

REJECTS PEACE PLAN

England Declines Netherlands' Offer to Intervene with Boers.

WILL NOT ACCEPT OUTSIDE OFFICES

King is Ready to Receive Only Direct Peace Proposals.

OPENS WAY FOR ACTION BY BOERS

Says There is No Reason Why They Not Proceed.

LANDSDOWNE SUBMITS THE ULTIMATUM

Says His Majesty Has Thoroughly Considered Netherlands' Proposition and Indicates No Hope of Change in Decision.

LONDON, Feb. 4.—The British government replied to Dr. Kuyper, the Dutch premier, that if the Boers in the Transvaal are to be regarded as a belligerent power, they must be treated as such.

The text of the reply of Lord Lansdowne, the British foreign secretary, to the communication of The Netherlands, is as follows:

THE FOREIGN OFFICE, Jan. 29.—Sir: You were good enough to lay before me on January 25 a communication from The Netherlands government in which it was proposed that, with the object of bringing to an end the hostilities between the Netherlands and the Boers, your Majesty's government should grant a safe conduct to the Boer delegates to the Netherlands for the purpose of enabling them to confer with the Boer leaders in South Africa.

It is suggested that a conference of the delegates might return to Europe with power to conclude a treaty of peace with this country. The Netherlands government intimates that in this event they would be prepared to accept the responsibility of enabling them to return to their homes in South Africa.

His Majesty's government has given it its best consideration and is entirely appreciative of the motives of humanity which led The Netherlands government to make this proposal. It is, however, unable to accept the proposal, and is unable to place the Boer plenipotentiaries in relation with plenipotentiaries who might be appointed by the Netherlands government.

Netherlands Assume Responsibility. The Netherlands government intimates that if this project commends itself to his Majesty's government, they will be prepared to make the suggested visit to South Africa. It may, therefore, be inferred that the communication received was made on the responsibility of The Netherlands government and not on that of the Boer delegates.

Delegates Influence Questioned. I may, therefore, point out that it is not a precedent which the Netherlands government has set, but that the Netherlands government is to be held responsible for the consequences of its action. It is, therefore, not a precedent which the Netherlands government has set, but that the Netherlands government is to be held responsible for the consequences of its action.

Must Take Place in South Africa. In these circumstances his Majesty's government has decided that if the Boer delegates should desire to visit South Africa, they must do so on their own responsibility, and that the Netherlands government should not be held responsible for their actions.

It should, moreover, be borne in mind that if the Boer delegates should visit South Africa, they would be in a position to receive the results of their work, and a period of at least three months would be required for their return to Europe, and that the Boer delegates would be in a position to receive the results of their work, and a period of at least three months would be required for their return to Europe.

LANSDOWNE. The text of the communication of the Dutch minister to Lord Lansdowne is:

Dutch Minister's Letter. In the opinion of the government of her Majesty the Queen, the Netherlands government is in a position to receive the results of their work, and a period of at least three months would be required for their return to Europe.

QUEENSTOWN, Ireland, Feb. 4.—The steamer Utiook, which sailed from Boston on January 23 for Liverpool, and which arrived here today, reports having encountered terrific weather on January 26 and 27. During these two days a gale of wind and high seas prevailed, and the vessel was only able to steam 100 miles a day.

VALUABLE FLYER DESTROYED. Airship Constructed After Twenty Years of Labor is a Total Loss.

NEW YORK, Feb. 4.—Fire at Deanehead, Hampshire, has destroyed Buchanan's airship, which was built to rival the airship of M. Santos-Dumont, according to a dispatch from London to the Journal. The fire broke out in the shed in which Buchanan's flyer was housed. Tramps, charged with starting the blaze, have been arrested. This loss will be a serious setback for Thomas Buchanan, the English inventor, who recently completed the burned airship, after devoting twenty years of thought and labor to its construction.

ESTIMATE OF LOSS FALLS. Believed that a Million and Half Will Cover Waterbury's Damages.

