

THOUGHT TOO LATE.

HAY'S COMMENT ON PEACE NEGOTIATIONS.

The Spaniards should have considered the probable cost before war began. The peace commissioners' work expected to be over by December.

St. Louis, Mo., Oct. 29.—The St. Louis Republic prints the following from its Washington correspondent: "Secretary of State Hay made the following statement to-day: "It may be stated as a fact that the Cuban debt question before the Paris commissioners is a closed incident. It may be further stated that all matters relating to Cuba and Porto Rico are closed.

"The Philippines question probably will not be taken up this week. It will be taken up, however, and discussed at the first meeting of the joint commission in the early part of next week.

"The work of the peace commissioners is nearer an end than is generally surmised. Two weeks ago I said that I thought the American commissioners would be through their labors by December 1. I see no reason to amend that statement.

"Of course the Spanish commissioners have used every pretext for delay. When hard pressed they have thrown themselves upon the mercy of their conquerors with the exclamation that if Spain is ruined the crime will be ours. Well, when Germany had France at her feet, France threw herself on the mercy of her conqueror. She said that if Alsace and Lorraine were torn from her and the French people were loaded with a billion dollar debt, she, too, would be financially ruined and France would be reduced to a third rate power. Germany's answer was that she could not help that. France should have counted the cost before she declared war. That answer we must justly make to Spain's contention that she, too, will be ruined. She should have counted the cost before making a declaration of war."

PARIS, Oct. 28.—The American peace commissioners, at their sessions to-day, will draw up a memorandum upon the subject of the Philippine islands. It is expected they will place it before the Spanish commissioners at the joint session which is to take place on Monday next.

DEBATE IS USELESS.

WASHINGTON, Oct. 29.—The President gave the cabinet very encouraging reports from Paris to-day regarding the progress of the peace negotiations. The administration now fully believes that the negotiations will be concluded much sooner than expected a few days ago. It can be stated authoritatively that the commissioners have not yet actually begun the discussion of the Philippine question, and further that it will not be taken up until next week. Since the Spaniards have found that the American commissioners mean exactly what they say and that their presentation of the side of the United States is in reality an ultimatum, the uselessness of prolonged debate, it is said, has become apparent to the Spanish and it is now believed the Philippine discussion will be less protracted than reported some days ago.

The United States has not assured nor guaranteed the so-called municipal debt of Cuba or Cuban municipalities, but it is expected that such debts will be paid by the municipalities incurring them, for by no reasoning could they be charged upon Spain. Our government, it is said in official circles, would look upon any attempt at evading the payment of such debts as repudiation, and whatever government is established in Cuba will be expected to see that these obligations are carried out in good faith. Moreover, some of the bonds of Cuban municipalities are held by citizens of the United States and the United States might insist that the investments of her citizens in such securities are made good. The state department has no information as to the amount of their municipal liabilities.

Sampson Wants the Vesuvius.

WASHINGTON, Oct. 29.—Rear Admiral Sampson has asked the navy department to send the dynamite cruiser Vesuvius to Havana. It is said he desires the presence of the Vesuvius as a precaution against any outbreak on the part of either the Spanish soldiery or the Cubans. Admiral Sampson has learned since his advent to Cuba that of all the American warships the Vesuvius strikes the greatest terror to the minds and hearts of both the Spaniards and the Cubans.

Zanesville, Ohio.—The three mammoth paving brick plants of this city will, it is understood, be included in the new paving brick combine. It is said here that the combine will acquire all the factories making modern clay working machinery, thus shutting off outside concerns from equipping themselves with machinery that would make competition possible.

Perish in Sight of Shore. ROCHESTER, N. Y., Oct. 29.—The three-masted schooner St. Peter of St. Vincent sank about five miles northwest of Sedus, on Lake Ontario, in sight of shore, with all on board save Captain John D. Griffin, who was rescued in a precarious condition.

The captain was lost, along with his wife and eight children. It is thought that the vessel was caused her to sink by a fire in the hold. St. Peter was Toledo with 709

FROM THE NAVY'S DESIGNER.

Contractor Hitchborn Reports on the Work of His Department.

