DISCUSS RAILROAD RATES.

J. J. HILL AT WHITE HOUSE

Mr. Hepburn's Bill Soon To Be Introduced in Congress.

[FROM THE TRIBUNE BUREAU.]

Washington, Jan. 14.—A bill supposed to embody President Roosevelt's ideas on interstate commerce legislation will soon be introduced in the House by Representative Hepburn, of Iowa, chairman of the Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce. The measure is practically complete now, and is only waiting for the approval of a number of authorities whose opinions the author is anxious to secure. Mr. Hepburn called at the White House this afternoon and discussed the features of the bill with President Roosevelt and Secretary Taft. Later in the day the President, Secretary Morton and James J. Hill, president of the Great Northern Railroad, took up the matter and discussed its various features.

"I am of the opinion that the present Congress will pass some interstate commerce legislation this session," said Representative Hepburn after his talk with the President. "I will present my bill to the House within a few days, and there is no reason in the world why it should not be disposed of by the Representatives before the end of January. The Senate can then have all the time it wishes in which to make the improvements that occur to it. The bill I am preparing will follow the President's suggestions in his Message so far as they go, and will provide the machinery for carrying out his ideas."

"Do you provide for a court in your bill?" Mr. Hepburn was asked.

"Wouldn't you, if you were looking around for a solution of the interstate commerce problem?" he replied. "If not by a court, how would you ascertain certain facts and make certain orders? There will be a conference, possibly at the White House, within a few days to talk over this matter in a more exhaustive manner."

"Who will be present?"

"Well, the Attorney General will be one; the Secretary of War will be another. Possibly the President will also attend if it is held at the White House."

"Won't you be there?"

"I scarcely think so. But my work will be in evidence," replied Representative Hepburn with a smile.

Secretary Morton and Mr. Hill remained with the President for an hour after luncheon. Beyond the statement that "rates were discussed," no information concerning the meeting was given out. It is understood that both at the luncheon and after it was finished the President and his guests talked earnestly over the all absorbing topic.

RIPLEY ON REBATES.

President of Santa Fe Explains Operation of That Road.

Chicago, Jan. 14.—E. P. Ripley, president of the Atchison, Topeka and Santa Fe Railroad, in further explanation of his telegram to the Interstate Commerce Commission regarding his withdrawal of a request for a rehearing of the case in which it is alleged that his company gave rebates to the Colorado Fuel and Iron Company on coal shipments, said this evening:

The statements that have been made relative to the recent hearing of the Interstate Commerce Commission for the purpose of investigating New-Mexico coal rates indicate an utter misconception of the facts disclosed by the testimony, which are as follows:

The mining industries in Arizona and old Mexico, located upon the El Paso and Southwestern Railroad and its connections, have long been important customers of the Atchison company, by reason of their large consumption of bituminous coal. The favored coal, by reason of its quality for steam purposes, is that mined in Northern New-Mexico and Southern Colorado. All the mines situated on the Atchison, Topeka and Santa Fe Railroad producing this quality of coal were owned or controlled by the Colorado Fuel and Iron Company. Some two years ago the Atchison company in competing for this business was confronted with the necessity of making a specific freight rate which would encourage the industries mentioned to use coal, instead of oil, which was then being considered and had become a practicable and cheap fuel in consequence of large discoveries of oil in Texas and California. As a result of various negotiations, an arrangement was arrived at whereby the Atchison company agreed that it would carry coal from the mines to Deming for $2 90 a ton, and would there deliver the same to the El Paso and Southwestern Railroad Company, collecting, in addition to its own freight rate of $2 90, the sum of $1 10 for the Colorado Fuel Company, as was the custom of all roads in that territory.

Through some inexplicable mistake the joint rate which was put in force to cover this arrangement, and which should have shown upon its face that the rate included the price of coal, failed to disclose such fact, and as a consequence it is possible there may have been an unintentional violation of the law. But it is obvious that no one was injured thereby, because the Colorado Fuel and Iron Company received under the arrangement nothing more than the contract price for its coal, and there were no other shippers in that field.

The absurdity of the current reports to the effect that rebates were paid the Colorado Fuel and Iron Company is clearly shown by the fact that the fuel company had no interest whatever in the freight rates, all of which were paid by the consumers.

FIX PASSENGER RATES.

Chicago, Jan. 14.—With the exception of the Michigan Central, all of the railroads extending eastward from Chicago have decided to fix passenger rates absolutely by agreement. The Michigan Central has withheld its vote until the opinion of the general counsel regarding the legality of the agreement can be had.

KILL MASKED ROBBER.

Lonely Pennsylvania Home Had Been Frequently Terrorized.

Monaca, Penn., Jan. 14.—Two masked men attempted to rob the home of Abram, James and Sarah Lanz, in Hanover Township, last night, and one of them was shot and instantly killed by William McHenry, employed as a guard. The dead man's companion escaped, but is believed to have been injured.

