

THE NEWS IN BRIEF.

John H. Woulbury, a well-known facial specialist, committed suicide at Coney Island.

A court order was issued for the trial of Harry K. Thaw to determine his mental condition.

Scarlet fever appeared among the students at the Cornell College of Agriculture at Ithaca, N. Y.

The Spring Hill college at Mobile, Ala., the largest Jesuit institution in the south, was destroyed by fire.

Rt. Rev. Bernard J. McQuaid, bishop of the Roman Catholic diocese of Rochester, N. Y., died, aged 85 years.

Mrs. Nathan Sherrard and four children were burned to death at a lumber camp 20 miles from Ashland, Wis.

Heroism of nurses saved the lives of 15 patients of the Trull hospital in Biddleford, Me., when fire gutted the institution.

Snydertown, Pa., was thrown into a panic by the collapsing of an abandoned coal mine, causing a shock like an earthquake.

Capt. Gustav A. Busse, father of the mayor of Chicago, a veteran of the civil war and well known old resident of Chicago, is dead.

William C. and John S. McKee, bankers of Elmenton and Clintonville, Pa., were sentenced to five years in prison for misapplication of funds.

J. D. Wood of Salt Lake, millionaire mine owner, and perhaps the largest sheep owner in the west, was instantly killed by a Union Pacific engine.

Miss Emma Goldman and Dr. Ben Reitman, who calls himself "King of the Hoboes," were arrested in San Francisco, charged with conspiracy to incite a riot.

Seven foreigners, who are said to have been stupefied from liquor secured at a wedding celebration, were burned to death in a fire which destroyed three houses at Goodtown, Pa.

The supreme court of the United States decided against former President Meyer of the Western Federation of Miners in the damage suit brought by him against former Gov. Peabody of Colorado.

AWFUL TRAGEDY IN SEATTLE.

W. L. Seeley Kills His Wife, Daughter and Himself.

Seattle, Wash., Jan. 18.—W. L. Seeley, an attorney and former national bank examiner for Illinois under Comptroller of the Currency Eckels, his wife, Mrs. Kate M. Seeley, a member of the national society of the Daughters of the American Revolution, and his daughter, Miss Rene Seeley, a student of the University of Washington, and a member of the Delta Gamma society, were found dead in a bathroom of their home in the fashionable Capital Hill district yesterday.

That Seeley killed his wife and daughter while fugue over financial worries and then committed suicide is the theory of the coroner and the police.

Seeley came here less than two years ago from St. Joseph, Mo.

KEARNEY WANTS CAPITOL.

Resolution for Moving Nebraska State House from Lincoln.

Lincoln, Neb., Jan. 18.—A resolution was introduced in the state senate yesterday providing for the removal of the state capitol from Lincoln to Kearney, Buffalo county. Senator Barrow of Saline county is the author of the resolution which provides for the appointment of a committee of five to investigate the advantages of Kearney as a capital city. As stated in the resolution, the purpose is to have the state capitol located nearer the center of the state.

Root Selected for Senator.

Albany, N. Y., Jan. 19.—Ellihu Root, secretary of state in President Roosevelt's cabinet, was the unanimous choice of the Republican legislative caucus which met last night to name a candidate to succeed United States Senator Thomas C. Platt, whose term of office will expire on March 1.

THE MARKETS.

Table with market prices for various commodities like LIVE STOCK, FLOUR, WHEAT, etc. across different cities like New York, Chicago, and Kansas City.

Gossip of Washington

What Is Going On at the National Capitol.

Sets New Record for Cabinet Members

Roosevelt entered the White House—Long, Morton, Moody, Bonaparte, Metcalf and Newberry; and five postmasters general—Smith, Payne, Wynne, Cortelyou and Meyer. There have been two secretaries of state—Hay and Root. The recent announcement that Secretary Root is to resign as soon as he is elected to the senate from New York and that Assistant Secretary of State Robert Bacon of New York and Boston will succeed him assures three secretaries of state during President Roosevelt's term.

In the seven and a half years of his tenure, Mr. Roosevelt will have had 29 different cabinet officers, but not as many different men, for Mr. Root has served under him first as secretary of war and then as secretary of state. Mr. Cortelyou has had three cabinet positions under Roosevelt—commerce and labor, post office and treasury. Attorney General Bonaparte first came into the cabinet as secretary of the navy.

