

SCOTT'S TRIP SOUTH FULL OF ADVENTURE

Bad Country, Bad Weather, Bad Storms; Explorer Nearly Lost His Life.

HELD BACK BY A HOT WAVE

Rare Ornithological Studies—Coal and Fossil Finds—Final Dash for the Pole.

London, via Glace Bay, April 1.—A narrative of his south polar trip has been received here from Capt. Scott, who sent it to Alara, New Zealand, by his ship, the Terra Nova. It covers the movements of his party from January 25, 1911, to January 3, 1912. On the latter date he was in latitude 87 degrees 32 minutes south and had reached an altitude of 8,500 feet.

Unlike the easy experience of Amundsen as related by the latter, Scott met with the greatest difficulties, thrilling adventures and bad weather. Scott relates that while returning to his base after laying depots on February 16, 1911, one of the dogs fell into a crevasse and Scott himself had an escape from death that was little short of marvellous. He found an ice bridge over which he made his way to safety. Three hours were consumed in the work of rescuing the dogs.

Leut. Bowers and party encamped on March 1, 1911, on an ice pack. They were awakened in the night by the breaking of the ice and it was with the greatest difficulty that the party escaped. As they were they lost three of their best ponies. The others leaped over the floes till they reached a place of safety.

Scott says that during the four winter months the thermometer never registered lower than 50 degrees below zero. Bowers and others of the party sledged in mid-winter to Cape Crozier to watch the incubation of the penguins and to study the habits of those birds. The result was the acquisition of some exceedingly interesting ornithological information.

While the party was on this trip a gale came up and blew for forty-eight hours, scattering their tent and scattering their equipment. After other trying experiences the party returned to camp, having made what Scott calls the first winter journey in the Antarctic.

Scott reports the loss of four of his dogs as the result of some mysterious disease which came on suddenly and was unknown to any of the party.

The expedition strung fifteen miles of telephone wire, which was used to the greatest advantage in reporting the weather and the movements of the various parties. In October the first motor sledge expedition started out and established the practicability of mechanical traction in the icebound regions. Scott and others started after the motor sledge on November 2 and followed the tracks which had been left by the machine.

After travelling sixty miles they came upon the sledge which had been abandoned. Subsequently they overtook the party. The latter had been forced to leave the motor because of the overheating of the bearings of the engines. There had been no time to make the necessary repairs. The sledge had been found, however, to answer admirably in crossing the worst surfaces of the ice barrier.

In spite of their big loads the ponies went well and kept in excellent health. It was found necessary to shoot some of them for food for the dogs.

The United parties reached 87 degrees 24 minutes south on December 12. On this date a gale arose and lasted for four days, during which there was a rise in the temperature. On this account everything in the party had become water soaked, and the Capt. Scott points out as an unprecedented experience in December in the latitude in which the party then was.

Because of the weather, they were hampered in their movements; it took fourteen hours at one time to make a distance of eight miles. Soon after this experience they were forced because of a lack of forage to destroy their ponies. After this they descended to the Boardman Glacier, which they reached on December 10. They found the snow knee deep and as a consequence the sledges and dogs sank deeply, causing great delay before the party arrived at latitude 85 degrees 7 minutes south on December 21.

Here they found the snow so deep that the party was forced to resort to skiing. They had much difficulty with their sledges and advanced only five miles in ten days. This condition continued for four hours, but during it all the entire party kept in the best of health and spirits. Altogether the storm cost the party a week's time, but as the weather improved Scott and eight others went forward. They encountered trouble at amount of crevasses, but they pressed ahead over the ridges and made an average of fifteen miles a day.

An advance party composed of Scott and four others started from 87 degrees 24 minutes south on January 3 with a month's provisions. Everything was in good shape and all were confident that they would reach the pole.

In discussing to-day the tidings from Capt. Scott, the explorer, Sir Ernest Shackleton said that, so far as he could judge, it was probable Scott reached the south pole about January 18. In that case it was likely that the English explorer would find evidence that he had been preceded by the Americans. Nevertheless it was possible that he might reach the pole and still find nothing to show that any one had preceded him.

