

## WILL PROBE DEEP

LIFE INSURANCE AFFAIRS TO BE INVESTIGATED.

### RECOMMENDATION BY GOVERNOR

A Committee of Eight Appointed to Look Into Matters—Gov. Higgins Brings It About by a Message to the Legislature.

ALBANY, N. Y.—There will be a legislative investigation of the life insurance business as carried on in this state, both by New York state corporations and by those of other states doing business within this state. This investigation will be made by a special joint committee, with ample powers, of which the chairman will be Senator William W. Armstrong of Rochester, republican.

The other senators on the committee will be William J. Tully of Corning, republican, and Daniel J. Riordan of New York City, democrat. Senators Armstrong and Tully are lawyers; Senator Riordan is a real estate and insurance agent. The two republicans are said to have been selected by Governor Higgins and Senator Raines, republican leader in the senate, and Senator Riordan by the democratic senators. The five assemblymen members of the committee will be named by Speaker Nixon within the next day or two.

Chairman Armstrong said that, while the actual hearings by the committee would probably not begin for some time, the preliminary preparations, calculations, and so on, necessary in preparations for the inquiry, would be set in motion as soon as possible, and the organization of the committee would take place as soon as the assembly member had been appointed.

The institution of the committee followed hard upon a message of Governor Higgins to the legislature, which came as a complete surprise. The message was received in the senate after the conclusion of the Hooker case, and was not read in the assembly until late in the afternoon session. Its effect may be described as sensational.

### YOUNG RUSSIAN

#### CHOOSES FREE AMERICA

NEW YORK.—A young Russian, claiming the title of Prince Potemkin, and said to be the son of Admiral Potemkin of the Russian navy, a descendant of the house of Potemkin from which the mutinous battleship Kniaz Potemkin derived its name, is in this city. He arrived Monday night on the French liner Labretagne. The young man made the trip in the steerage, although when his property was examined at Ellis Island it was found he had nearly \$25,000 in cash. To his fellow travelers the young man said he had sold his place in Russia, had divided a sum, the equivalent of \$10,000 among his ten aunts and had left Russia for all time. He said after a short sojourn in the east he would go west and buy a farm. He declared against existing conditions in Russia and said he did not desire to live longer in that country.

### THE CHINESE BOYCOTT

#### HAS BEEN INAUGURATED

WASHINGTON.—The state department has been informed by its consuls that the Chinese boycott against American goods, which was instituted Wednesday, was organized by the trade guilds in five ports, Shanghai, Canton, Tien Tsin, Hankow and Newchwang. It is believed the boycott will not be successful or do any particular injury to American goods, except in Canton and Shanghai, where the guilds are stronger than elsewhere. There is no official action which the United States government can take as long as it remains a single boycott or refusal to purchase American goods, but it is thought the boycott will be discouraged by the Chinese government as far as possible.

### ATTEMPTED ASSASSINATION.

Man Rushes at Pobiedonosteff, but Is Disarmed.

ST. PETERSBURG.—A circumstantial report of an attempt on the life of Constantine Petrovitch Pobiedonosteff, chief procurator of the holy synod, is current in St. Petersburg tonight, but the Associated Press is unable to obtain confirmation of it. The authorities and even the police at the Tsarko-Selo railroad here, where the attempt is reported to have been made, disclaim all knowledge of any such happening.

According to the report, as Mr. Pobiedonosteff stepped from one of the coaches on the train from Tsarko-Selo, where he is residing during the summer, to the platform, a man about thirty-eight years of age, rushed up with a revolver in his hand, but he was seized by a quick-witted passenger before he could shoot and was turned over to the police.

### Japs Go to Get New Ship.

VICTORIA, B. C.—The steamer Iyo, which has arrived from Japan, brought among her passengers Captains O. Kamimura and H. Ogura, Fleet Engineer H. Yamada and Lieutenant Commander Sato, Japanese officers detached from Togo's fleet since the battle of Tsushima and sent to England to take over the battleship Katori, recently launched, which they will take to Japan at the close of the war. A crew will be sent to England by the Suez route for the battleship being built in England.

### MORE BOODLE INDICTMENTS.

Twenty-Four Additional Bills Returned Against Officials.

