"DANGER" IS COMING.
In to-morrow's "Sunday Sun" Sir A. Conan Doyle tells how England could be starved into submission in a month by submarine raids on her food ships.

The Sun.

THE WEATHER FORECAST.
Rain, followed by clearing, to-day; to-morrow fair and colder.
Detailed weather, mail and marine reports will be found on page 13.

VOL. LXXXII.—NO. 159. NEW YORK, SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 6, 1915.—Copyright, 1915, by the Sun Printing and Publishing Association. PRICE TWO CENTS.

BANK OFFICERS TO REPAY LOSS ON U. S. DEMAND

Comptroller Forces Refunding in National Bank of Commerce Case.

MAY TAKE ACTION AGAINST OTHERS

WASHINGTON, Feb. 5.—John Skelton Williams, Comptroller of the Currency, has called on the directors of the National Bank of Commerce of New York city personally to make good certain losses sustained by the bank through stock transactions. The directors of the bank, or at least a part of them, have yielded to the Comptroller's demand.

The exact amount involved could not be learned here to-night, but Washington was not so much interested in that as in the new policy which this action seems to indicate on the part of the Comptroller's office.

The losses which the Bank of Commerce's directors were called on to make good resulted from transactions or investments which Comptroller Williams contended were without authority in law. They did not constitute violations of the law, but there was nothing in the national banking act which authorized them.

Old Transactions.

The transactions which have been reviewed by Comptroller Williams, and on which he based his demand, covered a period of several years, it is said. All of them occurred when Valentine P. Snyder was president of the bank. James S. Alexander, the present head of the bank, succeeded Mr. Snyder in 1911. It is understood that some of the losses to which Mr. Williams took exception were on transactions dating back ten years.

It is the action of Comptroller Williams in reviewing the official record of his predecessors in office and taking exception to their acts that caused comment in Washington to-night among bankers and others who had heard of the Comptroller's proceedings.

Many seemed to doubt the Comptroller's power to make such a review and to hold the directors of a bank personally liable for acts done long before his administration. The directors of the Bank of Commerce apparently did not care to make an issue of the matter and yielded to the Comptroller's demand rather than be subjected to the annoyances that would follow upon his threat to enforce a refunding of the losses.

Comptroller Williams declined to discuss the case to-night or to acknowledge that it had been settled, but it is known that all the transactions to which he objected involved losses sustained through the ownership of corporate stocks, Mr. Williams's complaint being that under the national banking act no member bank is authorized to buy or own securities of this character.

Not the Only Bank.

Information obtained here to-day indicated that the National Bank of Commerce is not the only New York city institution whose records of the last ten years or so are being subjected to the scrutiny of Comptroller Williams's agents with a view to uncovering losses of this character and calling upon the directors to refund them. Reports were in circulation that action might be taken against directors of some other banks.

Previous Comptrollers of the Currency, when losses of this kind came to their attention, contented themselves with demands upon the bank directors to make up the losses. There was, however, nothing in the national banking act giving the Comptroller the power to enforce such a demand. The result was that in many cases these orders never were obeyed. In addition to searching for new evidence Comptroller Williams is said to be following up these old orders.

As understood here, however, he is going much further than any other Comptroller of the Currency and is holding out the possibility of stockholders' suits to recover unless the losses on such transactions are refunded.

In the case of the National Bank of Commerce Comptroller Williams was able to make use also of the fact that very close to a majority, if not a clear majority, of the present directors were members of the board when some of the losses complained of were sustained.

The Old Board.

The board of directors ten years ago consisted of Valentine P. Snyder, James W. Alexander, George F. Baker, Charles T. Barney, E. J. Berwind, C. Ledyard Blair, John Claflin, Frederick Cromwell, Henry C. Deming, Chauncey M. Depew, John F. Dryden, James B. Duke, Marshall Field, George J. Gould, Daniel Guggenheim, George G. Haven, Adrian Iselin, Jr., Brayton Ives, James N. Jarvie, A. D. Juilliard, Otto H. Kahn, Luther Kountze, Alvin W. Krech, Woodbury Langdon, Charles Lanier, Richard A. McCurdy, William H. McIntyre, A. W. Mellon, D. Ogden Mills, David F. Moffat, J. P. Morgan, Levi P. Morton, Walter G. Oakman, Frederick P. Olcott, Alexander E. Orr, James H. Parker, Charles A. Peabody, Elihu Root, Charles H. Russell, Thomas F. Ryan, Jacob H. Schiff, Frederick Sturges, H. McK. Twombly, R. H. Vreeland, Harry Payne Whitney and George W. Young.

