

RUSSIA BIDDING FOR WAR.

Refuses to Accept Walderees' Arbitration at Tien Tsin.

ENGLISH ARE REINFORCED.

General Wogack Says British Must Not Only Withdraw But Apologize for Removing Russian Flag-General Barrow Refuses to Do Either.

London, March 21.—General Wogack has refused to accept Count von Walderees' arbitration at Tien Tsin, says the Peking correspondent of the Daily Mail, "and demands that the British not only withdraw, but apologize for removing the Russian flag."

London, March 21.—General Wogack has refused to accept Count von Walderees' arbitration at Tien Tsin, says the Peking correspondent of the Daily Mail, "and demands that the British not only withdraw, but apologize for removing the Russian flag."

Tien Tsin, March 21.—A special train bearing reinforcements of Australian troops left Peking for Tien Tsin at 10 o'clock yesterday morning.

In addition to the Australians, lines of communication are ready in case of necessity. The British residents are under arms in order to prevent the settlement being rushed, but they do not anticipate such extremes.

One French, an Italian and a German warship are outside the bar.

General Lorne Campbell, the English commander, and General Wogack, commanding the Russians met Count von Walderees upon his arrival here. Learning that both had received instructions from their governments, Count von Walderees said it was useless for him to give even an opinion regarding the matters at issue.

It is the general opinion at Tien Tsin that the feeling is not likely to reach a point where blood would be shed. Both detachments on guard have orders to do nothing aggressive unless forced to do so.

Russian Press Not Alarmed.

St. Petersburg, March 21.—The Russian press is not alarmed about the Tien Tsin affair. There is no mention of it in the official agency's dispatches, but the London correspondent of the Novoye Vremya characterizes the dispute as unimportant. Another London correspondent quotes a French diplomat as saying that an Anglo-Russian war is impossible and that Russia need only threaten to support the Boers to bring Great Britain to her knees.

GLOOMY VIEW OF SITUATION

London Paper Fears Situation in China May Force Backdown in Africa.

London, March 21.—The Westminster Gazette makes pessimistic comment on General Botha's refusal to accept the peace terms offered by Lord Kitchener, and connects this refusal with the situation in China. The Gazette says the powers are at sixes and sevens in the far east, and that any day may see the commencement of a struggle from which the Boers may recover their own.

The failure of these peace negotiations means that the military position in South Africa is not yet decisive.

Rau Into Open Switch.

Terre Haute, Ind., March 21.—The Chicago and Florida special on the Chicago and Eastern Illinois railroad, while running at 30 miles an hour, ran into an open switch at the Sixth avenue crossing in this city yesterday, derailing the engine and four of the six cars and killing the fireman, Sam Cardeman of Chicago, who was on his first trip. The engine turned over, but the cars stayed on the track. None of the passengers was hurt, except the baby of T. J. Delahunt, agent here for the Schlitz Brewing company. The child will probably recover.

Widow of Lincoln's Secretary In Want.

Wabash, Ind., March 21.—The widow of Abraham Lincoln's private secretary was an applicant for charity in this city yesterday, when she applied to Trustee Gibeon for transportation to Logansport. The woman is Mrs. J. O. Jenkins, 64 years old, and she is a native of Illinois. Her husband and the martyred president were young men together and in the early '60s Jenkins served as Lincoln's secretary. Mrs. Jenkins has resided in Washington since the war, and being in destitute circumstances, is trying to reach friends at Springfield, Ills.

Los Angeles-Salt Lake Line.

Salt Lake, March 21.—Incorporation papers of the San Pedro, Los Angeles and Salt Lake railway were filed with the secretary of state yesterday. The capital stock of the company is placed at \$25,000,000. The president of the company is Senator William A. Clark. The first meeting of the directors was held today to adopt bylaws and appoint a general manager and chief engineer. Construction will be started at once from the Los Angeles end, and surveyors will be sent at once from Salt Lake to locate this end of the line.

Blizzard on Seaboard.

St. Johns, N. F., March 21.—A furious blizzard has been sweeping the whole seaboard since last night. The sealer Southern Cross was forced into the harbor of Perlican, in danger of swamping, on account of the heavy load of 25,000 seals on board. Much anxiety is felt for the remainder of the sealing fleet, which must have felt the full fury of the gale. In such event, with over 400 men scattered about the ice fields, disaster might ensue, as only too frequently happens.

PLOTS TO KILL CZAR.

