

We incline to the opinion that Gonstomel will refuse to be a candidate for a second term.

Bombs are again being hurled in Barcelona. That place seems to be the Paterson, N. J., of Spain.

New York Chinese are hot to depose the Empress. Distance lends courage as well as enchantment.

This suit for \$250,000 against Tom Lawson may provide him with still another chapter on frenzied finance.

The records show that Miss Thax paid \$250,000 for her title as Countess of Yarmouth. She got the Earl as boot.

It is instructive to consider what might have been if young Thax's parents had made him go to work for a living.

In order to comply with the fitness of things Boston should remove the sacred codfish from the capital and hang up a sole.

If the world really wants to stop the war between Russia and Japan, it has only to stop lending the two contending nations money.

Russia will have a new navy built in Germany, France and America. Ah! Now isn't John Bull sorry he has been so friendly to the Japs?

It staggers the country to hear the Massachusetts legislature likened to a string of sausages. String beans would sound more convincing.

The rich woman in Indianapolis who left her entire fortune to her coachman was lucky enough to die before her heirs found out about it.

The Chicago clergyman who says that women are angels has no reason to complain. It is much better to have them as they are—just women.

The commander-in-chief of the army of Panama threatened a revolution and got retired on full pay for life. Revolution is still profitable on the isthmus.

Sombody stole \$20,000 of the Forepaugh circus employees' wages from the money wagon, and the detectives searched everybody's trunk except the elephant's.

That millionaire philanthropist of New York who is looking for a house in the slums so that he may help his neighbors evidently despairs of reforming the 400.

Do not deride the St. Paul man who paid an election bet by rolling a peanut all around the Minnesota statehouse. Rolling a peanut may be just what he is fitted for.

Marriage of the feeble-minded was opposed at the charity conference. Some old bachelors might think that classification would take in all who contemplate matrimony.

One bride gets a check for \$50,000 and another one for \$40,000 as a wedding gift. We venture to guess that where such assets are visible, marriage is never quite a failure.

Any one who has watched a football player using his dome of thought as a battering ram upon the opposing line will admit that the performance remains calculated to produce softening somewhere.

Now that the logbook and private papers of Columbus have been found in Paris, we should like to know, among other things, whether the logbook starts at each day with "brilliant and fair."

"The longer we live," says the Nebraska State Journal, "the more thoroughly convinced we are that no man knows as much as he lets on. This axiom will be a sharp rejoinder from Editor Stead."

The Harvard sophomore class has elected as its president a poor student who is working his way through college by acting as a waiter. This country never has a bad way while such things happen.

The esteemed Philadelphia Record is in a state of mind because Pennsylvania has a surplus of over \$14,000,000 in its treasury. It manifests almost such uneasiness as if there were a deficit of \$14,000,000.

Objectionable literature from France imported at New York is being burned, perhaps on the theory, based on an observation of current publications, that we are able now to supply our own market for that kind of stuff.

Kink Edward is limping, as a result of kicking his own foot while shooting. Even kings occasionally interfere. And yet if anybody should suggest trying a bunch of straw around one of Edward's ankles he would probably object.

More absorbing than news of the Baltic fleet to the London swell is the appearance on the market of a trouser creasing machine. It is said to make a perfect crease and that is now the ambition of every well-dressed man in the British capital.

The London portion of the new Japanese loan was oversubscribed more than thirteen times, and the New York portion was oversubscribed more than five times. Apparently Japan must be able now to supply our finances until the interest comes due.

There is a man in Indiana who claims to know where Noah lived and built the ark. Mr. Schwab would like to have the gentleman go a little further and find out whether Noah had any trouble with his minority stockholders, and if so how it was adjusted.

An obviously ignorant person writes to a New York paper to ask what books it would be advisable for him to read, to enable him to appear at an age group society. After he has had more experience in society he will doubtless learn that it isn't necessary to read any books at all.

