

THE NEWS IN BRIEF.

James B. Forgan, president of the First National bank of Chicago, and ex-Governor Francis of Missouri were elected directors of the Chicago & Alton railway.

Congressman Charles Dick has been elected president of a new national fraternal beneficiary society, known as the Chealters, which will have headquarters at Akron, O.

Owen Murphy, who had been for more than half a century agent of the estate of the late Rufus Lord, and a man well known in Wall street, New York, is dead from old age at Brooklyn.

Fire destroyed the business portion of Etna, Ill. The Methodist Episcopal church, Jacob Haines' general store, O. P. Spillman's hardware store, and Zimmer's blacksmith shop were among the buildings burned.

The directors of the Atchison, Topeka & Santa Fe Railroad company have declared the regular semi-annual dividend of 2 1/2 per cent on the preferred stock, but took no action on a dividend for the common stock.

Countess Bonie de Castellane, instead of being deprived of the whole of her income from the \$18,000,000 set apart for her under the will of her father, the late Jay Gould, is to receive only (?) \$20,833 per month.

According to a report that reached Wall street, Vickers' Son & Maxim, limited, of England, have instituted negotiations for the purchase of the Midvale steel works and Cramp Ship-building company, of Philadelphia.

New proof of the probable truth of Andrew Carnegie's statement that John D. Rockefeller is the richest man in the world was given in the offer of \$800 a share for 500 shares of Standard Oil stock, to be delivered January 1 next.

Tommy Ryan has signed articles to meet Jack Root for the middle-weight championship. Root, through his manager, L. M. Houseman, at once accepted. The battle will probably take place in Saengerfest hall at Cincinnati.

Senator Proctor has presented to the senate a resolution on the Vermont legislature, asking recognition of and reward for the services of Captain Charles E. Clark, who commanded the battleship Oregon during the war with Spain.

John Bronsahan, since 1858 a resident of Kansas City and at one time a well known contractor, is dead, aged 73 years. He saw the first railroad built into Kansas City, for on his arrival only wagons and steamboats were used.

George S. House, one of the best known lawyers in Illinois, died at Joliet of gangrene brought on by abscess of the toe. His case was similar to that of Senator Davis. Mr. House was 65 years old and had practiced law there since before the civil war.

Once more Grover Cleveland, twice president of the United States, tried to impress upon his friends in New Jersey the fact that he is seeking no office or honors. His latest refusal of a proposition by his admirers is his declination of the nomination for United States senator by the democratic minority in the state legislature.

J. M. Robertson, who has just returned from South Africa, in a speech at a meeting of the League of Liberals, said the people here know little or nothing of what is going on in South Africa. He further asserted that he, himself, saw an order of Lord Roberts in July for the burning of forty farms. The Dutch, Mr. Robertson added, are now absolutely alienated.

Commissioner Peck's report of the expenditures of the Paris commission for the year ending November 15, 1900, was sent to the senate. The total amount expended was \$939,465. The principal items were: Experts' salaries, \$147,694; buildings, \$191,421; jury, \$53,779; clerks, \$4,963; general employees' salaries, \$49,966; guards, \$34,951; traveling expenses, \$52,530.

At Falmouth, Ky., Wm. Poor, a prominent contractor, was shot and instantly killed by his brother-in-law, Fred N. Gulick. The tragedy was the culmination of a dissatisfied feeling on the part of Gulick, who was deposed as buyer and weigher of the firm.

Hon. William Wirt Henry, grandson of Patrick Henry, and a distinguished member of the Virginia bar, died at Richmond.

The Turko-Germany difficulties regarding a coaling station in the Red sea has been settled, Germany intimating that she only wants a station during the Chinese crisis.

President Cyrus Northrop of the State University of Minnesota announces that a friend in Chicago has offered an annual prize of \$100 to be awarded the member of the senior class writing and delivering the best oration, according to rules prescribed by the donor.

Gen. Fitzhugh Lee, wife and daughter, have arrived at Omaha, and Gen. Lee has assumed command of the department of the Missouri.

According to the London Daily Express no more infantry drafts will be sent to South Africa. The only troops to go to the frontier hereafter will be mounted men.