WASHINGTON, Oct. 29.—A large part of the burden of equipping the United States navy for the war with Spain fell upon the construction bureau of the navy, and in his annual report, Commodore Hitchborn, the chief constructor, furnishes many interesting details as to the extent of this work. More than 100 merchant craft were made into effective naval vessels at short notice. Looking to the future the chief constructor invites attention to the importance of properly equipping and maintaining the plants already established at the minor naval stations along the coast. He says that had the consequences of the recent naval engagements in the West Indies been nearly so serious as there was reason to expect they might be, the Southern stations would have been necessary for repairs to ships too badly injured to be sent to Northern yards.

The report recommends a change in the system of purchasing supplies for navy yard work, declaring that the repairs have been delayed through the failure to procure material. The successful accomplishment of rapid work during the war was only possible, it is said, because the department wisely authorized the usual methods of purchasing material and the supplies to be disregarded and authorized the contractor at the various yards to make direct purchases. The cost of purchases was not enhanced by this method.

Besides the long list of vessels purchased by the government for use as auxiliary cruisers, the report says that ten vessels were accepted by the government from builders during the last fiscal year. These were the Iowa, Helena, Nashville, Wilmington, Annapolis, Marietta, Newport, Vicksburg, Foote and Wheeling. The work upon new battleships had been held back to a great degree by the impossibility of procuring armor when it was needed. It is suggested that in awarding contracts for torpedo boats the department should limit builders unfamiliar with torpedo boat or naval work to a single vessel, in order that they may not on an apparent saving of a few thousand dollars obtain their experience at a heavy expense in delay and annoyance to the government.

The chief constructor declares that the naval engagements of the past few months have fully justified his course in making fireproof the woodwork placed in our warships.

The necessity for hastening the construction of the new docks is strongly urged. An allusion is made to the steady decrease in the number of apprentices in the several naval yards. The chief constructor says that the apprentices make the best workmen, and therefore he urges that the system be put on a new basis; that boys be carefully selected for apprenticeship, physically examined and then carried through the proper course of construction at the navy yards.

The behavior of all classes of our naval vessels throughout the various conditions of the war is set down as a source of gratification to the construction bureau, where the greater part of them were designed.

WADE CALLS FOR WARSHIPS.

American Evacuation Commission at Havana in Earnest.

HAVANA, Oct. 29.—The American evacuation commission continues to advise sending warships here, but can get no reply from Washington. The reason may be that Admiral Sampson has refused to join General Wade and General Butler in recent requests. A joint session of the two commissions will be held soon. General Parrado will be held soon. General Parrado will be held soon. General Parrado will be held soon.

A frank talk General Butler had with General Parrado a few days ago resulted in this request for a joint session, to which the Americans have assented, saying they would select a date later.

Office Holders Assessed. WASHINGTON, Oct. 29.—Gov. Governor Charles A. Busiel of New Hampshire has preferred charges with the civil service commission against the members of the Republican state committee of New Hampshire for assessing political contributions upon federal officeholders in that state, and has written to the comptroller of the currency complaining that the First National bank of Concord is aiding and abetting the violation of the civil service law by acting as the agent of a United States official in soliciting political subscriptions from other United States officeholders.

WASHINGTON, Oct. 29.—It is understood that a presidential edict, removing a large number of government offices from the classified civil service probably will be promulgated before Thanksgiving day. As at present determined upon, the order will affect upwards of 6,000 places. It will include deputy collectors of internal revenue who are authorized to become acting collectors, actually serving in that capacity. There are about 2,000 of these deputies. The largest class affected is the corps of examining surgeons of the pension bureau, of whom there are in all over 4,000.

PAY FOR PHILIPPINES.

SOME MEMBERS WOULD ACCEPT CERTAIN DEBTS.

To Take All With Reason—The West Coast Trip Made an Expansionist of Secretary Gage—The Cost Estimated at \$40,000,000.

New York, Oct. 31.—A dispatch to the New York Herald from Washington says: President McKinley is convinced that there is no way in which the United States can escape the responsibility of taking all the Philippines. He has arrived at this conclusion after mature deliberation. He at first favored keeping nothing more than a military and naval base and thought that the United States should in no event retain more than the island of Luzon. When the American peace commissioners left for Paris it was not contemplated that they should demand from the Spanish government more than the absolute cession of this one island to the United States and a reversionary interest in the other islands of the group.

