

Brief Telegrams

Russia has fifty-seven warships at Port Arthur.  
There are 144,000 Mormons in the United States.  
There are about 11,000,000 Catholics in the United States.  
The pension issue last year was the largest in ten years.  
In Finland reindeer are worth only \$7.50 a head. One of these animals recently covered 150 miles in a day.  
Prussian railway cars have only about three-tenths the carrying capacity of those used in the United States.  
Senator Russell A. Alger has been sued for \$5 for failure to cut the weeds on property owned by him in Kansas City.

In the United Kingdom last year \$5,500,000 pounds of tobacco passed through the custom house for home consumption.  
There are 22 lead pencil factories in Germany, which employ 2,813 persons, and export each year 1,614 tons of pencils, worth \$2,000,000.  
Lincolnshire has the biggest English farm. Over 2,000 acres are near plough. The second largest is near Coldstream, in Northumberland.  
The borough of Fulham, London, by the use of its garbage in the furnace of the municipal electric lighting plant, makes a profit of \$3,442 a year.  
Professor Koch, of Heidelberg, is the only instructor of any university in Germany who lectures on journalism. He has for several years lectured there on this subject.

A large amount of hay is being purchased in Nevada for immediate shipment to San Francisco. It is stated that the hay is being purchased for the Russian government.  
The oldest ship in the world, the mail schooner Vigilant, running into St. Croix, F. W. L., although now under the French flag, was built of Essex oak at Essex, Mass., in 1802.  
Owing to the demand of the government for a guarantee deposit upon its legal reserve funds the Equitable Life Insurance society of New York has announced its withdrawal from Japan.

Italy is soon to celebrate at Asti and Florence the centenary of a great tragic poet, Alfieri. He is buried at Florence. Alfieri narrowly escaped being guillotined in Paris during the revolution.  
Miss Alice N. Hall, a graduate of Mount Holyoke college and who holds a master's degree from Oberlin, Ohio, has been elected assistant pastor of the Congregational church in Fond du Lac, Wis.

Mrs. William E. Chisholm, a widow of College Point, L. I., has set aside a plot on her estate for the burial of her dogs. Mrs. Chisholm's son-in-law is a step-brother of the present Duke of Marlborough.  
The New York Daily News, which about a year ago abandoned the afternoon newspaper field and became a morning publication, has discontinued its publication as a morning newspaper, and will appear as an afternoon paper.

Miss Valentine Smith, a society woman of Chicago, has written an interesting ode on the centennial celebration in that city. She has been a writer of poetry since a child, and James Whitcomb Riley is one of her warmest admirers.  
Several Chinese cities have erected temples in honor of Li Hung Chang. His tomb also has the form of a temple. Two of its inscriptions are: "All countries in the world mourn him," and "He changed heaven and revolutionized the earth."

Secretary Wilson, the former member of the Roosevelt cabinet, is going south to make a personal investigation of the cotton crop for the present year. There have been so many conflicting reports on the subject from official and unofficial sources that the secretary has concluded he may be able to learn more by personal observation.  
Mr. Beaupre, United States minister to Colombia, has transmitted to the state department a copy of a law enacted by the Colombian congress, providing for the isolation of lepers in each department of the republic. "One of the gravest questions confronting Colombia these days," says Mr. Beaupre, "is the terrible one of leprosy. This awful disease has invaded the country to an alarming extent and extraordinary measures have become necessary to check its progress."  
The state department's answer to General Reyes' formal note, setting forth Colombia's alleged grievances, has been prepared at the department according to Secretary Hay's instruction, and the draft memorandum is in Mr. Hay's hands for final consideration and revision.  
Count Max Le Coeppé de la Forest, secretary of the board of health and a director of the water system of Paris, France, is now reviewing the Pike's Peak region and gathering statistics regarding climate and the famous water supply of Colorado Springs.

TRIAL SOON OVER

DIETRICH AND FISHER FOUND NOT GUILTY.

THE INDICTMENTS ARE QUASHED

Court Decides That the Senator Was Not a Member of Congress When Contracts Were Made—He is Therefore Not Guilty as Charged.

