

## A HEAVY SHORTAGE

### A Trusted Employee Gets Involved for a Large Amount.

## SALARIED MAN HAS BIG HOLDINGS

### The Alleged Embezzler Denies That There is Defalcation, But Has Surrendered His Property.

Cincinnati, Special.—Senatorial reports were published here on an alleged shortage in the books of Theodore Braemer, who resigned last Sunday his position as secretary and treasurer of the J. & F. Schroth Packing Company, of this city. The story as first published, alleged a shortage of from \$160,000 to \$400,000, 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 Jos. W. O'Hara, attorney for the Schroth Company. Mr. Braemer talked freely about the case.

Braemer is 45 years old and has been with the Schroths 27 years, most of the time receiving \$25 per week as book-keeper and in recent years twice that amount as secretary and treasurer. The firm did a business of about a million dollars a year, which was handled by Braemer. When John Schroth died, more than a year ago, Lieutenant Governor Nippert became the attorney of his heirs, who instituted an investigation of the company. This finally culminated in a meeting of all interested parties at which Braemer resigned and from which the sensational reports emanated. Harlan Cleveland, attorney for Braemer, and John W. O'Hara, attorney for the company, and also trustees, are engaged with the experts in examining the books. The accountants insist that they cannot complete their work for two or three weeks and counsel say that no reliable statement can be made until that time.

Braemer owns one of the finest residences in the city and it is furnished with all that art can supply. In the sensational reports that have been published no reference is made to him as having any bad habits. The attorneys and other interested persons will give no assurance that the report of the experts on the examination of the books will be made public when completed, as they state that every possible difference has already been adjusted satisfactorily by the property that Braemer has turned over in trust.

Braemer said that he had transferred to the trustees \$72,000 in Standard Oil and Cincinnati Gas and Electric stocks. 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 fighting for about six months and I concluded to quit and I resigned Sunday. 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 as trustees of my estate and I turned over to them \$72,000 in stocks. If any shortage is found I am to blame. The salary was \$50 a week and had been for the past ten years. I owned \$15,000 worth of stock in the company. I wish to say if there is any shortage I know nothing of it."

## Tiltman in a Debate.

Fredonia, N. Y., Special.—Benjamin R. Tiltman, United States Senator from South Carolina, and Chas. B. Landis, Representative of Congress from Indiana, engaged in a spirited joint debate in Dunkirk on the question of "Democracy vs. Republicanism." Two thousand persons listened to the addresses which were along the lines of the platform of 1900.

## Celebrating Colony Founding.

Mobile, Ala., Special.—The first day of the celebration of the 200th anniversary of the founding of the first permanent French colony in Louisiana and the establishing of Fort Louis de la Mobile in 1702 by John Baptiste Le Moyne and Sieur de Bienville, was observed successfully. After a parade of civic organizations a bronze tablet was unveiled at the court house, bearing an inscription in honor of the Le Moyne brothers, De Ileville and De Bienville. The programme consisted of an invocation by Robert Moses, address and presentation by Hon. C. W. Butt, acceptance by Mayor T. & Fry and benediction by Rev. W. H. E. Cox. A salute of 21 guns was fired.

## A New Steamer.

Newport News, Va., Special.—The Newport News Ship-Building and Dry Dock Company received word from New York that they had been awarded the contract to build a new steamer for the Old Dominion Line. The new vessel will be handsomely equipped and will cost \$600,000, will be 366 feet long and have a beam of 46 feet.

## INDUSTRIES DEPRESSED.

### Majority of Cuban People Are Ready For Annexation.

Washington, Special.—Col. Tasker Bliss, the United States army officer, detailed as collector of customs at Havana, was before the ways and means committee concerning the Cuban reciprocity. In opening his statement he disclaimed authority as a sugar expert and said his knowledge was confined to that of an observer for three years in an official position, dealing with the trade of Cuba. This had led him to hope that if there was any change in the tariff it would be such an adjustment as would throw into the hands of the United States the large amount of Cuban trade now taken by foreign countries.

