

The Independent.

A WEEKLY JOURNAL DEVOTED TO

POLITICS, AGRICULTURE AND HOME LIFE

Vol. 19. No. 960.

Lincoln, Nebraska, November 1, 1906

Subscription \$1.00

WILSON WARNS PACKERS

Says if Packers Defy the Law They Will Find Their Way Into the Penitentiary

Washington, D. C.—The Federal government sat up today and took notice of the talk about the formation of a holding company to take over the property and business of the beef trust. The notice consists of letters to the attorneys in the districts in which the acts of forming the corporation may be taken calling their attention to the newspaper reports.

"It is vengeance as much as anything else that the officers of the federal government desire. The unmerciful roasting that resulted from Garfield's report giving the trust a clean bill of health, and the subsequent giving of the judicial immunity bath as a result of that report, has made the attorneys of the department of justice tender on the subject of the beef trust. They have a healthy desire to retrieve themselves and wipe out the blot caused by the freeing of the packers, because Garfield had asked them for information.

Secretary of Agriculture Wilson was asked for a statement of his views concerning the attempted formation of a trust.

"The only information I have on the subject of this alleged merger proposition," said Mr. Wilson, "has been gleaned from the newspapers. But I will say this.

"We have a bureau of corporations, whose agents are especially charged with looking into matters of this kind.

"We have a department of justice, whose machinery was designed to be used in just such a case as this.

"We have our attorney generals to talk to grand juries.

"We have grand juries to listen and to indict.

"We have petit juries.
"We have penitentiaries."

GOVERNOR MAGOON'S TASK

Cuban Situation Not as Calm as the Surface Indicates

The Cuban papers have printed almost daily eulogies of Secretary Taft and Secretary Bacon, and their general attitude has been that intervention was the thing to be hoped for and worked for, rather than opposed. But these are surface indications, for the Cubans are an emotional and shallow people. Their smiles can be quickly turned to frowns, and the machete changed from an agricultural implement to a weapon of war. The disbanding of the army has been accomplished but this is no assurance that Governor Magoon has smooth sailing ahead of him.

With the island firmly in the grip of

the army, Governor Magoon, carrying out the policy of Secretary Taft, will undertake a thorough investigation of the charges against the provisional governors and alcaldes placed in office by the Palma government, and all of those against whom charges are sustained will be supplanted by such reputable men in either party as Governor Magoon can find. The liberals have repeatedly disclaimed any desire for office, but neither Secretary Taft nor Governor Magoon is deceived by these professions, and although some suggestion has been made that the new election can be held in June, when the grinding season for sugar ends in the greater part of the island, it is very possible that between now and then disorders will take place which will call for the use of force by the army and by the rural guard.

Unfortunate precedents have been created by the Taft mission because its instruction to protect life and property at almost any cost necessitated placing a premium upon rebellion by treating with men in arms against the government, and upon horse stealing by permitting the rebels to retain the horses which they had seized. But it should be remembered that the Taft mission did not create the situation which confronted them upon their arrival; that their instructions were to deal with the materials at hand. Protection of life and property and the prevention of further hostilities were the objects which Secretary Taft kept constantly in mind. If the people of Cuba take advantage of the unfortunate precedents created, and the United States is compelled at some future time to intervene, the form of intervention will doubtless be very different from that inaugurated by the Taft mission. Another rebellion will call for the use of an iron hand, unprotected by the soft glove of tact and diplomacy. Such a mission would be military in character and its problems would be simple in comparison with the difficult and complicated situation which Secretary Taft has handled with such skill and tact and patience.—Havana Letter, New York Evening Post.

RUINS RICHER THAN A MINE

Twisted Steel in Fallen Buildings a Source of Income

San Francisco—It has been calculated that the steel in the ruins of this city will form a valuable source of income to the owners and that the ruins are richer than any known mine.

Officials of the Southern Pacific report a large movement of scrap steel and say that instead of going east, as was the case when the movement first started, by far the larger part of the steel is going to local smelters, that at Selby getting a good slice of the supply.

