miners on the other, and the issue is to determine whether the people may have coal, except upon such terms as the union may prescribe.

"We submit that there is nothing in the evidence showing any basis for a demand for increase of wages at the present time.

**Taxation Without Benefit.**

"The unerring symptom of underpay and overwork in any avocation is the fact that the workers themselves gradually leave it. Is there any such indication in this case? On the contrary, quite the reverse.

"Taxation without benefit is robbery. If we are taxed for the benefit of these plaintiffs we ask for some benefit in return; not a pecuniary value, but we demand, not in insolent defiance, but as humble citizens of this state, that protection and safety for ourselves and employes that is guaranteed us by the bill of rights of the constitution of Pennsylvania."

## WANT ALL OR NOTHING.

**Relatives of Mrs. Charles Fair Will Contest for Estate.**

BOULDER, Col., February 11.—Charles J. Smith, half brother of Mrs. Charles Fair, who, with her husband, was killed in an automobile accident in France, says that the compromise arranged between his mother, Mrs. Nelson, and Mrs. Herman Oelrichs and Mrs. Vanderbilt, sisters of Charles Fair, in disposition of the estate of Mr. Fair will be reopened on the ground that Mrs. Nelson was influenced through fraud and false representation into accepting the settlement. Mr. Smith asserts that his mother was very ill and in no condition to transact business when she went to San Francisco after her daughter's death, and that it was falsely represented to her that cablegrams had been received to the effect that Mrs. Fair and her husband died at the same time, whereas it is known, Mr. Smith declares, that Mrs. Fair lived thirty minutes after Mr. Fair had passed away.

Mr. Smith declared that the case would be fought to the end. His family proposed to have its share of the Fair estate and all that Mrs. Charles Fair was entitled to or nothing.

He announced his attention of applying for a new appraisement of the estate. Mr. Smith also said that the sale of certain property in New York would be contested, because Mrs. Fair did not join in the transfer.

Mr. Smith promises great surprises to the other side when affidavits are taken from Mrs. Fair's maid, the chauffeur, the gatekeeper and others living at the house where Mrs. Fair was taken after the accident are made public.

## MURDERER YOUNG COLLAPSES.

**Warden Says He is Suffering From General Nervous Breakdown.**

NEW YORK, February 11.—William Hooper Young, convicted of the murder of Mrs. Pulitzer, was a very sick man in the tombs today.

He took a little breakfast and then attempted to exercise along his tier, known as "murderer's row," but was so weak and ill that he had to return to his cell and lie down.

Warden Vandercarr said that Young was undoubtedly very sick and suffering from a general nervous collapse.

## ELEVEN MINERS FACE DEATH.

**Imprisoned by Fire in an Iron Shaft in Minnesota.**

DULUTH, Minn., February 11.—A special from Eveleth, on the Mesaba range, says:

Eleven miners are imprisoned by fire which broke out today in No. 3 shaft of the Spruce mine, owned by the United States Steel Corporation.

Dense smoke is rolling out of the shaft, and it is feared the entrapped men may be suffocated before the fire can be subdued.

The fire started in an oil house in the second level, and shanties and timber in that part of the mine were soon burning fiercely.

## FIRE IN A LUNCH ROOM.

**Member of Fire Department Overcome by the Smoke.**

Fire was discovered shortly after 2 o'clock this afternoon in the Erin lunch room, corner of New Jersey avenue and D street northwest. The blaze originated in the rafters between the ceiling and roof over the lunch room and spread rapidly. For a time the large lumber yard of Thos. W. Smith was threatened. The fire department responded promptly, with Chief Dutton in charge. The flames were confined to that building, and much of the furniture of the lunch room was saved. Adjoining the lunch room is the wholesale grocery store of Liebman Bros., but the firemen succeeded in keeping the flames out of it. Large damage will, however, result from stock being drenched with water, the grocery firm being the larger losers. H. E. Scanlon is the proprietor of the lunch room and Charles Kennedy is the owner of the building.

An incident of the fire was the bursting of a hose, which drenched a large number who were attracted to the scene, and caused considerable excitement for a short time.

Private G. H. Moran of No. 3 engine company was overcome by the smoke and was conveyed to the Casualty Hospital apparently in a serious condition.

## AIR BRAKES ON TRAINS.

**Proposed to Give Discretion to Interstate Commission.**

The House committee on interstate and foreign commerce has authorized Mr. Wanger, in charge of the Foraker safety appliance bill, to offer an amendment to it authorizing the interstate commerce commission to reduce the number of air brakes to be operated in trains.

This proposition was made by the roads which appeared before the House committee against the bill last year, but the employes strenuously opposed such a provision, claiming it a bad principle and precedent to allow a commission of inexperienced railroad men to go so far into the details of railroading and modify law which was made for the purpose of protecting human life and limb. They did, however, agree to an amendment giving the commission the right for good cause to extend the time in which any railroad should comply with the provisions of the act.