Speaking first of the condition of the Cuban industry, he said it was greatly depressed. The leading Havana banks were refusing further credits to the sugar planters, and when this occurred it was a sure evidence of the distress of the plantations. He roughly estimated the sugar industry of the island at \$200,000,000 and said about three-fourths of the people were dependent in one way or another on the sugar industry.

Chairman Payne asked Col. Bliss to specify what advantages the United States could gain from Cuba and Mr. Payne also called attention to the low tariff rate Cuba imposed against the United States.

Col. Bliss said the average ad valorem rate was about 21 per cent, and he presented tables, designed to show how a tariff readjustment could throw practically all of the Cuban trade into the hands of American producers. At present, he said, Cuba bought \$66,000,000 of which the United States furnished \$28,475,000, and the balance of about \$37,000,000 came from foreign countries. On many articles such as fresh beef, railroad iron and other specified articles, the United States had a practical monopoly of the trade. But on many other articles, totaling about \$45,000,000 the United States had but \$10,000,000 of the trade.

"By a reasonable modification of the Cuban tariff," said Col. Bliss, "at least 86 per cent. of this trade can be thrown to the United States."

He submitted a list of articles on which a differential of about 33 per cent. favorable to the United States as against other foreign countries would give us the trade. In reporting on this to the war department the condition had been imposed upon him not to reduce the revenue of Cuba. Under such circumstances, he thought it would be necessary to first raise Cuba's tariff rates, for purposes of revenue, and then with a sufficient differential to give the United States the control of the trade. This he put forward, only tentatively as one of several plans proposed to the war department.

The members of the committee questioned Col. Bliss on the details of the proposed readjustment. In the course of the examination Representative Newlands of Nevada suggested that without our political control of Cuba there might be servile labor to compete with American labor. He added:

"Are the Cuban people prepared to come into political relations with the United States?"

"I think a great majority of the Cubans are ready to come in," Col. Bliss replied.

"As a Territory or as a State?" asked Mr. Newlands.

"They would be glad to come in as a State or a Territory, or under the military authority, almost in any way in order to come under the authority of the United States."

"If invited to come in first as a Territory, then as a State, would this be accepted?"

"I think it would." Continuing on this topic Col. Bliss said he thought commercial union with Cuba would postpone political union. Personally he was not convinced of the wisdom of annexation. The feeling in Cuba was one of readiness to accept any conditions the United States might impose.

Louis Place and Mr. Mendoza of the Cuban delegation were heard briefly.

## Two Selected.

Atlanta, Ga., Special.—The commission to select two Georgians that will be placed in the Statuary hall at Washington, met for the first time at the capital. Although the decision of the commission will not be announced until July, an informal vote showed a preference for Alexander H. Stephens and Dr. Crawford Logg.

## Fire in Georgia.

Georgetown, S. C., Special.—At 1:30 o'clock Sunday morning fire broke out in the express office building, spreading on either side and destroying five other buildings with contents. The Georgetown Times, the post-office, C. W. Rouse's stationery and job printing; L. G. Walker, lawyer; M. W. Pyatt, lawyer; Col. Sparkman, insurance; Ingman and Bryant, bicycles; the Masons' lodge; Walter Hazard, lawyer; P. M. Matthews, civil engineer, and the telephone exchange all lost heavily. The aggregate amount is placed at \$20,000; insurance \$70,000.

## SHIP MEN COMBINE.

### Owners of Ocean Liners Getting Together For Profit.

## HIGHER FREIGHTS OVER THE OCEAN

### Every Line But One Trading Between England and America Enters Into the Combine.

London, By Cable.—A representative of the Associated Press has secured an authoritative statement regarding the rumored shipping deals, which, while confusing the reports of the amalgamation of several lines, reveals the fact that negotiations towards a trade agreement are being conducted on a larger scale than hitherto hinted at. What has actually happened is this: Every line trading between England and America, except one, has agreed to form a freight combination upon a basis considerably higher than the rates at present in force. That one exception, however, threatens to upset the prolonged negotiations, for Tuesday fifteen firms withdrew their previous assent, declaring that unless this one exception came in the combine would be valueless. The line which has so disarranged the calculations, for the success of the scheme was believed to be practically assured, is comparatively unimportant and plies between London and the United States.