Within six months the Lanz home, which is situated in a remote part of the country, had been robbed several times, the robbers subjecting the two brothers and sister, who are all over seventy-five years of age, to brutal treatment. The dead man is unknown, and his companion is being pursued by farmers and oil operaters.

The whole country is aroused.

NATIONAL CITY'S ACTION WITHIN LAW.

Washington, Jan. 14.—Mr. Kane, Deputy Controller of the Currency, said to-day that he had received information from the national bank examiner in New-York City that he had investigated the circumstances connected with the certification of checks by the National City Bank for Munroe & Munroe, and found that the bank acted entirely within the law in its transactions with the firm named and the certification of its checks.

A. G. Loomis, whose resignation as a vice-president and director of the National City Bank, in consequence of his connection with the Montreal and Boston matter, was announced late on Friday, was not at the bank yesterday, and none of the other officers would say anything about the case. Mr. Loomis's resignation will be accepted by the directors at their next meeting, it is understood.

CATARRH CONQUERED.

Remarkable Cures Follow Introduction of New Drug, Ascatco.

Vienna, Jan. 14.—Evidence of the wonderful cures effected by the new Austrian discovery, ascatco, in catarrh, asthma and bronchitis, continue to pour in from all parts of Europe. Catarrh, evidently, this time, has met its master. Consular reports show that obstinate cases have been cured by 500 drops. The dose is minute, being but seven drops daily.

The Austrian dispensary, No. 6 East Fourteenth street, New York, has been empowered to carry on the work in this country of stamping out these three dreaded diseases, and to this end will give sample bottles on application at the dispensary or will send them by mail free, on request by letter, to persons in all parts of the United States.

STRAUS ON THE TREATIES.

Believes They Will Be Ratified in Their Present Form.

[FROM THE TRIBUNE BUREAU.]

Washington, Jan. 14.—"I believe the arbitration treaties will pass as the President wants them to be ratified, in their present shape," said Oscar S. Straus, former Minister to Turkey, at the White House to-day. "I have talked with a great many Senators about them, and find the sentiment most favorable as a whole. There is nothing in the opposition talk. It is all a bogie. We have treaties with many powers now that are much broader than those the President wishes ratified. Look at the treaty with Mexico. It is much broader; yet no one ever tried to stir up trouble over that. I am interesting myself over the treaties, merely as a private citizen who is anxious for universal peace."

MORMON OBLIGATIONS.

Not in Conflict with Citizen's Duties, Smoot Witnesses Say.

Washington, Jan. 14.—Eleven witnesses testified to-day before the Senate Committee on Privileges and Elections in the investigation of protests against the seating of Senator Reed Smoot. All except two told of political conditions in Utah and of the Mormon endowment house ceremony. Several witnesses said the ceremony included no obligations that were in conflict with the duties of a citizen to the State or nation. Chairman Burrows asked two of the witnesses to give the nature of the ceremonies, but both refused, on the ground that they had taken oaths not to divulge proceedings within the Temple. They both said they were not Mormons now, one having been expelled and the other voluntarily withdrawing.

James A. Miner, formerly a justice of the Supreme Court under Territorial and State governments, told of the prosecutions for polygamous cohabitation, expressing the opinion that polygamy was now almost a thing of the past and that the sentiment of the Mormons in the State was against plural marriages.

BRISTOW SORRY TO GO.

But Looks to His New Duties with Pleasure—No Successor Chosen.

Washington, Jan. 14.—Fourth Assistant Postmaster General Bristow, who has been appointed special commissioner to investigate trade conditions and other matters effecting the Panama Railroad and Steamship Company, said to-day:

I suppose I have made some enemies since I undertook the duties of Fourth Assistant Postmaster General, but I also believe I have made some friends. At any rate, I know that there are many men who have had business with this office who have said that, notwithstanding their opposing opinion in some of the acts I have taken, I have tried to do my duty and have acted as I thought was for the best interests of the service and according to what I felt to be the right thing. It has been in many respects a hard office to fill, and in many other respects a pleasant one. I leave the office with regret, but feel that the appointment which the President has made will be a pleasant one to fill. I am going to try my best to meet the expectations of the President and Secretary Taft.

Mr. Bristow has selected James T. Watson, formerly of Lake Placid, N. Y., who has been his private secretary for several years, as his stenographer.

The successor of Mr. Bristow probably will not be chosen until after Mr. Cortelyou, who is now in Europe, becomes Postmaster General, and the duties of the office in the mean time will be performed by Chief Clerk Conrad as acting fourth assistant.

Mr. Bristow has not formulated any plans for his new work as yet, and will devote the remainder of the time until his resignation becomes effective to closing up the affairs of the present office.

POWER OF REAPPORTIONMENT.

Mr. Underwood Wants the Supreme Court to Advise Congress.

