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**Best Time to See the Southwest**

Every first and third Tuesday of each month, low-priced homemaker's excursions are run over the lines of the:

**Missouri Pacific Iron Mountain**

into the rich and resourceful farming regions of the Southwest. It is a splendid chance for the Northern and Eastern farmer, after his wheat is gathered, to combine a pleasure and prospecting trip.

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**HUGH NORTON, Agent.**  
M. P. Ry., Plattsmouth, Neb.

**PROSECUTOR HELPS HAINS.**

District Attorney Plays Into Hands of Defense.

**CALLS THEIR STAR WITNESS.**

Real Estate Agent's Testimony Develops Many Points Favorable to Accused—State's Case Is Practically Closed—Cabman on Grill.

Flushing, N. Y., Dec. 25.—With the exception of one or two witnesses, who will be heard on minor points, the state's case against Thornton J. Hains is practically closed. The defense will outline its case to the jury tomorrow, after the prosecution rests. When the defendant returned to the Long Island jail he knew all the vital evidence that the prosecution had obtained to prove its charge that he was one of the principals in the killing of William E. Annis.

Before leaving the court room, Hains declared that he felt that his acquittal was only a matter of days.

District Attorney Darrin surprised Hains' counsel by calling Henry L. Jespersen, former real estate agent, whom the defense had planned to call as one of their principal witnesses. Jespersen's testimony developed many points favorable to the defendant. He said he had several conferences with Hains over water front property near Bayside, and that Hains had made an appointment with his partner, Mr. Judd, about some property near the Bayside Yacht club. Mr. Jespersen further stated that Hains had postponed the real estate negotiations because of illness of his brother. The lawyers for Hains were delighted at Jespersen's testimony. Mr. Darrin's purpose in calling the former real estate dealer is not apparent.

An incident of interest in the session was the demand of John F. McIntyre for the arrest of Martin Skura, an eighteen-year-old cabman, who swore that he had made a false statement to Hains' lawyers, believing that they were newspaper men. Skura was accused after a grilling cross-examination, in which he admitted making several false declarations in the statement given to counsel for the defense. He was not arrested. The defense hope to conclude the case next week.

**CHRISTMAS DINNERS FOR POOR.**

Salvation Army Distributes Baskets to 500 Families at Omaha.

Omaha, Dec. 25.—Christmas was made merry for 500 families by the Salvation Army and Volunteers of America. These organizations have been collecting funds for the past two weeks for the poor, and they spent most of the afternoon before Christmas distributing these dinners. Each basket contained a chicken, potatoes, coffee, sugar, cookies, two loaves of bread, one can each of beans and corn and celery. From one to two pounds of candy also was placed in each basket, according to the size of the family.

It was an actual Merry Christmas for 190 newsboys, who were the guests of Gurdon W. Wattles and Mrs. Wattles, at All Saints' church parish house. Tickets were issued for 150 of the youngsters, but 190 were present and there was plenty for all.

**Youthful Santa Claus Badly Burned.**

Lincoln, Dec. 25.—During a Christmas entertainment at the detention home, James Wise, the youthful "Santa Claus," upset some candles attached to the tree, and his flimsy clothing became ignited. Prompt action by Sheriff Hoagland and District Judge Frost, who were present, prevented a serious fire panic. No one was injured aside from Wise, who was badly, but not fatally, burned.

**Burlington Brakeman Killed.**

Cambridge, Neb., Dec. 25.—The mangled remains of Harvey B. Patterson were found on the Burlington track near Holbrook. He was head brakeman on an extra that had passed over the road a short time before. Nothing is known as to how he happened to fall under the wheels of the train.

**Society Belle Proves Up on Claim.**

Stuart, Ia., Dec. 25.—Mrs. Alice Mae Bacon-Tracy, formerly a society belle of Stuart, has just returned for the holidays, following her successful proving up of a claim on government land in Colorado, where she has been living for the past three years.

**Death of James Corrigan.**

Cleveland, Dec. 25.—James Corrigan, seventy-nine years old, who has been in a financial struggle with John D. Rockefeller and who since has wrested millions from ore, coal, vessel and furnace industries, died of an operation for appendicitis.