The extent to which the proposed combination had attained can be judged from the fact that the fifteen withdrawals do not constitute 50 per cent. of the firms interested. A representative of one of the lines most intimately concerned said that it looked very much as if the whole plan would fall through, though he admitted that strenuous efforts would be made to persuade the backsliders to come in again, and leave the unimportant exception to fight its own battle.

The reports of a financial amalgamation between the White Star, American, Atlantic Transport and other lines are strenuously denied.

## Seven Burned to Death.

Hambleton, W. Va., Special.—About 4 o'clock Tuesday morning Camp Fire, of the Otter Creek Road and Lumber Company, several miles from here, in the forest, took fire and burned so rapidly that seven of the 40 men asleep in the building failed to get out and were burned to death. Following is the list of the dead: John Morrissey, John Riley, George Van Horn, Arthur Henricks, Thomas Hickory, Mike Cranford, Forest Manard. Bud Welsh was so badly burned that he is in a critical condition. It was not more than five minutes from the time the alarm was given till there was no chance of escape. The camp was 32 by 50 feet and the upper part all in one room and in this the 40 men were sleeping. Two very small windows and the narrow stairs afforded the only ways of escape and those who went to the windows, a dozen or more had to jump 12 to 15 feet, the others rushed down the steps like sheep, pushing and tumbling and falling over each other. After they were out, some of the men inside could be seen in the flames, but no cry came from the building. The dead were all more or less cremated. They were scarcely 40 pounds of the flesh and bones of the seven men brought here in a little box. The men who escaping lost their clothing and were compelled to travel through eight inches of snow almost naked to another camp a mile away.

## Stock Withdrawn From Market.

New York, Special.—The common stock of the American Tobacco Company was stricken from the list of the exchanges Tuesday. This action was taken upon information from the company that all but about 1 per cent. of stock had been exchanged for consolidated tobacco company 4 per cent. bonds under the terms of that company's offer. The recent rise in price of American Tobacco unassisted stock to 300, and advance of about 160 in two weeks, gave rise to apprehension of a speculative corner.

## Dead in a Boat.

Norfolk, Special.—John L. Pearce, 39 years of age, prominent in society in Norfolk and cashier of the Standard Oil Company's branch here, was found dead Tuesday morning by a newsboy. The body was in a small skiff in Roanoke dock. No reason for Mr. Pearce's presence in that locality is known. The coroner's jury rendered a verdict giving congestion of the lungs and kidneys as the cause of death. The body shows no marks of violence. Mr. Pearce's books are in excellent condition and there is nothing to indicate suicide. He had been hunting at Virginia Beach and was in good health and spirits.

## Schley's Appeal.

Baltimore, Special.—Isador Rayner, counsel for Rear Admiral W. S. Schley, has finished the draft of the appeal from the findings of the court of inquiry and will go to Washington for a conference with the admiral. It is expected the admiral will be ready to hand the appeal to President Roosevelt on Wednesday. The document contains over 100 typewritten pages.

## CONGRESSIONAL.

### Detailed Doings of Our National Law-makers.

HOUSE.

Twenty-sixth Day.—The time of the House of Representatives was occupied in general debate upon an urgent deficiency appropriation bill. An item in the bill carrying \$500,000 for a military post at Manila precipitated a long discussion, which took wide range, drawing into the debate some of the ablest debaters on both sides of the House. A semi-humorous speech by Mr. Clark, of Missouri, elicited a reply from Mr. Cannon, of Illinois, which in turn drew the fire of Mr. DeArmond, of Missouri. Others who participated were Mr. Richardson, of Tennessee; Mr. Grosvenor, of Ohio; Mr. Alexander, of New York; Mr. Grow, of Pennsylvania; Mr. Williams, of Illinois, and Mr. Underwood, of Alabama. Mr. Cannon in charge of the deficiency bill explained that it provided for the government service for the current fiscal year where existing appropriations were not sufficient. The bill carried \$16,704,250. Mr. Richardson, the Democratic leader, pressed Mr. Cannon to know under what law it was proposed to appropriate \$500,000 for a military post at Manila. The chairman of the appropriations committee replied that there was no specific law to establish such a military post, but whether under the general organization of the army in the field such an appropriation was in order, it would remain for the chairman of the committee of the whole to determine when the appropriation was reached.

