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BULLER MAKES REPORT

English General Regrets Reporting a Serious Reverse at Tugela River.

BOERS CAPTURE TEN OF HIS GUNS.

British Are Only Able to Save Two of Their Artillery Pieces—Enemy Kill Nearly All the Horses — Connaught Rangers Suffer Heavy Losses in Leading the Attack—Col. Brooke Wounded.

LONDON, Dec. 16.—The war office received a dispatch announcing that General Buller has met with a serious reverse, losing eleven guns.

General Buller was attempting to cross the Tugela river. Finding it impossible to effect his object he ordered a retirement in order to avoid greater losses. He left eleven guns behind.

The following is the text of General Buller's dispatch announcing his reverse:

"CHEVELEY CAMP, Dec. 15.—6:20 p. m.—I regret to report a serious reverse. I moved in full strength from our camp near Cheveley at 4 this a. m. There are two fordable places in the Tugela river and it was my intention to force a passage though one of them. They are about two miles apart.

"My intention was to force one or the other with one brigade, supported by a central brigade. General Hart was to attend the left drift, General Hilyard the right road and General Lyttleton was to take the center and to support either. Early in the day I saw that General Hart would not be able to force a passage and I directed him to withdraw. He had, however, attacked with great gallantry and his leading battalion, the Connaught Rangers, I fear, suffered a great deal. Col. I. G. Brooke was seriously wounded.

"I then ordered General Hilyard to advance, which he did, and his leading regiment, the East Surrey, occupied Colenso station and the houses near the bridge. At that moment I heard that the whole artillery I had sent to support the attack—the Fourteenth and Sixty-sixth field batteries and six naval 12-pounder quick-firers, under Colonel Long—had advanced close to the river, in Long's desire to be within effective range. It proved to be full of the enemy, who suddenly opened a galling fire at close range, killing all their horses and the gunners were compelled to stand to their guns. Some of the wagon teams got shelter for troops in a donga and desperate efforts were being made to bring out the field guns. The fire however, was too severe and only two were saved by Captain Schofield and some drivers whose names I will furnish.

"Another most gallant attempt, with three teams was made by an officer whose name I will obtain. Of the eighteen horses thirteen were killed and as several drivers were wounded I would not allow another attempt, as it seemed that they would be a shell mark, sacrificing life to a gallant attempt to force the passage. Unsupported by artillery, directed the troops to withdraw, which they did in good order.

"Throughout the day a considerable force of the enemy was pressing on my right flank, but was kept back by mounted men under Lord Dundonald and part of General Barton's brigade. The day was intensely hot and most trying for the troops, whose conduct was excellent. We have abandoned ten guns and lost by shell fire one. The losses in General Hart's brigade are, I believe, heavy, although the proportion of severely wounded I hope is not large. The Fourteenth and Sixty-sixth field batteries also suffered severe losses. We have retired to our camp at Cheveley. BULLER."

ROOT ADVISES MERCY

Would Commute Death Sentences Passed on Soldiers.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 16.—Secretary Root has recommended commutation of the death sentence imposed by court-martial of Corporal Damhofer and two other soldiers of the Washington volunteer regiment, who were convicted of ravishing Filipino women. The commutation recommended is to twenty years' imprisonment. In making the recommendation Secretary Root states specifically that he is satisfied with the legality of the original sentence, although they had been called in question by military lawyers.

LANDS FOR SOLDIERS

Prepare to Extend Homestead Law to Spanish War Veterans.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 16.—Senator Foster of Washington today introduced a bill extending the bounty provision of the homestead law to the soldiers who served in the war with Spain who have served or are serving now in the Philippines.

Yale Gets the Money.

NEW HAVEN, Conn., Dec. 16.—The contest instituted by Robert H. Watters of Newburyport, Mass., against the will of his uncle, the late Prof. Othniel C. Marsh of Yale university, has been settled. A formal decree was entered in the superior court by Judge G. W. Wheeler today, approving the will by which the entire estate, involving between $75,000 and $100,000, goes to Yale university. Watters' contest was voluntarily withdrawn.

Hill in a Big Lumber Deal.

MINNEAPLOS, Dec. 16.—A special from Seattle, Wash., says:

Most of the propety owners of the Everett (Wash.) Land company, including the holdings of John Rockefeller, have been sold to a New York and Boston syndicate whose membership includes James J. Hill and other Great Northern factors.

Frederick Weyerhuser, the lumber king of Wisconsin, who bought 1,000,000 acres of timber land in Washington for several million dollars is now negotiating for immediate tracts in Snohomis and contingous counties.

Fire at the Penitentiary.