MILWAUKEE.—Twenty-four true bills against fourteen individuals were returned by the grand jury which has been investigating alleged "grafting." This was the third bunch of indictments handed down since the jury went into session June 20, the grand total thus far numbering 129. Tonight's list contains seven new names, the most prominent being Thomas Clancy, chief of the city fire department, indicted on one count, the charge being perjury. Caplases were issued for the indicted persons.

### THE CHINESE NOTE

#### IS MADE PUBLIC

OYSTER BAY.—The text of the Chinese note, made public by President Roosevelt, is as follows: "Having viewed with profound regret the unfortunate interruption of peaceful relations between Japan and Russia the imperial government now learns with gratification that the negotiations are about to commence for the restoration of peace and amity. But in the present conflict Chinese territory has been made the theater of military operations. Therefore it is hereby expressly declared that no provision affecting China without the approval of China being previously obtained, which the treaty of peace may contain, will be recognized as valid. The diplomatic representatives of China in Japan and Russia have been instructed by telegraph to communicate this declaration of the governments of Japan and Russia respectively."

### WITTE FOR PEACE.

Russian Envoy Talks of Pending Negotiations.

ST. PETERSBURG.—M. Witte, the senior Russian peace plenipotentiary, received the correspondent of the Associated Press at his villa on Yelagin island. In according the honor of an interview to the Associated Press, he said he expressly desired it stated that he had declined all previous requests of journalists for interviews and would decline all future requests. He further said that he made an exception in the case of the Associated Press, as it was the representative of the press of the United States, and as he was about to become the temporary guest of the United States, and also as a mark of the particular sympathy he felt toward that country.

M. Witte spoke in French. After greetings, which were cordial, the conversation gravitated to the high mission with which the Russian statesman is charged and the disposition of the foreign press to interpret his appointment as an indication that Russia had desired to make peace at any price.

"No, no," said he, straightening up in his chair and speaking slowly and distinctly as if weighing the value of each word. "In the first place I have been designated by the emperor as his ambassador extraordinary for our parlers with the Japanese plenipotentiaries to ascertain whether it is possible to conclude a treaty of peace. My personal views are of secondary importance, but my ideas are in entire accord with those of my friend, Count Lamsdorff.

"In serving my emperor I have received precise instructions from his majesty and shall follow them. "The ultimate decision remains in the hands of the emperor and it is for him to decide the destinies of Russia. The emperor is the friend of peace and desires peace, but I very much fear that the Japanese terms will be such that we will be unable to reach an accord.

"Secondly, the world should disabuse its mind of the idea that Russia wants peace at any price. There are two parties in Russia. One favors the continuance of the war a outrage—this is a large and influential party. The other, to which I belong, favors peace. I avow it frankly, because telling the truth has always been my rule in politics. I was for peace before hostilities broke out.

### SOCIAL REVOLUTIONISTS

#### ISSUE A PROCLAMATION

MOSCOW.—The fighting organization of the social revolutionists has issued a proclamation announcing that the death sentence pronounced against Major General Count Shuvaloff, chief of police, who was assassinated July 11, was executed by one of its members "on account of the black and cruel activity of this satrap at Odessa (where Count Shuvaloff was formerly prefect), and his subsequent return to active service of reaction at the recall of Trepoff, the pan-Russian dictator, to stamp out the revolution in Moscow."

The proclamation concludes: "Let this execution serve as a joyful signal to the Russian millions in revolt and as the death knell of the dying autocracy. Let it remind all dogs of the autocracy of national justice."

### Chicago Strike at an End.

CHICAGO.—The teamsters' strike, which has so greatly disturbed business conditions in this city for over one hundred days, was at 12:30 o'clock on Thursday officially declared off by the members of the Teamsters' Joint Council. The men have been ordered to seek their old positions and it is estimated that less than one-half of them will be re-employed. The strikers have made a complete surrender and will apply for work as individuals and without an agreement of any kind with their employers.

## VICTIMS BURIED

FORTY-SEVEN OF BENNINGTON'S DEAD IN COMMON GRAVE.