OMAHA.—The Dietrich trial in the federal circuit court is a thing of the past. The senator has been found not guilty of accepting a bribe, had the indictments of conspiracy against him quashed because the court held he could not be charged twice with the same offense and was relieved from defending himself in the charge of enjoying a lease with the government upon the motion of the district attorney.  
Summers refused to make any statement after the trial was over. He said: "I have no further statement to make—nothing more to say, I think."  
"I have nothing to say," said Senator Dietrich, "beyond the fact that I was willing to waive any technicality in order to secure a full trial. My attorneys advised me, and I believe, correctly, that the court would not allow the case to go to the jury, for the reason that Summers would not and could not prove that I was a senator when the lease was made. The lease was made before I was even elected senator and while I was still governor. Summers knew this and knew that his case would not be allowed to go to the jury, but he persisted in his effort solely to besmirch my name."  
At the same time in the court room Senator Dietrich was surrounded by a group of friends anxious to shake his hand and to say that even though the prosecution lost out because it had not been shaped in conformity to law, they were satisfied that the senator was guiltless literally as well as technically. His daughter, Miss Gertrude Dietrich, was the center of a throng of women, smiling and talking freely for the first time since the trial began. Postmaster Jacob Fisher of Hastings, who also was freed of the charges pending against him, was expressing his satisfaction and saying that he did not care so much about the indictment, but that it was "his girls" that were the most concerned over the matter.  
A most notable assemblage of lawyers heard the delivering of Judge Van Devanter of the two decisions, both of which settled points never before raised in American jurisprudence, the first as to whether a senator is a member of congress when and after he is elected or upon taking the oath of office, and the second being on the contention that a lease with the government made by a member of congress before he becomes such an officer does not operate to cause him to fracture the law because its provisions are adhered to after the lease becomes a public officer.  
The point as to the exact time a person becomes a member of congress was raised by General Cowin and argued by both sides. It had been anticipated as a vital feature of the bribery case and the judges had prepared for it. They were ready, therefore, with the decision, although, as Judge Devanter said, the reasoning had not been reduced to the form in which it will stand upon the court records.  
"From the conclusions," he said at the end, "we must instruct the jury to find this defendant not guilty."  
"Gentlemen of the Jury, it results from that which has been just said in your presence that, if all the evidence which the prosecution has in hand and which was described were now introduced and before you, it would appear that the defendant had not attained that official relation with the United States which was necessary he should have attained in order to come within the inhibition of this statute, and hence we must instruct you to find the defendant not guilty. The evidence has been rendered necessary and it is your duty to find the defendant not guilty."

PORTO RICANS NOT ALIENS. United States Supreme Court so Decides in Old Gonzales Case.  
WASHINGTON.—In an opinion by Chief Justice Fuller the supreme court of the United States decided that the citizens of Porto Rico are not aliens of the United States and that they are entitled to enter this country without obstruction.  
The opinion was delivered in the case of the Porto Rican woman Gonzales who, in 1902, was refused admission to the port of New York on the ground that she was likely to become a public charge. The decision was based entirely on the immigration act of 1891 and took the ground that the Porto Ricans owe allegiance to the United States and to no other government.

France Will not Interfere. LONDON.—Daeschner, first secretary of the French embassy, in an interview Friday said that the present arrangement between France and Great Britain were such that it would be impossible to disturb them. The secretary said that even if Korea and China joined Japan they would not be considered as powers within the meaning of the Franco-Prussian treaty and that, therefore, it will not be likely that France will be called on to interfere.

Free Admission of Coal. WASHINGTON.—Representative Williams (Miss.) introduced a bill providing: "That from the time and after the passage of this act no duty shall be levied or collected upon coal of any form or description imported into the United States from foreign countries." Also a bill requiring the secretary of the treasury to make full rebate of duties paid on all coal of every description imported into the United States from foreign countries for the period of one year.

CLASSIFICATION OF MAIL. Bill Introduced Providing for Sweeping Changes.  
WASHINGTON.—Representative Dalzell of Pennsylvania introduced a bill providing for the consolidation of third and fourth class mail matter, to be admitted at the rate of 1 cent for each two ounces. The bill enumerates in detail each article to be admitted in this class, included in which is "queen bees, when properly packed."  
He also introduced a bill authorizing the postmaster general to accept all regularly issued publications for transmission in the mails at a bulk rate of 6 cents a pound, when not less than 500 pounds are presented at one time, and that the publication shall have no less than four issues a year, and each copy shall weigh at least one and one-half ounces. Section 2 of this bill states: "That regularly issued publications, as herein described as second-class matter, shall hereafter be designated fifth-class matter with admission to the mails as herein stated."  
He also introduced a bill providing that at least 2,000 identical pieces of third and fourth class matter may be accepted for transmission through the mails without postage stamps affixed, provided the postage shall be paid in full thereon.