WATERBURY, Conn., Feb. 4.—Business firms which suffered from the fire of Sunday night and Monday morning are bending all their energies toward securing temporary quarters, in order to resume manufacture and trade.

ADJOURNS THE PATRICK TRIAL. Illness of a Juror Compels Court to Take a Rest for One Day.

NEW YORK, Feb. 4.—The trial of Albert T. Patrick, accused of the murder of William Marsh Rice, was not continued today owing to the absence of J. D. Campbell, a juror, who is ill.

FUNSTON RESTS QUIETLY. General's Condition Improves and Wound Has Begun to Heal.

KANSAS CITY, Feb. 4.—At the hospital, where General Frederick Funston underwent an operation yesterday, it was stated today that he had rested well last night and had made satisfactory progress.

MUST ADMIT THE FRENCHMAN

Venezuela Must Permit M. Secretariat, Jr., to Land or France Will Not Sign Protocol.

TEN FIREMEN ARE KILLED

Harried from Ladders and Buried Under Ruins of Building.

OTHERS ARE SERIOUSLY HURT AT THE FIRE

Structure Collapses Suddenly and Chief of Department Narrowly Escape Fate of His Men.

MANY SCALDED IN WRECK

Harbor Tow Boat's Boilers Explode and Death List Will Probably Be Heavy.

PITTSBURG, Feb. 5.—About 1:30 this morning, just as the Pittsburgh harbor tugboat J. W. Allen had passed through lock No. 2, its boilers exploded, throwing the crew of fourteen in all directions. Three of the crew are known to be fatally hurt and only five others have been accounted for.

Fatally injured: Joseph Rankin, deck hand. "Brownie," watchman.

Mrs. Maria Walker, colored cook. All are horribly scalded and burned. The other members of the crew are: Captain William Shaw, Pittsburgh; Brooks Nail, engineer, Beverly, Ohio; Floyd Stille, engineer, Allegheny, Pa.; John Baker, pilot, Hazelwood, Pa.; Edward Mitchell, mate, Merchantville, Pa.

David McBride, deck hand, Middleport, O.; Weaver Wolfe, deck hand, Middleport, O.; Reuben Wais, cabin boy, Middleport, O.; William Campbell, fireman; Joseph Williams, Allegheny.

The boat was towing six loaded flats toward Pittsburgh and just after getting out of the lock the explosion happened and in a short time Allen was burned to the water's edge. The report of the explosion was heard for miles and soon after rescuing parties were searching for the injured.

Captain Shaw says he was sleeping in his bunk when the explosion happened and he knew of any danger when he found himself floundering around in the water, fully 200 feet away from the burning boat, with his blanket still around him. He is not seriously hurt, but thinks that many of his crew must have perished.

Several are practically a new boat and valued at \$25,000.

SCHELEY'S OVATIONS CONTINUE

He is Received with Great Demonstrations in East Tennessee.

NASHVILLE, Tenn., Feb. 4.—Admiral and Mrs. Schley left Nashville this morning for Chattanooga in the private car of President Thomas of the Nashville, Chattanooga & St. Louis railroad. Mr. Thomas accompanied them.

CHATTANOOGA, Tenn., Feb. 4.—No formal reception or entertainment was accorded Admiral Schley upon his arrival here this afternoon. A committee of prominent citizens from Chattanooga met the admiral at Whiteside, Tenn., and came with him to the city.

Several stops were made along the line, when the admiral was greeted by crowds of eager spectators.

A great crowd gathered at the station in this city to see the admiral and hundreds formed in line to shake his hand when he reached the depot, where an informal reception was held.

After a short rest the party took carriages and, escorted by the Chattanooga cavalry troop, drove to Fort Cameron and other points of interest.

The party returned to the Union station at 4 o'clock and, at 4:30 P. M., the admiral and party left for Knoxville, accompanied by a committee from that city.

