THE EVENING STAR.
PUBLISHED DAILY, EXCEPT SUNDAY.
Business Office, 11th Street and Pennsylvania Avenue.
The Evening Star Newspaper Company.
S. H. KAUFFMANN, Pres't.
New York Office: 126 Tribune Building.
Chicago Office: Boyce Building.

The Evening Star is served to subscribers in the city by carriers, on their own account, at 10 cents per week, or 44 cents per month. Copies at the counter, 2 cents each. By mail—anywhere in the U.S. or Canada—postage prepaid—50 cents per month. Saturday Quintuple Sheet Star, $1 per year; with foreign postage added, $3.08.
(Entered at the Post Office at Washington, D. C., as second-class mail matter.)
☞All mail subscriptions must be paid in advance. Rates of advertising made known on application.

The Evening Star.

No. 15,016. WASHINGTON, D. C., SATURDAY, APRIL 13, 1901—TWENTY-EIGHT PAGES. TWO CENTS.

Better a small advertisement that attracteth the multitude than a large one that is seen by the few.

CLOSE TO AGREEMENT

Employes of Jersey Central and Officials Still in Conference.

COMPANY OFFERS A LUMP SUM

The Employes Must Arrange the Division of It.

READJUSTMENT OF WAGES

NEW YORK, April 13.—The grievance committee of the employes of the Central railroad of New Jersey and representatives of the company renewed their conference at the office of General Superintendent Olhausen, in Communipaw, today. The same delegates that were present on the two previous days were in attendance this morning, while the company was represented, as before, by Mr. Olhausen and Division Superintendent Wentz.

One of the delegates representing the engineers said before the meeting began that it was hoped to get through with the engineers' schedule before the day was over, but he could not say positively whether this would be accomplished or not.

The offer made by the company yesterday to add $30,000 to the pay roll of the engineers and firemen, will result in some close figuring on the part of the men. It is said that the only way that an equitable division of this sum can be made is by some of the higher-paid men accepting a reduction. Some of the engineers, those in the Mauch Chunk run, make $7.40 a day, while the great majority of the men, those on the short runs, earn from $3.25 to $4.

May Readjust Wage Scale.

To make a fair division of the additional amount the company proposed to give, it is said, will necessitate the paring down of the pay of the men on the long runs and increasing the wages of the men on the short runs.

There is a strong probability that the coming conference between representatives of the employes and officials of the Central railroad of New Jersey will reach an agreement by tonight as to the wage schedule of the engineers and firemen. The participants in the conference declined to talk for publication, and Vice President Warren, who is directing the railroad's end of the conference, was also uncommunicative. It is known, however, that the contending sides are quite close together and the points of variance are, it is understood, not material.

WILKESBARRE, Pa., April 13.—The officials of the Central railroad of New Jersey in charge of the car shops at Ashley and a committee of the striking employes went into secret session at noon. The conference is expected to last some time.

NOTED GANG CAUGHT.

Pittsburg Robbers, Who Killed Two Men There Yesterday.

PITTSBURG, Pa., April 13.—Chief of Detectives Roger O'Mara believes that in the arrest of the Wrights and Wilcoxes yesterday a noted gang of housebreakers and murderers has been broken up, and swift justice is promised the prisoners, who are believed to be the people who have been operating so extensively in this vicinity for the past month, and whose list of crimes was added to yesterday by murders of Grocer Kahney and Detective Fitzgerald.

The smallest man in the party says his name is John Wright, twenty-eight years old, single, came from Canada to Pittsburg six weeks ago. He has black curly hair, sharp pointed chin, and talks with a soft accent. Robert D. Wilcox says he was a laborer, twenty-one years old. He is tall and fine-looking. Jennie Wilcox, his reputed wife, acknowledged to the age of twenty-two. She is plump and has a mass of yellow hair. Jessie Wright, or Jessie Bodyne, as letters found showed her maiden name to have been, said she was twenty-two years old. Her features are haggard, suggesting confirmed illness. Both gave their calling as that of housekeepers.

Kept a Dancing Academy.

The Bodyne woman is supposed to have been a dancing teacher in Milwaukee, where she conducted the Ideal Dancing Academy.

Edward Wright, the alleged murderer, is a powerful young fellow, twenty-two years old, five feet nine inches tall and weighs 175 pounds. He is being closely guarded today at Mercy Hospital, where his wounds are being treated. In the encounter with the detectives yesterday Wright was shot three times. One ball struck him behind the right ear and followed the jawbone into the mouth. Another shot struck him in the right knee and the third made a flesh wound in his right side. The wound in the knee is the most serious. Wright says he is a shoemaker by trade and that he came from Chicago.

In the rooms of the prisoners several trunks of plunder were found, and in Wright's room burglar outfits, including a vial of nitroglycerine, percussion caps, fuse and five sticks of dynamite were secured.

FOREST FIRES IN NEW JERSEY.