Twenty-seventh Day.—Some of the old partisan fire was injected into the proceedings of the House when the item of the urgent deficiency bill appropriating \$500,000 for a military post at Manila, which the Democrats have been using as a text for speeches in opposition to the Philippine policy of the administration for the last three days was reached. Mr. Cannon, in charge of the bill, confessed that the appropriation was subject to a point of order and it went out. In lieu thereof he offered an amendment to appropriate the same sum for the "shelter and protection" of the officers and enlisted men of the army doing duty in the Philippines. This the chair held to be in order, and it at once became the subject of a very spirited debate in which Mr. Richardson, the minority leader, Mr. Williams, of Mississippi, and Mr. DeArmond of Missouri, were pitted against the chairman of the appropriations committee. The vote on the amendment was 127 ayes, 127 nays.

Before the session adjourned late President McKinley.

## SENATE.

Twenty-sixth Day.—During the greater part of the day's session, the measure providing for the establishment of a Department of Commerce was under consideration. An effort was made by Mr. Nelson, of Minnesota, in charge of the bill, to secure a vote on it, but the opposition to many of its provisions became so strong that the effort had to be abandoned.

In an extended statement Mr. Nelson replied to the criticisms that had been made of the bill. The Departments principally affected by the measure were those of the Treasury and the Interior. The former had on its rolls 4,419 employees in Washington, and the latter 4,881—each having a greater number of employees than all the other Departments combined. Mr. Nelson said he believed there was a strong public sentiment in the country in favor of the establishment of a Department of Commerce. "We need it," said he, "to put ourselves on a parity with other nations of the world. We need it to put our commercial and industrial development under governmental control."

Mr. Platt, of Connecticut, supported the measure as a whole, but offered an amendment striking from the bill the proposition to transfer the Patent Office. It was accepted by Mr. Nelson and agreed to by the Senate.

Mr. Cockrell, of Missouri, offered an amendment which was adopted eliminating from the bill the proposition to transfer to the new Department the Census Office.

A House bill conferring upon Mrs. Ida S. McKinley, widow of the late President McKinley, the mail franking privilege, was passed.

Twenty-seventh Day.—Debate on the Philippine tariff bill was not continued in the senate, no member of the body being prepared to proceed with the discussion. The bill providing for the establishment of a department of commerce was under discussion for nearly two hours, but little progress was made with it. The debate upon it disclosed no objections to the main features of the bill, but merely a disposition on the part of the senate to give it careful consideration and so far as possible to perfect the details of the measure.

The president pro tem, Mr. Frye, laid before the senate a letter from Samuel Gompers, president of the American Federation of Labor, protesting against the incorporation of the department of labor in the proposed department of commerce. Mr. Gompers was of opinion that if the department of labor were incorporated in the department of commerce, it would minimize the interests of labor, and he protested against any such result.

## The World's Loneliest Missionary.

The loneliest missionary in all the world is said to be Rev. J. O. Springer, whose station is on Herschel Island, near the mouth of the Mackenzie river, well within the Arctic Circle. The latest received letter from this most solitary man is dated October 22, 1900. No ship has been at Herschel Island for two winters, and the missionary's white neighbors are at Peel river 250 miles away.

## PATRICK ON TRIAL.

### Reputed Murderer of Rice Before the Court.

## THE \$25,000 CHECK IN EVIDENCE.

### The Check Was Accepted Though the Genuineness of the Signature Was Doubtful.

New York, Special.—The taking of evidence was begun in the trial of Albert T. Patrick, a lawyer, on an indictment charging him with the murder of William M. Rice, in this city, in September, 1900. John H. Wallace, paying teller at Swenson's Bank, where Rice had an account, identified a check for \$25,000 payable to Albert T. Patrick, as one that had been presented to him. It was the misspelling of the name Albert that caused a telephone call to Rice's apartment, which resulted in the discovery that Mr. Rice had died the previous day. Counsel for Patrick objected to every question asked on this line on the ground that the witness could not testify to hearsay evidence, but the recorder overruled the objections until Assistant District Attorney Garvin asked who answered the telephone. He sustained the objection that Mr. Wallace could not tell who it was. Wallace testified that he had never seen Patrick until the day the check was presented. So far as he knew, Rice's business was attended to by Jones, the valet-secretary.