German Correspondent Says He Has Learned of Two at Russian Capital.

Berlin, March 21.—The St. Petersburg correspondent of the Tageblatt says he has learned of two separate conspiracies to assassinate the czar.

The first attempt was planned to have been made on the occasion of the jubilee ball of the naval cadet corps, which the czar had promised to attend. His majesty was ready to start and was awaiting his carriage when Governor General Klotzels arrived at the palace and informed him he must not go, several suspicious persons belonging to the revolutionary party having been arrested at the Nicolai bridge with arms.

The second affair occurred in the middle of January, when the czar, accompanied by his mother, visited the ceramic exhibition. When entering one of the rooms, the members of the committee, who were escorting the imperial party, suddenly noticed an unknown man hurriedly approaching the czar. As the public had been excluded and those authorized to attend had been carefully selected, the presence of the stranger excited suspicion.

Several of the czar's party hastened to meet him, to lead him away. Thereupon, the man suspiciously thrust his hand in a pocket. He was instantly seized. When he was searched a bomb was found in his pocket.

STATE NOT READY.

Trial of James Callahan, Charged With Kidnaping Eddie Cudahy, Goes Over to April 1.

Omaha, March 21.—For reasons known only to the prosecution, the trial of James Callahan, arrested and held as "suspect No. 3," of the kidnapers of Edward A. Cudahy, Jr., has been postponed until April 1.

When Judge Baker opened court yesterday the big court room was crowded to suffocation, it being understood that Callahan would be put on trial on the charge of having robbed Edward A. Cudahy of \$25,000 in gold. A strenuous effort made last week by the defense for a continuance had been successfully opposed by the county attorney and it was therefore something of a surprise when the county attorney himself moved for a continuance of the case to next Monday. The defense suggested April 1 and no objection being made, gained its point. Among the witnesses asked by Callahan is Pat Crowe.

BIG CROWDS CHEER DIAZ.

President Returns to City of Mexico After Three Months' Absence.

City of Mexico, March 21.—President Diaz arrived in this city last evening after an absence of nearly three months at Cuernavaca. An immense crowd of people awaited him on the platform of the railroad station. When the presidential train pulled up the president appeared on the rear platform, and was greeted with great cheering. The president alighted and was driven to his home. The carriage was escorted by the mounted Presidential guards. The streets were lined with people, who cheered and waved handkerchiefs as the president passed. The house fronts were gay with bunting and the illuminations gave the main thoroughfares a holiday appearance. The president appears in excellent health.

RIOTING AT MARSEILLES.

Mounted Troops Charge Mob of Two Thousand Dock Strikers.

Marseilles, March 21.—The situation here is very disquieting owing to the increasingly aggressive attitude of the strikers. During the disorders yesterday the panic spread to the townspeople and stores, cafes and restaurants were quickly closed. It is feared that the mob, which was charged by mounted gendarmes and hussars, would attempt to pillage.

A crowd numbering 2,000 burst through a cordon of infantry along the dock side. The cavalry charged and drove the strikers back. A volley of stones was then thrown in all directions, and a brigadier, two gendarmes, a hussar and several infantrymen were injured.

BRITISH EVACUATE VREDE.

General Campbell Reports Heavy Fighting During His Trip.

Durban, March 21.—Owing to the Klip river being flooded General Campbell's column has been unable to return to Standerton, from which point it went to bring away the garrison at Vrede, which the British evacuated. The column had heavy fighting going to and coming from Vrede. General Campbell has about 200 sick and wounded.

Boers in the neighborhood of Standerton.

TELEGRAPHIC BRIEFS.

Jerry Bell, a negro, was lynched Wednesday by a mob at Terry, Miss., who hanged him to a railroad bridge. Tiptonville, Tenn., was nearly destroyed by fire Wednesday, only four business hours escaping. The loss is estimated at \$75,000, partly covered by insurance.

By the premature explosion of 50 pounds of dynamite on the farm of Isaac Marlowe, near Kokomo, Ind., Wednesday Marlowe and William Stamm were blown to atoms.

The explosion of a keg of blasting powder in the Sellar mine at Cloverland, Ind., Wednesday fatally burned Alfred Reffitt, Albert Harris, Ethel Harris and Thomas Harris, all miners.

Rev. Arthur Edwards, editor of the Northwestern Christian Advocate and widely known in Methodist Episcopal church circles, died at his residence in Chicago Wednesday, aged 66 years.

