

RUSSIA THE PIVOT

Czar's Government Credited with Settling Question of Interference.

REJECTS PROPOSAL IN BEHALF OF SPAIN

Parliament Refused to Give Light on Overtures with U. S. Embassy.

FRANCE FRIENDLY FROM LAST

Austrian Project Falls Apparently to Co-Operation.

POWERS DECLINE TO JOIN IN COLLUSION

Reports from St. Petersburg Quote Russia as Being Free from Any Part in Alleged Scheme of Interference.

PARIS, Jan. 22.—In view of the statement made by Lord Cranborne, British under secretary of state for foreign affairs in the House of Commons Monday on the subject of representations made to Great Britain before and after the outbreak of the Spanish-American war and the dispatch from London yesterday on the same subject, the correspondence of the Associated Press made inquiries in an authoritative quarter here and received the following explanations, which throw a somewhat different light on the subject.

In the first place in the Spanish negotiations at the end of March, 1898, to secure the intervention of the powers in her favor, Great Britain took the same attitude as France and the other powers. She neither refused or consented to join in collective action.

All the powers were hesitating until they ascertained the intentions of the others. Russia settled the matter by the late Count Moraviev's rejection of the proposal.

When Austria Was Moved.

Subsequently, after General Wood's conference with the Spanish premier and Senor Guillon, the foreign minister, at which the latter indicated the extent of the surrender Spain was willing to make to the United States' demands, the Austrian government, believing Spain's surrender was sufficiently complete to satisfy the United States, instructed its ambassadors to protest to the European governments that a note be presented at Washington urging the United States to accept Spain's offer and avert war.

The Spanish ambassador in London says A. T. Balfour, the first lord of the treasury, who must, at that time, have been acting as secretary of state for foreign affairs during the absence of Lord Salisbury at Beaulieu, France, promised to instruct Lord Balfour to act in one or with his confidants to maintain peace.

No action was definitely agreed upon, though Russia, France and Germany were disposed toward a movement which would avert an outbreak of hostilities. A few days before the war, however, it was declared that Mr. Balfour had raised the objection to which Lord Cranborne alluded in the House of Commons Monday against any note which would have the appearance of putting pressure on the United States or of offering an ultimatum to the United States' attitude.

The Austrian proposition then fell through, and the subsequent joint resolutions of congress rendered any further action out of the question.

This was the extent of Great Britain's action in favor of the United States. The statement of a prominent British foreign office official, quoted in the London dispatch of the Associated Press regarding the alleged support by France of the Austrian proposal, is declared to be incorrect.

France's Friendly Attitude.

Since France did not back up the proposal and the French ambassador in London confined himself to making an inquiry as to the British government's attitude throughout was friendly to the United States, as well as to Spain, her ardent desire being to avert war. She did not take the initiative in any suggestion tending to put pressure on the United States or to encourage Spain to resist. Her influence was always directed in the power of the powers to maintain peace.

The exact value which should be placed on Great Britain's leaning toward the United States is a question which is declared by the fact that when war was declared Senor Guillon was furious, first against Germany, secondly against Russia and only thirdly against Great Britain. His resentment against Germany was due to the latter having encouraged Spain to resist and the having abandoned her at the last moment.

Russia Retains the Allegation.

ST. PETERSBURG, Jan. 22.—The correspondent of the Associated Press here has obtained the following statement from the Russian foreign office regarding the announcement made in the British House of Commons concerning negotiations between the powers before and after the outbreak of the Spanish-American war and the assertions made by a British foreign office official to a representative of the Associated Press on the same subject:

"Russia has always been and now is extremely desirous of maintaining amicable relations with the United States. Russia never had any intention of participating in any collective step in the Spanish-American dispute, which did not directly concern it. Nor did Russia receive any proposition to give light on the overtures indeed, we received no information regarding Austria's alleged initiative or about an attempt on the part of any of the powers to act in favor of Spain."

MUST TRUST TO THE BRIGANDS

Money Must Be Paid and Friends Must Wait for Release of the Captives.

