

SIoux CITY'S FIRST BIG CONFLAGRATION

Greatest and Most Costly Fire in the City's History Burned for Several Hours During Friday Night.

LOSS MAY REACH \$3,000,000

More Than Two Blocks in the Center of the Town Are Destroyed by the Fierce and Furious Flames.

More than \$3,000,000 worth of most valuable property went up in smoke Friday night in the most disastrous conflagration that Sioux City, Ia., has ever sustained. One life is known to have been lost.

Approximately two-thirds of the losses are covered by insurance.

The devastating blaze originated in the basement of the Massachusetts block at Fourth and Jackson Streets at 8:10 o'clock.

The Pelletier Dry Goods Company's store was crowded with Christmas shoppers when suddenly there was heard an explosion. A bright flame sprang up and in a few seconds had enveloped the whole front part of the building. The toys and inflammable goods which littered the show windows were soon a mass of blaze and before the fire department could arrive on the scene the whole building was a terrible holocaust.

The strong west wind which was blowing roared through the tall building and the flames soon spanned Jackson Street to the east, lapping with greedy tongues the tall Toy building. In fifteen minutes after the inception of the fire the Toy building had caught and the firemen were unable to cope with its terrible fury. Fanned by the strong wintry wind it would not be denied. It seized within its hot grasp that magnificent structure and soon there was no hope to save it.

To the south the devouring flames made their way from the front of the Massachusetts block and the apartments occupied by Brown's Business College was in its terrible thrall. The three upper floors in the rear of the Pelletier building were occupied by families. There were about seventy-five roomers there. The progress of the flames was so rapid that many of these had a hard time in escaping with their lives.

A fire escape was the friend in need and down this, down five stories through smoke and flame, men, women and children wended their way to safety with the brave firemen acting as helpers. It is thought that all of the occupants escaped, but nothing definite is known at this time. One man was caught asleep and did not awake until too late. The fire escape was cut off by seething flames. He appeared at a fourth story window. The firemen brought the net and he jumped. He missed the net by six inches. His bones crunched as he hit the bricks below.

Nothing could stay the progress of the flames. They would not be denied their prey. They lapped fiercely everything that came in sight. They leaped alleys and streets, jumping in devouring glee from one building to another. They burned brick as if it were kindling and steel was the same as pine knots.

The fire swept an area of two blocks on the south side or Fourth Street, between Jackson Street and Pierce Street, and the half block across Jackson Street to the east, upon which stood the magnificent seven-story Toy building and annex.

The Pelletier store, which was in the Massachusetts building, owned by the Massachusetts Real Estate Company, of Boston and Sioux City, was completely destroyed.

In the path of the flames stood the Badger block, owned by G. R. Badgerow, postmaster of Sioux City; the Merantile block, owned by T. S. and J. P. Martin; the Lerch block, owned by the Val Blatz Brewing Company, of Milwaukee;

Alas! Alack!
The fool-killer sat in his easy chair smoking his pipe of clay, for he hadn't a thing to do on earth but while the time away. But soon the fool-killer's pipe went out and then he burst into tears; it was only a dream—his regular work was behind full a dozen years.

Lovesick, Perhaps.
Smithinski—I notice Dr. Singleton has been calling at the home of that young widow almost every day for a week. She must be pretty sick.
Brownovich—Not sick; only pretty.

the Bolton block, owned by J. H. Bolton; the Commercial block, owned by Jonathan W. Brown; the Brown block, owned by W. P. Manley and associates; the Peavey & Nash and Dow stores, owned by D. T. Gilman; the double Schulin building and double Purslow building, the former the property of the Schulin estate and the latter the property of the Purslow estate.

On the side streets were the buildings of T. S. & J. P. Martin occupied by J. K. Prugh and the Higman & Skinner Company; the Higman building, occupied by the Warfield-Pratt-Howell Company; the West Hotel, owned by R. E. Purslow and leased by Frank J. Donohue; the Leader Hotel, owned by Paul Leader; the Selzer wholesale liquor house and saloon, owned by Charles Selzer.