WESTERN MEASURES ARE UP. The Nebraska Representatives Are Heard From.  
WASHINGTON, D. C.—Representative Burkett introduced a bill providing for the payment of losses sustained by union soldiers in having their arms, accoutrements and clothing taken from them by the rebels during the civil war. The bill placed the amount of \$300 as the limitation to be paid in any one individual case.  
Representative McCarty recommended Marion E. Richardson to be appointed postmaster at Clarks, Merriam county, Nebraska.  
Representative Martin introduced a bill to set apart a portion of government land in the Black Hills district to be used as a public park and in connection with the Soldiers' home at Hot Springs, S. D. This park is to be known as the Battle Mountain Sanitarium park.

Contested Election Cases. WASHINGTON.—House elections committee No. 3 fixed February 15 for hearing arguments in the contested election case of Reynolds against Butler, from the Twelfth district of Missouri. The committee took up the Colorado case of Ronyng against Shafroth. Chairman Olmstead appointed Messrs. Miller, Currier and Sullivan as a sub-committee to investigate the ballots.  
She is Victim No. 591. CHICAGO.—The Iroquois theater fire claimed another victim Tuesday, making the total number of death 591; Miss Josephine Spence was one of those severely burned at the fire. She was found by relatives and taken to her home, where she died Tuesday.

Acquits Customs Officers. MANILA.—Ballantine and Miller, charged with conspiracy to defraud the customs by furthering the illegal entry of an exempt class of Chinese, have both been acquitted in the customs court of appeals before Judges Crossfield and Roxas. W. D. Ballantine was an inspector of customs at the time of his arrest for the issuance of alleged fraudulent Chinese certificates, and John T. Miller, implicated with him, was a former inspector of immigration.

LOOKS LIKE WAR

OPINION PREVAILS THAT IT CANNOT BE AVERTED.

RUSSIA MAKES NEW DEMANDS

American Plans Subject of Interest—Diplomats Wonder What Course This Country Will Pursue in Asia—Japan Pleased With Marines' Landing.

LONDON.—The Daily Mail's Tokyo correspondent learns that Russia has made new demands which it will be impossible for Japan to entertain and practically removes all hopes of pacific settlement. The correspondent says that all the powers are landing troops in Corea and that the British blue jackets landed at Chemulpo are expected to go to Seoul immediately.  
Constant telegrams are passing between M. Pavloff, the Russian minister to Corea, Baron De Rosen, the Russian minister to Japan, and Viceroy Alexieff.  
PEKIN.—General Yuan Shai Kai, commander-in-chief of the Chinese army and navy, sent his foreign adviser, Charles Denby, jr., to Pekin to investigate the report as to the probability of war. Mr. Denby has reported that according to the best opinions obtainable, based on diplomatic information, war cannot be averted.  
PARIS.—Official and diplomatic representatives here claim to be without information regarding the contents of the Russian reply to Japan, but the tone is distinctly pessimistic and there are but slight hopes of a peaceful exit from the position in which Russia and Japan find themselves. The diplomats are making inquiries as to the attitude of the powers in case of war, that to be adopted by the United States being regarded as particularly important. To the Associated Press the Japanese minister said:  
"The attitude of the United States will mean much. It has negotiated a treaty with China for the opening of three ports in Manchuria to the commerce of the world. These ports have been occupied by Russia and thus the treaty rights have been violated.  
Japan is not guided by selfish motives, but is acting in the interest of all nations. I hope the United States will clearly understand our petition and will favor us with their support."  
The correspondent asked the minister if he had lost all hope of peace.  
"I never lose that hope," he replied.  
The Chinese legation claims to be without information in regard to the attitude of China in the event of war. It was said that at the outset it was certain that neutrality would be proclaimed, but in case of Japanese victories it would not surprise the legation if the Chinese should cast their lot with Japan. This would seriously embarrass Russia, not because of the importance of the Chinese as a fighting force, but because of the danger of the interruption of the Russian communications.  
The action of the United States in sending marines to Seoul, Corea, is regarded here as being a "significant indication of the trend of its sympathy," and it is known to be gratifying to Japan, because it establishes a precedent which the Japanese can follow if necessary in debarking a strong force on the peninsula.