KNOXVILLE, Tenn., Feb. 4.—The trip of Admiral and Mrs. Schley through east Tennessee from Chattanooga to Knoxville this afternoon was one they can never forget. At all points Admiral and Mrs. Schley were called to the rear platform where the admiral shook hands with the people while Mrs. Schley was virtually buried in floral offerings from the school children.

Admiral Schley's entrance into Knoxville at 8 P. M. was made amid a perfect din of steam whistles and bells. Packed around that Union station were fully 5,000 people who cheered again and again as the train arrived.

NEGROES BURN SCHOOLHOUSE

Retaliate for Order Compelling Them to Attend Exclusively Colored Institution.

TOPEKA, Kan., Feb. 4.—Some of the negroes of the city are making trouble over a school which has been ordered to receive colored children, and have burned the schoolhouse.

The matter probably will be settled in the courts.

NAME COMMISSIONER TO ITALY

St. Louis World's Fair Company Appoints Chevalier Victor Zeglio of Florence.

ST. LOUIS, Feb. 4.—Chevalier Victor Zeglio of Florence was today appointed by the Louisiana Purchase Exposition company world's fair commissioner to Italy. He will immediately proceed to that country and begin his duties.

ST. LOUIS, Feb. 4.—A premature explosion of nitro-glycerine carelessly handled by an operative in the Carberry Manufacturing company plant at Ardwick, Md., nine miles from this city, early today killed Richard J. Martin, the superintendent, and slightly injured two workmen.

The building was slightly damaged, but slight tons of nitro-glycerine, which had been stored close to the scene of the accident were not disturbed.

CONDITION OF THE WEATHER

Forecast for Nebraska—Snow Wednesday, Rain Thursday, Clear Friday.

MORE FOR NEBRASKA

This is Demand of Shallenberger in Irrigation Measure.

SAYS STATE SUFFERS FROM COMPROMISE

Urges Amendment in Response to Pleas of Constituents.

RICHARDS PUSHES FREMONT MATTER

Thurston Entertains District and Irrigation is Discussed.

ROBERTSON URGES NORFOLK BUILDING

Fort Robinson in Nebraska and Fort Meade in South Dakota in Danger of Being Abandoned—Westerners on Cuban Sugar.

(From a Staff Correspondent.) WASHINGTON, Feb. 4.—(Special Telegram.)—Representative Shallenberger of the Fifth Nebraska district is receiving many letters from his section in relation to the pending irrigation bill. These letters are by no means in sympathy with the measure. The author of the bill largely ignores the proposition that they are afraid the question of state rights, so far as the control of water is concerned, plays too prominent a part in the bill, and they are, therefore, urging him to vote against it.

Mr. Shallenberger, however, has prepared a letter setting forth his view of the merits of the measure, which was reported from a subcommittee of seventeen and which he characterizes as so much of a compromise measure that every good feature has been compromised out of it.

He says in this letter that the bill as it stands would give little benefit to the state of Nebraska or any other of the plains and prairie states. He contends that Nebraska is particularly open to assault under the bill because of the fact that it lies upon a lower level of the continental divide than Colorado or Wyoming, and he urges that not only the overflow, but the underflow, of water along the bedrock of the streams in Nebraska would be wholly dissipated if the bill should pass in its present form.

He says the bill as amended so as to give more direct benefit to Nebraska, as it will pay into the fund five times as much as some of the inter-mountain states that are most provided for under the act. The International Irrigation society, of which Thomas W. Washburn is president, takes a similar stand to that of Congressman Shallenberger, and it is expected, will develop the most active opposition to the bill.

FRONTIER POSTOFFICE FIGHT

L. D. Richards of Fremont, who ostensibly is in Washington in connection with a lock which he desires adopted by the Postoffice department for personal mail boxes in postoffices, has committed a blunder in running over to New York to interview Senator Millard upon the Fremont postoffice matter. Senator Millard and Mr. Richards returned together from that city this evening. Neither had anything to say in relation to the Fremont office, but he did remark that Mr. Richards is still pushing Swanson for the postmaster, while H. E. Schneider is still an enthusiast in favor of Ross Hammond. Richards is using all his influence to land his man. Senator Millard wishes to compromise himself except on one proposition, that the men meet together.