Much Damage Done to Timber in Camden County.

CAMDEN, N. J., April 13.—A forest fire which began yesterday near Cedar Brook in Camden county, about twenty-five miles below this city, is working havoc among the timber in that locality. Today the conflagration separated, one portion moving toward Turnerville, Gloucester county, and the other in the the direction of Blackwood, Camden county.

The residence of Miss Bridget Hagan, near Blackwood, was destroyed, and the woman, who is eighty years of age, is missing. Several groves of chestnut trees belonging to a Camden syndicate have been consumed. The fire is still burning and the residents of Turnerville and Blackwood are fighting the flames.

MACHINISTS THREATEN TO STRIKE.

They Demand Shorter Hours and More Pay in Chicago.

CHICAGO, April 13.—The Tribune says: The first move in what is likely to be a bitter fight between the International Association of Machinists and several of the railroads entering Chicago has been in demands by the association on the Chicago Great Western railroad. The demands call for the minimum scale of 29 cents an hour, shortening of the work day from ten to nine hours, and regulating the apprentice system. The officials of the railroad company are expected to make a reply within the next few days. If they refuse to comply all of the 200 machinists in the employ of the company, the majority of whom are employed in the shops at Oelwein, Iowa, will be called out, it is said.

The machinists also are preparing to fight for a nine-hour work day in all the shops in Chicago, beginning on May 20.

Mgr. Chapelle Called to Rome.

MANILA, April 13.—Archbishop Chapelle, the papal delegate in the Philippines, has been summoned to Rome. He will sail soon, and his return here is improbable.

DEMANDS OF THE POWERS

REPORTS OF INDEMNITIES CLAIMED EXAGGERATED.

Total Still Far in Excess of What China Can Raise — The Amounts Asked.

The latest advices of the State Department from Mr. Rockhill contain further details respecting the amount of the indemnities claimed from China by the powers. It appears that these claims have been much exaggerated in some statements, though the sum total is still far in excess of the amount of money that China could raise. This last statement is based on the belief of the State Department that the total claims should not be allowed to exceed $150,000,000 or $200,000,000, for there is as yet no confirmation of the report from Pekin that the international commissioners have fixed upon $300,000,000 as the limit of China's ability in the matter of raising funds. And notwithstanding statements to the contrary, it is now disclosed that the British claim, so far as formulated, is reasonable in amount as compared with the other claims. In fact, the trio, the United States, Great Britain and Japan, represent in these negotiations the moderate element that has proved by its acts in the shape of preferring claims a sincere desire to prevent the imposition of charges that shall destroy the Chinese government and result in the division of China. Each one of these claims, as far as it has been disclosed, appears to have a sound basis in equity, which is more than can be said of some of the continental claims.

Claims of the Powers.

None of the claims, however, exceeds $100,000,000, and even the largest is something less than that amount. This is believed to be the Russian claim which is fixed at $90,000,000. The German claim is flexible, ranging between $60,000,000 and $80,000,000, but is nearer the former mark at present, though it will doubtless grow. As already stated, the claim of the United States is $25,000,000. With these few totals in mind, it will be seen that if the remaining powers are to be allowed a proportionate share, the aggregate will be beyond China's ability to pay, and if the negotiation is to succeed it must be on the basis of the pro rata cut in the claims suggested by the United States.

Nothing has yet been determined respecting the method of raising the indemnity fund, even after an agreement is reached. It is a question whether the indemnities will be made payable in annual installments, or whether a syndicate will float a loan and pay off the claimants at once.

THINKS CUBANS WILL YIELD.

Senator Cockrell Believes They Will Accept Platt Amendment.

Senator Cockrell, who is a member of the Senate committee on Cuba and who returned from that island yesterday, was at the War Department this morning, and had a long conference with Secretary Root regarding his visit to the island. In speaking about the reported vote yesterday adverse to the Platt amendment, Senator Cockrell said he did not consider it a final one, for he said the convention has voted eight or ten times on the subject and has done nothing decisive in the matter. From his knowledge of the situation in the convention, the senator declared that he did not consider yesterday's vote anything more than any of the other votes which had been taken. He was of opinion that the Cubans would finally accept the resolutions, although several more votes might be taken.

ADMIRAL SCHLEY RETURNING.

It is Believed That He Will Visit England on the Way Home.

Rear Admiral W. S. Schley, who has been detached from command of the South Atlantic station, left Buenos Ayres yesterday on his way to the United States. He embarked on the British steamship Clyde and will come home by way of England. As he will undoubtedly desire to spend a short time in that country, it is hardly likely that he will arrive in this city much before the 1st of June. Inasmuch as he will retire for age in the following October, it is not believed that he will be given any special assignment on his return home, but will remain on waiting orders during the intervening three months. Admiral Schley's return to the United States at this time is made with the approval of the Navy Department. He was cabled authority to turn the command of the station over to the senior officer present, pending the arrival of his relief, Rear Admiral Cromwell, now on his way to the South Atlantic station by way of Southampton. Admiral Cromwell left New York on the 3d instant and will arrive on the station about the middle of May. Admiral Schley has been in command of the South Atlantic station nearly two years, and so has completed the usual tour of sea service.