NO CHOICE FOR LONG TERM.

Caucus Takes Eighteen Ballots With No Nomination.

SIX JOIN WITH SECEDERS.

In Joint Ballot Thompson Gets Two Votes From Those Who Did Not Attend the Caucus—Rosewater Retains His Support, Save Van Hook.

Lincoln, March 21.—Eighteen ballots were taken without a nomination at the Republican long term senatorial caucus last night. The caucus shortly before 11 o'clock adjourned until tonight. The final ballot resulted: Rosewater, 32; Meiklejohn, 15; Currie, 8. The attendance varied from 50 to 55, the 14 members who remained out Tuesday night being again absent. The contest, apparently, has settled down to a test of strength between Edward Rosewater and George D. Meiklejohn, a devoted few clinging to State Senator Currie, who has not, however, the balance of power under the present rules, which require 45 to nominate. The supporters of D. E. Thompson, nominated Tuesday night for the short term, are believed to be about equally divided between Rosewater and Meiklejohn. Friends of Rosewater assert that under the agreement which made the caucus possible Thompson cannot claim an election in the legislature, even if that should happen, until both senators are named. Part of Thompson's following will not concur in this opinion, but they say they are willing to allow a reasonable length of time for the long term deadlock to end before pressing the election of Thompson in joint convention.

The reflection of Tuesday's caucus was plainly visible in the ballot for United States senator in joint session yesterday, when D. E. Thompson received 56 votes, being all the Republicans but 15. Of the 15 who refused to accept the caucus action there were in addition to the nine well-known seceders Crouse, Martin, Cain, Hawthorn, Rohwer and Marshall, the last mentioned being on the sick list.

Arends and Owens voted for Thompson, although they had not participated in the nomination, while under the call the action of the caucus is not strictly binding until two nominations are made. The members voted practically as they did in caucus. The plan of the anti's was disclosed in the voting, going to build up any candidates but Thompson and Rosewater. They bunched their votes in the south Platte on Martin and Hinshaw and in the north Platte on Crouse and Meiklejohn, pulling Mendonhall and McCarthy away from Rosewater, the first going to Meiklejohn and the second to Crouse. Martin was present in the senate, but failed to attend the joint session. A feeble effort to proceed to a second ballot met no response.

Allen ..... 54 Rinkald ..... 1  
Boze ..... 2 Martin ..... 9  
Crouse ..... 10 Meiklejohn ..... 9  
Currie ..... 8 Rosewater ..... 32  
Hinshaw ..... 4 Thompson, D. E. 56  
Hitchcock ..... 14 Thompson, W. H. 42  
The joint committee has agreed upon March 28 as date for final adjournment.

FOR TEMPORARY BUILDINGS.

Appropriation Made for Benefit of State University at Iowa City.

Des Moines, March 21.—President McLean of Iowa university and a committee of regents yesterday waited on the state executive council and secured an appropriation of \$15,000 from the providential fund for the temporary needs of the university at Iowa City. President McLean says two temporary buildings will be constructed where the burned buildings stand, each one story high above basement, which are left in good condition. A large part of the money will be used also to purchase instruments for the laboratory and apparatus for the medical school, so that by the time the medical college reopens next fall it will be in as good condition as before. The present term of medical school closes soon. The new building for lectures will be done in a month and the university will lose nothing by the fire.

Execute Boer Prisoners.

Cape Town, March 21.—J. P. Minaber, S. Minaber and J. A. Neuwoudt were shot at De Aar last evening for treason and murder in pursuance of the sentence of a court-martial. The death sentence was passed a week ago, in connection with the wrecking of a train near Taasbosch, by which five men were killed. General Kitchener confirmed the verdict. The garrison was paraded and the prisoners were led out at sunset. Death was instantaneous. A Dutch minister and relatives remained with the prisoners till the end. Two others concerned in the train-wrecking were sentenced to five years at penal servitude.

Ordered to Philippines.

Chicago, March 21.—The third battalion of the Fifth infantry, garrisoned at Fort Sheridan, whose comrades have been on duty in the Philippine islands for many months, have been ordered to join the other two battalions and report for service in the field. The battalion will move on March 26 and sail from San Francisco April 21. Colonel W. H. Bowman will accompany the battalion as commander.

Odell Refuses to Sign Police Bill.

Albany, March 21.—Governor Odell has positively and formally declined to sign any police bill and repudiated the new bill drawn by Senator Platt and his friends and said last night if the bill came to him he would veto it even if it were made plain that it would be passed over his veto.