Of the directors who were serving ten years ago the following are still on the board:

E. J. Berwind, C. Ledyard Blair, James B. Duke, George J. Gould, Daniel Guggenheim, Adrian Iselin, Jr., James N. Jarvie, A. D. Juilliard, Alvin W. Krech, Charles Lanier, A. W. Mellon, James H. Parker, Charles A. Peabody, Charles H. Russell, Valentine P. Snyder, Frederick Sturges and Harry Payne Whitney.

According to comments in bank circles here the Bank of Commerce in February, 1905, became a subscriber to the Chicago City Railways syndicate and paid in on account of its subscription about $1,900,000.

It is declared that the Comptroller of the Currency requested the bank to call upon the directors who were in office at the time the original investment was made to take the said asset out of the bank and to make up whatever loss was incurred by the original investment.

The report which reached here was that at the request of the Comptroller this was complied with. The bank has sold the asset to a group of men, both directors and others, for $750,000. This sale is said to have met with the full and official approval of the Comptroller of the Currency.

SPANISH ROYAL TIFF DENIED.

Embassy Says Alfonso and Queen Are Not Estranged.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 5.—Reports from Madrid published in this country to-day to the effect that there is an estrangement between the King and Queen of Spain were to-day denied at the Spanish Embassy.

Ambassador Riano personally authorized the statement that there is no foundation for such reports.

BRITAIN'S REPLY READY.

Detailed Note on Contraband to Be Sent to Washington.

Special Cable Despatch to THE SUN.

LONDON, Feb. 5.—The Foreign Office has virtually completed its detailed reply to President Wilson's note on contraband and it is expected that the document will be transmitted to Washington within a few days.

NO CHANCE FOR FAT MEN.

Tailors' Convention Decrees a Perfect Male Has a 34 Waist.

MILWAUKEE, Feb. 5.—The perfect man's measure is 38 inches around the chest, 34 inches at the waist and 40 at the seat, according to the verdict of the International Custom Cutters, who met here this week to fix American styles for 1915.

The tailors called attention to the fact that whereas a woman may maintain a form from year to year a man's waist line in the absence of corsets is likely to show great variation as he approaches 40. Therefore the perfect man is generally a youngster.

INDICT 200 WOMEN FOR SELLING VOTES AT $1

Kentucky Wives Alleged Also to Have Collected for Husbands' Ballots.

PIKEVILLE, Ky., Feb. 5.—Large numbers of women in Pike county who were enfranchised in school questions by the Legislature of Kentucky in 1912 sold their votes for $1 apiece. It was announced in court to-day that nearly 200 women have been indicted and will be brought into court for arraignment, probably after the close of the present special term, which will try 1,124 men for vote selling. The women were indicted on the testimony of vote buyers.

According to testimony in the other vote selling cases, it was shown that it was not uncommon for vote buyers to pay over the money to the wives for the votes of the husbands. Women, it was said, charged less for their votes than the men did.

The penalty according to the ruling of Judge Robertson in the other election cases before him is disfranchisement and a fine.

The Rev. W. T. Romes, a negro Baptist preacher, was convicted to-day of selling his vote. He said that he took the money for his church.

METHUSELAH OF HENS DEAD.

Was 17 Years Old and Acted as a Watchdog.

PASSAIC, N. J., Feb. 5.—Constable Garret Geene's Indian game hen, said to be the oldest in the State, died to-day. The chicken pecked its way through the shell on the day Mr. Geene's son was born, seventeen years ago. From the time the little "biddie" first ran around the coop until it grew through the pullet age and attained the title of "the old lady," the bird was the pet of the children about the neighborhood.

Its fighting blood made the hen as valuable as a watchdog and the Nemesis of all prowling dogs and cats. It would fly at strangers entering the yard and attract members of the family by its cackling calls.

"The old lady" will be stuffed.

INTERNED BY JERSEY BEARS.

Women and Children Up Vernon Way Afraid to Wander Forth.

VERNON, N. J., Feb. 5.—Women and children of this region are staying indoors nowadays because of the prowling of bears hereabout.

Two or three black bears have appeared on the roads recently, and to-day Ernest Drew and Burt Furman, young men of this township, chased two bears for more than half a mile to Pochunk Swamp, where the beasts disappeared.