NAVAL OFFICERS SURPRISED.

Performance of the New Model Five-Inch Gun.

The new model 5-inch gun, lately tested at Indian Head, has surprised the officials of the Navy Department by its good performances. With less than 17 tons pressure it imparted to a 50-pound projectile a maximum velocity of 3,330 feet per second. The regular 5-inch gun is now installed on the Kearsarge, and her type attains a velocity of only 2,550 feet per second with the same kind of projectile. The new gun developed a muzzle energy of 3,918 foot-tons, and the older type could show only 3,724 foot-tons.

LOCAL WATER SUPPLY.

Col. Miller Reports Steady Progress on the Work of Construction.

Col. Miller, the officer in charge of the water supply system of the District, reports to the War Department that the water served to the people of Washington during the month of March was very turbid 18 days and clear the remaining 13 days. The consumption and waste of water during the twenty-four hours ended at 7 o'clock March 22 amounted to 47,922,930 gallons. The by-conduit of the Dalecarlia or reserving reservoir is undergoing repairs.

Steady progress is reported in the work of reconstructing the Lydecker tunnel and the Howard University reservoir. The tunnel is being cleaned, shafts lined, gatehouses constructed, pipe laid and the reservoir put in condition. Power houses are also under construction at the Champlain avenue and east shafts.

Consul McCook's Reported Death.

The State Department has heard nothing to confirm the rumor of the death of United States Consul McCook at Dawson City. On the contrary, the latest advice received by the department, while showing that the consul had been very ill from an attack of pneumonia, stated that the chances were favorable for his recovery. That message came to the State Department directly from the doctor in charge of the hospital at Dawson City, where Consul McCook was lying, and it was dated the 1st of April. The officials doubt whether any later advices have come out of Dawson at this season of the year. Mr. McCook's brother in Philadelphia has been notified by the department of the facts in its possession touching the consul's condition.

EXPECTED A FIGHT

Caleb Powers and Charles Finley Talked With W. P. Reeder.

THOUGHT GOEBEL WOULD BE KILLED

Ex-County Clerk of Knox County Testifies Today.

RIPLEY'S COMPANY ILLEGAL

FRANKFORT, Ky., April 13.—In the trial today of Captain Ripley for alleged complicity in the Goebel shooting, W. P. Reeder, ex-county clerk of Knox county, testified that he talked with Caleb Powers and Charles Finley frequently in regard to the crowd they were alleged to be getting up to go to Frankfort, January 25. Witness asked Finley if there was going to be a fight at Frankfort. Finley replied, according to Reeder, that he thought so, and should not be surprised if Goebel was killed in the next five days.

County Judge Bruce testified that Ripley's company was illegally gotten up, no application having been made for its organization as required by law.

Wharton Golden told of the organization of the mountain army. His testimony was similar to that which he gave in former trials.

Sheriff Suter's Testimony.

Sheriff Suter told the jury yesterday afternoon of his efforts to enter the executive building after the shooting, and of being repulsed by armed men who guarded the door; also of the arrival of the troops a few minutes later.

Erasmus Ditto testified that during the contest over the governorship he asked Ripley if he thought Goebel would be declared governor. Ripley responded: "If he is, he will never take his seat."

Miss Susie Snuffer of Whitley county identified letters written to her by Caleb Powers. Powers told her he had organized the mountain army, but that he did it cautiously, and that the newspapers did not learn of it. Powers told her that Taylor had "no backbone," and denounced his cowardice.

Treasurer Walter Day repeated the testimony which he gave in the Youtsey case in regard to Youtsey coming to him and saying that for $300 he would bring the contest to an end. Youtsey would not say how he proposed to do this, and Day refused to treat with him, as he had his suspicions. Witness also saw Youtsey in Powers' office with a gun on January 28.

John Ricketts said Youtsey had told him the only way to win the contest was to "put Goebel out of the way." Youtsey said it could be done from the secretary of state's office, and the assassin could escape through the basement and not be discovered. A few minutes before the assassination Youtsey called on witness and others to accompany him to the executive buildings, and said that something was going to happen.

Requisition for Taylor Expected.

A dispatch from Indianapolis says: A requisition on Gov. Durbin for the extradition of W. S. Taylor, who was the republican claimant for the Kentucky governorship during the Goebel contest, is not unexpected at the state house. A man in official position said today that he believed the reopening of the Goebel case and the recent statements alleged to have been made by Mr. Taylor were for the purpose of paving the way for a requisition from Gov. Beckham. Other reports strengthen this belief.

