

TRUBLE BREWS  
AMONG CUBANS

Disposition of Officers Splits Parties,  
Zayas Faction Claiming it is  
Not Recognized.

FUSION NO LONGER IN EFFECT

Vacancy in State Department Leads  
to Lively Scramble.

TRUCE PATCHED UP IS NO MORE

Gomez Starts Trouble by Declaring  
Against Factional Lines.

NEGRO QUESTION ALSO POSER

Havana Recently Meets for Colored  
Leaders Who Claim They Are  
Not Receiving Share  
of Spoils.

HAVANA, Nov. 28.—Not since the down-  
fall of the administration of President  
Palma has the political atmosphere of  
Cuba been more obscure and more laden  
with suggestions of trouble than it is at  
the present time. The re-established repub-  
lic is scarcely nine months old and already  
rumors have become persistent that some  
way is being sought to secure the retire-  
ment of President Gomez, either by per-  
suasion or compulsion, and place Vice Pres-  
ident Zayas at the head of the nation.  
When General Gomez received the post  
of chief magistrate at the hand of Governor  
Magooon, the followers of Vice President  
Zayas stood shoulder to shoulder with  
those of the president, and even the conser-  
vative opposition, which had sustained the  
banner of General Mena in the cam-  
paign of the previous summer, lent him  
their loyal support in the determination to  
give the new administration a fair trial.  
That they regard the trial as a failure is  
evidenced by their manifesto issued shortly  
before the reconvening of congress in which  
they declared their intention of beginning  
an active campaign against the administra-  
tion.  
Zayas Will Not Fuse.  
Probably the most serious condition that  
president is now facing is that resulting  
from the continuing failure of efforts to  
effect a complete fusion between his partisans  
and those of Vice President Zayas.  
For about three years the negotiations  
have been in progress, and he has had  
a dozen times announcement has been  
made of their success. During the presi-  
dential campaign there was a truce, but  
with the beginning of the distribution of  
offices under the new administration mutual  
distrust was re-established, each  
side contending tenaciously for its share.  
A few days ago General Gomez started  
the liberal leaders by addressing to them  
a letter in which he stated that, so far as  
he was officially concerned, he had de-  
cided to consider the fusion as an accom-  
plished fact and in view of this he would  
like to make appointments to his  
cabinet without any reference to the par-  
ticular faction of the liberal party to which  
the appointee might have belonged.  
Important Post Vacant.  
The attitude of the president was particu-  
larly objectionable to the Zayas, because  
the important post of secretary of state  
was recently made vacant by the resigna-  
tion of Justo Garcia Velez, a prominent  
member of the faction, and it was feared  
that the president intended to attempt to fill  
it with one of his supporters.  
Another disquieting feature of the situa-  
tion is the renewal of agitation for the  
formation of a negro party. Steps prelimi-  
nary to organization were taken at a  
meeting of colored leaders in the province of  
Oriente. For some weeks past Havana  
has been the Mecca for colored leaders  
from all sections of the island, who  
have come to confer with Senator Mora-  
delgado, president of the senate and re-  
spected leader of his race, in whose  
house a great demonstration was recently  
held in Havana.  
The grievance of the negroes is that  
they have not been accorded the number  
of offices to which they feel that they  
are entitled. Mora is known to have  
residential aspirations and as his term in the  
senate will soon expire, it is more than  
likely that he will demand a cabinet post,  
either that of secretary of state or  
secretary of public works.

OVATION FOR YOUNG KING

Portugal's Ruler Apple of Eye of  
Thousands of Parisian Hero  
Worshippers.

