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THE GAELIC DETENTION.

Searched by Japanese Authorities for Contraband Goods.

THE CAPTAIN PROTESTED, BUT THE WORK WAS CARRIED ON.

Two Men, Claiming to be Americans, Who Had Sailed on the Gaelic for Shanghai, Under Contract With China to Destroy the Japanese Fleet, and Who Escaped to the French Mail Steamship Sydney, Arrested on the Latter Vessel and Placed Under a Close Guard at Tokio.

Special to the RECORD-UNION.

VICTORIA (B. C.), Nov. 20.—The Empress of China arrived to-day, bringing Yokohama advices to November 9th. Some excitement has been created in Yokohama by the detention of the Occidental and Oriental steamer Gaelic on her outward voyage to Hongkong, in order that a search for contraband goods might be made by the Japanese authorities. On the evening of November 4th two torpedo boats took positions on either side of the Gaelic and were presently followed by a guard ship containing a detachment of marines. A group of Custom-house officials went aboard and asked permission to examine the cargo, explaining that they had received information that contraband wares had been shipped at San Francisco.

Captain Hearne protested against the search, but otherwise offered no opposition. The proceedings were conducted with perfect courtesy on both sides. After a partial inspection the business was postponed for the night, but was next day resumed, when the ship was allowed to go on her way. According to general report two of the passengers were known to be naval experts, and the possessors of some secret engine of destruction which was believed to be hidden in their baggage. Nothing liable to seizure was found, however.

During the greater part of November 5th the subject was under discussion by Mr. Howard, the steamship agent, and the British Minister and Consul. It was understood that no dissatisfaction was caused by the action of the authorities, who asserted that it was of vital importance that they guard against the particular danger involved in this case.

While the examination at Yokohama was drawing to a close, intelligence was received that the suspected travelers had transferred themselves and their belongings to the French mail steamer Sydney and were on the way to Shanghai by way of Kobe. In obedience to telegrams sent to the latter port, permission to search the ship was obtained from the French Consul and the discovery made that a passenger calling himself John Brown, and claiming to be an American, was bound for China under contract with the authorities of the empire to destroy the Japanese navy within eight weeks from the time of his arrival. He professes to have discovered an explosive of tremendous power, which he declared he had first offered to the Japanese, but as his proposal was contemptuously refused he turned to the other belligerent, and sought employment from the Chinese Legation at Washington. Receiving sufficient encouragement for his purposes, he started at once for the East, accompanied by an American assistant, registered as "George Howie," and a Chinese interpreter furnished him by the legation.

How the Japanese were warned of this transaction has not been discovered, but their apprehensions were awakened to such an extent that they determined at all hazards to prevent the further progress of the party. The arrested men are under close guardianship in Tokio.

It is understood that the French Minister in Tokio protests earnestly against the action of the Japanese in this case, and that he has telegraphed home for special instructions. Japan will contend in defense that the persons detained had entered into an agreement with the Chinese Government officials by which they undertook to conduct hostile operations of great magnitude and importance against both the Japanese navy and mercantile marine, and as the French representatives here stationed were not authorized to interrupt them in their journey to the seat of war, it became necessary, as a measure of self-protection, to have recourse to belligerent rights. Japan will claim that a seizure of this description, namely, of individuals in active service of an enemy proceeding on neutral vessels to the enemy's country, is justified by recognized principles of international law.

The ship itself was not seized because the Captain was believed to be ignorant of the character of the individuals arrested. There is no question that the parties arrested were in the service of China. They bore letters to Li Hung Chang from the Envoy at Washington, and also a formal contract promising to pay $1,000,000 for the destruction of the Japanese navy and a specified sum for every merchant ship destroyed. It appears that $100,000 have already been paid on account.

The Japanese officials emphatically assert that the seizure was made in accordance with the methods laid down for such contingencies by the highest international authorities, the process having been executed with due caution and discretion by an officer of the Imperial navy. Some doubts are entertained as to the nationality of Brown and Howie. They declare themselves English by birth, but Americans by naturalization, one or both served until recently in the Brazilian navy.

The Japanese public receives with grim complacence the semi-authoritative statement sent out from England to account for Admiral Freemantle's display of the searchlight on the occasion of the Japanese advance upon Wei-Hai-Wei. The alleged explanation is that the Admiral's purpose was to reveal the nationality of his ships, and prevent an attack upon them by mistake. But the original answer to the charge of giving warning to the Chinese defenders was an emphatic denial that any searchlights were used, coupled with an assertion that it was already daylight when the approach of the Japanese fleet was discovered, so that it mattered nothing whether lights were shown or not. The general belief is that Admiral Freemantle acted as a partisan of China, and is not much shaken by this latest effort to shield him.