LINCOLN, Dec. 16.—Fire in the stone building just south of the west end of the penitentiary cell house this afternoon was damaged and destroyed, property estimated roughly by state officers to be worth $16,000 to $20,000. The fire was discovered during the noon hour when all the convicts were in the cell house. There is yet a doubt as to whether it commenced in the state's laundry or the shoe shop, or in the work room of the Lee Broom and Duster company.

BRITAIN LOSING HER GRIP

Dominion in South Africa Seems to Be Shaken to Its Foundation.

LONDON, Dec. 16.—(New York World Cablegram.)—British dominion in South Africa has been shaken to its foundation.

I hear that Sir Alfred Milner, British high commissioner in South Africa, and governor of Cape Colony, demands the assent of the imperial government to the proclamation of martial law throughout Cape Colony.

Lord Salisbury is unwilling to grant the request, save as the very last resort, as such a dangerous confession of gravity of the British position would be offering a positive inducement to England's enemies to take advantage of its extremity.

Sir Alfred Milner reports that Dutch disaffection has now reached a point where ordinary law is useless to stem it. He wants the power not only of summary arrest without warrant of suspected persons and the right to detain them without trial, but also the power to suppress the Dutch newspapers throughout the colony which insist upon publishing accounts of British reverses and criticisms of the war.

Rigorous as is the censorship of dispatches to England, it is liberal compared with the wholesale suppression of unfavorable tidings by the British authorities in Cape Colony. The Rhodes papers concur in this policy, but the Dutch give stories that filter through from the front, though they often have had to rely more than once for news from English papers three weeks old.

Milner is declared to be in a state of hysteria over the awful miscarriage of his policy and the ruinous price England is paying for following his advice. He sees none but members of his staff. The government of Cape Colony is largely run by Sir Forestier Walker, commander in chief of the Cape.

TWO BRUSHES WITH REBELS

American Sergeant Attacks Four Hundred Insurgents.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 16.—The War department received a cable message today giving the latest development in the situation in the Philippines. The cablegram:

"MANILA, Dec. 15—Batchelor, Twenty-fourth infantry battalion, reports on the 7th inst., had an engagement at the junction of Magat and Rio Grande rivers, Isabella province, enemy leaving four dead and five mortallly wounded in trenches. Our loss was one drowned and four wounded. Says he is in need of clothing, provisions and money. Will reach Tuguargo, Cagayan province, shortly. Doubtless the navy relieved him yesterday.

"Four hundred and seventy-five Spanish prisoners arrived this morning, among them the sick at Vigan, numbering 120. Young at Banqui, northwestern Luzon, reports that his troops are still pursuing the remnant of the insurgents, who have twenty-three American prisoners in their possession. The country is exceeding rough. Our men, without shoes, are still persistently pursuing. Few Spanish prisoners now in hands of insurgents, probably 1,000, mostly in south. Expect to effect their relief in a few days.

"Negros reports Sergeant Alfred Roeder, Sixth infantry, twenty soldiers and eighteen native police attacked 400 insurgents at Madrigal, Negros, this morning. No casualties. Enemy's loss twenty-eight killed and many wounded. OTIS."

PAYNE ABANDONS RESOLUTION.

Wisconsin Man Decided Not to Push Reapportionment Plan.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 16.—The Payne resolution for the reappointment of delegates to the national republican convention on the basis of the republican vote cast in the states and territories will not be pressed at this meeting of the national committee.

Up to tonight Mr. Payne, the author, had fully intended to offer the resolution tomorrow and to urge its adoption, but after a conference with the president at the White House tonight, at which Secretary Dick and Governor-elect Nash of Ohio were present, he decided to abandon the effort to have it acted on at this meeting. Much opposition had developed to the proposed change and the conclusion reached that it was inexpedient to push the matter at this time.

Mr. Payne will make a statement before the committee in the morning setting forth the reasons which prompted him to reach the decision stated.

REPUBLICAN NATIONAL CONVENTION

Quaker City Secures It on the Second Ballot.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 16.—The republican national convention will be held at Philadelphia on Tuesday, June 19, next. The place and date were decided upon by the national republican committee today after a friendly contest for the honor of entertaining the convention between the city selected and Chicago, St. Louis and New York.

The balloting occurred in the afternoon behind closed doors. Upon the first ballot Philadelphia received 13 votes, Chicago 20, New York 7, St. Louis 9. On the second ballot the contest narrowed to Philadelphia and Chicago, the New York votes went to Philadelphia and the St. Louis vote was split between the City of Brotherly Love and the Windy City of the Lake.

