

BRIEF TELEGRAMS.

The board of education of Philadelphia ordered the temporary closing of four school houses on account of the coal supply becoming exhausted.

The Austrian minister, M. Ladislaus Hengelmüller von Hengeritar, has received official notice of his promotion to the rank of ambassador.

Mrs. Alice Freeman Palmer, former dean of the women at the University of Chicago, and well known in educational circles throughout the country, died suddenly at Paris.

Goldman, Sachs & Co., of New York, announce that they will ship \$500,000 in gold to South America. This makes \$1,000,000 going to that country.

The Allegheny presbytery of the Presbyterian church, like the Pittsburg presbytery, declared in favor of the revision of the confession of faith. The vote was 33 to 28.

Judge John W. Henry, for many years chief justice of the state supreme court and now judge of the circuit court at Kansas City, is dying at his home in that city.

Robbers broke in the postoffice at Rocky Ford, Colo., and dynamited the safe. They took only money. Registered packages and stamps were not molested. There is no clue.

A proposition to bond Helena, Mont., in the sum of \$614,000 for the purpose of installing a municipal water plant for fire and sewerage purposes was carried at a tax payers' election.

At a meeting of the Joplin, Mo., mine operators 1,000 tons of ore was pledged for export and a general shut down of mines reported, as a result of the operators' effort to raise the price of ore.

All doubt as to the fate of the barge, Celtic, was settled by the finding of a quantity of wreckage near Thessalon, Ont. The Celtic was commanded by Captain Jeffrey and carried a crew of eight.

The total vote of the state of New York at the last election has been received by the secretary of state. It shows a plurality for Governor Odell of 8,803. The figures are: Odell, 667,150; Coler, 656,347.

Advices received at Washington announce that Mrs. Henry G. Davis, wife of the ex-senator from West Virginia and mother-in-law of Senator Elkins, died at "Graceland," her summer home at Elkins, W. Va.

The assets of the W. R. Bennett department store at Omaha which was turned over to a receiver are listed at \$605,000. The stock of goods is valued at \$225,000 and real estate and equipment at \$380,000.

A gang of four bank robbers attacked the bank at Cropsey, Ill., twenty miles east of Bloomington. But they secured only \$50. The robbers were discovered while at work on the inner safe, after having dynamited the vault door.

Countess Boni de Castellance will sail for New York December 14, accompanied by her children. Count Boni will remain in France to conduct the campaign for his re-election to the chamber of deputies, which was recently invalidated.

The Prince line steamer, Tartar Prince, Captain MacFarlane, New York, November 10, and St. Vincent, November 23, for Port Natal, was burned at sea November 25. The crew and passengers were saved by the steamer Argyll.

Eighty firms in Denmark have already promised to exhibit at the St. Louis exposition and great pressure is being brought to bear on all the business interests to induce the Danish government to make an appropriation to provide for its official representation.

Professor John T. Stinson of Mountain Grove, Mo., has been appointed superintendent of pomology in the department of horticulture of the Louisiana Purchase exposition. Professor Stinson is a graduate of the Iowa state agricultural college as well as horticulturist in the experiment station of that state.

The charter of the Interstate Railway company was made public at Trenton, N. J., at the office of the secretary of state. The company has an authorized capital of \$10,000,000, of which \$3,000 is paid in. The incorporators are: Frank B. Hausel, William F. Eldell and George B. Morton, all of Camden.

Samuel Evans, a prominent man of Wagoner, I. T., was shot and killed instantly at Stroud, Okla., by James McGee, some of the proprietor of the St. Louis hotel. The men quarrelled over a room that had been assigned Evans.

The Rock Island will complete its line from Lawton, Okla., through Temple and Walters to Waurika, Okla., fifty miles, this week and regular train service will be established at once. At Waurika connection is made with the main line to Fort Worth.

THE BOARD'S PAY

SENATE THINKS \$4,000 ENOUGH FOR ARBITRATORS.