It has been found, however, that there were many practical difficulties in the way of such a solution, not the least of them being the evident impossibility of Spain's re-establishing authority over the remaining islands without a prolonged and bloody struggle with the insurgent forces.

Information, coupled with the opinion of military and naval commanders familiar with the Philippine situation, have led the President to believe that Admiral Dewey's destruction of the Spanish fleet in Manila bay and General Merritt's capture of Manila annihilated Spanish sovereignty in the island and it became a duty of the United States to establish a better government than the one which was destroyed by American arms.

The President has been deluged with letters from all parts of the United States and with resolutions from commercial and religious bodies urging that American sovereignty should be maintained wherever the flag has been planted. In this same line the President's recent Western trip was a revelation to him and the members of his cabinet who accompanied him. The further he went West, the stronger he held the sentiment in favor of holding all the Philippines and establishing an American government over them.

Secretary Gage, who went as far as Denver, found the sentiment there even stronger than in Omaha. In all the meetings of the cabinet before the peace commissioners left for Paris, Secretary Gage was the most conservative of all the President's advisers. He doubted the wisdom of taking even as much as the island of Luzon. Since his return from the West, however, he is an advocate of holding all of the islands.

Although it had been finally determined that all the Philippines shall be retained the peace commissioners may be given considerable latitude as to the terms on which they may be retained. The Philippines are regarded as standing on a different basis from Cuba and Porto Rico, and some of the members of the administration believe that if all the islands are taken Spain should be given some measure of compensation for them, especially as the Philippines have been by far the most valuable of all her colonies.

It can be said that it is quite probable that the American commissioners will be authorized to go so far as to offer to pledge the United States to assume the Philippine debt, or at least such portion of it as has been expended on public works in the islands. The exact amount of the debt it is believed will be less than \$40,000,000. A high official of the administration said last night that it might be decided that the Spanish government should receive an actual cash payment for the Philippines in addition to the assumption of the debt or a part of it by the United States.

BUBONIC PLAGUE ON BOARD.

A French Vessel, Reporting Two Deaths, Quarantined in San Francisco.

SAN FRANCISCO, Oct. 31.—The French bark Duchesse Anne has arrived in port from Hong Kong, flying the yellow flag. Both the federal and state quarantine launches put out to the vessel, and soon the news came back to port that there had been two deaths from the bubonic plague on board during the voyage. Captain Cervary, master of the ship, was the first to succumb to the disease. He was sick only a few days and died August 20. Nearly a month afterward a sailor named Menier was stricken with the plague and he died September 19 and was buried at sea. The bark was ordered into quarantine.

King George May Abdicate.

LONDON, Oct. 31.—According to advices received from the court of Copenhagen, where King George of Greece is staying after attending the funeral of the Queen of Denmark, it is believed that he will abdicate next spring in favor of the Crown Prince Constantine and will return to Denmark and settle there permanently.

BOULDER, Col., Oct. 31.—Sheriff T. J. Thompson and a posse with bloodhounds are trailing five prisoners who escaped from the county jail by tunneling through the walls, a distance of ten feet.

The fugitives are John J. Cassidy, convicted of murder and sentenced to life imprisonment; George Rowe, grand larceny, sentenced to four and a half years; Edward Rowe, grand larceny, six years; Nels Boucher, awaiting trial on a charge of assault with intent to murder, and John Baptiste, serving a three months' sentence for larceny.

NEW TRIAL FOR DREYFUS.

The Court of Appeals Decides the Case Must be Reopened.

PARIS, Oct. 31.—The court of appeals has decided to grant a revision in the Dreyfus case and will institute a supplementary inquiry. The court, however, has declined to order the release of Dreyfus.

It was three years ago that the famous French prisoner, the degraded captain, Alfred Dreyfus, landed on Devil's Island off the coast of French Guiana. The army believed that its troubles were at an end.