No other president has made so many changes. There have been six secretaries of the navy since Mr.

To Embark Again on Matrimonial Sea

This is Mr. Gibson's second venture on the sea of matrimony. In 1900 he married Miss Minna Field, daughter of Henry Field of Chicago and niece of Marshall Field, the merchant dry goods prince. Their wedding eight years ago was the result of a romance dating from their meeting in school, but the marriage turned out unappily and two years ago Gibson and his first wife were divorced.

Shortly afterward she married Algernon Burnaby, a member of the British "smart set," and they are living in Liverpool.

After his divorce Preston Gibson took up his residence permanently in Washington and at once became popular in the set which comprises some of the best known beaux and belles of the capital. Besides being a well-known author of Kentucky stories, Gibson has dramatic talents, and took a prominent part in social theatricals. But it was as an athlete and lover of open air sports that Miss Jarvis came to know him, and their love of athletics soon ripened into the romance which was announced recently.

The debut of Miss Jarvis last winter was regarded as one of the smartest events of the season.

Amusing Stories on Tariff Revisers

from Brussels, and that the woodwork of the imposing "throne" upon which the committee sit at hearings, was brought over from Italy.

All of this recalled to Democratic members of the committee a ludicrous incident that occurred during the consideration of the Dingley bill in the house, 11 years ago. Nelson W. Dingley of Maine was in charge of the tariff measure at that time. He was speaking to the theme, "We should encourage American industries."

Mr. Dingley was followed on the floor by Jerry Simpson of Kansas, whose nimble wit and comic stories are a part of the traditions of the house. Mr. Dingley wore a high hat, and invariably brought it into the house with him, laying it on the chair adjoining the one he occupied.

"The gentleman should practice what he preaches," shouted Mr. Simpson, moving toward the unsuspecting Mr. Dingley. Picking up Mr. Dingley's headgear, Simpson continued: "I find a label in the gentleman's hat, reading thus: 'Made in London.'"

Katherine Elkins to Become a Nurse

It is now learned that Miss Elkins' attitude toward society for the next six months at least, and perhaps longer, will be more serious than was anticipated.

Arrangements have been made by Miss Elkins to begin the serious work of study in the homeopathic general hospital in Washington.

The course which Miss Elkins will have to follow, under the rules of hospital training, will include attendance at all lectures, clinics and operations. She will have to spend a certain number of hours each day in various wards observing the treatment of patients and fitting herself to take temperatures, dress wounds, apply bandages and do all which a nurse must perform for the sick.

TAKES FLOOR AGAIN

Tillman Makes Further Denials and Explanations.

Washington.—The Ananias club was discussed in the senate Thursday by Senator Tillman, who declared that statements made by Attorney General Bonaparte and Postmaster General Meyer in reply to his reply to charges made against him by the president in relation to his contemplated purchase of Oregon timber lands made them eligible to membership in that organization. He again defended his action and said in fighting the men who are determined "to destroy" him, he was "prepared for anything, even assassination."

He quoted the portion of Mr. Bonaparte's statement of last Monday, in which the latter said that Tillman had not told him of his desire to obtain some of the lands in question and flatly contradicted the head of the Department of Justice. He declared that he had been entirely frank with Mr. Bonaparte and had fully explained to him his interest in those lands. He attributed the attorney general's attitude to a desire to "holster up" the president. Postmaster General Meyer was brought into the discussion because of a statement made by him regarding the investigation of the Dorr case. Mr. Tillman said that Mr. Meyer's effort to make it appear that the inquiry has been directed originally against Dorr was not based on the truth. He declared that from the first the inquiry had been directed against him (Tillman) and not against Dorr. Mr. Tillman was also careful to bring out the fact that the land which he attempted to get was not government land at all, but land granted as far back as 1869 under the condition that it should be sold at \$2.50 per acre.

When Mr. Bacon becomes secretary of state three of the nine members of the last Roosevelt cabinet will be men who were favorites at tennis and have been counted as members of the tennis cabinet.

COMBATTING CONSUMPTION.

The Work As It Is Being Carried on in the South.