PARIS, Nov. 28.—King Manuel of Portu-  
gal today received an ovation from thou-  
sands of Parisians while on the way to  
mass in the church of St. Mary Magdalen.  
In the afternoon, the king attended the  
horse races at the Bois de Boulogne with  
President Fallieres and as his term in the  
palace at the Elysee palace, cor-  
dial toasts being exchanged.  
Egan Attacks Dakota Editors.  
SIOUX FALLS, S. D., Nov. 28.—(Special.)  
The only ripple on the South Dakota  
political sea at present is the develop-  
ment of an attack made recently by  
George W. Egan, the disbarred attorney  
of this city, who formerly resided at  
Locust, Ia., upon O. W. Dingman, editor  
of the Centerville Journal, and a veteran  
South Dakota newspaper man. The at-  
tack, which was a bitter personal na-  
ture, was made by Mr. Egan, it is pre-  
sumed, because Editor Dingman had re-  
fused to support the candidacy of Mr.  
Egan for nomination to the office of  
governor of South Dakota. Mr. Egan  
charged that Editor Dingman had been  
admitted to support Governor Vessey for  
renomination by being given insurance  
statements by the state insurance depart-  
ment. Editor Dingman submits the proof  
in detail of this charge, and a number  
of newspapers which heretofore have not  
taken any part in the Egan and  
Centerville fight, are strongly supporting the  
Centerville editor.

Struck Dead by Victim.

SIOUX FALLS, S. D., Nov. 28.—(Special.)  
—Michael Brock, a well known farmer  
living in the northern portion of Charles  
mix county, was fatally injured by being  
struck by a piece of grindstone after the  
grindstone had exploded. He was oper-  
ating the greatest speed was more than  
grindstone could withstand. One of the  
driving pieces struck him on the head,  
rendering him unconscious from the start.  
The unfortunate farmer was 29 years of  
age and was married.

As n Tries  
to Minisser,  
Ge. Wrong Man

Insane Man Gives Rise to Rumor of  
Attempt on Life of President  
of France.

FREEZING RAIN  
LEVELS POLES

Sleet Storm of Saturday Night Causes  
Astounding Amount of  
Damage.

ICE ON WIRES WRECKS LINES

Thousand Telephone Poles Fall in  
Lincoln District Alone.

GRAND ISLAND LINES SUFFER

Communication by Wire to Interior of  
State Demoralized.

DAMAGE REPORTED EVERYWHERE

In Some Respects Steady Drizzle of  
Saturday Night Was Most Ex-  
traordinary Ever Experi-  
enced in Nebraska.

Twenty Shots  
Fired at Balloon

Army Artillery Men Are Unable to  
Hit Target Five Hundred Feet  
in the Air.

NEW YORK, Nov. 28.—An anchored bal-  
loon, sent up off Sandy Hook today as a  
continuation of the army's first test of  
aerial warfare passed unscathed through  
a fire from a gun especially designed for  
the purpose. Twenty shots in all were  
fired, but none hit the balloon. The results  
of the experiments are being kept a secret,  
but the outcome of today's test became  
known tonight. The balloon was fired  
upon at a height of about 500 feet, but  
whether the failure of the special gun to  
destroy it resulted from the weapon's in-  
efficiency or poor marksmanship could not  
be ascertained because of the secret policy  
adopted in connection with the tests.

Mme. Steinheil  
Goes to England

Woman Famous in France Forced to  
Leave Hotel in London When  
Identity is Known.

LONDON, Nov. 28.—Mme Steinheil, who  
recently was acquitted in Paris of the  
charge of murdering her husband, arrived  
at London this morning. She traveled  
under the name of Mme Dumont. The  
woman evaded the crowd of waiting news-  
paper reporters and proceeded to a hotel.  
Traced to this place, she declined to see  
anybody and the manager of the hotel,  
upon learning her identity, requested her  
to leave. She took a train at Euston Sta-  
tion, it is believed, for Liverpool.

GIL DECISION WITHOUT  
PERMANENT MARKET EFFECT

Financial Interests Recover Promptly,  
But Revival of Anti-  
Trust Agitation.