EARL GIVES UP TARA TITLE.

New Marquis Bows to Irish Defence of Sacred Site.

Special Cable Despatch to THE SUN.

LONDON, Feb. 5.—The adverse criticism in Ireland and Scotland of the assumption by the Earl of Aberdeen, formerly Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, when he was elevated to a marquisate, of the title of "Marquis of Aberdeen and Tara," has caused the Marquis to change his title to that of "Marquis of Aberdeen and Temair."

Tara is celebrated in Moore's ballad of "The Harp That Once Through Tara's Halls," and is a site sacred in Irish traditions.

MARSHALL WILDER DIED RICH.

Humorist's Estate in New York Alone Worth $267,000.

Marshall P. Wilder, the humorist, made a fortune by his wit. When his will was filed in the Surrogate's court yesterday the petition for probate said that he left $250,000 in real estate and $17,000 in personal property in New York State, in addition to realty and other holdings outside of New York.

Mr. Wilder died suddenly on January 10 last in St. Paul. His will, made a year before his death and a month after the death of his wife, Mrs. Sophie Cornell Wilder, gives almost the entire estate to his son, Marshall P. Wilder, Jr., and his daughter, Grace Isabel Wilder. The daughter gets her father's autoharp and all of her mother's jewelry, while the son gets his father's jewelry and divides with his sister their father's collection of autographs and autograph letters, which includes those of many men of prominence. The residue is to be held in trust, the income to go to the son and daughter for life. Upon reaching the age of 30 each has power to dispose of one-half of the estate by will.

M'CALL DENIES INFERENCES OF P.S.C. NEGLECT

Admits Using Public Car to Go to Ball Games and Summer Home.

ACTED AS COUNSEL TO "POULTRY TRUST"

Edward E. McCall defended himself before the Thompson committee yesterday against the previous day's accusation that he had neglected his duties as chairman of the Public Service Commission while practising law.

Perhaps his most impressive points were that, although he had been absent from some rather unimportant formal meetings of the commission, he always attended the secret sessions of the committee of the whole, where the real business is done; that he sat as a referee in the chairman's office so he would be on call if the other commissioners needed him; that the $3,000,000 subway vouchers approved in his absence, of which much was made on Thursday, were routine matters checked fully by several other safeguarding agencies besides the commission, and that in every private case he felt that he acted in the people's interest as well as his client's.

Late in the afternoon William Hayward, the committee's counsel, read a batch of blue paper slips—chauffeurs' records from the commission's files—showing that Mr. McCall used a commission automobile on what Mr. Hayward contended were personal excursions. Fourteen times in the summers of 1913 and 1914 he rode to 155th street.

Likes Baseball, He Admits.

Suspecting his destination on those summer afternoons was the Polo Grounds, Mr. Hayward asked the chairman if he attended ball games there. Mr. McCall said, "Yes"—that he liked baseball and went to games whenever he had the time.

The records also revealed several trips to Mr. McCall's summer home at East Hampton, L. I., and other places outside the city. From July 2 to 7, 1913, the car was covering from forty-six to eighty-five miles a day "in the vicinity of East Hampton." The total mileage on suburban trips in the period chronicled by the blue slips was 2,664.

From the Secretary of State's records at Albany Mr. Hayward had learned that maintenance of this $4,800 automobile in the year 1914 cost $3,821.72, of which $1,200 was the chauffeur's salary.

Before the automobile matter had been fairly gone into Mr. McCall replied, "Oh, no," to Mr. Hayward's question whether he had put a commission automobile to private use. He explained later that in his two years on the commission he had taken no vacation. He said his own car was used by his family at East Hampton, and that as it wouldn't be fair to ask them to send it to the city for him he had gone in the commission's machine nearly to the Long Island town, where his own car met him.

He left the inference that as he abstained from regular vacations because of his work for the city such riding as he did he felt reasonably entitled to.

Mr. McCall's testimony was finished yesterday.

Congratulated by Whitman.

Commissioner Robert C. Wood will take the stand at 10 o'clock this morning. Mr. Hayward and two or three investigators will go to Albany to-day to prepare for their attack on the up-State commission, but the lawyer will return Monday morning to continue hearings in this city. He had a telephone talk with Gov. Whitman yesterday and was congratulated on the progress of the investigation here.