CONSTANTINOPLE, Jan. 22.—It is understood that the American negotiators for the release of Miss Ellen M. Stone and her companion, Mrs. Telika, to whom the money subscribed for the captive missionaries was sent, may have to entrust the funds to the brigands for some days before the latter release the captives, in accordance with the precedent adopted in the case of former brigandages. The bandits are said to insist on this point, in order to enable them to dispose of the cash before relative measures can be organized. There is some risk in adopting this course, but the favor of Miss Stone's captors thus far encourages confidence that they will fulfill their engagements.

ALBAN'S BODY IS NOT FOUND

Remains of Colombian Leader Sunk with Vessel—Panama Stations Guilted.

PANAMA, Colombia, Jan. 22.—The railroad stations La Boca, which were weak positions during the last attack of the liberators of this district, by 600 men. These troops have thrown up entrenchments.

The survivors of the crew of the steamer Lautaro, sunk by the liberators during the naval engagement of Monday last, sail tomorrow for Valparaiso on the Chilean steamer Los Andes.

COLON, Colombia, Jan. 22.—Just prior to the attack by the gunboats of Colombia liberals upon the Colombian government steamers Lautaro and Chucuito in the harbor of Panama last Monday morning General Carlos Alban, the former military governor of this district, who was killed in the engagement, was standing on the deck of Lautaro trying to induce the chief engineer of that vessel to put to sea immediately. This latter declined to do so, on the ground that it would be imprudent with only himself, a blacksmith and three firemen in his department. While discussing this point the first shot from the revolutionary gunboat Badillo struck Lautaro. There were about 150 soldiers on board Lautaro, and immediately after the shot was fired from Padilla a stampede occurred among them.

General Alban, retaining his composure, made the captain of Lautaro take charge of the guns, which had been mounted on that vessel. He supervised everything himself until he was struck by the bullet that killed him. The body of General Alban has not yet been recovered.

Today all the flags in Panama and Colon are at half mast and many tributes continue to be paid to General Alban's memory. It is presumed that the liberals contemplate an early attack on Colon or Panama. The body of General Pinzon with reinforcements. The government is alive to the situation and confident it will be able once more to inflict defeat upon the insurgents. There are no foreign warships at Colon.

EXPECT ATTACK UPON COLON

State Department Receives Cablegram Saying Attack is Momentarily Expected.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 22.—The State department has received a cablegram from United States Consul Malmore at Colon stating that an imminent attack upon that place is momentarily expected.

The Navy department has no vessel on the gulf side of the isthmus, Marietta at San Juan being the nearest, but it is assumed that Captain Mead will supply any needed force from Philadelphia, sending them by rail from Panama to Colon.

EFFORT TO SUPPRESS BOUNTY

France and Great Britain Allied Against Kartels' Sugar Subsidy Policy.

LONDON, Jan. 22.—The correspondent of the Associated Press here was informed upon excellent authority tonight that the international sugar conference at Brussels is practically certain to end in a disagreement between the powers concerned therein, with the result that France will take active steps against the Austrian and German bounty system. The "Kartels" (cartels) of the sugar refiners in the latter countries formed the rock upon which delegates to the conference will split. The representative of the Associated Press also learned that M. Yves Guyot, former editor of Le Siecle and one of the best known agitators in France, who represents various French governmental and industrial interests, recently held an important secret conference with Sir Michael Hicks-Beach, chancellor of the British exchequer, with the result that France and Great Britain are practically committed to a commercial alliance in an endeavor to suppress sugar bounties.

Advices received from Brussels by sugar magnates here are to the effect that both Great Britain and France have demanded that Germany and Austria not only withdraw their bounties, but suppress the "Kartels," which are represented as being merely unofficial forms for providing subsidy for sugar producers. Germany and Austria have so far maintained their attitude which expresses intolerance at what they describe as an interference in internal affairs, and while they are willing to amend their sugar bounties, they utterly decline to discuss the "Kartels."