NEW YORK, Nov. 28.—Nearly the whole  
thought of persons interested in the stock  
market was given up last week to the  
court decision against the legality of the  
Standard Oil company. The effect of this  
was the greater on account of the active  
speculation that had been going on for  
some time because of reported plans and  
consolidation of the principal copper pro-  
ducers and the passing of control of the  
Western Union Telegraph company to the  
American Telegraph and Telephone com-  
pany. Fears arose that these transactions  
would be nullified by the new decision.  
The passing of anxiety over the imme-  
diate money situation lacked the power  
to help the market in face of the unsettle-  
ment caused by the Standard Oil de-  
cision. The liquidation forced on the mar-  
ket and coming on a speculative position  
over-extended in some directions, made a  
weak market at times. Some recovery  
was seen as operation on the new situation  
crystallized and apprehension of the con-  
sequences subsided. The returning con-  
fidence was based mostly on the preced-  
ents of other similar cases to which re-  
adjustment has been successfully made.  
There was also voiced some confidence  
that the hearings of the anti-trust law, as  
interpreted on all forms of combinations,  
and even, it was maintained, on partner-  
ships, might prompt its modification or  
repeal. There remains an undercurrent  
of apprehension, as was shown by the  
weak ending of the stock market, over  
the prospect of the public agitation and open-  
ing up for discussion of the whole sub-  
ject of legislative regulation of corpora-  
tion affairs, which would accompany a  
program of attempted modification of the  
existing law.

Uncle Samuel's Payroll  
Swelling Year by Year

WASHINGTON, Nov. 28.—The personnel  
of Uncle Sam's establishment is increasing  
by leaps and bounds, the grand total  
of all federal employees at present being  
approximately 270,000, as against 236,141 in  
1907, an increase in the two years of about  
6,000 persons, or about 2 1/2 per cent. These  
and other interesting facts are brought  
out in the official register, or government  
"blue book," for 1909, which shortly will  
be issued by Director of the Census Du-  
rand.  
The new publication will show that there  
were 2347 persons in the federal employ  
in Washington on July 1 last, the annual  
payroll for them being \$2,541,225, an aver-  
age of nearly \$1,000 each. This total will  
be temporarily swollen next year by the  
addition of about 2,000 persons to the

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In Some Respects Steady Drizzle of  
Saturday Night Was Most Ex-  
traordinary Ever Experi-  
enced in Nebraska.

About the time day was breaking in  
Omaha Sunday morning call boys were out  
rushing from their beds all the linemen  
of the Nebraska Telephone company and  
the telegraph companies. This step was  
made necessary by the condition brought  
about by the sleet storm, which had been  
quietly but persistently getting in its work  
during the whole of Saturday night.  
Reports received at Omaha headquar-  
ters of the telephone company indicate that  
1,000 poles are down in the Lincoln dis-  
trict alone. Out in the Grand Island sec-  
tion there is also a great deal of damage  
reported. In Omaha and vicinity the  
trouble is not of so serious a character,  
but it is bad enough to keep all hands  
hustling to maintain uninterrupted service.  
Saturday night's storm was one of the  
most extraordinary, in some respects, ever  
noted in this section. When morning  
dawned the telegraph and telephone wires,  
trees, shrubs and bushes of every descrip-  
tion were white with ice or hoar frost.  
Myriad icicles were dangling from every  
wire, and everything in the nature of  
foliage was a cold specimen of Santa  
Claus portulacae. The water on the  
ground was not frozen, and only on cer-  
tain kinds of brick walks was there any  
appreciable indication of frost.  
The clinging of the misty rain to the  
wires and the subsequent freezing thereon  
was that which caused them to sag and  
go down, in many instances taking the  
poles with them. This was especially true  
in cases where the poles were light or  
not very solidly set. Officials of the com-  
panies that suffered loss say they do not  
recall such another storm, apparently in-  
significant in aspect, which was responsi-  
ble for so much damage.  
When all reports are in, the telegraph  
and telephone companies expect the total  
damage will be much heavier than they  
know at present, for the reason that  
out in the state so many wires are down  
and communication can be had with their  
head offices.

English King's  
Position Unknown

He Has Not Yet Said Whether He  
Will Arbitrate Aloop Claim  
for Chile.