**Victory for State Prohibition.**

Atlanta, Ga., Dec. 25.—State prohibition won a victory in the United States circuit court here when Judge W. T. Newman dismissed a petition attacking the constitutionality of the prohibition law. Judge Newman held it was a matter for the state courts.

**Ends Life With Corrosive Sublimite.**

Kansas City, Dec. 25.—Mrs. Alvina Morrell, a widow, owner of the Mondamin hotel here, committed suicide by taking corrosive sublimite.

**Remember The Big Sale at Smith & Smith's Barn in Plattsmouth on Saturday, January 2nd**

**A great Many Horses, Cows and all Kinds of Cattle Have been Listed for the Sale. Bring in Your Property That You Have for Sale, and Make It a Point Now to Attend.....**

**Remember the Date!**

**BELL ADVISES LARGER ARMY.**

Chief of Staff Says Detached Service is Bad Policy.

**PHYSICAL TESTS APPROVED.**

Declares United States Can No Longer Afford to Maintain Army Inadequate Even for Peace—Calls Present Organization Antiquated.

Washington, Dec. 25.—The most urgent need of the army of the United States at present is an adequate remedy for the evils resulting from detached service of officers, says Major General J. Franklin Bell, chief of staff in his annual report. He also says that the time has arrived when the United States can no longer afford to maintain an "inadequate army for peace needs, nor an army with an antiquated organization."

According to General Bell, the number of officers on detached service is 691. The result is characterized as



GENERAL BELL.

very disastrous and among other things is given as the first cause for the large number of desertions among enlisted men.

General Bell says that it is "a discouraging fact that in case of a sudden outbreak of hostilities with a first class nation there are not sufficient regular troops in the country, even when reinforced by the National Guard of the various states, to form an army after deducting the necessary force to provide a small garrison at our permanent posts and the necessary infantry supports for our sea-coast fortifications."

The infantry arm is referred to as too weak numerically for the services required of it even in the time of peace. The cavalry arm is spoken of as an "antiquated organization."

The president's physical tests for officers is praised as having produced an increased interest in physical culture and the general care of health among officers.

**CASTRO THROWS UP SPONGE.**

Practically Abandons Claim to Venezuelan Presidency.

Berlin, Dec. 25.—Cipriano Castro gave a statement to the Associated Press, which amounts virtually to an abandonment of his claims to the presidency of Venezuela. This statement follows:

"After taking cognizance of everything printed in the newspapers from Venezuela I doubt the attitude therein attributed to the present government at Caracas. But I will have more to say on this subject when I am in better health and when I have full knowledge of what has occurred. In any event, I shall place no difficulties in the way of the present administration of Venezuela in settling the pending controversies with foreign governments, even if this should involve my own withdrawal from activity in the affairs of the nation."

General Castro will remain for two weeks longer in the private sanitarium of Dr. Israel. He will give out no information concerning his future plans.