East from the Pelletier building was the stately Toy building, the home of the First National Bank and the Farmers' Loan and Trust Company. This building, which was owned by the State Bank Building Company, was seven stories in height and every floor was crowded, the tenants being mostly doctors and lawyers. On the ground floor were the Canon drug store, the Toy block barber shop, the saloon of J. W. Kennedy and the jewelry store of Brodkey & Goodsite.

All the stores across the street were damaged, the heaviest loser being Fagley & Co., clothiers, in the Metropolitan block, across Fourth Street, north from the Toy building. The Metropolitan block is owned by W. P. Manley and associates.

In the burned district were some of the finest stores of the city. In addition to the Pelletier store there were the stores of the Gillette Hardware Company, Johnson & Aronson, clothiers; Orkin Bros., cloaks; George M. Conway, wholesale and retail tobacconist; the Peavey & Nash Furniture Company, Dow Clothing Company, Harstad & Halseth Shoe Company; Weld Hardware Company; J. T. Becker, haberdasher.

The West Hotel was a complete loss and the guests sought quarters at other houses.

The Ideal saloon and gambling house, owned by Magner Bros., and Carey & Walsh, were burned with a valuable stock of liquors. The gambling paraphernalia was removed before the flames crossed Nebraska Street.

The stores in the district which was burned have brought the highest rentals in Sioux City and it was a question Friday night in the minds of large property holders what the effect of the fire would be.

A miniature engine in "Santa Claus' cave" in the basement of the Pelletier Dry Goods Company was the indirect cause of the most disastrous fire in the history of Sioux City.

In the cave was a man made up to represent St. Nick. He was entertaining a crowd of children by going through a pantomime demonstrating the action of mechanical toys. He pointed to the little engine which was to furnish the power for a toy saw mill and a grind stone. The engine was propelled by hot air, which was furnished by a city gas jet. A check boy struck a match and touched the fire to the jet. It is said he threw the match into a corner. It struck in a pile of flimsy material and in an instant the cave was on fire.

"Santa Claus" quickly tore the beard mask from his face and led the way to the door. By this act the crowd in the basement got out before many on the ground floor knew there was a fire.

Many families were left destitute by the fire, but only two or three persons applied to the police department for shelter during the night. In the Pelletier building alone there were forty-six families and a total of about 200 people. There were also a large number of families in the other buildings, which were destroyed by the fire, besides some living in cottages on Third Street, who were forced to leave their homes and seek shelter from the flames.

It is believed that many of these people found places for the night, at least, with friends. Many of them were too distracted to look for shelter and stood watching the terrible progress of the fire find.

Forgot His Name.
Magistrate—Why didn't you answer to your name?
Vagrant—Beg parding, jedge, but I forgot wot name I gave las' night.
Magistrate—Didn't you give your own name?
Vagrant—No, jedge, I'm travelin' incog.

Andacious Tom.
Ethel—Did you give Tom permission to kiss you?
Clara—Of course not. He didn't ask it.—Pearson's Weekly.

EVENTS OF THE PAST YEAR

January.
2—All Chicago theaters closed, in consequence of Iroquois Theater holocaust of Dec. 30. ... Death of Gen. James Longstreet.
Congress reassembles and hears special message from President on Panama question. ... Fire destroys north wing of Iowa State capitol.
6—Thirty killed in Rock Island wreck near Topeka, Kans. ... Boiler explosion on British cruiser Wallaroo kills 43 persons.
9—Death of Gen. John B. Gordon. ... Steamer Clallam sinks in Straits of Juan de Fuca; 52 lives lost. ... Chinese Emperor ratifies treaty making Mukden and Antung open ports. ... Death of Hon. Chas. Foster of Ohio.
13—Death of Col. Chas. Denby of Indiana.
14—Death of ex-Governor Asa S. Bushnell of Ohio.
15—New government takes hold in Panama.
18—Death of George Francis Train.
20—Tornado in Korea. Kills 37 persons and injures over 100. ... Floods along Indiana and Ohio rivers.
23—Alesund, Norway, destroyed by fire.
25—One hundred and thirty miners employed in mine near Pittsburg. ... Verdict in Iroquois Theater fire case returned in Chicago. ... Mrs. Florence Maybrick released from English prison.
27—Fifteen lives lost in mine accident in Victor, Colo. ... Conviction and suicide of Whitaker Wright, English promoter.