Defaulter Caught in Tangier.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 16.—United States Consul Gummere at Tangier cabled the state department that the Moorish authorities have just arrested Thomas J. Hunter, who is wanted in Atlanta, Ga., on a charge of defrauding in his accounts as auditor of a railroad. Hunter at first denied his identity and claimed to be a British subject, but he fitted the description of the fugitive accurately and the consul general is satisfied he has the right man. There is no extradition treaty between the United States and Morroco, but consent was given to the surrender.

Confirmed by the Senate.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 16.—The senate today confirmed the following nominations:

C. T. Stranahan of Lewiston, Idaho, agent for the Indians of the Nez Perces agency in Idaho.

Postmasters:

Utah—C. Meighan, Ogden.

Missouri—C. Drew, Appleton City; C. L. rGay, Carterville; G. C. Iuskemeier, La Grange; C. L. Mowder, Braymer; J. C. Robertson, Mountain Grove; A. Bierwirth, Cape Girardeau.

Nevada—C. L. Broy, Eureka.

FILIPINO'S STRONGHOLD

Cavalry Captures Place Where Spain Bought Its Last Peace.

MUCH AMMUNITION IS SECURED.

People of Aparri Valley Banquet the Colored Soldiers of the Twenty-Fourth Infantry — Feeble Resistance to Advancing Troops.

MANILA, Dec. 15.—A detatchment of Colonel Hayes' cavalry under Lieutenant Arnold has captured Biacnabato, the mountain stronghold where the last insurrection was ended with a peace treaty. A large quantity of munitions of war was secured.

Major Batchelor's battalion of the Twenty-fourth infantry is making slow progress in the Aparri valley. The villagers are giving the colored troops banquets and balls everywhere.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 15.—General Otis cables:

"MANILA, Dec. 15.—General Lawton reports Balucan province free of insurgents. Yesterday two troops of the Fourth cavalry captured the strong mountain position of Biacnabato, with food supplies, clothing, cartridge factory and barracks. MacArthur's troops occupied Iband, a town on the southwestern coast of Luzon. There was slight opposition and but few light casualties. December 8 Bates reported from Zamboanga that he had garrisoned Basilan and is sending troops to Cottobato and Davao, that the condition of affairs is satisfactory.

"Eighteen hundred Spanish prisoners have been received in Manila, over 2,000 more are en route and 1,300 were shipped to Spain. These prisoners are in much better physical condition than the Spanish troops which surrendered when Manila capitulated."

AFTER DEAD AND WOUNDED.

Ambulances Start Out to Gather Up the Slain.

MODDER RIVER, Dec. 13.—Ambulances started out yesterday under the flag of truce to collect the wounded and bury the dead at Magersfontein. Brigadier General Wauchope, who led the Highland brigade, was found dead near the trenches, shot through the chest and thigh. Several wounded were near the trenches. The side of the hill and the immediate neighborhood of the Boer trenches showed dead bodies all about. One wounded Boer informed the correspondent that their loss was terrible. The whole Scandinavian contingent was destroyed. Judging from information gleaned from the Boer wounded the Boer loss must have been 700. The destruction wrought by the naval guns was enormous. Word was passed along the Boer line to prepare to retreat at night fall. All confess that this was their greatest loss during the war. the British troops have returned to Modder river owing to the lack of water on the position held yesterday.

EVANGELIST MOODY IS WORSE.

Complications Have Arisen and Dr. Shattuck is Called In.

WEST NORTHFIELD, Mass., Dec. 15.—Dr. N. P. Wood, the family physician of Dwight L. Moody, the evangelist, issued the following bulletin this afternoon:

"Dwight L. Moody has not been as well during the last few days. Complications have arisen which have caused much anxiety. His lower extremities are swelling and albuminary has appeared, which is considered to be due to the cardiac or heart trouble. Dr. Frederick C. Shattuck of Boston, professor of clinical medicine at Harvard Medical school, was called in consultation on Wednesday. He endosed the diagnosis already made and is quite hopeful of ultimate recovery. Mr. Moody is confined to his room and only his family and most intimate friends are admitted."

Dr. Wood declines to add anything to the bulletin or explain it in anyway.

ANTICIPATES JANUARY INTEREST.

Will Be Paid on Presentation of Bonds at the Treasury.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 15.—Secretary Gage today announced that he would anticipate the interest due on January 1, 1900, on registered and coupon 4 per cent consols of 1907, without rebate. Checks to the number of 26,563 will be mailed tomorrow to holders of the registered bonds and interest on the coupons will be paid on the presentation of the bonds. The amount of the former is $4,386,505 and the latter $671,381, making a total of $5,057,886, less the interest on bonds recently purchased and less the interest already anticipated by the secretary's offer of October 10, to pay interest due at any time during the present fiscal year, with a rebate of about 2.4 per cent. Applications for interest to become due under the offer of October 10 must be made before January 1.

