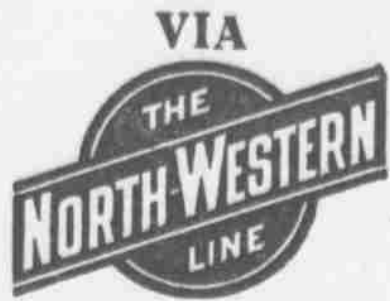


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### TAFT ON NEGRO TROOPS

Secretary of War Answers Resolutions of Inquiry Made by Senate.

### COMPLAINANTS' ALLEGATION GROTESQUE

Right of President to Discharge Troops Without Honor is Maintained in Report of the Secretary.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 19.—In reporting to the president on the several senate resolutions of inquiry on the Brownsville affair Secretary Taft enters into an exhaustive discussion of the law and the evidence in the case. He quotes the authority for the president's action, and with regard to the new evidence presented says he has examined it with care and that he does not find anything contained in it which should lead to a different conclusion of fact from that already stated in his annual report. "The affidavits," says he, "contain in substance the same denials of complicity or knowledge by the enlisted men that were made to the inspecting officers, together with evidence intended to show that there was an opportunity for persons not in the battalion to disguise themselves in the cast-off uniforms of the enlisted men and to secure empty cartridge shells and throw them on the streets of the town."

The suggestion, he declares, is so grotesque in its improbability and absurdity as hardly to call for discussion or comment. After stating that it is not the practice of the inspector general, in making investigations into question of fact, to set out all the evidence in sworn affidavits or depositions, Secretary Taft quotes from the fourth article of war, which he states contains the statutory declaration in respect to the discharge of soldiers.

The regulations adopted by the president

in carrying out this statutory provision, as well as excerpts from various decisions of the judge advocate general of the army bearing on discharges without honor, also are quoted, the secretary adding: From the citations above given it follows that one enlisting in the army is advised first, that the president has the right to will terminate the contract of enlistment, second, that when the contract of enlistment is terminated on the discharge service which has been rendered has not been such as to warrant reinstatement and therefore is not to be regarded as honest and faithful, permitting reinstatement under the statute.

In answer to the contention which the secretary says has been put forth that the president had no power to make the order of discharge, because if he has he may disband the army, it is argued that there is a clear distinction between disbanding a company, a battalion or a regiment and the discharge of certain of its members. In the case of the men of the Twenty-fifth Infantry the secretary said the order named the persons who were discharged and did not embrace all members of three companies, and that immediately upon the discharge of the men an order was issued filling up the three companies by transfer from the other companies of the regiment "so that the services of the companies are continued in the army."

Secretary Taft instances a case where some men in the Fourth cavalry "resorted to parson and violence by the killing of one of their number, lynched the person charged with the crime." In that case he says the judge advocate maintained that there was no evidence to fix the responsibility for the act and that the secretary of war, strictly speaking, had no authority to disband the companies involved as such. He held further that "he may indeed discharge all the men of such companies, enlisting others in their stead, but this would be treating innocent and guilty alike and the discharge would be, in law, honorable and in the case of the guilty would be a premium upon crime."

It is stated, since the decision referred to, the practice has been put in force by

regulation of leaving discharges without honor in which there can be no re-enlistment without executive permission.

In concluding, however, Secretary Taft declares that "there is nothing in the procedure which, in the slightest degree, affects the legality of the present order, for the principle upon which the decision rests recognizes fully the complete power of the president to discharge every member of any organization."

Foraker Offers Resolution. The question whether the senate should make an independent investigation of the Brownsville raid was raised in the senate by Senator Foraker today immediately after the reading of the president's message. He offered a resolution authorizing the committee on military affairs to make such investigation if deemed necessary after consideration of the testimony transmitted by the president. Mr. Foraker's motion was interpreted by Senator Lodge as a peremptory direction to the committee on military affairs to proceed immediately with an investigation. To this the Massachusetts senator made objection, but disclaiming such purpose, Senator Foraker reduced the proposition to writing, as follows: "Resolved, That if the committee on military affairs deems it necessary in connection with the consideration of the message of the president in regard to the resolutions numbers 136 and 137 to take further testimony to establish all the facts of Companies B, C and D, Twenty-fifth Infantry, that it be and hereby is authorized to send for persons and papers, to administer oaths and report thereon by bill or otherwise."

"To that resolution I have no objection at all," remarked Senator Lodge. Referring to the documents submitted by the president, Mr. Foraker remarked: "These are statements here under oath, many of them not under oath, all referred to as 'testimony.' In the proper sense of the word this is not testimony at all."

Upon objection by Mr. Clay the resolution went over until tomorrow. The pension calendar was cleared by the passage of more than 200 private pension bills.

At the suggestion of Senator Lodge, President Roosevelt's Panama message will be reprinted for the senate in "normal spelling."