As to that wife whose husband insisted on her learning the dictionary by heart, she might have got even with him by complying with his wishes and then calling him down whenever he mispronounced a word.

CONGRESS AGAIN

NATIONAL LAWMAKERS ABOUT TO ASSEMBLE.

LITTLE WILL BE DONE THIS WEEK

Message of President Nott to Be Delivered Until Second Day—Adjournment in Memory of Members Who Have Died.

WASHINGTON—Little in the way of legislative business is expected the first week of the session of congress. The first day will be devoted to calling the roll and swearing in new members who have been elected to fill vacancies. The usual committee will be appointed to inform the president that congress is in session and the resolution notifying the senate that a quorum of the house is ready for business will be passed. Tuesday the president's message will be read, but it is not expected that any other business will be transacted.

There are a number of minor matters of legislation which may be considered on Wednesday and on Thursday, as no special order has been made for consideration of any general measure. It is possible that the legislative, executive and judicial appropriation bill may be reported Wednesday or Thursday.

Friday is pension day and there will be more than a thousand private pension bills ready for the house to consider. Early adjournments each day are expected during the first week to give time to shape the session business.

An intimation has been given that objection may be interposed against the senate in called to order by J. Thomas Hefflin, who has been elected to fill the vacancy caused by the death of Representative Thompson of the Fifth Alabama district, on account of certain language Hefflin is alleged to have used regarding the president of the United States. In case objection is made there is no doubt there will be a spirited party debate which would occupy considerable time.

The first act of the senate after convening will be one of respect to the memory of two distinguished senators whose deaths have occurred since the adjournment of congress. Senator Penrose, immediately after the senate is called to order, will announce Senator Quay's demise, and then will give way to Senator Lodge to perform a like service in the case of Senator Hoar. Adjournment for the day will follow at once and will postpone receipt of the president's annual message until Tuesday. The day and will receive early Tuesday, and will give way to any further business beyond its reading and the induction into office of Messrs. Knox of Pennsylvania and Crane of Massachusetts.

For the remainder of the week exceedingly brief sessions are expected. On Thursday an adjournment will be taken until the following Monday.

Senator Lodge will press the house bill for the amendment of the Philippine government law as soon as it is practicable to get that measure before the senate, and has announced his intention not to brook opposition to its consideration. The bill has the vast advantage of being on the calendar as unfinished business, so that it cannot easily be displaced. It is not probable, however, that Mr. Lodge will now attempt more with reference to it than to give notice of his intention to press its adoption.

COCKRELL HAS HIS CHOICE

Positions Offered to the Missouriian by President Roosevelt.

WASHINGTON—Senator Cockrell of Missouri, who arrived in Washington Tuesday night from his home, called Wednesday on President Roosevelt and had an extended conference with him. It was the first time the president and Senator Cockrell had met since the election. When it became known that the result of the election in Missouri would result in the retirement from the senate of Mr. Cockrell the president let it be understood that he would offer to him a federal appointment commensurate with his ability, knowledge of public affairs, wide experience and high character.

At the conference Wednesday the president informed Senator Cockrell that he would appoint him as a member of either the isthmian canal commission or of the interstate commerce commission as the senator might elect. Senator Cockrell did not indicate to the president what he might do regarding the lodgment at Pigeon bay, but after the conference that he would not announce his decision, perhaps for several weeks, as it was not necessary that he should do so immediately.

Naturalization Frauds.

BALTIMORE—Three persons were arrested on bench warrants issued by United States Judge Morris on the charge of falsifying certificates of naturalization in the United States long enough to legalize their suffrages. They are Max Cohen, Jacob Reiner and Charles Einstein. The prisoners, accompanied by several other residents of Baltimore, went to Westminster, Md., prior to the November election and secured naturalization papers upon which their names were enrolled upon the polling lists.

Butler Secures a Stay.

