

BRIEF TELEGRAMS.

Nearly all of the foreign ambassadors called upon Secretary Hay to bid him farewell before he left on the presidential trip.

Governor Odell has signed the bill which authorizes New York City to accept the \$5,200,000 gift of Andrew Carnegie for a free library system.

A man named Petroff attempted to enter the royal palace at Bucharest, the Roumanian capital, with a view to murdering King Charles, but was prevented by the sentries after a severe struggle.

Suit has been instituted against the Chicago & Northwestern railroad for \$250,000 damages by forty-four claimants alleged to have been injured in the wreck at Depe, Wis., June 24, of last year.

Carefully compiled statistics of the Gazette show the gold production of the Cripple Creek district up to the close of April make a total of over \$100,000,000. Gold was first found in this camp in 1889.

The London Times announces the approaching marriage of Mr. Archibald Edward Balfour, second son of Mr. Archibald Balfour of London, to Miss Vivian May, eldest daughter of Mrs. Sartoris of Washington.

A dispatch from St. Petersburg says the Russian government has forbidden the exhibition at Moscow of Repine's life size portrait of Count Leo Tolstoi, representing him in the costume of a peasant and barefooted.

While the first train from Peking to Tien Tsin was traversing the bridge between Lo Fa and Yang Tsum, it was derailed through the collapse of a culvert. Eleven Chinese were killed and forty Chinese and twenty Americans injured. One American cannot recover.

The Michigan house of representatives passed by unanimous vote a stringent anti-cigarette law, and if concurred in by the senate and signed by Governor Bliss, it will be unlawful to manufacture, sell or give away any cigarette or cigarette paper in that state.

The London Daily Chronicle says it learns that Dr. Ludwig Mond has discovered a method of producing illuminating coal gas at two pence per 1,000 feet, which will effect a revolution by cheapening electric power and also as bearing upon the production of open hearth steel.

Norris Humphrey, for twenty-five years a leading business man of Lincoln, Neb., committed suicide by shooting. The death a year ago of his brother and partner brought about a receivership for the property, and the litigation which followed, it is said, unbalanced his mind.

Forest fires are raging at a number of upper Michigan peninsula points, and unless there is a drenching rain soon great damage will be done and many hamlets and villages endangered. The whole north country is very dry, less than a quarter of an inch of rain having fallen during the month.

There really seems some reason to expect an early advance in diamonds. This has not been decided upon, but five firms in London which control the market and are themselves controlled by the De Beers Mining company of South Africa, think it probable that the price of diamonds would have been much higher but for the war.

It is reported from Belgrade that the Albanians in old Servia are committing wholesale atrocities.

Fred Dickson, well known as an opera singer with the Bostonians, was found at Hough's Neck, Mass., hanging in his cottage.

Three cases of the bubonic plague have occurred at Bazra, Asiatic Turkey. Seven fresh cases of bubonic plague have been discovered at Capetown and five Europeans and two colored people have died from the disease.

The Union club of Cleveland, O., whose membership comprises the wealthiest and most prominent business and professional men of Cleveland, has decided to build a new club house at the corner of Euclid avenue and Harrison street to cost \$800,000.

The comptroller of the currency has decided that additional rooms which the collector of customs at New York proposed to build in the custom house out of the appropriation for repairs cannot be constructed under the appropriation.

Postmaster Samuel G. Dorr of Buffalo died of heart disease.

L. P. Hunner, on trial for illegal banking, pleaded guilty at Alma, Wis., to the charge of receiving money after knowing the bank was insolvent and was sentenced to one year at Waupun. A. D. Ingersoll, the largest land owner in Tazewell county, died at Pontiac, Ill., where he was on a visit to his daughter. He was 75 years of age. He owned 1,600 acres of land in Tazewell county and 1,268 acres in Mason county.

NEW LIGHT ON CHINA

Minister Conger Says Emperor is Willing to Expedite a Settlement.

ANXIOUS TO DO ALL THAT HE CAN

Considers It Difficult for the Eleven Ministers to Agree Upon a Modus Vivendi—Nevertheless Feels Certain Powers Will Reach Conclusion in Short Time.