No "Kartels" exist in France and unless some modification of the existing conditions is arrived at France's sugar industry is likely to suffer equally with Great Britain's in spite of the French sugar bounty, which France has expressed her willingness to withdraw in the event of suppression of the Austrian and German "Kartels" and bounties.

The statements made by Mr. Havemeyer concerning the duty of the British government to Great Britain's colonies has created considerable comment here.

A prominent member of the West Indian sugar committee pointed out to the representative of the Associated Press tonight that in spite of the vigorous action by the United States treasury regarding Russian sugar that department of the American government had so far not taken cognizance of the German and Austrian "Kartels," which have proved an important factor in the Brussels conference and which both the French and British delegates to the conference have declared to be more vital than the bounties.

SCHWAB MEETS EMPEROR

American Steel King is Received by Imperial Head of Austria.

VIENNA, Jan. 22.—The mayor of Vienna presented Charles M. Schwab, president of the United States Steel corporation, to Emperor Francis Joseph at the citizens' ball tonight. The emperor and Mr. Schwab conversed at some length on commercial matters. The emperor expressed his regret at the early departure of Mr. Schwab from Vienna, as it would prevent his majesty from receiving him again.

Mr. Schwab leaves here for Berlin tomorrow and will then proceed to Paris and London.

COMPLETE THE SALE TREATY

Denmark Forwards Papers for Disposition of West Indies to Washington.

COPENHAGEN, Jan. 22.—It has been definitely decided that the treaty with the United States providing for the sale of the Danish West Indies is to be signed at Washington this week. All the formalities here are completed.

BEET SUGAR MEN HEARD

President Oxnard Opposes the Effort of Cuban to Abolish Duty.

H. G. LEAVITT ON NEBRASKA INDUSTRY

Ames Man Gives Local Emphasis to the Generalities of Mr. Oxnard's Other Western Matters in Washington.

(From a Staff Correspondent.) WASHINGTON, Jan. 22.—(Special Telegram.)—Two men well known to Nebraskaans, appeared before the house committee on ways and means today, Henry T. Oxnard, president of the American Beet Sugar association, and H. G. Leavitt, president of the factory at Ames, Neb. Mr. Oxnard reviewed the growth of the beet sugar industry in the United States and attacked the petition of Cuban planters and producers who are before congress asking for reduction of the present duty, that their products may come into this country free of duty.

In the course of Mr. Oxnard's extended address he was interrupted by Representative McClelland of New York, member of the committee, who asked this question: "Why do you not sell sugar manufactured at Norfolk at a less cost to the consumer. In view of the advantage of the beet sugar and the differential in freight rates, than sugar made in other localities?"

To this Mr. Oxnard replied: "Because we do not sell to the retail trade. There are no jobbers in Norfolk. The price at Norfolk is fixed by the wholesale grocers through whom we sell to the retail trade. The wholesaler fixes the price to the retailer and he in turn fixes the price to the consumer."

Styles Cuban Proposition Vicious.

He characterized the Cuban proposition as vicious and wanted to know why American sugar interests should be singled out for sacrifice. He also discussed the question of coolie labor in relation to Cuba, and made a showing that differed materially from that offered by the Cuban committee which is here seeking a reduction in the tariff in order to "restore their plantations and cane fields, which had been laid waste by the ravages of war."

Mr. Leavitt, in his talk to the committee, reviewed the beet sugar industry so far as the fertility of the soil and the interest the farmers were taking in the raising of sugar beets, and emphasized in a local way the generalities of Mr. Oxnard's remarks.

General Leavitt said tonight he was not expected to appear before the committee on ways and means in behalf of the beet sugar growers. "I am here," he said, "to listen to the argument and to file a brief in the case of the Northern Securities company before the supreme court Monday. I am here in the interests of the Burlington road. I am also here in the interests of an irrigation bill which will help our people."

To Argue Lincoln Land Case.

