

MARRING GANG FLED ON YACHT?

WHICH IS NOW OFF LIVERPOOL, POSTAL INSPECTORS SAY.

Sophie Beck Planned This Mode of Escape and Stocked the Vessel for Three Months—Mysterious Craft Sighted Off Liverpool—Swindlers Made Contract.

PHILADELPHIA, March 29.—The post office inspectors who have been running down the get-rich-quick swindlers here declare that Sophie Beck, the woman who had most of the brains of the gang, is now on an ocean going yacht, beating about unfamiliar harbors and endeavoring to reach London. With her, they say, are a number of the missing men responsible for the rise and fall of the Storey Cotton Company and the Provident Investment Bureau. She led them to the yacht and she is trying to pilot them to safety.

Information of the presence of the yacht in Liverpool was received by the local authorities to-day in a cablegram. It was "Suspicious yacht, mysterious men and woman on board, believed to be crowded wanted in Philadelphia, outside Liverpool. Watching."

By a curious coincidence too, Receiver Broadly of the Storey concern, received from the Liverpool branch of the house a check for \$2,000. This will be added to the assets of the firm. The Liverpool branch had parted with the coin before the exposure came.

When the crash came the inspector learned that it was Sophie Beck who had planned the campaign for the escape of everyone wanted in connection with the conspiracy. She had gathered \$1,000,000 of the funds of the Storey Cotton Company, of which she acted as stenographer, and then vanished.

They learned all that, but they failed to learn how Sophie Beck had managed to elude them. And when the inspectors went to hunt for Frank C. Marrin, alias "Judge" Franklin Stone, and some of the other men who are charged with being implicated in the conspiracy, they failed to find them or to learn how they had escaped.

Then they were tipped off that a yacht had figured in the disappearance and they immediately sent warning to the English police. The cablegram to-day is their first answer. It now appears that Sophie Beck secured a yacht somewhere, far from Philadelphia, had it brought into the New York harbor, had it wait there until she gathered her little band of confederates together, and then set sail for Europe. One of the inspectors said to-night that Sophie Beck had laid her plans for escape so carefully that she even stocked the yacht with provisions to last three months or more.

Another phase of the situation was voted to-night by Receiver McLean of the Provident Bureau. "We have just come into information," he said, "which leads us to believe that the Storey and Provident concerns were only a part of a huge conspiracy and that its operations covered only a small part of a field which was designed to embrace the whole country. Our informant is a man who was formerly connected with one of the allied concerns. He has told us of the existence of a written agreement which is in the possession of a friend of Francis and Marrin and other leaders of the enterprise.

"A written agreement was drawn up and signed by all. The possibility that any one of the companies might be prosecuted by the authorities in any one of the more than five copies of the contract, where Federal officials might fall upon them. Only one copy was therefore made and it was given in charge of a man known to all whose trustworthiness could be relied upon.

"This man, whose identity was given us by our informant, we have seen. We demanded that he produce the agreement, but he denied having such a document in his possession or having seen any such document. We believe that he has it, and we are now deliberating as to whether legal steps can be taken against him for its recovery.

"There is no evidence that he was actually implicated in the swindles. We expect to have the paper in two or three days. Then there will be many arrests and what has gone before will be eclipsed entirely.

Another thing that developed was that on the books of the Provident Company there was a special list of ministers. W. H. Latimer, against whom two warrants have been issued charging him with being the promoter of the concern, evidently intended to make a speedy flight, and his name had been communicated with and had invested some of their money before the crash came.

WILKESBARRE, Pa., March 29.—A warrant has been issued by United States Commissioner Hahn of this city for the arrest of Raymond C. Hahn, a resident of Philadelphia. It charges him with using the mails for fraudulent purposes, and was served out by Post Office Inspector John J. Holby. Holby and two other officers have been scouring this part of the State and vicinity for Hahn. It is understood now that Latimer is not near this city.

SUBWAY ELECTRICIAN KILLED

Bridge Street-keeper Who Helped Out in an Emergency Mangled by Express Train.

