SEVEN PARTS
Including
Star's Sunday Magazine
and
COLORED COMIC SECTION.

The Sunday Star.

WEATHER.
Fair and much colder today.
Tomorrow fair.

No. 144.—No. 17,262. WASHINGTON, D. C., SUNDAY MORNING, DECEMBER 29, 1907.* FIVE CENTS.

WOMAN PERISHES IN BURNING HOUSE

Dwelling of P. M. Becker Destroyed by Fire.

MRS. BECKER LOSES LIFE

Her Daughter Seriously Injured and is Conveyed to Hospital.

HUSBAND ABSENT FROM HOME

Searchers Unable to Locate Him—Inquiry Continued Until Late Hour This Morning.

During the progress of a fire at the residence of P. M. Becker, secretary of the Frazee Laundry, 1006 11th street, at 2 o'clock this morning, Mrs. Becker was burned to death, and her daughter, Edna, was severely burned. She was conveyed to the Emergency Hospital for treatment.

One of the firemen, upon entering the basement of the house, stumbled over the body of Mrs. Becker. She had presumably gone from her sleeping apartment on the third floor to the basement, where the fire started, and was there overcome by the smoke, and later burned to death.

Cause of Fire Unknown.

The firemen were unable to discover the cause of the blaze. When they arrived the house No. 1006 11th street northwest was a mass of flames and the home and its contents practically destroyed, although the fire was extinguished without much damage to the front of the building. The houses on each side were uninjured.

Mr. Becker was not at home when the fire started. Neighbors who came from all directions did all that was possible to aid the occupants of the house, but matters were in such confusion that little could be done.

When the daughter, Edna, left the house she ran to the home of Mr. J. M. Moore, 1002 11th street, where she fell in a faint in the front yard. She was then taken to Emergency Hospital. Nothing serious is expected from her burns. From what the firemen can learn the blaze started in the basement.

It is the belief of some of those who were at the fire that gas was escaping, and when Mrs. Becker went to investigate she struck a match and the explosion followed, enveloping Mrs. Becker in flames. Two of her daughters, Mrs. Joseph Grimes, jr., and Mrs. Marshall, are said to reside in this city, the latter on New York avenue.

Daughter's Statement.

The daughter's version of the fire is that her mother and she were awakened by the smoke, and they went down stairs to the basement, where the furnace was red hot and a gas stove was blazing. The flames were spreading in all directions. The young woman became frightened and ran upstairs, but Mrs. Becker apparently tried to extinguish the fire, when she was overcome by the smoke and was burned to death.

Mr. Harper and Mr. W. J. Pitner were the first persons in the house and when they discovered Mrs. Becker in the basement they attempted to carry her out of the building but found that she was dead and only carried her to the area way. Mr. Pitner stated that when he took hold of the body the flesh slipped from the bones of her arm.

Mr. Becker's Whereabouts Unknown

Mr. Becker was stated to be the secretary of the Frazee Laundry Company, but in the directory he is recorded as the secretary of the National Permanent Association. It was learned also that until a fortnight ago he was connected with the Lafayette Turkish baths, having charge of the establishment during the daytime. He had not been located at a late hour this morning. The couple have five children.

Considerable mystery attaches to Mr. Becker's absence from home, for the reason that none of those who knew him was able even to state where he was accustomed to pass the time when not employed at his vocation.

SPOTTED FEVER AT NEWPORT.

Two Naval Victims Removed to the Government Hospital.

NEWPORT, R. I., December 28.—Two cases of spinal meningitis or "spotted fever" were discovered at the naval training station today. The victims, Robert B. Holloway of Litton, Tenn., and Frederick F. Crawford of Charleston, Ill., were removed to the Naval Hospital. Holloway's condition is not regarded as serious, but Crawford is on the "dangerous" list.

These are the first cases of the disease that have developed at the naval training station since two years ago, when much concern was manifested over the prevalence of the malady among the apprentices.