### AN IMPRESSIVE CEREMONY

Remains Lie Beside Those of Heroes of Monterey and San Pasqual.—San Diego a City of Mourning Over the Awful Disaster.

SAN DIEGO, Cal.—Later figures given out on the Bennington explosion disaster are as follows:

Fifty-five dead in undertaking establishments.

Seven unidentified men wedged under the boiler in the fire room of the boat.

Eighteen men missing and unaccounted for, probably drowned.

Fifty-four in the hospitals.

Of the injured, Surgeon Foster of the marine service says ten will surely die within the next two days.

They buried the Bennington's dead Sunday—forty-seven of them—in a common grave. On the crest of the promontory of Loma, high above the waters of San Diego bay on the one side, and within sound of the booming surf of the Pacific on the other, they were laid to rest in the peaceful little military burying ground. Without the crash of drum or the sound of brass, without pomp or parade, yet with simple impressiveness all honor was paid the nation's dead.

They have honored dead to keep them company, these brave men of the Bennington. All about them lie those who died in the nation's service in most trying times. Gravestones, yellow with age, bear the names of men who died at Monterey, in the Mexican war, others who gave up their lives in the conquest of California and who followed Commodore Stockton at Old San Pasqual. These are their neighbors in death.

Army and navy paid their last tributes no less sincere than the simple grief of the representatives of peace, who made the long journey around or across the great bay. From Fort Rosecrans came the One Hundred and Fifteenth company, coast heavy artillery; from the city of San Diego the naval reserves; from the Universal Brotherhood's home on Point Loma a company of khaki-clad representatives, and from the government ship Fortune a dozen of her sailors. But the most impressive body of mourners were the fifty-two men from the battered Bennington. Beside these there were hundreds of civilians, who, unthoughtful of the fatiguing journey from the city, brought their offerings of flowers to lay upon the graves.

San Diego was a city of mourning today. Although the people of the city have taken in the Bennington catastrophe an interest that was personal to all from the moment that it happened they set apart this beautiful Sabbath day to pay tribute to the dead.

A careful compilation of the casualties was made by the Associated Press Sunday night, as follows:

Buried in military cemetery at Fort Rosecrans today, forty-seven; dead now in morgues, eleven, awaiting shipment to relatives; dead in fire room of Bennington still unrecovered, two. Total dead, sixty. Injured at various hospitals, forty-nine. Missing, sixteen. Grant total, 125. Of the injured at hospitals seven or eight are expected to die.

### ACCOUNT OF MR. BRYAN

#### AND BENNETT ESTATE

NEW HAVEN, Conn.—A hearing was held in the probate court on the acceptance of the account of William J. Bryan as executor of the estate of the late Philo S. Bennett. M. H. Wickwire, counsel for Mrs. Della Bigelow and George W. Cable legatees, filed a typewritten statement of his formal objections to certain items in the account. These items include the transfer tax of \$5,500 and charges made by attorneys. It was claimed that had Mr. Bryan settled the estate promptly without resorting to litigation, the tax would never have been so large. On the other hand, Mr. Bryan's counsel declared that the estate was liable to a ten percent penalty but he got that remitted, so that the estate may consider itself that much in.

### THE PEACE ENVOY

#### LEAVES FOR AMERICA

ST. PETERSBURG.—M. Witte had a final interview with Emperor Nicholas at Peterhof. Foreign Minister Lamsdorff was present showing the complete harmony of views between M. Witte and the foreign minister. M. Witte left St. Petersburg for Paris accompanied by Mme. Witte. At Paris they will meet their daughter who is the wife of the secretary of the Russian legation at Brussels. Mme. Witte has no intention of joining her husband later in America.

### PEARY STARTS FOR THE POLE

Bids Farewell to Friends and Boards the Roosevelt.

BAR HARBOR, Me.—The Arctic steamer Roosevelt, bound from New York for northern waters, via North Sydney, C. B., called here, and after Commander R. E. Peary had bade farewell to Morris K. Jessup of New York, whose contributions to the Arctic club have assisted the explorer to build and equip the vessel, she continued her voyage.

### THE PEACE CONFERENCE

Preparations for the Same Rapidly Progressing.