Alfred T. Moore, an electrician, was killed by a subway express train at the Twenty-third street station yesterday morning about 7:30 o'clock. He was riding on the third rail on the southbound express track. The station was full of passengers, many of whom were women. Moore was crossing the platform. He apparently heard the train approaching and drew back to avoid being hit. The forward truck, however, struck him in the head. His body was lifted from the track and his clothing being entangled in the wheels. As the train whirled along, Moore was dashed against the pillars of the station. He was killed instantly. His body was taken to the morgue and it was expected that the coroner would hold an inquest on it to-day.

All southbound traffic was held up and the women on the station platform were almost in hysterics. A policeman had a hard time keeping them away from the edge of the platform, where they were in danger of falling to the track. Above was disturbed in an accident in the tunnel last August, and since then had been in charge of the store room at the bridge. He was on his way to work yesterday when the accident occurred. He was an expert electrician and was pressed into service for the emergency.

His wife, who is employed downtown, did not know of his death until late in the afternoon when she returned home. She said she was 30 years of age. The couple lived at 47 West Eighty-fourth street.

A Casual Dumb Celler.

Mrs. Chauncey Trux and two women friends were escorted by a maid last evening to Mrs. Trux's carriage in front of her house at 7 East Sixty-seventh street. The maid left the door of the house open and while her back was turned a deaf and dumb man went into the house and stole something of him and the police think he is of unusual intelligence. He was arrested at the station, where he was detained, as Samuel Rosenkoff of 81 West 132d street.

TO CURE A GOLD IN ONE DAY. The Leavitt Bromo Quinine Tablets. All druggists refund the money if it fails to cure. E. W. Cowley's signature is on each box. 25c a box.

HAS E. A. COWLEY ARRESTED

Pittsburg Hotel Man Says He Paid Bill With Bad Draft and Forgot the Change.

PITTSBURG, March 29.—Detectives Egan and Cole arrested E. A. Cowley of New York at the Hotel Anderson this evening, and locked him up charged with false pretense. At midnight Cowley is still behind the bars in spite of efforts made by many business friends here to have him liberated.

The warrant was sworn out by Manager Riley of the Hotel Sehenley, who alleges that about a year ago Cowley, after running up a bill of about \$50 at the Sehenley, gave a draft for \$150 in payment and that the draft proved worthless. In the meantime Cowley never called for his change. Hearing that the New York man was in town, stopping at the Anderson, Riley got the warrant.

Cowley says the whole thing is a mistake and that he was wronged. He is unable to say, however, to satisfy the authorities as to why he never sent for his change. At the urgent request of Pittsburg friends of the New York man, Manager Riley said to-night he would withdraw the charge if the old bill was paid, but friends here did not seem able to raise the amount.

IN MEMORY OF ADRIAN ISELIN.

Prayers for Him in Catholic Churches Though He Died a Protestant.

NEW ROCHELLE, N. Y., March 29.—Adrian Iselin, the banker, who died at his city home yesterday, will not be buried from any of the Roman Catholic churches he helped to establish. Although he gave the better part of a million dollars to that denomination and was commended by the Pope for his generosity the banker remained a Lutheran to the end.

Although Mr. Iselin will not be buried from the Catholic Church, all honors that can be shown him will be observed in each of the five parishes in which the family holds pews. Prayers will be offered for him in the Catholic churches and the schools which he helped to found, and reference will be made to his good deeds in the sermons following the masses on next Sunday.

Mayor Clark of New Rochelle issued the following proclamation to-night calling on all of the merchants and business men of the city to close their places during the hours of the funeral services.

To the Citizens of New Rochelle: In the death of Adrian Iselin New Rochelle has suffered an irreparable loss. Mr. Iselin was New Rochelle's foremost citizen, and in making this statement I voice not only my own sentiments, but those of the entire community.

Mr. Iselin was a man of great public spirit, of extensive charities and a philanthropist in the broadest sense. His bounty has been in an especial sense bestowed upon the city of New Rochelle, and it is so well known and appreciated as to need no recital at this time.

As a slight token of respect to Mr. Iselin, it is the duty of the city to display at half mast on all public buildings of our city until and during the day of his funeral, and request that our citizens unite in a similar act at their respective residences.

As a further mark of respect for the public schools of our city will be closed on the day of the funeral services, which will take place on Friday morning at 10 o'clock, the local schools will be closed for the same period.

There is talk of some action to be taken by the people of New Rochelle to erect a memorial to Mr. Iselin. The plan which is now being discussed is to build an addition to the local hospital and call it the Iselin memorial.