Mr. Hayward introduced records of another McCall law case yesterday. Mr. McCall was counsel for the so-called "poultry trust" early in 1914 in its appeal against conviction for conspiracy to keep up the price of poultry. He told Mr. Hayward he took the case because he believed the verdict was unjust.

Senator James A. Foley of the committee protested that Mr. Hayward's insinuations that Mr. McCall had acted improperly were unfair—that a lawyer is not to be criticised for taking either side of a case. Chairman Thompson agreed with him and said the only question was whether public duties had been neglected.

Mr. Hayward kept asking the witness how he found time for law practice. Finally the reply was:

"I didn't want to say this because it might look tawdry, but I was preparing those cases at night when you were asleep, and continued until daylight." He also said he had argued the Park Row realty case in an interval of a visit to Albany on official business.

Tells of Poultry Case.

He proved also that on two days in February, 1913, when he was accused of attending to personal affairs, he was holding hearings at City Hall on the forms of subway contracts.

In answer to questions Mr. McCall said it might be well to pass a law forbidding a commissioner to practise law on the side, but he added that it was unnecessary because his own experience had taught him that no such avocation could be followed without a physical breakdown.

The "poultry trust" case was sprung in the morning. "You thought it entirely consistent to serve the people in the morning and oppose the people in the afternoon?"

Mr. McCall objected to the form of the question and said:

"It was not only proper, but an excellent thing to do to defend men whom I considered unjustly convicted."

"You think you violated no canon of the Bar Association?"

"I most certainly do not."

A little later the witness said: "I want to make a statement about that poultry case. In looking over the record of the conviction I found fifty-nine or sixty pages of colloquy between the two lawyers (Jerome and De Ford). I didn't believe the record should be sustained. No man with a legal mind can say that the jury was impressed against the defendants while these men were battling and the defendants sat helpless. I believe men should be tried in a judicial atmosphere. That impelled me to take the case on appeal."

"Mr. McCall," remarked Chairman

Continued on Fifth Page.

FOUR HELD AS CORONER SIFTS POISONING TALE

Superintendent of German Odd Fellows Home One of Men in Custody.

CORONER THINKS EIGHT INMATES WERE KILLED

YONKERS, N. Y., Feb. 5.—That five old men and three old women were deliberately chloroformed as they slept in the German Odd Fellows Home near Yonkers, that they were murdered because their age and general debility made them too much of a burden for those who cared for them and that their deaths were announced simply as due to old age, is now the belief of Coroner James P. Dunn of Yonkers.

The Coroner expressed this belief to-night after he had concluded the first session of the inquest which he is making into the eight deaths at the home. He immediately issued warrants for the arrest of three porters at the home whom he had questioned, and for Adam Bangert, the superintendent. All were locked up without bail as material witnesses. The three porters are being held at the Yonkers prison and Bangert at the Westchester county jail at White Plains. As yet the four men have not had the advice of counsel.

Painter's Story the Clue.

Coroner Dunn's inquest was caused by the story told by Frederick Mors, a porter who was discharged from the home last Sunday for laziness. Mors went on Tuesday to the office of District Attorney Perkins in New York with the tale that eight inmates of the Odd Fellows Home had been poisoned. His story was listened to with care, but he was thought mentally deranged and was sent to the psychopathic ward at Bellevue.

The German Odd Fellows Home was located in Unionport, The Bronx, until July of last year, when the home was moved to its new quarters here. It now furnishes a retreat for 150 of the aged members of the society and their relatives. Because three of the alleged murders are said to have been committed when the home occupied the buildings in New York, Detectives Oswald and Willemse of Mr. Perkins's homicide bureau were given the case.

It was on the strength of their investigations among the porters and inmates of the home, as well as the work of Coroner Dunn and Chief of Police Wolff of Yonkers, that the warrants were issued. They questioned, among others, Max Ring, Fritz Reichert and Frank Schmidt, the three porters who are under arrest. They also got information from Amelia Buonotane, the fourteen-year-old girl who was entrusted with the care of the medicine closet at the home. She was let go.

Coroner Sees Big Plot.

After the inquest to-night Coroner Dunn said:

"I have no doubt from the testimony that the eight old people at the home were killed. There was a plot to get rid of the oldest, the most senile, those that were the most in the way and caused the most trouble. In each instance I believe that a rag soaked with chloroform was held over the face of the victim. Each was found dead in the morning, and was generally supposed to have died during the night of natural causes, without medical attention."