PORTSMOUTH, N. H.—Preparations for the peace conference are progressing rapidly and satisfactorily, and by August 5, the day on which the plenipotentiaries are expected to reach Portsmouth from Oyster Bay on board the Mayflower and the Dolphin, all will be in readiness for the reception. The Washington government and the state of New Hampshire are co-operating in the effort to make the surroundings of the conference as suitable as possible and are receiving generous assistance from the people of Portsmouth and the adjacent villages of Kittery, Me., where the navy yard is located, and Newcastle, N. H., near which the plenipotentiaries will have quarters in the Hotel Wentworth.

### THE BENEFICIARIES

#### OF MR. HAY'S WILL

WASHINGTON.—The will of John Hay, late secretary of state was filed for probate in the office of the register of wills for the District of Columbia. The beneficiaries are his widow and his brother and sister. His brother, Leonard Hay, and his sister, Mary Hay Woolfolk, are given all the property at Warsaw, Ill., and the sum of \$25,000 each. His brother, Charles Edward Hay, is given \$50,000, and Harwood Otis Whitney of Keokuk, Ia., \$2,000. All the rest of the property of all description is left to Clara Stone Hay, his widow. Nothing is contained in the will to indicate the value of the estate. Payne Whitney and James Wolcott Wadsworth, jr., sons-in-law of the deceased are named as executors of the estate.

### MERCHANT COMMITS SUICIDE.

H. J. Birkby of Nebraska City Jumps Into the Missouri River.

NEBRASKA CITY.—H. J. Birkby, a prominent dry goods merchant of this city, committed suicide by drowning in the Missouri river.

He had been sick for several years and during the last few months had nearly gone blind and was losing his mind. About 9:30 this morning he walked to the river bank at the foot of Central avenue. He took off his hat, coat and vest and laid them on the bank and jumped into the water.

### RAILROAD ACCIDENTS

#### FOR THREE MONTHS

WASHINGTON.—Accident bulletin No. 15, just issued by the interstate commerce commission, giving an account of railroad accidents in the United States during the months of January, February and March, 1905, shows that during that quarter there were twenty-eight passengers and 204 employees killed and 1,651 passengers and 2,062 employees injured in train accidents, making in all 232 persons killed and 3,713 injured in train accidents. Other accidents to passengers and employees not the result of collisions or derailments bring the total number of casualties up to 909 killed and 14,397 injured.

### THE MOROCCAN CONFERENCE.

Russian Accepts on Same Terms as Great Britain.

PARIS.—Russia has given notice of her acceptance of the Morocco conference on the same conditions as Great Britain.

A cable dispatch from Tangier, July 16, said that the government of Great Britain had accepted the invitation of the sultan of Morocco to attend the international conference on Moroccan reforms, on conditions that the program to be discussed by the conference be communicated to it beforehand.

In the course of a conference between M. Rouvier and Prince von Radolin, the former made known the general lines of the international conference according to the French viewpoint, particularly as relates to the French policy in giving financial aid to Morocco and in maintaining order and security in the country by a police system under French supervision. These exchanges are gradually bringing the parties together upon the essential features of the conference.

### Peace Envoy Reaches St. Paul.

ST. PAUL, Minn.—Baron Komura, the Japanese envoy to the Russo-Japanese peace conference, arrived in St. Paul Sunday over the Great Northern railway. While no official welcome was accorded the baron and his party they were greeted at the station by several hundred people, included among whom were city and state officials and prominent St. Paul business and club men, besides a large number of Japanese residents of the Twin cities. The party left on the Burlington for Chicago.

### Secretary Loomis Unnotified.

LONDON.—Assistant Secretary of State Loomis who, has returned to London after a trip to the country, has heard nothing of the alleged probability of his appointment to represent the United States at the international conference on Morocco. Mr. Loomis expects to remain here a week longer and then will go to the continent and pursue his investigation of the various American legations. He was a guest of Ambassador and Mrs. Reid at a luncheon party at Dorchester house on Saturday.

## DIED ON GUNBOAT

AN EXPLOSION THAT HAD A TERRIBLE OUTCOME.