Funeral services for Mr. Iselin will be held to-morrow morning at his city home, at the residence of his wife, Mrs. Iselin, of his immediate family will be present.

Obituary Notes.

Col. Jacob Lyman Greene, president of the Connecticut Life Insurance Company and the foremost advocate of straight life insurance, died of apoplexy yesterday at his residence in Hartford. He was born in Watford, Me., 68 years ago, and received his military education at the University of Michigan. Thereafter he began the study of law and the outbreak of the civil war found him practicing in Laupier, Mich. In the first year of the conflict he enlisted as a private in the Sixteenth Cavalry and served throughout the war, being discharged with the brevet rank of Lieutenant-Colonel when peace was declared. Most of his army service was under General Sherman. His last assignment was as an agent for the Berkshire Life Insurance Company at Pittsfield, Mass. Four years later he was made assistant secretary of the Connecticut Life Insurance Company, a position he held until his death. He was a member of the Connecticut Bar and was a prominent member of the insurance industry.

The Rev. David Birk, the oldest member of the Episcopal Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, died on Tuesday at the home of his daughter, Mrs. Alice J. Best, of East Sixteenth street, at the age of ninety-four years. He began his ministerial career when 22 years old. His stations included the churches of New York, New Jersey, Kansas, Wisconsin, Vermont, Illinois, and Michigan. He was a member of the General Convention of the Methodist Episcopal Church in 1877, and was a member of the General Convention of the Methodist Episcopal Church in 1887, 1897, and 1902.

Major Curtis B. Knapp, Fifteenth Cavalry, died yesterday at Fort Ethan Allen, Vermont, of pneumonia, complicated with abscess of the lungs. He was a cadet at the State of New York as a cadet at the United States Military Academy Sept. 1, 1875, and graduated June 16, 1877. He was assigned as an additional Second Lieutenant, First Cavalry, and was promoted to Second Lieutenant, Second Cavalry, June 1, 1877, and to First Lieutenant, Second Cavalry, June 1, 1878, and to Major, Fifteenth Cavalry, March 23, 1901.

Isaac L. Regan, who for many years was president of the Central Police Board and director of other Huntington lines in the lifetime of the late C. F. Huntington, is dead. He was born in New York City, 80 years ago, and went to California in 1850. He engaged in mining, stock raising, and at one time was superintendent of some of the more prominent mines on the Comstock lode. His death is attributed to his own carelessness.

Col. Frederick Defuniak, one of the best known railroad men and engineers in the south, died at his home in Louisville yesterday of heart trouble. He was a member of the chief engineer of the Louisville and Nashville Railroad, and was well known in this city where he spent many of the later years of his life. He was a member of the New York Yacht Club and the Southern Club.

Frederick M. Campbell, for many years State Superintendent of the public schools and recently private secretary to Secretary McCall of the Department of Commerce and Labor, died suddenly at his home in Washington on Tuesday, in his sixty-third year. He was a native of this city, but went to California while a youth.

Sidney Turner, Sr., the noted thoroughbred horse breeder, died at his home in Madison County, Kentucky. He bred the most famous horses of the world, and on March 19 he passed thirty warships and fourteen collars under steam 250 miles northeast of Madagascar. This is supposed to be the Russian fleet.

City Hall Fountain Turned On. Park employees and others were busy yesterday morning cleaning and repairing the fountain in City Hall Park. In the afternoon the water was turned on for the first time this year, and numbers of men and boys gathered around the granite basin dipping their hands in the cooling water, which sprouted and bubbled from the fountain. The fountain will be kept running all summer.

54 Childless Couples in 81 Divorce Cases. The record for the five Wednesdays of March in the undefended divorce court, as compiled by a painstaking statistician, shows that 81 applications for divorces were heard in a total of 101 cases, 18 hours and 19 minutes, or an average of 13 minutes 34 seconds. Thirty of 81 applicants were men, and 54 of the couples were childless. The other 27 couples mustered 44 children.

PEACE SENTIMENT GROWING

BUT RUSSIA DENIES THAT SHE HAS SUGGESTED TERMS.

Strong Court Party Now Working to End the War—Czar Bill in Doubt, but Decision is Likely Soon—Revolt of the Peasants in Transcaucasia Spreads.