CHARGED WITH NIECE'S DEATH

Trial of Alfred Mahan for Murder at Bennington, Vt.

BENNINGTON, Vt., December 28.—The taking of testimony in the trial of Alfred Mahan, charged with the murder of his four-year-old niece, Ethel Mahan, last April, was begun here today. State's Attorney Meagher outlined the case for the state and said that Alfred Mahan was slightly intoxicated on the day of the crime and was of a low order of intelligence, but that the state would endeavor to show that he was responsible for the child's death.

Attorney O. M. Barber, for the defense, contented himself with the simple statement that the defense would show that whatever the defendant might have done, he was entirely irresponsible.

MURDER FOG LIFTING

Girl Killed in New Jersey Meadow Is Identified.

WAS MISS ANNIE O'KEEFE

Had Been a Maid and Later a Housekeeper.

WORKED FOR BROOKLYN MEN

Police of Harrison Are Now Anxious to Find Her Last Employers. Last Seen in Newark.

NEW YORK, December 28.—The veil of mystery enveloping the tragic death of the young woman whose nude body was found half submerged in the water and mud of a lonely pond near Harrison, N. J., Thursday, is being rapidly lifted. Detectives working on the case believe that the slayer of the woman, identified today as Annie O'Keefe or Annie Nevins, will soon be run down and taken into custody.

The identification of the dead woman was first made today by Mrs. Margaret Wright, who conducts an employment bureau in Mont Clair, N. J. She said that the woman had called on her earlier in the month and asked for employment. She gave the name of Annie Nevins, but did not state where she lived.

A Detective Knew Her.

Late this afternoon Mrs. Wright's identification was practically corroborated by Detective Sergt. Draybell of Orange, N. J., who said the woman's name was Annie O'Keefe and that he knew her well two years ago, when she was employed in the home of Thomas Nevins, a contractor in Orange. Since that time Sergt. Draybell states the woman was employed in the capacity of maid in several places in and about Orange. Recently, he said, he had lost track of her. Draybell informed the police that the closest friend that Miss O'Keefe had was Miss Nevins, a niece of Thomas Nevins, and that undoubtedly she took the name of Nevins at times when seeking employment.

Hat Also Found.

The hat worn by the murdered woman was found this afternoon in the Passaic river and turned over to the police.

It is a sealskin turban and matched the collarette and muff which were found near the body. Mrs. Wright's description of the clothing worn by Miss O'Keefe when she applied to her for work corresponds in every detail with the clothing found near the dead woman's body.

While Mrs. Wright could give little further information concerning the woman she recalled that Miss O'Keefe had told her that she had been acting as a housekeeper for two young men in Brooklyn.

In a Newark Store.

The Harrison police have learned much of Miss O'Keefe's movements just before the murder from Thomas Flanagan, an elevator man in a Newark department store, who, after a visit to the morgue today, declared with positiveness that Miss O'Keefe had been in the store on Christmas eve and had asked if a man had inquired for a woman in a red dress. He said that Miss O'Keefe appeared nervous, and, after stating that she had an appointment with the man, remained at the store for over an hour. Later Flanagan said he saw and spoke to her in a Chinese restaurant and that she told him that she had been unable to find the man. He states that the woman left the restaurant shortly before midnight. The police say there is no doubt that she finally met this man and, after spending Christmas day with him, was lured into the Hackensack meadows and murdered.

Detectives are trying to locate the two young men who employed Miss O'Keefe in Brooklyn.

DR. SELLERS DEAD.

Distinguished Engineer and Scientist.

PHILADELPHIA, Pa., December 28.—Dr. Coleman Sellers, a distinguished engineer and scientist, died at his home here tonight, aged eighty-one years. Dr. Sellers suffered from a general physical breakdown, and but little hope of his recovery was entertained from the beginning of his illness. He was born in this city.