Coroner Dunn also said that Dr. E. M. Juster, the home's physician, signed the death certificate in all of the cases, though, according to the Coroner, in one case he admitted that he had not seen the deceased for six days previous to death.

The Coroner said that one porter testified that he went into the room of an inmate several months ago and smelled there chloroform. Two other men were there at the time. The porter said that one of them pulled down the shade and lighted the gas to dissipate the odor of the drug. The Coroner said Ring testified to having heard what he thought was the sound of a man strangling. When he entered the room of Henry Haendel, Ring said, he smelled chloroform, but was told by the man in charge that the patient was dying.

"He was my boss, so I left," said Ring, according to the Coroner.

The aged men and women who are supposed to have been murdered are Christian, Hitzel, Henry Haendel, Carl Gars, who died at Unionport; Catherina Piazza, Mrs. Frederika Frey, Mrs. Elizabeth Hausen and Henry Horn, all of whom died at Yonkers.

Coroner Dunn will confer with District Attorney Weeks of Westchester county to-morrow morning about taking steps toward exhuming the bodies of the eight.

PUMPKIN OF RUM FOR $1.

Rolled to Each Customer in Dry West Virginia From Kentucky.

KENOVA, W. Va., Feb. 5.—With parts of this city in three States, West Virginia, Virginia and Kentucky, State Prohibition Commissioner Blue of West Virginia is having more trouble here than in any other city or town.

The latest scheme to outwit the Yost prohibition law has been the placing of a pint bottle of liquor in a pumpkin, which the Kentucky farmers haul here, charging $1 for the pumpkin. One farmer sold 2,000 pumpkins here in a single day.

A canvasser has been in the city procuring orders for pints at $1 each and has notified patrons to station themselves along Raccoon Creek, about a half mile east of here, at 8:30 o'clock Saturday evening, and be ready to catch a pumpkin, which will be rolled down from the Kentucky side.

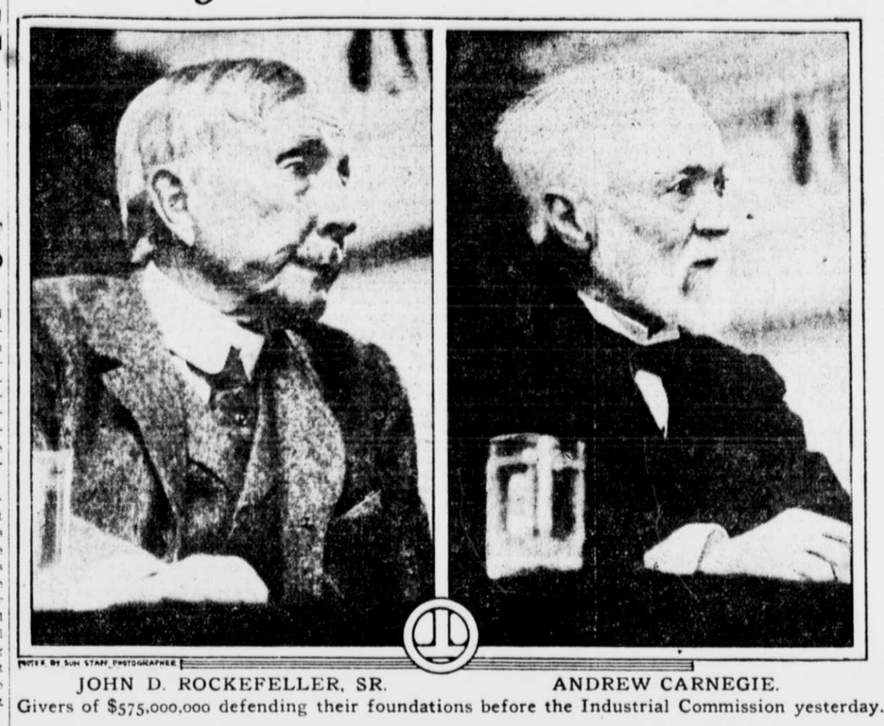
NO COURSE IN CIGARETTES.

Wisconsin Teachers and Pupils May Have to Use Pipes.

MADISON, Wis., Feb. 5.—No educational institution of any kind which is supported in whole or in part by public money shall employ a teacher who smokes cigarettes, nor shall any institution grant a diploma or certificate of education to any one who smokes cigarettes.

Such are the provisions of a bill introduced in the Assembly to-day by Representative McGovan.

