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FRANCE HAS A NEW PRESIDENT.

Emile Loubet, the President of the French Senate,

Chosen by the National Assembly as the Successor to M. Faure.

Receives Four Hundred and Eighty-three Out of the Seven Hundred and Sixty-three Votes Cast—Hostile Demonstrations by Opponents of the New President.

PARIS, Feb. 18.—It is officially announced that M. Loubet has been elected President of the French Republic. He received 483 votes, against 280 for M. Meline.

From an early hour the stations on the roads leading to Versailles were crowded with people gathered to witness the departure of the Deputies and Senators. M. De Roulede arrived here by the Lyon railroad, and was met by members of the Patriotic League.

Order prevailed at the stations, where, to all appearances, there were no special police precautions taken.

The first train took an army of telegraphers and telephonists to Versailles, where the Town Hall was decorated with flags and draped with crape. The lamps were lighted and veiled with crape.

The members of the National Assembly, namely, the Senator and Deputies, began to assemble at 10 o'clock and to select their seats.

M. Loubet, President of the Senate, and presiding officer, arrived in a carriage at 10 o'clock.

Friends surrounded M. Loubet when he entered the gallery of busts, and he said: "If you love me, I hope you won't vote for me."

Soon the scene became animated. Crowds of people surrounded the doors watching the arrival of members. The palace was closed to the public.

Various political groups held meetings at noon, and M. Cockrey announced that M. Meline had definitely withdrawn his candidacy.

The Nationalists and anti-Semites decided not to vote for M. Loubet.

M. Loubet declared the sitting open amid the applause from the Leftists, during which M. Loubet proceeded to draw for tellers. The voting began with the letter "D" and M. Dausette, Moderate Republican, representing in the Chamber of Deputies the Fourth District of Lille, in the Department of the North, cast the first ballot.

When M. Paul de Roulede, organizer of the League of Patriots and Deputy representing the Second District of Angouleme, voted he attempted to speak from the tribune where the urns were placed, but M. Loubet forbade him to do so, which called forth protests from the Rightists and applause from the Leftists.

M. de Roulede, however, persisted in speaking, and repulsed the ushers and others who rushed up to expel him from the tribune, which he finally left.

While in the tribune M. de Rouiede shouted: "The President of the republic ought to be elected by the people. I will not vote here." Then turning to M. Loubet, De Roulede cried: "Do you deny what M. de Beaurepaire has written?"

To this M. Loubet replied: "I am not called on to answer you."

M. de Roulede replied: "I know what you are."

M. Drumont, anti-Semite, representing in the chamber the First Division of Algiers, also attempted to speak, and a great commotion followed, during which cries of "Down with anarchy!" were raised.

Apart from these incidents the voting passed off quietly. The members returned to their seats after voting and chatted on the event of the day.

At 2:40 p. m. the ballot was completed. While the checking was in progress the members of the assembly left the hall and assembled in the galleries and corridors, where they discussed the chances of the candidates. M. Meline loudly announced that he had voted for M. Loubet. The Progressists insisted on voting for M. Meline, although he had withdrawn his candidature in favor of M. Loubet, which explains the vote cast for him. The votes that were not given to M. Loubet or M. Meline were divided between M. Cavaignac, General Jamont, General Saussier and others.

M. Meline received an ovation when he voted.

When the sitting of the assembly was resumed the public galleries were crowded. The tellers entered, headed by M. Chauveau, who announced that M. Loubet had been elected by a vote of 483 to 270 cast for M. Meline, amidst applause from the left and center groups. Fifty scattering votes were cast, divided among M. Cavaignac, General Jamont, General Saussier and others.

After the announcement of the result, M. Chauveau and many members of the Assembly repaired to an adjoining salon, where M. Loubet awaited them. The result of the election was communicated to him, and he received the congratulations of his friends.

The newly-elected President has promised to devote his best efforts to fulfilling the wishes of the country and to "reunite the Republicans, who have drifted asunder by the current of unhappy events."

M. Loubet's remarks brought forth lively applause from his hearers.

The Premier, M. Dupuy, then formally transferred the executive power to M. Loubet, and congratulated him upon his election.

