Occupies Most of the Time, but is Called Down by Some Other Senators—Tariff and Beet Sugar, and Other Matters Touched Upon in Discussion.

WASHINGTON, March 24.—The senate today adopted the conference report on the Porto Rico relief bill by a vote of 35 to 15, practically a strict party expression. No democrat voted for the report, but Stewart of Nevada voted with the republicans.

The time of discussion was consumed principally by Tillman, who made a fierce attack upon the measure as agreed upon in conference, and accused the republican senators and republican party of indiscretion, hypocrisy and "dirty work."

Gallinger followed with a temperate statement of those who not only favor the report but the passage of a Porto Rico tariff bill.

Spooner closed the debate with a forceful statement in opposition to Tillman's speech, in the course of which he took occasion sharply to criticize the South Carolina senator for dragging the measure into politics. His colloquial tilts with Tillman were immensely enjoyed by the auditors.

Tillman sharply criticized the method adopted by the United States of extending hands full of food to the people of Porto Rico as a gratuity.

"As long as you continue to feed these people down there," declared Tillman, "you may feed them. So long as the freedmen's bureau was maintained in the south the colored race there amounted to nothing. That's a race characteristic. This government will set itself up as an elementary institution by the message of this bill and I do not believe we would stand on any such ground."

Perkins of California inquired if Tillman was in favor of free trade with the Philippines, knowing that those islands had the advantage of peon and Malay labor.

Tillman—If we are to continue to hold the Philippines I'm in favor of free trade with those islands. Those who voted to bring into the country those islands at their cheap contract, peon and Malay labor were told of the results that would follow the ratification of the treaty, and you could not get the votes necessary to make that treaty law until you had bought some men to vote for it. If it is now proposed to send a horde of carpetbaggers over there, backed by the bayonet of soldiers, so long as I have a voice I shall protest.

"The people," Tillman shouted, "will teach you next November that trade and the flag and liberty and the constitution go together."

Disclaiming any authority to speak for the president, Mr. Perkins of California said that the belief that the sugar trust had acquired a greater part of the sugar product of Porto Rico and his desire to build up the best sugar industry in the United States had induced the president, he (Perkins) believed, to favor a tariff if it were true that he did favor it.

Senator Allen introduced a resolution in the Senate.

WASHINGTON, March 24.—Senator Allen today introduced in the senate a bill to provide for pensions to certain prisoners of war; also a resolution for an investigation of the Couer d'Alene matter. He called up and at his request the senate passed these pensions: Charles A. Perkins at \$36 per month, Oliver Doman \$30, H. K. Williams \$30, J. W. Blake \$72, Hannan G. Huff \$12, Marie Wilersang \$12, David Tolman \$24, and John M. McCorr \$24.

WANT TREATY DECLARED VOID.

Sloux Indians Claim that Only One-Third of Tribe Signed It.

FORT YATES, N. D., March 24.—The Sloux have just finished a protracted council at Oak Creek with Maor Bingenheimer, the Indian agent, over the Black Hills treaty of 1876. The Indians have long claimed that this treaty was signed by only one-third of their number instead of three-fourths, as required by law.

Major Bingenheimer corroborates the claim. The Indians will employ legal aid to have the treaty declared null and void.

Middle Boneters Laying Plans.

INDIANAPOLIS, Ind., March 24.—Secretary Walter of the middle-of-the-road populists is preparing to leave for an extended visit to the various state organizations. He is said to be slated for national chairman and says if he is selected he will have the national headquarters moved to this city.

"Tom Watson of Georgia can have the nomination for president if he wants it," said Major Walter tonight, "and I believe Dr. B. F. ray of Minneapolis will be his running mate. He is a close friend of Ignatius Donnelly."

Jack Graham Put Out.

HOT SPRINGS, Ark., March 24.—Jim Feanlan of Pittsburg knocked out Jack Graham of South Omaha in ten rounds before the Hot Springs Athletic club tonight, after both had made a hard battle.

Argentine Nice to Spain.

MADRID, March 24.—The president of Argentine, Lieutenant General Roca, through the minister at Buenos Ayres, Senator Del Aleno, has cabled thanks to the Spanish government for the enthusiastic reception given to the crew and officers of the Argentine training ship Presidente Sarmiento.

STEYN ISSUES A PROCLAMATION.

Warns Burglars Who Lay Down Their Arms to Help the English.

BOER CAMP, Krootstadt, Thursday, March 24.—Affairs are being put in proper shape and the Free States who had to leave are returning in crowds. The president's proclamation has shown the burglars that the government is standing firm.

The commands are mobilizing in great numbers and the men are more determined than ever.

President Steyn has issued a proclamation in which he warns the burglars who lay down their arms and help the English that they are liable to the utmost punishment as traitors.