If the latter proved to be the case it would be due to the fact that it is impossible to approximate closer than 200 miles or two the exact position of the pole. Further news from Scott is expected in a few days.

Alara, New Zealand, April 1.—The Terra Nova, reports that the geological specimens attached to the Scott party are of great abundance in the Antarctic regions. The ship will be back again in November.

AIRSHIP A WEAPON OF WAR.

Washington Stops Shipment of Machine Into Mexico.

WASHINGTON, April 1.—The War Department and the Department of Justice were called upon to-day to establish a precedent in the matter of the classification of aeroplanes as weapons of war. The request reached the War Department from Col. E. Z. Steever, commanding the military guard at El Paso, who stated that the customs authorities had held up an aeroplane declared for export into Mexico, apparently for use by the rebel army. The customs authorities also notified the Treasury Department, which referred the question to the military and legal authorities for a decision.

The authorities held that the practicability of aeroplanes had been developed to such an extent that they undoubtedly could be utilized for military purposes. Accordingly the customs authorities were notified to reject it under the provisions of the President's proclamation prohibiting the shipment of war material into Mexico.

The machine had been packed in boxes, and when the customs inspectors at El Paso made inquiries as to the contents they were told it was an aeroplane being shipped to an American citizen in Juarez for exhibition purposes. This statement was not accepted. The machine was of French make and equipped with a Gnome engine. It was supposed to carry two passengers with a speed of forty-five miles an hour.

This is the first time an official decision has been required by the Government as to the use of aeroplanes in time of war. Accordingly a new difficulty is suggested. Since one or two types of French machines are said to carry six passengers it is thought they could carry a considerable consignment of arms and ammunition which they could evade the vigilance of the American authorities and fly into Mexico.

Aside from this the machine would enable the rebels to learn the strength of the Federal forces before coming in contact with them.

JUDGES ON GRAND JURY LEAKS.

One of Those Bodies Charged That It Is Easy to Stop Them.

Justice Davis, sitting in the Criminal Branch of the Supreme Court, and Judge Foster of the Court of Special Sessions both took occasion in charging Grand Jurors yesterday to speak of the publicity given to the proceedings. Three Grand Jurors were sworn in a special Grand Jury in the Supreme Court and the two regular Grand Jurors in the Court of Special Sessions. District Attorney Whitman said that the only occasion for a special Grand Jury was the desire to clean up the work of the courts, which has been progressing rapidly but which the courts desire should be brought still nearer up to date.

Justice Davis's first remarks were on the subject of summoning defendants to appear before the Grand Jury. He said that it would be a very bad procedure on the part of the Grand Jury to make it a custom to give defendants an opportunity to be heard in investigation of criminal charges against them.

"I do not mean to say," he continued, "that it is improper in some cases to do that very thing in order to make your actions accord with justice."

"Don't be misled in your proceedings," he went on, "if you read in the newspapers accounts of Grand Jury investigations. As long as you keep secret the proceedings within the Grand Jury chamber there can be no reflection on you. Witnesses, of course, may be loquacious, but that is another matter."

Judge Foster started off his charge with a direct reference to the Brandt matter.

"It may not be improper for me to say that I have nothing to say about the Brandt case," he said. "If I say anything that by any stretch of imagination might be deemed applicable to that case it is not intended to apply to it or refer to it in any way."

"If you believe that the newspapers are giving accounts of what is going on before you, you had better subpoena the publishers of those papers and ask them where they got it. If you find any one giving away the secrets of the Grand Jury room it is a perfectly simple matter for you to stop it."

WOUNDED IN THE MOSQUE.

Fifty Peaceful Persians Hit During Russian Bombardment.

Special Cable Dispatch to The Sun.