It has been understood that all of the roads whose representatives appeared before the House committee against the bill withdrew their objections, and the bill was so reported to the House. The employes now think it unfair that other roads which would not openly oppose the bill should insist quietly on this additional amendment, and say that this amendment is put forth by a certain railroad which wants no legislation of the kind, and knowing that the employes are opposed to this amendment and will not accept it think they can prevent the bill's passage by insisting that it remain in.

## CONGRESSMEN TO ATTEND.

**Will View the Canners' Exhibits in Convention Hall.**

The Western Packers' Association, the Atlantic States Packers' Association and the Canada Packers' Association, three of the four organizations in annual convention at Convention Hall, met in joint session this forenoon.

The meeting was called to order by Mr. F. F. Hubbard of Cantosta, N. Y., retiring president of the Atlantic States Association, and was given over to an address by Prof. Samuel C. Prescott of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology of Boston. He spoke of the enormous growth of the canning industry and of the best methods of preserving canned products.

Today has been designated as "Congressmen's day" at the exhibit of the various associations and, in response to invitations, many senators and representatives have signified their intention of visiting Convention Hall after Congress adjourns for the day.

There will be no meetings this evening, and the exhibit will be thrown open to the public.

# THE ALLIES' ATTITUDE

## Tenor of Instructions Sent Here.

## MR. BOWEN'S EFFORTS

**ENDEAVORING TO SMOOTH AWAY DIPLOMATIC DIFFICULTIES.**

**Ambassadors Here Trying to Bring Their Home Offices Into Accord.**

LONDON, February 11.—Minister Bowen's formal acceptance of the British protocol is not believed here to be likely to hasten to any great extent the conclusion of the Venezuelan negotiations. The Associated Press is informed that the allies' ambassadors have been strictly enjoined not to sign any of the protocols until all three powers are satisfied with the terms, when the signatures will be simultaneous.

When the question of separate treatment of the allies is brought before The Hague court of arbitration the triple alliance will appear as one power, their interests being regarded as identical.

**Trying to Close Up Negotiations.**

Having reached an agreement with the British government for a settlement of the Venezuelan claims, Mr. Bowen today is endeavoring to rapidly close up the negotiations with Germany and Italy. It is gathered that a misunderstanding which has arisen in the German foreign office is at the bottom of the delay now.

Evidently it was supposed there that the preliminary articles of the protocol as prepared here before the advent of Baron von Sternburg provided for the prompt payment of the full sum claimed in the original ultimatum, namely $350,000, the only difference between the first and last propositions being that in place of a clear cash payment of the sum above named, as required by the ultimatum, the procotol would require the immediate payment of $27,500 for personal claims and then provide for the application of 30 per cent of the customs revenues at Porto Cabello and La Guaira until the remainder of the $340,000 was paid.

**Nothing Left for the Others.**

Mr. Bowen was unable to see any difference between such a demand and a straight demand for preferential treatment, for he argued that after paying the allies on that basis there would be nothing left for the other and non-coercing powers. It is believed that he succeeded in impressing his views upon the allied representatives here, and it was undrstood that that stage of the negotiations had been closed, and the subject could not be reopened.

On that point the Berlin foreign office is supposed to have differed, and so the exchanges going on are directed to making the situation clear to that office. It is hoped that this can soon be done.

**Meeting at British Embassy.**

Great Britain and Italy have been asked if they will object to an increase in the cash payment awarded Germany should the Berlin government refuse to stand by its previous pledges and insist upon an advance payment of more than the £5,500 already promised by Mr. Bowen to each of the allies. Personally it is the opinion of the British and Italian ambassadors, as it is of Mr. Bowen, that if Germany can afford to put herself on record as taking such action Venezuela will not be the loser by paying a few more thousand dollars cash.

The matter came up in a joint conference at the British embassy today, at which were present Mr. Bowen, the Italian and British ambassadors and the German envoy.

The ambassadors have cabled to London and Rome for advice, but it is not expected that either foreign office will protest.

At the German embassy no definite advices have yet been received regarding the question of the advance payment of the $340,000 demanded of Castro by Germany in the original ultimatum. It is stated that this demand was inserted in the protocol through a misunderstanding, and that when the matter is cleared up the objectionable article will be eliminated.

**Trying to Effect Adjustment.**

The German envoy is bending every effort to an early adjustment of the question that the signing of the protocols may not be further delayed. As soon as Berlin indicates a willingness to remove this obstacle the final drafts of the German and Italian protocols will be made with all possible dispatch.

No answer has yet come from Germany to the request of Mr. Bowen that she turn over to Venezuela, upon the raising of the blockade, the vessels seized by the German men-of-war. The British protocol contains this provision, as will the Italian, and it is Mr. Bowen's wish that Germany also consent.

Mr. Bowen makes the point that the allies cannot afford to keep these vessels, in view of the fact that they are not the navy of Venezuela, but her revenue cutters, which are necessary to the maintenance of order in the country. Without these ships Venezuela would be unable to prevent smuggling. The German envoy appreciates the arguments of Mr. Bowen, and has referred the matter to Berlin for decision.

