

HEAVY TRAFFIC TO ALASKAN PORTS.

The Rush of Fortune-Seekers to the Gold Fields Continue.

Three Steamers Sail, Each Carrying a Large Passenger List.

The Order for United States Troops to Prepare to Go to Alaska Countermanded by the War Department—The Canadian Government Levies Heavy Tribute on Stores of Miners Crossing into British Territory.

SEATTLE, July 28.—The steamer City of Kingston sailed this morning, carrying 230 miners to connect at Victoria with the steamer Islander for Dyea, and later in the morning the City of Topeka sailed for Juneau. Before leaving the Sound the Topeka will have 240 passengers. Of these 100 are from San Francisco. Of the 240 carried north by the Topeka a majority are excursionists, though over 100 are for the mines. Of the fifty who left Seattle, forty had Yukon outfits.

The steamer Cleveland arrived this evening from San Francisco, having aboard twenty-seven miners en route to Clondyck. The steamship Al Ki is expected from Dyea, Alaska, next Friday. The announced intention of the Dominion Government to impose a royalty on all placer diggings on the Yukon amounting practically to the confiscation of 70 per cent. of the entire country that may be opened up, has been met with but one response here, and that is the statement that the thousands of prospectors of Canadian soil and across the boundary line into United States territory. People are now paying 22 cents per pound to get their freight over the divide. Horses will pack about 200 pounds each, and an average load for a man is fifty pounds.

The bustling activity that was noticeable around the office of Assistant Quartermaster Robinson, U. S. A., in this city yesterday and last night had disappeared this morning, the cause being the following telegram from Quartermaster-General Weeks from Washington: "Order for troops to Alaska has been countermanded."

THE EXCELSIOR SAILS. SAN FRANCISCO, July 28.—By far the greatest exodus of gold seekers bound for the Alaskan fields that has yet occurred from this city was witnessed to-day when the steamer Excelsior, chartered by the Alaska Commercial Company, left Mission street pier at 2 p. m. The steamer sailed direct for St. Michaels, and is the last of the company's fleet which will connect with the Yukon River steamers this season.

For hours before the departure of the steamer the wharf was thronged with people. Such was the demand for berths, that after the sale of tickets closed, those who had been fortunate enough to secure them were besieged by intending prospectors who offered three times the original amount for them, and one instance is on record where a passenger changed his mind after receiving such a flattering offer as \$1500 for the pastebore, for which he originally paid but \$150. Probably the fact that the Excelsior was the first to bring the news of the great strike to this city, is the interest taken in her departure, for over 2,000 people gathered upon the wharf to bid farewell to the 110 passengers for the Clondyck.

CANADIAN CUSTOMS PORTS. OTTAWA (Ont.), July 28.—At the meeting of the Ministers last evening Minister Patterson was authorized to send two more customs officers to the Alaskan boundary by the Islander, which sails for the north to-morrow. The officers will be taken from the Victoria Customhouse, and will be accompanied by a couple of provincial police. They will open stations as outposts of Victoria beyond the head of the Lynn Canal, which is in dispute territory, and at present in the United States possessions, and at Lake Tughash. There is a Collector at Fort Cadash, only fifty miles from Dawson City, and these arrangements, backed up by a strong force of police, are considered ample protection of revenue interests.

The great question of all is one of communication. It is reported that a packtrail exists on twenty of the eighty miles which separates from the first post to be established at 60 degrees of latitude, in undisputed British territory. If so, a narrow gauge railway could be built where there is a pack trail. The cost would not be great, and if cars could be hauled twice a day over the mountains facing the coast a tremendous obstacle would be overcome, because in winter it is impossible to cross the mountains except at the risk of life, and to be caught in a storm would be fatal. The mounted police force will be increased from 20 to 100. Thomas Fawcett will be continued as Gold Commissioner, and the regulations already adopted amended. A strong customs and police post will be established just north of the British Columbia boundary, beyond the head of the Lynn Canal, at 60 degrees of latitude. Estimates will also be obtained