Dr. Sellers achieved fame as an inventor. He took out thirty patents for inventions, and it was largely through his efforts that the form of equipment used by the power plants at Niagara Falls was adopted. He also was among the first to recommend the use of absorbent cotton in surgical operations. The University of Pennsylvania conferred upon him the degree of doctor of science, and the King of Sweden honored him with the Order of St. Olaf. Dr. Sellers was also a member of numerous scientific and engineering organizations.

DEFAULTING BANKER'S FLIGHT

Fugitive and His Companions Wrecked Off Honduras Coast.

Special Dispatch to The Star

NEW ORLEANS, December 28.—A cablegram from Belize announcing the arrival there of the mate of the steamship Alps, the vessel on which William Adler, the fugitive president of the State National Bank, and his friend, Moses Schwartz of the Schwartz foundry, were fleeing to Central America, was received here today. The mate stated that the Alps had gone ashore on Glovers reef, off the coast of Honduras. No lives were lost. It is not known whether the wreck is complete or whether any of the cargo can be saved.

Adler left here eight days ago with a large cargo of provisions, most of which were said not to be paid for, and several boxes supposed to contain rifles. The cargo was directed to the government of Honduras.

An attempt was made to intercept the cargo by the creditors, and the Honduras consul telegraphed to the officials to detain it, but the vessel never arrived at Puerto Cortez, for which point she was cleared. It now develops that she was wrecked off Glovers reef.

The Alps was recognized to be in an unseaworthy condition when she sailed, and the captain is said to have objected to sailing her, but Adler and Schwartz were in a hurry to leave. The storm broke two days after her departure.

About four million dollars have already been drawn out of the State National Bank, including the United States, state and city deposits, for all of which the bank was a depository.

MERELY A HOLIDAY SUGGESTION.

OLD ORDER COUNTERMANDED

TROOPS TO REMAIN AT GOLDFIELD TEMPORARILY.

Gov. Sparks of Nevada Deliberating Whether He Will Summon the Legislature.

In accordance with the President's instructions the Secretary of War late yesterday sent telegraphic orders to Gen. Funston, commanding the Department of California, at San Francisco, countermanding previous orders for the withdrawal of the troops from Goldfield tomorrow.

The special commission appointed by President Roosevelt to investigate conditions at Goldfield returned yesterday after spending a week in the mining camp. A report will be made to the President on his return from Pine Knot. The members of the commission are Lawrence O. Murray, assistant secretary of Commerce and Labor; Herbert Knox Smith, commissioner of corporations, and Charles P. Neill, commissioner of labor. Nothing will be given out in advance of the report.

Advice to Gov. Sparks.

Senator Francis G. Newlands of Nevada yesterday sent the following telegram to Gov. Sparks:

"My opinion is that in order to justify the national government in using its armed forces to protect the state against domestic violence, it is necessary, under the Constitution, that application should be made by the legislature or (when the legislature cannot convene) by the governor. It is necessary, therefore, for you, in my judgment, to convene the legislature and to obtain its decision as to whether application should be made to the President for protection, or an adequate law passed for the organization of a state peace force which will maintain order and protect life and property. Individually, I believe in the latter course, and that the good name of Nevada requires that it assert its sovereignty, maintain order and protect life and property within its boundaries, and that its duty is plain. The peace force should not be under the control of or paid by either the mine owners or the miners, but should stand aloof from the industrial contest between them with a single eye to the maintenance of order and the protection of life and property. In all that you have done I recognize the difficulty of the situation, your patriotic intentions, and your desire to prevent violence and bloodshed in the interest of the common good, but it is clear that the state must sooner or later assert its sovereignty and its firm determination, unaided by the national government, to suppress all violence, and I believe the time is now. I cannot believe that the legislature can fail to act promptly and decisively. If it does not so act, the responsibility is theirs, not yours."

Gov. Sparks Deliberating.

CARSON CITY, Nev., December 28.—Having been given five days by President Roosevelt in which to call a special session of the legislature, if the troops are to remain at Goldfield, Gov. Sparks is deliberating on what course to pursue.