SANTIAGO, Chile, Nov. 28.—The request  
of the Chilean government to King Ed-  
ward that he act as arbitrator in the A-  
loop claim will be made through the charge  
affairs of the Chilean legation at Lon-  
don. It has not been announced whether  
the request has yet reached his majesty.  
LONDON, Nov. 28.—In reply to a query  
as to whether the king has consented to  
arbitrate the Aloop claim, Lord Knollys,  
secretary to his majesty, today sent a mes-  
sage from Santiago, where the king is  
at present, saying: "The matter has not  
been officially brought before the king."

SUGAR SCANDAL IN JAPAN

Directors Charge that Cabinet Min-  
isters Shared in Grant of  
Remitted Taxes.

VICTORIA, B. C., Nov. 27.—Sensational  
charges have been made by the directors  
of the Dai Nippon Sugar company, in-  
volved in the sugar scandal of Japan,  
against cabinet ministers and other state-  
men of sharing in the grant of \$5,000,000  
secured by the Formosa Sugar company,  
according to reports brought today by the  
steamship Bellerophon.  
Director Tomoura made a statement to  
the court that his company had sought to  
monopolize the sugar industry in the Orient  
and that the government permitted the  
exemption of taxes to the Formosa Sugar  
company, permitting profits of 5-  
000,000 yen to be made.  
In this he said, elder statesmen, cabinet  
minister and other distinguished person-  
ages shared as compensation for their as-  
sistance.

REFORMERS TO BESIEGE  
CONGRESS AT EARLY DATE

Betterment of Laws Governing Traffic  
in Drugs and Liquors Among  
Topics to Be Discussed.

WASHINGTON, Nov. 28.—Congress is to  
be assailed by reform organizations within  
a day or so after it convenes, for the  
first time, serious organizations announce  
that a "reformers' convocation" is to be held  
here between December 12 and 17. Pres-  
ident Taft, Andrew Carnegie and General  
Frederick D. Grant are among those who  
have been invited to speak.  
Delegates will attend the sessions of con-  
gress and urge the necessity for changes  
and betterment in the laws governing the  
traffic in liquor and drugs. Other ques-  
tions also will be taken up with congress,  
looking to betterment in the social struc-  
ture of the country and numerous church  
meetings will be held.

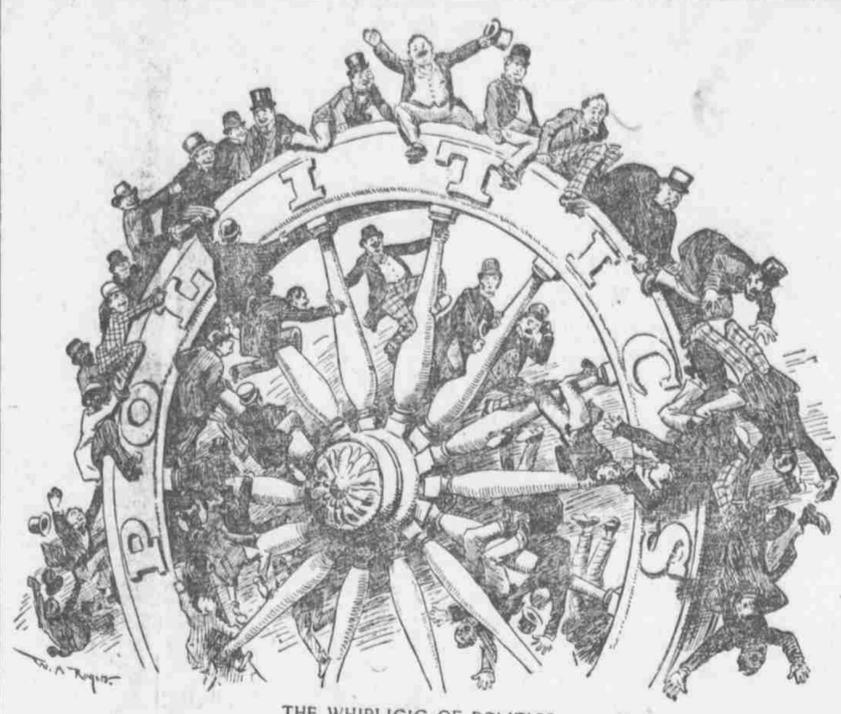
CATTLE STEAMER IS OVERDUE

Nineteen Days Now Since Maria  
Herrera Left Santiago for  
Puerto Rico.