JEFFERSON CITY, Mo.—Chief Justice Robinson of the supreme court issued a temporary rule in prohibition against Judge Foster of the St. Louis criminal court to prevent him from proceeding with the trial of Edward Butler in his court on the charge of bribing Charles F. Kelley to leave the state and avoid testifying against him in the bootie cases. The temporary rule is returnable Dec. 13, when Judge Foster is directed to show cause why the temporary rule shall not be made permanent.

Found Hanging to Bedpost.

NEW YORK—Fashionably attired and wearing expensive jewelry, the body of a girl 19 years old was found kneeling in position, as though she had been strangled, or had forcibly strangled herself by pulling on the towel.

TALK OF RECIPROcity.

The Question Likely to Be Up in the Coming Congress.

WASHINGTON—Coupled with tariff legislation discussion is the subject of reciprocity. A number of proposed reciprocity treaties have been and still are pending in the pigeon holes of the senate. During the coming three months there may be some talk about these treaties, but the indications are they will not be seriously considered. So strong has been the opposition to them that it has never been considered worth while to report them from the committee on foreign relations, to which they were referred. There was considerable talk during the last session of congress concerning tariff revision, and the suggestion was made by several prominent leaders that any revision that was necessary could be accomplished during the adjournment of congress, the idea being that revision would be on the lines of reduction and would meet with little or no opposition to be more pronounced.

Revenue legislation of any kind is sure to create considerable talk in the senate, and that means delay. In fact it has become known under present conditions legislation during the short session is enacted by practically unanimous consent. Any half dozen senators who determine to defeat a bill have the power to do so, with the privilege of unlimited debate. In the house the stringent rules enable the majority to transact all business in less than an hour, so far as that body is concerned there is no difficulty about any legislation that may be attempted, but if the leaders do not want tariff revision or change in the revenue laws nothing will be done.

ENJOINS THE TAXES.

Burlington and Union Pacific File Petition in the Federal Court.

OMAHA—The Union Pacific Railway company, through its attorney, John M. Baldwin, and the Chicago, Burlington and Quincy and St. M. Railway companies, through their attorney, J. E. Kelly, appeared before Judge W. H. Munger in the United States circuit court Wednesday evening and secured a temporary restraining order against the county treasurers of the different counties of the state of Nebraska through which their respective roads run, from attempting in any way or manner to collect the taxes levied against the complainants roads or from enforcing any of the terms of any tax warrant which may now or hereafter be placed in their hands.

Judge Munger granted the temporary order and the hearing is set for Monday or Tuesday, December 26 or 27, 1914.

The petition accompanying the application made by the Union Pacific is of seventy-four printed pages.

The haste in seeking the restraining order is owing to the fact that under the new revenue law of Nebraska the taxes of railway corporations become due on delinquent December 1, and the tax collecting officials of the respective counties are authorized under the law to levy upon any funds that may be in the hands of any agent of the respective companies to apply upon the delinquent taxes, or that may thereafter come into their hands so long as the taxes remain unpaid. Hence, as these corporation taxes become due on and after Wednesday, the railroads had to hurry and get the restraining order granted.

JAPS GET NEARER.

Report That They Now Occupy 203-Meter Hill.

LONDON—According to a Tokio dispatch to the Standard there is an unofficial rumor that the Japanese hauled large caliber guns to the top of 203 meter hill, from whence their fire has a sweep of the whole harbor, and that they are now in possession of the facts, but various dispatches indicate the progress the Japanese are making in the reduction of Port Arthur. Japanese here explain the great importance of 203 meter hill, which, besides giving command of the harbor, will serve as a wide breach made by the wedge the Japanese have recently made in between the Etze group and the Russians' last retreat in the ravines of Laotie mountain. They declare that retreat to Laotie will be effectively cut off and that it is unlikely that Laotie will be simultaneously attacked in the final assault.