### WAS A FEARFUL LOSS OF LIFE

Two Score Killed Outright, Besides Many Fatally Wounded—Several of The Victims Nebraskans and Iowans—A Splendid Ship Received.

SAN DIEGO, Cal.—Thirty-nine dead bodies are lying at morgues, on piers and on the deck of a ruined vessel of the United States navy, scores of men are lying grievously or painfully injured in sanitariums and hospitals and twelve sailors are missing and probably have found death in the waters of the harbor as a result of an explosion of a boiler on board the United States gunboat Bennington at 10:10 o'clock Friday morning.

The Bennington, at the time of the accident, was lying in the stream just off Commercial wharf, at the foot of H street. The warship had received orders from the navy department at Washington to sail this morning for Port Harford, where she was to meet the Monitor Wyoming and convey the vessel to Mare Island navy yard. Steam was up and everything was in readiness for sailing, when suddenly and without any warning whatever the starboard forward boiler exploded with a deafening roar. The explosion was terrific. People standing on the shore saw a huge cloud of white steam rise above the Bennington. Columns of water were hurled into the air and for a distance of nearly twice the height of the spars of the vessel.

It was immediately apparent that an awful disaster of some kind had happened on board the warship. The ferryboat Ramona was coming across the bay at the time of the accident. Captain Bertelsen of the Ramona immediately gave orders to change the course of the boat and instead of continuing his trip to the San Diego side of the bay hurried to the aid of the stricken warship. The tug Santa Fe, which was tied up at the Commercial wharf, the launch McKinley, the government launch General De Russey and a large number of other launches and water craft which were near the scene at the time also rushed to the assistance of the Bennington and endeavored to lend every aid possible.

By the time the Ramona had arrived many of the sailors of the Bennington, who had jumped into the bay to escape the scalding steam, had been rescued and the removal of the wounded, which had already commenced, was being conducted in perfect order. The crews of the Santa Fe, De Russey and McKinley and the other boats present lent yeoman aid in picking up the wounded sailors and transferring them to the shore.

On board the Bennington were presented terrible scenes. The force of the explosion had torn a great hole in the starboard side of the ship and the vessel was already commencing to list. A section of the upper deck was carried away from stem to stern. Blood and wreckage were distributed over the entire ship, the after cabin and the vicinity of the ship adjacent to the exploded boiler resembling a charnel house. Over it all hung the great cloud of white smoke, which drifted slowly toward the Coronado shore.

Among the wounded are: C. W. Brochman, Des Moines, Ia., apprentice; Preston Carpenter Arapahoe, Neb., ordinary seaman; J. C. Barhus, Omaha, Neb., seaman; W. V. Kennedy, Lyons, Neb.; Edward V. Kennedy, Alliance, Neb.

### HANGED FOR MURDER OF

#### MOTHER AND DAUGHTER

THE DALLES, Ore.—Norman Williams, who murdered Alma Nesbit and her mother on March 8, 1900, was hanged on Friday at the Wasco county jail. He made no statement, his last remark being, "My lips are sealed to the world."

Mrs. L. J. Nesbit of Omaha and her daughter, Alma, were murdered near Hood River, Ore. The motive of the crime was the desire of Williams to secure a homestead adjoining his own in the Hood river country, upon which Alma Nesbit had located at his instigation.

Williams' two hapless victims were both from Omaha, while the murderer himself was a Nebraskan with an atrocious record in that state.

### Funston Escapes Death.

MONTEREY, Cal.—General Frederick Funston, commander of the department of California, his aides, Lieutenant Long and Lieutenant Burton Mitchell, department inspector of small arms practice, narrowly escaped death Saturday when an electric car crashed into the carriage in which he was riding. General Funston had his left hand severely bruised, but was otherwise unhurt. Mitchell sustained painful bruises about the head and body. Lieutenant Long escaped with a few slight bruises.

### Will of Late John Hay.

WASHINGTON.—The will of John Hay, late secretary of state, was filed for probate in the office of the register of wills for the District of Columbia. The beneficiaries are his widow and his brothers and sisters. His brother, Leonard Hay, and his sister, Mary Hay Woolfolk, are given all of the property at Warsaw, Ill., and the sum of \$25,000 each. His brother, Charles Edward Hay, is given \$50,000, and Harwood Otis Whitney of Keokuk, Ia., \$2,000. All the rest of the property is left to Clara Stone Hay.