SAN JUAN, Nov. 28.—It is nineteen days  
since the Herrera line steamer Maria Her-  
rera left Santiago, Cuba, with a cargo of  
cattle bound for Ponce, Puerto Rico, where  
she was expected to arrive November 11.  
The steamer, however, has not been heard  
from and it is believed that she has  
foundered. The Herrera line officials have  
sent out the steamer Havana to search for  
their missing vessel in West Indian waters,  
while the Cuban government has instructed  
the coast guard to explore the coast of  
Santo Domingo.

Flow of Lava Ceases

SANTA CRUZ, Tenerife, Nov. 28.—The  
flow of lava from the craters has stopped.  
Activity is now apparent only within the  
craters.



From the New York Herald.

TWO DAYS MORE TO PAY TAX

Corporations Have This Time Limit  
or Existence is Endangered.

FEW LARGE ONES STILL OUT

Commercial Club Committee at Lin-  
coln Reports that Traction Com-  
pany Agreement is Devoid  
of Any Trick.

(From a Staff Correspondent.)  
LINCOLN, Nov. 28.—(Special.)—Every  
corporation in the state which has not  
paid its occupation tax by 4 o'clock Tues-  
day afternoon will be proclaimed out of ex-  
istence by the governor under the provisions  
of the occupation tax law.  
While there are only a few very large cor-  
porations which have not paid the tax,  
there are many hundreds which have failed  
to remit, and the list of delinquent corpo-  
rations is expected to be large.  
In September the secretary of state pub-  
lished a list of those corporations which  
had not paid the tax in two papers desig-  
nated by the governor. These delinquents  
were informed through these papers that  
they had until November 30 to pay their  
charters or they would be declared forfeited  
and they could no longer do business in  
Nebraska.  
It is very evident that very few people  
read the list of corporations. For the re-  
sponses were not generous. A district  
judge of Lancaster county was up yester-  
day looking up a delinquent corporation  
and he was surprised when told that all  
the delinquent corporations had been pub-  
lished.  
In the meantime the occupation tax law  
is being contested in the supreme court,  
but no decision is looked for before Tues-  
day afternoon.  
After the governor issues his proclama-  
tion it will be necessary for a delinquent  
corporation to re-incorporate, paying the  
original fee, before it can do business ac-  
cording to law in Nebraska.  
No Joker in Agreement.  
The committee selected from the Com-  
mercial club to read over the proposed  
agreement between the city and the trac-  
tion company has made its report to the  
effect that the agreement contains no  
joker. The mayor was so suspicious of the  
contract that he appointed this com-  
mittee to investigate and discover, if  
possible, whether the agreement meant  
what it said, or said what it did not mean,  
but the committee has decided that it  
means what it says and says what it means  
so far as the committee could discover.  
The committee had no further authority  
than merely to interpret the language in  
the proposed agreement, and that is as far  
as it went.

Nine Missing  
From Gunboat  
Blown Seaward

United States Gunboat Mariette Loses  
Boats Filled with Its  
Sailors.

COLON, Nov. 28.—Nine men are missing  
from the United States gunboat Mariette,  
which is lying off Port Limon, Costa Rica.  
The gunboat today sent out a general  
alarm by wireless and a request that ships  
proceeding in that vicinity keep a lookout  
for its six and whale boats. The six was  
manned by a crew of four and the whale  
boat, with five men aboard, who were car-  
ried out to sea in the heavy weather on  
Friday night. Nothing has been seen or  
heard of either of the boats since. A re-  
ward is offered by the commander of the  
Mariette for any one finding the boats or  
rescuing the men.