STATEHOOD BILL GOES OVER

Rumors Have it that Plans Are Being Laid to Kill the Measure by Artful Obstruction, Thus Allowing Time to Turn Votes Against It.

WASHINGTON.—The senate on Thursday passed, with several amendments, the bill fixing the compensation of an anthracite coal strike commission, and it now goes to conference. The sentiment of the senate was strongly in favor of allowing members of the commission who are not in the civil or military service a lump sum for their service, and after considerable debate \$4,000 was settled upon as the proper amount, thus taking the matter out of the hands of the president.

Several other amendments were adopted fixing the expenses of commissioners and the assistant recorders at \$10 per day instead of \$15, and leaving the question of salary for the assistant recorders and employees to the commission. The name of the commission was changed to "anthracite coal strike arbitration."

An amendment offered by Mr. Daniel (Va.) to prohibit officers of the government from serving on commissions or performing duties other than called for by law provoked a lengthy discussion, but was finally withdrawn.

At 2 o'clock the statehood bill came up and there was a brisk exchange between Mr. Quay (Pa.), who favors the omnibus bill, and senators who oppose it. Mr. Quay and Mr. Bate (Tenn.) said they were ready to vote. Mr. Beveridge (Ind.), Mr. Lodge (Mass.), Mr. Hale (Me.) and others protested against pressing the bill so soon after it was reported and it went over until Monday.

The air was full of rumors concerning the statehood bill, which, it was said, was to be defeated; not by votes, but by obstruction; the vote being postponed from day to day until one by one all the votes for the omnibus bill were picked off.

Mr. Quay wanted it understood that the bill would retain its place as the unfinished business, and President Frye said: "The bill remains the unfinished business if it is in the power of the chair to keep it there, and the chair thinks it is."

The senate then resumed consideration of the coal strike commission bill.

Mr. Daniel (Va.) precipitated a lively debate by offering an amendment prohibiting the further assignment of officers and employees of the United States or senators and representatives on any commission. He did not criticize the president; on the contrary, he commended him, but he argued that there is an abundance of intellect, learning and wisdom among the people of the country outside of the government service which could be drawn upon.

Mr. Allison and Mr. Hoar appealed to Mr. Daniel to withdraw his amendment with the view of offering it at some other time when it could have better attention. Mr. Daniel finally consented and the bill was passed.

Says Swift Buys Railways.

KANSAS CITY.—George H. Ross of Chicago, for several years traffic manager of the Indiana, Illinois & Iowa railway, has succeeded Theodore C. Bates of Boston as president of the Union Depot, Bridge & Terminal Railway company. Mr. Bates says he resigned so that the company's interests might be in the hands of a practical railroad man. A dispatch from Boston however, positively asserts that Mr. Bates sold his interests, and the Wiener bridge piers in the Missouri river, and the valuable river land and terminals owned by it, have been purchased by Swift & Company, who contemplate building an independent stock yards and a new plant.

Will Impose Conditions.

OTTAWA.—Hon. Clifford Sifton, minister of the interior, is reported by an intimate friend to have said in regard to the construction of the Grand Trunk Pacific road that if the Grand Trunk or another road gets assistance from the government for a transcontinental it will be on the express condition, which will be fully guarded in legislation, that the termination will be a Canadian point. Some point in the province of Quebec on the St. Lawrence, far enough east to be kept open all the year round, must be selected and reached by the shortest and most direct route.

Sultan's Troops Hemmed In.

MADRID.—A dispatch from Tangiers, Morocco, says the commander of the imperial forces has informed the sultan that his troops are completely hemmed in by the rebels, that they are unable to advance or retreat and that his hitherto loyal tribes are joining the forces of the pretender to the throne.

HOMAGE TO REED.

House of Representatives Adjourns in Respect to His Memory.

WASHINGTON.—The house on Monday paid a remarkable tribute to the memory of ex-Speaker Thomas B. Reed.

His death had created a profound impression and there was a universal desire among the members that the house show a signal mark of respect to his memory.