BOARD OF TRADE ANXIOUS.

Desire Mine Workers Not to Order Strike if Possible to Avoid It.

Wilkesbarre, Pa., March 21.—President T. D. Nichols of the first district, United Mine Workers of America, replied to the appeal of the board of trade requesting him to use his efforts to prevent a strike of the miners "for recognition of the union on a purely technical point." President Nichols says:

"As one of the officers of the United Mine Workers I will do everything in my power to avoid a strike by trying to arrange for a joint conference. We are not asking for the recognition of the union on purely technical grounds, but so that a scale of wages may be arranged and adopted. At present there is no scale in vogue in the anthracite region except in one or two places. This leaves the employees at the mercy of the bosses. "I feel that the board of trade should direct a communication, or several, if necessary, to the operators, so that a joint conference may be held and a sympathetic plan of procedure arranged. This will avoid strikes and petty differences in the future. The operators have the power to avoid a strike. We are striving to do business on business principles. We desire to meet with the operators man to man."

MAY PORK GOES HIGHER.

Armour & Co. Said to Be in Position to Manipulate the Market—Top Price for Hogs.

Chicago, March 21.—Pork for May delivery sold at \$16.90, or 65 cents higher than the price for which it sold Tuesday. The shorts were bidding for it all through the session, but holders seemed not at all anxious to sell, only small lots being offered now and then when the price became tempting.

The anxiety of shorts was owing to the fear of a possible "squeeze." Armour & Co. is said to be in a position to manipulate the market. The market for live hogs is also higher, the best grades selling at \$6 per 100 pounds, the highest price touched in over seven years.

TO SUCCEED HITCHCOCK.

Former Senator Wolcott of Colorado S'ated for Secretary of the Interior.

Pueblo, Colo., March 21.—The Daily Chieftain says: It is definitely known here that ex-Senator Edward O. Wolcott of Colorado will in a few days be appointed by the president to be secretary of the interior to succeed Mr. Hitchcock. The news has been received by a friend of Mr. Wolcott in this city, the statement being made unequivocally and indicated that the announcement will be made in Washington tomorrow.

Blizzard Still Raging in Wisconsin.

Cumberland, Wis., March 21.—The severe blizzard which has prevailed through Wisconsin for the past 36 hours is the worst seen for years. An Omaha train was stuck in the snow two miles south of here for nine hours and another was snowbound south of Turtle Lake for a similar period. All freights have been abandoned and passenger trains are running with double headers. Country roads are impassable and lumbering operations at a standstill. The stove and heading mills are shut down on account of the storm, which is still raging.

Overhaul Girls Strike.

Kansas City, March 21.—Two hundred girls, working in the overall department of Swofford Bros., dry goods factory, were locked out yesterday. The firm recently reduced the price for making overalls from \$1.25 to 98 cents a dozen and the girls had threatened to strike. Six hundred employees, mostly girls and women, in the other departments, may go out in sympathy. The overall makers struck in 1890 against a reduction in price and were successful.

Bridgeport Miners Go Out.

Bridgeport, O., March 21.—Operators and miners of the Fifth Ohio district met in conference here yesterday to discuss the scale proposition. There is every indication that a strike will be declared if the demands of miners on machine scale and differential is not accepted. Yesterday 200 miners went out and submitted their demands to the conference.

Object to Turkish Spies.

Constantinople, March 21.—Much annoyance is felt in diplomatic circles here at the presence of Turkish spies in the vicinity of each embassy during the last few days. The foreign ambassadors are making representations to the Turkish authorities on the matter.

Cashier Stevens Returns to Stand Trial.

Plankinton, S. D., March 21.—Cashier Frank L. Stevens of the defunct Plankinton bank, who had been in hiding for nearly a year and a half reached his home last evening. His coming is voluntary. He is ready to stand trial and take the consequences.

Fatal Mine Explosion.

South McAlester, I. T., March 21.—In a mine explosion in mine No. 5, near here, Henry Evans, a miner, was killed and two other miners were seriously injured. The fire in the mine originating at the time of the explosion continues to burn with unabating fury.

Prince Chun for Regent.

London, March 21.—The Shanghai correspondent of the Standard mentions a report that the allies in the event of the failure of Emperor Kwang Su to return to Peking intend to proclaim his brother, Prince Chun, as regent.