Anti-Suffragettes  
to Organize

Eastern Association Leader Opposed  
to Enfranchisement—Woman  
Visits South Dakota.

HURON, S. D., Nov. 28.—(Special.)—Ad-  
vocates of woman suffrage in this county  
and immediate locality are somewhat ex-  
cited over the arrival here of George  
Clarke of Chicago. Mr. Clarke is the or-  
ganizer for South Dakota for a New York  
association opposed to woman suffrage  
and also represents the Anti-Suffrage as-  
sociation in Illinois. He is making a pre-  
liminary tour of the state in the interests  
of the state and money and talent provid-  
ed by eastern people, both for and against  
the measure, will be used in this state to  
the best possible advantage.

NO CHANGE IN CONDITION  
OF EX-SENATOR DIETRICH

Physician in Attendance Says His  
Case is Not Critical at  
Present Time.

There has been no change in the condi-  
tion of Senator C. H. Dietrich at the  
Methodist hospital during the last twenty-  
four hours, according to a statement made  
last evening by Dr. Bridges, the attending  
physician. Dr. Bridges does not think  
the senator's condition is critical at this  
time.

Alabama Votes on State  
Wide Prohibition Monday

MONTGOMERY, Ala., Nov. 28.—The  
voters of Alabama will decide Monday  
whether they will make the prohibition of  
the manufacture and sale of intoxicating  
liquors a part of the organic law of the  
state.  
The bill to be voted on Monday provides  
for the submission to the voters of an  
amendment to the constitution for the  
purpose of forever prohibiting the manu-  
facture, sale and keeping for sale of alco-  
holic and malt liquors and other intoxicating  
liquors and beverages with the exception  
that alcohol may be sold for medical, scien-  
tific and mechanical purposes, and wine  
for sacramental purposes under such regu-  
lations as the legislature may have pro-  
scribed or may hereafter prescribe and to  
declare that nothing in the constitution of  
Alabama shall be construed to prevent the  
legislature under the police power from  
designating the places where liquors may  
not be stored or kept.  
The second provision gives to the legis-  
lature the power to prohibit citizens from

MANY SEEKING DR. COOK

Mystery as to Whereabouts of  
Explorer Continues.

POSSIBLE HE IS IN SECLUSION

Friends Do Not Know Where Mrs.  
Cook is Either—Prevailing View  
He is Taking Rest for  
Health.

NEW YORK, Nov. 28.—The sudden shift  
of base by which Dr. Cook, the seeker,  
became Dr. Cook the sought, has enlisted  
a small army of eager explorers, who  
have been able to contribute facts of col-  
orated interest only. Dr. Cook who slipped  
quietly away somewhere yesterday, was  
still in retreat tonight. Mr. Waack, his  
counsel, has gone to the country for a  
week, also to seek seclusion. Mr. Waack,  
his confidant, still affirms that he knows  
where Dr. Cook is and that he is not going  
to tell.  
Friends of Dr. Cook, who are grieved over  
the turn his affairs have taken of late,  
undertook to explain the situation today in  
this way:  
"It is true," they say, "that the doctor's  
fears have been greatly worked on by the  
belief of some with whom he associated  
that there exists a plot to steal his records,  
even to spirit him away in person."  
Detectives on Guard.  
He engaged two private detectives  
to shadow his supposed shadowers. Mrs.  
Cook and those in her confidence felt that  
this atmosphere was not good for the  
doctor and arranged to have him con-  
veyed into seclusion.  
"The doctor intended no mystery. All  
that aspect of his affairs has resulted from  
the announcement made by Mr. Waack,  
who has not seen Dr. Cook for a week, and  
merely acted on presumption that he was  
to sail on the Caronia."  
Mrs. Cook's whereabouts is as much a  
mystery as that of her husband. The  
supposed to be staying somewhere in the  
city, but just where could not be learned.  
Dr. Cook's health is a matter of great con-  
cern among the friends whom he left in  
the dark. Prior to his sudden retirement  
he was reported to be on the verge of a  
breakdown, and it is assumed that the  
necessity for absolute rest may have prompted  
his wife to insist on his seclusion until he  
shall have recovered.