February.
2—Death of ex-Secretary of Navy William C. Whitney.
6—Russia and Japan break diplomatic relations.
7—Great conflagration in Baltimore.
9—Japan lands troops in Korea.
9—Japan wins naval victory over Russia at Port Arthur.
10—Japanese destroy two Russian ships at Chemulpo, and capture 2,000 Russian troops near that city. ... Russia and Japan declare war.
15—Six hundred Russian soldiers frozen to death on Lake Balkal. ... Death of Senator M. A. Hanna.
22—Japanese take four Russian torpedo boats off Port Arthur.
23—Panama Canal treaty ratified by U. S. Senate.
27—Great fire in Rochester, N. Y.
27—Burning of Wisconsin Statehouse in Madison.

March.
2—Collapse of steel frame for 11-story hotel in New York; 14 people killed.
6—Japs bombard Port Arthur.
11—New York and Hudson River Tunnel completed under North River completed.
11—Five-hour naval battle off Port Arthur; Russians abandon the town.
14—United States Supreme Court hands down decision under the great Northern Securities Company merger.
16—Russian torpedo boat destroyer blown up in Port Arthur harbor.
18—Barron S. Seelye, cotton king, suspends payment; panic on New York Cotton Exchange. ... Leonard Wood confirmed as Major-General by Senate.
18—Earthquake shocks felt in New England States. ... Tornado damages Higginsville, Mo.
20—Destructive floods in States of Middle West.
24—Death of Sir Edwin Arnold. ... Five negroes lynched by mob at St. Charles, Ark.
26—Two more negroes lynched at St. Charles, Ark., making 13 lynched in one week. ... Tornado kills six persons near Cambridge, Mo.
31—Big strike of Iowa miners begins.

April.
4—Russians driven from Korea by Japanese advance.
6—President of Mormon Church issues order prohibiting polygamy.
6—Death of Peter Karageorgevitch, King of Serbia.
6—Port Arthur; Admiral Makaroff and 700 others killed, famous palatial Verestehagin, among them.
7—Explosion on battleship Missouri kills 20 men.
19—Great fire in wholesale district of Toronto, Canada; loss, \$1,000,000. ... House burns Oklahoma and Arizona Statehood bill.
20—Death of Grace Greenwood, once popular writer.
22—Carn-barn burned, Neldermeier, Marx and Van Dine, executed in Chicago.
23—Japanese routed at mouth of Yalu River.
23—Ownership of Panama canal property transferred to United States.
26—Opening of Louisiana Purchase Exposition in St. Louis.

May.
1—Japanese rout Russians at end of five-day fight on the Yalu. ... Death of Antonin Dvorak, Bohemian musician. ... 100 lives lost by hurricane in Cochin, China.
2—Death of Edgar Faycett. ... Japanese capture Newchwang.
5—Death of Marcus Jokai, Hungarian patriot and novelist. ... Death of Franz von Lenbach, Bavarian artist.
7—Japanese capture Dairny.
7—Death of Andrew McNally, Chicago publisher.
9—Death of Henry M. Stanley, African explorer.
12—Illinois Republican convention meets and deadlock develops.
15—Japanese battleship Hatsusee strikes Russian mine off Port Arthur and sinks with 441 men; cruiser Yoshino rammed by Kasuga and 210 of crew lost.
18—Japanese army driven back to Feng-wenching with heavy loss.
20—Illinois Republican convention adjourns until May 31 with deadlock unbroken.
22—Explosion of fireworks factory in Findlay, O., kills several employes. ... Japanese lose 15,000 men in land attack on Port Arthur; Russian mine off Port Arthur kills 100 men; Russian miners suffocated in tunnel at Williamstown, Pa., in coal mine. ... Yazoo City, Miss., destroyed by fire with \$2,000,000 loss.
22—Dollars of towboat Fred Wilson blow up near Louisville, Ky., killing 13 persons. ... Russians defeated by Japanese in Tientsin, Peas. ... Japanese capture Kinchen and five Russians from Nanshan Hill; heavy loss of life on both sides. ... Russians burn, loot and abandon Port Dairny.
23—Death of Senator M. S. Quay of Pennsylvania.
25—\$5,000,000 fire in piers and shipping in Jersey City, N. J.