J. W. Dewese, of Lincoln, local attorney for the Burlington, is in Washington to argue the case of George F. Emblem against the Lincoln Land company before the supreme court. F. J. Mahoney and E. R. Duffie, who represent Emblem and body, is understood will not ask for an oral argument, but will submit the case on briefs. The case is one of land entry originating in the Denver land office.

A favorable report was submitted today on Senator Kittredge's bill extending the time for the completion of the bridge across the Missouri river at or near Osceola, S. D.

Colonel R. W. Stewart of Pierre and C. J. Conklin, adjutant general of the National guard, South Dakota, are in attendance upon the annual meeting of the Interstate National Guard association.

Charles E. McChesney, agent at Rosebud, S. D., is in Washington.

Chairman Lindsay of the state committee left for Nebraska yesterday.

Department Notes.

Miss Sophia Kuse of Lower Brule, S. D., was appointed landress at the Chamberlain, S. D., Indian school.

A postoffice is established at Altamont, Utah county, Wyo., with John A. Gordon as postmaster.

The postmaster at Fremont, Neb., is to be allowed two additional carriers on April 1.

Field service examinations are to be held in Omaha and Sioux City, Feb. 25 and 26 for assistant in soil survey, Agricultural department.

Eleanor G. Van Gilder of Wittenburg, Wis., is appointed coach in the Indian school at Rapid City, S. D.

MILITARY CLUB AT CAPITAL

Organization Compelling Ex-Veterans and Militiamen Proposed by Adjutant General.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 22.—The National Guard Association of the United States, whose convention here is being attended by the adjutant general of most of the states, today adopted a resolution approving the establishment of a national military club in this city, its membership to comprise those who served honorably in the army and navy in the civil and Spanish war, members of the militia and naval guards of the states and military and naval cadets, civil and military officers of the United States, states and territories and others.

The objects are to promote National Guard interests and provide a club rendezvous for those eligible.

The adjutant general called on President Roosevelt, Secretary Root and General Miles. Secretary Root improved the opportunity to express his hearty sympathy with the movement in which they are engaged. The secretary said the study and thought that it had been required to give to military affairs had led him to the conviction that it was of the greatest importance to this country that the National Guard should be maintained, promoted and perfected as a necessary school for citizen soldiery. The gulf between the National Guard and the regular army should be closed up entirely and there should be harmonious co-operation between the two organizations in bringing about a condition of affairs which would make the country always ready with an efficient volunteer force to act as an auxiliary to the regular army.

The following executive committee to serve during the ensuing year was announced in the convention today: Colonel E. E. Britton, New York, chairman; General George H. Harries, District of Columbia; General James Drain, Washington; General J. C. R. Foster, Florida; and General George F. Gardner, Colorado.

Colonel E. J. Dimmick of Chicago was named assistant secretary.

ALLEGED SHORTAGE ON BOOKS

Accounts of Old Official Said to Be Greatly out of Balance.

CINCINNATI, Jan. 22.—Sensational reports are published here today of an alleged shortage in the books of Theodore Braemer, who resigned last Sunday as secretary and treasurer of the J. & F. Schroth Packing company of this city.

The story as first published alleged a shortage of \$150,000, extending over a period of twenty years, and claimed that Mr. Braemer had turned over all of his property and chattels in trust, pending an examination of the books by experts. Braemer denied that there was any defalcation, but admitted that he had turned \$72,000 in personal property over to Harlan Cleveland, his attorney, and Joseph W. O'Hara, attorney for the J. & F. Schroth Packing company. While Braemer talked freely about the case, the Schroths refused to say anything and the attorneys were absent.

Braemer is 45 years old and has been with the Schroths twenty-seven years, most of the time receiving \$25 a week as book-keeper and in recent years twice that much as secretary and treasurer. The firm's business is \$1,000,000 a year, which was collected by Braemer.

When John Schroth died, over a year ago, Lieutenant Governor Nippert became the attorney of his heirs, and instituted an investigation of the company, which finally culminated in a meeting of all interested parties last Sunday, at which Braemer resigned, and from which the sensational reports of today emanated.