At Frankfort, Ky., Governor Beckham's plurality was officially reported at 3,689.

General Greely, chief signal officer, has been informed that 200 miles of telegraph lines have been constructed in the vicinity of the southern Yukon and Nome, Alaska.

It is officially announced that a tender of \$5,975,000 has been accepted for the construction of a Pacific cable. This new wire will be pan-Britannic. Whenever it touches any land it will not only link together Great Britain and her far-away colonies, but it will also connect Australia and Canada.

TREATIES ARE IN HAND

President Transmits Agreement Extending Period for Ratification.

TRADE WITH THE BRITISH INDIES

Compacts Entered Into With Nicaragua, Ecuador, the Dominican Republic and Denmark so far as St. Croix is Affected by Trade Relations.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 12.—The president has sent to the senate a number of treaties with Great Britain, extending for a year the time for the ratification of the reciprocity treaties affecting the British West Indian possessions, which were sent to the senate last session, but failed of ratification. He also has followed the same course in the reciprocity treaties with Nicaragua, Ecuador, the Dominican Republic and the government of Denmark, the last named affecting the island of St. Croix only. The reciprocity treaty with Nicaragua was signed October 20, 1899, but for some reason was not transmitted to the senate until the 5th of the present month. It provides for a reduction of 20 per cent from the rates of the Dingley tariff act on the following articles brought into the United States from Nicaragua: Cane sugar, not above 16 Dutch standard; molasses; hides of cattle and of other animals except sheep with the wool on; indigo, coffee, bananas, rubber, crude mahogany, in the log or rough-hewn.

Nicaragua agrees to admit the following articles free of duty: Live animals; grain, including wheat, corn, etc.; agricultural seeds, live plants, cornmeal, starch, all vegetables and fruits, hay and other forage, cottonseed oil, tar and turpentine, asphalt, quicksilver, coal, fertilizers, lime and cement, wood and lumber, marble, machinery, agricultural implements, wagons and carts, railroad and structural iron and steel, fence wire, motors, forges, water pumps, hose, sledge hammers, iron piping and lightning rods, galvanized iron roofs, printing materials, books, pamphlets, etc.; surgical and mathematical instruments, boats of all kinds, gold and silver bullion, bars or coin.

There is to be a reduction of 20 per cent upon the Nicaraguan duty on American cheap wines and flour and wheat.

The Ecuador treaty provides for the free admission of the following products of that country into the United States: Hides and skins of all animals except those of neat cattle and sheep with the wool on; coffee, cotton and cotton waste, cocoa, crude; India rubber, crude; Peruvian bark, hat reeds, ivory nuts.

On the following Ecuadorian articles the United States grants a reduction of 20 per cent in duties: Cane sugar, not above 16 Dutch standard; hides of neat cattle, straw hats, leaf tobacco.

Reciprocally, the following articles of United States origin are to be admitted to Ecuador free: Agricultural implements and machinery of all kinds; machines for manufacturing purposes, locomotives, cars and materials for the construction and equipment of railways; iron in pigs or bars; copper lead and zinc in heavy bars; coal, bran and maize, cheap wines, preserved fruits, oil cake and oil meal, preserved salmon.

A 20 per cent reduction is granted by Ecuador on the following American articles: Sewing machines, wheat flour, high-priced wines, timber and lumber, cottonseed oil.

DENVER MAY LOSE G. A. R. PLUM.

Failure to Get Promised Railroad Rate to Be Considered.

INDIANAPOLIS, Ind., Dec. 12.—Captain W. H. Armstrong of this city, senior member of the national executive committee of the Grand Army of the Republic, today received from Commander-in-Chief Leo Bassett of St. Louis a call to come to that city on Monday to attend an important meeting of the national executive committee. The purpose of the meeting is to decide the place of next year's national Grand Army of the Republic encampment.

At the Chicago encampment last summer it was voted to accept the proposition of Denver, provided that city would make good its promise of a railroad rate of 1 cent a mile. Denver has been trying its best to secure this rate, but has not succeeded in getting the western roads together, it is said.