Gov. Durbin has refused repeatedly to express himself as to whether or not he would honor such a requisition. Republican politicians say Durbin will take the same view of the situation that Gov. Mount did. Other persons believe that the excitement incident to the killing of Goebel has quieted down sufficiently, and that there would be no violence if either of the two men should be taken back on a requisition.

FORTIFYING IN JAMAICA.

Quick-Fire Guns to Be Placed at Jamaican Ports.

KINGSTON, Jamaica, April 13.—The British war office has decided to strengthen the fortifications of Jamaica. Quick-firing guns of the latest pattern are being sent out, in addition to the heavy guns recently placed in the forts about Port Royal.

The disappearance of yellow fever from Port Royal is officially announced.

The direct fruit line to Bristol is now in full swing, and the fruit is finding ready sale everywhere in England.

Death of Editor Hart.

WILKESBARRE, Pa., April 13.—Theodore Hart, editor and proprietor of the Daily Gazette, and postmaster of Pittston, died today. He was born in Bradford county, and was fifty-three years old. Mr. Hart served one term in the legislature and was well known in Masonic circles.

Policeman Shoots a Laborer.

NEW YORK, April 13.—Henry F. Guersing, a laborer, died today of pistol wounds received last night during a fight with Policeman Stephen King. According to the story given by the police, King was attacked by a crowd he was trying to disperse at 124th street and 2d avenue. Guersing knocked King down and took his club away, whereupon King fired two shots at Guersing to defend himself.

Report on Vice in Philippines.

MANILA, April 13.—Gen. MacArthur has forwarded to Washington a special report on saloons and the social evil in the Philippine Islands.

Information concerning the doings of Aguinaldo is withheld by the authorities.

British Chess Teams.

LONDON, April 13.—The secretary of the British Chess Club says neither the Newnes trophy nor university teams have yet been definitely decided upon. Sir George Newnes' paper says the British team will be H. E. Atkins, G. E. H. Bellingham, Herbert Jacobs, E. M. Jackson, F. J. Lee, James Mason, Mr. Michell, D. Y. Mills, W. Ward, and it is hoped Blackburne will be able to play and complete the team.

British Record of Vital Statistics.

LONDON, April 13.—Some interesting points are found in the annual report of the registrar general of births, deaths and marriages of the United Kingdom. In 1899 the marriages reached the highest number recorded since 1876, aggregating 262,334, or 16.5 per 1,000. The births numbered 928,646, equal to 29.3 per 1,000. There were 37,124 illegitimate children born. The deaths numbered 581,799, equal to 18.3 per 1,000, and there were 2,844 suicides.

This is the first year on record that not a single death from hydrophobia has been reported.

American Doctor Dies in Berlin.

BERLIN, April 13.—Dr. Block of San Francisco, who has been studying in the Berlin clinics, died here last night of scarlet fever. His body will be sent home.

PATRIOTIC PANAY ISLANDERS.

They Extend Hearty Greeting to the Taft Commission.

SAN JOSE DE BUENA VISTA, Antique Province, Panay Island, P. I., April 13.—When the United States Philippine commission arrived here today the members were welcomed by the inhabitants of this town, who had erected an immense festal arch. Every village of Antique province was represented by delegates. A statue of liberty, erected on the town's principal square, named after Washington, had pictures of Abraham Lincoln, President McKinley and Judge Taft, president of the commission, on its pedestal.

The province has been wholly pacified since the recent surrender of the insurgent leader Fullon, and the aspiration for a provincial form of government is unanimous.

The commission has mailed to Washington detailed recommendations for the form of general civil government to be established in the archipelago. The legislative council is expected to consist of four of the present commissioners and three Filipinos, the latter to be appointed by President McKinley.

Lieut. Col. William S. Scott of the 44th Volunteer Infantry, commander of Antique province, has been made its governor, while Lieut. Fred L. Wilson of the same regiment has been appointed provincial treasurer.

TRIAL TRIP OF SHAMROCK II.

Will Take Place May 4 Off the British Coast.

GLASGOW, April 13.—It has been provisionally arranged that the cup challenger will have her first trial with the Shamrock I either in the Solent or outside the Isle of Wight, May 4.

Sir Thomas Lipton and George L. Watson visited the Dennys' yard today and urged hastening the work. Unavoidable delays have so retarded the construction of the Shamrock II that every effort will be required to have the challenger ready for launching Saturday next. Between 300 and 400 men are now working day and night, putting the finishing touches on her hull. Her spars are completed, and the builders promise to have her mainmast stepped within an hour after the boats taking the water. The shell will immediately be taken south to be fitted out for her trials. In order to distinguish the Shamrocks the challenger will be first painted white; but before she starts in the cup races it is expected she will be coated with the familiar green.

MR. WELLMAN SAILS FOR HOME.

Returning From Visit to Norway Regarding Arctic Trip.