Jacksonville, Fla.—Eastward and southward swings the consumption combat. From Alabama to Florida moves the exhibition campaign of the National Association for the Study and Prevention of Tuberculosis. Even in Florida where nature has done so much to further healthful living man has been careless and unwise and ignorant in the care of his body so that the garden has been made ready in the human soil for harvests of needless disease.

With January first there opened at Jacksonville a "ninety day campaign" which is expected to stir every city, town and neighborhood between the Gulf and the Atlantic. The State Superintendent of Public Instruction will declare a "health day" in all of the schools. The state board of health will cooperate directly and through health officials over the state. The women's clubs are especially committed to the campaign through their health department. Religious, civic, commercial, educational and patriotic bodies will take part so that with the aid of the press of the state it is expected that few residents or visitors will fail to receive the message of "better health for all of the people." Negro leaders, in line with the program planned at Tuskegee in December, will push the movement among their race.

The National Association has provided for holding exhibits at Jacksonville, Tampa and Pensacola. There will also be one day institutes at several of the larger towns, together with meetings in practically every community in the state. Because of the splendid health conditions in Florida a little intelligent effort plus a comprehensive educational campaign will go far towards freeing the state altogether from tuberculosis.

Nebraska Association of Prevention of Tuberculosis, 408 City Hall, Omaha. Write for circulars.

Wants to Return to Prison.

San Francisco.—Marion Baker, who says he is a paroled horse thief from an Illinois penitentiary, where he was given his liberty four years ago under parole, surrendered himself to the authorities here. He requested that he be returned to the prison at Pontiac.

Cuba to Rule Itself.

Havana.—January 28, at noon the Cuban people will come into their own for the second time at the hands of the American government.

Jap Diplomat Goes to Washington.

Tokyo.—Baron Ichiro Montono, the first Japanese ambassador to the Russian court, was received by the emperor in a farewell audience. The diplomat will start for his new post January 22.

Stevens Will Not Resign.

Boston.—It was announced here by the local officials of the New York, New Haven & Hartford railroad that Vice President John F. Stevens will not resign in order to become president of the Colorado & Southern railroad.

Hearing on Express Bill.

Washington.—The question whether express agents will be allowed to compete with commission merchants will come up before the senate committee on interstate commerce Friday, January 22, at which time a hearing will be had on a bill introduced by Senator Burkett last spring to compel express agents to stay out of the produce business. It is expected that the officers of the Western Fruit Jobbers' association will attend the hearing and present their case to the committee.

PORTO RICO TODAY

AMERICANS A FACTOR IN INDUSTRIAL LIFE OF ISLAND



HOISTING FIVE TONS OF CANE

Prior to the war with Spain Americans knew little about the island of Porto Rico, and the island knew little about its near neighbor America. But now that has all been changed. It is only ten years since the island came under the control of the United States, and in that time Americans have settled in the island and are now to be found in almost every industry there. In fact the chief industries, such as sugar, tobacco and fruit, are almost entirely controlled by American capital.

The sugar industry, which is by far the most important, has had a phenomenal growth in the last decade. Formerly the plantations, scattered throughout the island, but more especially in the coast regions, were operated independently. The cane was raised, the sugar was made and was shipped by each estate. This method, of course, necessitated a very primitive and inefficient process. The power was almost without exception furnished by oxen operating a small set of rollers, into which the cane was fed by hand. The boiling of the juice and the crystallizing of the sugar was done in open pans, with the result that a large percentage of the sugar was not recovered. Hence Porto Rico became famed for her fine molasses, while little or nothing was ever heard of her production of sugar.

To-day on nearly every estate the old mills have fallen into disuse or have been dismantled, the rollers used in road making and the pans for cattle to drink from, for sugar making by individuals is a thing of the past.

American companies have established what are known as "centrals" and have made it for the interest of plantation owners to send their cane there to be made into sugar. These companies have established railroads with branches running into all estates to bring the cane quickly and easily to the mills.

In most cases the "central" has a general supervision over the estates with inspectors who advise the latest methods of cane culture, install irrigation systems, encourage the opening of new lands, often forwarding money for such work, and in general promote the culture of more and better cane.

Besides owning several plantations some of the larger "centrals" gather and grind the cane from 60 or more plantations extending along the coast sometimes for 30 or 40 miles and far back into the mountains.