BRACELETS—Frenser, 13th and Dodge.

All kinds of French Liqueurs and Cordons at Courtney's.

HYMENEAL. Ellenborough-Schenley. LONDON, Dec. 19.—The newest American princess is Hermione, daughter of the late E. W. H. Schenley of Pittsburg, Pa., who was married in London this afternoon to Lord Ellenborough, a retired commodore of the royal navy. The bride wore a robe of white velvet draped with old lace and a white velvet toque. The bridegroom, who had long been regarded as a confirmed bachelor, participated in naval operations in the Baltic so long ago as the Russian war of 1855.

Haight-Bachelor. BEAVER CITY, Neb., Dec. 19.—(Special Telegram.)—The marriage of C. S. Haight and Miss Annie Bachelor was celebrated this evening at the home of the bride's mother, Mrs. M. A. Bachelor. The groom is chief dispatcher of the Northwestern, at Kaukauna, Wis., and the bride is one of Farnum county's most popular young women. They leave tonight for their Wisconsin home.

### STANDARD TAKES IN DUMMY

Republic Oil Company as Alleged Complotter Loses Its Usefulness.

### NEW JERSEY CONCERN TAKES BUSINESS

President of Company Testifies That Action is Result of Disclosure of Missouri Hearing.

NEW YORK, Dec. 19.—Testifying today in the suit brought by the state of Missouri against the Standard Oil company, the Waters-Pierce Oil company and the Republic Oil company to stop them from doing business in Missouri, C. L. Nichols, president of the Republic Oil company, declared that as a result of the disclosures made in the proceedings, the usefulness of the Republic Oil company as a supposed competitor of the Standard Oil had ended. The entire business of the company outside of Missouri would also have been turned over, he added, had it not been for injunctions which prevented such action.

Three witnesses were examined today at the continuation of the hearing which was begun yesterday. Besides Mr. Nichols, Walter C. Teagle of the export department of the Standard Oil company, who was on the stand yesterday, and William B. Meyer of Baltimore, formerly manager at St. Louis of the Republic Oil company, gave testimony. The hearing was adjourned until tomorrow.

Walter-Teagle Cross-Examined. Cross-examination of Walter Teagle of the export department of the Standard Oil company, which was begun yesterday at the hearing in the suit instituted by the state of Missouri against the Standard Oil company, the Waters-Pierce Oil company and the Republic Oil company, was resumed today.

When the hearing was adjourned yesterday Mr. Teagle was telling of the organization of the Republic Oil company, which, it is claimed by the state, is a Standard Oil concern. Today he was asked what the price paid for the Schofield-Schurmer & Teagle company's property, which went, it is claimed, toward forming the Republic Oil company. He replied that he did not know what price was paid nor did he know that there was any contract for the sale. He was one of the stockholders in the Republic Oil company, but he did not pay for the stock—he merely held it.

An attempt by Attorney General Hadley of Missouri, the cross-examiner, to learn the exact position Teagle held with the Republic Oil company was many questions. The witness replied to many questions in this connection that he could not remember. Nor could he remember what salary he received from the Republic Oil company further than that he thought it a fairly good salary. He went into the export department of the Standard Oil company because by so doing he got a better position. The position was offered him by J. A. Moffatt of the Standard Oil company, but whether he was employed by the Standard Oil company of New York or the Standard

Oil company of New Jersey he was unable to say. Mr. Hadley read to the witness several letters which Teagle had written to the company's agents after he took the general management of the company in which he told his agents to be sure to represent that the Republic Oil company was an independent concern, inasmuch as the independent companies were claiming that the Republic company was not an independent concern. Circular letters were sent to the same similar in tenor. Teagle declared that during his tenure of office in the Republic office he had never held communication with the Waters-Pierce company. Teagle was followed on the witness stand by C. L. Nichols, president of the Republic Oil company.

### SPORTS OF A DAY.

### JEFFRIES MAY FIGHT AGAIN

### Pugilist Willing to Meet Tommy Burns for Purse of \$50,000.

NEW YORK, Dec. 19.—In a signed statement published tonight, "Tex" Rickard, who managed the fight at Goldfield between Gans and Nelson, says he has offered Jeffries \$50,000 to meet Jack Johnson, the heavyweight, at Goldfield. Rickard says he has assurance from Jeffries that he will enter the ring again for a purse of \$50,000.

### MURPHY PLANS GREAT PLANT

President Murphy of the Chicago National League has announced that he intends to spend forty thousand dollars on a new ballpark.

San Francisco will have a base ball park, with a modern grand stand and a team of real players in 1907. The announcement was made last week by Jack Gleason at a conference with J. Cal Irvine, who is heavily interested in the ball park. Irvine says that we will have a conference with J. Cal Irvine, who is heavily interested in the ball park. Irvine says that we will have a conference with J. Cal Irvine, who is heavily interested in the ball park.