The injunction suit of the Goldfield Mineowners Association against the union miners to restrain picketing and to dissolve the union has been taken under advisement until January 3, in the United States court.

WESTINGHOUSE WILL PAY.

No Trouble Over Interest on Its Bonds and Certificates.

PITTSBURG, Pa., December 28.—The immense Westinghouse interests today sent out word to its holders of bonds in New York, Boston, Chicago and Philadelphia that payment in full on the January coupons of its convertible sinking fund gold bonds and the debenture certificates would be made on and after January 1 at the Farmers' Deposit National Bank of Pittsburg.

The announcement will come as something of a relief to the holders of the bonds who had become somewhat anxious over this quarterly payment since the Westinghouse Electric and Manufacturing Company, for which the bonds were issued, has been in the hands of a receiver for some time now. There are $15,000,000 of the convertible sinking fund gold bonds due in 1931, and they are 5 per cent bonds. There are $2,278,000 of the debenture certificates due in 1913, and they are also 5 per cent bonds. The quarterly coupon clipping, then, will result in the paying out of $215,975.

republican national convention which shall simply obey the orders for La Follette is to be voiced by the appearance in the field of independent candidates for delegates to the national convention, who, while willing to support Senator La Follette as a candidate as long as there is any possibility of his nomination, are unwilling to go to Chicago to be tossed about as may suit his notions.

The open announcement of this movement for independent La Follette delegates, who will not be mere pawns in a trading stock delegation for La Follette, came in a public statement from Sheriff William R. Knell of Milwaukee county, in which Mr. Knell announces his candidacy for district delegate.

THE STAR TODAY.

The Star today consists of seven parts, as follows:

	Pages.
Part I—News	12
Part II—Editorial	8
Part III—Magazine	20
Part IV—Special Features	8
Part V—Sports	4
Part VI—Comic Section	4
Part VII—Women's Section	8

Part One.

	Page.
Woman Perishes in Burning House	1
Murder Fog Lifting	1
Turkeys Were Wary	1
Squadron to Leave Trinidad	1
Caleb Powers' Trial	2
Fitzgerald Resigns	2
Talked on Economics	2
Alexandria Affairs	3
Convention of Educators	3
Italian Prison Scandal	3
Southern Educators	3
Dies in Front of Church	5
Death of Mrs. Sniffen	5
Combat the Plague	8
Woman Painters of Paris	9
Motoring	10
Financial Page	11

Part Two.

	Page.
As the Cartoonists See the News	2
National Guard News	2
Musical Mention	2
Slow Progress in the Olden Days	3
Editorials	4
In the Realm of Higher Things	5
The Theater	6
Local News	8

Part Three.

	Page.
THE WHEEL O' FORTUNE. BY LOUIS TRACY	9
Sense and Nonsense	2
New Year Resolutions. By Irvin S. Cobb	3
The Bite of the Goldbug. By Rene Bache	4
The Third Assistant. By Chester Peake	5
Big Newspaper Scoops. By John W. Postgate	7
New England Schools in the Day of Franklin. By Clifton Johnson	11
Jimminy Haraghey's Pledge. By Seumas MacManus	13
When Molly Decided. By Helen Burrowes Johnston	15
Autobiography of a Present. By Edith Brown Kirkwood	16

Part Four.

	Page.
Baronet Took Water	1
Ring Out the Old Year	2
Ring in the New Year	2
The Awakening of Helena Richie	2
Another Detective Story	3
A Tournament of Roses at New Year	4
In a Flagon of Spring Water	5
Hill Rise	6
Time for the Spellbinder	7
Fort Myer Suggestions for Showman	8
Women Who Glory in Murders	8

Part Five.

	Page.
Base Ball War Unlikely	1
Woodlane Wins Planters'	1
Will Meet in Cincinnati	2
College Men Will Go to Olympiad	2
Soccer Foot Ball Firmly Established	2
Yale Is Leader in College Sports	3
Runner Longboat Likes His Feed	3
Creeping Up On the Aggies	3
Reform in College Athletics	3
Surprises Caused by Home Runs	3
A Minor Ball Player's Sensations	4
Base Ball Stories	4
Only Woman Sporting Editor	4

Part Six.