LONDON, April 13.—Walter Wellman sailed for New York today from Southampton on board the American line steamer St. Louis, after a visit to Norway, where he inspected the steamer Magdalena, now being refitted at the yards where Dr. Nansen's Fram was built. Mr. Wellman said the Magdalena will sail for the arctic regions this year or next, "but," he added, "I do not know whether I shall command her or not."

Mr. Wellman says there is no truth in the report that Dr. Nansen and the Duke of Abruzzi are going on an expedition together. Dr. Nansen has no arctic plans on hand, while the Duke of Abruzzi is at present confining his ambition to the antarctic regions.

MUST SEEK OTHER VINDICATION.

Lady Cook May Not Exhume Sir Francis' Remains.

LONDON, April 13.—Legal obstacles will undoubtedly prevent the exhumation of the body of Sir Francis Cook, despite the desire of Lady Cook (formerly Tennie C. Claflin of New York) to resort to that method of disposing of rumors against herself. While the home secretary has not officially refused her request, he has intimated that there must be more than rumor on which to grant a permit for the exhumation of the body in face of the evidence of physicians and others of Sir Francis' natural demise.

In view of the rumors that Lady Cook, owing to alleged occurrences there, is unwilling to visit her former home at Richmond, she has decided to again take up her residence there.

SERGT. MEMSON ON TRIAL.

Beginning of the Probing of Commissary Scandals in Manila.

MANILA, April 13.—The trial of Sergt. Memson, the first case in the commissary scandals, began with the startling disclosures expected. Two witnesses testified that quantities of flour were taken from a government warehouse and sold by three commissary sergeants and two others, who divided the proceeds. Finnick, proprietor of an American bakery, was incriminated, and other business men were also involved. The extent of the illegal sales has not been ascertained.

VOLUNTEER PRISONERS RELEASED.

Order Issued by the President as to Minor Offenses.

SAN FRANCISCO, April 13.—An order has been issued by President McKinley directing that the prisoners at Alcatraz belonging to volunteer regiments, sentenced for minor offenses, be released. This is done to enable the men to go home with their regiments.

The order reads that the release shall take place on the date on which the regiment to which the prisoner formerly belonged is mustered out. There are about 250 general prisoners on the island who will be affected by the order.

OVER 150 RECRUITS DESERT.

Feared That They Would Not See Active Service.

CHICAGO, April 13.—A special to the Tribune from Leavenworth, Kan., says: Over a hundred and fifty newly enlisted soldiers of the 14th United States Cavalry regiment, recruiting here, have deserted. The only reason assigned is that they were disappointed, believing that since Aguinaldo had been captured the new regiment would not be sent to the Philippines on account of the possible termination of the war.

The missing soldiers are nearly all young recruits and were from all companies of the new regiment, which now numbers about 850 men. Yesterday was their first pay day, and the deserters came to the city. A number purchased tickets to nearby cities, and it was learned several passed through St. Joseph, Mo. A detachment of regulars has been sent out to bring them back. It is said the officers will promise not to try the recruits for desertion if they return within ten days.

WORK ON NEW BRIDGE STOPPED.

Caused by Strike of Members of Bridgesmiths' Union.

NEW YORK, April 13.—The raising of the wire cables which are to support the working foot bridge on the new East river bridge is at a standstill because the members of the Bridgesmiths' Union employed on the structure have gone on a sympathetic strike to support the fight being made by the Steel Latners' Union against the Roebling Sons Company, which makes steel laths as well as wire cables.

Those in charge of the work on the new bridge said today that they could not tell when the two cables resting on the bottom of the East river will be raised over the saddles on the tower.

ROPE AND TWINE

Industrial Commission Receives Information About Cordage Business.

COMBINATIONS NOT ADVANTAGEOUS

Hard to Control the Output of Manila Hemp.

TESTIMONY OF WITNESSES

Rope and twine—the general subject of cordage—was considered by the industrial commission today. Mr. James M. Waterbury, formerly president of the National Cordage Company of New York, now president of the Waterbury Rope Company, which is a competitor of the so-called cordage trust, was before the commission at their rooms in the Bliss building.

Mr. Waterbury described the organization of the National Cordage Company, which went into the hands of receivers eventually and is not in existence now. It was organized with four and finally was composed of about fifteen independent plants. They expected to reduce prices and run all their plants at their full capacity, but the result of their effort to do that was to run up the price of the raw material. Other companies went into the market to get hemp, and it was run up by the competition. The supply of hemp, he said, is very limited, and only about enough for each year's need is raised.

The future of the National Cordage Company, Mr. Waterbury said, was the result of the company securing necessary credit from the banks in 1893. They had always had all the credit they wanted. Their business required them to manufacture five or six millions of dollars' worth of twine during the fall and winter for sale in the spring, and they were accustomed to raise money on the stock. The banks were growing frightened over the silver question, and the Reading railroad failed. That caused a curtailment of their credit. Then they decided to put out more common stock to get working capital, and that act coming with the panic resulted in a condition that made it advisable to go into the hands of receivers.