of the cost of building a wagon road, and of a narrow-gauge railroad to this point in the mountains, a distance of seventy or eighty miles, about forty of which is over mountains. This post will be where the Chikot and White Passes converge, and command the southern entrances to the whole territory. Mounted police posts will be established here at distances of fifty miles apart up to Fort Selkirk. These will be used to open a winter road over which monthly mails will be sent by dog trains. If possible, a telegraph line will be constructed over the mountains from the head of Lynn Canal to the first post. The consent of the authorities of the United States will be asked in diplomatic correspondence to a modus vivendi under which Canada will have the right of way over the disputed territory from Lynn Canal to the first mounted police station. No difficulty is anticipated in securing the right of way through this little piece of disputed territory the roads and telegraph would have to cross to reach the head of Lynn Canal, although that territory is now in the United States' possession.

ORDER TO TROOPS SUSPENDED. WASHINGTON, July 28.—The Secretary of War has suspended the execution of the order starting a party of troops for Alaska on the boat sailing from Seattle August 5th.

There will be one more opportunity to move the command on a vessel sailing August 20th, and the matter is still open. The indications are that it will be done before spring.

CHEYENNE (Wyo.), July 28.—Colonel Randall of the Eighth Infantry received a telegram from Washington this morning, stating that the expedition to Alaska has been temporarily abandoned. It has been discovered that many supplies necessary for such an undertaking as the one proposed are not on hand, and much time and expense would be necessitated to send the soldiers to a country where the preservation of life depends on perfect equipment.

The part of Alaska mapped out to be visited, is said to be rapidly freezing up and after serious consideration of all these facts, the trip has been pronounced injudicious at this time, and postponed probably until spring.

CHARGE TO GET TO DYEA. LOS ANGELES, July 28.—Decamp & Lehman, ticket brokers, have arranged a plan by which 150 people can get from here to the Yukon by September 1st. Two steamers, the Caspar and the Jewel, at present at San Francisco, are at their disposal, and an effort will be made to form a party to leave San Pedro for Dyea on August 15th. The rate of fare has been fixed at \$100.

TELEGRAPH LINE TO DAWSON. SAN FRANCISCO, July 28.—The Clondyck is promised closer communication with the rest of the world in a short time. At least, a telegraph company has been incorporated, which will get to work immediately, its promoters say, stringing the wires. Articles of incorporation of the Alaska Telegraph and Telephone Company have been filed with the County Clerk of San Francisco. The directors of the new company are C. W. Wright, Theodore Reichert, D. E. Bohannon, J. W. Wright and J. F. Fassett. The capital stock of the organization is \$250,000, of which \$100,000 has been subscribed by the directors.

The proposition is to construct a telegraph line which will connect with the town of Dawson, and branch lines connecting with Dyea with Juneau and Dawson with Circle City. The estimated length of the proposed line is 1,000 miles. The plan of construction will be after the style of military systems, and shall be known by the name of the Uniformity Commission. It shall be composed of 95 members, the thick and thin vein operators having proper representation. The members shall be sworn to faithfully and impartially perform the duties of their offices, and will be authorized and empowered to make judgments and awards. It shall also be empowered to subpoena witnesses with the same force and effect as a board of arbitration duly appointed by the act of the Assembly of Pennsylvania relating to compulsory arbitration.

The agreement is not to become effective unless approved by 95 per cent. of the operators on or before January 1, 1898. After 90 per cent. have signed the agreement, if any of the operators shall be of the opinion that enough have signed to render it effective, a meeting shall be called in Pittsburg to declare it in force.

The operators, with a few exceptions, want it distinctly understood that the passage of an agreement, whereby all operators are to adopt a similar system, and are to pay the same relative prices for mining, has nothing to do with the great strike. They wish the miners to disabuse their minds of any such theories.