For the house to take such action on the death of a former member had only three precedents in its history, namely, on the occasions of the death of Benton, Blaine and Alexander Stephens, when the house adopted resolutions and adjourned out of respect to their memories.

It was decided to follow these precedents in the case of Mr. Reed. The chaplain at the opening of the session paid a feeling reference to the death of the ex-speaker. No business was transacted beyond the formal reading of two messages from the president and an arrangement to postpone the special order for the day, the London dock bill, until Tuesday.

Mr. Sherman of New York, then amid profound silence arose and in a few feeling remarks offered the following resolution:

"Resolved, That the following minutes be spread upon the records of the house of representatives:

"Hon. Thomas Brackett Reed died in Washington December 7, 1902. For twenty-two years he had been a member of this house; for six years its speaker. His service terminated with the Fifty-fifth congress.

"Within this chamber the scenes of his life's great activities were laid. Here he rendered service to his country which placed him in the front ranks of American statesmanship. Here he exhibited characteristics which compelled respect and won admiration.

"Forceful ability, intrinsic worth, strength of character, brought him popular fame and congressional leadership. In him depth and breadth of intellect, with a full and well rounded development, had produced a giant who towered above his fellows and impressed them with his power and wisdom.

"A distinguished scholar, a lofty patriot, a cultured statesman, an incisive, an unmatched debater, a master of logic, wit and satire; the most famous of the world's parliamentarians, the great and representative citizen has gone into history.

"Resolved, That in honor of the distinguished dead the house now adjourn."

In presenting the resolution Mr. Sherman said:

"Mr. Speaker, the life of ex-Speaker Reed ended yesterday. Its span measured many years less than the allotted life of man; and yet there was within it so much of moment that his fame became great and will be lasting. He was a citizen of my state since his retirement from public life, although it was as representative from Maine that he rendered his services to the republic, and it is in the state of Maine that he will have his final resting place.

"To have served with Mr. Reed was an honor, to have been in close touch with him an inspiration, to have enjoyed his confidence and friendship, a delight. He was so great, his service to his country so valuable, that it seems to me we may fitly depart from what is the usual custom of the house when one not in public life dies. I, therefore, Mr. Speaker, offer the resolution which I sent to the clerk.

CORN CROP BREAKS RECORD.

Illinois Produces More and Sells Higher Than Ever Before.

SPRINGFIELD, Ill.—According to a bulletin issued by the agricultural department Friday the corn crop is the largest in point of production and the most valuable ever produced. The total yield was 321,000,000 bushels, which is 15,000,000 bushels larger than that of 1879, the banner year heretofore. The value this year is \$114,217,000, which is by far the most remunerative crop ever raised in the state. The quality is 91 per cent on an average. The December 1 condition of the winter wheat in the state is two points above a seasonable average. The area in seed is 1,275,000 acres, a deficiency of 5 per cent.

JUSTICE SHIRAS MAY RETIRE.

Governor Taft of the Philippines May Be His Successor.

WASHINGTON.—The prospective retirement of Justice Shiras from the supreme court, which was announced by his son some time ago as likely to take place at no very distant day, it is believed here may result in the promotion to the supreme bench of William H. Taft, the chairman of the Philippine commission. Governor Taft's elevation to the court would be the fulfillment of the general understanding at the time he resigned from the federal court bench in Ohio and took up his present duties at the request of President McKinley. It also will be in the nature of a reward for his long and arduous work at the head of the Philippine commission.

GEN. LEE ON CUBA

HOLDS AMERICA MADE MISTAKE IN LETTING ISLAND GO

NEVER WAS BETTER GOVERNED

Lee Praises McKinley for Acting Where Cleveland TempORIZED and Places Blame for Maine Disaster on Weyler's Young Officers.

NEW YORK.—General Fitzhugh Lee addressed members of the Patria club Friday on "The United States and Cuba." He said in part:

"Cuba was never so well governed by Spain as it is today. Congress wearied of the wars in Cuba and passed resolution recognizing the right of belligerency of the revolutionists. Then came the war. I want to say that I reported to President Cleveland the exact condition of affairs that existed there. I reported the rebellion, with all its brutalities and horrors, and told him it would continue for several generations if not brought to a speedy end.