Special Cable Despatches to THE SUN. ST. PETERSBURG, March 29.—An official telegraph agency has issued the following: "Notwithstanding the general inclination in favor of the conclusion of the war Russia has not proposed any peace conditions or prepared any such conditions."

Reports from Georgia, Russian Transcaucasia, present the rebellion there as growing. The troops are mutinous. Local authorities have been deposed and a provisional government proclaimed. Anarchy prevails at Batoum, Erivan and Kars.

LONDON, March 30.—Peace talk continues to fill columns in the London morning newspapers, but no unassailable fact can be discovered in the multitude of reports. The St. Petersburg correspondent of the Standard says that peace is on everybody's lips there, officials, diplomats and courtiers included. There appears to be a strong party at court working in the direction of peace.

The correspondent, who went to the railway station to witness the departure of Mr. McCormick, the retiring American Ambassador, and his family, found all the diplomats in St. Petersburg there to bid Mr. McCormick farewell. He interviewed a foreign representative who if the peace news were true would be deeply concerned in the negotiations. This diplomat said that the line of reasoning on which the predictions of peace are founded was unexceptionable.

He added that it was true that the Russian Government does not hope to achieve anything beyond trying out Japan and thereby securing a shade better terms than it could now. It does not expect to drive the Japanese out of Manchuria. The more candid course would be to enter into direct negotiations with Japan without delay.

All that is required is to get the Government to accept the reasoning. The Ministers doubtless have all accepted it, but the only person who counts has not. The correspondent suggested that the person in question was capable of rapid changes of opinion. The diplomat assented and added that peace when it comes is likely to come suddenly.

The correspondent cites two explanations of the fall in the price of Russian 4 per cents. The first is that they must be quoted at 77 to equalize 5 per cents at 100. The second explanation takes this fact into account, but finds a more important cause for the decline in the determination of foreign financiers not to support Russian securities until the 4 per cents reach 77.

There they will be sold, and it would force the Government to realize that peace is indispensable. PARIS, March 29.—A correspondent of the Matin had an interview to-day with Gen. Batiand, whose appointment to the command of the Third Manchurian Army was announced in St. Petersburg yesterday, and asked him whether the war would be fought to the death. "Certainly," is the Czar's will.

MADRID, March 29.—The Gazette publishes a St. Petersburg despatch which says that the feeling in leading Russian circles is very warlike. The War Council, under the presidency of the Grand Duke Nicholas, has evolved a new plan of campaign, which includes bringing the army in Manchuria up to a strength of 600,000 men.

JAPANESE LOST HEAVILY

Oyama Now Reports 57,000 Casualties in the Fighting at Mukden.

TOKYO, March 29.—Twenty thousand Russian prisoners, taken at the battle of Mukden, have arrived in Japan. Revised estimates of the Japanese casualties at the battle of Mukden and the subsequent fighting at Tie Pass, show that they numbered 57,000.

The Russian flags captured in the battle of Mukden have been presented to the Emperor. Gen. Mayeda, who held a command under Gen. Oku, and was wounded in the battle of Mukden, has died of his wounds.

CAZAR OFFER TO FINLAND

Will Suspend Recruiting There if Annual War Contribution is Made.

Special Cable Despatches to THE SUN. ST. PETERSBURG, March 29.—The Czar has agreed to suspend recruiting in Finland for three years providing Finland will pay an annual war contribution of 10,000,000 marks. He will also restore the privilege of irremovability to the Judges, who were arbitrarily deprived of this privilege for refusing to recognize the legality of the plans for the Russification of Finland.

JAPANESE LOAN QUICKLY TAKEN.

Amount Offered in London Subscribed Many Times Over.

LONDON, March 29.—The list for the Japanese loan closed at 2:30 P. M., by which time the amount had been covered several times. London will get a part of the loan and a part will go to provincial subscribers.

Gorki Going to the Crimea.

Special Cable Despatches to THE SUN. ST. PETERSBURG, March 29.—It is stated that Maxim Gorki, who is awaiting trial at Riga on charges of sedition and treason, will be allowed to go to the Crimea owing to the dangerous progress of the tuberculosis from which he is suffering. He will have to return a week before his trial, which will take place in May.

Russian Fleet Under Way.