The Corean Prince has started for home, after enjoying the round of entertainments offered him by various Government officials. While in Tokio he naively attempted a few diplomatic coquetries with some of the foreign Ministers, apparently unconscious that the game might prove dangerous if carried too far. Inexperience led him to unofficially overstep the boundary of etiquette, but these indiscretions were leniently overlooked, and his harmless by-play of international intrigue was permitted to proceed without interruption. The circumstances in which his country is placed are considered as entitling him to a good deal of indulgence.

A notable act of justice is recorded to the credit of the Chinese. Shortly after the war had begun a Japanese ship, the Tenkyo, sailed into the port of Tadu, on the Peiho River, in ignorance of the fact that she was entering forbidden waters. War had been declared during her voyage from Hakodate to China. She was held for an investigation by the authorities at Pekin, who, after a delay of three months, decided to release her and sent her in charge of a Chinese crew to Nagasaki, where she arrived November 1st.

C. F. Crocker, of the Oriental Steamship Company, and D. O. Mills have just concluded a short visit to Japan, during which they were hospitably entertained by Twaski Yankosuke, a pioneer of the great Japanese steamship enterprise, and Mr. Yoshakoi, President of the Nippon Yusen line, which communicates with all parts of the Asiatic coast from Siberia to India. The travelers are now on their way to Hongkong.

The official report of the great earthquake of October 22d in the north of Japan shows that 2,155 houses were overthrown, over 2,000 were burned and about 200 people killed. The damage to property is estimated at over 2,000,000 yen.

The Japanese army in Manchuria marches with scarcely a show of opposition on the part of China. The advance is being continued toward Moukden. Since the opening of the Manchuria campaign General Yamagata has taken fifty-five field cannon, with 20,000 rounds of ammunition, 1,500 rifles, with 2,500,000 cartridges. The total number of field-pieces lost by the Chinese between the end of July and the end of October is 105.

General Yamagata has lost no time in announcing to the inhabitants of the newly occupied territory that they have nothing to fear from the Japanese if they pursue their occupations peacefully and abstain from interference with the movements of the soldiers. Notifications to this effect have been displayed all along the line of march, and appear to have been accepted with confidence and satisfaction. Most of those who forsook their homes in apprehension of harsh treatment returned as soon as they learned that no harm would befall them, and many have sought employment from the officers of the army.

Deeming it advisable to secure the good will of the populace, Yamagata has remitted all the taxes for the remainder of the year, and has established a temporary form of civil government under the control of a Secretary from the legation at Seoul, who will hear all complaints and will consider them justly. The effect of all this upon the populace is to call forth assurances of general and apparently unfeigned gratitude. The peasantry are especially outspoken in comparing the government they receive from the newcomers with that which they were compelled to endure from their predecessors. Many of them have volunteered to point out the places in which large quantities of war material and provisions were hidden away. The food supply left by the Chinese is said to have been enormous.

No information is officially announced as to the direction in which General Yamagata will next march. Flying columns have been sent in pursuit of the scattered hosts on the two roads leading to the old Manchurian capital and head of the Liatutung peninsula, but if the main body has set out its course is kept secret.

The censorship over Japanese newspapers has been much relaxed, and extras are issued every day declaring that General Oyama's army has landed safely, and fixing upon various different places as the spot of debarkation. The capture of Port Arthur and other strongholds at the northern entrance to the Gulf of Pechili is constantly proclaimed, but the Government will say nothing to verify or deny these statements.

War is teaching the Chinese Emperor a lesson which he has hitherto stubbornly refused to learn. For the first time he condescends to notice personally outrages committed by his subjects upon alien residents in his domain. An edict was issued October 24th, and posted in the streets of Pekin, announcing that his majesty exercises the same authoritative benevolence over the Western countries as he does over his own.

The insufficient supply of grain in the northern Chinese provinces excites increasing alarm. The usual winter supply from the south is cut off by the Japanese ships, and the grand canal through the center of the empire is impassable. Famine now threatens to add new terror to the desperate situation in which the court is placed.

Reports to the effect that the imperial family is preparing to fly from Pekin are received almost daily. Several cities are designated as the proposed place of refuge, Hankow in the south and Chang Hekow in the north being the most frequently specified. Possibly the stories are suggested merely by the remembrance that the court escaped to Jehol at the time when the Capital was captured by the English and French, thirty-five years ago. At this moment it does not appear that anything would be gained by the Emperor's withdrawal from his present residence, and the rumors will need confirmation before receiving credit.

Preprations for closing the port of Ning Poo to trade are in progress.

The Government is rapidly falling into disorder. Assassination has again been resorted to in the Capital. The Vice-Minister of Justice, a warm partisan of Japan, was murdered October 31st, and great uneasiness is felt by his political associates in office.

PRINCE BISMARCK.

He Cannot, Even With the Greatest Precaution, Survive Much Longer.

LONDON, Nov. 20.—The *Pall Mall Gazette* publishes an interview this afternoon which one of its correspondents had with Count Herbert Bismarck in Berlin.