June.
3—Illinois Republican convention adjourns 11-day session.
4—Fire in Cornish distillery in Peoria, Ill., destroys 14 lives and \$1,000,000 worth of property.
5—Mob wrecks amphitheater in St. Louis, when bridge is stopped.
5—Fifteen non-union miners killed by dynamite explosion at Independence, Col.
9—Death of L. Z. Leiter, Chicago multimillionaire.
10—Death of Laurence Hutton, literary man.

Short News Notes.
Fire destroyed the Children's Home of the Sisters of Mercy in Loretto, Pa. Sixty orphans in the building escaped unhurt.
The steamer Henry D. James of the Rutland Transit Company, plying between Ogdensburg, N. Y., and Chicago, burned at the former place. Loss \$90,000.
John Allen, who in July, 1903, shot and killed his wife near Luther, Ok., was found guilty and sentenced to life imprisonment.
Mrs. Katherine Clemmons Gould and her husband, Howard Gould, are defendants in a suit in the Supreme Court of New York brought by two dressmakers for \$5,760 for gowns for Mrs. Gould.
Fire at Columbia, Tenn., destroyed the feed mill and elevator of the City Grain and Feed Company, with thirty cars of ear corn and about 50,000 bushels of shelled corn. Loss, \$72,000, insurance \$42,000.

Superintendent Frank Leach of the San Francisco mint made good the defalcation of former Cashier Walter M. Dimmick by turning over his Oakland home to the surety company which was on Dimmick's bond for \$25,000.
The New York State railroad commission denied the application of the New York Canadian Pacific Railroad Company for permission to issue a first mortgage of \$25,000,000 for the purpose of utilizing an old franchise to build another steam railroad from New York to Albany and west and north to the Canadian line.

Frank L. Gibbs shot and fatally wounded his wife in Barnsville, Minn., and then killed himself. The couple, it is said, had been quarreling.
The naval colliers Ajax and Brutus, now on the Asiatic station, have been ordered to the United States by way of the Mediterranean for the purpose of obtaining a fresh supply of coal for the vessels of the Asiatic fleet.
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July.
3—Twenty persons killed in Wabash wreck at Litchfield, Ill.
5—People's party national convention nominates Watson and Tibbles.
6—International national convention meets in St. Louis. ... Heavy rains cause great floods in Kansas.
9—Democratic convention nominates Alton B. Parker for President.
10—Henry G. Davis named for Vice President by Democratic convention. ... Marquette, Ohio, wrecked by explosion. ... 17 killed and 50 injured in train wreck at Middlevale, N. J.
11—Thirty thousand Japanese killed or wounded in attack on Port Arthur.
12—Strike of 50,000 packing house employes begins in Western cities. ... Death of Mayor S. M. Golden Rule Jones in Toledo, O.; 200 lives lost in cloudburst and flood near Manila.
13—C. & E. I. excursion train wrecked at Glenwood, Ill.; 24 killed and 72 injured.
14—Death of Paul Kruger.
22-24—Ritons Hines at Bonesteel, S. D.
24—Russians evacuate Newchwang after two-days' battle. ... Russians sink British battleship Knight, commander off In. ... 27—England protests to Russia regarding sinking of steamship Knight Commander.
28—Drawing for Roosevelt reservation land begun in Chamberlain, S. D.

August.
1—Death of ex-Governor Robt. E. Pattison of Michigan.
1—Illinois Central train robbed near Harvey, Ill. ... Death of Mrs. Nelson A. Miles.
3—British expedition enters Lhasa, the "Forbidden city."
4—Japanese attack Port Arthur.
7—Wreck on Rio Grande railway near Plino, Col., causes 100 deaths.
8—Death of ex-Secretary Geo. G. Vest of Missouri.
10—Former Premier Waldeck-Rousseau of France dies. ... Naval battle off Port Arthur.
13—Turkey yields to demands of United States in regard to American schools.
14—Russian Vladivostok squadron defeated by Japanese in Straits of Corunna.
16—Mob burns two negroes at stake in Statesboro, Ga. ... Death of Hon. Perry Hanchall at Traverse City, Mich.
19—Tornado in North St. Louis. ... General attack on Port Arthur.
20—Tornado in St. Paul, Minn., kills 16 persons and causes \$3,000,000 loss.
21—Russian cruiser Novik beached after two days' fight. ... Russians win battle at Port Arthur.
28—Cable line to Alaska is completed.