French military secrets had been getting into the hands of foreign governments. They were of such a nature that they could have been betrayed only by a member of the French secret service bureau. Detectives, disguised as rag pickers, were set to watch the German embassy. In September, 1904, they found a memorandum, torn in four pieces among the contents of a waste paper basket that had been thrown into the alley from the legation. This memorandum, the famous "bordereau," mentioned some unimportant military matters that had been recently decided on and were known only to the secret service office. Handwriting experts declared that the writing was that of Alfred Dreyfus, captain in the intelligence bureau. Dreyfus was summoned to the office of the minister of war and told to write a letter by dictation. The letter was the bordereau. The officers hoped to cause Dreyfus to confess on the spot by taking him by surprise. When the dictation was finished they withdrew and left him a half hour with a loaded revolver. He refused to commit suicide. On their return he denied all knowledge of why he was detained.

His secret trial followed. The bordereau was the only evidence submitted, so far as was known, although there were hints of a mysterious "secret document." Three experts testified that Dreyfus wrote the bordereau, two that he did not. He was sentenced on this slender evidence to be degraded from office and to be exiled and kept an isolated prisoner for life. The sentence was carried out amidst the applause of Paris. The prisoner was a Jew. The anti-Semitic movement had such a hold that the sentence was extremely popular.

No motive was ever offered to explain the treason. Dreyfus came of a wealthy family. His income was \$10,000 a year. His wife was the daughter of a rich Paris diamond merchant. Her dowry was \$100,000. Dreyfus never gambled nor caroused. In no way was he an extravagant man. His spare time was spent with his family. He had no reason to betray his country for money; he had no grudge against the government.

The revision decided on by the court of appeals will mean a new and probably a fair trial for Dreyfus. Every effort will be made to clear up the mystery of the bordereau and to discover its real author, whether many people believe to be Major Esterhazy.

CAMP THOMAS INSPECTED.

The War Investigating Board Visits Chickamauga Park.

CHATTANOOGA, Tenn., Oct. 31.—The war investigating commission spent the entire day in inspecting the site of Camp Thomas in Chickamauga park, under the guidance of General Boynton, General A. P. Stewart, a member of the Chickamauga park commission, and Mr. E. E. Betts, the engineer of the committee.

The inspection began at Lytle Station and covered all points of interest in the park and near its borders which have been in any way involved in the controversy concerning the sanitation of the camp, including Sternberg and Leiter hospitals, the various springs from which water was secured by the troops, including the famous Crawfish springs, and the point on Chickamauga creek at which the water of the pipe line supply was taken out.

There were many expressions of commendation of the methods followed at the Sternberg hospital, and General Dodge was heard to remark that it was a pity to have to leave an institution so well equipped. They found only fifty-eight patients in the hospital and most of those were convalescent. All were housed in wooden pavilions, the tents being vacated. Major Giffen, in command of the hospital, said it would soon be abandoned. The commission also gave attention to the proximity of the various camps to one another and the depth and location of the sinks. The conclusion seemed quite general that many of the regiments were thrown more closely together than they should have been, and that this fault could have been avoided by moving, as there was, in the opinion of at least some of the committee, sufficient space that was not occupied for the accommodation of many thousands more of troops than were ever present there.

Many of the sinks were also found to have been nearer to the tents than proper ideas of sanitation encourage, and in some cases the character of the surface was found to be such as to warrant the conviction that the sinks were shallower than they should have been, but this was true only of parts of the camp.

VIRDEN OPERATORS WEAKEN.

Injunction Cases Against Miners Dismissed by the Company.

SPRINGFIELD, Ill., Oct. 31.—The injunction cases against Edward Cahill and twenty-five other miners of Virden, brought by the Chicago-Virden Coal company, enjoining the miners from interfering with the operations of the mine, were dismissed to-day in the circuit court by the complainants. It is believed this is preliminary to an effort to again arbitrate the differences.

NEWS OF NEBRASKA.

SUCCINCT SUMMARY OF A WEEK'S EVENTS.

Most Important Happenings of the Past Seven Days Briefly Mentioned—All Portions of the State Covered—A Thorough Resume of Nebraska News.

Wednesday, October 26.

Revenue Collector Houtz has received a ruling from Washington on the question of the taxation of certificate of nomination. Politicians from all over the state have been asking Mr. Houtz about this matter for some time and he is pleased to announce that the government does not tax certificates of nomination for state, county or municipal offices, nor will any papers relating to the enforcement of election laws of state, county or city be subject to a revenue tax.