## DEMOCRATS BLOCK IT.

**Effort of Senate Repubicans for Statehood Fight Compromise.**

The Senate republicans who have been endeavoring to negotiate a compromise of the statehood fight are not making gratifying progress today. It had been hoped that a compromise might be agreed upon which could be submitted to the committee on territories today, and could be brought in by the committee as a substitute for all pending legislation on statehood.

It has been impossible, however, thus far to reach a satisfactory agrement, and the statehood fight still hangs on. The trouble is that democratic acquiesence cannot be obtained in the compromises that thus far have been proposed.

The democrats find that they do not get anything out of the deals which have been presented. They complain that Senator Quay and his colleagues, through the compromises, get all they want by the enhancement of the value of bonds, through double statehood, which would be the same as through single statehood, and moreover that they would stand the chance to have the new states republican.

The democrats hope to get at least a couple of democratic senators in the deal, but nothing thus far presented holds out a promise to that end.

Efforts will be continued to reach a compromise between the republican factions. If united republican support could be obtained for some measure it would probably be offered, so that democratic opposition could relieve the republicans of the charge of having defaulted in their platform promises to the territories.

But even the republican factions have not altogether agreed upon a compromise. Senator Quay has one alternative which will be resorted to in case all other efforts fail. He will attempt to attach the statehood bill as a rider to an appropriation bill.

**Personal Mention.**

Mr. Scott Smith, private secretary to the Secretary of the Interior, is in Atlantic City for a few days.

Mr. Francis H. Whitney, private secretary to the Postmaster General, has gone to Milwaukee to attend the wedding of a sister. He will return Monday.

**Warships Sail From Ponce.**

The Navy Department is informed that the battleship squadron left Ponce yesterday for Galveston, Tex., to take part in the coming celebration at that port. Other vessels left Ponce as follows: The Brutus and Arethusa, for Hampton Roads; the Culgoa, for New York, and the Hannibal, for Hampton Roads.

# THE ADDICKS FIGHT

## Indication of Future Democratic Action.

## DEVELOPMENTS TODAY

**MAY NOT ASSIST THE REGULAR REPUBLICANS.**

**Significant Vote on an Assembly Resolution to Repeal a Law.**

Special Dispatch to The Evening Star.

DOVER, Del., February 11.—There was an important development today in the prolonged double senatorial fight, and the outcome probably means that the democrats will refuse their assistance to the regular republicans.

The issue was the much-talked-of voters' assistant law, which, it is charged, was enacted by the union republicans at the last session of the legislature as a method of learning "that the goods had been delivered" in the matter of purchasable votes.

When Representative Rose (dem.) presented a resolution in the House to take the bill repealing the "voters' assistant law" from the committee on revised statutes and have it considered this afternoon in committee of the whole, Representative Flinn, who is virtually the regular republican leader in the House, and who is also chairman of the committee in question, entered a vigorous opposition.

**Time for Action.**

Mr. Rose declared that the repealer had been in committee since January 30, and he thought it was time for some action to be taken on it.

Mr. Flinn replied that the committee was giving the bill due consideration, and that if the Rose resolution should pass it would be a reflection.

Representative Holcomb (dem.) said that the voters' assistant law had been a matter for consideration for two years and that every honest man in Delaware wanted it to be repealed.

By a vote of 21 to 13, however, the resolution presented by Mr. Rose was defeated and the repealer stays in committee.

**How the Regulars Voted.**

The regulars voted with the Addicks men against the resolution.

When the democrats recently presented an ultimatum to the regular republicans offering to coalesce with them and elect two United States senators, one from each side, it was strongly stated therein that they, the democrats, would do all in their power to aid the regulars in repealing "this infamous law."

The fact that the regulars joined with the Addicks men today in delaying a prompt disposal of the repealer bodes no good for the anti-Addicks republicans, at least so far as aid from the democrats is concerned.

The ballots in the joint session at noon today again showed no change.

The regular republicans held a caucus this morning and decided to continue voting for Representative Ball for the long term and Henry A. Dupont for the short term. It was announced that nothing else was done. Frederick E. Bach of Wilmington, who is said to be an Addicks emissary, was here today in the interest of the election of a regular republican and a union republican. If he succeeded in accomplishing anything it was not apparent.

## ANOTHER SECRET CONFERENCE.

**Addicks' Republican Opponents to Continue Supporting Ball.**

DOVER, Del., February 11.—The ten regular republican assemblymen who are holding out against the election of Addicks to either of the two vacant senatorships, had another secret conference today.

There was a long consultation, but nothing was decided beyond a continuance of their support to Congressman Ball for the long term and Henry A. Dupont for the short term.

In the joint session at noon today the vote showed no change. It was as follows:

Long term—Addicks, 20; Ball, 8; Higgins, 2; John H. Rodney, 19.