Referring to the health of his father, the Count said: "You should not forget that my father has lived beyond the allotted time of the Bible. He has weathered many storms and has little pleasures in life, but his hardest trials have come within the past four years, and at a time when he should be spared every aggravation of anxiety. Add to this his active, over-busy intellect, his deep concern for every important question of the day, and, more than all, his concern for Germany's prosperity, to which he has devoted his life, to say nothing of the deeds of his friends, and I question if any other man has braved life's tempests with better results. But he is fast getting old. He suffers from no organic disease. He is weakened by time and cannot, even with the greatest precaution, continue much longer. We, of course, are very anxious about him, and he is scarcely ever out of sight. Of necessity we are prepared for God's will."

When questioned in regard to the friendship of Prince Hohenlohe, the new Chancellor, for Prince Bismarck, Count Herbert said: "We are no nearer a solution than before. Of course, the new Chancellor is a perfect gentleman, but there are factors nearer him which always necessitate a difference of opinion."

Asked about the new Czar of Russia, Count Herbert said: "A new and particularly a young monarch always makes changes, some of more startling importance than others. That depends upon the temperament of the sovereign." Then, with a meaning laugh, Count Herbert is reported to have added: "In Russia's case there is every reason to hope for the best."

Death of a Fruit Merchant.

SAN FRANCISCO, Nov. 20.—John Ivancovich, one of San Francisco's heaviest dealers in green and dried fruits and nuts, died at his home in Santa Clara County last night of enlargement of the liver. He was 65 years of age.

Torpedo Boat Ericsson.

NEW LONDON (Conn.), Nov. 19.—The torpedo boat Ericsson made another attempt to go over her speed trial to-day, but the weather was too rough, and she was compelled to return. Another attempt will be made Wednesday, if the conditions are favorable.

DESERTING THEIR POSTS.

Chinese Flee at the Approach of the Japanese Army.

THE INVADERS CAPTURE THE FORTIFIED TOWN OF SINYAN.

The Japanese Renew Their Attack on the Chinese Forces Near Fort Arthur, and Succeed in Driving Them, After a Stubborn Resistance, From Their Entrenchments—Two Hundred Bodies Taken From the Ruins Caused by Earthquakes at Procopio, Italy.

Special to the RECORD-UNION.

LONDON, Nov. 20.—A dispatch from Shanghai says the feeling in favor of the Japanese in the invaded districts of China is growing. Mutinous Chinese soldiers are reported pillaging and outraging the inhabitants.

A Japanese force under General Ozaka is announced to have left Taka Shan November 15th, to attack Siuyan (Siooh Yan), which the Chinese have fortified. It is added the Japanese reached the town named Sunday morning and found the Chinese had fled. The Japanese are said to have captured five guns. It is estimated the Chinese force numbered 6,000 troops of all arms. The latter are reported to have retreated in the direction of Hait Cheng. There was no loss on either side.

On November 15th the second Japanese army was only forty miles from Port Arthur and was advancing on that place.

CHINESE DRIVEN FROM THEIR ENTRENCHMENTS.

SHANGHAI, Nov. 20.—The *Mercury* publishes a telegram stating that the Japanese renewed on Monday the attack on the Chinese forces twenty miles from Port Arthur, at the same place where they were repulsed Sunday with a reported loss of 500 men. The Chinese made an obstinate resistance, but the Japanese ultimately succeeded in driving them from their entrenchments. The losses on both sides were severe. The Chinese forces fled to Port Arthur.

Captain McClure, the English officer who was appointed by Tsung Li Yamen as Vice-Admiral of the Chinese fleet, has arrived at Wei Hai Wei and assumed command of the naval forces.

CORRESPONDENCE LEADING UP TO THE PRESENT WAR.

WASHINGTON, Nov. 20.—The Japanese Government has anticipated the recent offers of China to the Powers to furnish complete official correspondence leading up to the present war, and has itself made public this correspondence. It is published in full as a part of the recent proceedings of the Japanese Diet which have been reported to the Legation here.

Letters between Japan and China give the first account of the sharp diplomatic fencing between the countries up to within a few days of the war. The letters run from June 7th to July 14th They are numbered from 1 to 9.

No. 1 is from Wang, Chinese Minister to Japan. It informs Japan that a telegram has just been received from Li Hung Chang stating that the Corean Government has requested China to send troops to suppress the rebellion of Tong Haks. Viceroy Li, it says, considers the battle serious, and therefore complies with the request for troops to protect "our tributary" State, first notifying Japan in accordance with a treaty provision that each inform the other before entering Corea.

No. 2 is from Mulsu, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Japan. It very pointedly states: "In reply, I beg to declare that although the words 'tributary State' appear in your note, the Japanese Government has never recognized Corea as a tributary State to China."

No. 3 is a notice from the Japanese Government that it intends sending troops to Corea to suppress the rebellion.

In No. 4 China shows her teeth for the first time. It is a letter from Tsung Li Yamen. The letter expresses surprise that Japan should send troops to Corea, when it had not been so requested by Corea. It is written in the following language: "Your sole object is probably to protect the Legation and to protect merchants doing business in your country."