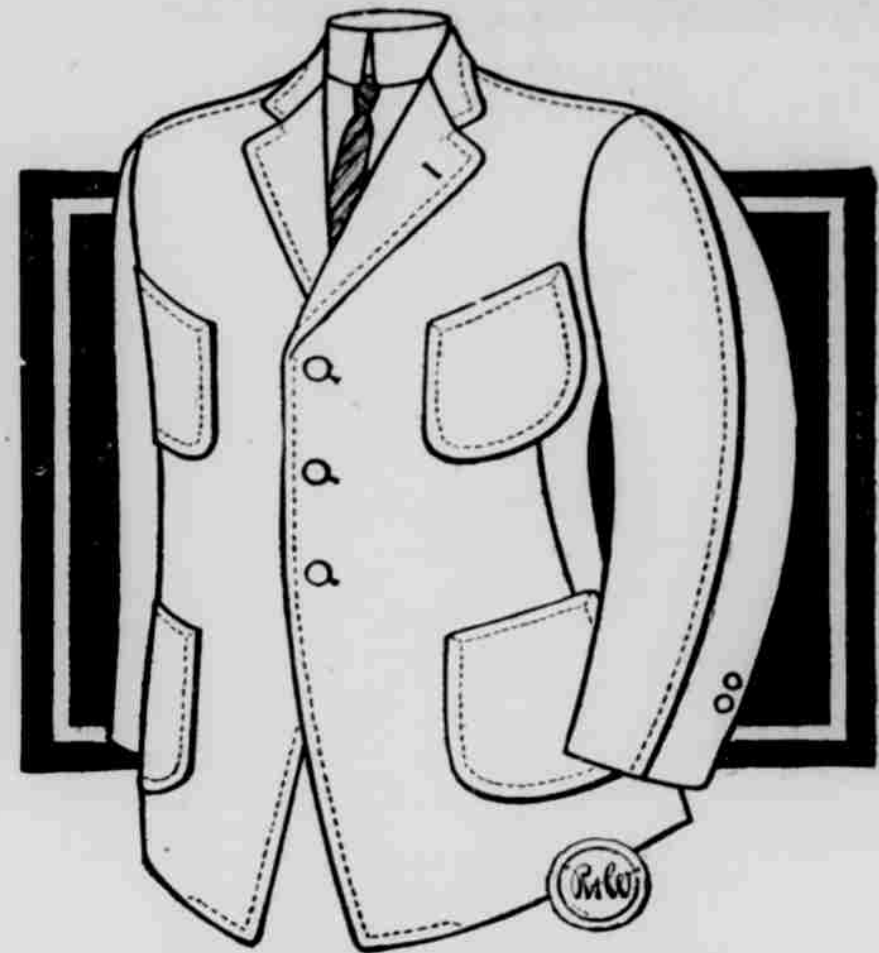
**CHINESE DESIRE AN EMBASSY.**

Foreign Board Would Raise Standard of Its Representatives Abroad.

Pekin, Dec. 25.—The foreign board has received a cablegram from Tang Shao Yi, at Washington, saying that the Washington government has responded favorably to the proposal made by China to raise the Chinese legation at Washington to the rank of an embassy. Tang Shao Yi is the Chinese official who is at present in the United States on a diplomatic mission from his government. When Tang Shao Yi left Peking he went first to Tokyo and there broached the subject of raising the Chinese legation to an embassy. He received an equivocal answer.

**Falls From Third Story Window.**

Hot Springs, Ark., Dec. 25.—That H. M. Cox, a wealthy and retired manufacturer of Portland, Me., had fallen head first from a third story window of a local hotel to his death, instead of having jumped from the window with suicidal intent, as at first reported, was the verdict of a coroner's jury.



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**Exclusive Clothes**

**FANCY Suits** will be very popular this Fall, but you don't want to see a hundred other chaps with a suit like yours.

"R&W" Clothes are exclusive, and just to be sure they can't be common, we buy a few of many patterns.

The tailoring and material in all "R&W" Clothes are guaranteed.

**C. E. Wescott's Sons**  
"Where Quality Counts"

**GOVERNOR ELECT MUST DEFEND TITLE.**

Lilley Faces Charges of Corrupt Practices Today.

New Haven, Conn., Dec. 25.—The fight of Congressman George L. Lilley, governor elect of Connecticut, for the latter title began in court here today. He is accused of violating the corrupt practices act of the state, formal charges of improper use of money in the recent election having been made against him. The charges are brought by George L. Fox of this city.

Chief Justice Simeon E. Baldwin appointed Judges Silas A. Robinson and William L. Bennett to constitute the election court. Stiles Judson, state senator of Stratford, and Lucian F. Burpee, former colonel, of this city are counsel for Mr. Lilley.

Walter C. Fleming of New York, of the law firm of Dexter, Osborne & Fleming, has been retained as senior counsel by Mr. Fox. Mr. Fleming assisted Governor Hughes of New York in the insurance and gas investigations.