Short term—Addicks, 19; H. A. Dupont, 8; T. C. Dupont, 1; H. A. Richardson, 2; John R. Nicholson, 19.

## IN A STATE OF SIEGE.

**Entire Country of Guatemala is Up in Arms.**

BERLIN, February 11.—Advices received here from Guatemala announce that the entire republic has been declared in a state of siege.

## AS SPECIAL GUESTS.

**Senator-Elect Hopkins and Mrs. Hopkins Greeted by Illinoisans.**

A reception was tendered Senator-elect and Mrs. Hopkins at the Riggs House last evening by the Illinois Republican Association. Six hundred invitations had been issued by the association, and there was a large assemblage of friends of the Illinois representative to congratulate him upon his election to the Senate. The reception lasted from 8 to 10 o'clock, and during those hours the distinguished guests included ex-Gov. Joseph E. Fifer and Mrs. Fifer, who came from Illinois to be present on the occasion. The receiving party consisted of Representative and Mrs. Hopkins, Miss Hopkins and Miss Maud Douglas of Chicago. Capt. L. M. Kelly made the introductions. The guests were received in the west parlor of the Riggs House.

The arrangements were in charge of the following committee: F. J. Young, president of the Illinois Republican Association; Capt. L. M. Kelly, L. B. Stine, Maj. A. C. Vaughn, Col. E. B. Payne, Capt. F. M. Taylor and Charles M. Pepper. The reception committee included Mrs. Electa E. Smith, Major Ross, Messrs. Hoy, Hitt, Ricketts, Terrell, Clifford, Wilkerson, Broughton, Jackson and Everman.

Among those who extended their congratulations to Senator-elect Hopkins were the commissioner of pensions, Eugene F. Ware; ex-Gov. and Mrs. Joseph E. Fifer, Mrs. John A. Logan, Miss Logan, Mr. Logan Tucker, Judge and Mrs. Wright, Frank L. Campbell, assistant secretary of the interior, and Willis L. Moore.

## MAY ABOLISH A DIVISION.

**Proposed Rearrangement of Work in the Pension Office.**

Commissioner of Pensions Ware said today that tentative plans were being considered and might be adopted for abolishing the middle division of that bureau and splitting the present old war and navy divisions. The new division, if the action is decided on, will be in charge of Mr. Frank A. Warfield, the present chief of the middle. Mr. Warfield has made a high record in his administration of the middle division, and has brought it to the front rank in the matter of work accomplished. This work has to do with three states, Pennsylvania, Ohio and Michigan, a grouping of states which Commissioner Ware is inclined to think is illogical. The work has been brought closer to date than that of the other offices, and Col. Ware's idea is to distribute its personnel among the other divisions to expedite the work elsewhere and at the same time have a more logical distribution of geographical jurisdiction of the divisions, this jurisdiction to be given over to the eastern and the western divisions.

Owing to the recent activity of Congress in pension matters the work of the bureau has been largely increased and there is a variety of new classes of cases that must be dealt with by the new division which Mr. Warfield is to head.

The change, which if it should be adopted, will go into effect about March 1, involves no dismissals or reductions.

# WILL BECOME LAW

**CONFERENCE REPORT ON NEW DEPARTMENT BILL ADOPTED.**

**Sundry Civil Appropriations Taken Up in the House—Amendments Adopted.**

The Senate today agreed to the conference report on the department of commerce bill. This passes the bill, the report having previously been agreed to in the House.

Upon the conclusion of morning business in the Senate a House bill was passed extending the homestead laws to Alaska.

The statehood bill then was taken up and Mr. Morgan resumed his remarks in its favor. Taking up the subject of Mormon influence in politics, Mr. Morgan referred to the election of Mr. Smoot as senator from Utah, and said he would never think of opposing his entry into the Senate because he was an apostle of the Mormon Church, because religion in this country by the Constitution is intended to be free and intended to be protected.

Reverting to the treaty with Colombia for the construction of an isthmian canal, Mr. Morgan said the United States intended to put the heel of ignominious contempt on the organic law of Colombia with respect to religious freedom and trample it under foot. "We are treating with those people," he said, "with the intent and purpose of destroying that law or else for the purpose and under such circumstances as to disgrace the United States." He asked who was to reconcile the two propositions when the Colombians contend for their organic religious law while the United States is contending for the Constitution of the United States, and who would prevent a return of the hostilities now apparently closed between the old church party who maintained these dogmas and the liberal party who have been fighting them in every country?

He said the people of the United States are not going to listen to arguments against Mormonism in Utah or Arizona when we are straining every power for action upon a treaty with Colombia having such an organic religious law as he had referred to.

Mr. Depew followed in opposition to the omnibus statehood bill.

**Department of Commerce.**

After speaking a short while Mr. Depew yielded to Mr. Hanna, who called up the conference report on the department of commerce bill presented yesterday, and it was agreed to without debate. This passes the bill, and it now goes to the President.

At 3 o'clock this afternoon the Senate had not renewed consideration of the District appropriation bill.

## HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

Governor Odell of New York was on the floor when the House met today.

Senate bills were passed authorizing the Pittsburg, Carnegie and Western Railroad Company to construct a bridge across the Allegheny river and to authorize the Memphis, Helena and Louisiana railroad to construct a bridge across the St. Francis river, Ark.

Mr. Grosvenor, from the ways and means committee, called up the bill reported by that committee yesterday to amend the Dingley act so as to admit free of duty domestic animals for breeding purposes. It was passed.

**On Sundry Civil Bill.**

The further consideration of the sundry civil appropriation bill then was resumed.

Amendments were adopted to appropriate $100,000 to defray the exhibits of the agricultural colleges at the St. Louis exposition and to appropriate $50,000 for a building for the Alaskan exhibit; $25,000 for an Indian territory exhibit.

**For an Office Building.**

At 3 o'clock Mr. Cannon offered the amendment for the construction of the new office building for the House of Representatives carrying $4,000,000, and another providing for the extension of the east front of the Capitol, carrying $2,500,000.

A point of order was made against each one of these amendments by Mr. Stevens of Texas, and sustained by the chair.

Mr. Cannon introduced a rule, which was referred to the committee on rules yesterday afternoon, authorizing that these two appropriations should be in order on the sundry civil bill.

Representative Grosvenor then reported the resolutions from the committee on rules, the first of which, providing for the office building, was adopted by the House, only seven votes being cast against it.

The other resolution was also agreed to, and the House again resolved itself into committee of the whole to consider the question of adopting the amendments.

**Amendments Adopted.**

The amendment providing for an office building was agreed to—116 to 6.

The amendment for extending the east front was agreed to without division.

## THE COST TOO GREAT.

**Reason Building Lines on Certain Streets Cannot Be Established.**

The Commissioners recently received a communication from the committee on parks and reservations of the Mount Pleasant Citizens' Association, requesting that proceedings be instituted with a view to the establishment of building lines on the narrow streets in Mount Pleasant.

W. P. Richards, the assistant engineer in charge of streets, has reported to the Commissioners that although the act for the widening of streets or the establishment of building lines was passed several years ago, it has never on account of lack of funds become operative. The money applicable to the establishment of building lines is from the same source as is applied to the condemnation of minor streets and alleys. This fund is already insufficient to carry on the condemnation of alleys, and an additional amount has been requested in this year's estimates. The establishment of building lines on all the streets of Mount Pleasant would cost something like $50,000 or $100,000, and Mr. Richards does not see that any move can be made in that direction at the present time. If the act ever becomes operative he believes it would be generally expected that people along the line of a street should take the initiative toward its widening through a petition signed by a majority of the property owners.

The association will be informed in accordance with the report.

## FOR THE FIRST TIME.

**District Supreme Court Sat Today in General Term.**

For the first time since the passage of the act of Congress of 1893 creating the Court of Appeals, the Supreme Court of the District of Columbia today sat in General Term to try a case. The cause is the only one reserved for the jurisdiction of the Court in General Term under a special act of Congress. It is known as the Potomac flats case, and involves the wharves along the entire river front.

The Court in General Term was given jurisdiction to try this case because Martin F. Morris, one of the justices of the Court of Appeals, is a party to it, and for that reason the Court of Appeals could not hear it. The Court in General Term is formed by three justices of the Supreme Court of the District of Columbia sitting together.

Chief Justice Bingham being indisposed at the present time, the next ranking member, Justice Hagner, presided today. The others were Justice Barnard and Justice Clabaugh.

The matter on hearing is a claim of Richard J. Beall for compensation on account of certain rentals which he asserts he is entitled from the government by the reason of the government taking his property in 1882.

At the outset there was a spirited discussion by counsel on both sides as to whether the Court in General Term had the right to take up the case and dispose of it. The court decided that it had that right, and the case proceeded. Attorney Charles C. Cole, special counsel for the United States in the Potomac flats case, and Attorney R. Golden Donaldson appeared for the government, and Attorneys John Ridout and Robert Christy for the claimant.

# TELEPHONE REPEAL

## Effort to Put It on District Appropriation Bill.

## DOUBT OF PASSAGE

**LACK OF UNDERSTANDING AS TO COMPROMISE.**

**Senators Want to Know Its Effect as to Government Contracts and Subscribers.**

The Senate committee on the District of Columbia has decided upon a favorable report upon the resolution providing for the repeal of the provisions of the act of Congress of June 30, 1898, fixing charges for the use of single or ground-wire telephones in the District of Columbia.

As the District of Columbia appropriation bill is still pending before the Senate this proposed amendment to it will be a subject for consideration when it is reported and a proposition is made to add it to the District bill. This may be done some time this afternoon, but there will be divided opinion as to the propriety of adopting the amendment.

Many senators, especially members of the Senate committee on appropriations, which considered and placed upon the District bill in 1898 the provision for lowering telephone rates, consider the proposition to repeal that law one that is too serious to be adopted without very careful consideration and a more full knowledge of all facts concerning it than is now in possession of the committee on appropriations. For this reason it is likely that when the amendment is voted upon a point of order may be made against it.