Washington, Jan. 14.—Representative Underwood, of Alabama, introduced a joint resolution to-day requesting the Supreme Court of the United States to advise Congress as to whether the power to apportion Representatives to the several States is a continuing power or is dependent solely on the happening of a decennial census. The resolution is as follows:

Resolved, by the Senate and the House of Representatives, That the Supreme Court of the United States is hereby requested to advise the Congress whether or not under the powers granted to the Congress by the Constitution of the United States and the several amendments thereto to apportion the representation among the several States, the Congress can exercise that power at any and all times or is limited in the exercise of that power after it has once been employed, to the taking of another enumeration of the people of the United States as provided for in the Constitution.

The resolution was referred to the committee on the census.

HOUSE MAKES A SPEED RECORD.

Passes 459 Pension Bills in 103 Minutes—Some of Them for Dead People.

Washington, Jan. 14.—When the House met to-day Mr. Gillett, of Massachusetts, called up a resolution of inquiry relative to political activity on the part of letter carriers introduced by Mr. Hearst. He asked that the House agree to the resolution, explaining that it called on the President and Postmaster General for information. It was agreed to.

On motion of Mr. Sulloway, the House took up consideration of private pension bills, that being the regular order for the day.

The first pension bill was to correct a military record. Mr. Maddox, of Georgia, made many inquiries regarding the case, which Mr. Loudenslager, of New-Jersey, endeavored to answer. Many details regarding desertion and re-enlistment were brought out, and Mr. Maddox's objections were becoming vigorous.

"He will apply at once to be placed on the pension roll," he exclaimed.

"Oh, he's dead," Mr. Loudenslager hastened to explain.

"Dead?" repeated Mr. Maddox, with so much surprise in his voice that the House laughed.

"I move that an engrossed copy of our proceedings be sent to him," remarked Mr. Grosvenor.

"Where?" asked Mr. Loudenslager.

A new speed record for legislation was made in the passage of 459 pension bills in 103 minutes. The beneficiaries of five of the bills have died since the relief measures have been on the House calendar. A widow of a soldier in the War of 1812, Mrs. Rachel H. Coleman, of Chicago, secured an increase of pension to $24 a month.

A bill revising the Copyright law with reference to trademarks was passed at the instance of Mr. Bonynge, of Colorado.

A bill was passed to prohibit the use of the words "United States Assay" or any words committing the government to the quality of gold or silver articles.

FOR PHILIPPINE SCHOOLS.

Proposal to Set Aside 30 Per Cent of Public Lands in the Islands.

Washington, Jan. 14.—Representative Cooper, of Wisconsin, chairman of the House Committee on Insular Affairs, to-day introduced a bill providing that 30 per cent of the public lands of the Philippine Islands be set aside, the proceeds from their sale to be devoted to school purposes. The lands set aside shall be exclusive of those known as the "friars' lands."

TO CUT PHILIPPINE TARIFF.

Bill to Admit All Articles Free Except Sugar and Tobacco.

Washington, Jan. 14.—Representative Curtis, of Kansas, introduced a bill to-day providing for the free entry into the United States of all articles, the growth or product of the Philippines except sugar and tobacco, on which a duty of 25 per cent of the Dingley rates is provided.

TO PRESERVE THE FUR SEALS.

Washington, Jan. 14.—Senator Proctor, for Senator Dillingham, to-day introduced a joint resolution to prevent the killing of nursing mother fur seals in the North Pacific Ocean and Behring Sea. The bill authorizes the reduction of the herd on the Pribyloff Islands to ten thousand male and ten thousand female seals if the President fails within a reasonable time to secure modifications of the international regulations concerning the killing of seals in the open seas.

FOR TARIFF CHANGES.

Wisconsin Republican Congressmen Favor Early Readjustment.

Washington, Jan. 14.—The Republican members of the Wisconsin delegation in the House held a meeting to-day, all being present except Mr. Jenkins, and the following resolutions declaring for an early readjustment of the tariff were adopted unanimously:

Whereas, The National Republican platform of 1896, upon which our present tariff law is based, declares that "we are not pledged to any particular schedule; the question of rates is a practical question to be governed by the conditions of the time and of production"; and

Whereas, The national convention of 1904 declared that "the measure of protection should always at least equal the difference in the cost of production at home and abroad, we insist upon the maintenance of the principles of protection, and, therefore, rates of duty should be readjusted only when conditions have so changed that the public interest demands their alteration"; and

Whereas, We believe that conditions regarding the cost of production have so changed since the Dingley law was enacted, eight years ago, that the rates of duty provided for in certain schedules represent more than the difference in cost of production between articles manufactured in this country and abroad; therefore

Resolved, That the Republican members of the Wisconsin delegation in the House of Representatives favor an early revision of those schedules in the Dingley act which are higher than is necessary to afford adequate protection.

IN THE SENATE.

Status of American Women Who Marry Foreigners Discussed.

Washington, Jan. 14.—At the beginning of to-day's session of the Senate Mr. Dubois introduced an amendment to the Statehood bill prohibiting the practice or encouragement of polygamy in the proposed States of Oklahoma and Arizona. The provision is in the language of the Idaho test oath.