Would Contest in Kentucky.

FRANKFORT, Ky., Dec. 15.—Nearly all the members of the democratic campaign and state central committees arrvied today. Their conference began at noon. Without exception they are in favor of making a contest before the legislature to oust the republican governor and lieutenant governor, and say that not to contest would be a virtual indorsement of tissue ballots and soldiers at the polls.

Two More Divisions to Go.

LONDON, Dec. 15.—The war office this eveinng made this announcement:

"The Sixth division has been mobilized and four battalions of this division will have been embarked by Sunday. The government has also approved of the immediate mobilization of the Seventh division."

Queen Victoria Prostrated.

NEW YORK, Dec. 15.—A dispatch to the Herald from London, says:

It is stated by a person in a position to know that the queen's mental anxiety gives the gravest alarm to the royal household.

The queen insists on receiving the minutest information from the war office as to the state of affairs. Yet she is completely overcome when the particulars of each engagement are related.

Grand Jury After Pingree.

LANSING, Mich., Dec. 15.—Governor Pingre was today served with a subpoena to appear as a witness before the grand jury. It is believed that the jury wants to hear from the governor on the subject of the expenditure of the Spanish war fund, for which he assumed responsibility in a special message to the last legislature.

TEXT OF SAMOAN TREATY.

Agreements Entered Into Between Three Governments Made Public.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 15.—The full text of the treaty negotiated between the United States, Germany and Great Britain for the adjustment of the questions between the three governments in respect to the Samoan islands was made public today. The treaty bears date at Washington, December 2, 1899, and after reciting its purpose to be to adjust amicably questions between the three powers in respect to the Samoan group and to avoid future misunderstanding, proceeds tectually:

Article 1—The general act concluded and signed by the aforesaid powers at Berlin on June 14, 1889, and all previous treaties, conventions and agreements relating to Samoa are annulled.

Article 2—Germanyre nounces in favor of the United States of America all her rights and claims over and in respect to the island of Tutuila and all other islands of the Samoan group east of longitude 171, degrees west of Greenwich. Great Britain in like manner renounces in favor of the Uinted States of America all her rights and claims over and in respect to the islands of Tutuila, and all other islands of the Samoan group east of longitude 171 degrees west of Greenwich. Reciprocally, the Uinted States of America renounces in favor of Germany all the rights and claims over and in respect to the islands of Upolu and Savaii and all other islands of the Samoan group west of longitude 171 degrees west of Greenwich.

Article 3—It is understood and agreed that all of the three sigantory powers shall enjoy in respect to their commerce and commercial vessels in all the islands of the Samoan group privileges and conditions equal to those enjoyed by the sovereign power in all ports which may be open to the commerce of either of them.

Article 4—The present convention shall be ratified as soon as possible and shall come in force immediately after the exchange of ratifications.

In faith whereof, etc.

JOHN HAY,
HOLLENBEN,
PAUNCEFOTE.

CASUALTIES OF BRITISH TROOPS

The Loss at Magersfontein Placed at Eight Hundred and Thirty-Two.

LONDON, Dec. 15.—A revised list of the total casualties to the British troops at Magersfontein places the number at 832.

The war office has received a message stating there were 650 casualties among the non-commissioned officers and men of the Highland brigade at Magersfontein.

The brigade lost ten officers killed, thirty-eight wounded and four missing.

The war office has received from General Gatacre the following list of casualties furnished by a correspondent, who was permitted to visit the Boer camp with the chaplains, and is believed to be reliable: Second Royal Irish, ten killed, thirty-two wounded; First East Lancashires, one wounded; Second Northumberlands, twelve killed, twenty-seven wounded. All the above wounded are prisoners.

An official report gives the total number of killed, wounded and missing of all arms in the engagement on Sunday and Monday north of Modder river as 817.

There were fifteen officers killed and four wounded, and in addition five are missing and one is known to have been made prisoner.

ENOUGH FOR AN ARMY.

Large Quantity of Military Stores Found at Santiago.

SANTIAGO DE CUBA, Dec. 15.—For some months it has been suspected that large quantities of military stores were in the possession of Cubans at some point in the interior. Yesterday the mayor of Tunis, a small town in the district of Holguin, voluntarily disclosed the location and surrendered three effective field guns, 10,000 rifles and a large amount of ammunition to the Americans. The guns had been stored in an obscure place, in a rough country, under palm leaf blinds. It would have been almost impossible to find them unless their whereabouts had been voluntarily revealed. The Holguin district is one of the wildest in the island and has been regarded for a possible uprising.