No. 5 is Japan's answer to the Tsung Li Yamen, in which Japan also shows her teeth. It says: "As to the number of troops to be sent to Corea, Japan is compelled to exercise her own judgment. Although no restriction is placed upon the movement of Japanese troops in Corea, they will not be sent where their presence is not deemed necessary. The Japanese troops are under strict discipline, and the Japanese Government is confident they will not precipitate a collision with the Chinese forces. It is hoped China has adopted similar precautions."

No. 6 is an offer of the Japanese Government to join China in a general readjustment of Corea on modern lines.

No. 7 is China's rejection of the offer, in which she says: "The idea may be excellent, but the measures of improvement must be left to Corea herself."

No. 8 is from Japan to China, stating that Japan no longer regards the law of self-preservation which compels her to reform the deplorable condition of Corea, at the root of her frequent rebellions.

This closes the correspondence, the last letter being dated eleven days before the Chinese transport Kow Shing, carrying the Chinese troops, was sunk. The Japanese declaration of war followed six days later.

JAPAN'S REPLY TO MINISTER DUNN.

TOKIO, Nov. 20.—It is learned that the Japanese Government has sent a reply to the note of United States Minister Dunn, asking whether a tender by the President of the United States of his good offices in the interest of restoring peace in the East would be agreeable to Japan. Before reaching a conclusion the Ministry gave the matter consideration for several days, and finally stated to Mr. Dunn that although the friendly sentiments which prompted the Government and the people of the United States were deeply appreciated, the state of the Japanese army had been such that the Chinese Government should approach Japan directly on the subject. In view of the absence of Japanese and Chinese diplomatic representatives at Pekin and Tokio, respectively, this would imply that any communication between the two Governments would be made through the American Ministers to China and Japan, who, since the outbreak of the war, have had in charge the interests of the two countries.

DESTRUCTION BY EARTHQUAKES.

Two Hundred Corpses Taken From the Ruins at Procopio, Italy.

ROME, Nov. 20.—The earthquake shocks continue at Milezzo, on the north coast of the Island of Sicily, and the fact that the volcano of Strombo is in a state of activity is accepted as a proof that the disturbances are of volcanic origin. The inhabitants of Milezzo continue in a state of terror.

Reports from the province of Reggio de Calebra state that 200 corpses have been extricated from the ruins of houses at Procopio. Forty-eight bodies were found beneath the ruins of the church. The number of persons injured is said to be enormous. It is estimated that the damage done to buildings at Palmi, not counting the loss incurred in contents destroyed, will amount to 2,000,000 lire. Fifteen buildings collapsed entirely, and 300 others are irreparably damaged. At Palmi over 300 people were injured. Eight persons perished at Seminira and 200 were injured. The villages of Barapir and Santa were destroyed.

SHARP FIGHTING IN AFRICA.

Capital of a Rebellious Tribe Stormed and Captured.

BERLIN, Nov. 20.—News has reached here of sharp fighting between the Germans and Wahehe tribe. The Governor of German East Africa, Von Schele, telegraphed from Dares Salam that on October 30th Kiurenga, capital of the Wahehe territory, was stormed and captured by the Germans. In the engagement, which lasted several hours, Lieutenant Maas and eight Askaris were killed. The losses of the Wahehes were heavy. A large number of cattle, much ivory and a number of guns and rifles lost by the Zelewsky expedition were recovered.

The Germans also captured large supplies of powder and rescued 1,000 women and children held as prisoners by the Wahehe tribe.

HOLMES' CRIMINAL CAREER.

STORY OF HIS LIFE AS RELATED BY HIMSELF.

Tells a Detective That For the Crimes He Has Committed He Deserves to be Hung.

Special to the RECORD-UNION.

PHILADELPHIA, Nov. 20.—Arch-conspirator H. H. Holmes, accompanied by Mrs. Pitzle and a pretty woman who calls herself Mrs. Holmes, arrived in this city to-day in the custody of Detective Crawford and Special Agent Perry of the Fidelity Mutual Insurance Association. Mrs. Pitzle's sixteen-year-old daughter, Meda, and her one-year-old son were also with the party. Mrs. Holmes soon disappeared after her arrival, and no clew to her whereabouts could be obtained. It is thought she is stopping at a hotel in the neighborhood of the police headquarters.

After the arrival, the party was closeted with Superintendent of Police Linden until late in the afternoon. When the conference was over Detective Crawford detailed the story of the trip, the most important feature of which was the revelation made to him by Holmes of the story of his whole life. It reads like the most sensational of romances.

Holmes sat beside the detective with handcuffs on. The train had scarcely emerged from the Boston depot before the prisoner tried to bribe his captor. He offered the detective $500 if he would allow him to escape. He said he had frequently hypnotized persons, having acquired the art from a college professor in the West. He said he could get the money from his wife and Mrs. Pitzle.