Control of Hemp Supply.

An attempt was made at one time by the National Cordage Company to secure advantage in buying raw material, but it failed after six months. There are four houses in Manila that control all the hemp of the Philippines, and the National Cordage Company secured an arrangement by which these houses would sell to no one but them, except by charging them a half cent more a pound. This arrangement failed after six months, because the Manila people would not live up to it.

He thought a cordage plant could be run to more advantage separately than in combination with others under any trust arrangement. That would not apply to all industries, but it did to the cordage business.

Mr. Waterbury said he thought the tariff should not be removed on rope and twine imported to this country from Manila. Standard kinds of goods might be made in Manila and sent to this country to the injury of the business here.

When asked by Mr. Phillips whether a great combine might not crush out a smaller company, the witness said he owned a steel mill on Long Island and he would rather have that than stock in the United States Steel Company. He had been told by Mr. Morgan that he did not intend to make war on any other company, but merely wanted to give stability to the business. The steel mill of the witness was run with old steel bought in the vicinity of the mill.

He said a combine that is a benefit to the people and sells at a low price will prosper, but if it puts up the price it will call up competition and ultimately be ruined.

Mr. Holmes a Witness.

Mr. Gideon F. Holmes, general manager of the Plymouth Cordage Company, also testified. While his company had been in some of the early cordage pools he had made more money out of than in them. He thought the cordage trust had no advantage over his company. He had declined to enter the National Cordage Company. He did not think a combination could crowd individual companies to the wall.

The rate of wages in the factory of the witness, which employs 1,000 men, women and children, has not changed since 1880. The lowest wages paid men are $1.35 a day for common labor of fifty-eight hours a week. Skilled men get up to $2.75 and $3, above which are the salaried men.

Mr. Holmes said so far as his industry is concerned labor never got a larger share of the profit than it does today. The men get better tenements and shorter hours, and he thought their wages, while the same as in 1880, will purchase more than formerly.

President Fitler Testifies.

Mr. Wm. W. Fitler, president of the Edward H. Fitler Company, said his company manufactures 18 per cent of the cordage product of the country. His company had never entered a trust. He had had sharp competition both on the sale of his product and on raw material. He thought it would be disastrous to the cordage business of the country to have no tariff between the country and the Philippines, as the coolie labor in that country could produce cheaper than could be done here. He complained of the making of cordage by convict labor in Minnesota.

NOT IN THE FORM WANTED.

Bids for Army Transportation to Cuba and Porto Rico.

Secretary Root today considered the bids submitted by the different transportation companies for carrying officers, troops and government supplies to Cuba and Porto Rico. The bids submitted were not in the exact form asked for by the War Department, and the transportation companies will be requested to make more definite propositions. This is thought necessary at the department to avoid any possible misunderstanding should the bids be accepted and the present system of transportation be abandoned.

Proposed Permanent Exposition.

Consul General Guenther at Frankfort, Germany, has informed the State Department of a movement to establish a permanent exposition of machinery and models in that city. A largely attended meeting was recently held there, at which technical, engineering and agricultural branches of trade were represented. The establishment of such an institution was unanimously urged, and the aid of the proper authorities solicited to carry the project into effect.

Admiral Rodgers at Suez.

The Navy Department was informed by cable today of the arrival at Suez of Rear Admiral Rodgers aboard the New York. The New York is due to arrive at Manila about the 19th of May.

Government Receipts.

Government receipts from internal revenue today were $961,538; customs, $688,438; miscellaneous, $22,527. Expenditures, $1,595,000.

NOT NEGOTIATING A TREATY

SECRETARY HAY SOUNDING SENATORS ON AN ISTHMIAN CANAL.

Proposes to Ascertain Their Sentiments Before Beginning Diplomatic Negotiations.

There is authority for the following statement of the exact status of the isthmian canal negotiations:

"After the adjournment of the Senate and the lapsing of the Hay-Pauncefote treaty Secretary Hay decided to pursue the subject further. But to avoid the possibility of another failure for the same reasons which brought about the loss of the Hay-Pauncefote treaty the Secretary determined to reverse the usual method of procedure in framing treaties. He therefore concluded to first consult the ratifying power—the United States Senate—to ascertain if it was possible for the senators to agree upon the basis of a treaty, which should be at the same time acceptable to the executive branch of the government and to Great Britain. It was realized that unless two-thirds at least of the senators could be brought into agreement in advance upon the basis of the treaty it would be perfectly useless for the executive to embark in negotiations with Great Britain for the formation of another convention. Secretary Hay is devoting himself now to the ascertainment of the feelings and desires of the senators, and consequently, not having completed this work, he has not begun negotiations with Great Britain for a new treaty.