September.
1—Japanese take Lalo-Yang.
3—Big fire in Memphis, Tenn.
4—Tenement house fire in New York ends 14 lives.
8—Stockyards strike in Chicago is ended. ... Death of Rev. Geo. C. Lorimer.
11—Russian cruiser Lena arrives in port at San Francisco.
15—Death of Prince Herbert Bismarck.
19—Two million dollar wharf fire in Halifax, N. S.
21—Peter Karageorgevitch crowned King of Serbia.
24—Sixty-two persons killed in trala wreck near Knoxville, Tenn. ... Mt. Vesuvius in eruption.
24—Death of Lefredo Hearn, author.
28—Japanese capture Ta Pass.
30—Death of Senator George Frisbie Hoar of Massachusetts.

October.
1—Death of Sir William Vernon Harcourt.
4—Death of Frederic A. Bartholdi, famous French sculptor. ... Postmaster-General Henry C. Payne dies.
11—Death of Gen. Wm. A. Wymore, appointed Postmaster General. ... Missouri Pacific wreck near Warrensburg, Mo., kills 20 people.
11—Steamer Call sinks off Prince Edward's Island; 15 lives lost.
14—King George of Saxony dies. ... Famine in Swedish province of Gotenborg; 100,000 die. ... Russians lose great battle near Mukden.
17—Great battle south of Mukden.
22—Russian Battle fleet fires upon English fishing boats and sinks two of them.
24—England demands reparation for sinking of fishing boats by Russia in fleet.
26—Russia sends note of apology to England.
27—Mrs. Rae Kraus confesses murder of stepdaughter in Hartford City, Ind.
28—Ex-Governor Geo. K. Nash of Ohio drops dead. ... England and Russia agree to refer North Sea affair to arbitration court. ... Twenty-one miners killed by mine explosion in Terolo, Col.

November.
3—French steamer Gironde sunk in collision off Herblion, Algiers, and 100 lives lost.
8—Roosevelt and Fairbanks elected by unprecedented majorities.
13—Gale sweeps Atlantic Coast States.
16—Russian torpedo boat destroyer Bastrop blown up in harbor of Che-Foo.
18—Explosion in mine at Morrissey, Man., kills 14 miners. ... Gas explosion in Chicago kills four miners.
19—Burning of Missouri building at the World's Fair; one fireman killed. ... W. C. P. Brookbridge dies.
21—Twelve persons lose lives in burning of Brooklyn, N. Y., tenements. ... \$700,000 fire in business section of Cincinnati.
23—Steamer Elops lost in Black Sea, with 77 persons aboard.
25—Death of Madame Janauschek, famous actress.

December.
1—Louisiana Purchase Exposition in St. Louis closes. ... Seventh inauguration of President Diaz of Mexico. ... Haley Gipe found guilty of manslaughter at Newcastle, Ind. ... Peter Nissen, inventor of a roller boat, dies in contrivance on Lake Michigan.
2—Death of Mrs. G. H. Gilbert, veteran actress.
5—Death of ex-Postmaster General James N. Tynes. ... Opening of last session of 58th Congress.
8—Japanese wipe out Russian fleet at Port Arthur.
13—Big fire in Minneapolis.
21—Death of ex-Senator George L. Shoup of Idaho. ... Congress adjourns for holiday recess.

War News in Brief.
The Japanese cruiser Saien was sunk by a Russian mine in front of Port Arthur.
Japan is preparing to dispose of Russia's Baltic fleet when it reaches Asiatic waters.
The Japanese cruiser Adsuma is reported to have been blown up by a Russian mine.
The Japanese blew up Ribbing Hill Fort at Port Arthur, killing several hundred Russians and rendering twenty guns useless.

WAR IN THE ORIENT.

COLD WEATHER PREVENTS ACTIVE OPERATIONS.

Both Armies Occupy Substantially the Positions They Have Held for Weeks —Progress of the Baltic Fleet—Next Battle May Be on the Sea.