The operators have also shut out the miners' leaders from taking part in the conferences that may take place through questions arising between the operators and miners by inserting a clause in the agreement stating that the commission shall be composed of workers employed by the subscribers. It was decided that the contracts could not be made a basis for arbitration. The attendance at the session was not as large as the day previous. Operators from eighty-five rail mines and five river mines agreed to take part in the conference, which is a larger percentage than it was hoped to get together. The operators worked smoothly, and few objections were raised to the agreement as written. There was a close vote on the question whether the commission to be appointed should be privileged to tamper with the differential in the thick and thin vein region. The vote on the question resulted in thirteen to settle by a commission and eleven to stand as at present. All the voting was light. Mr. Hoosack almost broke up the assemblage when he moved to make the agreement to become operative when seventy-five operators sign it. The vote was then taken, and resulted in six to make it 75 per cent. and fourteen to make it 95 per cent.

THE PITTSBURG MINERS' STRIKE.

Work of the Coal Operators' Conference Concluded.

An Agreement Reached for the Adoption of True Uniformity.

The Operators, However, Declare That the Adoption of the Agreement Has Nothing to Do With the Settlement of the Strike, and Wish the Miners to Disabuse Their Minds of Any Such Theories.

PITTSBURG, July 28.—The "true uniformity" conference of coal operators of the Pittsburg district concluded its work to-night at 9:15, after a two days' session at close and persistent work. The twenty-one sections of the uniformity agreement were thoroughly discussed and adopted section by section. The best of feeling prevailed throughout the meeting, the only exception being the bolting of Colonel Rend at yesterday's session. Just previous to adjournment, however, Judge Owens announced that Colonel Rend had authorized him to state that any agreement of the conference would receive his hearty cooperation, and he would sign it if 95, 50 or even 20 per cent. of the operators were sincere in their sanction of it.

The conference appointed a committee of five, consisting of W. P. De Armit, J. B. Serbe, J. J. Steitler, J. C. Disart and N. F. Sanford, with General John Little, to secure signatures of operators to the agreement. This committee will begin its work to-morrow. When the requisite number of signatures have been secured, another meeting will be held to ratify the agreement.

The agreement as adopted provides for cash payment of wages, 2,000 pounds to the ton, check weight men in the Tipples, miners to be credited with the full quantity of coal contained in the mine cars, abolition of company stores; semi-monthly pay days, and firm price of pick mining in the thin and thick vein districts, and screens not exceeding one and one-half inches. It also provides that in case of the violation of the terms of the agreement a penalty of 10 cents per ton on the total output of coal mined by the violator will be charged, which penalty is to be paid to a commission, subject to the right of either arbitration or appeal. Said penalty, when collected, is to be distributed among the signers of the agreement pro rata, in proportion to the total amount of output made by them during the year.

The commission is to be chosen annually, and shall be known by the name of the Uniformity Commission. It shall be composed of 95 members, the thick and thin vein operators having proper representation. The members shall be sworn to faithfully and impartially perform the duties of their offices, and will be authorized and empowered to make judgments and awards. It shall also be empowered to subpoena witnesses with the same force and effect as a board of arbitration duly appointed by the act of the Assembly of Pennsylvania relating to compulsory arbitration.

The agreement is not to become effective unless approved by 95 per cent. of the operators on or before January 1, 1898. After 90 per cent. have signed the agreement, if any of the operators shall be of the opinion that enough have signed to render it effective, a meeting shall be called in Pittsburg to declare it in force.

The operators, with a few exceptions, want it distinctly understood that the passage of an agreement, whereby all operators are to adopt a similar system, and are to pay the same relative prices for mining, has nothing to do with the great strike. They wish the miners to disabuse their minds of any such theories.

The operators have also shut out the miners' leaders from taking part in the conferences that may take place through questions arising between the operators and miners by inserting a clause in the agreement stating that the commission shall be composed of workers employed by the subscribers. It was decided that the contracts could not be made a basis for arbitration.

The attendance at the session was not as large as the day previous. Operators from eighty-five rail mines and five river mines agreed to take part in the conference, which is a larger percentage than it was hoped to get together. The operators worked smoothly, and few objections were raised to the agreement as written. There was a close vote on the question whether the commission to be appointed should be privileged to tamper with the differential in the thick and thin vein region. The vote on the question resulted in thirteen to settle by a commission and eleven to stand as at present. All the voting was light. Mr. Hoosack almost broke up the assemblage when he moved to make the agreement to become operative when seventy-five operators sign it. The vote was then taken, and resulted in six to make it 75 per cent. and fourteen to make it 95 per cent.

