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General Agent for Lincoln, Neb

Weekly News Summary.

(Continued from Page 9)

in Berlin may be bought by the United States for its embassy, the price to be paid being \$200,000.

The state department has appointed a commission to investigate the report that the Russian boundary monument was destroyed by a Canadian surveyor.

Advices from Washington are to the effect that the present secretary of embassy at London, Henry White, is a candidate for the vacancy in the Italian embassy by the retirement of Ambassador Meyer.

It is reported that in the event that the department of commerce is created, George B. Cortelyou will be appointed for that cabinet post. Mr. Cortelyou was secretary to Mr. McKinley and occupies the same position under Mr. Roosevelt.

The house committee on labor has ordered a favorable report on the eight-hour law, which bill provides that in every contract for work for the government, it shall be specified that the work is to be done on an eight-hour basis.

The house committee informally discussed the ship subsidy bill April 3, and agreed to consider it formally at one session next week. The Chicago Tribune, however, has interviewed a number of republican representatives, and the impression prevails that the measure will be postponed until after the congressional elections.

It is reported that Senator Hanna will introduce a bill which will provide for the trial of Estes G. Rathbone, recently convicted and sentenced in Cuba for connection with the post-office frauds, by an American court. It is not believed, however, that any direct action can be taken on this measure, as it is doubtful if either the president or congress has the right to set aside the judgment of the Cuban court.

On April 1 the senate was stirred by the resolution introduced by Senator Bacon of Georgia requesting that the president delay the issuing of the proclamation announcing the acquisition of the Danish West Indies, until the charges of bribery in connection with the treaty should be investigated by the house of representatives, where action to that effect is now going on. The debate on the resolution was participated in by Senators Bacon and Money in favor of it and Senators Cullom, Lodge, Hanna, Allison, and Nelson in opposition to it. The resolution was tabled.

On April 1, during the discussion in the house of the sundry civil appropriation bill, Mr. Sulzer of New York offered an amendment to appropriate \$50,000 for lighting the torch of Bartholdi's statue of Liberty in New York harbor. Mr. Cannon replied to this, saying that the committee had made an investigation and found that such a light was valueless for commercial purposes. A vote was called which resulted favorably to the amendment, but another vote was demanded which resulted in the defeat of the amendment.

Governor Heard of Louisiana has reported to the state department at Washington that the British government is maintaining a military camp within the territory of the United States. It is said to be located below New Orleans, and is used for the transportation of horses and mules to the army in South Africa. In connection therewith, General Pearson, formerly of the Boer army, has laid proofs before the president that America has contributed at least 42,000 men to aid the British in their struggle against the Boers and 201,147 horses and mules have been sent out of the country by their agents.

On April 3 Representative McClellan of New York, a member of the ways and means committee, filed a minority

report on the Cuban reciprocity bill. In this report Mr. McClellan cites the Teller resolution and the Platt amendment as having given assurance to Cuba and to the world and says: First, the bill does not afford sufficient relief to Cuba, but it minimizes the loss of the present crop of sugar. Second, it is possible, but not certain, that a 20 per cent reduction of the Cuban tariff will result in giving us a monopoly of the Cuban market. Third, the bill is an enunciation of the democratic doctrine of reciprocity, it is a breach in the wall of protection and lowers in part the preposterous Dingley rates. If I am afforded the opportunity when the bill comes before the committee of the whole I shall try to amend it by increasing the rate of reduction so as to make certain not only the control of the Cuban market by us, but also the prosperity of Cuba. I shall also try to amend by striking out the time limit. Failing to amend for the reasons here stated, I shall vote for the bill.

The senate, on April 5, began the consideration of the Chinese exclusion bill. Mr. Mitchell of Oregon made the opening speech. Mr. Quay gave notice of the following amendment as an additional section: "That nothing herein contained shall be construed to exclude Chinese Christians, or Chinese who assisted in the defense or relief of the foreign legations or the Pe-Tang cathedral, in the city of Peking in the year 1900." In response to an inquiry by Mr. Quay Mr. Penrose, in charge of the measure, said he could not accept the amendment as not a member of the immigration commission was in favor of it. "How many Chinese will that amendment let in?" Mr. Mitchell asked. "I hoped it would have the effect," replied Mr. Quay, "of Christianizing the whole Chinese empire." "It would let in at least a million," suggested Mr. Mitchell. "Quite likely 250,000,000," interjected Mr. Hale. Senator Platte of Connecticut introduced the following as a substitute for the Chinese exclusion bill: "That all laws now in force prohibiting and regulating the coming of Chinese persons and persons of Chinese descent into the United States and the residence of such persons therein be and the same are hereby extended, and continued in full force and effect until the 17th day of December, 1904, and so long as the treaty between China and the United States concluded March 17, 1894, may be continued in force by virtue of the extension thereof."

The Shame of It All

Americans may well hang their heads in shame at this cold and heartless reception of these ambassadors of liberty and human rights. They may find some consolation in the fact that at the same time this was going on in Washington Ambassador Choate was lauding the British in London, in public speech, and declaring that "both (Great Britain and America), equals in energy, resources and ambition, were working out on absolutely independent lines the same great ends of civilization, knowledge and liberty!" Yes, in South Africa and the Philippines.—Pittsburg Post.

The Only Course Left.

The idea of forbidding any amendments to the war tax reduction bill except those emanating from the ways and means committee was so remarkable and so lacking in legality through depriving the house of representatives of any voice in the matter than the contemptuous action of the opposition in making the passage of the bill unanimous was the only course left open. The bill will now go to the senate, where it will receive full and free discussion. Thus we have the anomalous spectacle of one house being prohibited from legislation while the other revels in unrestricted license.—Pittsburg Dispatch (rep.).

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