"In your opinion is the signature on the check the signature of Wm. M. Rice?" asked the attorney for the prosecution.

Counsel for Patrick objected, but the witness was allowed to reply.

"In my opinion," he said, "it was not written by Mr. Rice."

On cross-examination Wallace said that when the check was returned to the bank endorsed "Albert T. Patrick," and "Albert T. Patrick" he stamped it "accepted," although he had doubts as to the genuineness of the signature. Finally he said: "I do not know what is wrong with the signature, but I don't like it. It does not look natural to me. The final curve of the 'M' for instance, looks as if it was an after-

thought addition."

Rice for 12 years. He was asked to tell of a visit alleged to have been made by Jones, the valet-secretary, to the witness' home, in Brooklyn, but this was ruled out. Weatherbee said he had never seen Patrick until the day the check was handed in at the bank. He had not known Patrick to be connected in any way with Rice's business. When Patrick called at the bank, he saw Mr. Swenson. In the conversation that day Patrick said Rice's body was to be cremated, as "the old gentleman was a crank on cremation." Patrick also said there had been an understanding between him and Rice as to what was to be done with the proceeds of the checks. Weatherbee said it was his opinion that the \$25,000 check was not signed by Wm. M. Rice.

Counsel for Patrick objected to the admission of the \$25,000 check as evidence, on the ground that the defendant was under indictment for forging that check and that it would not be fair to bias the minds of the jury by admitting it.

"This check is one of the steps by which I intend to prove the conspiracy between this defendant and Jones," said Mr. Osborne.

"The prosecution should not be allowed to say that a murder was committed because they think a check was forged," said Mr. Moore, for Patrick.

The recorder admitted the check. Under cross-examination Weatherbee said he was not an expert in handwriting and he could not analyze the signature on the check. The doubt in his mind was more general than specified. The witness said he did not decide the check was not genuine when he first examined it. This was before it was stamped "accepted."

Mr. Weatherbee then testified that the check was accepted and certified, and that the certification was cancelled by Mr. Swenson after he had talked with somebody over the telephone.

## To Observe McKinley Day.

Memphis, Tenn., Special.—Acting Mayor Henderson has issued a proclamation calling upon the city officials and public institutions to observe January 29th as McKinley's Memorial Day, and requesting that contributions be made to the memorial fund. The churches are asked to take up collections for the same purpose on Sunday, January 26th.

## Telegraphic Ticks.

Rev. J. G. McCullough, a Methodist minister, aged 32 years, died at Waltham, S. C., Thursday.

The report is current in Germany that there is a great scarcity of plows in England, because most of them have been beaten into swords.

Samuel E. Allen, of Salt Lake City, owns a Wycliffe Bible, one of the first books printed in England. The volume is at least 300 years old.

At a meeting of the Senate committee on public buildings and grounds the following favorable reports were authorized: To make addition to the cost of the public building at Atlanta, \$500,000; to increase the cost of public building, Newport News, Va., from \$200,000 to \$250,000.