The President, in thanking M. Dupuy, expressed the hope of having the support of the Cabinet.

The Senators and Deputies then filed past and shook hands with the President, who afterward received a deputation of newspaper men, and through them appealed to the whole press of the country to work in union and appeasement.

M. Loubet left the palace in a carriage accompanied by M. Dupuy, and followed by the Ministers. The crowds along the route acclaimed President Loubet with cries of "Vive la Republique," "Vive l'Armee" and "Vive Loubet."

At 5 o'clock Versailles had resumed its normal aspect.

President Loubet arrived here from Versailles at 5:08 p. m., and was received with military honors. Amid renewed acclamations from the crowds the President proceeded to the Elysee palace, in order to pay a tribute of respect to the remains of the late President. Faure. He then went to the Foreign Office, where he received the high officials of State and the Diplomatic Corps.

As the Presidential carriage left the St. Lazaire station a band of thirty or forty persons ranged themselves on either side of the landau, under the leadership of a couple of individuals, who kept giving signals for shouts of "Down with Loubet" and "Resign." The general public was apparently indifferent, and no hostility was displayed. Many in the crowd saluted the President and cried "Vive Loubet" and "Vive l'Armee," but the shouts of the demonstrators running beside the carriage drowned the friendly salutation.

The noise and excitement were redoubled when the carriage stopped at the Elysee. Here two compact hostile groups were massing, shouting and blowing whistles. MM. Loubet and Dupuy spent ten minutes with Madame Faure, and then proceeded to the Quai d'Orsay.

On his journey thither M. Loubet was favorably received by the public.

THE NEW PRESIDENT.

PARIS, Feb. 18.—Emile Loubet, who until his election to the Presidency today was President of the French Senate, was born at Marsanne on December 31, 1838; was educated for the bar and began his practice at Montenidar. He entered political life in the general election of 1876, when he professed himself a Republican and opposed to general and complete amnesty. He was elected by a great majority, and at once associated himself in the Assembly with the Republican Left. He was one of the Deputies who refused a vote of confidence to the De Broglie Ministry in 1877.

After having been elected twice in the Assembly, he became a candidate for the Senate from his old department, and was elected in 1885. He became a member of the first Tirard Ministry, which only survived for three months, holding the position of Minister of Public Works. When M. de Freycinet declined to undertake the Presidency of the Council he was intrusted with the reconstruction of the Ministry, and took the position of Minister of the Interior, from which M. Constans had retired in 1892.

HOSTILE DEMONSTRATIONS.

PARIS, Feb. 18.—The Nationalists gathered around the statue of Joan of Arc, and M. Roulede made a fiery address to them. The crowd then marched to the boulevards and stopped in front of the "Libre Parole" office. There the Nationalists yelled themselves hoarse with cries of Vive l'armee and "Spit upon Loubet!" The appearance of President Loubet in a carriage was the signal for hostile demonstrations and cries of "Panama!" "Panama!"

In opposition to the cries of "Panama," the supporters of the President raised shouts of "Vive Loubet." At this stage of the demonstration a detachment of mounted curassiers appeared and cleared a passage for the President's carriage.

The noise was then redoubled, and the police had great difficulty in restraining the mob. Suddenly MM's de Roulede, Millevoye and Habert appeared. The mob surrounded Millevoye, who donned his Deputy's belt, which is his usual method of signaling to his friends, and from 400 to 500 of his supporters ranged themselves behind the three Deputies, shouting "Down with Loubet!" "Resign!" and "Panama!" When this body of men reached the Place del Opera, there was not a sufficiently strong force of police there to bar the way, and the demonstrators finally returned to the statue of Joan of Arc, where the Deputies mounted upon a sand heap.

M. Millevoye then waved a tri-color flag above M. de Roulede, while the latter harangued the crowd. He said: "Listen now to what I was prevented from saying at the Versailles election. The President belongs to the people. I rejoice at this manifestation, but today we cannot go to the Elysee and spit upon whom we have no wish to recognize as chief of state. We must allow to rest and peace, such as it is, the man who is still lying there, and return home. But on Thursday we shall not fail to attend the funeral ceremony. You will find among the followers of the coffin the Judges of the criminal section of the Court of Cassation and the base Deputies who elected this President whom we do not recognize. You know your duty. Down with this republic, and long live a republic of the people."