**Scientific Congress Opens.**

Santiago, Chile, Dec. 26.—The first session of the pan-American scientific congress opened last night. President Montt and his cabinet, the members of the diplomatic corps and delegates from all the American republics attended. Professor Leo S. Rowe of the University of Pennsylvania, chairman of the American delegation, in a speech expressed the appreciation of his delegation for the privilege of attending the congress. He discussed the work of the bureau of American republics and praised John Barrett, the director of the bureau, for the work he had done and expressed his belief in the future usefulness of the bureau.

**Pretoria Has Stormy Voyage.**

New York, Dec. 26.—Having taken twice the usual time to make her run to this port from Hamburg, which she left twenty-one days ago, the steamer Pretoria of the Hamburg-American line arrived with her log full of entries, recording one of the stormiest passages in the steamer's history. The Pretoria was so delayed by the heavy weather that her coal supply ran short and she was forced to put into St. Johns, N. F., to replenish it. From the time the steamer left the English channel she was beaten and tossed about by one gale after another.

**Starr Offers to Surrender.**

Guthrie, Okla., Dec. 25.—Governor Haskell announced that he had received word from Henry Starr, the noted bandit, that Starr was ready to surrender to the state and stand trial upon charges against him in this state if Governor Haskell would guarantee immunity against extradition to other states. Starr is wanted in a number of states for various causes. The governor said that he would not consent to such an arrangement.

**Two Killed in Pistol Duel.**

Ponceatoula, La., Dec. 26.—Irwin Cooper and William Arnold killed each other in a pistol duel in a saloon here. Cooper was the bartender in the saloon where the tragedy occurred, and it is said that the difficulty followed some words which Cooper had with Arnold's younger brother.

**WILL HOLD JOINT SESSIONS.**

American Historical and Political Science Associations to Meet.

Washington, Dec. 26.—Many of the most eminent historical scholars of the country will gather here on Monday to attend the twenty-fourth annual meeting of the American Historical association, which will hold its sessions in this city and in Richmond, Va., from the 28th to the 31st. It is expected that three or four hundred delegates will be present. The first and second sessions of the association will be held in this city, after which the delegates will meet in Richmond, where their concluding sessions will be held.

Monday night the association will hold a joint meeting with the American Political Science association, at the new Willard hotel in this city, when James Bryce, the British ambassador, and president of the latter organization, will make the annual address, his subject being "The Relations of Political Science to History and to Practice."

**MOVING PICTURE SHOWS STOPPED**

New York Showmen Will Contest Mayor McClellan's Decree.

New York, Dec. 26.—More than three hundred of New York city's 559 moving picture showmen met and protested against Mayor McClellan's action in revoking their licenses and closing their shows. A committee of twenty-five was appointed to report on a plan of organization to contest the enforcement of the mayor's decree.

The mayor's order was aimed at exhibitors of objectionable pictures and places which were not living up to the fire regulations, and it was stated by him that renewals of licenses would only be granted to showmen whose places are conducted unobjectionably, who take proper precautions against fire, and pledge themselves not to open their places on Sundays.

The mayor's order was rigidly enforced in Manhattan and the Bronx.

**SIXTEEN INJURED IN WRECK.**

Lake Shore Passenger Train Jumps Switch and Runs Into Siding.

Angola, Ind., Dec. 25.—A Lake Shore passenger train on the branch between Jackson, Mich., and Fort Wayne, Ind., was wrecked near Pleasant Lake, Ind. Sixteen people were injured, five seriously. The wreck is attributed to a broken flange, allowing the train to jump a switch and run into a siding. The injured were taken to neighboring farmhouses and physicians were hurried from Angola and Hillsdale, Mich.

Among the most seriously injured are Mrs. John Carpenter of Reading, Mich.; Mr. and Mrs. Summerlat of Angola, Mrs. Charles Vaughan of Pleasant Lake and Mrs. Campbell bound for Decatur, Mich.

Lexington, Ky., Dec. 25.—Thomas Jackson, a young farmer of Bath county, shot and fatally wounded his father, Henry Jackson. Young Jackson escaped and is being pursued by a posse.

**Dr. Hess' Stock Food**

scientific compound for horses and cattle.

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guaranteed to give results.

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