John D. Denies Foundation Is Menace; Carnegie Has a 'Fine Time' on Stand



PHOTOS BY SUN STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER.

JOHN D. ROCKEFELLER, SR. ANDREW CARNEGIE.

Givers of $575,000,000 defending their foundations before the Industrial Commission yesterday.

Oil Financier Would Yield All of His Businesses to Labor.

Homestead Strike His Only Regret in Life, Says Ironmaster.

John D. Rockefeller, Sr., and Andrew Carnegie, who between them have given away $575,000,000, appeared as witnesses before the United States Commission on Industrial Relations yesterday afternoon to meet the charge that their philanthropic foundations may become a menace to human liberty and the democratic form of government.

It was a glorious day for Mr. Carnegie. He chuckled his way through a carefully prepared statement of his views and then sat down to answer questions. Every rule that Chairman Walsh had made and enforced for the proper conduct of the hearing went by the board within two minutes after Mr. Carnegie went on the stand.

He began by saying that his business was "to do as much good in the world as I can," and he left with the words that he hadn't "spent a more agreeable afternoon in I don't know when."

Anecdotes and Proverbs.

Between these two sentences his humor bubbled over at every opportunity. There were 600 persons crowded into the assembly hall in the Metropolitan Life Building, and unrestrained laughter greeted each sally of the witness. Chairman Walsh and his colleagues leaned back in their chairs and roared with the rest of them. Mr. Carnegie knew the house was with him and he studded his discourse with anecdotes and proverbs that upset every effort to restore the customary dignity of these proceedings.

The contrast between him and Mr. Rockefeller was made more apparent by the clothes they wore. Mr. Carnegie appeared in a black frock coat, black bow tie and white stiff bosomed shirt. As he stood to read his statement he looked for all the world like a Scotch preacher high up in his little pulpit on the wall of the church.

Mr. Rockefeller had on a business suit of mixed goods, a dark green tie with an emerald, and a gray wig. He sat down when he read his statement and during the questioning that followed.

The Standard Oil financier's appearance was a surprise. It was the intention to have him submit a written statement to the commission and the understanding was that he would not be asked to go on the stand. He happened to be in town yesterday, however, and sent word to the commission that he would be glad to appear. He passed Mr. Carnegie as the steel pioneer was leaving the stand and they smiled happily at each other.

Shoos Them All Out

Mr. Rockefeller was just saying to Chairman Walsh that if he did not read loudly enough he would be pleased to raise his voice when another wave of laughter rippled over the audience and the voice of Mr. Carnegie could be heard as he chaffed with the photographers in the front part of the big room. They had captured him as he was leaving. Mr. Walsh shooed them all out of the room, explaining to Mr. Rockefeller that Mr. Carnegie had just been on the stand and that he had upset everything.

Mr. Rockefeller did not smile during the time he was on the stand, except for the benefit of a photographer who got close to his chair. He read very slowly and distinctly for those near him. In reply to the five set questions submitted to him he said the sole motive underlying his various foundations was his desire to devote a part of his fortune to the service of his fellow men. He could not see how these foundations would become a menace. As for the disposition of the funds in case of a dissolution of the foundations he said he had never thought of that.

$324,657,399 Total of Gifts.

Mr. Carnegie proceeded first to tell how well he got along with his workmen when he was in active business. Then he told of his idea to establish foundations for the distribution of his surplus wealth, and asserted his belief that they would never become a menace to democratic institutions. In the telling he disclosed the fact that his gifts to educational and philanthropic purposes now total $324,657,399.

He chuckled to himself and smiled upon the commission and the audience whenever he spoke of the wages his men got. Here and there in his prepared statement he interpolated words, phrases or whole sentences, and there was a laugh or a thrill in every one of them. His voice trembled as he told of the strike at Homestead and of how word reached him too late to help the situation. When he came to the words of the Burgess of Homestead, who ran away and was afterward helped by him—"That was damned white of Andy"—he turned to the audience and grinned.

Having finished reading his statement Mr. Carnegie thanked the commission for the attention given to him. Asked as to the responsibility of directors for labor conditions, he said he would not consider it a director's duty to interfere unless he was made aware of an extraordinary situation.

Has Things His Own Way.

"Do you not believe, Mr. Carnegie——" began Chairman Walsh.

"Now, Mr. Chairman," interrupted Mr. Carnegie, "you say, 'Do you not believe?' That implies that you believe and that you want me to agree. I don't like that. Please be kind enough to say, 'Do you believe?'"