Special Cable Despatches to THE SUN. DUBRAN, Natal, March 29.—The steamship Dart, which arrived to-day from Rangoon, Natal, reports that on March 19 she passed thirty warships and fourteen collars under steam 250 miles northeast of Madagascar. This is supposed to be the Russian fleet.

Movements of Naval Vessels.

WASHINGTON, March 29.—The Collier Nathan has sailed from Hong Kong for Cherbourg. The battleship Texas is on her way to the West Indies. The battleship Arkansas, Nevada and Florida from Key West for Pensacola, the destroyer Perry from San Diego for Bremerton, the cruiser Columbia from Norfolk for Newport York, and the dispatch boat Dolphin from Havana for Fernandina.

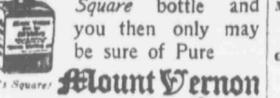
Postmaster Willcox Asks for More Carriers and Clerks.

WASHINGTON, March 29.—Postmaster Willcox of New York called at the White House this morning and had a brief talk with the President about post office matters. His call on the President followed a conference with Postmaster-General Cortelyou at the Post Office Department. Mr. Willcox asked the Department to provide more carriers for the Bronx, and this will probably be done. He also asked that additional clerks be appointed on account of the parcels-post contention with Great Britain, which will become operative on April 1.

Hammond Slept Fairly Well After He and Willard Had Retired.

WASHINGTON, March 29.—The fact that Hammond slept fairly well after he and Willard had retired last night after midnight, shortly after 5 o'clock Hammond awoke and went to the bathroom. A minute later Willard heard a shot. Hammond went to the door and found a couple of the hotel clerks. They smashed the glass in the door and pushed an entrance. Hammond was dead on the floor. He had shot himself with a .38 calibre revolver. The bullet had gone completely through his head.

Ask for the Square Bottle. Get the Square bottle and you then only may be sure of Pure Mount Vernon



"A Square Deal!" —President Roosevelt.

THE COOK & BERNHEIMER CO.

VOTES TO CUT THE SCHOOL DAY

BOARD OF EDUCATION 22 TO 13 FOR THE REFORM.

Resolution Favors 3-1-2 Instead of 5 Hours Daily for First Year Pupils, Cutting Out Frills—Board of Superintendents Asked to Recommend This Change.

The Board of Education discussed for four hours yesterday the advisability of shortening the hours and course of studies of the first and second year pupils in the public schools.

"From my observations I feel compelled to say that the results of the present course of instruction in the public schools amount almost to a public scandal," said Mr. Jonas. "The essentials are sadly neglected. Then some of our schoolhouses are not fit to be occupied, they are in such a bad state of repair, and unless steps are taken to put them in proper condition, nothing is liable to happen for which we will be sorry. I believe that three and a half hours schooling a day is enough for very young children."

Commissioner Lummis said that the present time of five hours a day should be shortened for very young pupils. "There are some who think the schools should keep the children all day and thus relieve parents of responsibility," he added. "I believe it would be a bad policy for the city to assume the full care of the children during the greater part of the day when our respected President, Theodore Roosevelt, advises mothers to have as many children as possible. Just look at the olive parents of responsibility," he added. "I believe it would be a bad policy for the city to assume the full care of the children during the greater part of the day when our respected President, Theodore Roosevelt, advises mothers to have as many children as possible. Just look at the olive parents of responsibility," he added.

"The vote making the Stock Tax bill a party measure, and it was decided to do so by a vote of 67, now 19. The Mortgage Tax bill was then voted upon and also made a party measure. The vote making the Mortgage Tax bill a party measure was 61 to 22."

The Stock Transfer Tax bill is expected, at the rate of a \$2 tax on each 100 shares, to raise between \$5,000,000 and \$6,000,000 a year, all of which goes to the State Treasury. The Mortgage Tax bill will raise between \$2,500,000 and \$3,000,000 a year, half of which goes to the State Treasury and half to the localities where the mortgages are located.

THE WATER COMMISSION BILL.

As Approved by Gov. Higgins It is in Direct Hostility to This City.