THE MARQUIS ITO IS FOR PEACE.

Contradicts the Story Regarding His Visit to Europe.

Not for the Purpose of Arousing Feeling Against the United States.

Says He Firmly Believes That the Hawaiian Question Will be Settled Without the Peaceful Relations Between Japan and the United States Being Disturbed in the Least.

NEW YORK, July 28.—A dispatch to the "Herald" from Paris says: If war should break out between the United States and Japan it will be in spite of Marquis Ito, personally as well as politically. "In the first place," said Marquis Ito, "I wish you would contradict a statement that I am here charged with an official mission to stungly protest in the name of my Government against a usurpation fraught with peril. Nothing could be further from the truth. The statement is inexact in every particular. Not only have I no official mission in Europe now—I never had any. I believe firmly that the Hawaiian question will be settled without the peaceful relations between Japan and the United States being disturbed in the least."

"I came to Europe as one of the suite attached to Prince Arishigawa, who represented the Emperor at the jubilee ceremonies in Constantinople. That commotion being over, the Prince has returned to Japan and my duties, only nominal at any time, are now entirely at an end. So I am at liberty to avail myself of the permission the Emperor accorded me, to take a holiday in Europe."

It has been stated that I have been in Spain to arrange terms for mutual support in the attitude of Spain and Japan vis-a-vis the United States. This is quite untrue. When I was Prime Minister the Emperor bestowed an order on the King of Spain. The Prince never went to Spain, and was not convenient at the time for any one of sufficiently high rank to leave Japan. But the visit of Prince Arishigawa to Europe gave the Emperor an occasion he has been looking for, and so, taking advantage of the opportunity, the Prince went to Spain and I, as a matter of course, went also. But although I met the Foreign Minister and all the other officials, the relations of Japan with America were never alluded to, and I never broached the subject of Spain's difficulties in Cuba, and similarly my visit to Spain was not extended from that to a mere protest made—remember this point—made in order that the interests of Japan in the islands may not suffer injury.

"Japan is simply seeking to protect herself and her subjects, and this she has a right to do. This is her duty bound to do, but that she will look after her interests in other than a dignified diplomatic way is absurd. The Emperor, I know, will not support any bellicose policy. All my friends in the Ministry or in the control of the different branches of the government are of the same mind as the Emperor on this subject, and Japanese public sentiment is one of strong friendship for the United States. Thus the Hawaiian question cannot possibly bring about a conflict, either armed or diplomatic, between the Americans, in spite of the 'Jingoes.'"

THE LOS ANGELES INCIDENT. LOS ANGELES, July 28.—The "Times" to-morrow will say: While the majority of people laugh at the idea of Japan going to war with the United States over the annexation of the Hawaiian Islands, there is no denying the fact that the Mikado and his Ministers are making inquiries and seeking information concerning the country which they have never heretofore apparently considered of value. On the last steamer direct from Japan there came a message to a well-known Japanese in this city in the shape of a circular of interrogations. The document came from the State Department of the Imperial Government and freely translated is as follows:

"What is the average age of the male Japanese living in your country?" "How many Japanese are engaged in pursuits where capital is invested by themselves, and about what amount of capital is invested?" "How many Japanese women are there in your country?" "Where do the majority of the Japanese in your country live?" "What is the nearest seaport in your country, and if none, what is the nearest seaport to be reached by you?" "State number of railroads, steamship lines or sailing vessels available from your country to the nearest port of embarkation for Japan, together with cost of fare and the time necessary to reach said nearest port."

"What, if any, Japanese papers are taken in your country?" "Give names of the principal members of the Japanese colony in your country, with location, business and postoffice addresses." "The above questions need your immediate attention, and reports should be taken in at earliest date. This circular is confidential, and is directed to you by order of his imperial majesty, the Emperor."