"It is not an easy undertaking to test the Senate in this fashion, not only because of the number of senators who must be sounded, but also because of the indecision of some of the men who rank as leaders. It is not even possible to predict now, when the results obtained are so inconclusive, that the State Department will be able to acquaint Lord Pauncefote with the basis upon which this government is willing to negotiate for a treaty before the ambassador sails for London next June. It is even possible that Lord Pauncefote may feel it incumbent upon him to delay his departure for a time, or even to omit his leave altogether, if by so doing he can better ascertain the senatorial conditions, for the ambassador is naturally desirous to assure himself of success before he again undertakes to frame a treaty which shall bear his name. It follows, negotiations not having been started, that nothing has passed between the governments of United States and Great Britain respecting a quid pro quo to be demanded by Great Britain in consideration of the release of the United States from the restrictions imposed by the Clayton-Bulwer treaty."

GOING TO THE BOND BUILDING.

Indian Depredations Division, Department of Justice.

The Department of Justice has rented nine rooms in the new Bond building, corner of New York avenue and 14th street, and about June 1 the Indian depredations division will move there from No. 8 Lafayette square, where it has had quarters since the tearing down of the department building. John G. Thompson, the assistant attorney general in charge of Indian depredations, said that there is too much crowding in the building now in use, and it had been decided to rent rooms on the seventh floor of the Bond building. Mr. Pradt, the assistant attorney general in charge of claims, has his force in the building at No. 8 Lafayette square. Whether he will remain there has not been decided. If he does, the Department of Justice will be well split up, the main building being on McPherson square, one division on Lafayette square and one on 14th street and New York avenue.

COMPLAINT BY URUGUAY.

Claims That Her Vessels Are Unnecessarily Quarantined at Havana.

The War Department has transmitted to Gen. Wood a complaint lodged by the government of Uruguay through the Department of State against the enforcement of alleged onerous and unnecessary quarantine regulations against vessels clearing from Uruguayan ports for Cuba.

It is learned at the War Department that the complaint arose through the action of the health officers at Havana in trying to prevent the introduction of bubonic plague. A ship laden with jerked beef from Montevideo was regarded as a dangerous craft, was subjected to isolation and a long detention to make sure that plague-stricken rats (and meat ships are peculiarly subject to the infliction of such vermin) might not get to the shore or on the walls, and thus convey the disease to Cuba. No instructions were sent to Gen. Wood on this subject, as it was assumed that he would use his discretion to prevent anything like discrimination in the treatment of foreign shipping.

REFERRED BY THE SECRETARY.

Protest Against Payments to the Driggs-Seabury Company.

The Secretary of War today referred to the bureau of ordnance the brief submitted to the controller of the treasury by Hopkins & Co., the attorneys for the American Ordnance Company, protesting against payments being made to the Driggs-Seabury Company on account of the manufacture of guns. The Secretary made no recommendation on the subject.

A Pension for Mrs. M. E. Smith.

An original widow's pension of $8 a month was granted today to Martha E. Smith of this city.

Virginia Postmasters Appointed.

Postmasters were appointed in Virginia today as follows: Cabin, Grayson county, R. J. Reedy, vice Caroline Sheets, resigned; Shrader's, Tazewell county, J. A. Crockett, vice D. W. Dudley, resigned. The whole number of postmasters appointed was twenty-nine. Twenty-two were to fill vacancies caused by death and resignation.

Planting a Winter Garden.

Workmen are engaged in the planting of a winter garden in the grounds of the Agricultural Department to the southwest of the main building. Evergreens of various shades are being set out. Among the trees which have been planted are Siberian thujas, arbor vitae, choice varieties of yews and several species of Japanese dwarf golden evergreens.

The Arlington Experiment Farm.

The Secretary of Agriculture has placed the Arlington farm under the immediate supervision of Mr. B. T. Galloway, director of plant industry. Four hundred acres of the low-lying lands of the Arlington estate were, by act of Congress, transferred to the Department of Agriculture for use as an experimental farm and agricultural station. The work done on this land last year was limited to clearing it of brush, grubbing and ditching. Mr. Galloway visited the farm yesterday, and the work of preparing the soil for planting will be begun within a few days.

Mr. Emery's Oriental Mission.

F. E. Emery, who was formerly connected with the North Carolina agricultural experiment station, has been detailed by the Secretary of Agriculture to visit China, Japan, the Philippines and other eastern countries, with a view to extending the markets for American dairy products.

AT THE WHITE HOUSE

More Arrangements for the President's Trip.

SENATOR McCOMAS ON CUBA

A Photograph of King Oscar of Sweden.