When he saw his words had no effect, he entered into general conversation and told the story of his life. He said he was raised in Burlington, Vt., and so well educated in the schools there that at 15 years of age he was a teacher. For some time afterward he went to college there, and later in Detroit, Mich. Here he formed the acquaintance of a medical student, who, he said, furnished the body in New York in the present case. He refused to divulge his name. During vacations they worked on farms to raise their college expenses, but one summer they found themselves without means, and the medical man suggested the idea of getting a body and beating an insurance company. This was twelve years ago. The doctor got his life insured for $12,000. They obtained a body in Chicago, took it East, arranged the details of identification, and successfully got the money with which they continued their studies. He refused to name the company thus swindled. They worked the scheme afterward with success, obtaining sums ranging from $10,000 to $20,000.

Once Holmes got his life insured for $20,000. He went to a hotel in Rhode Island. At that time he wore a beard. He secured a corpse in Chicago, cut off his head, and took the body to a lonely spot not far from the hotel. Then he shaved off his beard, returned to the hotel, asked for Holmes and engaged a room to wait for him. He had brought the head with him and burned it beyond recognition in the fireplace in the hotel. This scheme, however, fell through, the mother of his wife, when she discovered the scheme, threatening to tell the police, and Holmes fled to the West.

Resuming his story, he said that while living in Chicago eighteen months ago he fell in with a typewriter girl, and furnished a house on the outskirts, where they lived together. A younger sister came to visit him, and the woman grew so jealous of her that in a quarrel one day she struck her over the head with a stool and killed her. To save the woman with whom he lived, Holmes said he put the body in a trunk, loaded it with stones and sank it in the lake. This girl had property in Texas, and he and Pitzle took it off her hands and send her abroad. It was worth, he said, $40,000, and after getting it in their hands they went through Texas buying carloads of horses on notes on this property, but as they never had a legal title to the property the notes were worthless, and it is for this affair that they are wanted in Fort Worth. To save this property Holmes said he and Pitzle formed the scheme of swindling the Fidelity Company. He told the detective that for the crimes he had committed he deserved to be hanged a dozen times.

Holmes is not lacking for money, as he himself admitted that at the present time he is supporting nearly two dozen persons, including the girl murderer, her mother and an imbecile brother, two orphans in Chicago, who live on one of his properties, three separate alleged wives and their children, and his own mother and father in Kankakee. He would not give the names of the women.

He firmly maintained that Pitzle is alive, and is in Salvador, and that he will hear from him through the personal column of a certain newspaper.

Mr. Perry said that as a result of the interview it had been decided to arrest a number of other persons whose names would not be given out. Mr. Perry related in detail the story of Holmes' arrest in Boston, and the manner in which Mrs. Pitzle was decoyed from Burlington. He said that in the secret conference to-day nothing had been said that would in the slightest degree refute his original theory that Pitzle had been murdered. When in the West he saw the parents of Mrs. Pitzle, and they told him that their daughter had complained of the exorbitant fee charged by the St. Louis lawyer—$2,500. In corroboration of his murder theory Mr. Perry said that he had from Mrs. Pitzle an exact description of her husband, agreeing in every respect with that of the corpse found in Callow Hill. Mrs. Pitzle, he said, was perfectly innocent of any complicity in the affair. She had told him last night that she had received only $1,000 cash. She said Holmes had taken $5,000 of the money and put it in a speculation in Fort Worth in which Pitzle was also interested. Holmes told Perry that this was true. In Texas, Perry said, Holmes operated under the name of H. H. Pratt. He added that B. F. Perry, B. F. Pitzle and B. T. Lyman are one and the same man.

STATE MINERS' CONVENTION.

Morning, Afternoon and Evening Sessions Held Yesterday,

ADDRESSES BY SENATOR PERKINS AND OTHERS.

Politics Crop Out in the Proceedings, But the Subject is Promptly Smothered by President Neff, Who Declared that the Convention Was Composed of Men of All Parties, Who Were Only United on the Question of Mining.

Special to the RECORD-UNION.

SAN FRANCISCO, Nov. 20.—Three sessions were held by the State Miners' Convention to-day. The day was devoted to the reading of papers, the making of addresses, election of officers and committee work, and in the evening the reports of committees on legislation and resolutions were read. The convention will adjourn at noon to-morrow, but in the evening the delegates will be entertained at a banquet given by the merchants of San Francisco.

Politics cropped up only once in to-day's proceedings, and then the subject was smothered by President Neff, who declared that politics had no place in a body composed of men of all parties, who were only united on the great question of mining. In the course of an address Congressman Caminetti claimed credit for the Democratic State Convention of 1890 first having adopted a resolution in favor of the restoration of mining in this State. Congressman Loud, who was present, took occasion to reply to Caminetti, who, in return, attempted to reply to Loud. It was then that President Neff interfered and the incident closed.