NEW YORK, May 6.—Minister E. H. Conger, who has lately returned to this country, furnishes an article on the Chinese situation which will appear in the coming number of Leslie's Weekly. Mr. Conger says in part:

"Unless matters have changed very materially since I left China six weeks ago, the powers will reach some conclusion in regard to the Chinese very soon. Of course it is difficult for eleven men to agree on anything, especially when they have eleven governments with differing views behind them. China is perfectly willing to do anything that the powers agree upon—that is, within her ability to accomplish. She is only too anxious to expedite these matters and settle down to peaceful pursuits again. Of course the powers must not demand an indemnity which China will be physically unable to raise. It is not certain that, finally, some nation may not demand territory of China in lieu of a money indemnity. It is perfectly certain that if any nation does make this demand, the partition of China will follow, and this will inevitably cause much dissension between the powers. These difficulties and disputes would be long in the settling, and would lead to terrible confusion in China.

"Russia has so far mitigated her demands that there is not now much danger of serious difficulty between her and Japan. Personally, I am very much in favor of the continued existence of China as an empire, governed by her own emperor. It will save us and all the rest of the world lots of trouble if the integrity of the empire is maintained.

"As far as the punishment of Chinese officials goes, China has already done all that she could. Something out of the ordinary had to be demanded by the powers, for it takes a good deal of punishment to impress this people and this was no ordinary offense. In some cases the officials whose punishment was demanded were more powerful than the government, and then, of course, the punishment could not be enforced. Except in these cases, everything was done as the powers demanded.

"At home I understand that I was thought bloodthirsty, but in China I was the most lenient of all the ministers, except one. We knew the conditions better than those who were not there could possibly know them. Drastic measures were demanded, but I do not think that we were cruel. What would seem a very severe punishment to us at home would not impress the Chinese at all, for the reason that they indulge in so many cruel and unusual punishments. The reports of cruelty on the part of soldiers have been grossly exaggerated, though I am sure that there was plenty of brutality on the part of individual soldiers. As an army, the allies were exceedingly well behaved. Nor were the stories of unrestricted looting true. In Peking the soldiers took what they needed, of course, just as we would have seized anything we needed while we were caged up in the compound had we been able to fasten upon anything that would help us to withstand the siege. As for the stories of missionary looting, they are undisputedly false. The missionaries did not loot."

KILLS A VALENTINE INDIAN.

Ladeaux is Held for the Slaying of John Bull-Walks-Behind.

VALENTINE, Neb., May 6.—As the result of imbibing too much firewater Friday night several Indians engaged in a row among themselves on the outskirts of town, where they were camped. The row resulted in Antine Ladeaux shooting John Bull-Walks-Behind, the ball taking effect in the left side just below the heart and ranging toward the backbone. Several Indians seized Ladeaux after he had done the shooting, bound him hand and foot with ropes and then turned him over to the sheriff. They called a physician to attend to the wounded Indian.

Enthuse Over Wyoming Oil.

OGDEN, Utah, May 6.—F. M. Phelps and other California men returned from the Fossil oil fields in western Wyoming and report the discovery of innumerable springs of the flowing oil which has been determined to be a lubricant. H. L. Griffin and S. A. Hubbell, from Bakersfield, Cal., who have made the locations in the district, state that the wells spring up through fault in the formation, indicating immense reservoirs of oil.

THERE ARE MANY MISSING.

Jacksonville Still Unable to Reckon Mortal Cost of Fire.

JACKSONVILLE, Fla., May 6.—Rumors of loss of life are heard on every hand tonight and the river has been closely watched today. Many persons have confirmed the report of loss of life at the Market street wharf. Numerous advertisements appeared in the local papers asking for aid in searching for persons who are missing. As many have left the city for the gulf it is impossible to ascertain who have been lost in the Market street pier tragedy.