THE MARQUIS ITO IS FOR PEACE.

Contradicts the Story Regarding His Visit to Europe.

Not for the Purpose of Arousing Feeling Against the United States.

Says He Firmly Believes That the Hawaiian Question Will be Settled Without the Peaceful Relations Between Japan and the United States Being Disturbed in the Least.

NEW YORK, July 28.—A dispatch to the "Herald" from Paris says: If war should break out between the United States and Japan it will be in spite of Marquis Ito, personally as well as politically. "In the first place," said Marquis Ito, "I wish you would contradict a statement that I am here charged with an official mission to stungly protest in the name of my Government against a usurpation fraught with peril. Nothing could be further from the truth. The statement is inexact in every particular. Not only have I no official mission in Europe now—I never had any. I believe firmly that the Hawaiian question will be settled without the peaceful relations between Japan and the United States being disturbed in the least."

"I came to Europe as one of the suite attached to Prince Arishigawa, who represented the Emperor at the jubilee ceremonies in Constantinople. That commotion being over, the Prince has returned to Japan and my duties, only nominal at any time, are now entirely at an end. So I am at liberty to avail myself of the permission the Emperor accorded me, to take a holiday in Europe."

It has been stated that I have been in Spain to arrange terms for mutual support in the attitude of Spain and Japan vis-a-vis the United States. This is quite untrue. When I was Prime Minister the Emperor bestowed an order on the King of Spain. The Prince never went to Spain, and was not convenient at the time for any one of sufficiently high rank to leave Japan. But the visit of Prince Arishigawa to Europe gave the Emperor an occasion he has been looking for, and so, taking advantage of the opportunity, the Prince went to Spain and I, as a matter of course, went also. But although I met the Foreign Minister and all the other officials, the relations of Japan with America were never alluded to, and I never broached the subject of Spain's difficulties in Cuba, and similarly my visit to Spain was not extended from that to a mere protest made—remember this point—made in order that the interests of Japan in the islands may not suffer injury.

"Japan is simply seeking to protect herself and her subjects, and this she has a right to do. This is her duty bound to do, but that she will look after her interests in other than a dignified diplomatic way is absurd. The Emperor, I know, will not support any bellicose policy. All my friends in the Ministry or in the control of the different branches of the government are of the same mind as the Emperor on this subject, and Japanese public sentiment is one of strong friendship for the United States. Thus the Hawaiian question cannot possibly bring about a conflict, either armed or diplomatic, between the Americans, in spite of the 'Jingoes.'"

THE LOS ANGELES INCIDENT. LOS ANGELES, July 28.—The "Times" to-morrow will say: While the majority of people laugh at the idea of Japan going to war with the United States over the annexation of the Hawaiian Islands, there is no denying the fact that the Mikado and his Ministers are making inquiries and seeking information concerning the country which they have never heretofore apparently considered of value. On the last steamer direct from Japan there came a message to a well-known Japanese in this city in the shape of a circular of interrogations. The document came from the State Department of the Imperial Government and freely translated is as follows:

"What is the average age of the male Japanese living in your country?" "How many Japanese are engaged in pursuits where capital is invested by themselves, and about what amount of capital is invested?" "How many Japanese women are there in your country?" "Where do the majority of the Japanese in your country live?" "What is the nearest seaport in your country, and if none, what is the nearest seaport to be reached by you?" "State number of railroads, steamship lines or sailing vessels available from your country to the nearest port of embarkation for Japan, together with cost of fare and the time necessary to reach said nearest port."

"What, if any, Japanese papers are taken in your country?" "Give names of the principal members of the Japanese colony in your country, with location, business and postoffice addresses." "The above questions need your immediate attention, and reports should be taken in at earliest date. This circular is confidential, and is directed to you by order of his imperial majesty, the Emperor."

CLAYTON-BULWER TREATY.

Its Relation to the Annexation of the Hawaiian Islands.

Not for the Purpose of Arousing Feeling Against the United States.

Says He Firmly Believes That the Hawaiian Question Will be Settled Without the Peaceful Relations Between Japan and the United States Being Disturbed in the Least.