CUBAN NATION TO DECIDE.

Secretary Gomez Says Platt Plan Will Be Rejected.

FOUR AGAINST AMENDMENT.

Committee on Relations Will Leave Senate Amendment to the Whole People, Governor General Wood Proposes Court of Claims for Settling Disputes.

Havana, March 21.—The committee on relations will hold a meeting today, when the report on the Platt amendment will be finally discussed. Senator Juan Alberto Gomez, who drew up the report, asserts that four of the five members of the committee will recommend the constitutional convention not to accept the amendment, but to leave the whole question to the future republic. He says he is confident that the convention, which will meet tomorrow, will adopt the report.

Governor General Wood and the cabinet secretaries discussed the advisability of establishing a court of claims, to which could be referred claims against municipalities arising out of old Spanish contracts. A number of these are pending throughout the island, and it is expected that indemnity on the city loan contract will be the first before the court.

PRESIDENT NAMES BENNETT.

To Be Register of Land Office at Rapid City, South Dakota.

Washington, March 21.—The following presidential appointments were announced: George P. Bennett, to be register of the land office at Rapid City, S. D.; John A. Oilphant, to be register of the land office at Mangum, Okl.; James A. Trotter, to be receiver of public money at Mangum, Okl. Robert O. Patterson, to be first lieutenant in the Twenty-ninth infantry, U. S. V.; Gideon H. Williams, to be first lieutenant in the Thirty-ninth regiment infantry, U. S. V.; Charles L. Caulstier, to be second lieutenant in the Thirty-ninth regiment infantry, U. S. V.

The president has appointed George Schlosser postmaster at Sioux Falls, S. D.

Wounded Bandit Captured.

Perry, O. T., March 21.—Sheriff Foster and deputies returned from 18 miles east of Perry, having in their custody a wounded man giving his name as Charles Johnson and three horses. From all indications the man was Ben Cravens' companion in the Red Rock murder and robbery last Monday night, in which Alvin Bateman was killed. Johnson has a bullet hole in his wrist, the ball lodging in the upper arm under the shoulder, and another wound in the head. The Perry militia has been called out to guard the jail, as it is feared that an attempt will be made to lynch the prisoner by enraged citizens of Red Rock, who may come here upon learning of the capture.

Carnegie to Give Another Five Million.

New York, March 21.—The World says: "Another magnificent gift from Andrew Carnegie will be announced within a few days. It became known yesterday that Mr. Carnegie had offered \$5,000,000 to another American city, also, it is said, for the purpose of building libraries. Philadelphia, it is understood, will be the next recipient of the ironmaster's bounty. It is believed that Mr. Carnegie has offered to build libraries aggregating \$5,000,000 in value on conditions similar to those which accompany his offer to New York.

Insists on Piece Work.

Cedar Rapids, Ia., March 21.—At a conference between General Manager Williams of the Burlington, Cedar Rapids and Northern and striking shopmen yesterday afternoon, Mr. Williams offered the men many things they had not asked for, but insisted that they would inaugurate the piece work system throughout. The machinists, boiler-makers and blacksmiths will not work under this system, although the men in other departments do not object to it. There seems little probability now of an early settlement.

Woman Confesses Old Murder.

Bedford, Ind., March 21.—The community of Owensburg, west of here, is excited over a confession of a woman named Mrs. Tude Baker, who says that C. P. Rockwell, a Cincinnati man, was murdered and hid under her house and that after several days the body was taken and thrown into an abandoned shaft in the vicinity. The officers will say nothing regarding the matter and search will be made for the remains. Rockwell was a traveling solicitor.

Railroads Badly Crippled.

Sioux City, March 21.—Train service on all railroads between here and Chicago was badly crippled as the result of a blizzard south and east of Sioux City. The wind attained a velocity of 50 miles an hour. There was practically no snow here. The snow was drifted in all cuts between here and Omaha and Manilla, Ia.

Oshkosh Is Isolated.

Oshkosh, Wis., March 21.—The sleet storm of last night and the snow storm of today have practically isolated Oshkosh from the rest of the world, as far as wire communication is concerned. Street car traffic was suspended for several hours. A driving blizzard prevails.

Warships Going to Corea.

Shanghai, March 21.—A dispatch to the China Gazette from Tokio, March 20, says that all the Russian warships in Japanese waters have sailed for Corea and that the Japanese squadron is mobilizing for an immediate departure to the Corea coast.