A Mukden dispatch says that "the extreme cold keeps things quiet along the front." When the thermometer is below zero one cannot look for active and continued military operations. There are reports of movements of Russian and Japanese flying columns, particularly on General Kuropatkin's left flank, but both sides occupy substantially the positions they have held for weeks.

If it be the intention of the Japanese to take their time henceforth about the reduction of Port Arthur it will be in their power to send Marquis Oyama a strong re-enforcement. The lowest estimate of General Stoessel's force is 4,000 men. That probably is too low, but if he should have three times as many the Japanese can safely send away a considerable portion of their Port Arthur army.

In the opinion of the Chicago Tribune, if Marquis Oyama, after having been re-enforced from that quarter, does not take the offensive speedily he probably never will. His army will have reached the highest point of efficiency after the arrival of the trained soldiers who have been fighting under General Nogi. The men whom he may receive from Japan will not be of so good quality. On the other hand, the troops now reaching General Kuropatkin are drawn from the garrisons on the western frontier of the empire and are superior to many of those previously sent to him. Before long General Kuropatkin should have at his disposal all the troops the carrying capacity of the Transiberian railroad will permit him to keep supplied with provisions. The road is constantly being made more efficient by the construction of new sidings and the substitution of iron for wooden bridges.

It would not be surprising to hear that the Japanese have given up the plan of assuming the aggressive for a policy less prodigal of the lives of the soldiers. In that event Marquis Oyama could choose between holding his present position after fortifying it more extensively, or he could fall back upon some point nearer his base and await his enemy there.

It is admitted that the Russian ships at Port Arthur are destroyed, or are so badly damaged as to be unseizable. The Japanese ships which have been blockading Port Arthur have gone home to refit and get ready to meet an advancing Russian fleet, which, though superior on paper, certainly is inferior in personnel. Naval officers of all nations have turned their eyes to the orient and are waiting eagerly for the result of the impending contest between great fleets of armored vessels. They have a professional interest in the matter aside from the general interest felt by all.

General Stoessel has given General Nogi a map showing the positions of the hospitals in Port Arthur, so that they may be safe from Japanese fire.

Progress of the Baltic Fleet.
It is almost three months and a half since the Baltic fleet was officially declared to have sailed from Cronstadt for the far East. However, the fleet lingered at Revel and Libau for over a month after that, and the real beginning of its voyage must be dated from Oct. 16.

It covered the first 2,200 miles of its 17,500-mile journey at the average speed of about four miles an hour. Then, at Tangier, it divided into two squadrons, one of which, under Vice Admiral Rojstvensky, started around the Cape of Good Hope and the other, under Rear Admiral Voelkersam, went by way of the Suez Canal.

Rojstvensky's squadron is now coasting along German Southwest Africa. In forty days, since leaving Tangier, it has covered about 5,200 miles, at the average speed of five and a half miles an hour. Voelkersam's squadron has left Jubutit, in French Somaliland, with a speed record up to date of about three miles an hour.

The Chagos Islands in the Indian Ocean are generally assumed to be the rendezvous for the fleets. At the present rate of speed Admiral Rojstvensky should be there about the 15th of January, the distance he has to cover being something less than 4,000 miles. Then, assuming that the second squadron has arrived and that a third squadron which left Libau in November has caught up, he will be ready to take up the serious part of his adventure.

It is 6,600 miles from the Chagos Islands to Vladivostok by way of the Tugaur Straits, or, for a fleet averaging five and a half miles an hour, about fifty days' steaming. The fleet ought to cover this distance, it is true, in thirty to forty days, but experience up to date is sufficient to show that if it ever approaches Vladivostok at all it will not be till the month of March at the earliest.

Notes of the National Capital.
The Congressmen who visited Panama favor a sea-level canal.
President Roosevelt has nominated George Horton of Chicago for United States consul at Athens, Greece.
Robert J. Thompson of Chicago is an applicant for the position of consul general in Paris, to succeed John K. Gowdy.
Speaker Cannon declares appropriation bills and Philippine measures will consume most of the time of the short session of Congress.
Postmaster General Wymore has decided to take no action in the case of Assistant Postmaster Riley of Kansas City, Mo., recommended for removal.
Secretary Shaw transmitted to the House an estimate of \$9,250,015 as the cost of collecting internal revenue for the year ending June 30, 1906.
Secretary Hay issued a circular note to be presented to the powers signatory to The Hague convention, giving the replies to his invitation to a second conference.
The feeling in Congress is bitter because of revelations made in the Mormon inquiry, and matters are believed to be rapidly approaching a crisis. Senator Dubois and other members of the Smoot investigation board believe all the charges have been established.