**Effect of Compromise.**

There is a lack of exact understanding on the part of many senators in respect to the exact terms and the effect of the compromise arranged yesterday afternoon between the Chesapeake and Potomac Telephone Company and the Telephone Subscribers' Association of the District of Columbia. In a general way it is understood that this agreement provides that the telephone company shall give a rebate equal to the difference between the contract price of telephones insisted upon by the company and the lower rates established by Congress in 1898, the enforcement of which has never been secured and in relation to which there has been constant litigation.

One-half of this rebate is to go the telephone subscribers individually and the other half to the Telephone Subscribers' Association to pay the expenses incurred in litigation and to settle bills contracted by that association. The amount, it is understood, which will go to the association, is about $10,000, which, it is estimated, will be sufficient to pay the expense the association has been subjected to and to pay its attorneys, who, it is understood, have not been paid up to the present time.

One question that has arisen and has caused comment among senators relates to the number of telephone subscribers who are to receive a rebate. Under the terms of the agreement, as stated by the president of the telephone company, Mr. Bethel, it is understood that only the subscribers in the association will receive this rebate. When the legislation was enacted in 1898 there were 2,000 subscribers to telephones and at that time the association was formed with about 700 members, which number is now greatly reduced.

Comment is made by some senators on the propriety of any agreement for a payment of rebate only to members of the association while the law for a reduction of rates provided that the lower rate should be given to all of the subscribers. Some senators believe that if the rebate is given at all it should be given to every one of the subscribers from the time of the enactment of the law.

On the part of the Telephone Subscribers' Association an agreement was made to withdraw litigation and to withdraw their objection to the proposed amendment repealing the law in relation to telephone rates.

**Government Contracts.**

Another important matter that is involved in the proposed amendment is in relation to its effect on government contracts. It is understood that it will change in some important ways the power of the government to provide itself with telephones under its present system, even at existing rates.

While these objections to the adoption of the amendment have been discussed by senators the objection to the amendment as a whole goes much further. Some senators comment upon the suggestion to repeal the law in compliance with a compromise arranged by an association with the telephone company. In all events they see serious objection to acting on the amendment before its effect has been fully discussed, and not only before the appropriations committee, which enacted the law in 1898, but also before the Senate.

Senators are inclined to think that if the telephone question is raised it will produce an extended debate not only in the Senate but also in the House of Representatives and some of them are inclined to the belief that even if the proposed amendment were adopted by the Senate it would be amended still further by the House by a proposition to fix a new schedule of telephone rates in conformity with present conditions.

## BREMERTON NAVAL STATION.

**Captain Sigsbee Will Probably Be Assigned to the Command.**

Capt. Charles D. Sigsbee, who was in command of the battle ship Maine when she was destroyed in the harbor of Havana in the spring of 1898, will probably be assigned to duty as commandant of the naval station at Bremerton, Wash., as the successor of Rear Admiral Yates Stirling, who has been ordered to command the Philippine squadron of the Asiatic fleet. It is expected that Rear Admiral Stirling will haul down his flag at the Puget Sound navy yard in about a month and proceed to the Philippines on the battle ship Wisconsin, which is to be the flagship on that station. The Wisconsin is now being fitted out at Puget Sound for the long voyage across the Pacific.

Ordinarily an officer of the grade of rear admiral would be assigned to the command of the Puget Sound station, but there is no officer of that grade available at this time. The department is therefore considering the assignment of one of the senior captains. Capt. Sigsbee stands near the head of his grade, and will become a rear admiral in September next. He is regarded as especially qualified for the command of the important station of Puget Sound, and will probably receive the assignment. He is now in charge of the office of naval intelligence at the Navy Department, where he has served with signal ability since January, 1900.

## SWEPT INTO GULCH.

**Freight Train's Fearful Descent Caused by Snowslide.**

MISSOULA, Mont., February 11.—A snowslide has occurred at the "S" bridge on the Northern Pacific railroad between Mullan and Dorsey, destroying seven bends of the trestle work and sweeping a freight train to the gulch many feet below. Every member of the freight crew was injured, two probably fatally.

## CROWN PRINCE DIVORCED.

**After Doctors Furnished Expert Testimony in Case.**

DRESDEN, February 11.—The Crown Prince of Saxony was today granted a divorce from the former Crown Princess Louise after several doctors had furnished expert testimony in the case.

# FINANCE AND TRADE

## Prices Were Somewhat Higher Than on Yesterday.

## THE GOULD STOCKS

**DEVELOPED GREATEST STRENGTH IN THE MARKET.**

**Standard Oil Interests Still Said to Be Booming This Group.**

Special Dispatch to The Evening Star.

NEW YORK, February 11.—The quotations from London this morning on American railways showed general declines, but this did not have the effect desired on our opening by the room traders here who sold stocks yesterday, going short of the market after taking their profits on the long side of the discount on yesterday's early advance.