Senator Thurston tonight gave a dinner in honor of Senator Ditch, the following guests being present: Senators Dillingham, Hansbrough, Fletcher, Foster of Washington and Gamble; Representatives Curtis of Kansas, Joy and Mercer; Judge Anderson of the district bench; Judge Vandewater of the interior department, Captain Lemly of the navy and Colonel Michael of the State department. Irrigation was the subject of almost all the conversation.

NORFOLK PUBLIC BUILDING

W. M. Robertson, one of the prominent lawyers of Norfolk, arrived in Washington today in the interest of the Norfolk public building bill. Representative Robinson, who represents his district, will in all probability secure a hearing for Mr. Robertson before the committee on public buildings and grounds Thursday.

The belief is growing that the army committee now in session in this city to decide as to the advisability of abandoning some military posts will recommend in favor of the abandonment of Fort Robinson, Nebraska, and Fort Meade, in South Dakota.

General Brooks, when seen in regard to the matter, while noncommittal, said the committee believed in the concentration of troops at large centers, using only local posts for the protection of the immediate neighborhood.

NEBRASKA AND IOWA OPPOSE CUBA

Cuban reciprocity will get a setback if the vote depends upon Iowa, Nebraska and South Dakota. While some of the members of the delegation from Nebraska are in favor of reciprocal relations with Cuba, they want sugar at present rates.

The Iowa delegation in a large degree is against doing anything for Cuba, Thomas, Smith and Hepburn being emphatic in their opposition to any concessions, while Representative Rumples is in favor of fair recognition of Cuba, but is against sugar coming in except at the present rates. Speaker Henderson, while not against reciprocity, believes that the industries of the United States should be protected, and he will undoubtedly do everything possible to secure that kind of legislation.

Senator Ditch today made the following recommendations for postmasters: Hebron, Thayer county, O. A. Ashbrook; reappointment; Daykin, Jefferson county, S. K. Baters, vice Mr. Flamm, resigned; Union, Franklin county, H. C. Rogers, reappointment; Carleton, Thayer county, W. R. Hall, reappointment.

LEASING OF PUBLIC LANDS

A subcommittee of senate committee on public lands, consisting of Senators Ditch, Gamble and Gibson, to whom has been referred Senator Millard's bill authorizing the leasing of public lands for grazing, will give a hearing in a few days to F. C. Lusk, president of the American Cattle Growers' association, and John P. Irish, representing the same organization. The bill proposes setting aside the funds received from such lease for the purpose of providing irrigation plants in the semi-arid states.

Alexander Gileley, former postmaster at Cedar Rapids, Ia., now inspector of rural free delivery routes, is in Washington on business before the department.

DEPARTMENT NOTES

Thomas W. Evans of Burlington, Ia., was today appointed railway mail clerk. D. Van A. Brown and Arthur J. Jackson were

OMAHA FIRE AND POLICE BOARD INVOLVED

Application of Redell's Attorneys Allowed by the Judges and Order Made Returnable in Two Weeks.

SUPREME COURT ISSUES ALTERNATIVE WRIT OF MANDAMUS AGAINST GOVERNOR

Supreme Court Issues Alternative Writ of Mandamus Against Governor.

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GAS WORKS BLOWN TO PIECES

Plant is Destroyed by Explosion and Several Men Are Injured.

BOYS HURT WHILE COASTING

Run into Street Car and Sustain Probably Fatal Injuries.

PROBIA, Ill., Feb. 4.—Six boys coasting down the Hamilton boulevard hit tonight a street car and four of them are now in a hospital. Two of them are probably fatally injured. A policeman was on guard at the crossing, but in the darkness he failed to see the coasters in time to warn them or to stop the car.