Edmund Burleigh writes to the Daily Telegraph from Chefoo that in the last assault the Japanese lost 4,000 in one hour's fighting. They claim to have captured two more of the north-eastern forts and a third, which is part of the West Keckwan fort. They claim Mr. Burleigh said to have effected a lodgment at Pigeon bay, thus turning the fort on 203 meter hill, and that they are now tunnelling from the gorge below Laotie hill, which they hope first to damage and then to rush. The dispatch continues:

Norway Wants \$10,000,000. CHRISTIANIA, Norway—During the discussion in the storting of the bill to raise a loan of \$7,500,000, the finance minister, unexpectedly, announced that the loan would be increased to \$10,000,000, of which the additional \$2,500,000 would be set aside as a special reserve for use "when the country is in distress." This announcement of what may be regarded as a war fund created some astonishment. Several members asked an explanation as to what had happened, but the minister refused to be drawn out.

Pure Seed Special Train.

ST. PAUL—The Chicago & North-western is planning a "pure seed special train," which will traverse the company's line in both states this winter. The company will run a special train carrying Prof. Wilson and Wheeler of the South Dakota Agricultural school, A. O. Johnson and M. F. Greeley over its various lines, with stops at every village and way station. The grain experts will conduct brief lectures and discussions to special train farmers who call at the train.

Official Vets of Iowa.

DES MOINES—The official vote of Iowa was canvassed Tuesday by the executive council, with the following result: Roosevelt, 307,907; Parker 149,141; Swallow, 11,691; Debs, 14,847; Watson, 2,267. Roosevelt's plurality over Parker is 158,766.

Says Jap Loss Was Great.

ST. PETERSBURG—The war office has received information from Chefoo that the Japanese assault on Port Arthur was repulsed with enormous losses.

FALL OF ARTHUR

ST. PETERSBURG NOW THINKS IT IS IMMINENT.

ARE PREPARING FOR THE WORST

Capture of Two Hundred and Three Meter Hill Seal Doom of Besieged Town—General Stoessel Will Never Surrender.

ST. PETERSBURG—With the confirmation of the news that the Japanese have occupied Two Hundred and Three-Meter hill and the report that the Russian unsuccessfully attempted its recapture, officials at the war office are beginning to prepare themselves for the inevitable. Golden Hill and Liotai hill are higher and dominate Two Hundred and Three-Meter hill, but the officials say that if the Japanese succeed in capturing the latter it will be only a question of days or weeks before the fortress falls. Still there is not the slightest idea among General Stoessel's friends that he will surrender even if he should be ordered to do so. It is hinted that it is possible that the emperor of Japan, arriving about the time that the emperor may direct his surrender in order to prevent the unnecessary sacrifice of the remnant of his brave defenders, but it is believed by those who know General Stoessel best that he will make good his threat to hold out to the last man and cartridge in Port Arthur.

The ships in the harbor, it can now be stated on high authority, are in no condition to attempt to break through the blockading squadron. The guns of the warships were not long ago landed and the marines and sailors have been participating in the land defense. Some of the ships have also been injured by shells. If the fortress falls, it is understood, they will be taken outside and sunk in deep water in order to prevent the possibility of their ever being of service to the enemy.

The question of the advisability of reinforcing Vice Admiral Rojestvensky's fleet in Japan and the sea fleet is again being agitated in some of the papers, notably the Novoye Vremya, which points out that with the addition of the Black sea vessels Rojestvensky will have a superiority which will insure victory over Admiral Togo's fleet.

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At the government land office in Lincoln last week William F. Shane and Foster Church each filed an acre of a tract in Thayer county which they had purchased years ago. Walter F. Camp had filed on the land in 1875, but disposed of the tract before he had perfected the title. Under the supposition that the tract was clear the land has been transferred several times.

Legislators arriving in Lincoln the first of the year will not find things in the same condition they did two years ago, all ready for the start. This is because the last legislature authorized the secretary of state to spend not more than \$1,000 in getting ready for the session, the remainder of the purchasing to be done by the legislators themselves. This \$1,000 will not go very far.