Iowan Jailed at Boston.

BOSTON, Mass., Dec. 15.—James H. Morton of Sioux City, Iowa, who has been followed by Sheriff Davenport of Sioux City to Chicago, New York and Montreal, was arrested in this city today as a fugitive from justice. Morton is 35 years of age and is charged with forging orders on the First National bank of Sioux City. When confronted by Sheriff Davenport he said he was glad the hunt was off and he would return to Iowa without extradition.

Banks in Our Colonies.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 15.—Secretary Gage has called the attention of congress to the lack of facilities in our new insular possessions and dependencies for the safekeeping of large sums of money required for current expenses of the army and navy. He says the disbursements will continue large. He recommends that authority be given him to designate one or more banks or bankers in each of these islands as depositories of public funds.

A $4,500,000 Book.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 15.—In a special report to the secretary of war General F. C. Ainsworth shows that the sum of a2,610,000 has been expended to date in the compilation and printing of the official records of the union and confederate armies, which work was commenced in 1874. The expenditures on this account during the last fiscal year were $71,351, leaving a balance on hand of $22,729, nearly all of which is covered by outstanding obligations.

Remains of Maine Victims.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 15.—The navy department has given notice that any person claiming the remains of any of the victims of the Maine explosion before the Texas returns to Hampton Roads with the bodies from Havana, which will be in about fifteen days, may have them sent to their late homes for burial at the expense of the department.

Every man ought to give the man who follows him a safe path in which to travel.

ALL ABOUT IRRIGATION

The Collection and Tabulation of Important Data.

PRELIMINARY SCHEDULE PREPARED

The Names of Corporations and Individuals Owning Ditches or Canals Wanted —Special Effort of the Division of Agriculture of the Twelfth Census.

A special effort will be made by the Division of Agriculture of the Tweifth Census of the United States to collect and tabulate important data relating to irrigation in the arid and semi-humid regions of the United States. A preliminary schedule has been prepared and will soon be sent out to obtain the names of Corporations and individuals owning canals or ditches. This is one of the essential steps for securing desired information regarding the extent and value of the canals and ditches used for irrigation, and their sources of water supply.

In the preliminary schedule a request is made for the names of the principal canals or ditches in their order down stream, the ditches to the right (looking down the stream) being arranged on the first page of the list and those heading to the left on the last page. Request is also made for the name and postoffice address of some person who can give detailed information concerning each ditch.

The principal schedule now in course of preparation will be mailed to the addresses thus obtained calling for further data, which will be supplemented by detailed statistics gathered by the census enumerators.

It should be noted by all interested in the subject that these various inquiries of the census office in no way conflict with, or duplicate the work, with reference to irrigation which is being conducted by any other department of state. The most nearly related inquiry is that of the geological survey, which, like that of the census, is under the more immediate protection of Mr. F. H. Newell, the special agent for irrigation in the eleventh census, and hydrographer of the geological survey. The fact that Mr. Newell has supervision of this work in the twelfth census guarantees its efficiency and value to the arid and semi-humid regions.

It will be readily apparent that the volume and value of these statistics will depend very largely upon the attention and interest shown therein by those engaged in irrigation and it is earnestly hoped that all to whom the schedules are addressed will appreciate the importance of the request and make prompt and careful reply. In this way only will it be possible to make the information concerning irrigation full and complete.

In order to obtain a full understanding and an intelligent appreciation of the possible development of the arid and semi-humid regions of the west, a general knowledge of the progress actually made is of vital importance. An accurate census of irrigation will impart such general knowledge, and will be of great benefit to all those concerned in redeeming arid lands. The future development of this vast portion of our domain will be greatly advanced by a comprehensive complication of facts relating to its irrigation, such as contemplated by the twelfth census.

Exam nation of Dinsmore.

NORTH PLATTE, Neb., Dec. 14.—Sheriff Funk of Kearney arrived here to take Frank H. Dinsmore to Buffalo county for his preliminary trial for murder of his wife and Fred Lane at Odessa. Arriving at the jail, Dinsmore was found seated in one corner of his cell, eating his supper. He wanted to get away from the jail, as he was dissatisfied with the food and the associations, there being nine other prisoners incarcerated. He was very calm and manifested no evidence of fear. When asked what he thought about returning to Kearney he replied:

"I am not worrying about it. I am ready to go any time and am willing to risk it. If anything is going to happen, I am helpless to prevent it. All I ask is to have a square deal and I am sure of proving my innocence."

When asked if he had seen Mrs. Laue's statement he answered: "Yes, I have seen the newspaper account of it and it is not true. I cannot understand why she should make such statements, for I never did her any wrong."