The Senate began consideration of a bill regulating the restoration to citizenship of American women who have married foreigners.

Mr. Nelson said the bill was intended to apply to women of this country who married abroad, and who were divorced, or whose husbands died.

Mr. Bacon said that as the bill stood it did not require the conditions named by Mr. Nelson to enable the American wife of a foreigner to secure restoration to citizenship.

Mr. Depew said it was not the intention of the bill to confine it to widows and divorced women, but to all women who have foreign husbands. The woman suffragists and the women of the American League, he said, took exception to the fact that women lost their citizenship by marrying a foreigner, while men did not.

Mr. Hale expressed the opinion that when women married their citizenship was merged in that of their husbands.

Mr. Lodge suggested an amendment confining the operation of the bill to widows and lawfully divorced women.

Mr. Tillman protested against the amendment as discriminating against "grass widows." "We should not," he said, "entirely cut off those of our women who enter upon foreign marital relations because they are so crazy about titles, and who may want to get back among decent gentlemen."

Mr. Depew defended international marriages as natural and due to "the good old-fashioned American reason of propinquity. My observation is," he added, "that the title generally chases the girl, and not the girl the title."

The amendment was accepted.

Mr. Heyburn suggested, and Mr. McCumber offered an amendment, requiring women taking advantage of the provisions of the proposed law to renounce all titles of nobility which they may have acquired, and it was agreed to.

At the suggestion of Mr. Spooner the bill went over for a day.

A bill making it a felony to counterfeit the great seal of the United States was passed. Mr. Lodge said there was at present no protection against the use of the national seal.

The Philippine Railroad bill was sent to conference, with Senators Lodge, Hale and Culberson as conferees.

The following bills were passed: Authorizing the sale of obsolete arms to grand army posts; providing that in the retirement of petty officers and enlisted men of the navy the entire service of the men shall be taken into account; authorizing the President to make temporary assignment of diplomatic and consular officers who may be detained from their proper posts; removing the time limitation on the payment of bounties to ex-soldiers.

Mr. Beveridge made another effort to get a time fixed for taking a vote on the Statehood bill, but Mr. Bate said the opponents of the bill are not yet prepared to fix a day, and could not say when they would be. He added that several speeches were still to be made, and that when those were delivered the opposition would be "liberal."

The Senate then went into executive session, and a few minutes later adjourned.

NIEDRINGHAUS DENIES PLEDGES.

Busch, the Brewer, Says Money Was To Be Paid Back if Democrats Won Missouri.

St. Louis, Jan. 14.—In the investigation of T. K. Niedringhaus by the Senate and House committees, and their probing the accusations that he, as chairman of the State Republican Committee, received improper campaign contributions, Mr. Niedringhaus denied that he had made promises to anybody in return for contributions from brewers. Adolphus Busch, on the stand, said that the fund was a guarantee, and it was expected that half of it would be paid back if the State was lost to the Republicans, and all of it if the national committee had any money left. He said that the first check for $2,500 was sent by the Anheuser-Busch Brewing Company, and not by himself personally.

Thomas J. Akins, national committeeman, denied that he had promised federal jobs in return for votes for Niedringhaus for United States Senator.

The report of the committee will be drawn up at the meeting on Monday, in order that it may reach the House before the voting for United States Senator begins at noon on Tuesday.

According to the Republican members of the committee, who are in a majority, the report will conclude with a statement that they found nothing to substantiate the charge of Representative Grace that the money was given by brewers for the purpose of influencing legislation.

Mr. Busch also said in the course of the investigation:

I will first state that I made a contribution to the campaign fund of $2,500 in the month of October. Shortly after that Senator Fairbanks came to St. Louis and delivered a speech at Lemp's Hall. I asked Mr. Niedringhaus to invite him and his party to my house to dinner after the speech. About 11 o'clock Senator Fairbanks and his friends left the house, and the gentlemen that remained went down with me into my cellar to enjoy another glass of wine and a smoke. In the course of a political conversation Niedringhaus declared that if he had $25,000 more he felt sure he could carry the State for the Republican electoral ticket.

I replied: "It's too bad you have not got it, Tom."

I told him I would be one, with him and Stifel, to advance the amount. I had already contributed $2,500 to the State fund and I said I was willing to advance $10,000 additional if Niedringhaus and Stifel would guarantee the balance. This was agreed to.

Representative O'Donnell then asked: "Did you pay this amount as agreed?"

Mr. Busch answered: "I paid it in two instalments. Mr. Niedringhaus said he would see Mr. Cortelyou, manager of the national campaign, and if there were any funds available he would try to have it refunded to the St. Louis guarantors."

Mr. O'Donnell—Did you make the agreement to subscribe to a guarantee fund with any idea of getting returns in the way of legislation?

Mr. Busch—The idea is preposterous. I would not do such a thing.

NOMINATIONS BY THE PRESIDENT.

Washington, Jan. 14.—The President sent the following nominations to the Senate to-day:

Commissioner of Pensions—VESPASIAN WARNER, of Illinois.