### TRUE BILLS FOR GRAFTING.

Milwaukee Officials Are to Appear in Court.

MILWAUKEE, Wis.—Twenty-four true bills against fourteen individuals were returned by the grand jury which has been investigating alleged "grafting." This was the third bunch of indictments handed down since the jury went into session June 20, the grand total thus far numbering 129. Tonight's list contains seven new names, the most prominent being Thomas Clancy, chief of the city fire department, indicted on one count, the charge being perjury.

### FRIENDLY RELATIONS

#### WITH CHINESE PEOPLE

SEATTLE, Wash.—Victor M. Metcalf, secretary of commerce and labor, passed through Seattle on his way to California. He came to the coast for the purpose of investigating the Chinese exclusion question. He stated while here that he believed the most friendly relations should exist between the United States and China, as the latter country is just awakening and that it will be to the advantage of any country to receive the bulk of her trade if possible. He says that if the better class of Chinese wish to educate their sons in America, they should be allowed to do so.

### Tried to Kill Sultan.

SOFIA, Bulgaria.—It is reported from Constantinople that during today's Solamlik an attempt was made to assassinate the sultan.

### CORN DOES WELL

Made Splendid Progress During the Week.

WASHINGTON.—The weekly bulletin of the weather bureau summarizes crop conditions as follows:

Favorable temperatures prevailed during the week ending July 17 throughout the country. The intense heat on the Pacific coast during the latter part of the previous week was followed by decided lower temperature. Heavy rains interfered with work in the Ohio valley and over a large part of the South Atlantic and Gulf states, but a very general absence of rain in the west Gulf districts with only light showers over much of the Missouri and upper Mississippi valleys afforded favorable opportunity for much needed cultivation. Rains would be of great benefit in the southern plateau region.

Corn has made splendid progress throughout nearly the whole of the corn belt and is decidedly improved in the states of the Missouri valley, where its previous progress has been retarded by cool weather. While the general outlook sustained some injury on low land in Missouri and in portions of the south Atlantic and east Gulf states and is not in a good state of cultivation in portions of the Ohio valley.

Further reports of injury to harvested winter wheat are received from the Mississippi and Ohio valleys, the middle Atlantic states, Texas and Oklahoma and Indian Territories, but no complaints of this character are received from Kansas and Nebraska, both quality and yield in the last-named state being better than was expected. Harvesting, where not finished in the more northerly districts, is well advanced.

Spring wheat has experienced a week of favorable weather and continues in promising condition. While rust is still prevalent in the Dakotas and to some extent in Minnesota, it is not increasing in the first named states and there is very little in Minnesota. Spring wheat is filling nicely on the north Pacific coast, where the hot winds of the previous week caused but slight injury. Rust is increasing in Washington, in central Mississippi and Ohio valleys and in portions of the middle Atlantic states oat harvest has been interrupted and considerable damage to both harvested and standing oats has resulted from wet weather. Harvesting is largely finished except in the more northerly districts, where good yields are promised.

Much hay has been damaged in the central Mississippi and Ohio valleys and middle Atlantic states, but in New England and the Missouri and upper Mississippi valleys having had progressed under favorable conditions.

### IS THE CZAR

#### SINCERE FOR PEACE

TOKIO.—It is believed that Emperor Nicholas recently sent an encouraging message to General Lnevitch promising him men, provisions and ultimate victory. It is also reported that the Russian emperor recently ordered the mobilization of four army corps. This fact taken in connection with the reported limitations of M. Witte's power as chief peace plenipotentiary is deemed to be a sign that Russia is not sincere in her express desire for the conclusion of peace.

### Singing Evangelist Arrives.

NEW YORK.—Charles M. Alexander, the singing evangelist, who conducted the recent London revival meetings, arrived on the steamer Carpathia. He is going to the Moody summer conference at East Northfield, Mass.

### Consolidates Land Offices.

WASHINGTON.—The president has issued an order consolidating the Tucson, Prescott and Phoenix, Ariz., land offices, with headquarters at Phoenix.