If the rumor of Hans Wagner leaving Pittsburg turns out to be true it will be a sad day for the Pirates. Barney Dreyfus was asked recently if there was any truth in the story of his intention to sell the club. He replied that he had no intention to think I intend to go out of the base ball business in Pittsburg. In base ball, as in other business, there are some things that even a manager can't with impunity, do. Hans Wagner draws the crowds to the Pittsburg park. Still the rumor says Wagner himself says he won't play there again if Fred Clarke is left in control and Clarke is in control. But other men have changed their minds and, besides, maybe they didn't say it. But please, gentle reader, and reflect—suppose the Chicago Nationals do get Wagner! Would he count?

Charles Irwin, the old Red Red-racker, has struck it rich, according to Jake Beckley. Irwin was for years third for the Reds, and was succeeded by Harry Steinbreck. According to Jake, Charles invested some of his savings in a gold mine out west some years ago, and as time went on the mine grew richer and richer. Irwin is said to have paid off his mortgage, and to have been playing in the Pacific Coast League for two or three seasons—Cleveland Press.

As a sign of the times it is to be noted that no less than three Americans are in public print, with letters, detailing their experience on wheels around the world, while the English looks from the top of a bicycle. However, that last writer is noncommittal, and may decide to girdle the globe before returning. A fourth rider, Karl Kron, not satisfied with having gone around the world, and with 2,000 miles of riding already to his credit, he was pedaling through Pennsylvania last week, attracting the usual amount of attention with his high wheel and white costume.

The Postoffice department has made an important precedent by granting permission to two Indiana rural carriers to utilize

motor cycles in their work. It is claimed, and has been demonstrated in some parts of the country, that with motorcycles the deliveries can be made in half a day, even out to a horse and cart. Automobiles of a similar type are already in use in some sections, but it is claimed that Indiana will see the first motor cycles on rural routes. It is planned to make two deliveries daily, where only one is made now.

Two youngsters who are putting in strenuous ticks this week are Kids Campbell and Sherman, who are to box for six rounds at Osthoff's hall on North Sixteenth street Friday evening. No fight this winter had awakened the interest as was being shown in the Jensen-Campbell bout, but when Jensen broke his arm a couple of weeks ago a substitute had to be provided and the managers of the North Omaha Athletic club were fortunate in securing Kid Sherman of Winnipeg as a substitute. Sherman has been making a hit with the wise ones since his arrival in Omaha, and the advance sale of seats indicates a large attendance.

### ATHLETIC UNION ELECTION

IOWA CITY, Ia., Dec. 19.—(Special Telegram.)—Eight men participated in the annual election of the Athletic union and four were elected to offices for the ensuing year as follows: President, Irving Hastings of Spencer; vice president, A. M. Hazard of Iowa City; secretary, Robt. Miller of Sioux City; treasurer, P. W. Smith of Waterloo. A committee was appointed to revise the constitution to popularize the union.

### MAGOFFIN TO CAPTAIN MICHIGAN

ANN ARBOR, Mich., Dec. 19.—Paul Parker Magoffin of Washington, D. C., who has been playing football, was tonight elected captain of the University of Michigan foot ball team of 1907.

not agree, Jeffries was offered \$1,000 and expenses to referee, and accepted.

### WITH THE BOWLERS.

On the Metropolitan alleys last night the old reliable Palatka, as usual, took all three games from the O'Brien Monte Cristos. Every man on the Palatka team had on his bowling clothes, and they certainly did the name of Palatka proud. La Vigne got a poor start, but he certainly did come back strong in the next three games. He was high on totals, with 517, also high on single, with 236. Davy of the Monte Cristos tried hard to pull his team to victory, but it was a useless task. Tonight the Colts against the El Caudillos. Score:

MONTE CRISTOS.			
	1st.	2d.	Tot.
Clark	181	182	363
Fagerberg	185	183	368
Doll	117	146	263
O'Brien	131	144	275
Parnele	128	149	277
Totals	643	714	1,357

### FALSTAFFS.

	1st.	2d.	Tot.
Jay	161	148	309
Klanck	179	182	361
Hunter	134	168	302
Berger	119	171	290
La Vigne	130	201	331
Totals	623	870	1,493

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Ten million feet of lumber, all sizes. Twelve million feet of pipe, all sizes. 100 toilets. 100 lavatories. Electric motors. Wire. Lamps. Fans. Blowers. Exhaust Fans. Radiators. Heating Plant. Boilers. Rubberoid. Tiling. Slate. Steel Roofing. Plate Glass. Window Frames. Doors, Etc. Also 5,000 common chairs. 5,000 dining room chairs. 1,000 dining tables. 400 leather seated chairs. 100 solid oak fancy tables. Also lot of white pine.

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