The local stock market, to be sure, was somewhat irregular at the start, but in nearly every instance prices were from ¼ to ⅛ per cent above yesterday's closing figures.

The most strength was shown in the Gould stocks, Missouri Pacific, Texas Pacific and Wabash issues, all evidencing good rallying powers, and they came in for most of the activity in the initial dealings.

It is still stated that the Standard Oil interests are not through with the upward movement in this group of stocks, and it is also hinted that the holding or unification plan is not as far off, possibly, as the street believes.

It was said some time ago that the Gould plans in respect to a holding company would probably not be announced until after a decision in the Northern Securities case, but it is now hinted that the two plans are not at all similar, in that the unification of the Gould systems as none of the roads to be consolidated compete with each other, nor do they cover the same territory, as in the case of some of the Northern Securities systems.

Missouri Pacific opened up ⅛ and gained ⅜ further on good buying; Wabash preferred gained 1 per cent, but the "B." bonds on profit taking sales lost ⅝ per cent, but later more than regained the loss.

St. Paul opened up ½ percent, but lost its gain and ¼ besides before the end of the first hour. This stock, however, was not dealt in actively, but it is quietly reported that the Standard Oil interests are picking it up.

The Erie issues and the Pennsylvania and New York Central stocks acted a little heavy. In the first named stocks the quarterly statement ending December 31 last shows a surplus after fixed charges of $1,324,700, an increase of $1,023,053.

Union Pacific, Baltimore and Ohio, Canadian Pacific and Southern Pacific all held well against bear attacks. The traction shares also received fair support.

Quo warranto proceedings, begun in Denver, as announced this morning, did not affect the price of Smelters adversely; on the other hand, both classes of this security disclosed good buying orders and advanced in price. The early advance in General Electric was attributed to reports of a renewal of negotiations with the Stanley Electric Company. If satisfactory arrangements are completed, a stock dividend of considerable value will likely go to General Electric stockholders.

Sales of stocks up to the noon hour were 239,600 shares, a falling off from yesterday, possibly due to a desire on the part of some of the traders to make no new commitments until after the holiday tomorrow, in commemoration of Lincoln's birthday. The market improved some in the second hour, the Eries being especially strong on account of the good quarterly statement of earnings.

In the afternoon trading there were some irregular price changes, a majority of the list showing fractional declines from the highest figures of the early morning speculation, with the exception of the Erie issues and Baltimore and Ohio common, the former rallying nearly a joint on buying by room traders, the latter stock holding well the ½ per cent improvement scored soon after the opening. Expectations of an early passage of the Aldrich bill, however, deterred short selling, and gave new courage to the larger interests, who appear to be back of the improved market of the past few days.

**New York Stock Market.**

Furnished by W. B. Hibbs & Co., bankers and brokers, 1419 F st., members New York stock exchange, Washington stock exchange and Chicago board of trade.