The demonstrators then marched to the Rue des Pyramides, shouting and flaunting tri-colors. The police attempted to stop them, and tried to seize the flags. But the mob resisted, and finally returned to the Avenue l'Opera, where a large force of police was stationed in front of the Military Club. This detachment of police proceeded to disperse the demonstrators, a downfall of rain assisting in the work.

Later in the evening bands, composed of the members of the League of Patriots, Nationalists and others paraded the boulevards, blocking traffic. Rival shouts of "Resign" and "Revision" were raised, and some fighting took place between the members of the opposing factions, but order was gradually restored. A number of arrests were made.

As the evening passes no startling developments have occurred. There have been a number of slight manifestations for and against President Loubet, but the people generally are calm. The streets are crowded, and the latest editions of evening newspapers are bought up immediately. Otherwise nothing out of the ordinary is occurring.

PRESIDENT LOUBET THOUGHT WELL OF AT WASHINGTON.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 18.—The news of the election of M. Loubet as President of the French Republic to succeed the late President Faure was received with satisfaction here. It is doubtful whether the official proprieties would sanction the extension of formal congratulations on this occasion by our government, for that might seem to be an unwarrantable interference in French party matters.

GENERAL MILLER'S ARRIVAL AT ILOILO.

The Unexpected Visit of Americans at Panay's Capital

Causes Surprise Among the Followers of the Insurgent Leader Aguinaldo.

The Evacuation of the City by the Spanish Most Complete, Those Who Participated in the Exodus Carrying Away With Them Everything of a Portable Nature They Wanted.

(Correspondence of the Associated Press.)

ILOILO, Dec. 31.—Just as the first gray streak of dawn appeared on the horizon Wednesday morning the Miller expedition to Iloilo, consisting of the United States cruiser Baltimore, the Compania Maritima steamer Union, the United States transports Newport, Pennsylvania and Arizona, in the order named, reached the east coast of the island of Panay and steamed toward the entrance of the harbor of Iloilo. A message was wigwagged from the Newport, ordering the Pennsylvania and Arizona to fall back behind Guimaras Island, some fifteen miles from their destination, the other vessels proceeding without them. About 8 o'clock the town of Iloilo, a long row of flat-roofed white buildings, from almost every one of which a flag was flying, came in sight, and soon afterward the squadron came to anchor some 1,200 yards from the beach.

The Baltimore took up a position almost directly ahead of the German gunboat Irene and within 400 yards of a number of coasting schooners and three steam tugs, which lay at anchor in the roadstead. The only other vessel there was the English ship Kistna, loading hemp.

Almost simultaneously with the splash of the Baltimore's anchor a launch put off from shore and three Filipino officials, the Mayor and two aides, came out in her and boarded the cruiser, but were referred to the Newport. Upon being presented to General Miller they inquired, with some degree of haughtiness, the meaning of this unexpected visit of the Americans, and were curtly informed that everything would be explained to their satisfaction in a letter which would be conveyed to their commanding General, Martin Delgado. Shortly after this interview the delegates returned ashore, accompanied by Lieutenant Barroll, Sixth Artillery; Lieutenant Biddle, aide to General Miller; Dr. Phelan, Sixth Artillery, and his imperial highness, Prince Lowenstein (German), a guest. On landing, the entire party proceeded to the Government building, where they were met by General Delgado and a committee of citizens, really the Council of the Federated States of the Visayas.