The hunger of 10,000 homeless people was satisfied today upon the arrival of relief trains and boats bringing provisions from neighboring towns. Early this morning a commissary was established in the center of the city and thousands were fed during the day. The relief fund is growing hourly and every mail brings offers of assistance.

Today an order was promulgated under martial law requiring all merchants whose stores were spared by the conflagration to open their doors and sell to all who asked. The streets have been crowded all day with shoppers who lost all in the fire and many stores will remain open all night.

It is estimated that 3,000 persons have left the city and every outgoing train is crowded with refugees. Five carloads of tents were received today, the property of the state, which are to be used by the homeless temporarily. Another shipment of tents is expected to arrive from the government tomorrow.

The Times-Union and Citizen estimates the total property loss at \$11,000,000. These figures are based upon an itemized statement furnished by a volunteer committee of citizens.

MAKES THE SHOWMEN SHUT UP.

Buffalo Exposition Management Closes Concessions.

BUFFALO, N. Y., May 6.—The first Sunday of the Pan-American exposition's official existence brought out a good sized crowd. The gates were open, but the buildings were closed. Guards stood by the doors of the great exhibit buildings and told the visitors that no one would be allowed to enter.

On the Midway two of the shows opened their doors this morning and their criers announced that they were ready for business. They were promptly notified by the exposition police to close their shows. They did so under protest and a test case will be tried to decide whether the Midway concessionaires have a right to give their exhibitions on Sunday. The claim set up by the concessionaires is that their contracts specify that they shall be allowed to run every day the exposition grounds are open to the public.

REGULARS WILL COME NEXT.

War Department Planning a Further Reduction of Forces.

WASHINGTON, May 6.—It is expected that within a day or two a program will be completed at the war department for a substantial reduction of the present strength of the United States army in the Philippines. The regular troops now there who have seen the most service are the Fourteenth, Eighteenth and Twenty-third infantries, and one battalion of the Third artillery. They went out to Manila in 1898 in the first expedition under General Anderson, and if the announced policy of the department heretofore lived up to is continued, these will be the first organizations to return to the United States. Some of these troops will be replaced with the new levies just raised in this country. It has not yet been determined how large a reduction will be made.

It Will Be Mrs. McKinley.

SAN FRANCISCO, Cal., May 6.—The much discussed question as to whom would fall the honor of launching the battleship Oregon has been settled by the announcement that this function will be performed by Mrs. McKinley. After the simple ceremonies preceding the event, consisting of short addresses by President McKinley, Governor Nash and Irving M. Scott, Mrs. McKinley will press the button and the released ax will sever the rope just at the turn of the tide.

The Swift Packing company of Kansas City was awarded the contract for furnishing beef to the Missouri penitentiary for one year at \$5.03 per 100 pounds.

Waldersee to Return in June.

BERLIN, May 6.—In view of the favorable development of events here, says the Peking correspondent of the Lokal Anzeiger, it is possible that Count von Waldersee will return home about the middle of June.

Kruger and McKinley.

LONDON, May 5.—The Geneva correspondent of the Daily Mail asserts that President McKinley has informed Mr. Kruger that he cannot receive him, either officially or unofficially.

ORDERS TO THE VETERANS.

Department Commander Reese Makes Public General Order No. 10.

Department Commander Reese has issued the following:

Headquarters Department of Nebraska, Grand Army of the Republic, State House, Lincoln, Neb.—General orders No. 10:

First—May 30 has become the nation's great day, observed, honored and respected throughout the land. Since man loved freedom and contended for it upon fields of fame, the heroes and patriots of all ages have been mourned in poetry and song, their deeds have been commemorated in bronze and marble, in sculptured obelisk and monumental pile, and as long as the principles of freedom shall endure this day will be remembered by the American nation, who will ever cherish the memory of our heroic dead by decking the bosom of their sepulchres with flowers of the loveliest hue. Thirty-three years have come and gone since General John A. Logan, our most distinguished volunteer officer of the civil war and then commander-in-chief of the Grand Army of the Republic, instituted Memorial day.