Interviews with Braemer and his attorney, Harlan Cleveland, and Joseph W. O'Hara, attorney for the Schroth Packing company, are to the general effect that published accounts of the alleged "discrepancy" will fall short of the sum in his accounts is denied, and it is claimed that Braemer, in carrying property to trustee and not to the Schroth estate pending a more definite arrangement of matters between Braemer, as secretary and treasurer of the Schroth concern, and the company.

Braemer said he had transferred to the trustee \$72,000 in Standard Oil and Cincinnati Gas and Electric stock. This, he said, would amply cover any errors which might be found on the books.

"I'll tell you the truth of the matter," said Braemer. "The old man and I have been fishing for about six months and I concluded to quit. Some errors had been discovered in the books and it was mutually agreed to have an expert go over them. In order to indemnify the company attorneys Cleveland and O'Hara were appointed trustees of my estate for a period of six months. If any shortage is found I will be to blame. My salary was \$50 a week and had been for the past year. I owned \$15,000 worth of stock in the company. In conclusion I wish to state that if there is any shortage I know nothing of it."

DEADLY FIGHT WITH PISTOLS

Three Men Are Killed and Four Others Wounded in Street Battle.

BELLEVILLE, Tex., Jan. 22.—Three men were killed, one fatally wounded and three others slightly wounded in a fight at the railroad station here at 6 o'clock this evening.

RAYMOND WHITE, constable at Wallis.

WILLIAM ODOM, his half brother.

HENRY DIPPERT, a bystander.

Fatally wounded: Walter Pennington, shot through the bowels, the bullet going entirely through the body.

Wounded: Henry Pennington, scalp wound.

Antone DipPERT, a bystander, flesh wound in the side.

John Havkvaht of Sealey, a bystander, bullet through foot.

The case of Walter Pennington, under indictment for the murder of J. C. Odom, a brother of William Odum, and a half brother of Raymond White, was called in the district court today and a large number of people came here from Wallis as witnesses, among them the relatives of J. C. Odom. There was no outbreak until the parties met at the depot, where a large crowd assembled to witness the trial.

Just how the affair started no one seems to know definitely, but it is generally claimed that the first hostile act was committed by the Odom faction. The first person wounded was Walter Pennington. The bullet entered his stomach and he passed entirely through him. He then opened fire and in an instant the shooting became general. The two DipPERTs were standing together and had no chance to get under cover. Henry was struck by a bullet and dropped dead where he stood.

The bullet which struck Odum, and which is believed will not prove dangerous. Havkvaht was shot while trying to get out of range.

When the shooting ceased it was found that White and Odum had been instantly killed. White dying with his pistol cocked and Odum with his hand on his forehead, was carried to the hotel, where he now lies in a dying condition. His father, Elihu Pennington, was struck only once, the ball passing through his hair under the scalp on the left side of his head.

CLEVELAND ON CUBAN TARIFF

Former President Says Arguments in Opposition to Concessions Are Fallacious.

YORK, Pa., Jan. 22.—A. B. Farquhar of this city, the head of the Farquhar Agricultural works and prominent in national democratic affairs, has received a letter from ex-President Cleveland in reply to one sent by Mr. Farquhar relative to the proposed tariff concessions with Cuba, in which Mr. Cleveland says:

I received your letter yesterday and was much impressed by the manner in which you presented your case. The arguments used in opposition to the tariff concessions are fallacious, mistaken and misleading, while their propagation and their acceptance do not believe that nations, any more than individuals, can safely violate the rules of honest and fair dealing.

Until there is no escape, therefore, I will not believe that, with all our fine words and lofty professions, our embassy of Cuba means the contagion of deadly disease.

UNITE AGAINST CUT RATES

Western Railroad and Packing House Presidents Form Compact.

PLEGGED TO INTERSTATE COMMERCE LAW

Commission Will Drop Projected Prosecutions in View of the Voluntary Alliance Entered Into to Obey Statutes.