In Memory of M. L. Hayward.

NERASKA CITY, Neb., Dec. 14.—Exercises in memory of the late Senator M. L. Hayward were held in the district court. The entire Otoe county bar was in attendance and many citizens, completely filling the court room. On the wall behind the judge's bench was a large portrait of the late senator, draped with American flags. Resolutions paying tribute to the worth of the departed as a lawyer, judge and legislator, his honest record in public and private affairs, his loyalty to his friends and his nobility of character, were unanimously adopted and ordered spread upon the records of the court. Eulogies were pronounced by Judge Paul Jessen and other members of the bar.

Asks for an Opinion.

LINCOLN, Dec. 14.—Deputy Insurance Commissioner Bryant has asked the legal department of the state for an opinion as to the fee that should be charged for licensing companies to do a miscellaneous insurance business in this state. There is some difference of opinion as to whether, under the Weaver law, the fee should be $50 or $100.

Adjutant General Barry has mustered the reorganized Madison company into the National guard service.

The resignations of Charles C. Clerk, Harry D. Mitchell and Arthur B. Ryons, members of Company F of the Second regiment, were accepted by the adjutant general.

Fire on Turner's Ranch.

FREMONT, Neb., Dec. 14.—The big barn on Turner's ranch, a few miles west of the city was discovered to be on fire, and was completely destroyed with all its contents. The cause of the fire is unknown. The barn contained one horse, ten sets of harness and about 1,000 bushels of grain. The total loss is about $800, with small iunsurance.

Case Dismissed.

NEBRASKA CITY, Neb., Dec. 14.—Judge Remsey convened district court Monday. The two cases of the State against John C. Watson were first called and his attorneys, General Colby and John V. Morgan, demanded an immediate trial. County Attorney Wilson stated to the court that he had been unable to locate the pricipal witnesses in each case. General Colby insisted that the cases were set for this date over his objection at the last term when his client was anxious for trial.

THE STATE'S SCHOOL MONEY.

Superintendent Jackson Shows the Apportionment for Six Months.

LINCOLN, Dec. 16.—State Superintendent Jackson has issued his semi-annual statement showing the apportionment of the school money for the next six months. The rate per scholar was $0.785, while for the corresponding period last year the rate was $0.007. This decrease is due to the falling off in the temporary school fund. The whole number of school children in the state is 372,745, while for last year the number was only 366,069. The money is apportioned among the various counties as follows:

County.	No. of Scholars.	Amount Due.
Adams	7,085	$ 5,537.73
Antelope	4,134	3,246.28
Banner	361	288.57
Blaine	162	126.69
Boone	4,088	3,193.93
Box Butte	1,546	1,211.62
Boyd	1,871	1,468.71
Brown	1,258	983.38
Buffalo	8,180	6,402.84
Burt	4,094	3,206.15
Butler	5,293	4,232.46
Cass	7,670	6,024.62
Cedar	4,239	3,304.67
Chase	989	777.11
Cherry	1,541	1,210.04
Cheyenne	1,324	1,040.23
Clay	4,959	4,757.52
Colfax	4,484	3,507.58
Cuming	5,452	4,283.90
Custer	7,727	6,071.47
Dakota	2,267	1,781.29
Dawes	2,273	1,742.79
Dawson	4,654	3,656.37
Deuel	733	575.96
Dixon	3,901	2,986.63
Dodge	7,879	6,192.83
Douglas	42,329	33,252.83
Dundy	801	629.29
Fillmore	5,973	4,657.55
Franklin	3,392	2,665.26
Frontier	3,387	2,661.12
Furnas	4,657	3,643.51
Gage	10,462	8,221.27
Garfield	644	506.02
Gosper	1,968	1,502.97
Grant	198	155.58
Greeley	2,152	1,690.92
Hall	6,104	4,796.29
Hamilton	5,112	4,016.74
Harlan	3,569	2,803.55
Hayes	954	751.18
Hitchcock	1,774	1,393.92
Holt	4,252	3,341.00
Hooker	56	43.22
Howard	4,091	3,214.49
Jefferson	5,859	4,423.76
Johnson	4,049	3,181.49
Kearney	3,867	3,039.62
Keith	715	561.91
Keya Paha	1,070	840.75
Kimball	56	194.06
Knox	5,122	4,023.24
Lancaster	20,930	16,445.69
Lincoln	3,343	3,696.20
Logan	304	238.87
Loup	441	346.52
Madison	6,094	4,788.49
McPherson	93	73.08
Merrick	2,946	2,315.39
Nance	2,792	2,192.81
Nemaha	5,297	4,162.11
Nuckolls	4,565	3,586.94
Otoe	7,296	5,994.45
Pawnee	4,194	3,316.07
Perkins	555	436.09
Phelps	2,885	2,052.62
Pierce	2,917	2,292.13
Platte	6,354	5,149.79
Polk	4,057	3,187.78
Red Willow	3,468	2,724.97
Richardson	7,072	5,556.81
Rock	1,608	834.04
Saline	7,101	5,579.59
Sarpy	2,912	2,288.16
Saunders	8,226	6,462.56
Scotts Bluff	789	619.94
Seward	5,620	4,415.96
Sheridan	2,211	1,737.29
Sherman	2,441	2,073.16
Sioux	623	489.45
Stanton	2,570	2,097.95
Thayer	5,246	4,122.18
Thomas	180	141.44
Thurston	1,973	1,554.21
Valley	2,988	2,353.53
Washington	4,676	3,674.16
Wayne	3,438	2,699.04
Webster	4,209	3,305.09
Wheeler	427	335.52
York	6,091	4,786.39
Totals	372,745	$292,983.59