The Chairman of this committee—Ramon Avencena—opened the proceedings with a demand as to whether or not the Americans had asked Aguinaldo's permission to come, and also whether they had any instructions from him. Upon being informed that Aguinaldo had not been consulted, the committee expressed considerable surprise, but before the members had time to recover from the shock another was administered. This was General Miller's letter, which was read aloud in Spanish. It was to the effect that the Americans had come there for the purpose of taking possession of the pueblo of Iloilo, in accordance with the treaty entered into between Spain and the United States. That they had come under the belief that the Spaniards were still in power, and that now that the Spaniards had evacuated the place this communication was sent for the purpose of informing those in possession of their intentions. This document was received without comment, the only response to it being a request for time in which to consider the matter, it being finally agreed that an answer should be forthcoming at noon on the following day. In response to these interrogations of Lieutenant Barroll, Senor Avencena stated that the position of his constituents was that Iloilo was a part of the federation of three States, which were simply waiting to learn something definite as to the future of the archipelago. The local committee constituted the will of the people and the army, and its decisions were final as regarded minor matters; all grave questions, however, were submitted to the authorities in Luzon, to whom it was tributary.

General Delgado was informed that there were two more American transports off Guantsmas, but that the troops on board would probably be utilized to garrison the other ports which Spain had either evacuated or lost, but that it might be necessary to leave them in Iloilo for some time. To this the natives gave no response and after an exchange of courtesies the Americans returned aboard, accompanied by the foreign residents.

Another conference was held between the rebels and General Miller, the former being represented by four commissioners—R. Mellira, V. Franco, C. Lopez and Ramon Avenceno. This delegation stated that as the local government could not act upon so important a matter as that under discussion without first consulting the head of the Filipino Government, they must respectfully ask General Miller to grant them the necessary time in which to communicate with Aguinaldo before giving a definite answer. They explained that as Spain had surrendered the city to the natives, they felt that they were entitled to demand certain conditions and insist upon their being complied with.

General Miller explained that Spain could not have turned Iloilo over to anybody, since at the time of the alleged transfer she had already ceded it to the United States. He must, therefore, refuse their request for time, and would expect a final answer to his demand at noon the following day. He assured the delegates that the lives and property of the natives would be protected in the event of their acceding to his demand, and read a communication from President McKinley to that effect, which made little or no impression on the quartet, who were considerably crestfallen when the conference ended. While it is easier to criticise than to act in a case like this, the opinion is expressed that had General Miller landed his forces and done his palavering on shore, he would have met with no resistance, as the natives were wholly unprepared for such an emergency. Every hour of delay, however, gives the rebels so much more time to strengthen their forces and position, and in case of trouble now the Americans cannot possibly effect a landing without getting hurt. At 11 o'clock December 29th a large number of native soldiers marched into town from both Jaro and Molo. At a rough estimate their reinforcements numbered from 1,200 to 1,500. They were armed with all sorts of weapons—Mausers, Remingtons, old Winchesters, shotguns, sporting rifles and muskets. Before daylight, however, all but 300 of them, who were put upon outpost duty, had left the city for the suburbs.

A more complete evacuation than that made by the Spaniards of this place on December 25th last would be impossible to imagine, and those who participated in the exodus carried away with them everything of a portable nature they wanted. Those who witnessed it say that for hours a constant stream of vehicles, loaded with furniture, new and second-hand, odds and ends of machinery, old brooms, tin cans and everything else imaginable, poured down to the wharf, to embark upon the two transports and three gunboats which conveyed them to Camboangan on Mindanao Island.

For some hours after the departure of the Spaniards the town was practically deserted, only a few foreign residents inhabiting it.

Unlike Manila, there are no walls, moats, nor ill-smelling creeks at Iloilo, and its streets are wide and clean. There is a dilapidated old fort at the north end, but it is scarcely worthy of the appellation, and a six-pounder shell would probably demolish it entirely.

The foreigners, for the most part, judging from the flags exhibited, appear to be Swiss, English and German, the only American flag being that floating over the residence of the British Vice- Consul, Mr. Chien, who is also looking after American interests here.

Early December 30th, the foreign residents here addressed a petition to General Miller for a suspension of hostilities long enough to enable the rebels to communicate with Aguinaldo, upon the ground that a fight would cause inestimable destruction of life and property ashore and lead to serious consequences in the interior. General Miller replied that he must regretfully decline to entertain such a proposition at this juncture.

Acting upon this tip, General Miller ordered the Pennsylvania and Arizona to move up, and these vessels promptly steamed in, the latter coming to anchor in front of the city, and not over 300 yards off shore. Early in the morning fully 2,000 rebels came into town, and at Jaro and Molo there were at least 10,000 more ready to move at a moment's notice. Most of them, however, were armed with volos (machetes) only, although some have rifles.