MANY CALLERS TODAY

Several matters in connection with the itinerary of the President's western trip were decided today. Ex-Senator Carter and E. W. Bache, representing the transportation company of the Yellowstone Park, arranged for the trip through the park. Usually the park is not opened to tourist travel until the middle of June, owing to the fact that the ground, which is at an elevation of 7,000 feet, is not completely clear of snow until about that date. For this occasion, however, it will be opened a fortnight earlier. The presidential party will reach Butte, Mont., May 28, and will lunch there, proceeding in the afternoon to Helena, where dinner will be had. The party will reach the park on the morning of May 29 and spend three days traveling through. In this brief time all the features cannot be visited, and several of the interesting geysers will necessarily be missed. But the plan is to have the party see the best of the scenery and the most picturesque of the great natural wonders. Upon leaving the park the evening of May 31 the party will double back to Anaconda and leave thence southward to Salt Lake City.

Capt. Pitcher of the 1st Cavalry, now stationed at the Presidio, San Francisco, is to succeed Capt. Goode as superintendent at Yellowstone Park.

Senator Burton conferred with Secretary Cortelyou regarding the Kansas itinerary. This will include stops at Topeka, Emporia, Ottawa, Baldwin, Laurence and possibly Junction City.

Delegate Flynn of Oklahoma asked the President today to stop in Oklahoma, but the President said he was afraid this could not be arranged.

A Photograph of King Oscar II.

Mr. A. Grip, minister of Sweden and Norway, had an audience with the President this morning to present Count Wachtmeister, the head of the celebrated Swedish family of that name. Count Wachtmeister left Sweden some time ago for a tour of the world, and has recently been traveling in Mexico and California. When he left Sweden he was commissioned by King Oscar II as the bearer of a fine photograph of his majesty to President McKinley. The photograph contains the king's autograph. The presentation was made by Count Wachtmeister in a brief talk, in which he referred to King Oscar's great esteem for and high opinion of the chief executive of the United States. The President will make a suitable response.

Senator McComas on Cuba.

Senator McComas of Maryland had a talk with the President today, during which the Cuban situation was touched upon. Senator McComas thinks the Cubans are standing in their own light by not accepting the terms of the Platt amendment.

"This amendment," he said, "was necessary, just and ultimate. We cannot change a single one of the provisions of the amendment in justice to the Cubans themselves, not taking into consideration our own interests. Each provision is a prop to a future republic. If a committee comes up here from the Cuban constitutional convention I think they will find that out. They certainly cannot accomplish anything in the way of modifications of the Platt amendment. They will learn what they ought to know now, that the President has no power to repeal or modify an act of Congress. They will be treated all right when they visit Washington, but I believe they will go back home with plainer ideas of the intentions of the government."

The Patent Office Vacancy.

The vacancy in the office of the assistant commissioner of patents caused by the resignation of Mr. Chamberlin will not be allowed to remain long if it is a question of candidates. Representative Jones of Washington saw the President and presented Schuyler Duryea, chief clerk of the patent office. Mr. Jones thinks Mr. Duryea should have the vacancy, and spoke to the President in most complimentary terms of Mr. Duryea's fitness for the position.

A Good Many Callers.

The President had a good many callers today. A number of members of Congress remain in the city, and at intervals call upon the President. Army positions are the main objects of the visits. The President today saw Senators Burrows, McMillan and Mason, Representatives Burton and Southard, ex-Representative Willis of Delaware, H. P. Cheatham, recorder of deeds, and Judson Lyons, register of the treasury. The last two talked with the President some time.

Presidential Appointments.

The President made the following appointments today:

War—Charles E. Magoon, to be law officer, division of insular affairs, War Department.

Interior—W. E. Ward of Kansas, to be register of the land office at Colby, Kan.

West Point Academy Visitors.

The President has appointed the following board of visitors to the West Point Military Academy: Lieutenant General John M. Schofield, United States army, retired; Major General Daniel E. Sickles, United States army, retired; St. Clair McKelway of New York, Charles W. Eliot of Massachusetts, Benjamin Ide Wheeler of California, William H. Upman of Wisconsin and St. George R. Fitzhugh of Virginia.

Fire Department Automobiles.

The city authorities of Hanover, Germany, have appropriated 80,000 marks, or $19,040, for three automobiles to be used in that city's fire department, according to a communication to the State Department from United States Consul General Guenther at Frankfort. The ultimate adoption of the automobiles for the fire service is subject to the results obtained during a certain trial period.

The Manchurian Railway.

A report upon the progress of the Manchurian railway has been received at the State Department from United States Consul Smith, at Moscow. The consul says he is informed from reliable sources that the rails have been laid on the division Hailar-Zizikar, and the remaining two-thirds of the whole line between Tchita and Vladivostock is nearly completed. Working trains are already running on the divisions Tchita-Kaidalovo-Hailar and Vladivostock-Nikolsk-Harbeen-Zizikar, and the whole line, it is believed, will be opened for passenger traffic by May of the current year.

Fire at Kingston, N. Y.

KINGSTON, N. Y., April 13.—Fire completely destroyed the wholesale drug store of Van Deusen Brothers, Winter's stationery and John T. Bond's jewelry stores today. The loss was $75,000.