CHICAGO, Jan. 22.—Presidents of western railroads and all the packing house interests west of Chicago to the Missouri river have joined hands with a view of assisting each other to obey the provisions of the interstate commerce law.

The alliance was completed at a meeting held here today at which were present high officials representing all of the interests involved, and it is expected that the action taken will result in an absolute maintenance of freight rates on packing house products and dressed beef from the Missouri river to the Atlantic seaboard.

The two conferences held between the packing house people and the railroad presidents followed an assurance received from the Interstate Commerce commission that action of this character would result in the commission ceasing its effort to punish the packers for violations of the law. As a condition precedent to dropping the threatened prosecution, the commission insisted that the secret rates that are being made on packing house products and dressed beef be published absolutely.

Publish Actual Rates.

The agreement provides that the rates that are actually being made shall be published; that the railroads shall upon no pretense grant lower than published rates; that the packing house representatives shall cease their effort to secure cut rates.

For the railroad presidents have agreed to issue orders forbidding tariff officials to grant a cut rate upon penalty of dismissal. For the packing house interests, it has been agreed that their traffic men shall cease "shoppi," the output of the packing houses or hauling them among railroads with a view to obtaining concessions.

The compact is of the strongest possible character, and if it is kept the days of cut rates upon the commodities which have caused the greatest demoralization in the trade world will be a thing of the past.

Parties to the Agreement.

The following packing houses signed the agreement: Armour & Co., Swift and Co., Nelson Morris & Co., the G. H. Hammond company, the Cudahy interests, Schwarzwald & Sons, English-American Provision company, Omaha Packing company and Ruddy Bros.

The roads party to the agreement are: Santa Fe, Rock Island, Burlington, St. Paul, Northwestern, Great Western, Alton, Illinois Central, Wabash, Missouri Pacific, Erie and Omaha & St. Louis.

It is understood that the Harriman and Hill people will not come to Chicago for Friday's investigation into the effects of the community of interests upon traffic.

Mr. Hill and Mr. Harriman have obtained legal advice that a semi-judicial body like the commission cannot compel testimony relative to a matter which is pending in the courts.

The legality of the organization of the Northern Securities company is at present before the United States supreme court. The commerce commission will reach Chicago tomorrow morning. What its program will be is a matter of conjecture.

OFFER TO COMPROMISE WILL

Tender of Large Sum Said to Be Made in the Patrick Case.

ST. LOUIS, Jan. 22.—John N. Milliken, wealthy chemist, mine owner and capitalist of this city, who is a brother-in-law of Albert T. Patrick, lawyer, who is now on trial in New York on the charge of murdering millionaire William Marsh Rice, today made a statement to the Associated Press in regard to the report that he had offered a bribe to have Patrick compromise the will of 1900. He said:

"A short time before the trial of Mr. Patrick began I was called to New York and offered \$50,000 by certain attorneys to let me compromise the will of 1900. We declined to accept any offer that would not exonerate Mr. Patrick of the charge of murder and stop the prosecution. A reply of such character was made to our refusal that led me to believe we could get \$250,000 if we could compromise. We again declined, as no one was in a position to deliver what we wanted, and the negotiations ended."

"It is not money we want," continued Mr. Milliken, "but vindication, and it is for this purpose that I am defraying the expenses of Mr. Patrick in the trial now in progress."

"When I was called to New York by my attorneys, Messrs. Cantwell and Moore, I found that all the heirs of the late Mr. Rice, or their representatives, with Captain James A. Barker of Houston, Tex., representing the so-called Rice institute, were assembled together for the purpose of dividing the estate of Mr. Rice. Their meeting resulted in the drawing up of a contract the terms of which gave \$75,000 to the brother and sister of their representative, and the balance to the Texas institute, but the lawyer, Mr. Norman Gibbs of Mount Vernon, Mo., who represented the Missouri heirs, compelled the other claimants to put a clause in the contract declaring it null and void. Mr. Patrick was cleared of the criminal charge against him. It was while this meeting for a division of the estate was pending that we were offered \$50,000, which offer I respectfully declined."