## SOUTHERN INDUSTRIAL.

### New Enterprises That Are Enriching Our Favored Section.

## A Large Increase.

An increase of almost 191 per cent. in the capital invested in the turpentine and rosin industry and of 152 per cent. on the value of the products therefrom is shown in the census report issued last week from Washington, D. C., on the manufacture of these products in the United States. The total value of turpentine and rosin products consists of \$14,960,235, the value of 754,670 barrels of spirits of turpentine, \$5,129,208, the value of 2,563,087 barrels of rosin, and \$255,354, the value of miscellaneous products, such as tar, pitch, rosin, oil, charcoal, refined tar, etc. From the distillation of 7,033,153 barrels of crude turpentine by the 1503 establishments exporting, there resulted 24 per cent. of spirits of turpentine, 55 of rosin and 21 per cent. of other products. The consumption of spirits of turpentine in the United States is 20,397,589 gallons, or 53 per cent. of the quantity manufactured, and of rosin 193,969 barrels, or 7.6 per cent. The amount of crude turpentine (barrels) gathered and total value by States follows: Alabama 373,705, value \$2,033,705; Florida 1,212,935, value \$6,469,605; Georgia 1,515,569, value \$8,130,468; Louisiana 20,299, value \$117,324; Mississippi 359,529, value \$1,772,435; North Carolina 361,729, value \$1,055,635; South Carolina 190,095, value \$787,656.

## Textile Notes.

Dennis C. Howarth, president of Chester (Pa.) Manufacturing Co., has made a proposition for the purchase of the Memphis (Tenn.) Cotton Mills, a plant of 14,600 spindles and 250 looms. If the transaction is closed, it is claimed that the Chester Manufacturing Co. will remove its plant to Memphis and there consolidate with the purchased mill.

Eagle Cotton Mills of Lawrenceburg, Tenn., will be rebuilt. The plant was destroyed by fire last week, and its proprietor, W. H. Dustin, who now states that he is in the market for a new outfit, to include 3000 to 4000 spindles and full complement of power, etc., for manufacturing 4 to 16 yards. About 1000 spindles are now in business.

Spartanburg Loom Harness Co., of Spartanburg, S. C., and will continue same. A capital of \$30,000 is represented in equipment and facilities for manufacturing loom harness used in textile mills. Messrs. Isaac Andrews and S. Vernor Muckenfuss are the managers.

The building for the textile school of the North Carolina College of Agriculture and Mechanic Arts at Raleigh is nearing completion. Large quantities of textile machinery have been received, and the installation of it will begin in a few days. The textile school will give thorough courses in carding, spinning, weaving, dyeing and designing.

It is reported that Lockhart (S. C.) Mills will build an additional mill in order to provide increased freight traffic for the Lockhart Railroad. This railroad is said to have been guaranteed, when built, a certain quantity of freight annually from the mill, which it has failed to receive. The company now has 25,000 spindles and 800 looms.

Enfield (N. C.) Knitting Mills has ordered eleven additional knitting machines, with ribbers and loopers to match, and will also install dyeing plant within sixty days. The company has been operating until now tea machines on the production of children's hosiery. Increased production will be 25 dozen daily.

Quachita Cotton Mills of Monroe, La., is nearing completion, and expects to be manufacturing inside of two months. There will be 500 spindles and 150 looms in position for operation. The company met during the week and re-elected its past year's officers. They include Uriah Millsap, president.

Harriman (Tenn.) Cotton Mill Co. has put its plant in partial operation, after a shut-down of some months. Entire equipment will be operated as rapidly as possible experienced hands being scarce. There are 6500 spindles in the mill.

B. L. Battle Manufacturing Co., of Warrenton, Ga., will probably rebuild its knitting mill, which was burned last week at a loss of \$30,000; however, a definite decision has not been reached.

The Chamber of Commerce of Huntsville, Ala., is corresponding with Philadelphia (Pa.) parties relative to the establishment of a rug factory in Huntsville.

Anchor Mills of Huntersville, N. C., is reported as to double its present plant of 4100 spindles.

Burnett & McKee Company of Vicksburg, Miss., has been charter, with capital stock of \$60,000, for dealing in and manufacturing cotton and otherwise handling the staple.

Lenoir (N. C.) Cotton Mill has purchased the machinery for its plant, and said equipment is now being placed in position. There will be 6000 spindles for spinning Egyptian cotton, and operations are expected to commence in the near future. Capitalization \$75,000.

Lauraglen Mills of Shelby, N. C., was sold at public auction during the week to John E. Hurst of Baltimore, Md., who was president of the company. The price paid was \$4200. It is a 2900-spindle plant for making yarn and ball twine, and was capitalized at \$50,000.