At noon a delegation consisting of Angel Corteza, Eduardo Esterah and Augustin Solis presented a sealed letter to General Miller from the President of the Visayan Federation, R. Lopez. This proved to be to the effect that the insurgents could recognize no authority but that of Aguinaldo, and that until they received instructions from him they would not answer for the conduct of their army if any attempt was made to land troops. General Miller informed the delegates that he would be satisfied with the occupation of Iloilo, and that he had no intention of taking possession of the whole island at this time, but they were obdurate, and with a curt, "Well, gentlemen, that ends the conference," General Miller closed the interview. It transpired during this conference that the rebels wanted to know what form of government would be guaranteed them, and what assurances could be given them that the island of Panay would be admitted to Statehood if they acceded to the demands of the Americans.

After the delegation had returned to shore General Miller at once commenced preparations to land his force, but sent Colonel Potter, who arrived from Manila with dispatches at 7 a. m., back to Manila for further instructions.

A delegation arrived here December 30th from the island of Negros for the purpose of submitting a proposition to the Americans. He said that the majority of the people of that place were willing to be annexed to the United States, provided they were granted Statehood. He claimed that, as Spain lost not only the cities, but the entire island to the natives, they cannot be classed in the same category as those of Luzon or Panay.

Intense excitement was created here yesterday by the arrival of the Spanish gunboat El Cano flying the hated Spanish flag, and the fact that the Americans paid no attention to her seemed to incense the natives, who were apparently full of fight. Almost every boat along the river was filled with armed rebels, and the fort, public buildings and churches swarmed with these doughty soldiers, who maintain admirable order, despite their excitement.

One significant feature of the situation was that all the women left Iloilo. Many of them simply went to Jaro, but others crossed the channel and took refuge upon the small island opposite this place. Another is that the 500 native soldiers (supposedly loyal to the Spaniards), who were returned here on board the transport Rosario, promptly joined the rebels upon being landed. Being armed, they proved a valuable reinforcement. Under the circumstances it is not likely that those brought down on the steamship Union, who were refused permission to land at Manila, will be landed here. In fact, it is generally understood that she is being held by General Miller for the purpose of carrying dispatches.

Passed Over the Governor's Veto.

ST. PAUL, Feb. 18.—The Governor's veto of the bill making an appropriation to pay the bounties earned under the beet sugar bounty law was to-day called up in the House, and after an exciting and somewhat sensational debate, was passed over the veto by a vote of 84 to 22, 80 being necessary. The Republicans were united in support of the bill, and some of the Democrats who have been supporters of the Governor in very pointed speeches denounced his action in using the veto "as a club over their heads," as Senator Stevens, one of the Democratic leaders, expressed it.

CONGRESSIONAL PROCEEDINGS.

Senate Spends Most of the Day on the Postoffice Bill.

The Amendment Extending Pneumatic Tube System to Chicago Tabled.

The House Devotes Two Hours to Consideration of the Naval Appropriation Bill, Without Making Any Progress on the Measure.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 18.—The Senate spent most of the day on the Postoffice appropriation bill, but failed to complete it. After an animated discussion of the pneumatic tube system, Cullom's amendment increasing the appropriation for this purpose, and designed to extend the system to Chicago, was tabled. An echo of the old star route developments was heard, when several Senators criticised the method by which a combination of speculators secured the star route contracts. A number of bills of minor importance were passed early in the day. At 4 o'clock tributes to the memory of the late Representative Simpkins of Massachusetts were pronounced.

When the Senate convened to-day bills were passed as follows: Extending the time for the Arkansas and Northwestern Railway to construct a railroad through the Indian Territory; regranting an extension of time for the construction of a railway through the Indian Territory to the Gainesville, McAlester and St. Louis Railway Company; providing for the acquiring of rights of way by railroad companies through Indian reservations, Indian lands and Indian allotments; amending Section 4696 of the Revised Statutes so that when an applicant for a patent becomes insane, pending the granting of a patent, the guardian conversator or representative of the inventor shall proceed and obtain the patent and hold it in trust for his estate; authorizing the Commissioner of the General Land Office to cause public lands to be surveyed in certain cases; providing for the construction of a telephone line from Table Bluff to Salmon Creek, in Humboldt County, California, at a cost not to exceed $1,500; providing for the sale of the surplus lands on the Pottawanee and Kickapoo Indian reservations in Kansas.

