

News of the Week

(Continued from Page 13.)

garding the friar lands in the archipelago, the vatican finds one very great obstacle to the withdrawal of the friars.

The vatican would not object if the expulsion of the friars were arranged and carried out by another power, so that the holy see would only have to recognize the accomplished fact, but it shrinks from appearing as a direct party to the withdrawal, especially since the religious orders are powerful in Rome, and above all others in the sacred college.

The efforts of the vatican are directed toward finding a way to consent to the withdrawal of the friars from the islands without appearing to do so. In fact, the vatican, it is believed, would welcome a show of force to which it could submit. It would much prefer, however, a compromise prohibiting the friars from returning to the parishes they left in 1898, but allowing them to remain where they now are or where there is no local opposition to their ministrations.

The cardinals appointed to discuss Judge Taft's proposition were to meet July 10, but a requiem mass for the late King Albert of Saxony, to be celebrated in the Sistine chapel, in which the pope and the cardinals will assist, has necessitated a postponement of the meeting.

The state department at Washington has decided to press forward toward completion the Colombian treaty looking to the acquisition of right of way of the isthmian canal. It is proposed to have this treaty ready to be submitted to the senate as soon as it convenes in December.

An Associated press dispatch says: By adopting this course the state department will remove, it is expected, any chance of having the agreement already reached with Colombia disturbed by anything that may occur as a result of political changes, for it is the purpose to hold that such agreements, once duly entered upon, are not subject to repudiation, even in the event of a change of government. The protocol referred to was so definitely drawn that not many changes are required in order to adapt the instrument for use as a treaty. No difficulty is expected to result in securing an abatement of the old provision in the canal franchise, requiring the use of French material only in the construction of the canal, and the state department already has received an assurance from the French government which it regards as meeting the objection that has been made on that score.

An Associated press report comes from Johnstown, Pa., in regard to the recent mine disaster at that place, as follows: The rolling mill mine has been worked for about fifty years. Five or six years ago the section where the disaster of yesterday occurred was opened. The miners fancifully called it the Klondike. It said that for the past three years gas has been noticed in it and careful inspection was kept up. In the last three years safety lamps had been carried by the men. Frank Sabot, one of the boys who met death in a heroic endeavor to save his comrades, was safely out of the mine after the explosion. He worked in the mine ever since the Klondike was opened up. After the explosion he hastened into the vault of death to do what he could to close the traps and check the spread of the after-damp. He was found lying near a partly closed door leading off to one of the left headings. Outside of the property loss this catastrophe will cost the Cambria Steel company a large sum. The company has for many years past paid to the family of every person killed in

its employ \$1,000 outside of what it expended for medical purposes, and it has paid every man who has lost an eye, limb or who was otherwise partially disabled, the sum of \$500. It is understood the rule will not be deviated from. From the positions of the bodies the miners were evidently eating their lunches when suddenly stricken down by the explosion. They were seated in groups of five and ten, with their buckets and the remains of their lunches scattered over the floor. Evidently their lives were snuffed quickly and easily.

A Washington dispatch to the St. Louis Globe-Democrat, under date of July 8, says: There is considerable speculation in the army as to the probable successor of Lieut. Gen. Nelson A. Miles, who retires by reason of age August 8, 1903, but it is not generally known that the duties of the office of commanding general are now largely performed by Gen. S. B. M. Young, the president of the war college. It is an open secret in the war department that General Miles is commanding general in name only. His name appears on office orders and routine papers pass through his office, but when advice is desired by the secretary of war on matters affecting the army, General Young is always called into consultation. It is definitely known that when General Miles retires, either by reason of age a year from now or by order of the president, General Young will be named as his successor, but as General Young retires for age January 9, 1904, he will have but a few months to serve, and the real interest centers in a successor to General Young.

The friends of Major General Corbin say that he is the logical candidate by reason of long service and in recognition of his conduct of the war with Spain. General Corbin, however, declines to authorize the use of his name in this connection, and has already disavowed an intention to scramble for the office. Secretary Root and the president are much impressed with General Corbin's ability, and among the officials of the army his chances for appointment are considered excellent. The most active candidates against him will be Generals Adna R. Chaffee, John C. Bates, Arthur MacArthur and James F. Wade. General Wade is now a brigadier general, but he has been assured of promotion to major general upon the occurrence of the next vacancy. These officers all have more than four years to serve on the active list. General Chaffee retires April 14, 1906; General Bates, August 26, 1906; General Wade, April 14, 1908; General MacArthur, June 2, 1909, and General Corbin has until September 15, 1906, to serve.

The selection of Col. William P. Hall, of the adjutant general's office, to succeed Gen. William B. Carter as General Corbin's assistant in the war department is understood at the war department to foreshadow his future promotion to be adjutant general should General Corbin secure the coveted lieutenant generalcy. Colonel Hall has had an excellent record in the army, is a former cavalryman and has been on duty for some time in the Philippines. He is a son-in-law of Senator "Joe" Blackburn of Kentucky. Colonel Hall will reach Washington about the middle of this month, and immediately upon his arrival will succeed General Carter.

In an interview with the Washington correspondent of the St. Louis Republic, Congressman Benton of Missouri, who was a member of the committee on appropriations, directed attention to the enormous expenses of the government under the republican administration. Mr. Benton said:

"The population of the country shows no phenomenal increase; the commercial interests of the country furnish no adequate reason for swell-

ing expenditures. The administration claims that the Philippine war is over; that the army has been seriously decreased. We are at peace. Yet the appropriations for the coming fiscal year are increased by \$20,000,000 and the promissory notes of the government are given for \$260,000,000 more.

"Attention has been called to certain legislation of congress which has been enacted by the republicans, and it is paraded as being virtuous. This legislation comprises the repeal of part of the Spanish war taxes. A Panama canal lawsuit has been given us instead of the Nicaragua canal route, which this house passed and the people want; a Philippine government bill has been passed which does not give civil government to those unfortunate people. No voice is given the people of the archipelago in their legislation. Why? Because the bill provides a native legislature with restricted powers only, and when a census is made, after two years of peace, and then when convenient after such census.

"True to its party history, the republican party has passed a bill extending and enlarging the power of national banks, which the people have not asked. A permanent census bureau has been made to provide places for a regiment of officeholders.

"But the great republican party, parading its 'full dinner pail' (with strikes and lockouts in every section of the country), has failed and refused to provide legislation to stifle trusts, has declined to meet the demand of the people for a revised tariff, preferring to expend in needless and wasteful appropriations the taxes wrung from the people."

Mr. Benton makes an interesting review of the total appropriations by the republican congresses of recent years as compared with the democratic congresses.

The total appropriated by the Fifty-ninth congress (dem.) was \$794,146,424; by the Fifty-first (rep.), \$1,023,792,365; by the Fifty-second (dem.), \$943,617,052; by the Fifty-third (dem.), \$917,013,523; by the Fifty-fourth (rep.), \$954,496,055; by the Fifty-fifth (rep.), \$1,568,212,637; by the Fifty-sixth (rep.), \$1,503,154,452, and by the first session of the Fifty-seventh, \$1,059,577,052.

It will appear from Mr. Benton's figures that the first session of the present congress appropriated more than the total for both sessions of the Fifty-third or last democratic congress.

He Will.

Ollie James was given a genuine ovation by the democrats of Nebraska last week upon his visit to the Hon. W. J. Bryan. He made a speech before the state convention that elicited vociferous applause and sounded the key-note of battle for the next national campaign. Some of these days Ollie James will be regarded as one of the few great men in this country. —Cadiz (Ky.) Record.

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