LONDON, March 24.—The war office has issued this bulletin: "CAPE TOWN, March 23.—The following telegram has arrived from Nicholson, Buluwayo, March 18: 'The following is from Plummer: 'LOBATSI, March 14.—The Boers advanced from the south in considerable force this morning. They first advanced from Goode's Sliding. After a sharp little engagement Lieutenant Colones' advanced post was compelled to retreat. The retirement was excellently carried out as to our main position. The casualties included Lieutenant Chapman and a corporal, prisoners, and two missing, probably prisoners. Five troopers were wounded. Chapman's horse fell with him close to the enemy, who immediately surrounded him. The exact Boer casualties are unknown, but several were shot at close range. In the afternoon the Boers advanced further north and shelled our position from a ridge on our left. Our twelve and one-half pounder replied, the artillery duel continuing until sunset. Lieutenant Tyler has since died of wounds. One native was killed.'"

Colonel Plummer apparently has retired to Crocodile pools, and Mafeking seems further off than ever from relief. This news was contained in a dispatch from Buluwayo, dated Monday, March 19, and published in the second edition of the Times. These advices add that the base hospital has been brought back to Gaborone, though the correspondent further says it is thought the object of the Boer demonstration on March 15 and 16 was to cover the removal of the siege guns from Mafeking.

LONDON, March 23.—Again there is a persistent rumor that Mafeking has been relieved. It is even asserted that the war office has received a dispatch announcing the relief, but that publication is withheld because the form of the message admits the possibility of a mistake.

The war office, however, declares that there is no confirmation of the rumor, and no further news is on hand.

It seems certain that Mafeking's only chances for relief are by the column supposed to be advancing from the south or the possibility that Colonel Baden-Powell is still strong enough to attempt a sortie with a view of capturing the Boer guns at a time when Commandant Synman has withdrawn his men to oppose Colonel Plumer.

It is reported from Lourenzo Marquez that Pretoria is prepared to stand a siege of two years and that the Boer women, frantic at the reverses to the Boer arms, are entreating to be allowed to shoot the British officers imprisoned at Pretoria.

It is also announced from the Transvaal capital that the Italian government has declined to intervene.

A dispatch to the Times from Kimberley, dated Thursday, says: "The date of the departure of the Mafeking column from Warrenton has not yet been fixed. The post at Fourteen Streams is guarded by our troops. Skirmishing continues around Warrenton. The Boers are reported to have four guns, but this is doubtful."

KIMBERLEY, March 23.—There was a smart artillery duel at Warrenton yesterday. A battery under Major Blewit, supported by the Kimberley Light Horse, located the Boers, who had four guns, two of which used cordite, but ineffectively. The British battery replied with effect and silenced the Boer fire. The Boers sent two shells near the railway station, which was not damaged.

A scouting party got too close to the bank of the river and encountered a hot fire. The men were unable to get away and it was impossible to relieve them without loss, the party being obliged to wait for darkness in order to escape. The reconnaissance succeeded, and Major Blewit retired with only one wounded.

This morning brisk firing was resumed at Warrenton at 6:30, but it has now slackened up. A detachment of fusiliers has arrived. A detachment of Vryburg inhabitants who had been imprisoned by the Boers was sent in to Warrenton under a white flag after being taken from Lager to Lager around the district. They say the big gun from Kimberley has been taken through Christiansia to Pretoria. There are women and children in nearly every laager.

WASHINGTON, March 23.—After a spirited discussion extending over three days the Loud bill, relating to second class mail matter, was recommitted on postoffice and post roads.

The majority in favor of the motion to recommit was so decisive that it is regarded as unlikely that the measure will appear again during the present congress. Loud said after the vote was announced that this was the "third time and out," so far as he was concerned. The vote on the motion was 148 to 96, with sixteen present and not voting.

Ridgley of Kansas declared that railroad companies were today telegraphing members to support the bill. He deemed this particularly significant of the interest the railroads had in the matter.

A telegram from the Ohio Farmer, saying, "Our 100,000 subscribers ask you to support the Loud bill," was presented by Burton, who declared that it was high time special classes which had grown up in the country should be forced to pay their way as other people did.

Cowherd of Missouri, speaking in support of the bill, said every official who had investigated the subject had given his approval to the measure. He held up to the view of the house a copy of the "Velvet Hand, or the Life of Injun Dick," paper bound, which he said was entitled to second class rates, while a cloth bound copy of "Rob Roy," which he had purchased for 5 cents, could not be sent as second class matter. His argument elicited much applause. A number of minor amendments were adopted before the final vote.

White Confers With Ray.