	Page.
Sambo and His Funny Noises	1
Nicodemus Napoleon James Crow, Esq	2
Wags—The Dog That Adopted a Man	2
Bub—He's Always to Blame	3
Uncle Geo. Washington Bings, the Village Story-Teller	3
Brownie Clown of Brownletown	4

Part Seven.

	Page.
Society	1
Society	2
Society	3
Richmond Society	3
Alexandria Society	3
The Home Dressmaker	4
Practical Aid for Artistic Needlewomen	5
Classified Ads	6
Classified Ads	7

ASSAULTED BY A FOOTPAD

MISS LYDIA TYLER OF 1337 L STREET ROBBED.

Received Stunning Blow From the Rear—Police Handicapped by Lack of Description.

Headquarters Detectives Weedon and Berman last evening were given a mystery to solve. It involved an assault and robbery committed in front of house 1337 L street shortly before 9 o'clock, the victim being Miss Lydia Tyler, who resides at the number mentioned. She was about to enter the house, when she received a stunning blow behind her right ear, delivered with force sufficient to knock her down. She dropped a brown leather purse. When she arose the purse and its contents, a $5 bill, some change and three Richmond street car tickets, had disappeared.

Occupants of the house were excited over the affair. The police were appealed to and Sergt. Carter sent the detectives named to make an investigation. Policemen were also sent to the house from the second precinct station, but Miss Tyler was unable to give any information which would be of much assistance. She did not see her assailant.

Realized She Was Followed.

Miss Tyler had been to the Louise Home with her aunt, Mrs. Letitia Tyler Semple, whose death occurred yesterday afternoon. After leaving that institution she walked along Massachusetts avenue to 14th street and south to L street, where she turned east. As she approached her home she realized she was being followed, although she did not look back. On reaching the front of the house she turned and passed through the gate, walking to the steps leading to the front door.

"I had just stepped upon the lower step," Miss Tyler explained to the police, "when I received the blow back of my right ear. I was thrown upon my right side, hurting my arm and stunning me, but I did not lose consciousness. When I raised myself on my arm I looked and saw my purse had disappeared."

Miss Tyler then arose. Just then the front door opened and a boarder in the house appeared. He was too late to see the fleeing footpad, however, but was able to be of assistance to Miss Tyler. He assisted her into the house and with others heard from her what had occurred.

Of Frequent Occurrence.

Policemen and detectives were told by Miss Tyler that the only injury she received was to her arm. After hearing the statement the members of the police department withdrew to do what they could in the matter of locating the culprit.

It is pointed out that it has become a common thing for pocketbook snatchers to rob women while in the streets in this city Saturday nights. They are usually satisfied to snatch a pocketbook without going to the extreme of assaulting their victims. The records show that in most cases the "hold-up" men were poorly paid.

As Miss Tyler did not even get a glimpse of her assailant, the police have practically nothing upon which to work. No one was located who saw the thug running from the scene. It is believed that he proceeded east along L street and turned into an alley. The police of the different precincts were told of the affair and instructed to be on the alert, it being feared that the man might make an effort to repeat the offense.

A LABOR SUIT.

Supreme Court Asked to Determine Right to Interfere With Business.

A petition for a writ of certiorari in the case of the Sailors' Union of the Pacific and Pacific Marine Firemen's Union vs. the Hammond Lumber Company of California was filed yesterday in the Supreme Court of the United States. The case involves the right of discharged union employes to interfere with the operation of a business enterprise. The suit was instituted by the lumber company, which having had trouble with its employes who were members of a union, asked the United States circuit court for the northern district of California to enjoin the union of which the discharged men were members from interfering with the conduct of its business, and the prayer was promptly granted by Judge Morrow sitting in that court. When the union appealed to the United States circuit court of appeals for the ninth circuit, the verdict of the court below was approved and the union now asks the Supreme Court of the United States to bring the case into that court for review.