Consideration of the Postoffice appropriation bill was then resumed.

Cullom of Illinois offered an amendment appropriating $500,000, instead of $225,000, as provided by the bill, for the extension of pneumatic tube mail service, either by purchase or otherwise. He presented a long petition from business men of Chicago urging that the city be given the benefit of the pneumatic tube service, and the idea of his amendment was that it should be extended to Chicago.

Quay, in charge of the bill, favored the use of pneumatic mail tubes, but was inclined not to admit the propriety of putting the amendment on the bill.

Allison of Iowa made the point of order against the amendment that it was new legislation.

The point was discussed at length by several Senators.

Chandler of New Hampshire strongly controverted the point of order, holding that the proposition of Cullom was simply one to increase an appropriation carried by the bill.

After some parliamentary sparring, the point of order was withdrawn temporarily, in order that Senators might express their views upon the merits of the proposition.

Wolcott of Colorado, Chairman of the Postal Commission appointed by Congress, in opposing the amendment declared that it would cost $25,000,000 a year to properly maintain a pneumatic tube service in the principal cities of the country.

Wolcott said the pneumatic tube service had come to stay, but there should be a well-considered plan devised by the Government for the introduction of the service, lest it become involved in serious difficulties.

Pettigrew vigorously opposed the adoption of the service, unless it could be operated under Government ownership.

Mason and Cullom advocated the amendment.

The amendment was tabled—29 to 23.

The bill was amended by extending the franking privilege to the Hawaiian Islands.

A spirited controversy arose over the Senate amendment that star route bidders shall reside on the route where the service is to be performed.

Stewart upheld the amendment, declaring that at present the country was divided up by a combination of star route speculative bidders, who sublet the contracts to local bidders.

The amendment was allowed to stand, with a suggestion from Jones of Arkansas that the conferrees provide against subletting of star route bids.

The bill was not completed when, at 4 p. m., the Senate took up the special order, eulogies on the late Representative Simpkins of Massachusetts.

The Senate adjourned at 5:15 p. m.

HOUSE PROCEEDINGS.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 18.—The House to-day spent two hours upon the naval appropriation bill, without making any progress, and devoted the remainder of the session to eulogies upon the life and public service of Representative Northway of Ohio. The passage in the bill relating to the Naval Academy, against which Mudd (R.) of Maryland raised a point of order, was stricken out to-day, the point of order being sustained. Mudd then moved an additional appropriation of $720,000 for the completion of the buildings authorized in the last naval bill.

A bill was passed for the relief of George A. Dickel of Nashville, Tenn.

A Senate bill was passed authorizing the term of the United States Court for the Southern District of Mississippi to be held hereafter at Biloxi.

The House then went into committee of the whole and resumed consideration of the naval appropriation bill.

The point of order raised by Mudd (R.) of Maryland against the paragraph of the bill providing for a commission to consider and report upon a general plan for the arrangement and reconstruction of the buildings at the Annapolis Naval Academy, and suspending until that report is made the appropriations for new buildings made in the last naval bill, was sustained, and the paragraph went out.

Mudd then offered an amendment of the completion of the work at the Naval Academy authorized in the last bill, at a cost not exceeding $1,220,000, and appropriating therefor $720,000, $500,000 having been appropriated in the current law.

Without voting upon the amendment, the committee rose at 2 o'clock, and the remainder of the day was devoted to paying tribute to the memory of the late Representative Northway. The speakers were Messrs. Robinson (D.) of Indiana, Cannon of Illinois, Brossius (R.) of Pennsylvania, Dick (R.) of Ohio and Alexander (R.) of New York.

At 3:20 p. m., as a further mark of respect, the House adjourned until Monday.

CENTRAL PACIFIC RAILROAD.