CONGRESS

In the Senate Thursday a resolution providing for "proper action" on the charges against Judge Swayne when articles of impeachment are presented by the House, but fixing no date for the beginning of the proceedings, was adopted. The urgency deficiency appropriation bill was passed without debate. The Philippine administration bill was taken up and amendments were offered by Mr. McCumber striking out the provision for the guaranteeing of interest on railroad bonds to 2½ per cent providing that they be guaranteed by the government of the United States, and prescribing a method for taxation of railroad receipts in the islands; by McComas empowering the Philippine commission to amend the tariff laws of the islands; by Mr. Culbertson granting 20,000 acres of Philippine public lands for every mile of railroad constructed; by Mr. Bailey giving the Philippine government authority to regulate the charges of the aided roads and by Mr. Spooner restricting the authorization of municipalities to contract indebtedness to promote local improvements. By agreement the bill and the amendments will be voted on Friday. Mr. Perkins introduced a bill appropriating \$1,400,000 for a federal building at Honolulu. Mr. Berry presented a memorial from the Cherokee Nation asking that Indian Territory be allowed a delegate in Congress. In executive session extradition treaties with Hayti and Cuba—the latter amendatory—were ratified and ordered made public. In the House a resolution discharging elections committee No. 2 from further consideration of the Reynolds-Butler contest from the twelfth Missouri district because the contestant had not complied with the law in regard to time in which testimony should be taken was adopted.

The day in the Senate was principally devoted to debate on the Philippine civil government bill, which finally was passed by a vote of 44 to 23. Mr. Beveridge, from the Committee on Territories, reported the statehood bill and announced he will make a motion on the first day that the Senate convenes in January that the consideration of the bill shall be entered upon at once. Representing the minority of the committee Mr. Bates notified the Senate that he would enter a motion to recommitt the bill for the purpose of taking further testimony. Mr. Bard gave notice of an amendment confining the provisions of the bill to the State to be formed by the union of Oklahoma and Indian Territory and eliminating all reference to Arizona and New Mexico. Mr. Hepburn and Mr. McCumber sought to get up the pure food bill, but Mr. Lodge moved an executive session and his motion prevailed. The session of the House was given over almost exclusively to consideration of bills on the private calendar, a dozen or more being passed. The Senate amendments to the urgent deficiency bill were agreed to.

The Senate held a session of three minutes Monday and adjourned until Wednesday. Mr. Perkins (Cal.) had been designated to preside by President Frye. There was a short prayer by Chaplain Hale, a message from the President, a message from the House, and adjournment was taken. The House approved the proposition to hold the inaugural ball in the capitol building. The committee having the matter in charge had substituted for the pension building, as provided in the Senate resolution, the congressional library, but Mr. Morrell of Pennsylvania, who called the matter up, announced that the opposition to the latter building was so great that the committee had concluded to substitute the capitol building. A storm of protests came from both sides of the chamber. The resolution offered by Mr. Morrell was voted down, the result being to delay action until the next District of Columbia day in January. The House also voted down a resolution making a special order on Jan. 5 of the bill to restore to the naval academy three naval cadets who were dismissed for hazing.

As soon as the House met Wednesday Mr. Morrell (Pa.) called up the Senate resolution granting the inaugural committee permission to use certain public buildings and reservations, including the use of the pension building for the inaugural ball. Mr. Morrell explained that the resolution was exactly as it came from that body and said that after consultation with the members of the District of Columbia committee and in view of the very evident desire of the House that the inaugural ball shall be held in the pension building, it had been decided to accept the Senate resolution in entirety. The House adjourned to Jan. 4 after a brief session. After a session of four minutes' duration the Senate adjourned at 12:04 p. m. until Jan. 4 next. The proceedings consisted of a prayer by Chaplain Hale, the reading of the Journal of Monday's brief session and the receipt of a number of nominations from the President.

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