When the convention was called to order this morning, quite a number of additional delegates were reported as having arrived, and their names were duly listed. The Chairman then announced the Committees on Legislation and Resolutions, which he had been authorized to appoint yesterday. Following are the names of those appointed on the two committees, several of the members, as will be noticed, being residents of other States, though some of them reside in California:

Committee on Legislation—Tirey L. Ford, Sierra; G. A. Belcher, San Francisco; J. M. Wright, Alameda; Charles G. Yale, San Francisco; A. H. Ricketts, Alameda; R. McMurray, Nevada; J. B. Treadwell, Ventura; Hon. Thomas G. Merrill, Montana; Hon. W. E. F. Deal, Nevada State; W. W. Kellogg, Plumas County; H. V. Riorden, Butte; Charles F. Hoffman, Placer; Ira Hill Reed, Calaveras; C. C. Bush, Shasta; J. F. Townsley, Washington.

Committee on Resolutions—E. C. Voorhies, Amador; C. W. Cross, San Francisco; S. B. Christy, Alameda; George J. Ivers, San Francisco; W. R. Thomas, Alameda; A. Eckman, Butte; T. T. Lane, Calaveras; T. N. Leggett, Mono; Fred Searls, Nevada; John Spaulding, Placer; James O'Brien, Yuba; J. E. Lyons, Shasta; E. C. Loftus, Tuolumne; J. M. Walling, Nevada; W. E. Sharon, Nevada.

Chairman Neff also announced the appointment of John Kirkpatrick as Sergeant-at-Arms of the convention, I. W. Rankin being named as his assistant.

On motion the presentation and consideration of the reports of the Committees on Legislation and Resolutions were made the special order for an evening session to be held at 8 o'clock to-night.

The report of the Committee on Order of Business was presented and adopted. It was very brief, the chief recommendation made being that the election of officers should precede the presentation of the reports of the two committees already named.

Later during the morning session it was ordered, on motion of Judge Belcher, that the election of officers be set for 2 o'clock in the afternoon.

United States Senator George C. Perkins was then introduced and cordially received. He referred to the fact that California had furnished the Nation with $1,400,000,000 since mining began within her borders and was still producing a million a month, in spite of which fact her claim for recognition at the hands of the General Government had never been recognized by the making of such appropriations as would help on the mining industry.

He spoke also of the silver question, strongly condemning the action which had driven the white metal to the wall, and declaring that the day must come when the National Government would break loose from the control of Europe in this respect and establish a policy of its own. [Applause.]

"There can be no question in my mind," he said, "as to the wisdom of the policy that would open the mints of the United States to the product of the American silver mines. While our California silver mines may not produce more than $500,000 a year, we have in San Bernardino and elsewhere silver mines which I believe will yet rival in richness those of Nevada and Arizona. The Government is in honor bound to assist us in the construction of works for the restraint of debris in order that hydraulic mining may go on without injury to the farmers."

He also referred, in a half-humorous, half-serious vein, to his own early experiences in the mines, at a time when he was in partnership with the President of the association, and the members of the convention and the Chairman himself heartily enjoyed the allusions.

Thomas J. Clunie was next introduced. He spoke of the depression in agriculture, and said that wheat-growing had ceased to pay. The State must turn again to mining as her chief industry. He had been reared in the Sacramento Valley and knew what damage debris had caused, but he believed it would have been better for the valley to have endured the injury and let the mining go on. [Great applause.]

"But," he said, "engineers have found that the debris may be restrained and hydraulic mining be allowed to go on without harming the farmer or anybody else.

"This State has paid into the coffers of the Nation no less than $15,000,000 annually, and has received in return but a mere pittance. During war times California advanced upward of $3,000,000 to the Nation and never got a dollar back. When he was in Congress he tried hard to get a bill through to recover this sum, but could not succeed.

"The Legislature should pass a resolution that the nation should pay back that money in the form of an appropriation for debris dams. This State has already made an appropriation of $250,000, to be used when Congress makes a like appropriation. No doubt Congressman Caminetti can secure at least an appropriation of that amount this winter, if the Legislature will pass a resolution authorizing the Government to make that appropriation a charge against California's war claims."

Ex-Congressman Timothy Guy Phelps followed Mr. Clunie, speaking in the same strain.

State Senator C. W. Cross of Nevada County declared that only the surface of California's gold deposits had been scratched. In Nevada County, which has produced the most gold, not one in twenty of the known quartz mines has been worked to a depth of 100 feet. In that one county, he said, there is more gold that can be profitably mined than has ever been produced in the State. He declared that in California there is gold to be produced equal to double the quantity in use in the world to-day.