The Settlement of Obligations to the Government Completed.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 18.—The settlement of the obligations of the Central Pacific Railroad Company to the Government was completed to-day, when United States Treasurer Roberts was given the notes of the company for $58,812,715. The notes are twenty in number, payable semi-annually, and are each for $2,990,635, bearing interest at 3 per cent. Internal revenue stamps to the value of $11,762.54 were affixed to the notes.

Treasurer Roberts said that he understood five of the notes would be taken up in a very short time.

The Government holds as security for the payment of the obligations its own 6 per cent. bonds which were issued in behalf of the construction of the Central Pacific, and these will be replaced in a short time by a new series of bonds to bear 4 per cent. interest, which will also be a lien on the road.

NEW YORK, Feb. 18.—It was announced here this afternoon that for the twenty semi-annual notes drawn in settlement of the previous debt of the Central Pacific Railroad Company to the Government, Speyer & Co. bought the first four falling due and the proceeds, about $12,000,000, was turned over to the Government, together with the other sixteen notes.

The notes which are dated San Francisco, February 1, 1899, and signed by Isaac L. Requa, the President of the Central Pacific Company, contain the provision that in case a default is made in the payment of either principal or interest, the entire series becomes at once due and payable. The bonds, which will be given as security for the notes cover not only the Central Pacific road proper, on which the Government has a lien, but includes all of its branches and terminals, so that the security is regarded as far in excess of the liability.

MEATS FURNISHED ARMY.

Court of Inquiry to Begin the Taking of Testimony To-Morrow.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 18.—The Court of Inquiry to examine into the beef charges preferred by General Miles today went into executive session as soon as it assembled, and proceeded with its work of selecting witnesses to be summoned and mapping out a plan of procedure.

A number of witnesses who will be examined have reported, among them being Colonel Powell and Major Lee of the Ninth Infantry, Captain Duncan of the Twenty-first Infantry and Major Jackson of the Third Cavalry. Several other officers are in the city, and several representatves of the beef concerns whose products are in question.

The probability is that the taking of testimony will be begun certainly on Monday, when General Miles will be examined. He will be looked to for a comprehensive statement of his charges, and will be examined as to his statement before the War Commission and his alleged newspaper interviews. His examination will be limited closely to his charges and the basis for them. It is understood that should an attempt be made to elicit from him a statement as to whether he had entertained any animus, that it will be held he need not answer the questions propounded.

General Miles will be followed by other witnesses upon whom he will rely for corroboration.

RIVER AND HARBOR BILL.

May Fail of Passage at This Session of Congress.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 18.—Chairman Burton of the River and Harbor Committee stated to-day that he feared the river and harbor bill would fail to become a law, as the result of the action of the Senate committee in adding the Nicaragua Canal amendment.

"I am not opposed to the Nicaraguan Canal," said Mr. Burton, "but it is a vast project to be approached with due deliberation, and not carried along as a rider, with perhaps only a few minutes' consideration. Every item of the original bill was carefully scrutinized by the committee, but it will be impossible, if this amendment comes back, to give it like scrutiny in the few remaining days of Congress, or to reconcile it with the original character of the bill.

"Viewed from a practical standpoint, the amendment creates a combination of opposing elements—the opposition to any river and harbor bill, the opposition to any Nicaragua Canal, the opposition to this form of dealing with the Nicaragua Canal, the opposition of such men as Mr. Cannon to heavy expenditures, and the opposition of the Senate to increase the river and harbor items. Altogether, I am seriously apprehensive that these combined elements of opposition will defeat the river and harbor bill and the Nicaragua Canal as well."

Opposition to Roberts.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 18.—The National Council of Women had a long animated discussion over the election to Congress of Representative Roberts of Utah, the only question being how strong the council should make its resolution opposing the seating of Roberts.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 18.—The National Congress of Mothers to-day unanimously adopted resolutions urging Congress not to admit Brigham H. Roberts to a seat in the House of Representatives.

AN APPALLING RAIL ACCIDENT.

A Fast Express Runs Into a Stationary Train Near Brussels,

Smashing to Pieces Three Coaches Which Were Filled With Passengers.