Wellman Enters Ring

WASHINGTON, Nov. 28.—Walter Well-  
man, whose preparations for a conquest of  
the North pole in an arduous were aban-  
doned upon the announcement of the claims  
of Robert E. Peary, issued here tonight a  
long statement in which he analyzes the  
narratives of the two explorers, declaring  
that of Peary "precise, workmanlike, con-  
sistent, credible in every particular," and  
denouncing that of Dr. Cook as a self-evident  
and even deliberate imposture.  
"Cook's story is suspicious, both in what  
it does tell and what it does not tell," Mr.  
Wellman declares. "He is generally vague  
and indefinite, but, like most men of his  
class, altogether too precise at the wrong  
place. Nowhere does his story ring true, it  
is always an approximation of reality."  
This is true of his figures, his descrip-  
tion of everything.

Utilization by Control

In this present policy of conserving the  
natural resources of the public domain,  
while development is the keynote, the best  
thought of the day is not that develop-  
ment shall be by national agencies, but  
that wise utilization shall be secured  
through private enterprise under national  
supervision and control. Therefore, if ma-  
terial progress is to be made in securing  
the best use of our remaining public lands,  
congress should be called upon to enact  
remedial legislation which will secure  
the application of the public domain to  
the various clearly defined divisions  
according to their principal value or  
use.  
"Full legal effect should be given such  
classification when made so as to prevent  
entries under laws applicable to one class,  
of land belonging to another class, except  
after application for and a review of the  
classification in other words, if lands are  
classified as coal lands, they should be en-  
terable only as coal lands, and in case it  
be shown that they are improperly classi-  
fied as coal lands and are, in fact, agricul-  
tural, they should then be enterable  
only as agricultural lands. This, to my  
mind, is the only way the government can  
scientifically and effectively proceed to  
conserve the natural resources of the pub-  
lic domain. To leave to the self-interest of  
applicants the option to claim a particular  
tract of land as more valuable for min-  
eral, agriculture, timber, phosphate, oil or  
mine, or for power sites, is to invite con-  
fusion, fraud and contentions, and this has  
been the source of a major portion of the  
difficulties of the Interior department in  
administering the public domain.

Such Work Already Done

"It may seem at the outset that this  
would be a radical departure, to the extent  
of suspending the disposition of public  
lands pending their classification, but, as  
a matter of fact, a large portion of the un-  
disposed of public lands has already been  
classified by the department, but such

BALLINGER ASKS  
CONGRESS TO ACT

Secretary of Interior Discusses  
Remedial Laws for Control of  
Rest of Public Domain.

ANNUAL REPORT GIVEN OUT

More Specific Authority Asked to  
Segregate Lands.

RIGHT TO CLASSIFY DESIRED

Wants Power to Conserve Coal  
Deposits to the Nation.

WATER POWER UNDER DISCUSSION

Like Mineral Deposits, He Thinks  
These Sites Should Be Under  
Control of Government.