ALBANY, March 29.—Gov. Higgins apparently is to uphold the hands of Chairman Odell in his efforts to sandbag New York city in the interests of the Ramapo Water Company. Edward Lauterbach, one of Mr. Odell's closest advisers, has been in Albany for some time and the result of his fine Italian hand was plainly observable to-day when revised copies of the Agnew State Water Commission bill, as approved by Gov. Higgins and his legal advisers, were made public.

"This is the bill which authorizes Gov. Higgins to appoint a State Water Supply Commission to investigate the water supply of the State, and to recommend to the State, shall hereafter have any power to acquire, take or condemn lands for any new or additional source of water supply."

"I want to explain the hope for soon opening the school doors to our children in our schools," said Mr. Greene. "There are now under construction schools which will give 85,000 additional seats. We are now under construction schools which will give 85,000 additional seats. We are now under construction schools which will give 85,000 additional seats. We are now under construction schools which will give 85,000 additional seats."

SUICIDE AT HOTEL ASTOR.

Henry W. Savage's Real Estate Manager Shoots Himself Through Grief.

William H. Hammond of Brookline, Mass., who was employed in the Boston real estate office of Henry W. Savage, the theatrical manager, committed suicide early yesterday morning in the Hotel Astor by shooting himself through the head. He was in ill health and dependent over the recent death of his wife. It was the first suicide to occur in the hotel.

Hammond was about 34 years old. He had been married with his sister in Brookline. In October his wife, to whom he was greatly attached, died. He had no children. He took his wife's death so much to heart that his health broke down. In December Mr. Savage sent him to Porto Rico to recuperate.

Hammond returned on the Caracas, which got here Monday. He had been in Mr. Savage's office at 24 West Forty-third street but a couple of times in his life. He did not visit there. No one knows where he did go.

On Tuesday afternoon Mr. Savage told his press agent, Mason Peters, that he was at the Hotel Astor. The fact that he was sent Walter Willard, who is employed by Savage and who knew Hammond, to look for him.

Mr. Willard remembered that "Peggy From Paris," formerly owned by Mr. Savage, was playing at the West End Theatre. He took her to the theatre, where he was brought down to Law Field's theatre, where Savage was witnessing the performance.

Mr. Savage lives at the Hotel Astor. He suggested that Hammond, who appeared to be more broken down than ever, take a room next to him. Then Willard suggested that he stay all night with Hammond.

Hammond slept fairly well after he and Willard had retired last night after midnight, shortly after 5 o'clock Hammond awoke and went to the bathroom. A minute later Willard heard a shot. Hammond went to the door and found a couple of the hotel clerks. They smashed the glass in the door and pushed an entrance. Hammond was dead on the floor. He had shot himself with a .38 calibre revolver. The bullet had gone completely through his head.

Dr. Burke, the hotel physician, was called. He notified Coroner Scholer and Dr. Philip O'Hanlon, the Coroner's physician. The Coroner gave permission to remove the body. Mr. Savage went to Boston with the body last night.

Capt. Swift Has Typhoid Fever.

WASHINGTON, March 29.—The Navy Department has been informed that Capt. William Swift, who was taken from the dispatch boat Dolphin to a hospital in Havana, is progressing very well and is not considered as being dangerously ill. He was taken to the hospital from the dispatch boat Dolphin to a hospital in Havana, is progressing very well and is not considered as being dangerously ill. He was taken to the hospital from the dispatch boat Dolphin to a hospital in Havana, is progressing very well and is not considered as being dangerously ill.

THE REPUBLICAN TAX CAUCUS.

MORTGAGE AND STOCK TAX BILLS MADE PARTY MEASURES.

Gov. Higgins Suggested a Reduction of the Stock Tax From \$2 to \$1 on 100 Shares, but Caucus Wouldn't Have It—Conference at Executive Mansion.

ALBANY, March 29.—In caucus to-night the Republican Assemblymen labored for several hours to come to an agreement on making party measures of the mortgage tax bill and the stock transfer tax bill. This caucus was preceded last night this afternoon by a conference in the Executive chamber between Gov. Higgins and prominent Republicans. Those present with the Governor were Senators Raines, Malby, Ames, Lewis, Hill, Elberg, Tully and Alda; Speaker Nixon and Assemblymen Rogers, Wainwright, Merritt and Prentice; Superintendent of Insurance Hendricks, Comptroller Kealey, Secretary of State O'Brien and ex-Senator Pound, counsel to the Governor. The conference lasted until 7 o'clock.