WASHINGTON, March 23.—Montagu White, the Boer agent in this country, called at the state department today and spent some time in conversation with Secretary Hay. Nothing was said about mediation, nor about the fate of Johannesburg and it was intimated that the subject of the conversation was purely personal in character.

Oman Fasha Not Dead.

CONSTANTINOPLE, March 23.—There is no truth in the report published in the United States that Osman Fasha, the hero of Pleyna, is dead. The famous Turkish general has been sick for a week past, but his health is now improving.

Condition of the Treasury.

WASHINGTON, March 23.—Today's statement of the treasury balances in the general fund exclusive of the \$150,000,000 gold reserve in the division of redemption, shows: Available cash balance, \$160,460,843; gold, \$90,294,315.

RELIEF IS HELD BACK

While Mafeking Suffers, Burglars Keep the British Forces in Check.

COLUMN FROM KIMBERLY STOPPED

Has Its Hands Full at Warrenton and at Fourteen Streams—Plummer Being Very Hard Pressed—Instead of Aiding Garrison is Fighting in Self-Defense.

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VOTE TO BE ON THE HOUSE BILL.

Republican Peace Committee Decides to Separate Measures.

WASHINGTON, March 23.—The republican peace committee of the senate met after the adjournment of the senate today and practically ratified the offer of Senator Foraker in the senate to separate the house Porto Rico tariff bill from the senate government bill and to take a vote on the house measure. The peace committee is willing that a vote should be taken upon the house bill as it was passed by that body, provided it becomes apparent that it is impolitic to attempt to amend it, but an effort will be made to ascertain whether the house will consent to consent to any modification.

Some of the republican senators think the bill should be so changed as to provide for the continued exemption from duty of the articles which were exempted by the president's order. They also find the house bill deficient in that it fails to provide any means of collecting the duty which it imposes. There will be a conference with members of the ways and means committee of the house and if the latter does not discourage amendments these will be offered. There is, however, an acknowledged fear that if the bill is amended in any respect it may be difficult if not impossible to secure its acceptance by the house on a conference report. On this account there may be no effort to modify the bill.

The free trade senators say there is a stronger determination now than ever before to resist the bill as it came from the house. It is asserted there are eight senators who will not support it unless amended. These are said to be Davis and Nelson of Minnesota, Wellington of Maryland, Hoar of Massachusetts, Mason of Illinois, Beveridge of Indiana, Proctor of Vermont and Simon of Oregon. What they will do in case the bill is amended cannot be stated, but it is evident they expect a compromise which they can support.

GUARDING AGAINST PLAGUE.

Report of Several Suspicious Deaths in San Francisco.

WASHINGTON, March 23.—A report has been received at the marine hospital bureau from San Francisco to the effect that several suspicious deaths have occurred in that city, but that a medical examination gave only negative results and it was not positively known whether the patients died from plague or some other disease. The health authorities have placed guards at the railroad and water exits of the city to examine Chinamen who may attempt to leave.

No reports have been received in regard to plague at Port Townsend, Wash., and it is thought there have been no new cases there since the death from that cause several weeks ago of a passenger on the Japanese vessel Nanyo Maru.

The British Columbia authorities have decided to quarantine against vessels from San Francisco.

ISLANDERS STARVING.

San Juan Merchant Talks of Conditions There.

NEW YORK, March 23.—A special meeting of the Board of Transportation to consider the Porto Rico matter was held today. There was an attendance of prominent New York business men that filled the room to the doors. Nicholas Oyangeren, a merchant of San Juan, P. R., addressed the board.

"Never in the history of the island of Porto Rico," he said, "has there been known such extreme general misery, such want of credit and absolute stagnation. The people are starving there by hundreds daily in the interior districts."

A resolution was adopted declaring that the policy of the United States toward Porto Rico should be definitely and immediately determined on conditions which relate to that island alone, should not in any particular or degree be affected by considerations which may be involved in the relations of the United States to Cuba and the Philippines, and that due regard for pledges given demand an extension to Porto Rico of free commercial intercourse with the United States and a civil form of government.

Congress for All America.

WASHINGTON, March 23.—The state department has been notified by the government of Mexico that it accepts the president's invitation to hold a second Panamerican congress and will in turn invite the republics of North, South and Central America to send their representatives in such congress to the City of Mexico. Thus, it is believed, the success of the movement is assured.

Now that Mexico has entered so earnestly into the project it is believed that all the republics of the three Americas will send delegates to the congress.

Claims Will Be Arbitrated.

WASHINGTON, March 23.—Secretary Hay and Senator Correa, the Nicaraguan minister, today signed a treaty providing for the settlement by arbitration of the claims of two American concerns against the government of Nicaragua.