TERRACEN, April 1.—It is learned that the bombardment by the Russians of the mosque at Moshed in northern Persia on March 25 as told in yesterday's cable dispatch resulted in the wounding of fifty worshippers.

Some of the followers of the former Shah was hurt.

ROBBED OF \$1,200, SAYS MAN FOUND BY TRACKS

Robert H. Cooper, Brooklyn Produce Merchant, Had Been Beaten, Bound and Gagged.

SET UPON BY TWO MEN

One Struck Him a Blow Over the Heart—Was Carried to Railroad and Dumped There.

Robert H. Cooper, a wealthy produce merchant who has a large place of business at Forty-seventh street and Second avenue, South Brooklyn, was found bound and gagged and beaten in a dazed condition alongside the Long Island Railroad freight tracks at Sixty-sixth street and Fifth avenue, Brooklyn, yesterday. Mr. Cooper told a tale of having been robbed of \$1,200 in cash and about \$300 in checks, by two young men who had attacked him eight hours before he was found. A dozen detectives were put on the job last night after he had told his story.

Mr. Cooper, who is 32 years old and lives at 566 Deane street, Brooklyn, has no partner in his business. On Mondays he has been in the habit of making large deposits after the big business of Saturday, and yesterday he had accumulated as his Saturday and Monday receipts the cash and checks of which he says he was robbed.

Along about noon he received a telephone call from a man he has done business with who lives in the neighborhood. The man said he wanted to pay a bill, amounting to about \$200, and Cooper said he would call, intending to make the deposit in the Flatbush branch of the Corn Exchange Bank after he had added the money he expected to collect to what he had with him.

The next that was heard from him was last night when Dennis Mahoney of 366 Sixty-ninth street, walking along Fifth avenue, passed the bridge which spans the railroad tracks. Mahoney heard a groan. This was at 8 o'clock and Mahoney descended to the tracks in the dark. He came alongside of Cooper, who was gagged and dazed.

Mahoney ran up to the street, and called two other passersby, Camille De Creque, of 574 Fifth avenue, and Romano Gallagher, of 4717 Fifth avenue. The three of them helped Cooper to the street. His eyes were blacked, his hat was gone, a gag of cloth was in his mouth, and his hands were tied behind his back. The three men summoned Detective Lieut. Thomas Fay, who has charge of the detectives from the Fourth avenue station.

Fay questioned Cooper, who within half an hour was able to tell his story. He told of the money, and of what had happened until he left his store. Then, he said, at Forty-fourth street and Second avenue, two young men, roughly dressed, came upon him and without saying a word one of them struck a blow over the heart. He then became unconscious, he said.

His next recollection was some time later, when he thinks he was in a cellar. Then, he thinks, after this period of return to consciousness, he must have lapsed off again.

Next he remembers being put into a covered wagon. He remembers vaguely a drive through the streets, but there were two men in the wagon with him, he was bound so that he could not struggle, and gagged so that he could not cry out. Then he remembers being dumped down the embankment to the railroad tracks, and then the men leaped down after him and beat him into unconsciousness again.

It was eight hours from the time he was assaulted until he was discovered. The money and checks that were stolen were inside his bank book in an inside breast pocket. One of his trousers pockets was \$60 in cash and in another was about \$3 in silver. Neither of these amounts was stolen. He also had a diamond ring and a diamond pin, worth together about \$400, which were not taken.

The police say that Mr. Cooper has a brother, Hedley Cooper, who is a minister at Greenwood Lake, N. J.

SHOT FROM BEHIND A TREE.

Man, Who Walked With a Girl in Corona, Dead—Police Hold Girl.

Some unknown person shot and killed Dominic Barretto, 29 years old, of 85 Myrtle avenue, Corona, last night while the Italian was walking in Newtown with Loretta Busch, 18 years old, of 12 Fairview avenue, Corona. It is thought that jealousy may be the cause of the murder.

Barretto was walking arm in arm with the girl along Tholer avenue. The street was dark, as the shooting took place after 11 o'clock. There was a sudden flash from behind a tree. Then in quick succession came two more flashes and Barretto fell to the ground.