Afterward Gov. Higgins said that the State could not get along this year with the surplus in the Treasury unless the Legislature passed the new revenue bills. Drafts were being made on the surplus, he said, to meet some of the expenses of the current year, while the Legislature was to provide for next year. He said the caucus was for the purpose of getting a better understanding between the Senate and Assembly on the tax measures and that the mortgage tax and stock transfer tax and the direct tax had been discussed.

The majority of the Assemblymen at the Republican caucus explained their position on the two measures under consideration, which kept the caucus until midnight, but it was plain to be seen that Speaker Nixon was to dominate the caucus as usual. He and his friends were of the opinion that if they were to have a stock transfer tax it should remain as in the original bill, at \$2 a hundred shares.

Consequently, when Assemblyman Prentice suggested that the caucus was to accept a reduction in the tax from \$2 to \$1 on each 100 shares there was a murmur of disapproval and a general declaration that such a tax was to be imposed it should be at the figure originally determined upon.

Just before midnight the roll was called upon making the stock transfer tax measure a party measure, and it was decided to do so by a vote of 67, now 19. The Mortgage Tax bill was then voted upon and also made a party measure. The vote making the Mortgage Tax bill a party measure was 61 to 22."

The Stock Transfer Tax bill is expected, at the rate of a \$2 tax on each 100 shares, to raise between \$5,000,000 and \$6,000,000 a year, all of which goes to the State Treasury. The Mortgage Tax bill will raise between \$2,500,000 and \$3,000,000 a year, half of which goes to the State Treasury and half to the localities where the mortgages are located.

FORE! HAVE YOU ENTERED? Fore!

5th Annual North and South Championship Golf Tournament

PINEHURST, N. C.

April 4th, 5th, 6th, 7th and 8th

Tournament open to all. Crack amateurs from all parts of the country will attend. Average golfers will have opportunity to play in their class as, after qualifying round, players will be divided into four sixteens, each group to compete for two handsome Gorham silver trophies.

ENTRIES CLOSE MONDAY, APRIL 3d with Secretary of Pinehurst Golf Club, Pinehurst, N. C.

AMPLE HOTEL ACCOMMODATION

Through Pullman Sleepers. Round Trip Fare \$25.40

SEABOARD AIR LINE RAILWAY SOUTHERN RAILWAY  
Trains leave N. Y. 12:10 noon 12:25-12:35 noon Trains leave N. Y. 12:10 noon 12:25 noon  
Arrive Pinehurst 7:00 P. M. Arrive Pinehurst 7:00 P. M.  
Full information at 138 Broadway or 138 Broadway

CASTRO TO SETTLE WITH FRANCE

Plan by Which the Prosecution of French Cable Company Will Be Withdrawn.

WASHINGTON, March 29.—According to a letter received by a Venezuelan agent here, written in Caracas on March 17, there is a movement on foot between the lawyers representing the French Cable Company and the Venezuelan Government to settle quickly and amicably the troubles which for a time threatened to bring about an open rupture between France and Venezuela. According to the letter, which is said to come from an authoritative source, the plan is for the Attorney-General of Venezuela to withdraw his prosecution for nullification of the contract with the cable company, an extension of time being given for the construction of the cable lines provided for in the contract, and the company agreeing to make a reduction in its cable rates.

The letter also says that there has been no necessity for Herbert H. Bowen, the American Minister at Caracas, to send his alarming reports to the State Department, as there have been absolutely no recent developments that would warrant any such action. The points upon which the French Cable Company is being prosecuted are also set forth in the letter. There are three principal charges of non-fulfillment of contract.

First, that the company did not construct a submarine cable between Venezuela and the United States and that communication was frequently interrupted on account of the line passing through Santo Domingo and Puerto Plata, which the contract does not provide for.

Second, that the company also willfully neglected to connect the port of La Guayra, on the coast of Venezuela with the International cable lines, as was also stipulated, and only a cable between Porto Cabello and the Dutch island of Curacao, and thence to La Vela, on the Venezuelan coast.

Third, that the company has not established the cable lines along the western coast of Venezuela, as was also stipulated, and only a cable between Porto Cabello and the Dutch island of Curacao, and thence to La Vela, on the Venezuelan coast.

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