Estimates for Next Year.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 12.—The annual comparative statement showing by bills the relative amounts of treasury estimates for the next fiscal year, compared with the estimates for the last fiscal year, and also for next year, compared with the actual appropriations of last year, as prepared by the clerks of the senate and house committees on appropriations, was completed today. The statement makes a complete showing except as to deficiency and miscellaneous appropriations, and shows a total of estimates for appropriations for 1902 amounting to \$743,374,304, compared with actual appropriations for 1901, less miscellaneous and deficiency appropriations of \$690,660,230.

Chaffee Incident Closed.

BERLIN, Dec. 12.—The German Foreign office authorizes the Associated Press to make the following statement. "General Chaffee wrote Field Marshal von Waldersee a letter in a rough tone. Field Marshal von Waldersee refused to receive it, returning the same to General Chaffee. The latter then wrote a second letter, apologizing for his objectionable expressions, whereupon Field Marshal von Waldersee invited General Chaffee to breakfast and the incident was amicably closed."

WAITING ON THE ENGLISH.

Note to China Will Be Delivered as Soon as That Country Signs.

TALKS FOR THE KAISER

Count Von Buelow States Regarding Emperor's Attitude to Kruger.

GERMANY TRIED TO STOP THE WAR

President of Transvaal Republic Informed as to Conditions in Europe—Africans Refused Arbitration—Spirit of Boer Leader Too High for Counsel.

BERLIN, Dec. 11.—The imperial chancellor, Count von Buelow, replying to a question on the subject of Mr. Kruger's failure to be received by Emperor William, said the government did all in its power to ward off war and left the two republics in no doubt as to the state of affairs in Europe and of German neutrality.

When, in 1899, the question of arbitration seemed not altogether excluded, the government recommended it to Mr. Kruger. He thought the time had not yet come. When Mr. Kruger later sought intervention his feelings were too badly inflamed for the Dutch and German governments. For the German government it was lost time to give advice. Germany was convinced that any step of a great power at that moment would be critical and lead to no result.

"There was no use for us," said the chancellor, "to pinch our fingers between the door and the hinge."

The chancellor added that when the suggestion of mediation was made to Great Britain by the United States in a quite gently worded inquiry it was rejected officially and categorically. Intervention might have led to war.

The chancellor described the reply of M. Delcasse, the French minister of foreign affairs, to Mr. Kruger as: "France will in no case take the initiative, but would not oppose it when certain eventualities became known, provided they are calculated to serve French interests."

The chancellor thereupon remarked that he could not have dealt with the situation better himself. Overtures to Mr. Kruger in Germany, he pointed out, would have displaced international relations and served no purpose of Mr. Kruger or of Germany. Germany was not bound to Great Britain a hair's breadth more than Great Britain was bound to Germany, but to act the Don Quixote against Great Britain would be a piece of folly for which he would not be responsible.

In the Reichstag today during the debate on the estimates the secretary of the imperial treasury, Baron von Thielmann, took a decidedly gloomy view of the economic situation in Germany. He said the system had been undergoing a radical change since summer and people must be prepared for a number of years to see a gradual shrinkage of the inflated condition. The decline, however, would not take the form of a great financial crash, as in 1873. The period of diminished trade could not pass without affecting the imperial budget. Therefore, it was necessary to strengthen the reserves of the treasury.

In regard to the abolition of the sugar bounties, the secretary of the treasury said the negotiations between Austria, France and Germany were not concluded, but they would probably provide a basis for definite agreements.

The secretary also announced that a bill taxing sparkling wines would shortly be presented and that another bill taxing saccharine was in course of preparation.

MEASURES FAVORED BY LABOR

Federation of Labor Endorses Initiative and Referendum.

LOUISVILLE, Ky., Dec. 11.—Immediately following the call to order this morning the resolutions committee of the American Federation of Labor submitted its report. The first resolution recommended by the committee was one reaffirming its favorable position on the initiative and referendum, which was adopted by the convention by a vote of 32 to 56 after considerable debate.