"Mr. Cleveland gave no attention to my reports and it was not until that great man now sleeping his last sleep in Canton, O., took charge of affairs in Washington that these atrocious conditions were brought to an end.

"Cuba is well worthy of the attention of the American people. It is the richest spot on God's green earth. No country ever rivaled Cuba in its products. It has been waiting for half a century for American energy and enterprise. If we had not sacrificed wisdom for sentiment we would own Cuba today. When we did have Cuba we should have held on to it, but some of the people wanted to show the world that they were acting for humanity's sake and not for the possession of territory.

"Prior to the war with Spain, when I was consul general in Cuba, there were repeated attempts to assassinate me. Wherever I went I had to sit with my back to the wall and a hand on my six-shooter. I received twenty and thirty letters a day in which I was threatened with all manner of deaths. Some threatened to waylay and strangle me, others to string me up to the nearest lamp post, and still others to tie me to a horse's tail and drag me around the streets in Havana. Five Spanish women called at my office one afternoon and handed me letters from some Spanish officers in which they threatened to come to my office, tie me hand and foot, put me aboard the Maine and drive me out of the harbor. I received reports that even the Cubans wanted to kill me because war with the United States would thus surely result.

"While these reports were current, a man came into my office with the purpose, as I thought, of killing me. He moved toward me inch by inch, and just as he came within reach I had him covered with my revolver. I asked him what he wanted and to my surprise he said in English: "I have just come from General Gomez's camp, suffering from a wound in the thigh. I want to leave Cuba. I want to go back to the United States."

"I asked him where he came from and he said, in the drawliest kind of a way: 'From Kansas.' That man was General Frederick R. Funston. So you see I had much to do with the later capture of Aguinaldo."

GOLD MONEY IS DISCUSSED

Senate Committee Talks with Wright on Philippine Currency.

WASHINGTON.—The senate committee on the Philippines on Thursday discussed with Vice Governor Wright the monetary situation in the archipelago. It was generally agreed that there would be difficulties in changing the currency in the islands, but the consensus of opinion was that the unit of value should be a gold peso of twelve and nine-tenths grains of gold, which is one-half the value of the United States gold dollar, and the peso in silver should be made legal tender of equal value to the unit.

Governor Wright and the committee also agreed that United States currency should not be made legal tender, as the silver dollar would then be worth twice as much as the peso and thus encourage counterfeiting.

Governor Wright said at present the Mexican dollars were circulating at their bullion value and banks were manipulating them so as to make 4 or 5 cents each. Gold was held in the banks as a commodity and bought by merchants and others, who had to pay therefore foreign obligations in gold.

Nutmegs Frozen Up.

NEW HAVEN, Conn.—The mercury at 8 o'clock Tuesday morning was 5 below zero, the lowest here of the season. In Torrington and other places in the northwestern part of the state the mercury went 14 below.

It is better to spare the rod and spoil the child than spoil the child by using the rod too much.

AS TO LAND LAWS.

No Changes Regarding Them Will Be Made.

WASHINGTON.—The house committee on public lands Wednesday put a quietus on the bill introduced by Powers proposing the repeal of the desert land act, timber and stone act and commutation clause of soldiers' homestead act. The bill was discussed informally, but thoroughly, and was opposed by all members from the arid and semi-arid states. Messrs. Shafroth and Mondell contended the repeal of the present land acts would greatly retard development in Colorado and Wyoming. It was admitted generally by all the members of the committee that the present laws are adequate and if rigidly administered by land office officials frauds would be reduced to a minimum. If any change should be made it should be that timber lands west of the Rocky mountains should be increased in price in proportion to their greater value over timber lands east of the range. Chairman Lacey, who had introduced a bill to repeal the desert land act and commutation act of the homestead law, said he had done so under a misapprehension of facts and gave notice that he would not press it. While no formal vote was taken, the committee practically agreed that there would be no bill reported by it this session to disturb present laws.