Loretta stood her ground, screaming as loud as she could. She saw a man jump from behind the tree and turn into Hillside avenue, the next street. Then came a policeman and passersby. Dr. Johnson was summoned from the Flushing Hospital and he said that Barretto had been almost instantly killed. The three bullets had entered his right side.

Pending action by the Coroner the girl was held as a witness. She will be questioned as to the cause of the shooting to-day.

Butte Repudiates Socialist Administration.

BUTTE, Mont., April 1.—The Socialist city administration was repudiated to-day at the Aldermanic election. Only one Socialist Alderman was elected where a year ago a Socialist Mayor and five Aldermen were elected. Four Democrats and three Republicans were elected.

DEWEY AT PENNSYLVANIA PORT WINE.

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PATIENTS IN FIRE PERIL.

Thirty of Them Carried Out of Private Hospital at Mount Vernon.

MOUNT VERNON, April 1.—When a fire started to-night in the Sayre Hospital in First avenue Dr. John J. Sinnott and the nurses carried thirty patients through the smoke to the street. The patients, among whom were three newly born babies, were cared for at the residence in the neighborhood of the hospital.

The fire began in the kitchen of the hospital, which is a private institution owned by Dr. Sinnott. One of the nurses called up fire headquarters and said "the hospital" was on fire, but she did not say what hospital. The man at the switchboard thought it was the Mount Vernon City Hospital and turned in that number. All the fire companies dashed to that hospital and found that they were at the wrong place.

The fire spread to gain headway. Dr. Sinnott carried out four women and two babies and other patients were taken out on stretchers. All the inmates were clad only in their night clothes and they suffered much from exposure.

Policeman Shire and Frank Christensen heard the moans of a man on the third floor and they managed to reach the patient's room and save him from suffocation. The patient was carried down a ladder in a semi-conscious condition.

The fire was confined to the basement and first floor and was put out after the building had been flooded with water. Dr. Sinnott said he could not estimate his loss to-night.

DELAYS SUGAR CASE ACTION.

Wickersham Will Not Decide on Retrial Until He Sees Wise.

WASHINGTON, April 1.—Attorney-General Wickersham will not decide for several days whether the Government will ask a second trial of the sugar trust cases in New York, which ended early Sunday in a disagreement.

"District Attorney Wise will come to Washington to confer with me on the subject in a day or two," said the Attorney-General, "and I will have to see him and consider the record before deciding if we shall ask for another trial."

Mr. Wickersham had a conference at the Department of Justice to-day with United States District Attorney Wilkerson of Chicago, who recently handled the Government's criminal cases against the beef packers, ending in the acquittal of the defendants. While neither Mr. Wickersham nor Mr. Wilkerson would discuss their conference it is believed the Government will soon file a petition in equity in the Federal court at Chicago for the dissolution of the National Packing Company.

SHIPS SMASHING TARGETS.

Three Men Reported Hurt on Battleship Missouri.

NORFOLK, Va., April 1.—Six targets were smashed by gunners in the Atlantic fleet on the Southern drill grounds to-day. It was the first day's shooting of the spring practice.

It is reported that three men on the Missouri were injured. Naval officers declined to discuss the report, but the hospital ship Solace, at anchor in the Roads, got orders to hurry to the fleet. The injured men it is reported were brought to the naval hospital here.

The longest range to-day was nine miles. Three targets were put out at that distance by the Missouri, Nebraska and Utah.

The battleships Kansas and South Carolina, stripped for action, will go into "battle" to-morrow.

Seven submarines under escort left to-day to participate in the manoeuvres.

DEEDS ESTATE TO HIS SONS.

E. B. Alsop, Who Took Girl Bride, Puts Million in Trust for Boys.

PITTSBURGH, April 1.—A real estate transfer was registered to-day by which Edward B. Alsop transfers to his brother, the Rev. Reese D. Alsop, as trustee for the two sons of Edward, six parcels of real estate in this city valued at \$1,000,000 in consideration of \$1,000, natural love and affection.