The certificate of the state treasurer shows that the money was derived as follows:

State tax	$ 77,383.72
Interest on United States bonds	360.00
Interest on state bonds	4,320.00
Interest on county bonds	72,320.02
Interest on school district bonds	477.49
Interest on school lands sold	60,017.08
Interest on school lands leased	32,354.31
Interest on saline lands sold	1,465.00
Interest on saline lands leased	1,520.00
Interest on state warrants	12,595.56
Peddlers' licenses	69.40
Buffalo County National bank	501.00
Total amount	$292,983.59

Successor of Judge Allen.

LINCOLN, Neb., Dec. 16.—Governor Poynter has appointed Douglas Cones of Plainview to succeed Senator Allen as judge of the Ninth judicial district. There was very little competition for the place and as soon as the resignation of Senator Allen was received the performed good service for the fusion appointment was announced. Douglas Cones is a democrat and as such has forces in his county.

Mr. Cones in the son of W. M. Cones, a banker, and was born in Scott county, Iowa, April 26, 1865. He came to Nebraska with his parents in 1875 and located in Cuming county. His early education was received in the public schools of that county. After graduating from Oberlin college he began the study of law with the firm of Sullivan & Reeder in Columbus and was admitted to the bar in May, 1889. He took up the practice of law at Plainview where he has since resided. In the fall of 1889 and two years later he was elected prosecuting attorney for Pierce county, which position he held until 1894. It is announced that he will name A. O. Williams as court reporter.

Tablet for Dead Soldiers.

LINCOLN, Neb., Dec. 16.—Acting upon the suggestion of Major Pershing, U. S. A., late commandant of cadets, the university board of regents has approved the movement to raise funds for the erection of a memorial tablet in honor of the students of the institution who gave up their lives in the service of their country in the late war. A subscription will be started at the university and the various alumni associations will be asked to contribute towards defraying the expenses of erecting a tablet or monument. Major Pershing accompained his suggestion by a subscription of $50, which hase been accepted by the board of regents.

Must Pay a License Fee.

LINCOLN, Neb., Dec. 16.—Deputy Insurance Commissioner Bryant has accepted the ruling of the attorney general's office and will hereafter charge insurance companies desiring to do a "miscellaneous business" in Nebraska a license fee of $50. The Weaver law in one section provides that "every other company shall pay a fee of $100 for depositing a copy of its charter," but makes no exception of miscellaneous companies. However, in another section the law provides that miscellaneous companies shall pay fees of $50.

Banquet for Judge Ramsey.

NEBRASKA CITY, Neb., Dec. 16.—A banquet was given to Judge R. S. Ramsey, the retiring judge of this judicial district, at which Paul Jessen presided as toastmaster. It was one of the most pleasing social events given in this city in some time. The supper was given by the petit jurors, who have served at the last term of the court, and other admirers of the judge in this city. It was in the nature of an impromptu affair. All of the attorneys of the city and many prominent attorneys from others places were present.

EDITOR KILLS A MAN

Charles H. Harris Shoots a Prominent Stockman Dead.

TROUBLE OVER PUBLISHED ARTICLE

The Offended Party Calls for a Retraction, Which the Editor Refused to Grant—Shot is Fired From an Old Horse Pistol—Verdict of the Coroner's Jury.

LAUREL, Neb., Dec. 13.—Sunday night Editor Charles S. Harris of the Belden News shot and almost instantly killed J. H. Blenkiron of Atkinson, a stockman who has large interests in this county and well known throughout eastern Nebraska. The trouble arose over the article which Harris published in the News relative to some trouble which Blenkiron had a few days previous with the Belden bank.