In discussion of the latter Chairman Lacey made a significant statement that at some future time that clause of the irrigation bill passed at the last session providing that settlers pay for water rights will be repealed and that the government will stand the entire expense of reclamation projects without requiring settlers to pay any share of the same.

The committee authorized Mr. Mondell to report favorably a bill passed by the senate, introduced last session by Senator Warren, providing for the resurvey of sixty-four townships of land in Big Horn county, Wyoming, with an amendment adding sixteen additional townships.

Representative-elect Hinshaw called upon Commissioner Jones at the Indian bureau to advocate the framing of a bill to provide for the sale of the surplus land belonging to the Otoes and the distribution of the proceeds among the Indians. Mr. Hinshaw was informed by Commissioner Jones that the department would recommend such a measure and in fact a bill of this character had been frequently recommended.

Need of Funds is Urgent.

WASHINGTON.—Secretary of Agriculture Wilson appeared before the house committee on agriculture Wednesday to explain the urgent necessity for an emergency appropriation to enable his department to stamp out the foot and mouth disease now prevalent in some of the New England states.

Mr. Wilson advised the committee of conditions in the quarantined districts and said it had been found necessary to kill all infected cattle and he had ordered their slaughter.

He estimated that it would cost about \$700,000 to stamp out the disease. The committee also was asked to secure legislation which will give the secretary of agriculture authority, after an inspection of live stock, to give a certificate to the shipper which will permit of the transportation from one state to another and through states without further inspection by state authorities.

VENEZUELAN FLEET DESTROYED

English and German Vessels Do Quick Work.

LA GUAYRA, Venezuela.—Ten German and four British cutters captured the Venezuelan fleet Wednesday, and ordered them to surrender, and without a shot being fired the British and German forces seized the fleet in the name of the German emperor and the king of England. Two of the vessels, which were undergoing repairs, were broken up. The German cruiser Panther steamed into the harbor for action. The Venezuelan steamers were taken outside the harbor and at 2 o'clock in the morning the General Crespo, Tutmo and Margarita were sunk. The Ossun was the only vessel spared, in view of the protest made by the French charge d'affaires, M. Quevieux, who notified the commander of the allied fleet that the Ossun is the property of a Frenchman.

Firemen Caught Beneath Walls.

TOLEDO, O.—Fireman Thomas Smith was killed and four other firemen were injured Tuesday by being buried beneath falling walls during the progress of a fire which caused a damage of \$35,000 to the furniture factory of Kelper Bros. The injured firemen are: Ora Hines, internally injured; Richard Manley, leg and ribs broken; Roy Kinney, bruised about the body, and David Manley, back injured.

Erie Raises Switchmen.

CLEVELAND, O.—The Erie Railroad company has raised the wages of 400 switchmen on its Mahoning division 11 and 15 per cent.

THE LIVE STOCK MARKET.

Latest Quotations from South Omaha and Kansas City.

SOUTH OMAHA.

CATTLE—There were 24 or 30 cars of corned steers included in the receipts and at noon the greater part of them were in first hands. The market was very uneven, but as a general thing the decline amounted to fully 50c as compared with the close of the week. In some cases sales looked fully 75c lower, but those were rare instances.

The cow market was in fully as bad shape as the steer market, and up to a late hour very little business had been transacted. The general market may safely be quoted 50c lower for the week, but the same as noted for steers, the prices were very uneven. It now takes a good bunch of corned cows to sell much over \$3.00, so that prices are at the low point of the year.

Bulls eased off a little again and so did stags. Veal calves were scarce and did not show much change.

The stocker and feeder market was also very slow and lower. The demand from the country has been very light all the week, and prices may safely be quoted 25c lower, with common stuff almost unsalable at any price.