J. M. Fulweiler then offered the following preamble and resolutions:

"WHEREAS, Under the several Acts of Congress relating to the rehabilitation of hydraulic mining, eminent engineers, Colonel G. H. Mendell, Lieutenant-Colonel W. H. H. Benyaurd and Major W. H. Heur, were appointed, and have been the acting California Debris Commission, and have made a report of their acts and proceedings under said laws of the United States, which is now before this convention; therefore, be it

"*Resolved*, That the said commission has the entire support and indorsement of this convention; that we commend the various acts and decisions of said commission and heartily indorse their recommendations as to the future of the mining industry; that the hearty co-operation of the Hon. John F. Kidder, State Debris Commissioner, in the efforts of the Congressional Commission to bring about the rehabilitation of hydraulic mining, meet with our approbation, and the thanks of the convention are hereby tendered to said Commissioners for the able, fearless, impartial and efficient manner in which they have each and all of them discharged their duties and made the prospect for good times, plenty of work and plenty of money possible to the mining section of this country, and through them to the commerce, the industries and revenues of our nation, and bringing once again prosperity, hope and happiness to the home and fireside of every miner."

The resolutions were adopted by unanimous vote.

The convention then adjourned until 2 P. M.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

Election of officers was the order of business at 2 o'clock this afternoon. The present officers were re-elected as follows: President, Jacob H. Neff; Vice-President, S. K. Thornton; Secretary, W. C. Ralston; Treasurer, Julian Sontag.

Congressman Caminetti was called to the platform and addressed the convention.

EVENING SESSION.

At the evening session Professor Christy of the State University spoke of the value of the mining industry to the country, and said that it is to the interest of the community that the education of mining engineers should be complete. He hoped the miners would assist in this training by receiving the young men sent out with recommendations.

Resolutions were adopted recommending the re-enactment of the law passed at the last session of the Legislature, entitled "The California State Debris Commission," which appropriated the sum of $250,000, to be available when the General Government appropriated a like amount, to build restraining dams.

Confidence was expressed in the management of the State Mining Bureau, and its maintenance urged.

The association declared in favor of free silver, at the ratio of 16 to 1. Congress is urged to appropriate for each of the well-known mining States and Territories $50,000, to build trails and roads to open and develop the mineral lands for sale by the Government.

It was resolved that immediate action should be taken to stop the issuance of patents to the Central Pacific Railroad on pending selections awaiting the approval of the Department of the Interior for lands in the mineral section of California.

The association urged additional national aid be extended for the improvement of the Sacramento River, to furnish cheap and permanent transportation.

STATE POLITICS.

All But Two Counties Heard From in the Official Count.

SAN FRANCISCO, Nov. 20.—The official canvass of Los Angeles County, just completed, gives Estee a plurality of 3,605, a loss to Estee of 29 on the estimated vote. The official canvass has now been reported from every county in the State except San Francisco and Humboldt. Including the unofficial figures from those two counties the result shows:

Budd	111,469
Estee	110,226
Budd's plurality	1,243

BUDD'S EXPENSES.

STOCKTON, Nov. 20.—Governor-elect James H. Budd sent up on the noon train to-day the schedule of his election expenses, to be filed in the County Recorder's office, in compliance with the purity of elections law. The total expenditure of his canvass is stated at $683 79. Of that sum the bulk was spent for railroad fare and hotel bills. Mr. Budd received no money from any source to aid him in his campaign according to affidavits accompanying the schedule.

ELECTION OFFICERS ARRESTED.

SAN FRANCISCO, Nov. 20.—Four arrests were made as a result of frauds perpetated here during the recent election, as an outcome of investigations in the Tenth Precinct of the Thirty-fifth Assembly District, where it is alleged that Ewing, Populist candidate for Assemblyman, was counted out to seat Higgins, the Republican candidate.

Attorneys Andy Clunie and T. V. Cator, representing the Democratic and People's Party Committees, secured warrants for the arrest of L. Martine, Inspector; J. A. Buckley, clerk; J. Butler, clerk, and W. J. Conroy, clerk. All were election officers in the precinct, and the extent of their infractions of the law were made public at the investigation before the Board of Election Commissioners.

The men were arrested this morning. Judge Wallace fixed bail at $10,000 each.

BANK FAILURE AT PORTLAND.

A Savings Institution Closes Its Doors for the Second Time.

PORTLAND (Or.), Nov. 20.—For the second time in the history of the Portland Savings Bank it failed to open its doors this morning. The lack of public confidence and unremitting withdrawal of deposits are given as reasons for the closing of the bank. O. N. Denny has been appointed receiver and the bank will go into liquidation. The assets of the bank are given at $1,650,000; liabilities, $1,430,000. The closing of the bank was doubtless precipitated by the death of Frank Dekum, the President, about one month ago. The bank first closed its doors in the panic of 1893, but resumed in May of this year under an agreement with the depositors that they were to draw out quarterly 10 per cent. of their deposits. Many depositors refused to sign off under any conditions and withdrew deposits when the bank opened, materially aiding the present suspension.

EVENTS ON THE TURF.

Only One Favorite Shows in Front at the Bay District Track.

SAN FRANCISCO, Nov. 20.—Only one favorite showed in front to-day—Senator Irby. He made his first appearance and won in easy style.

About six furlongs, maiden two-year-olds, Rodegap won, Foremost second, Terra Nova third. Time—1:13¾.