The advantage to the plantation owner is very evident in that his work and responsibility end when his cane is raised, cut and loaded upon the companies' cars which come by means of portable tracks into his very fields. The efficiency of the modern and elaborate method of sugar making more than makes up for the division of profits.

These sugar houses are equipped with the latest and best machinery. No expense is spared in this respect, for by the saving of even the smallest percentage of additional sugar the amount saved in the manufacture of a season's crop, often 25,000 tons or more, is enormous.

Connected with the sugar houses are laboratories with a corps of chemists, who by continued analysis at every stage in the process of manufacture control it so that the maximum amount of sugar is obtained, and the finished product is kept up to the standard desired by the refiners in the "states."

This process of manufacturing the sugar occupies from six to eight months in the year, the rest of the time being given up to repairs and improvements.

With the exception of the laborers, who are of course natives, these places are operated by Americans, and during the grinding season you find many colonies of them situated far from the cities in the midst of the cane country. Some men holding positions which demand their attention the year round have settled with their families at these "centrals," but for the most part those required but for the busy season go north for the rest of the time, where the social and climatic conditions are more agreeable.

The social life is of course very limited in these places, owing to the fact that they are situated so far from the cities that, with the very poor means of transportation, it is very difficult to reach them.

At the largest "centrals" you find but six or eight families living in separate houses, and a clubhouse housing 30 or 40 unmarried men or men without their families.

But even among themselves some social life would be possible were it not for the fact that these people come from so many social classes themselves.

The lack of schools for the children has been a great drawback to men carrying their families with them, but there is a plan under consideration now for the government to establish schools at some of the larger "centrals" for American children. This will probably be the means of inducing more men to carry their families with them, and eventually greatly improve the social life.

Probably the school-teachers form the largest class of Americans on the island, but, of course, they are very widely scattered. In the larger cities of San Juan, Ponce and Mayaguez, you find a great many American teachers, both men and women, and probably in these three cities are to be found as many Americans as in the rest of the island.

San Juan is the center of American civilization in Porto Rico, and has been from the first. There are the government officials, and most of the men in business of a commercial nature.

However, in traveling about the interior of the island and in the smaller coast cities, the larger part of Americans you meet are teachers. In every town large enough to be called such, you find a school over which floats the American flag, and in which the English language is being taught. Often the only English-speaking person in the whole town is the teacher, and it may be a long, hard trip by coach or on horseback to the next town.

Among a strange people, where the language, food, customs, etc., are so hard to become accustomed to, it often proves a hard life. But in the larger towns the conditions are much better. Here you generally find more than one teacher, better school buildings, and a higher class of people, with whom it is easier to mingle.

The tobacco business has already grown to vast proportions under American management, as is evidenced by the constantly increasing consumption of Porto Rican cigars in the United States. In every town or village, even among the mountains, tobacco is still raised and cigars are still made as they have been for generations, but the new tobacco raisers have planted hundreds and in one case over 1,000 acres in a stretch which may be seen entirely covered by cheese cloth to subdue the light and improve the quality. This industry has by no means reached its height, and, indeed, has the prospect of a vast future growth.

The coffee raising is also worthy of mention, although not developed as yet to any great extent. Coffee is raised mostly among the mountains and Americans have taken it up but little. However, it has been pronounced the finest coffee in the world by President Roosevelt, and when the market for it is made it will undoubtedly offer a broad field for American interest.

There are also a large number of minor industries which men from the United States have entered and at which they are making fortunes. Among these are the raising of pineapples, coconuts, rice and vegetables, which are sent to the United States for winter use. The buying up and exporting of native lace and drawn work has also been carried on to a limited extent.

It is clearly evident that the island as a whole has not been developed to anything like its capacity. While Americans are recognizing the wealth of the place and are taking advantage of it, the next ten years will without doubt show a much greater advance than has the past decade.

Noise of Wireless Telegraphy. Many readers may be surprised to learn that the electric sparks employed in wireless telegraphy over long distances produce a noise that may be annoying for those living close by the station. At least this has been the experience at the Eiffel Tower in Paris, where the sparks from an apparatus possessing a power of ten kilowatts have proved disagreeable to people several hundred yards away. Since it is now proposed to substitute apparatus of 40 kilowatts power, with the hope of sending communications direct from Paris to New York, the generating station will be placed underground in order to smother the sound of the sparks.