| | Open. | High. | Low. | 3 P.M. |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Amalgamated Copper | 69⅞ | 70½ | 69¾ | 70 |
| Am. Car & Foundry | 41 | 41½ | 41 | 41 |
| Am. Car & Foundry, pfd. | 92½ | 92½ | 92 | 92 |
| American Smelting | 48⅝ | 49⅛ | 48⅝ | 49 |
| American Smelting, pfd | 98 | 98⅜ | 98 | 98½ |
| American Sugar | 131¼ | 131½ | 130¼ | 131½ |
| Anaconda | 113 | 113 | 111 | 111 |
| Atch., Top. & S. Fe | 88¼ | 88⅞ | 88¼ | 88⅜ |
| Atch., Top. & S. Fe, pfd | 101 | 101 | 100½ | 101 |
| Baltimore & Ohio | 102¼ | 102¼ | 102¼ | 102¼ |
| Baltimore & Ohio, pfd | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... |
| Brooklyn Rapid Tran | 69⅛ | 69⅞ | 69¼ | 69¼ |
| Canadian Pacific | 137⅞ | 138⅜ | 137⅛ | 137½ |
| Chesapeake & Ohio | 52⅜ | 52⅜ | 52⅛ | 52⅜ |
| Chicago & Alton | 36 | 36 | 36 | 36 |
| Chicago & Alton, pfd | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... |
| Chicago Great Western | 28⅛ | 28¼ | 28 | 28 |
| Chicago, Mil. & St. Paul | 179⅝ | 179⅞ | 179¼ | 179¼ |
| Chicago, R. I. & P. | 50¼ | 51 | 50⅝ | 50¾ |
| Chicago, R. I. & P., pfd | 82⅛ | 82¼ | 81¾ | 81¾ |
| Colorado Fuel & Iron | 75⅛ | 75¼ | 75¼ | 75¼ |
| Consolidated Gas | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... |
| Delaware & Hudson | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... |
| Erie, common | 40⅛ | 41⅜ | 40⅝ | 41⅛ |
| Erie, 1st pfd | 72⅛ | 73⅜ | 72⅝ | 72⅞ |
| Erie, 2d pfd | 61¼ | 63⅞ | 61½ | 62⅞ |
| General Electric | 196½ | 201 | 196½ | 199¾ |
| Illinois Central | 146½ | 146¼ | 146 | 146¼ |
| Louisville & Nashville | 127 | 127 | 126¼ | 126½ |
| Manhattan Elevated | 145 | 145⅛ | 144¾ | 144⅞ |
| Metropolitan St. Ry | 138 | 138 | 137½ | 138 |
| Mo., Kan. & Tex. com | 29¼ | 29½ | 29⅛ | 29⅛ |
| Mo., Kan. & Tex., pfd | 62½ | 63⅛ | 62½ | 62⅞ |
| Missouri Pacific | 114½ | 115⅜ | 111½ | 111½ |
| New York Central | 150¼ | 150½ | 150 | 150¼ |
| N. Y., Ont. & Western | 34½ | 34½ | 34¼ | 34⅜ |
| Norfolk & Western | 75⅛ | 75⅛ | 75⅛ | 75⅛ |
| Pennsylvania R. R | 150¼ | 150½ | 150⅛ | 150½ |
| People's Gas of Chicago | 107⅜ | 107⅜ | 107⅛ | 107¼ |
| Pressed Steel Car | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... |
| Reading | 64 | 64⅝ | 63⅞ | 64 |
| Reading, 1st pfd | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... |
| Reading, 2d pfd | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... |
| Republic Steel & Iron | 21¼ | 21¾ | 21¼ | 21¼ |
| Rubber Goods | 28½ | 28⅝ | 28⅛ | 28⅛ |
| St. Louis & San Fran | 81½ | 81¼ | 81¼ | 81½ |
| St. Louis & S. F., 2d pfd | 73⅝ | 73⅝ | 73⅝ | 73⅝ |
| St. Louis Southwestern | 28½ | 28⅞ | 28½ | 28⅝ |
| St. Louis S. W., pfd | 63¼ | 63¼ | 63⅛ | 63¼ |
| Southern Pacific | 65¼ | 66⅛ | 65⅛ | 65⅞ |
| Southern Railway | 36 | 36⅛ | 35⅞ | 36 |
| Southern Railway, pfd | 95¼ | 95⅞ | 95¼ | 95⅞ |
| Tennessee Coal & Iron | 64⅞ | 64⅞ | 64⅝ | 64⅝ |
| Texas Pacific | 42⅞ | 43¼ | 42⅞ | 42⅞ |
| Union Pacific | 102½ | 102¾ | 102⅝ | 102¾ |
| Union Pacific, pfd | 95¼ | 95¼ | 95 | 95 |
| United States Leather | 14⅛ | 15¼ | 14¾ | 14⅞ |
| United States Steel | 38⅞ | 39¼ | 38⅞ | 39 |
| United States Steel, pfd | 88⅞ | 88⅞ | 88⅜ | 88¾ |
| Wabash | 31⅞ | 32⅛ | 31¼ | 31⅜ |
| Wabash, pfd | 51⅛ | 52⅛ | 51¼ | 51⅜ |
| Western Union | 86¼ | 90¼ | 89¼ | 90¼ |
| Kansas City Southern | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... |
| American Locomotive | 30 | 30 | 29¾ | 29¾ |
| American Loco., pfd | 94¼ | 94¾ | 94¼ | 94¾ |

**Washington Stock Exchange.**

Sales—Regular call, 12 o'clock noon—Chesapeake and Potomac Telephone 5s, $1,000 at 104⅝, $1,000 at 104⅝. Capital Traction, 12 at 129. Union Trust and Storage Co., 7 at 109¼. Capital National Bank, 10 at 170. Chesapeake and Potomac Telephone, 10 at 48. Washington Gas, 25 at 81⅝, 25 at 81⅝. Mergenthaler Linotype, 10 at 187⅝, 10 at 187½, 10 at 187, 10 at 186⅞, 10 at 186½, 10 at 186¼, 10 at 186½, 10 at 186½, 10 at 186⅝, 10 at 186¾, 10 at 186¼, 10 at 186½, 10 at 186¼, 10 at 186½, 10 at 186, 10 at 186, 10 at 185⅞, 10 at 185⅞, 10 at 186, 10 at 186, 10 at 186, 10 at 186, 10 at 186, 10 at 186, 10 at 186, 10 at 186, 10 at 185⅞, 10 at 185⅞, 10 at 185¾, 10 at 185¾, 10 at 185¾, 10 at 185⅝, 10 at 185⅝, 10 at 185⅝, 10 at 185¼. American Graphophone Co. Pref., 100 at 9. After call—Chesapeake and Potomac Telephone, 10 at 48, 10 at 48, 15 at 48, 10 at 48. Mergenthaler Linotype, 10 at 186⅝, 10 at 186⅝. Washington Gas, 25 at 81⅝, 37 at 81½, 