Seven furlongs, selling, Trix won, Jack Richelieu second, Rear Guard third. Time—1:27.

About six furlongs, Tiger won, Miss Clay filly second, Jim Flood third. Time—1:12¾.

One mile, three-year-olds, Senator Irby won, The Mallard second, Thornhill third. Time—1:41½.

Five furlongs, selling, Tartarian won, Broadhead second, Joe Cotton third. Time—1:00¼.

APPALLING MINE DISASTER.

An Over-Blast Causes Death and Destruction in West Virginia.

SIX PEOPLE KILLED AND A DOZEN OTHERS WOUNDED.

A Sixty-foot Steel Smokestack Blown Down During a Heavy Gale at Chicago, Falling Upon an Adjoining Building, and Causing the Serious Injury of Many People.

Special to the RECORD-UNION.

WHEELING (W. Va.), Nov. 20.—The most appalling mine disaster that ever occurred in this section of the State occurred here to-day shortly after noon at the Blache coal mines, on the Panhandle Railroad, at Collins Station. A new miner, an Italian, put on an over-large blast, which ignited the coal dust and a fearful explosion followed, carrying death and destruction in its path. There were forty-eight men in the mine at the time, and the following are known to be killed: Thomas Rooney, Thomas Jordan, Thomas Tucker, David Rowland, John Dunneily and Antonio Satti. There were about twelve others injured.

The news of the disaster quickly spread, and in a few moments people were crowded about the mouth of the mine. Many heartrending scenes were enacted. The wives and children of the miners were frantic. In a short time a rescuing party was organized and went into the mine after the bodies. When the bodies were brought to the surface many women swooned at the sight. The Prosecuting Attorney and Coroner Watkins of Wellsburg were soon on the ground and took charge of the bodies and conducted a rigid examination.

This is the second accident of the kind which has occurred at the mine. The State Mine Inspector will be here to-morrow to take part in the investigation. There were many miraculous escapes. The miners charge that the accident was due to the inexperience of the Italian miners, and declare they will not work with them any more.

HIGH WIND AT CHICAGO.

A Big Steel Smokestack Blown Down, Injuring Many People.

CHICAGO, Nov. 20.—The sixty-foot steel smokestack was torn from the University Club building by the wind to-day, and crashing into the skylight of the Handy Abstract building, on Washington street, drove a shower of broken glass into the offices below, dangerously injuring two men and cutting and bruising almost every one of the 125 people in the office.

The dangerously hurt are: H. H. Handy, President of the Handy Abstract Company; C. O. Fostrick.

Seriously injured: Ex-United States District Attorney Milchrist, Taylor H. Snow, real estate dealer; G. A. Tallman, clerk; J. O'Connor, clerk; M. H. Brown, attorney.

It is not thought either Handy's or Fostrick's injuries will prove fatal, although both suffered severely from the loss of blood.

The accident occurred just before noon, when every desk in the abstract office was occupied and while a large number of attorneys and clients were transacting business there. The skylight, covering a large portion of the building, was protected by a strong and heavy steel netting, and that alone prevented the heavy smokestack from going through the roof. Had it done so, large loss of life would have resulted, as twenty-five or thirty clerks were bunched close together below where it struck.

Ex-United States Attorney Milchrist narrowly escaped death. A large piece of glass struck him on the shoulder, cutting through his clothes, and leaving a long, ugly gash. As it struck he leaped to one side just as a piece of the skylight crashed down edgewise on the spot where he had stood. H. H. Handy, the millionaire President of the company, was cut in a dozen places and seriously injured.

The noise of the crashing glass and the cries of the alarmed clerks caused a small panic in the building, the tenants rushing into the corridors and down the stairways into the street. The Handy building is a handsome structure, with a front on Washington street, diagonally across from the City Hall. The offices of the abstract company are situated in a broad one-story addition running back to the alley in the rear. The University Club's building, fronting on Dearborn street, is twelve stories high, and the sixty feet of smokestack, falling from a hight of 112 feet, struck the one-story Handy addition with terrific force.

Secret Court Police to be Abolished.

LONDON, Nov. 20.—A Vienna dispatch to the *Daily News* says that Czar Nicholas, in consultation with the Grand Dukes, declared that it was his intention to abolish the secret court police and the state of siege. He also favored freedom of the press. He said that if it was his fate to be killed the secret police could not protect him. It is reported that Governor Heyden of Finland has gone to St. Petersburg to report to the Czar that the Finlanders refuse to swear allegiance to him.

Mexico-Guatemala Trouble.

OAXACA (Mexico), Nov. 20.—The situation of the Guatemalan and Mexican border is very threatening, and it is believed that the Guatemalan troops are preparing to make an aggressive move against Mexico within the next few days, as the different regiments are being drawn close together as if an invasion of Mexican territory was the object. There is a feeling of great apprehension among the States of Tobasco, Chiapas and Oaxaca, which are situated on the border.

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