WASHINGTON, Nov. 28.—Important  
recommendations urging remedial legisla-  
tion by congress for securing the best  
use of the remaining public lands are the  
principal features of the annual report of  
Secretary of the Interior Ballinger, made  
public today.  
These recommendations include specific  
authority to classify and segregate the  
lands into well defined divisions according  
to their greatest apparent use, legislation  
designed to conserve the coal deposits as  
a public utility and to prevent monopoly  
or extortion in the disposition and con-  
trolling the classification and disposition  
of all lands capable of being used for water  
power development under the interior de-  
partment.  
Warm praise is given manufacturers of  
explosives used in coal mining, who, the re-  
port says, have made commendable ef-  
forts to increase the safety of their ex-  
plosives even beyond the requirements of  
the geological survey tests. They have  
shown a desire to carry out the wishes  
of the state inspectors and the recommenda-  
tions of the federal engineers and chemists  
concerning the safe disposition of the  
cause of mine explosions.  
Secretary Ballinger favors the issuance  
of certificates of indebtedness, not exceed-  
ing \$20,000,000, against the reclamation fund  
for certain lines of irrigation work. The  
reclamation service, says the secretary,  
has been subjected to much unjust and to  
some just criticism.  
Since the foundation of the government  
the report shows there has been disbursed  
for pensions \$3,912,023.03, of which \$3,443,444  
was disbursed prior to June 30, 1903.  
Land Statutes Old.  
Extracts from the report are here given:  
"This report covers a portion of the time  
under the administration of my predecessor,  
Mr. Garfield, who, by his earnest and  
disinterested services, contributed greatly  
to the advancement of the department in  
organization and efficiency of administra-  
tion."  
After discussing the proper use and dis-  
position of public land, the report con-  
tinues:  
"All of the principal land statutes were  
enacted over twenty-five years ago; the  
homestead act, the pre-emption and the  
timber-culture act, the coal land and the  
mining acts for the aid of the industrious  
prospector, were among the earlier acts of  
this nature.  
"The liberal and rapid disposition of the  
public lands under these statutes and the  
tax methods of administration which for a  
long time prevailed, naturally provoked  
the feeling that the public domain was  
legitimate prey for the unscrupulous and  
that it was no crime to violate or circum-  
vent the land laws. It is to be regretted  
that we, as a nation, were so tardy to re-  
alize the importance of protecting the  
measure of our natural resources passing  
into the hands of land pirates and specu-  
lators, with no view to development look-  
ing to the national welfare. It may be safely  
said that millions of acres of timber and  
other valuable lands have been unprofitably  
obtained, and it is also true that actions to  
recover such lands have in most instances long  
since been barred by the statute of limita-  
tions. The principal awakening to our  
wasteful course came under my prede-  
cessor's administration. The bold and vig-  
orous prosecution of land frauds, through  
Secretaries Hitchcock and Garfield, have  
restored a salutary respect for the law, and  
the public mind has rapidly grasped the im-  
portance of safeguarding the further dis-  
position of our natural resources in the  
public lands in the interest of the public  
good against private greed. Notwith-  
standing this, it is necessary to continue  
with utmost vigor, through all available  
sources, the securing of information of  
violations of the public land laws and to  
follow such violations with rigid prosecu-  
tions."  
Utilization by Control.  
"In this present policy of conserving the  
natural resources of the public domain,  
while development is the keynote, the best  
thought of the day is not that develop-  
ment shall be by national agencies, but  
that wise utilization shall be secured  
through private enterprise under national  
supervision and control. Therefore, if ma-  
terial progress is to be made in securing  
the best use of our remaining public lands,  
congress should be called upon to enact  
remedial legislation which will secure  
the application of the public domain to  
the various clearly defined divisions  
according to their principal value or  
use.  
"Full legal effect should be given such  
classification when made so as to prevent  
entries under laws applicable to one class,  
of land belonging to another class, except  
after application for and a review of the  
classification in other words, if lands are  
classified as coal lands, they should be en-  
terable only as coal lands, and in case it  
be shown that they are improperly classi-  
fied as coal lands and are, in fact, agricul-  
tural, they should then be enterable  
only as agricultural lands. This, to my  
mind, is the only way the government can  
scientifically and effectively proceed to  
conserve the natural resources of the pub-  
lic domain. To leave to the self-interest of  
applicants the option to claim a particular  
tract of land as more valuable for min-  
eral, agriculture, timber, phosphate, oil or  
mine, or for power sites, is to invite con-  
fusion, fraud and contentions, and this has  
been the source of a major portion of the  
difficulties of the Interior department in  
administering the public domain.  
Such Work Already Done.  
"It may seem at the outset that this  
would be a radical departure, to the extent  
of suspending the disposition of public  
lands pending their classification, but, as  
a matter of fact, a large portion of the un-  
disposed of public lands has already been  
classified by the department, but such