Associate Justice of the Supreme Court of the Philippine Islands—CHARLES A. WILLARD, of Minnesota.

Also postmasters and promotions in the navy.

GOVERNOR BRADY CONFIRMED.

Washington, Jan. 14.—The Senate to-day confirmed the nomination of John G. Brady, reappointed Governor of Alaska. There has been a long contest over the case, and the nomination has been held up for some time. Postmasters and promotions in the army also were confirmed.

IT'S BAD TO READ TOO FAST, as you may overlook the little advertisements in the narrow columns.

SOUGHT FIVE YEARS.

Former Yachting and Horse Show Man Arrested.

C. Lawton Work, at one time prominent in yachting and horse show circles, was held in $2,500 bail by United States Commissioner Shields yesterday on an indictment nearly five years old charging fraud in an investment company. Work was arrested at his apartment, occupying an entire floor at No. 237 West End-ave., on Friday night. It is alleged by the United States authorities that Work, since the indictment in May, 1900, has been chased practically all over the world, through Europe, Africa, India and Australia.

He spent money lavishly, it is said, and eluded his pursuers, and by chance was found to be here, living as lavishly as before. When the police heard of his presence here Postmaster Inspector Holden, of Philadelphia, was informed. He brought the indictment here and arrested him. Work was first arraigned in the Tombs Court, where he was immediately discharged and taken into custody by Holden for arraignment before the United States authorities. Before them his examination was adjourned until Saturday, January 28. Work was bailed out, his bondsman being William Nelson, of Seventh-ave. and Thirtieth-st.

NO STRIKE AGREEMENT.

Douglas's Fall River Strike Conference to Meet Again.

Boston, Jan. 14.—The conference held at the State House to-day on invitation of Governor Douglas, between a committee of the Fall River cotton goods manufacturers and representatives of their striking employes, closed at 6 o'clock this evening, no agreement for the settlement of the strike having been reached. Another conference will be held at the State House Wednesday next.

Following adjournment, Governor Douglas's private secretary gave out the following statement, which contains all the Governor wished to make public regarding the conference:

The Fall River strike has not been settled. After an eight hour conference, the meeting was adjourned until Wednesday at 10:30 o'clock in the morning, at the executive department, State House.

Though hope of a settlement to-day had been entertained by many of the labor people, their representatives were not disheartened to-night, and it is believed that the movement, fathered by the Governor, may still result in ending a strike that for six months has been attended with much suffering on the part of the nearly 26,000 strikers, and with loss to the mill owners.

CROKER BACKED OUT.

Had Planned to Surprise Friends in Saratoga, but Courage Failed Him.

A friend of Richard Croker, who returned from a visit to the former Tammany chieftain in Wantage last week, says that Mr. Croker will not visit this country until after the next Mayoralty campaign.

"Mr. Croker," added The Tribune's informant, "was on the point of giving his friends a big surprise last August, when his courage seemed to fail him. We convinced him that it would be a nice little surprise for his friends in this country for him to sail from London to Montreal, and take a train from there for Saratoga, and drop in on his friends at the Saratoga track without any warning whatever. That would have been getting the best of the newspaper men. The scheme seemed to take with Mr. Croker, but when it came time to pack up and get ready to take passage, his courage seemed to ooze, and he backed out. Probably he will not be home until after the Mayoralty election."

INDUS IS STILL FAST.

Hope of Relief To-day—More than 1,500 Tons of Sugar Lost.

[BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.]

Eastport, N. Y., Jan. 14.—After more than forty-eight hours of effort Fire Island tugs have moved the stranded Indus only forty feet seaward. There are three tugs at work, and the crews expect to make a launching at high tide, early to-morrow morning. Fifteen hundred tons of sugar have been jettisoned and two lighters loaded. The Lloyds, with whom the ship is insured, sent a representative aboard this afternoon. The crew to-night are throwing three bags of sugar into the sea to one on the lighter. Captain Kydd and his crew are still on board.

SMOKE DOWNS CONVICTS.

Thirty Overcome by Fire in Jersey Reformatory.

Rahway, N. J., Jan. 14.—Fire was discovered in the New-Jersey State Reformatory here early this morning. The institution is overcrowded, and there was great excitement among the prisoners. They were marched to the yard under a heavy guard. About thirty convicts were overcome by smoke. They were soon resuscitated.

The origin of the fire is a mystery, although it is attributed to spontaneous combustion. The flames were confined to the paint department, but the records of the Bertillon system in the annex building were so water soaked as to be worthless. The loss will probably reach $10,000. It is said that the fire apparatus in the prison was defective and that the hose was rotten. The bursting of the hose is said to have hampered the guards when the blaze started and prevented them from throwing a sufficient volume of water.

CRITICISES GOVERNOR.

But Brooklyn Bar Association Says He Acted Within His Rights.