John W. Argabright's life sentence for murder was reversed by the supreme court and the case was remanded to Nemaha county for another trial. This is the second time the supreme court has reversed a judgment of the lower court in the case of Argabright. The first was a sentence for ten years and on the second trial sentence for life was pronounced. The life sentence was reversed by the court, not for lack of evidence, but for abuse of discretion of the trial judge in the order in which he allowed testimony to be introduced. Argabright shot and killed his father-in-law, William Smelser, in the month of February, 1894. The distressing crime grew out of family troubles.

Thursday, October 27.

W. A. Kitzberger of South Omaha claims to have plucked from a single tomato vine one bushel of tomatoes. The vine is 7 feet 3 inches long and very bushy.

The safe at the postoffice at Valparaiso was blown open by burglars, destroying the door of the safe, but the inner combination baffled them from getting the money and stamps. There is no clue.

Adjutant-General Barry will soon be able to furnish the names of recruits for the First Nebraska regiment. He recently received word from the adjutant-general's office at Washington that a descriptive list of the 313 recruits, together with assignment cards, have been forwarded. The recruits were stationed at Camp Otis, Honolulu, when last heard from.

Typographical union No. 209 of Lincoln, gave an art poster show at the state capitol last Friday evening. A remarkably fine display of over 1,000 high art posters was made and those in attendance at the opening were astonished at the beauty of the subjects and the extent of the display. The famous American poster artists like Bradley were well represented, and a few foreign specimens were in evidence.

Friday, October 28.

The Second Nebraska regiment was mustered out at Omaha Monday. It required nearly \$100,000 to pay the men.

One of T. F. O'Brien's teams, while hauling a coal wagon with an ordinary load of two tons, broke through the paving into the sewer at Nineteenth and Grace streets, Omaha, and the driver narrowly escaped injury.

The little village of Trumbull, situated northeast of Hastings, suffered a disastrous loss by fire. The store building of Ramsey & Co. and a number of adjoining buildings were burned to the ground, and the loss amounts to several thousand dollars.

Henry A. Coit of St. Louis has secured a franchise from Nebraska City permitting the erection and operation of a telephone exchange. The rates as fixed by ordinance are \$24 a year for business houses and \$12 per year for residences.

Saturday, October 29.

The new mechanic arts building at the state university was dedicated today with appropriate ceremonies. There was a holiday, and the students and citizens celebrated the event generally. Dr. Morgan Brooks delivered a lecture in the chapel.

A wreck occurred in the Burlington yards at Lincoln, resulting in the injury of Engineer John M. Baird and fireman Henry J. McCune. The engineer was injured in the right leg and the fireman suffered bruises in the shoulder and arm. The damage to the cars and engine was not great.

Sunday, October 30.

Harvey W. Crawford, an employe of Evans laundry, Lincoln, caught his right arm in the large power wringer and suffered a severe fracture just below the elbow, the arm being crushed in such a way as to leave the bone sticking out through the flesh.

Arthur C. Simms of company F, Madison, Alfred J. Erisman of company I, Bennett, Earl W. Ostenhaus of company E, David City, are First regiment, Neb. Vol. Inf. boys who have lately died at Manila. The first and last named died of typhoid fever, the other of chronic diarrhoea.

Mrs. Mary Mohr, residing near Chalco, committed suicide by hanging herself to the rafters of an outhouse on her farm. Her husband died some weeks ago, on the effects of an operation performed at an Omaha hospital, and it is thought she became despondent and ended her troubles.

The three-year-old daughter of August Tuxhorn of Tecumseh met death in a tragic manner. While playing around the kitchen fire her clothing became ignited and before the flames could be extinguished she was so severely burned that death soon followed.

Mrs. Peter Lund, wife of a well-to-do farmer living near St. James, a small town northwest of Hartington, was found dead in bed with her throat cut from ear to ear. A large knife was near her and it is believed that she committed suicide, although no cause is known why she should do so.