One of the claims is that of Orr & Laubenhelm of New Orleans for damages sustained through the temporary seizure by the Nicaraguan government of some tugs belonging to the firm at Bluefields. These tugs were used to tow lighters laden with bananas from the shore to vessels lying out at sea, and in their absence a stock of bananas accumulated for shipment decayed.

Shoots Himself.

YANKTON, S. D., March 23.—Emil Corson, a partner in the largest business firm in Gayville, committed suicide last night by shooting. His wife died last fall and he has been in low spirits ever since. He was seen in Gayville at 11:30 last night, but soon after must have started to walk to the cemetery at Mission Hill, where his wife was buried, about six miles away. He was found there this morning, his feet on the grave of his baby and lying on his wife's grave, with a bullet hole in his left temple.

PREPARING FOR ARBOR DAY

State Superintendent Jackson Issues address to Pupils of Public Schools.

LINCOLN, Neb., March 24.—The distribution of the Bird and Arbor Day Manual, published by the state for use in the public schools, has begun under the direction of Deputy State Superintendent Beck. The manual contains an Arbor day proclamation by Governor Poynter, an address to Nebraska teachers and pupils by State Superintendent Jackson, a short article on the economic effects of Arbor day by J. Sterling Morton and a collection of poems, songs and essays on subjects related to the planting and culture of trees. Following is the proclamation issued by Governor Poynter designating April 23 as Arbor day:

"We are all interested in the advancement and welfare of our state. Anything that will add to its desirability as a home, that will enhance its beauty or that will bring to it more good citizens should receive our aid and encouragement.

"Nothing in which our people have engaged has done more in all these directions than the planting of trees. Nebraska is known as the Tree Planters' state. That the name is worthily bestowed is amply attested by the thousands of groves, orchards and shade trees which now adorn our prairies and beautify our homes.

"Legislative enactment sets apart one day in each year for appropriate observance by the planting of trees. In compliance with this provision, by the authority vested in me as governor of Nebraska, I proclaim Monday, April 23, 1900, 'Arbor day.'"

In his address to teachers and pupils the superintendent speaks of the wanton destruction of birds and urges the organization of Audubon societies. The address follows:

The appearance of sweet smelling and beautifully colored flowers, together with the joyful notes of our feathered friends, as they come up from the sunny southland, remind us once again that spring is here. At this season of the year all nature seems to take on new life and joy and gladness reign supreme.

I am happy to greet you as we approach the dawn of a new century and hope that the thoughts and emotions created by a careful consideration of the possibilities that open before you may inspire you to nobler thoughts and grander deeds.

The object of this book is to place before you thoughts that will tend to give you higher ideals. I am sure that when you fully realize the economic value of birds and trees, to say nothing of the pleasure which their presence and cultivation bring, you will forever be the friends and protectors of these gracious gifts of an Allwise Father.

The wanton destruction of birds has reached such a point that our lawmakers have felt the necessity of enacting laws for their protection. It would be a source of great satisfaction, however, to know and feel that the boys of the great state of Nebraska refrain from killing birds and other harmless creatures from a higher motive than the mere fulfilling of a statutory law. I should be pleased to learn of societies formed all over the state for the protection of birds.

Nebraska was the pioneer state in inaugurating Arbor day and among the first to recommend a "bird day." Let us strive to maintain the position which the state occupies in this regard and continue to lead in educational matters.

Trusting that the day may be fraught with pleasant and profitable exercise, I am, yours for the protection of birds and the planting of trees.

W. R. JACKSON, State Superintendent of Public Instruction.

Nebraska at Washington.

WASHINGTON, March 24.—Bids for the erection of an extension to the new postoffice building at Omaha were put on the market March 14 and will be opened April 24. The specifications call for granite of similar color and durability as that which enters into the construction of the present building, which insures the Colorado company getting the contract for the stone for the new building.

The title of the First National bank of Bloomington, Neb., has been secured by the conversion of the Franklin County bank of the same place.

Congressman Burkett has introduced a bill for the improvement of the Missouri river at Nebraska City and appropriating \$50,000 for revetment purposes.

Nebraska Soldier Buried.

OSCEOLA, Neb., March 24.—William Lewis of company E, First Nebraska, was buried in the Osceola cemetery. The body has been buried twice, first on the brow of a hill overlooking a little river near Camp Dewey, just outside of Maulla, P. I. Rev. James Mailley, who was the chaplain of the First Nebraska, officiated at both funerals.

Infant Thrown in a Well.

HUMBOLDT, Neb., March 24.—While drawing water from his well Preston Keiser drew up the body of a newly born female child, which from appearances had been thrown into the well only a short time before. He at once notified the proper officials and Coroner Waggoner arrived and begun arrangements for an inquest over the remains. The child was fully developed and had evidently been alive when born and cast in the well while breathing.