Following in rapid succession were recommended and adopted resolutions requesting support by congress of a bill for the higher education of the blind, in favor of an eight-hour bill for all postoffice employees, to be introduced at the coming session of congress, and in favor of municipal ownership of public utilities.

MANLEY TO SEE PRESIDENT.

Not Likely to Accept Commissionship of Internal Revenue.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 11.—Hon. Joseph Manley of Maine is to have an interview with President McKinley at 3 o'clock this afternoon, when the question of accepting the office of commissioner of internal revenue will be decided. It is understood that there is legal objection to the president continuing the vacancy for several months, as suggested by Mr. Manley, and that the latter will not accept the office.

Li's Secretary Arrested.

LONDON, Dec. 11.—A special dispatch from Shanghai announces that Li Hung Chang's secretary, Yiko, has been arrested by order of Field Marshal Count von Waldersee, on the charge of communicating with the Boers.

Troops Accomplish Their Mission.

BERLIN, Dec. 11.—Field Marshal Count von Waldersee telegraphs from Peking, under date of Saturday, December 8, that the two detachments of troops from Tien Tsin, commanded by Colonel Loehscheidt and Major Falkenheym, which had been proceeding against a considerable force of Chinese regulars who had taken up a position at Tsang Chou, ninety-five kilometers southward of Tien Tsin, have occupied the place without opposition and that the columns are returning to Tien Tsin.

Dutch Make Final Refusal.

THE HAGUE, Dec. 12.—The Dutch government today finally and definitely refused to take the initiative in behalf of arbitration between the Transvaal and Great Britain.

CENTENNIAL OF THE CAPITAL

Notable Anniversary to Be Celebrated at Washington.

TO NEGOTIATE A PEACE

Nearly All Envoys at Peking Have Received Instructions.

THE WORK MAY BEGIN TUESDAY

Diplomats Will Immediately Commence Conference With China's Plenipotentiaries and Emperor Will Return to Peking to Execute the Treaties.

PEKING, Dec. 10.—All the foreign envoys except Sir Ernest Mason Satow, the British minister, have received instructions from their governments agreeing to the joint note, proposed at the last meeting.

Another meeting will probably be called for Tuesday next. Should the British minister have received his instructions to sign the joint note by that time, communications will be immediately opened with Prince Ching and Li Hung Chang, who are in daily touch with the court by the Chinese telegraph.

Prince Ching says Emperor Kwang Su is ready to return as soon as assured that the negotiations will allow him to come under conditions consonant with his dignity and safety.

The removal of General Tung Hsiang from the command of the Chinese forces surrounding the court is considered by the foreign envoys to be a very important step, as indicating the real desire of the government to come to terms. Fu Hsiang's banishment indicates that the court recognizes the expediency of obeying the demands of the powers.

The International club was opened today, its object being to bring together in a spirit of special harmony the officers and diplomats of the various nations. There was a large company present and music was discoursed by military bands. It is expected that the club will continue a great success. The building was formerly an imperial temple.

The envoys are considering the question of legation buildings in the future. At present none of the governments own its buildings, all the houses being rented. The only ones not damaged considerably are the American, British and Russian.

It is proposed that all the legation buildings should be concentrated within a square mile.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 10.—The next important step in the Chinese situation will be the formal presentation to the Chinese plenipotentiaries of the agreement arrived at between the representatives of the powers at Peking for reparation for the Boxer outrages.

In just what manner this will be done, Mr. Conger has not informed the state department, although the probability is that the document will be handed to the Chinese by the dean of the diplomatic corps.

As has been stated already, the agreement is simply a statement of the terms upon which the powers will negotiate with China for a final settlement, and is laid before the Chinese officials as a matter of form. The negotiations for final settlement will come later, after the Chinese have been given a reasonable opportunity for the consideration of the conditions laid down by the powers.

The complete agreement deciphered from the code is now in the hands of the president. Officials decline to make its text public in advance of the receipt of information that it has been formally accepted by the powers, although the advices which have heretofore come from Mr. Conger leave no doubt that this will be the case. The essential features of the agreement already have been outlined in the press dispatches.