Richard Day, skull crushed and hurt internally. Wallace Markley, fatally hurt internally. Earl Langston, injured internally. Roscoe Kyle, right leg broken.

COMES BACK TO FACE CHARGES

Fugitive Gives Himself Up After Twelve Years of Successful Evasion.

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Bingham will appear for trial in the criminal court next Monday. It is not likely that anyone will appear to press the charge against him, but he has already played a disposition to plead guilty, and his friends are worried, as the minimum punishment is five years in the penitentiary.

OPERATORS REJECT SCALE

Say Miners Are Unfair and Their Proposition for Increases Ridiculous.

INDIANAPOLIS, Feb. 4.—The mine operators and miners in the secret session of their joint scale committee today disagreed on every one of the seven propositions submitted by the miners, and the whole matter was referred for discussion to the open joint conference held this afternoon.

There the operators voted unanimously against the scale proposition offered by the miners and the whole matter was finally referred back to the joint commission.

In support of his motion to adopt the scale, the miners said that the mine had come to their employers this year with an honest petition for honest compensation. For two years, he said, there had been no advance in wages, while there had been very positive advances in the market prices of coal, as well as the price of the mine.

This year, Mr. Mitchell said, had simply been met by the operators with a straight denial of the scale as a whole, without a discussion of the important questions involved.

Frank L. Robbins, who has been assigned the duty of representing the coal operators in debate, said the operators throughout the country wanted to be fair.

"In 1901," he said, "the operators made a scale based on whatever the price of coal might be during that year in the market. The operators had advanced the wages of the miner were to advance correspondingly. If it decreased then the price for digging the coal was to be lowered in proportion. That was a fair proposition. The one you have presented to us this year is ridiculous and unfair."

NATIVES ELECTED TO OFFICE

Philippine Succeeded in Most Cases, Over Their American Opponents.

MANILA, Feb. 4.—The returns so far received indicate the election, in most cases, of natives as governors of provinces. Captain Harry Bandholz of the Second Infantry defeated Major Cornelius Gardner of the Thirtieth Infantry, the present governor of Taraba province. The militia men claim that accepting elective office will necessitate resignation from the army.

At Batanga (capital of Bataan) there are only eighty-four voters, but eighty-nine were cast, and another election has been ordered.

A meeting held at the invitation of Acting Governor Wright of business men interested in tobacco and sugar to discuss the legislation desired by both industries urged a reduction of 75 per cent in the duties. Businessmen said it would mean the instant pacification of Batanga, which is wholly devoted to sugar growing.

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The wound has begun to heal and there is apparently every prospect of the general's prompt recovery.

TEMPERATURE AT OMAHA YESTERDAY

Table with 4 columns: Hour, Deg., Hour, Deg. Rows show temperatures for 8 A.M., 9 A.M., 10 A.M., 11 A.M., 12 M., 1 P.M., 2 P.M., 3 P.M., 4 P.M., 5 P.M., 6 P.M., 7 P.M., 8 P.M., 9 P.M., 10 P.M., 11 P.M., 12 M.

GAS WORKS BLOWN TO PIECES

Plant is Destroyed by Explosion and Several Men Are Injured.

ODDEN, Utah, Feb. 4.—A fire, followed by a terrific explosion, occurred today at the Rio Grande Western railroad Pitsch gas works caused these casualties:

Assistant Chief Alonzo Rogers, severely injured. Zeb Lowe, fireman, badly burned. George Lockhead, employe at gas works, slightly injured.

Two railroad men, employes at gas works, were hurt but not taken to the hospital. There were but ten tanks of gas in the house at the time, but the explosion was felt all over the city, causing great excitement.

Assistant Chief Rogers, accompanied by Fireman Lowe, had just entered the building when the explosion occurred, raising the upper portion of the boiler tank through the roof and throwing it a distance of 200 feet. All telegraph wires in the vicinity were torn down for a distance of 500 feet. The origin of the fire is unknown.

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