Edward B. Alsop, now past 70, lives in Washington. He was married last month to Miss Effie Pope Hill of Virginia who is 19 years of age. His sons are Harold P. U. and Edward H. Alsop, undergraduates at Harvard.

It is stated in the transfer that the properties came into possession of Edward through purchase with money earned by himself or acquired through his first marriage. Also's first wife, mother of the boys, was a Hussey, a member of one of the leading old time families here.

The deed stipulates that the trustee is to pay over to Edward B. Alsop for his personal use all rents, issues and profits from the properties so long as he lives. At his death the same are to share equally in all revenues until the younger son attains the age of 30.

COL. GOETHALS SILENT.

Not a Word to Say About the Kaiser and a Fortified Canal.

Col. George W. Goethals of the Canal Zone was in town a few hours yesterday but would say nothing about his talk with the Kaiser when he was in Germany. When Col. Goethals returned to this country a few days ago he was reported as saying that the German Emperor had told him that the canal ought to be fortified and heavily guarded. Later came a despatch from Germany saying that the official publication, the *North German Gazette*, denied that the Kaiser had expressed such an opinion.

The Colonel timed his arrival at the pier from which his boat, the Alliance, sailed for Panama, so that he could get aboard just before the gangplank was lowered. When approached by reporters he raised his hat and said: "I am not a word about the Kaiser. I'd tell you anything you want to know about the canal, but there isn't time for that now."

FLOODS STOP TRAFFIC; THOUSANDS HOMELESS

26 Transcontinental Trains Halted at Small Towns in Nebraska.

LOWLANDS UNDER WATER

Cairo, Ill., in Danger of Inundation—Kansas City Business Section Covered—More to Come.

St. Louis, April 1.—Rains throughout the Missouri and Mississippi valleys to-day and to-night brought additional damage to property and misery to the unfortunate in flood covered bottom lands.

The worst of the flood has not been reached, as reports from the north tell of heavy rains and still higher water. From many points come reports of property loss, ruined farms, death of stock and fears of coming peril.

Cairo, Ill., is on the verge of being depopulated and hundreds of men, impressed to the work, are straining every effort to bolster up the weakening levee. People are moving their belongings and deserting their homes.

With the gage reading 53.1 to-night, a rise of six-tenths of a foot since last night and a heavy rainfall amounting to an inch since morning Cairo is engaged in an endurance test with both the Ohio and Mississippi rivers.

Alarming reports, showing the extent of the high water and the probable damage unless the rivers subside soon, come from Kansas City, where three feet of water stands in houses in the bottoms. The Kansas City bottoms is the section of large wholesale and retail houses. The water has ruined thousands of dollars worth of goods.

The heaviest downpour of rain in years at Little Rock, Ark., this afternoon makes it almost certain that the Arkansas River, already near the danger mark, will soon be far over its banks. For fifteen minutes the streets were deluged and street cars were compelled to suspend operations.

The flood in Nebraska is growing worse rapidly. Twenty-four transcontinental trains bound for Pacific coast points from Chicago are tied up at Fremont because of destroyed bridges and submerged tracks.

Rains fell throughout Missouri to-day and farmers in the Missouri River bottoms became apprehensive. Farmers in the bottoms have removed their belongings to higher ground.

Evansville, Ind., reports many homeless people in the lowlands, and the rapid rise of the Wabash River indicates that much growing wheat will be destroyed.

Nebraska railroad traffic is in worse condition than since the flood started. All trains for the West are detained by St. Joseph, Mo. The flood is just beginning in northwestern Nebraska and northwestern Iowa, and all rivers in these sections are overflowing. Branch roads are out of commission, but all Omaha Chicago lines are yet operating.

Several thousand railroad passengers are held up in Omaha by the annulling of trains and in one night for Wisconsin points is being refused. No freight trains have operated for a week. The Omaha post office is filled to overflowing with mail, none having been sent West for several days.