The state apportionment of the temporary school funds to be made December 5 by State Treasurer Mortensen and State Superintendent Fowler will not exceed \$270,000, the amount of the last apportionment, made in May, was \$443,288.14. The various counties receive their apportionment on their school population, and this amount is then divided by the county superintendents among the several districts.

A sharp fight between farmers and automobile men seems imminent in the next legislature. It was all so during the session of the legislature of the Loup valley, where the excellent roads make traveling very attractive to the chauffeurs, seem especially hostile, and have pledged a number of the legislators from that section of the state to introduce a bill, keeping automobiles unless they are run on the side of the road as soon as a wagon or other vehicle comes in sight.

Thieves entered the home of James Schock, living southeast of Beatrice, while the family was in the city and carried off a considerable quantity of bed clothes, clothing and jewelry. The bedclothes were put on the trail, which was followed to the banks of the Blue river, where the thieves had escaped in a boat.

The farmers of Pickering held a big mass meeting for the purpose of considering the proposition of building an independent farmers' elevator. The speakers were warmly received by the farmers, who complained bitterly of the treatment received at the hands of the trust. About \$1,500 was pledged at the meeting and it is the intention to raise \$5,000, when a modern structure will be erected.

Rev. F. P. Blackmore of Weeping Water, who was on trial before a court composed of clergymen of this section, has been found guilty as charged. The sessions of the inquiry lasted two days.

The four minor children of John Pope of Plattsmouth brought suit in the district court to collect the sum of \$5,000 damages from George Oberle, a saloon-keeper in Greenwood, and the bonding company. The father, a Huguenot memorial building, where it is daily visited by great crowds.

Will Improve Victoria Harbor. VICTORIA, B. C.—The Canadian Pacific Railway company has just acquired by purchase Island Point, Victoria harbor, a rocky promontory, the possession of which has restricted shipping in this harbor, and will blast it out, it is said, at a cost of \$100,000, thus greatly enlarging and improving the harbor on the site which the company has chosen for its new wharves. The company will apply immediately to the Dominion government for a substantial subsidy to aid it in this formidable undertaking.

Question of Riparian Rights. WASHINGTON—The assistant attorney general for the interior department, Judge Campbell, will hold a conference with the attorney general of Colorado and Kansas in the suit of Kansas pending in the supreme court, involving the question of riparian rights to the waters of the Arkansas river. The United States government has intervened in the suit and the conference will be held with the view to the proper understanding of the extent of the government's land interests along that water-shed.

OUR COLLECTIONS.

Internal Revenue Money is More Than Last Year.

Washington.—The annual report of Commissioner John W. Yerkes of the internal revenue bureau shows that for the fiscal year ended June 30, 1914, the receipts of the bureau were \$22,904,004, an increase of \$2,164,079 over the collections for the year next preceding. The cost of collection was 1.98 per cent, as against 2.07 for the year 1913, and 2.33 per cent, the average cost of collection since the formation of the bureau.

The estimated receipts from all sources of internal revenue for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1915, are \$230,000,000.

In 1903 the total production of distilled spirits was 148,206,875 gallons; in 1904, 139,505,214 gallons; in 1905, in round numbers, 114,000,000 gallons of tax-paid spirits were withdrawn; in 1904, 117,000,000. There has been a decrease in the amount of tobacco manufactured and an increase in sauff manufacture. There was an increase in the production of beer.

The four states having the largest production of distilled spirits during the year are: Illinois, 47,785,899 gallons; Kentucky, 23,970,162 gallons; Indiana, 20,838,863 gallons, and Ohio, 13,173,537 gallons.

The four states which produced the largest quantity of fermented liquor are: New York, 10,691,888 barrels; Pennsylvania, 11,256,846 barrels; Illinois, 4,632,446 barrels, and Wisconsin, 4,035,292 barrels.

On the subject of wood alcohol Mr. Yerkes says: "The recent death in New York city of several men, caused, as alleged, by drinking in a saloon liquor sold as whisky, which in fact was a liquid composed largely of wood alcohol and colored so as to resemble whisky, has brought prominently to the attention of the public the supposed use of wood alcohol as a beverage."