EXECUTION OF SCHEPERS

Commandant of Boer Army Killed by the British on Saturday.

NEW YORK, Jan. 22.—It has just been discovered that through a cable error an Associated Press dispatch announced that the death sentence upon Commandant Scheepers of the Boer army had been confirmed by General Kitchener and that he would be executed next Saturday. The fact was that he was executed on last Saturday, January 18.

Cleveland Goes Hunting.

PRINCETON, N. J., Jan. 22.—Ex-President Cleveland left Princeton today for the south, where he will remain several days, to hunt with E. C. Benedict and party.

He and shortly after arriving there will go to the home of Colonel Alexander, who has an island eighteen miles from the city. Mr. Cleveland appears to have regained his normal health. He was accompanied by Mrs. Philadelphia by Mrs. Cleveland.

CONDITION OF THE WEATHER

Forecast for Nebraska: Cloudy Thursday. Probable Snow in South portions; Friday, Fair; Northernly Winds.

Table with 4 columns: Temperature at Omaha Yesterday, Hour, Deg., Hour, Deg. Rows for 5 a.m., 8 a.m., 11 a.m., 2 p.m., 5 p.m., 8 p.m., 11 p.m.

WOULD ARGUE CASE AGAIN

John L. Webster Asks Supreme Court to Review Omaha National Bank Matter.

(From a Staff Correspondent.) LINCOLN, Jan. 22.—(Special Telegram.)—The supreme court has been asked to listen again to an argument in the case of the State against Omaha National Bank, which was submitted on argument in June last year. The plea was presented by John L. Webster and is in the form of an informal request. The court had the matter under advisement today, but gave no decision.

In asking for the concession Mr. Webster called attention to the change in the personnel of the court, taking the ground that it was reasonable and just that all members thereof be cognizant of the questions involved in the case before a final decision is given. The case was argued last year before Commissioners Duffie, Day and Kilpatrick.

At adjournment tonight the court gave opinions in thirty cases, but none is of general state interest.

CUTS OFF OFFICIAL HEADS

New Mayor of San Francisco Begins Crusade Against Officeholders.

SAN FRANCISCO, Jan. 22.—Since his inauguration on January 8 last Eugene Schmitz, the labor union mayor of this city, has wielded his official axe with such vigor as to create consternation in the various departments of the municipal government. Immediately after having assumed office the new mayor instituted a searching investigation into the conduct of the several officials, with the result that sweeping removals are said to be pending, and some have already been made.

On the 16th inst. County Clerk Mahony was suspended, but secured a writ of injunction, preventing the mayor from proceeding further in the matter temporarily.

This was done on an alleged violation of the purity of elections law. Then School Director J. B. Caserly was forced to resign, and today E. W. Williams, justice's clerk, was forcibly ejected from his office by the police, after having been suspended on the charge that he spent much of his official time at the race track instead of at his office.

The new mayor is thoroughly in earnest was shown today, when he deliberately disobeyed a temporary injunction secured by Williams from the superior court to restrain him from ousting him from office.

CUMMINS DEFENDS METCALFE

Says Filipino Prisoners Were Shot by Soldiers in Self-Defense.

KANSAS CITY, Jan. 22.—The Journal today quoted Lemuel J. Cummins, a former member of the Twenty-first Kansas regiment, as admitting that he and Maurice Cohen, deceased, shot and killed two Filipino prisoners at the battle of Calocoon and exonerated General Wilder S. Metcalfe from all blame.

Cummins is quoted as saying that Metcalfe had ordered him and Cohen to take the prisoners to the rear. "Cohen and I started with them to the rear," says Cummins. "The prisoners resisted, and in the mixup that followed they were killed. Metcalfe was a short distance away, but I don't think he saw the shooting. We killed the Filipinos in self-defense."

HAS NO DESIRE TO LEAVE

President of University of California Says There is Nothing in Reports of Change.

BERKELEY, Cal., Jan. 22.—President Benjamin Ide Wheeler of the University of California said