LETTER FROM GENERAL WOOD. One Received by Magazine Writer to Be Used Against Its Author.  
WASHINGTON.—The senate committee on military affairs has received from Ray Stannard Baker, the magazine writer, a copy of a letter which General Wood wrote to him just prior to the latter's appearance as a witness in the Wood investigation. Mr. Baker told the committee of the letter when he was on the stand and was then asked to send for a copy. The letter discusses the Runcie incident and by inference suggests that Mr. Baker refresh his mind along certain lines indicated by General Wood. The letter has been ordered printed as an addenda to the proceedings before the committee.  
The minority members of the committee who have voted against the nomination will argue to the senate that the purpose of General Wood's letter was to prejudice the witness.

THE NEW CANAL TREATY. President Sends to Congress a Special Message.  
WASHINGTON.—President Roosevelt sent to the senate and house on Monday a special message in regard to the new Panama canal treaty. He treats the topic in every respect at great length, reciting a history of the Smithsonian commerce in support of recent action. The United States, he says, must control the canal. An obligation rests upon this nation to secure unrestricted use of the same. He details at much length our dealings with Colombia, and says that the negotiations in which the United States was just and generous were rejected by the South American government.  
In the course of his message President Roosevelt says the fact is brought home that if a canal is built to connect the Atlantic and Pacific oceans the United States is the only country that can build it. The act of congress providing for the waterway, he maintains, favors the Panama route, with Nicaragua secondary, at least, if not a last resort. He presents a mass of documentary evidence bearing on the revolution going to prove that this government in no way instigated it, but acted the part of defender of life and property, and carried out its treaty pledge to the world to preserve free transit across the isthmus. Colombia, the president says, brought about the rising by her own bad faith toward the United States, and disregard for the pleas of the seceding people of Panama. Finally, says the president to congress, the question resolves itself into the plain proposition: Shall the new treaty with Panama be ratified; shall the canal be built?

FAILURES OF LAST YEAR. Bradstreet's Reports 9,566 with Liabilities of \$154,277,093.  
NEW YORK.—There were 9,568 failures reported to Bradstreet's in the calendar year 1903, with liabilities of \$154,277,093 and assets of \$84,060,475. This marked a decrease in number of just 2 per cent from 1902 and of 8 per cent from 1901.  
With the exception of 1899, the increase over which is 1.4 per cent, the year 1903 shows the smallest number of failure casualties reported since 1887. Liabilities, however, owing primarily to the increase in suspensions of financial institutions, but also because of the heavy number of manufacturing concerns suspending, were larger by 45 per cent than those of 1902 and the heaviest in fact since 1897. There were 956 failures involving \$9,328,362 of liabilities and \$3,852,197 of assets in the Dominion of Canada in 1903 a decrease of 12 per cent in number and a practically identical total of liabilities.

WHERE DIFFERENCE ARISES. Korea is the Bone of Contention in the Far East.  
PARIS.—It developed Tuesday that the greatest difference between Russia and Japan arises from the proposition made by Russia that neutrality shall be established, extending from Ping Yan in Korea on the south to the Russian frontier on the north. The Russian government has expressed a willingness to recognize the preponderance of influence of Japan in the remainder of Korea, and the principle of the integrity of China and of Korea.  
Japan, however, saw no reason why the proposed neutral zone should be established, holding that the entire peninsula should be subject to her preponderance of influence. The attitude of Russia is believed to be due to the fact that if Japan controls Korea she will thereby be able to more easily menace Port Arthur as well as Vladivostok.

FRANCE IS NOW DIPPING IN. Would Prevent the Transfer of the Canal Property.  
WASHINGTON.—A dispatch to Dr. Herran, Colombian charge d'affaires, received from Paris, said that a French tribunal had been appealed to by an agent of Colombia with a view to preventing the transfer of the Panama Canal company's rights on the isthmus to the American government without the consent of Colombia.  
Counsel for the Colombian government, according to the dispatch, assured the agent he thought there was good ground for believing the effort to prevent the transfer would be successful.  
The step, it is said, is with the full cognizance of the Colombian authorities and was instituted by an agent of the government, who left the United States after consultation with General Reyes and Dr. Herran. The end sought to be attained is to frustrate the sale of concessions, franchises and property of the canal company to the United States, preparations for which already have been under way, the amount to be paid by this government being \$40,000,000.

Navy Estimates Reduced. WASHINGTON, D. C.—Secretary of the Navy Moody, with the view of asking congress for such sums only as are required for the navy for the coming year for construction and machinery by \$4,000,000, and has eliminated the \$400,000 for equipment of vessels under the same head. The application for construction and machinery is a continuing one and the original estimates called for \$23,000,000.