That in the designation of Justices Rich and Miller, from outside of the district, to serve temporarily with the Appellate Division of the Second Department, sitting in Brooklyn, the Governor had acted clearly within his right under the letter of the amendment to Section 2, Article VI, of the constitution, but that he violated the spirit of the law, is the opinion of the special committee of the Brooklyn Bar Association appointed to investigate the matter, which made its report at a meeting held in the law library of the Kings County Court House yesterday afternoon.

"While we have no criticism to make on the score of the personality of the men selected," says the report, "we believe that his (the Governor's) act in so doing is one which, under the circumstances, cannot be commended by the bar of this department."

The criticism of the Brooklyn lawyers is that in designating Justices Rich and Miller, who are non-residents, the Governor has brought it about that a majority of the court, or four out of seven, belong to other than the Second Department

TO BUILD A RED CROSS HOSPITAL.

William T. Wardwell Offers $100,000 for a Site Near Fort George.

William T. Wardwell, ex-treasurer of the Standard Oil Company, and president of the New-York Red Cross Hospital, has promised not less than $100,000 for a site for a Red Cross hospital in this city. A building is to be erected with all the latest hospital improvements. Private and charitable cases will be taken, and it will maintain a training school for Red Cross nurses.

The officers of the present hospital are: William T. Wardwell, president; John S. Huyler, vice-president; Alfred L. Manierre, treasurer; Allen Wardwell, secretary; A. Monae Lesser, executive surgeon, and Sister Bettina, sister in chief. The trustees are John P. Faure, William A. Gans, John S. Huyler, Edward R. Johns, Dr. A. Monae Lesser, Mrs. A. M. Lesser, Orleans Longacre, Alfred L. Manierre, William T. Wardwell and Allen Wardwell.

The hospital now occupies modest quarters at No. 110 West Eighty-second-st., and has treated some five thousand cases, drawn almost exclusively from the poor.

Appreciating the necessity for the erection of a hospital in the upper part of this city, owing to the increase of population there, William T. Wardwell and his associates have determined to place the new building near Fort George.

ARMY AND NAVY NEWS.

[FROM THE TRIBUNE BUREAU.]

Washington, January 14.

TO RESTORE MIDSHIPMEN.—Representative Kyle, of Ohio, in a bill introduced to-day, authorizes and empowers the President to appoint to the naval service the three midshipmen who were dismissed from the Naval Academy on November 6, 1903, as a result of a court martial.

CASE OF MAJOR FOSTER.—General Grant, commanding the Department of the East, has approved, with certain reservations, the action of the court martial in acquitting Major Charles W. Foster, artillery corps, who, it was alleged, sent a challenge to Captain James M. Williams, of the same corps. General Grant intimates that the court's decision was based on a technicality, and he admonished Major Foster against allowing himself to be intemperately provoked against his brother officers.

SPEARIN GETS DOCK CONTRACT AGAIN.—The Navy Department has awarded the contract for the construction of the drydock at the New-York Navy Yard to G. W. Spearin, of that city. Mr. Spearin was the lowest bidder on both occasions, his bid on the first opening being $673,292. He then alleged that he had made a mistake in his calculations, and that it was his intention to bid $773,292. However, the department had no alternative except to require the bidder to whom the contract had been formally awarded to surrender his certified check for $25,000. In the second opening of bids, on December 21, Spearin was again the lowest bidder, his bid being $773,292. Mr. Spearin will continue his efforts to obtain from the Navy Department the certified check, possibly availing himself of legislation to that end.

OFFICERS' FURNITURE TAXABLE.—An army officer stationed in the Hawaiian Islands has recently written to the War Department asking if his property not of military character can be taxed. He has been informed that such power rests with the local authorities. An officer or soldier of the army, though not taxable officially, may be and is taxable personally. He would not be taxable by the State for his pay, or for his arms, instruments, uniform clothing, or other property pertaining to his military office or capacity, but as to his household furniture and other personal property not military, he is, except where stationed at places under the exclusive jurisdiction of the United States, fully subject with other residents to taxation under the local law.

ORDERS ISSUED.—The following army and navy orders have been issued:

ARMY.

Lieutenant Colonel JOHN TWEEDALE, assistant adjutant general, and Major WINTHROP S. WOOD, quartermaster, detailed members board of officers at Army Medical Museum.

First Lieutenant JOHN M'CLINTOCK, from 5th to 9th Cavalry.

First Lieutenant DENNIS P. QUINLAN, from 9th to 5th Cavalry.

NAVY.

Captain B. F. TILLEY, to command the Iowa.

Captain T. C. M'LEAN, detached navy yard, League Island; to the Pennsylvania.

Commander G. W. MENTZ, detached the Yankee; to charge naval recruiting station, Philadelphia.

Commander C. LAIRD, detached the Michigan; to navy yard, Norfolk.

Commander H. MORRELL, detached the Marietta; to command the Michigan.

Lieutenant J. M. HUDGKINS, to the Kearsarge.

Ensign H. T. WINSTON, to Bureau of Steam Engineering, Navy Department.