TURKEYS WERE WARY

Gobble Les Majeste Out of President's Range.

MIGHTY HUNTER PATIENT

Off on Another Long Tramp With Uncle Dick McDaniel.

OFFICIAL BUSINESS PERSISTS

Mrs. Roosevelt and the Rest of the Family Enjoying Themselves in Various Ways.

CHARLOTTESVILLE, Va., December 28.—Accompanied by "Dick" McDaniel, President Roosevelt left Pine Knot at noon today for a wild turkey hunt on Green mountain, the scene of his former conquest last December, when he pulled down a big gobbler on the wing after it had been flushed by his negro guide.

The President met with no successes on yesterday's hunt, due to the stiff wind which prevented him from getting close enough to the flock to obtain a shot.

Mrs. Roosevelt went for another horseback ride this afternoon, accompanied by Joseph Wilmer.

Tomorrow forenoon the party will attend worship at Christ Church half a mile from the hunting lodge. The sermon will be preached by Rev. W. H. Darbie, the new rector.

Off to the Blind.

The stiff southern breeze that prevailed yesterday afternoon prevented the President getting close enough to the wild turkey to get even a single shot. Undismayed, however, at his failure, and despite the threatening clouds, he set out on horseback again this afternoon in quest of the wary birds, the destination this time being the old haunts in Green mountain, where a big gobbler was killed on the wing last December by a well directed shot. The start was made two hours earlier than yesterday, Uncle Dick McDaniel leading the way to one of his favorite blinds.

When the President bade Stenographer McGrew good-bye at North Garden Thursday afternoon it was his idea to divorce himself entirely from work of any sort, and much was his surprise to find Mr. McGrew and Secret Service Guard Sloan awaiting him at Pine Knot upon his return from yesterday afternoon's hunt. After supper a reply was dictated to the telegram from the White House, but it was not delivered at the local telegraph office until noon today, the drive of the couriers across country consuming over three hours.

Will Attend Church.

Tomorrow morning at 11:30 o'clock the President and party will attend divine services at Christ Church, St. Ann's parish, which is less than a half mile from the Roosevelt cottage. Mrs. Roosevelt and Miss Carew will go over in a carriage, and, if the weather is fair, the President will foot it in company with the boys. The President usually reaches the church before the hour set for the services, as is the habit of his country neighbors, in order to hold a brief chat with several of his acquaintances. The sermon tomorrow will be by the new rector, Rev. W. H. Darbie, who recently succeeded Rev. Thomas P. Baker.

Boys and the Beagles.

Mrs. Roosevelt appears to be enjoying the outdoor life as much as the President. This morning she went for a long drive, accompanied by her sister, and this afternoon enjoyed a horseback ride on one of the best park saddlers in the Plain Dealing stables. She was accompanied by Mr. Joseph Wilmer. So engrossed are Kermit, Archie and Quentin in following the beagles and enjoying tramps through the woods that thus far they have not found time to pay their usual visit to the store at Glendover.

REYBURN AS ARBITRATOR.

To Act for Philadelphia Street Car Men—Will Write Letter.

PHILADELPHIA, Pa., December 28.—Mayor Reyburn announced today that he would write a letter to the officials of the Philadelphia Rapid Transit Company asking them to reinstate any men who may have been discharged because of their activity in the agitation for higher wages.

The men, the mayor said, in spite of denials from the company, declare that union men have been dropped because of their activity in the organization. The mayor said that because he had met the men and placed their demands before the company he felt that it was his duty to intercede for any who may have lost their jobs.

Despite the refusal of the directors of the transit company to grant a conference with a committee of conductors and motormen affiliated with the local union of the Amalgamated Association of Street and Electric Railway Employes, several of the labor leaders are still hopeful that Mayor Reburn will be able to bring about a meeting or obtain a promise from the company to agree to arbitration.