The audience roared again and Mr. Walsh said he would try to remember. The next explosion came when Mr. Carnegie said that he got along all right with his workmen. He referred again to McLuckie, the Homestead Burgess

Continued on Fourth Page.

Tango Again in Paris Despite Police Ban

Restaurant Music Forbidden, Papers Demand Closing of Secret Places.

Special Cable Despatch to THE SUN.

PARIS, Feb. 5.—Although the police have forbidden music in restaurants, the tango has reappeared in certain resorts, sometimes under the guise of dancing lessons and sometimes in secret curtained rooms, to enter which a password is needed. The newspapers are demanding the suppression of such places.

The restaurants generally have donated a percentage of their receipts to military charities, but public sentiment is strong against any frivolity, hence the ban on music. Some restaurateurs say that if they cannot furnish music they will be obliged to close up.

Three of the most noted restaurants recently started orchestras during the tea hour with the greatest success. The rooms were crowded and many persons were unable to get tables.

Parisians have submitted cheerfully to the regulations against allowing lights to be seen from houses. Passersby were astonished recently to find the Ministry of the Interior ablaze with light without a curtain drawn, while a servant in a house across the street was summoned to court for permitting light to be seen from an uncurtained room.

DENMARK HOLDS COTTON SHIP.

The Navahoe Detained After Stopping for Repairs.

Special Cable Despatch to THE SUN.

LONDON, Feb. 5.—The Copenhagen correspondent of the *Daily Mail* telegraphs the following:

"The steamship Navahoe which was damaged and was being repaired at Esbjerg, has been forbidden to go to Bremen on the ground that the exportation of cotton from Denmark has been prohibited."

JAPANESE NURSES IN PARIS.

Lodged in Hotel Where Kaiser Meant to Stop August 11.

Special Cable Despatch to THE SUN.

PARIS, Feb. 5.—The Japanese Red Cross mission of thirty-one persons has arrived here. The mission has been lodged in the Hotel Astoria. The women nurses are amused at the idea of nursing the wounded in a hotel where the Kaiser had intended to take lunch on August 11.

POLITICS RICH BOY'S HOBBY.

John Nicholas Brown 3d Discusses Commission Government.

PASADENA, Cal., Feb. 5.—The hobby of John Nicholas Brown 3d, once known as the richest baby in the world, has been discovered. It is civil government.

For forty-five minutes to-day young Brown, who with his mother and a special guardian is stopping at the Hotel Huntington, talked over the telephone with Mayor Metcalf on the subject of the commission form of city government.

It was learned at the hotel to-night that Mayor Metcalf had sent the boy a copy of the new city charter and that young Brown put in the larger part of the afternoon studying it in preparation for discussion with his elders on recent advancements made in municipal affairs.

Want Roosevelt as Mexico's Adviser

Cientificos Said to Plan Iturbide for President, With T. R. to Guide Him.

EL PASO, Feb. 5.—Eduardo Iturbide is to be the next provisional President to enter the field in Mexico, and Theodore Roosevelt is to be his political adviser if money can engage the services of the ex-President of the United States, is a rumor current here to-day.

It is said that the Cientificos of Porfirio Diaz's regime are behind this movement. Iturbide is now in the United States by the help of Leon Canova, Secretary Bryan's special agent in Mexico. He had been Federal Governor of Mexico city under Huerta and had been arrested by Villa and Zapata when Canova secured his release and smuggled him part of the way out of Mexico.

Gen. Villa's troops are within fifty-five miles of Tampico. Gen. Angeles has not left the Monterey territory, but has such complete control of the surrounding country that he is able completely to protect the rear of any movement made from or toward Tampico, it is said.

Gen. Villa, accompanied by a part of his official family, has gone to Queretaro. It is said that one purpose of the trip is to treat with the Zapata forces.

VERA CRUZ CELEBRATES.

Military Parade Marks 58th Anniversary of the Constitution.

Special Cable Despatch to THE SUN.

VERA CRUZ, Feb. 5.—The fifty-eighth anniversary of the promulgation of the Constitution of 1857 was celebrated today as a national holiday. A military parade was held to show that the Constitutional army is in good condition.

Provisional President Carranza was presented with medals and diplomas by the city council for his law making municipalities free from outside control and subsequent abuses.

JOBLESS AS A DEFENCE ARMY.