Surgeon F. L. PLEADWELL, detached naval dispensary, Washington; to naval hospital, Yokohama.

Passed Assistant Surgeon R. W. PLUMMER, detached naval hospital, San Juan.

Passed Assistant Surgeon W. M. GARTON, detached naval hospital, Yokohama; home.

Paymaster H. L. ROBINS, detached navy yard, Pensacola; await orders.

Passed Assistant Paymaster F. G. PYNE, detached navy yard, New-York; to navy yard, Pensacola.

MOVEMENTS OF NAVAL VESSELS.—The following movements of vessels have been reported to the Navy Department:

ARRIVED.

January 13—The Texas, the Nevada and the Florida at Key West; the Yankee at League Island.

SAILED.

January 9—The Texas, the Nevada and the Florida from Hampton Roads for Key West.

January 13—The Hull from Boston for Newport; the Massachusetts from New-York for Culebra; the Cæsar from Lambert's Point for Culebra; the Eagle from Rockland for Boston.

January 14.—The Callao from Hong Kong for Canton.

NAVAL NOTES.

The official announcement that Yamashita, the Japanese professor of physical culture, has signed a contract to teach the younger navy officers at the Naval Academy the advanced Japanese art of offence and defence has caused unexpected interest among the officers, and many of those who graduated a score or more years ago would like to be restored to their youth, so that they might take courses in it. But this physical culture is not "jiu jitsu," as popularly supposed, but is known in Japan as the "judo" culture, and is popular in the empire of the Mikado. For instance, jiu jitsu includes the art of inflicting greater or less injuries on an opponent, while the one skilled in judo can readily restore the injured person—if he wishes to. It is said that Professor Yamashita has choked an antagonist into unconsciousness for a full hour and then restored him without bad results. As ordinarily practised judo benefits the physical and muscular sytem, especially those suffering from weak hearts and lungs or from diseases of the nervous system. The professor is to have an assistant who is well up in the art.

The cruiser Chattanooga was inspected by the general survey board from Washington on Friday, and then came rumors that there were "hurry orders" for her to go to sea, which reports caused much consternation and sorrow to the families and relatives of both officers and enlisted men, who had understood that she would be detained several weeks for repairs. The fact that certain repairs recommended by the several departments had not even been started strengthened the views that the vessel was going away for the rest of the winter, but, in fact, the repairs and alterations are put off for a few days only. The vessel is to leave the navy yard on Tuesday or Wednesday, but she is going away as one of the vessels to take part in the steam trials of the battleship Maryland that are scheduled to be made next week, and then she is to return here to be made ready for a cruise. The work on the machinery and boilers to make amends for the delinquencies of the contractors will take the longest time, and these will keep her at the yard at least a month.

DELAWARE'S NEW SECRETARY OF STATE.

[BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.]

Dover, Del., Jan. 14.—Governor-elect Lea appointed Joseph L. Cahall, of Georgetown, Del., to-day, as his Secretary of State. As a result, it is generally conceded here to-night that the Senate will organize on Monday by electing A. B. Conner Speaker pro tempore. The regulars, however, say this will not happen, and that before Conner is elected they will vote for D. C. Rose, the Democratic candidate.

FIRE IN ROYAL VICTORIA HOSPITAL.

Montreal, Jan. 14.—Fire broke out early to-day in the kitchen of the Royal Victoria Hospital, on the brow of Mount Royal, but by the efforts of the firemen the flames were confined to the centre of the building. The mass of flames, which showed on the mountain top, brought thousands of people to the place, many of them with sleighs and appliances to remove their friends and relatives who were patients. Fortunately, there was no necessity for the removal of any of them, and at 8:20 the fire was under control. The damage is estimated at $150,000, fully insured.

PRESIDENT M'KINLEY'S NIECE WEDS.

Mrs. Ida McKinley Morse, widow of the late Judge George F. Morse, of the United States Court for the District of California, was married to Harry Rowell Cooper, of San Francisco, at the Church of the Transfiguration yesterday by the Rev. Dr. George C. Houghton. They were attended by the bride's daughter, Miss Marjorie Morse, and Colonel Kowalsky, the Belgian representative in New-York for the Congo Free State. Mrs. Cooper is a niece of the late President McKinley and a daughter of the late David McKinley, ex-American Consul at Honolulu.

RIVER AND HARBOR BILL PROBABLE.

Washington, Jan. 14.—The House Committee on Rivers and Harbors expects to report a bill making appropriations for river and harbor work, but as yet nothing definite can be learned as to the amount it will carry.

THE WAGGAMAN SALE SATURDAY.

The art treasures collected by Thomas E. Waggaman will be on view at the American Art Galleries, in Madison Square South, day and evening, beginning next Saturday, prior to the sale.

NEW-YORKER ATTEMPTS SUICIDE.