To escape from a train in which he had been marooned twenty-four hours Gov. Aldrich of Nebraska last night crawled 100 feet across a broken bridge over the Platte River, walked five miles in the flood and caught a train to his home.

The under structure of the bridge had been washed away and nothing remained but the crosses and the rails swinging high up above the water. Other passengers feared to follow the governor and are tied up at a little station on the Burlington railroad.

FREMONT, Neb., April 1.—Twenty-four transcontinental trains of the Union Pacific and Northwestern railroads en route from the Pacific Coast are tied up in Fremont by floods on the Elkhorn River between here and Omaha. The 2,500 passengers have devoured everything edible in town and because of the floods no provisions can be brought.

HICKMAN, Ky., April 1.—In a steady downpour every man in Hickman, rich and poor, is laboring side by side to keep the levee built up ahead of the rising Mississippi, which is now higher than ever in the history of the town.

An appeal was made to-day to Congressman Hilly James for 200 tents for the refugees. The hills back of Hickman are already dotted with tents. The grain elevator and the two hotels have been opened to flood victims. One life has been lost in the flood as well as thousands of dollars worth of property.

MEMPHIS, Tenn., April 1.—The river stage here to-night was 41.2 feet, 9 inches higher than the record stage in 1907. Observer Emery predicts 43 feet. Gayoso Bayou is overflowing and there have been several breaks in the levees on the east side. Scores of families have been driven from their homes. The danger of water filling the mains of the gas company threatens the city's gas supply.

COLUMBUS, Ky., April 1.—Gov. McCreary to-day ordered 300 national guard tents sent to Columbus. Many persons have been forced to seek temporary homes in the hills.

MAROONED HUNTER QUITS TREE.

He Is Still Prisoner on an Island, but May Be Rescued To-day.

FREMONT, Neb., April 1.—Frank Stribbling, the duck hunter who was chased into a tree by floods last Thursday, was able to-day to descend from the perch he had occupied for four days and once more walk the earth. He is marooned on a small island, however. To-day friends in a boat got within a half mile of Stribbling's island but could go no nearer. With the aid of a telescope Stribbling could be seen on the ground.

LLOYD C. GRISCOM UNDER KNIFE.

Suddenly Stricken With Appendicitis and Taken to Hospital.

PHILADELPHIA, April 1.—Lloyd C. Griscom was operated on for appendicitis in the Bryn Mawr Hospital this afternoon. The operation was successful and the surgeons say Mr. Griscom has a good chance for recovery.

Dr. Donald Gibbon performed the operation. Mr. Griscom, who has been at the home of his father, Clement A. Griscom, at Haverford, for two weeks, was in his usual health until Sunday, when he suffered an attack. Dr. Gibbon was called and it was decided to operate.

STOVER HUNTS A PHOTO.

Can't Repair Farragut Statue Until Sword Belt Is Shown Intact.

Park Commissioner Stover has been unable so far to find a photograph of Admiral Farragut's statue in Madison Square showing the position of the sword belt as designed by Saint Gaudens, which was torn off and carried away.

The belt was of bronze. The Park Department has in its possession photographs taken from the front of the statue but none from the rear, where the sword belt was most conspicuous.

The Park Commissioner is endeavoring to get into communication with the family of the deceased sculptor to the end to borrow the necessary photograph. Sculptors says such a photo is required to make the repairs to the mutilated statue.

HEIR OF MRS. EDDY SETTLES.

George W. Baker Chooses Bird in Hand Rather Than Two in Bush.

ATTLEBORO, Mass., April 1.—George W. Baker, a nephew of the late Mrs. Mary Baker Eddy, to-day confirmed a report from New Hampshire that he had accepted a settlement in the Eddy will case. Mr. Baker, whose home is in Tilton, N. H., came to Attleboro some time ago and has since been employed as a printer.