PILFERING FROM MAELS.

Director General of Posts Cotterman Reports Complaints in Philippines.

Washington, March 21.—Director General of Posts Cotterman of the Philippines, has reported to the post-office department that within the past few months a great many complaints have been received at Manila indicating pilfering from the mails. Most of the mail dispatched from the Philippines, as well as that received, originates at army posts, where there are no regular postoffices. Much of this mail is carried between the army post and the nearest postoffice in tied sacks.

The report details the necessity for imprints on wax seals on mails, as recommended by the director general in a report received yesterday. Mr. Cotterman desires a supply of 150 hand presses, with die on each bearing a distinctive number. He adds: "Many sacks of mail are carried on steamers doing a local traffic throughout the islands, but which are not under government control. The crews of these steamers are composed wholly of natives or Spaniards, and the time has not arrived when these people can be trusted to any extent."

REIMERS GO TO PRISON.

Father and Son, Convicted Nellig Bank Wreckers, Taken to Sioux Falls Penitentiary to Serve Five Years.

Omaha, March 21.—C. A. Reimers and E. O. Reimers, father and son, convicted of violating the federal statutes in connection with the wrecking of the First National bank of Nellig, came in yesterday from their home at Pierce, Neb., and surrendered themselves to the United States marshal. They were taken to Sioux Falls by Deputies Pearsall and Allen to serve out their sentences of five years in the penitentiary.

When their motion for a new trial was overruled and sentence imposed, they were given ten days in which to perfect their appeal, and this time expired Tuesday. At the last moment they concluded not to fight the case further. The impression seems to prevail around the federal building that the offense of the Reimers was rather technical than otherwise, and that they were made to bear the brunt of a lot of systematic wrong-doing in which Cashier C. R. Aldler, who fled to Mexico, was the chief actor. Much sympathy was expressed for them. Both the unfortunate men seemed to feel their position keenly, and they had some difficulty at times in controlling their feelings.

MISSOURI TOWN BURNS.

Bismarck Almost Wiped Out of Existence by Fire.

St. Louis, March 19.—The little town of Bismarck, Mo., situated 75 miles from St. Louis on the Iron Mountain railroad, was almost wiped out of existence by fire yesterday. Leading business houses and many residences were burned. The loss is estimated at \$100,000, with very little insurance. The fire started in a barber shop and spread rapidly in all directions. The inhabitants of the place were without means of fighting the flames and were compelled to stand by helplessly and witness the destruction of their property.

A gale from the southwest drove the flames forward irresistibly and carried into space the flaming pieces of cinders that, falling on roofs, started new fires, jumping streets and blocks. There were only a few water buckets and a scant supply of water with which to fight the flames, which swept on until forced to stop by lack of material. The Iron Mountain railroad divides the town and the west side escaped. All the buildings were frame, and insurance rates being high, very little insurance was carried. Many have lost their all, and a feeling of helplessness pervades the community.

KNOX WILL BE APPOINTED.

To Be Successor in Cabinet to Retiring Attorney General Griggs.

Washington, March 21.—It is understood on high authority that the president has decided to appoint Mr. P. C. Knox of Pittsburg to fill the vacancy in his cabinet that will be caused by the retirement of Attorney General Griggs on April 1.

With Five Bullets in Body.

Oskaloosa, Ia., March 19.—H. H. Drake, a farmer, was yesterday found dead in his house five miles north of Rose Hill, with five bullets in his body. Drake was wealthy and was known to have cash about the place. He had been dead three days or more.

Funnel Shaped Cloud Does Damage.

Rock Falls, Ills., March 21.—A large black funnel-shaped cloud passed rapidly over this city last night, coming from the southwest. It destroyed the African M. E. church, the Woodmen hall and many barns south of town.

English Red Tape.

At the present time, when the system of red tape is being attacked and ridiculed, the following somewhat amusing methods of dealing with matters are still adopted in one of the great government departments.

For instance, a hairbrush and comb must be purchased under the head of service "clothing," whereas a toothbrush is under "fuel" and spectacles under "medicines." A clothesbasket is "clothing," but clothes pegs are "incidentals." The funnest of all, however, are guano and straw, they being purchased under "victualing."

A good instance of red tape is told in connection with the excise. An officer had entered in the inquiry column of his return: "March 13. Dog dead." This did not satisfy his superior, who told him to inquire again, which the obedient officer did, recording: "April 10. Dog still dead."—London Standard.