Uncle Sam's Boat Building.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 10.—The vessels built in the United States and officially numbered from June 30, 1900, to November 30, 1900, were 495, of 149,963 gross tons. The principal items of the total are seven steel steamships on the great lakes (34,933 gross tons) and four smaller steel steamships (8,456 tons, which could pass through this new Welland canal) and one steel schooner barge (2,799 tons).

Mrs. Mary McLean Dead.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 10.—Mrs. Mary L. McLean, the mother of John R. McLean of the Cincinnati Enquirer, died here at her residence at 1:30 o'clock this morning of acute heart affection. She had been ill since Friday.

At the bedside of Mrs. McLean when the end came were her daughters, Mrs. Dewey and Mrs. Ludlow, wife of Rear Admiral Ludlow; her son, John R. McLean and Admiral Dewey.

Chief Rebel Caught.

SHANGHAI, Dec. 10.—Pao Ho Nien, tao tai of Chu Fu, in the province of Che Kian, who was responsible for the July massacre and who absconded, has been captured near Su Chau and sent to Hang Chau Fu.

Persian Minister Arrives.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 10.—General Isaac Kahn, the new Persian minister to the United States, arrived here today from New York. He probably will be presented to the president during the coming week.

An Oklahoma Affair.

MOUNTAIN VIEW, O. T., Dec. 10.—Five men were wounded in a fight between members of the Hughes gang and City Marshal Jesse Morris and Deputy Marshal Ayres in the Cattle Exchange saloon last night. Marshal Morris was shot through the intestines, Deputy Ayres in the knee, Jesse Williams was shot four times, Frank Hughes was shot through the chest over the heart. A Cherokee half-breed named Palmsey was shot four times in the head. Morris, Hughes and Palmsey will die.

MARTIAL DEAD BROUGHT HOME.

Transport Hancock Brings Bodies of 1,500 Soldiers and Sailors.

MINISTERIALISTS RE-ELECTED.

LONDON, Dec. 11.—Sir A. Ackland-Hood, conservative, has been re-elected to the House of Commons from the west, or Wellington, division of Somerset. He had no opposition.

Right Hon. St. John Broderick has been re-elected to the House of Commons from the Guilford division of Surrey, without opposition. Captain E. G. Pretzman, conservative, has been re-elected without opposition from the Woodbridge division of Suffolk.

Was Caught at Rawlins.

CHICAGO, Ill., Dec. 11.—Walter D. Glenn, formerly cashier of the Trades Loan and Building association, who disappeared last summer with a charge of being over \$20,000 short in his accounts hanging over him, was placed in the county jail today pleading trial. Glenn, after leaving Chicago, went to Rawlins, Wyo., where he secured a position as clerk in a hotel and it was while acting in that position that he was arrested.

Accuses England of Spite.

ST. PETERSBURG, Dec. 10.—The Novoe Vremya, in an article evidently inspired, referring to the recent dispatch from Dr. Morrison in Peking to the London Times, saying that all the credit for securing softened terms by the Russians, remarks: "The credit for the existing entente really belongs to America. England begrudges President McKinley his just prestige because he has emphasized America's friendship for Russia."

Ends a Murderer's Career.

VESTERAAS, Sweden, Dec. 11.—Philip Nordland, who on May 17 last, as the steamer Prins Carl, on which he was a passenger, was passing Quicksund, murdered seven men and wounded five others, a woman and a boy, subsequently escaped in a boat to Koping and who was convicted and sentenced to death in June last, was beheaded today. The condemned man chanted the verses of a psalm as he laid his head upon the block.

Robbers' Small Haul.

PAINESVILLE, O., Dec. 10.—Four masked men forced an entrance to the office of the Mentor Knitting mills this morning, bound the watchman and his wife and blew the safe with nitro-glycerine. The robbers secured \$50 in money and made good their escape, and it was half an hour before Mrs. Andrew, the wife of the watchman, succeeded in releasing herself and her husband and gave the alarm.

Condition of the Treasury.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Dec. 11.—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 \$410,022,553; gold \$97,921,548.

Hobson Out of Danger.

NEW YORK, Dec. 11.—At the Presbyterian hospital today Lieutenant Hobson was reported to be greatly improved and out of danger.