Second—It is proper for us to remember the sacred duty we owe to the memory of our comrades who have answered to the last roll call—that we should pay our tribute of love to the silent dead; and therefore, in the proper observance of the day by the Grand Army of the Republic, that the Woman's Relief Corps, Ladies' Aid society, Sons of Veterans, Spanish-American war veterans, all national guard organizations and civic societies, as well as the public in general, should be invited to participate, especially the school children.

Third—Memorial Sunday has become a sacred day in the Grand Army calendar. No pains should be spared to make the arrangements for this day as complete and important as Memorial day itself. The hours should be so fixed that all could attend, and the exercises especially appropriate to the day and occasion.

Fourth—Post commanders will see to it that the Memorial day committee make proper arrangements with the school officers for patriotic exercises in the public schools on the Friday preceding Memorial day, and that comrades be secured to visit each school at the hour agreed upon to conduct the services. Comrades, see to it that our flag is raised at half-mast over every school house in the state, and, wherever possible, on all public buildings on May 30. Interest the people in our Memorial day; even if your post is small in numbers, make your services so interesting and your devotion so sacred that your neighbors will join you in paying homage to the heroic dead.

Fifth—Post chaplains will make full report of Memorial day proceedings upon blanks provided for such purpose.

Sixth—We should all remember that Memorial day is sacred to the memory of our dead comrades. The day should not be defamed by games of sport and amusement, and all posts and comrades should use all their influence to discourage, and as far as possible prevent, such desecration of the day.

Seventh—The thirtieth national encampment provided that the reading of President Lincoln's address at Gettysburg be made a special feature in all Memorial day exercises held under the auspices of the Grand Army of the Republic. Commanders of posts will direct that it be read in connection with the exercises of the day. By order of

JOHN REESE, Department Commander. JAMES D. GAGE, Assistant Adjutant General.

Large Acreage of Sugar Beets.

GRAND ISLAND, Neb., May 6.—E. C. Howe of the American Beet Sugar company says that while the acreage of beets is somewhat better than that of last year, there is some doubt as to whether the local factory will be operated this year or not. If the tonnage is good Mr. Howe states that there will be no doubt about it. Should it fall short of 25,000, requiring an average of ten tons to the acre, a campaign next fall is a matter of doubt.

J. F. Lutz, Sentenced.

BEATRICE, Neb., May 6.—J. F. Lutz, who has been in jail here since February 21, awaiting a hearing for a new trial, was denied a new trial and sentenced to one year in the penitentiary. Lutz lived at Cortland, this county, and was convicted of barn burning.

Asylum at Hastings.

LINCOLN, Neb., May 6.—The contract for building the new \$50,000 wing on the asylum for chronic insane at Hastings was awarded by the State Board of Public Lands and Buildings to Burlinghof & Grant of Beatrice.

Rev. E. F. Trefz, Chaplain.

LINCOLN, Neb., May 6.—Rev. E. F. Trefz of Omaha has been appointed chaplain of the First regiment of the Nebraska National guard.

MR. SAVAGE BECOMES GOVERNOR.

The Ceremony of Taking the Executive Chair Simple in the Extreme.

LINCOLN, Neb., May 4.—The ceremony by which Ezra P. Savage was inaugurated governor of Nebraska was simple. The incoming and outgoing governors met in the executive office. Immediately, and without any formality, Governor Dietrich signed his name to the resignation prepared in his office. This document was then taken across the hall to the secretary of state and was accepted by that official. Mr. Savage was then told of the acceptance. He walked into the private office of the governor-discharge of his duties as the chief executive of the state.

Governor Savage's first official act was the signing of the senatorial commission for Senator Dietrich. This was done with the pen used by the former governor in writing his veto messages and the pen was formally presented to Senator Dietrich after the commission had been signed.

Senator Dietrich about June 1 will go to Washington and will probably make his headquarters there during the summer.

"I will remove no office holder, man, woman or child, except for cause," said Governor Savage when questioned concerning the policy he would pursue. All appointees of my predecessor will be allowed to hold their offices so long as they do their duty I intend to watch all of them, but as long as every one satisfactorily fills his place there will be no trouble."