WASHINGTON, July 28.—Public men in Washington were generally surprised when the announcement was made in the cable dispatches a few days ago that the question of the Clayton-Bulwer treaty had been taken up in the British Parliament in connection with the proposal to annex the Hawaiian Islands to the United States, and also were consequently prepared for the response of the British Government that the one question was not involved in the other.

The matter is regarded here with all the greater interest, because both subjects, the validity of the treaty and the annexation of Hawaii, are under consideration by the American Congress, and both in all probability will receive attention during the next session. The Senate Committee on Foreign Relations, which has already reported on the annexation treaty, has undertaken an investigation of the Clayton-Bulwer Convention, and the general expectation on account of the prediction of the members of the sub-committee having the question in charge is that a report will be made favorable to the abrogation of the treaty.

It is understood that a majority of the members of the committee consider that England has by repeated acts in Central America nullified the treaty. There is also a large element in the Senate which regards the treaty as obnoxious to the Monroe doctrine. Others look upon it as liable in an indirect way to have, through its reference to the Nicaragua Canal, a bearing upon the Hawaiian question. It is understood that the committee will be prepared to report soon after the convening of Congress next December. One of the points of doubt on the part of the committee is how the treaty is regarded by the British Government. It appears that while England has generally acted in Central American affairs as she would have been expected to act if there had been no treaty, the English authorities have never given expression to any of the sentiments as to the continued effect of the agreement made between Secretary Clayton and Sir Lytton Bulwer.

THE NEW TARIFF ACT. WASHINGTON, July 28.—The first copies of the tariff act in law form for circulation have been received at the document rooms of the Senate and House. The law makes a pamphlet of seventy pages. The members of the House will have 25,000, the Senators 10,000 and the Senate Committee on Finance 15,000 copies for distribution, making 50,000 in all to be circulated by Congress.

FIREMEN WIN THEIR SUIT. PEORIA (Ill.), July 28.—A telegram was received this morning by the Brotherhood of Locomotive Firemen saying they had won their suit against the receiver of the Philadelphia, Reading and New England railroad, to prevent a reduction of wages of the road men.

They were the only organization who went into court and fought the reduction. In 1894 they won a similar suit against the Union Pacific.

CONDITION OF THE TREASURY. WASHINGTON, July 28.—To-day's statement of the condition of the Treasury shows: Available cash balance, \$238,460,029; gold reserve, \$143,495,252.

MCKINLEY OFF ON HIS VACATION. LEAVES THE CAPITAL FOR LAKE CHAMPLAIN. Will Put in Some of His Time Formulating Plans for Currency Reform Legislation.

WASHINGTON, July 28.—President McKinley left Washington to-day for a vacation that may keep him away from the city for six weeks. He was accompanied by Mrs. McKinley, Secretary and Mrs. Alger, Mr. Porter, Assistant Private Secretary Pruden and Executive Clerk Cortelyou. The White House steward and a maid servant also went along. Mrs. Porter, with her children, will join the party at Jersey City.

About twenty minutes to 12 o'clock the President took his departure from the White House, occupying his private carriage, with Mrs. McKinley and the maid. As he left the house he bowed to the persons who stood on the portico to bid him goodby. The other members of the party had preceded the President to the railroad station. They go from here direct to Lake Champlain. President McKinley is determined to secure currency reform legislation. To this end he will have the active cooperation of Secretary Gage, and will put in some of his vacation time on his plans. The currency commission bill passed by the House of Representatives on the last day of the session is dead, and it is not likely the President will revive the project of having a monetary reform measure framed and recommended by a commission. It is now planned that an Administration plan shall be formulated during the summer and autumn and submitted to Congress when it convenes in December. By the time Secretary Gage submits his first annual report to Congress next December, he will, in all probability, have a plan formulated, which may be submitted as the Administration scheme of currency reform. That part of the plan dealing with the banking system will aim to provide a safe and elastic bank currency and it may embrace some of the features of the Canadian system, or what is known as the "Baltimore plan," which was so generally recommended by bankers when it was devised. It is expected some provision will also be framed to prevent the use of greenbacks as an endless chain for the depletion of the treasury.