Deporta Miners' Leaders. TELLURIDE, Colo.—Twenty men arrested here by the military authorities, including former Attorney General Eugene Engley, counsel for the Telluride Miners' union; Guy E. Miller, president of the union, and J. C. Williams, vice president of the Western Federation of Miners, were placed on board a northbound train and taken beyond the boundaries of San Miguel county under military guard. They will not be allowed to return while martial law is in effect.

NO SAFE DEVICES

MANAGERS OF THE IROQUOIS THEATER ARE EXAMINED.

NOTHING DONE TO PROTECT LIFE

Testimony of Company Officers Shows that Eleven Exits Were Locked and Bolted When the Fire Occurred.

CHICAGO.—By their own evidence given before Monroe Fulkerson, who is conducting the fire department investigation into the Iroquois theater horror, the proprietors of the theater showed that a worse condition of affairs existed than had heretofore been thought possible.  
Will J. Davis, Harry Powers and Thomas J. Noonan, active managers of the Iroquois theater, were examined by Mr. Fulkerson Wednesday. All of them pleaded ignorance of any precautions taken to prevent loss of life by fire at their theater. They admitted failure to instruct employes in fighting fire and failure even to provide suitable appliances for use against flames. Their statements were corroborated by the testimony of twenty employes of the theater, none of whom had ever been told his duty in case of fire.  
Noonan, who is working manager of the theater, under direction of Davis and Powers, admitted that eleven of the theater exits were locked and bolted. Two of these exits leading to the front of the theater on the ground floor were locked, three additional exits on the north side were bolted, three exits on the north side of the theater in the first balcony were bolted and three exits on the north side of the second balcony were bolted.

The greatest loss of life in the fire was in the first and second balconies, where hundreds of people were suffocated through their inability to get out, or were trampled to death while trying to do so. Had these three exits in each balcony been available, according to Mr. Fulkerson, the loss of life must have been greatly diminished.  
Noonan declared that no person had been named by the theater management to superintend the operation of ventilators of the theater in cases of fire, and that, in consequence, the flames had been permitted to sweep the place, instead of seeking a natural outlet through the stage roof. It was said by Noonan that George M. Dusenberry, the head usher; Archibald Bernard, chief electrician, and the theater engineer knew how to operate the ventilators. It was proven by the evidence of these men, however, that two of them never went upon the stage and that the other had never been told to assume charge of the ventilators in case of fire.  
Dusenberry declared that his duty as usher kept him in the front of the house. The engineer was always below the stage attending to his engine, and Bernard, the only one of the three knowing how to operate the ventilators who was upon the stage during the performance, testified that he had never been told to assume charge of them.  
Mr. Noonan declared that the two balconies, including seats and people standing, held 889 people. The total number of fatalities in the fire is to date 591, of whom three were killed on the first floor. This would make, according to Manager Noonan's statement, 588 deaths out of 889 people in the two balconies.  
Will J. Davis testified that he had given no orders to place a fire alarm box in the theater; that he had given no direction to place a pump on the stage beyond the fact that any apparatus the firemen wanted should be provided as soon as possible. He declared he could not say as to whether the building had been finally accepted by the Fuller company or not.

HARRIMAN NOW THE HEAD. Takes the Place of Burt as President of the Union Pacific.  
NEW YORK.—Directors of the Union Pacific railway met Thursday, accepted the resignation of Horace G. Burt as president of the system, and elected T. H. Harriman as his successor.  
The office of chairman of the board of directors which Mr. Harriman has held for the past three years, was abolished. Mr. Burt will continue to serve as a director.  
There is a vacancy in the position of general manager of the Union Pacific, which President Harriman is expected to fill within the next few days. No intimation has been given as to who will be appointed. He will hardly appoint himself.

Sustain Hammond Suspension. ST. LOUIS, Mo.—The action of the California Methodist Episcopal conference in suspending the Rev. J. D. Hammond in San Francisco for one year was, by a vote of ten to nine, adjudged proper by the committee.

Deporta Miners' Leaders. TELLURIDE, Colo.—Twenty men arrested here by the military authorities, including former Attorney General Eugene Engley, counsel for the Telluride Miners' union; Guy E. Miller, president of the union, and J. C. Williams, vice president of the Western Federation of Miners, were placed on board a northbound train and taken beyond the boundaries of San Miguel county under military guard. They will not be allowed to return while martial law is in effect.

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