The present clerical force in the governor's office will continue to serve under Governor Savage. Mr. H. C. Lindsay will remain, at least for a month, as the governor's private secretary, and R. J. Clancey, chief clerk, will hold his position so long as he desires to do so. Miss Lena Meyer, niece of Senator Dietrich, will remain permanently as stenographer.

NEBRASKA CROP CONDITIONS.

Weather Favorable for Advancement of Farm Interests.

UNIVERSITY OF NEBRASKA, LINCOLN, May 4.—The past week has been warm and dry, with more than the normal amount of sunshine. The daily mean temperature has averaged 9 degrees above the normal. The maximum temperature on the 26th was between 80 degrees and 90 degrees and at a few places exceeded 90 degrees.

The rainfall of the week amounted only to slight sprinkles, except in the central and southwestern counties, where it ranged from a quarter to slightly more than half an inch.

The past week has been very favorable for the growth of vegetation. Oat seeding is practically completed. Spring wheat and oats are coming up, and the stand is good. Winter wheat has grown well. Grass is generally backward for the season, but has grown well during the past week.

Veteran Heir to Fortune.

PLATTSMOUTH, Neb., May 4.—John Phillips, an old veteran of this city, has been notified of the death of his father at McConnellsville, O., and that he is one of the heirs of a large estate. Nothing had been heard from Mr. Phillips for twenty years, and a letter from a brother in Peoria, Ill., states that hundreds of letters of inquiry were sent to postmasters throughout the United States and that his address was finally secured when the matter was finally referred to the commissioner of pensions at Washington.

Cuts Off His Own Hand.

WINSIDE, Neb., May 4.—Theodore Erickson, an old man of this place, took a handaxe, and laying his left hand on the sidewalk, hacked it off at the wrist. He struck it three blows. Then leaving the hand and the axe on the walk he sat down on a step, where he was found and cared for.

Fix Date For Reunion.

WEEPING WATER, Neb., May 4.—The business men held a meeting here and fixed the time for holding the G. A. R. district reunion on August 20 to 23rd, inclusive. They are making arrangements for a large attendance, and a grand time is anticipated.

Lodge Books Found in Canyon.

HOLBROOK, Neb., May 4.—The official books and records belonging to the Odd Fellows lodge, which were supposed to have been carried off by the absconding secretary last fall, were found in a canyon north of town. The books are in bad condition.

Monument to Nebraska Soldiers.

MADISON, Neb., May 4.—Bids were opened here for the erection of a monument to the memory of three young men who lost their lives in the Philippines. There were six bidders. G. F. Shephard secured the contract, his bid being \$800 with a \$200 donation. The monument is to be twelve feet eight inches in height, granite pedestal, two bases, carved cap and an oxidized copper figure of a soldier in khaki uniform.

Bored The Holes With A Rifle. A novel method of boring holes in a flat bar of iron was recently adopted on a flat ship where a breakdown occurred. To repair the breakage it was necessary to make bolt holes in the square bar, and as the engineer without the appliances required for the purpose he marked the exact places in chalk and then fired a 30-caliber bullet through from a rifle.

Guns Heard Eighty-Four Miles.

An interesting matter, from a scientific point of view, in connection with the death of the queen is the distance at which the sound of firing was heard when the fleet saluted as the body was conveyed from Cowes to Portsmouth. Letters in the English journals of science show that the sounds of the guns were heard in several places at a distance of sixty miles, and that at a distance of sixty miles the concussions were sufficiently intense to shake windows.

Old Maids' Home.

Sweden and Norway both boast several homes for unmarried women. One of these was endowed more than 200 years ago by a man who left the bulk of his fortune to his spinster descendants. The home is managed by salaried trustees, and the unmarried women who can prove kinship to the founder is entitled to a home there.

The Only Woman Admiral.

The queen of Greece is the only woman admiral in the world. She was so appointed by the late Emperor Alexander III. of Russia, because of her love for the sea, instead of being given a regiment, according to custom.

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