BUILDING AND LOAN ASSOCIATIONS.

The United States League Meets in Convention at Detroit.

Fifty Delegates Were Present, Representing Twenty States.

Politics Cast a Ripple of Discord Over the Meeting, the Disturbing Element Creeping in Through What Was Thought an Injudicious Reference of the of the President Regarding Lower Tariffs and Free Trade.

DETROIT (Mich.), July 28.—Politics to-night cast a ripple of discord over the annual convention of the United States League of Building and Loan Associations. The disturbing element crept in through what was considered an injudicious reference made in President Brown's address, in which the President inferred "that the lower tariffs and free trade" were a decided injury to the course of business. Remarks of this character did not sit well with those of Democratic faith. They said nothing about it during the day sessions, but shortly after the evening session had begun the following resolution was offered by Delegate E. L. Post:

"Resolved, That in the sense of the League that all matters relating to either religion or politics be eliminated from consideration, either in debate or papers which may be read, and that the Secretary is hereby requested not to print anything whatever of a political or sectarian nature as a part of the proceedings of this League."

There was a warm debate over a motion to refer the resolution to the Committee on Resolutions. An amendment was offered to send the resolution to the committee, with instructions to report the same at once, but this was strongly opposed. Mr. Schumay, who advocated the resolution, consented to its withdrawal if the political remarks it referred to were considered as not endorsed by the President. He said that only yesterday President Brown came before the League with a tale of woe, which the lack of legislation for buildings associations.

President Brown at this point ruled the discussion and the resolution out of order. He said the Secretary could not be properly authorized to cut out papers read. A motion to table the resolution then prevailed, and the discussion thereon was ordered expurgated from the record, which closed the incident.

The meeting was held in the City Council chamber, with an attendance of fifty delegates, and was presided over by the Philadelphia, Reading and New England railroad, to prevent a reduction of wages of the road men.

They were the only organization who went into court and fought the reduction. In 1894 they won a similar suit against the Union Pacific.

CONDITION OF THE TREASURY. WASHINGTON, July 28.—To-day's statement of the condition of the Treasury shows: Available cash balance, \$238,460,029; gold reserve, \$143,495,252.

MCKINLEY OFF ON HIS VACATION. LEAVES THE CAPITAL FOR LAKE CHAMPLAIN. Will Put in Some of His Time Formulating Plans for Currency Reform Legislation.

WASHINGTON, July 28.—President McKinley left Washington to-day for a vacation that may keep him away from the city for six weeks. He was accompanied by Mrs. McKinley, Secretary and Mrs. Alger, Mr. Porter, Assistant Private Secretary Pruden and Executive Clerk Cortelyou. The White House steward and a maid servant also went along. Mrs. Porter, with her children, will join the party at Jersey City.

About twenty minutes to 12 o'clock the President took his departure from the White House, occupying his private carriage, with Mrs. McKinley and the maid. As he left the house he bowed to the persons who stood on the portico to bid him goodby. The other members of the party had preceded the President to the railroad station. They go from here direct to Lake Champlain.

President McKinley is determined to secure currency reform legislation. To this end he will have the active cooperation of Secretary Gage, and will put in some of his vacation time on his plans. The currency commission bill passed by the House of Representatives on the last day of the session is dead, and it is not likely the President will revive the project of having a monetary reform measure framed and recommended by a commission. It is now planned that an Administration plan shall be formulated during the summer and autumn and submitted to Congress when it convenes in December. By the time Secretary Gage submits his first annual report to Congress next December, he will, in all probability, have a plan formulated, which may be submitted as the Administration scheme of currency reform. That part of the plan dealing with the banking system will aim to provide a safe and elastic bank currency and it may embrace some of the features of the Canadian system, or what is known as the "Baltimore plan," which was so generally recommended by bankers when it was devised. It is expected some provision will also be framed to prevent the use of greenbacks as an endless chain for the depletion of the treasury.