HOGS—There was a liberal run of hogs at all points so that prices continued their downward course. The market here opened right close to a dime lower, with the bulk of the sales going from \$5.55 to \$6.05, and as high as \$6.07 and \$6.10 was paid for choice hogs. Packers, however, were not bidding those prices freely, and in fact there was only one buyer on the opening market, so that sellers did not have much opportunity to cut loose. After about 30 loads had changed hands, trading came to a standstill, as packers dropped their bids to \$5.90@5.95, or fully 15c lower than yesterday's average.

SHEEP—Quotations for fed stock: Choice lambs, \$5.00@5.50; fair to good lambs, \$4.25@4.75; choice yearlings, \$4.10@4.25; fair to good yearlings, \$3.75@4.10; choice wethers, \$3.65@3.90; fair to good, \$3.40@3.65; choice ewes, \$3.35@3.65; fair to good, \$3.00@3.35; feeder lambs, \$2.00@2.25; feeder yearlings, \$3.00@3.25; feeder wethers, \$2.75@3.00; feeder ewes, \$1.50@2.25. Grass fed stock 25@35c lower than corn-fed.

KANSAS CITY.

CATTLE—Corn cattle 10@15c lower; cows and heifers, 40@75c lower than last Friday; calves, 50c@1.00 lower than Monday; choice export and dressed beef steers, \$5.20@6.10; fair to good, \$2.65@5.15; stockers and feeders, \$2.50@3.85; western fed steers, \$3.00@5.25; Texas and Indian steers, \$2.35@3.00; Texas cows, \$2.00@2.55; native cows, \$1.25@4.00; native heifers, \$1.75@3.75; canners, \$1.00@2.20; bulls, \$2.25@2.75; calves, \$3.00@6.00.

HOGS—Market 7½@10c lower; top, 6.10; bulk of sales, \$5.90@6.10; heavy, \$6.02½@6.10; mixed packers, \$5.97½@6.10; light, \$5.85@6.02½; yorkers, \$5.95@6.02½; pigs, \$5.50@5.50.

SHEEP AND LAMBS—Market strong to higher; native lambs, \$4.00@5.40; western lambs, \$3.85@5.35; fed ewes, \$3.00@3.35; native wethers, \$3.00@4.20; stockers and feeders, \$2.00@3.25.

MAY HASTEN CANAL ACTION.

Trouble in Venezuela an Excuse for Taking Matter Up Again.

WASHINGTON.—At the instance of Secretary Hay, Dr. Herran, Colombian charge d'affaires, called at the state department Friday to discuss the canal treaty negotiations, that the secretary might be able to report the exact status of the canal to the cabinet.

Dr. Herran was unable to give the secretary any reply from the Bogota government as to the price which Colombia will accept for the lease. It was explained to Dr. Herran that in view of the many other weighty diplomatic matters pressing for attention at this time and the growing impatience at the capital at the delay in the conclusion of a canal convention, immediate action by the Bogota government was imperative.

Dr. Herran cabled the foreign office at Bogota the wishes of the state department and called attention to the serious complications that may arise out of the Venezuelan situation.

Elect Haytian President.

PORT AU PRINCE, Hayti.—The chamber of communes finished the election of senators Friday and the national assembly will elect a new president within a few days. The majority favor Seneque Pierre, whose election is assured in case General Nord, the war minister, who will enter the capital with his army on Sunday, does not oppose him.

Bank Bandits Make Haul.

SANTA FE, N. M.—A report has reached Santa Fe that the private bank of Hillsboro was held up in broad daylight on Wednesday by robbers, who escaped with something over \$30,000. Soon after midnight three men were heard galloping at a furious rate through Fairview, a mining camp, heading for the Black Range. A sheriff's posse is in pursuit.

Texas Line is Not Bought.

TOPEKA, Kan.—E. P. Ripley, president of the Santa Fe, denies that his road has purchased the Texas Central. Reports to the effect that the purchase is about to be made are erroneous, as the Santa Fe does not want the Texas road. The short line from Albuquerque to Galveston will not be built yet, and for this reason no Texas acquisitions can be used, but the contract for constructing the Santa Fe short line will soon be let.

The protocol of the commercial treaty between the United States and Cuba has been signed.