Loft's Bill Provides Labor on Public Works and a Reserve Force.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 5.—A bill was offered in the House to-day by Representative Loft of New York providing that work shall be given to the unemployed on Federal public works, and that of those so employed the President shall designate the able bodied for training in military service for four hours every day. Members of the reserve so created shall upon the expiration of their terms of enlistment be subject to call in case of war and shall report to the Government for two weeks military service every year. They are to be compensated "at the prevailing wage rate." The term of enlistment is fixed at four months.

In organizing this army of unemployed the President is directed first to make a census of all males in the United States between the ages of 16 and 65 who are out of work. All would get employment under the Loft bill either on public works of the States or the Federal Government. The bill expressly provides that the President shall cooperate with the States. Money derived from the sale of Panama bonds shall be used to defray the expenses.

BLOCKADE MAY EMBROIL U. S. WITH GERMANY

Menace to Neutral Ships Is Regarded as Discordant Note.

HOLLAND DESIRES AMERICAN VIEWS

Netherlands Minister Calls at State Department for Information.

ENGLAND BELIEVES DECREE FUTILE

Government Is, However, Taking Precautions to Guard Traffic.

SUMMARY OF THE WAR NEWS.

Despatches from Washington indicate that the United States will protest against the German decree notifying the world that the British Isles are to be blockaded by submarines and that neutral ships may be torpedoed. The Dutch Ministry has asked that Holland be informed as early as possible as to the attitude of the United States. This is taken to mean that Holland and other neutral countries hope that the United States will champion all neutrals in protesting against the German decree.

The Russian Government announced last night that its troops had taken the offensive west of Warsaw and had crossed the Bzura at its junction with the Vistula. The movement followed a severe reverse suffered by seven divisions of German infantry on February 2, 3 and 4 on the seven mile front of Goumine-Borjimow. Repulsed in massed attacks, the Germans are said to have lost 25,000 in killed and wounded. Further advances of the Russians in East Prussia and into Hungary are reported.

The German War Office states that Russian attacks against the German positions west of Bolimow, on the Warsaw front, were unsuccessful, and that twenty-six officers and 6,000 men have been captured by the Germans since February 1. A repulse of the Russians in East Prussia is announced.

The French Government asserts that its troops in the Champagne district have made further advances toward the east and west railway which feeds the whole German line; that the Germans made unsuccessful attacks near Lens, in the Argonne, and in Alsace. St. Die was bombarded by a German aviator.

The German Government says of the situation in western Europe that artillery duels on the whole front were varied only by an unsuccessful French attack against a German position near Perthes, in the Champagne country.

NEW GERMAN DECREE MAY FORCE U. S. ACTION

Washington Asks Envoy in Berlin for the Full Text.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 5.—The German announcement that after February 18 all vessels, neutral and belligerent, will be in danger of destruction by German naval forces if they approach Great Britain is generally regarded here to be one of the most serious developments affecting the United States which have arisen since the outbreak of the war.

Since the State Department has not yet received officially the German notice, this has not been taken formally under consideration. Unofficially, however, the German decree is the chief topic in Administration quarters and there is no doubt that it was thoroughly discussed at the Cabinet meeting to-day. Robert Lansing, Counsellor of the State Department, represented at the Cabinet meeting Mr. Bryan, who is in Indiana making eight speeches in two days. Mr. Lansing cabled to Ambassador Gerard at Berlin to-day for the official text of the announcement.

That other neutrals regard the situation with gravity was indicated in the call at the State Department to-day of the Netherlands Minister. The Minister wishes to get the views of the United States Government on the issue at the earliest possible moment, but was obliged to defer his conversation until to-morrow. The German announcement places the coast of Holland under the same ban as that of Great Britain.

The German decree is looked on here as an attempt by Germany to obtain all the benefits of a blockade without assuming the responsibility of an effective blockade. It is well known that the German Admiralty is not in a position to establish an effective blockade by posting vessels all along the enemy coast in sufficient numbers to make it impracticable for any vessel to reach any of the blockaded ports. An effective blockade of Great Britain would require the services of practically all the vessels in the German navy. Even if they ventured upon the task they would be overwhelmingly outweighed by the British fleets. The conclusion is therefore reached here that the German Government is trying to obtain by intimidation of neutrals what she is unable to gain by an actual blockade.

No question is raised against the German declaration that the waters around Great Britain are to be within the zone of war. This has been understood from the beginning of the war, but British