John Bileck, living at 1809 North 23d street, Omaha, shot and killed Lou Brussin, a barber, who had alienated the affections of Mrs. Bileck. Brussin met Mrs. Bileck about six months ago and they became attached to each other. Mrs. Bileck left her husband for a time to live with Brussin, but returned to him. Her attachment was strong for Brussin, however, and she determined to return to him. It was while she was making arrangements to do this that the tragedy occurred. Brussin was at the Bileck home help Mrs. Bileck to take her baggage away when the enraged husband stopped proceedings by several shots. Bileck gave himself up.

The coroner's inquest at York over the remains of Mrs. Gerhart Meiner failed to disclose anything to indicate that she had died from unnatural causes. It was at first believed her husband was responsible for her death. There was quite a bruise across the small of her back, but the physician who made the examination stated that while death might have possibly resulted from a blow on this part of the body, he thought it hardly probable. A deep scar was found across one of the hips, which was the result of a cut her husband is alleged to have made while abusing her a few weeks ago.

Monday, October 31.

Wymore has been without electric light for more than a week owing to a bad break in the machinery and as a result stores have been lighted with one or two little oil lamps, presenting a very desolate appearance.

Prof. O. D. Hove shipped from his orchard five miles north of Table Rock one day last week 180 barrels of apples, and this has not been a very good year for apples either. He has sold many previously, and has many more left.

George Brown, a colored gentleman who was anxious to have a chicken for his dinner Sunday, sprang the gun-trap at Dr. Houtz's place, at Lincoln. Saturday evening while attempting to secure one of the doctor's fine birds. He was wounded, but will recover in a short time and be none the worse for being shot. He admitted that he had gone there for chickens, and would have gotten what he went after had the gun-trap not worked so well.

C. H. McNeal of Creston, in the northern part of Platte county, was brought to Columbus and arraigned before County Judge Robison on a charge of bigamy. He furnished a recognizance in the sum of \$500 and the hearing was continued until November 11. The complaint sets forth that McNeal was married in 1896, to Miss Mollie Thompson at Lexington, Mo. On the 11th of last September he was married at Columbus to Miss Anna Kell of Salt Lake City, and they have since resided at Creston. The Missouri wife is now at Columbus and will appear against him.

Tuesday, November 1.

Corporal Claud Goodenow of B company, Second regiment, died of typhoid fever at his home in Ord.

The plant of the Havelock Times was totally destroyed by fire this Tuesday morning. The origin is unknown.

Roy L. Barber of Stromsburg, a member of company H, Third Nebraska, died suddenly at his home to which he had come on a furlough.

C. A. Carlson of Colby, Kan., and his wife, were found dead in their room at the Hotel Vendome, Omaha. A gas jet was found wide open.

The attendance on the last day at the exposition was 61,102, the total for the five months being 2,613,374. The scene on the Midway at midnight was one of wildest revelry.

Incendiarism is responsible for the loss of the store building at Neligh owned by G. C. Maben Deloit. The contents, including the postoffice and supplies, burned also, entailing a loss of \$1,000, with no insurance.

A man named Austin bought Hesser's big century plant and a lot of the finest palms and decorative plants at the exposition, and also the Minnesota building, the handsome log structure on the bluff tract. He is a very wealthy manufacturer of Chicago who is building a large factory and palatial home and reside at Walker, near Chicago, and he buys these things for the ornamentation of his place.

J. R. Jones, a bartender at 1301 Webster street, Omaha, was fatally stabbed by an unknown party and died almost instantly. James Johnson, the proprietor, had had trouble with some men a short time before. They had returned to the place and when Jones stepped to the door to ask them to cease their disturbance, he was stabbed. His assailant escaped. Two companions, S. J. Maher and W. F. Grady, were arrested, but declined to tell the name or identity of the murderer.

J. E. Green of San Francisco has sold to W. E. Spiers of Glen Falls, N. Y., the famous stallion Directum for \$20,000 in gold. Directum is eight years old and has a four-year-old record of 2:05 1/4.

Cordelia Botkin has been indicted by the government of the city and county of San Francisco for the murder of Mrs. John P. Dunning of Dover, Del. on August 12 last.

The Acme Wrecking company of San Francisco has made a request of the government for authority to raise the Maine. They ask no money, but provided the government don't want it, they expect to exhibit it.