When the article came out in the News Blenkiron became enraged and went to the printing office and demanded that Harris retract. This the editor refused to do. Blenkiron is supposed to have started for Harris, who told him to stand back or he would shoot him. The assailant told Harris to shoot.

Upon his coming still closer Harris said: "Don't you come a step farther or I'll shoot you."

Blenkiron said: "Shoot, I am not afraid of your gun."

Tommy, the 11-year-old son of W. F. Nieland, a merchant of Belden, was in a room back of the printing office and heard the fracas. It is supposed that Blenkiron advanced toward Harris after uttering his last sentence, because a pistol shot was heard instantly and Blenkiron walked out on the street and about twenty feet and dropped dead. Mrs. Chris Larson and others saw the shot fired. They were across the street.

Harris went immediately to a farmer's place about a mile distant from town, borrowed a pony and rode to Hartington and gave himself up to the authorities. Public sentiment seems to be in favor of the editor.

Later—At the coroner's inquest held in Hartington over the body of Hark Blenkiron, who was shot at Belden by Editor Harris, it was found that the shooting was done in self-defense.

The real trouble which led up to the shooting occurred in the middle of the week when Blenkiron had trouble with the Belden bank over an overdraft and tried to close up the institution. The editor wrote up the affair in his paper and to this Blenkiron took offense and undertook to have it retracted.

There was no one present when the shooting took place but Harris and Blenkiron. Harris was seen at the county jail this evening. While he was not disposed to talk very much yet he seemed cheerful and confident that the public, when acquainted with the facts, would justify the shooting on the grounds of self-defense.

Mixed the Wrong Chemicals.

HUMBOLDT, Neb., Dec. 12.—Mrs. M. Watts was the victim of a peculiar accident. She picked up two vials, one containing nitric acid and one carbolic acid, and thinking both were the same drug, poured the contents of one vial into another. They refused to mix as promptly as she desired and she placed her thumb over the mouth of the bottle and shook the contents violently to assist in the operation. The result was an explosion and the acids were thrown into her face, almost blinding her and burning blisters all over her face. Fortunately she had on her spectacles which protected her eyes from the burning fluid and therefore her eyesight was uninjured.

Hunt Down a Prisoner.

CHAPPELL, Neb., Dec. 13.—On the night of December 6 burglars broke into the stores of Sudman & Fish company and A. J. Swanson for the third time within seven weeks and stole several pairs of shoes, pants and overalls. Mr. Fish of the Sudman & Fish company got track of the burglar at Julesburg, Colo., next morning and followed him from there to Cozad, where he caught him with the goods, brought him back here and he had is trial, pleaded guilty and was sentenced to the penitentiary at a special term of court held by Judge Grimes. This is rather quick work, being less than three days when he is taken to the penitentiary from the time the theft was comitted.

Dies at the Age of Ninety-Five.

TABLE ROCK, Neb., Dec. 12.—Frank Blecha, who lived four or five miles southeast of here, died at his residence a few days ago, and it is said he was ninety-five years of age. He came here with his family from Chicago nearly forty years ago and took the place from the government where he has since lived and where he died. His wife died twenty years ago. He was paralyzed over a year since and since that time has been entirely helpless. He leaves a large family of children and grand children.

Woman Run Down by Cars.

GRAND ISLAND, Neb., Dec. 13.—Mrs. C. A. Baldwin was struck at the Lincoln avenue crossing and instantly killed by the St. Joseph & Grand Island train. Her body was thrown forty feet and horribly mutilated. She was a well known woman, the wife of an ex-county surveyor. Engineer Harry Dunn was arrested and held for investigation.

Dewey's Surgeon at Manila.

NEBRASKA CITY, Neb., Dec. 13.—Dr. Aldrich Hammer, the physician in charge of the battleship Olympia during the fight at Manila bay, who has been in the city on a visit with his sister, Mrs. William Nelson, has left for Mares Island, Cal. He has been in the navy for the last fifteen years, and the most of the time stationed in Asiatic waters. He came home with Admiral Dewey and has been assigned to land duty. This is the first time that he has seen his sister in fifteen years, and the meeting was a very pathetic one. He was royally entertained while in this city.

Bothered by Tramp Nuisance.

CHADRON, Neb., Dec. 13.—The Chadron city authorities have considerable complaint from the tramp nuisances and the night watch is authority for the statement that every night a thinly clad truck rider seeks the city lockup as an escape from the chilly weather. Instead of tramp travel laxing it is growing, and small burglaries are reported from the neighboring towns along the line. No damage has been done by them in Chadron, however.

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