"The report is true," said Mr. Baker. "A short time ago Frank Streeter, attorney for the estate, made me an offer and I have notified him that I will accept. I have not received the money, but it is forthcoming. I can only say that the amount is perfectly satisfactory."

"I knew it might be a long time before the final decision is reached by the courts, and while the courts might give me a larger settlement I decided that a bird in the hand was worth two in the bush. I chose to accept the offer rather than possibly to wait for years for an uncertain sum."

ALBANY PICKS UP WIRELESS.

Message From Judge to Son Beats Regular Channel by Hours.

ALBANY, April 1.—A wireless message flashed from a Ward Line steamship about 100 miles off Sandy Hook on Sunday night, was picked up by L. E. Northshield, inspector of electric meters in the employ of the up-State Public Service Commission, who has a wireless station on top of his house here.

Judge Randall J. Leboeuf, who is en route for Havana, sent a wireless message to his son telling him everything was well. The message was intended for the wireless station at Cape Hatteras, where it was to be transmitted to Albany by telegraph.

Two minutes after the message left the vessel it was received here and within five minutes had been communicated by telephone to Judge Leboeuf's son. The message was received from Cape Hatteras by telegraph this morning.

HOLDUP OR BAD JOKE.

Paris Bank Messenger, Police and Two Rash Youths in an Incident.

PARIS, April 1.—Two men were arrested to-day after a scuffle at the corner of the Faubourg and Boulevard Haussmann. According to the current version they had made an attempt to rob a messenger of the Bank of France, who was carrying a million francs, or about \$200,000.

To-night cold water is thrown on the story by those who pretend to know. It is said that the whole affair was a frame-up, but whether it was a mere April fool joke or a cinematograph enterprise is undetermined.

It seems to be true that the police got warning that a holdup was to take place. Half a dozen of them were on hand with two police dogs. When two young men started an altercation with the bank messenger the police closed in, the bank messenger fell in a fright and the youths fled.

They were intercepted and arrested, and it is said they were armed with dummy guns.

CHERRY TREES ON VIEW TO-DAY.

Customs Men and Bug Expert Will Pass on Japanese Gift to City.

The 2,000 Japanese cherry trees will be taken to the Arsenal in Central Park to-day and examined by a tree expert from the Agricultural Department at Washington and also by the customs inspectors. No arrangements have yet been made for the planting of the trees.

Park Commissioner Stover intends to have an impressive programme to commemorate this token of friendship of the Japanese Government. When the trees are set out at Grant's Tomb the Japanese Ambassador will probably be present with other prominent men.

CANNOT SHUT OFF WATER.

U. S. Supreme Court Disapproves Such Means of Collecting Old Debts.

REFORMS IN THE EXPRESS BUSINESS

Agreement Practically Made With the Interstate Commission.

Simplified Form of Receipt to Prevent Charges at Both Ends.

STOPS OVERCHARGES New System of Payment Will Approximate Rates Under Parcels Post.

COMPANIES MAY CONTEST Programme Has Reached a Point Where Its Acceptance Is Practically Assured.

WASHINGTON, April 1.—The Interstate Commerce Commission and the express companies have practically reached an agreement as to reforms to be instituted in the express business. These reforms will be of far reaching importance and will, it is predicted, revolutionize the entire express business of the country.

The new reforms include a simplified form of receipt, a system that will prevent express companies from charging at both ends, the extension of delivery limits in many towns and cities and several other suggestions of relief advanced by commercial organizations and shippers generally throughout the country.

But more important than even these reforms will be a system of express charges which the Interstate Commerce Commission is now working on. The commission has evolved a zone system of charges which it is said will approximate the charges under a parcels post service in this country.

It is believed now that the proposed zone system of charges is the only feature of the comprehensive readjustment plan contemplated by the commission that the companies will contest. The commission, however, has the right to name reasonable rates on the express business, and it is going ahead with the firm determination to bring about a readjustment of the tariff schedules in a way that will be fair to the companies and the public alike.