Geneva, N. Y., Jan. 14.—A passenger on the Black Diamond Express, who gave the name of John Henry Conway, cut his throat with a razor at the Lehigh Valley passenger station, in this city, to-day. He was removed to the City Hospital. He said he had lost all his money, and did not want to see his mother in his present condition. He said he lived at No. 83 West Houston-st., New-York City.

WASTE NOTHING.

Your cast-off garments are worth money. See the "Little Ads. of the People."

The Financial World.

Absence of public speculation has been keeping the security market dull and narrow, prices moving within close range but revealing intrinsic strength. The very fact that dullness does not produce decline demonstrates the strength of conditions, which remain as nearly flawless as they could be. The crops of 1904 are mostly out of first hands and the major part of their value—five billion dollars—has passed into the possession of the agricultural community, stimulating all business. Industrial growth continues healthily, notably so in the iron and steel trades. Naturally, the shares of the United States Steel Corporation appreciate. The company's ability to maintain preferred dividends is proven beyond doubt and a surplus is accumulating which will sooner or later warrant resumption of dividends on the common stock. Conservative authorities all agree that demand for steel products will from now on be on a scale never before known—consumptive capacity soon to outstrip productive capacity.

One development which is likely to exert continuing influence will appear in the disclosed betterment for the group of lesser priced steel and iron stocks. There has been material progress in the establishment of those properties on profit making bases—none the less substantial because unparaded. With normal conditions continuing, we are likely therefore to see appreciation in market value for shares not recently conspicuous, like Republic Steel, Steel Foundries, Railway Steel Spring, and others with similar business relations. The phenomenal things that have come to pass in the re-establishment of the United States Steel Corporation's investment credit are indicative of far more than can be restricted to that one great corporation's own record.

So the anthracite coal shares—all strong—are destined to show greater strength. Erie's coal trade relations, for example, are of themselves sufficient to warrant the market value improvement which in this review has been so steadily insisted upon.

Investment demand is signally testified to by the unceasing activity in bonds, transactions on the Stock Exchange averaging from $4,000,000 to $6,000,000 a day to which must be added the much larger unrecorded sales by bond houses and banks. No matter how dull stocks get bond sales do not diminish—and demand for high price standard dividend paying stocks fairly rival demands for bonds. Evidence of confident investment all over the country is overwhelming. Outside of certain Wall Street circles no pessimistic talk is heard; on the contrary, important conservative authorities do not hesitate to proclaim their faith in American prosperity—as for example, the answer of Marshall Field to the question:

"Will the year 1905, in your opinion, be a prosperous one for the United States?"

"Yes," replied Mr. Field, "all signs indicate that."

Opinions of this kind command respect. Marshall Field never speaks equivocally.

Wall Street sensationalists, revelling in revelations as to the free and easy way in which fictitious quotations have recently been hippodromed in the Boston and Montreal performance, are able somewhat to damage the confidence of the outside public—for it is unfortunately not beyond suspicion that upon the New York Stock Exchange itself, and in much more ambitious undertakings, similar deceptive methods are here and there discernible. We have the spectacle of "activity" kept at boiling point in some stocks where relatively there is little current legitimate activity. This, of course, is no new thing—every strengthening market is soiled by intrusion of such features. They do not reflect the attitude, the purpose, or the license of those interests of character which have closest relations with the development of broad and healthful security market conditions. Further, it is true that this parasitical handicap can impose itself upon what are the very best parts of the security list. A pool is formed, brokers are hired, manipulative processes in variety are put to work—a property of such character being selected as will permit quotation exploitation because of intrinsic value. Take one current example—others unfortunately could be cited—the record made during the past two or three months in the churning up and down of quotations for Southern Railway common stock, till it has come to be a brokerage office jest that "transactions" of a million shares might occasionally cause a rise of almost a quarter of a point. It is wholly unnecessary to point out that for this extraordinary exhibit nobody connected with the Southern Railway itself has aught to do. There is a property representing what is of the very highest type of everything wholesome in corporation management—distinctly a monument of re-constructive genius. It is the very prosperity of the corporation that induces manipulative hands to lay hold of it and to make the market quotation for it even a topic for banter—the performance overmuch suggesting hand organ symphonies at a palace's back gate.

That the market as a whole is all right—that its natural tendency is toward improvement—and that we are likely soon to witness expansion in volume in trading as well as appreciation in market value—that these good things are close, is very generally the consensus of opinion now prevailing in Wall Street. What is particularly required at the moment is ability for discrimination. In these times of tendencies toward open accounting, it is not as difficult as formerly to obtain basic information regarding security values; and somewhat in token of the fact that this is recognized shows in the one notable decline on the Stock Exchange this week, the decline in Virginia-Carolina Chemical stock. This company's common stock rose from 17 to 44 on expectations of dividends. It sold last Summer at 22. It is now about 37—weakness having started on recent indications that any common stock dividend is now out of the question.

The company, emerging from its crisis of 1902 (when 29 per cent had to be paid for $6,000,000 accommodations), sold its fertiliser product last year at a profit approaching $3,