The steel is being taken from owners who are cleaning up their properties and then shipped to the smelters. The steel is in fair condition and has to undergo practically no pur-

ification process, but is being melted up and recast for new beams.

A movement on foot to establish smelters in this state is being hailed with joy. It is said that such action will greatly lower the cost of structural steel and will enable more to be made out of the scrap steel and the ore found in this territory.

AIRSHIPS FOR ALL SOON

Santos Dumont Declares Problem of Man's Flight in Air is Solved

Paris—Santos Dumont was radiant over the triumph of his flying machine and he shook hands vigorously with the correspondent.

"Man has flown at last," he exclaimed.

"But," queried the correspondent, "hasn't man, in the person of Santos Dumont, already flown around the Eiffel Tower?"

"Ah, yes," the aeronaut answered, "but that was only the first step—or to be accurate, the first beating of wings. This is nearly the end."

"How so?"
"Because the machine is heavier than is the air. This is the real thing. Once let it be proved that something heavier than the air can rise and maintain itself and we have the solution of the problem within our grasp.

"It is a mere question now of mechanical perfection and acquired skill of the operator. For the society or the business man to have an aeroplane will be as natural as it now is to have an automobile. Obviously, as there is weather in which no one cares to go out in an automobile, so will it be with even a heavier-than-air flyer. But as for the balloon, that is lighter and there are only a few days in the year when anyone not a fool would ascend. With solid motors the exception will be the other way.

"Every aeronaut I have seen since the ascent agrees with me that in ten years man will use the air as naturally as he now does the roads."

CHINESE ARMY MANEUVERS

Foreign Attaches Watching Sham War of Orientals

Changtsefu, China.—The autumn maneuvers of the Chinese imperial army began near here this week. About 30,000 troops, with 150 guns, from Honan, Hupeh, Chihli and Shangtung provinces are engaged, under the command of Yuan Shi Kai.

A southern army, composed of the Hupeh and Honan forces, is supposed to have landed in the Yangtse Valley, and one wing is trying to reach Peking, while a northern army (Chihli and Shangtung troops) is compelled to defend the capital at short notice.

The troops are equipped with the most modern accoutrements, rifles and guns, and their appearance is highly creditable to the foreign officers who have trained them.

Thirty foreign military attaches are closely following the operations.

JAPAN MAKES DEMANDS

Japanese Children to Enjoy Same Rights in Public Schools as Americans

Washington—There was a long and important conference today between Secretary Root and Viscount Aoki, the Japanese ambassador, regarding the action of San Francisco in building separate schools for Japanese children. The ambassador requested the secretary of state to see carried out the treaty of 1894, which requires that Japanese children be permitted to attend the public schools in this country. Secretary Root promised to take the matter up with the governor of California.

No formal protest was made by the Japanese ambassador, although he stated that the killing of the Japanese poachers in Alaska and the talk about restricting Japanese immigration to the United States had not contributed to the anti-American sentiment in Japan so much as had the school question.

"There is much misunderstanding in Japan concerning the situation," said Viscount Aoki. "Of course, the Japanese government realizes that the action taken against the Japanese children is merely local, but all the Japanese people do not understand it is not a national policy. After all the years of friendship between the two nations it seems too bad that the poor, innocent, little Japanese school children should be subjected to such indignities, and they are resented very bitterly by the Japanese."

The ambassador stated that Mr. Hanibara, the secretary of the embassy, who was sent to Alaska to investigate the killing of Japanese poachers by American officers, had returned to Washington and made a verbal report. He admitted that the Japanese had not right to take seals, but he said the question to be determined was whether the Americans were justified in killing the poachers. Secretary Root has requested the Japanese government to cause the arrest and punishment of the Japanese poachers who escaped to Japan.

There is no disposition on the part of the administration to minimize the seriousness of the situation. It is realized that if the Pacific coast movement against the Japanese continues the United States will lose the friendship of Japan and with it probably a large share of Oriental commerce. A high official of the government pointed out today that the loss of Japanese and Chinese commerce would be more severely felt on the Pacific coast than elsewhere.

Every effort will be made to convince Japan that the United States government has no part in the Pacific coast movement. It is not expected in administration circles that the labor unions of California will