"There is no tax upon wood alcohol and, therefore, no record of its manufacture. It is not possible to trace it and in no way does it come within the scope of the inspection or regulation of this office."

"The methods of purifying and refining wood alcohol now employed so far remove its toxic qualities that it can be and probably is used with some less danger than formerly. The admixture of ethyl alcohol in the preparation of various kinds of compounded alcoholic beverages. Through these improved processes of refining it is a competitor with ethyl alcohol for use in the manufacture of perfumes and cosmetics and to some extent in the making of medicinal compounds."

"Unless by legislative enactment the use of ethyl alcohol free of tax in the arts and manufactures should be granted, then this office submits for consideration the propriety of the imposition of a tax of wood alcohol amounting to one cent on the two articles—wood and ethyl alcohol—on a basis of equality."

AMERICAN COMMITS SUICIDE.

New York Man Jumps to Vestibule from Third Floor of Hotel.

LONDON—Everton Chapman, aged 23, whose home is in New York City committed suicide at the Carlton hotel by throwing himself from the third floor landing to the vestibule, where he was shot by a man in a uniform. His skull was crushed, one arm was shattered and there were other injuries, from which he died in terrible agony within a few minutes. Chapman arrived at the Carlton last Saturday accompanied by his valet. After dressing for dinner Monday evening he left to prevent the exit of the valet. He was seen to enter the vestibule, where he was shot by a man in a uniform. He succumbed almost immediately.

NEW BANK TO RUN AT NIGHT

New York Financiers Plan Institution for Transients.

NEW YORK—The board of directors of a new bank to be organized in New York for the purpose of providing a place where money may be obtained at any hour, prominent New York financiers and commercial men have, it is announced by the Herald, organized the first night and day bank and safe deposit company.

The names of men prominent in the business and social world appear in the organization committee and the capital stock of \$250,000 already has been subscribed. The concern also will have a working surplus of \$250,000. The plight in which many travelers find themselves in New York because they are unable to draw cash in cases of emergency suggested the organization of the bank. It is likely that Oakleigh Thorne of the North American Trust company will be president of the new institution.

Taft Will Arrive Saturday.

PENSACOLA, Fla.—A cablegram was received Sunday from Secretary of War Taft, announcing that he would arrive in Pensacola on the cruiser Columbia on December 10. It is the intention of Secretary Taft to return to Washington about December 14, according to present plans. He stated on his departure from here that he would remain in Pensacola several days on his return. Preparations are being made for the entertainment of the distinguished party during their stay here.

Body of Paul Kruger.

CAPE TOWN—The body of the late president of the Transvaal republic, Paul Kruger, is lying in state in the Huguenot memorial building, where it is daily visited by great crowds.

White House Callers.

WASHINGTON—Senator Fairbanks was at the White house for some time in conference with the president. Senators Aldrich of Rhode Island and Dewey also called the latter to pay his respects to the president.

Official Vets of Indiana.

INDIANAPOLIS, Ind.—The state election board announced the vote of the Indiana primary. The official figures show Roosevelt to have received a plurality of 93,344. The total vote of the state for each ticket was as follows: Republican, 368,289; democrat, 274,345; prohibition, 23,496; people's, 2,444; socialist, 12,913; socialist labor, 1,588; total vote, 632,185.

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NEWS IN NEBRASKA

THE STATE IN BRIEF.

TROUBLE FOR TREASURERS.

James H. Locker has been convicted of assault at Hayes Center. Twenty-two banks of the state have failed to make the regular report to the state banking board.

Farmer Fenck was held up by highwaymen four miles from Shelton as he was on his way home. The would-be robbers got nothing.

The Deuel County bank of Oshkosh has been authorized by the secretary of the state banking board. The bank has a capital stock of \$25,000.

A series of successful evangelistic meetings is in progress in Crane,