Twenty-one Persons Killed Outright and Hundreds Injured—A Terrible Picture Presented at The Scene of the Wreck, the Cars and Their Occupants Being Ground Into an Almost Inextricable Mass of Splintered Wood, Broken and Twisted Ironwork and Mangled Humanity.

BRUSSELS, Feb. 18.—An express train from Calais, having passengers from London on board, collided to-day with a stationary train at Foret, near this city. A number of persons were killed outright, and many were more or less injured.

The train left Tournai at 5:22 this morning, and reached Foret at 8:45. Immediately afterward the Mons express dashed at full speed into the station, and ran into the Tournai train, which was standing at the platform.

It is said that owing to the fog the engineer of the express train did not see the signals.

The collision was appalling. The express locomotive piled on the last carriages of the Tournai train, which were filled with passengers. These cars were smashed to pieces.

Later reports show that twenty-one persons were killed, and that hundreds were injured. There were no Americans or English among the victims.

The scene of the wreck presents a terrible picture. When the locomotive of the express leaped onto the roof of the three rearmost carriages of the train from Tournai it crashed through them and ground the carriages and their occupants into an almost inextricable mass of splintered wood, broken and twisted ironwork and mangled humanity. Six of the bodies of the victims were found intertwined in the wheels of the express locomotive. The terrible disfigurement of the passengers was appalling.

AMERICAN TROOPS IN CUBA.

Their Withdrawal Postponed Upon Recommendation of Gen. Brooke.

NEW YORK, Feb. 18.—A special to the "Herald" from Washington says:

Upon the recommendation of Major-General Brooke, the withdrawal of American troops from Cuba has been postponed.

General Brooke was recently directed to consult with his department commanders in regard to the number of men to be retained in each to assist the Cubans in preserving peace and order. His reply shows that he believes troops should be continued in the island at least until the Cuban army has disbanded.

General Brooke's recommendation will be heeded by the authorities, but they are extremely anxious to get as many of the regiments north as possible before the rainy season sets in. In any event, it will be necessary to withdraw the volunteer regiments, among which is the Two Hundred and Second New York immune, before the ratification of the peace treaty by the Cortes.

General Sternberg says that he has received no reports from Cuba relative to the health condition of the troops other than those already published, but he is anxious that as many troops as possible shall be brought north at an early date.

LIMITS SUFFRAGE.

Proposed Amendments to North Carolina's Constitution.

RALEIGH, Feb. 18.—An amendment to the Constitution of North Carolina, limiting suffrage, has been adopted by both branches of the General Assembly. It passed the House yesterday by a vote of 81 to 27, and the Senate to-day by a vote of 41 to 6.

It will be submitted to a vote of the people in August, 1901, at the same time State officers are voted for.

The object of the amendment is to eliminate the ignorant negro vote. To do this educational, property and poll tax qualifications are prescribed. But this is made ineffective to white people, but the further provision that any person can vote who was entitled to vote on January 1, 1867, or any time prior thereto, or whose ancestors were so entitled to vote.

Murdered While Asleep.

CHICAGO, Feb. 18.—While asleep in his home at 1023 North Clark street, John Sundstrom, a shoemaker, was shot and killed by Andrew Nelson, a boarder at the house. Nelson, who is a cousin of Sundstrom's wife, entered and fired three bullets into Sundstrom, killing him instantly. Mrs. Sundstrom awoke in time to see the last two shots fired at her husband. After killing Sundstrom Nelson danced about the room shouting like a maniac. He was finally overpowered by persons attracted by the shooting and taken to the police station. Jealousy is said to have prompted the crime.

Lord Charles Beresford.

CHICAGO, Feb. 18.—Lord Charles Beresford and party will leave here on the Michigan Central's fast Eastern express at 3 p. m. to-morrow, arriving at Niagara Falls early Monday morning, and Buffalo at 7:45 a. m., after seeing the magnificent spectacle of the New York bridge and winter scenery at Niagara Falls. They will leave Buffalo Monday evening for Washington via the Pennsylvania railroad. Arrangements have been made by the Michigan Central officials to extend the courtesy of special attentions to the distinguished party.