The refusal of the directors to grant a conference has led to a revival of strike talk, although conservative motormen and conductors aver the opinion that such action is not probable.

A committee of labor men called upon Mayor Reyburn yesterday to receive the reply of the directors of the Philadelphia Rapid Transit Company to the request of the motormen and conductors of the company for a conference to adjust their grievances. The men had made the request to the company through the mayor.

The letter of the board stated that the company was doing the best possible for the men and was not in a position to grant an increase of wages or make any substantial changes in the schedule of working hours. The directors added that they thought it would be inadvisable to prolong the discussion by conferences which would continue the agitation.

The men recently demanded an increase in wages, a reduction in working hours and other slight concessions. They recently voted to strike if these demands were not granted or submitted to arbitration.

FUGITIVE COMMITS SUICIDE.

Long Chase for Doctor Ends at Sioux Falls, S. D., in Tragedy.

SIOUX FALLS, S. D., December 28.—Immediately following arrest on a charge of violating postal regulations, and after being a fugitive from United States authorities of the southern district of Iowa since last February, Dr. C. C. J. Wachendorf, who since September has been a practicing physician at Sioux Falls, shot and killed himself today.

In an adjoining room United States Deputy Marshals Carleton and Lamb were waiting for Wachendorf to dress preparatory to accompanying them.

SQUADRON IS READY TO LEAVE TRINIDAD

Battleships Will Start for Rio This Morning.

SHORE ENTERTAINMENTS

Preparations Being Made for Receptions Down the Coast.

PERU GETTING READY EARLY

Former Minister John Barrett Talks on Fleet's Mission to the Economic Association.

PORT OF SPAIN, Decebber 28.—The American fleet will sail for Rio Janeiro tomorrow morning, probably at an early hour, although the exact time has not been signaled by the admiral. The battleships have been cleaned up and given final preparations for the long voyage and are now looking spick and span. The engines, the boilers and all the machinery have been overhauled and everything is in first class condition for the trip.

Rear Admiral Evans, on his flagship Connecticut, and accompanied by the Alabama, the flagship of Rear Admiral Sperry; the Illinois, the Kearsarge and the Kentucky, steamed out into the gulf this morning to adjust compasses. They returned about noon. During the stay of the fleet in port considerable time has been devoted to important drills with the big and small guns, torpedo and torpedo defenses.

Many of the bluejackets again enjoyed shore liberty today, and the officers of the New Jersey and Virginia had a base ball match this afternoon.

The news of the naval controversy in the United States, which has been cabled here and in which Surgeon General Rixey and Admiral Brownson figure prominently, is exciting considerable interest among the officers of the fleet, but they refuse to publicly express their views regarding it.

Dinner to Evans Friday Night.

Toasts to King Edward, President Roosevelt, "Prosperity" and the navy were offered by the British governor, Sir Henry Moore Jackson, at a dinner to Admiral Evans and a few of the officers of the American battleship fleet last night. There were no speeches, and the dinner was greatly enjoyed.

Admiral Evans said yesterday that the welcome of the governor and people of Trinidad had been most cordial and friendly, and that American ships like to come to Port of Spain, because they are sure of great hospitality.

Preparations of Brazil.

RIO JANEIRO, December 28.—As the day for the arrival here of the American battleships under Rear Admiral Evans approaches, interest in the festivities that will be given in honor of the American officers increases. The preparations are now almost entirely completed, and while the program has not yet been issued officially, it is easy to perceive that the people are anxious and eager to repay well the welcome extended to Brazil at Washington and Norfolk last summer.

President Penna will entertain all the American admirals, a number of officers and Irving B. Dudley, the American ambassador, at a dinner to be given at the presidential palace in Petropolis. The minister of marine will invite the admirals, the commanders and other officers to a "promenade lunch" on Corcovado mountain, two miles from Rio Janeiro, while the Naval Club will offer a similar entertainment at Tijuca Park. A banquet of 600 covers will be given in the Monroe Pavilion by the minister of foreign affairs, Baron de Rio Branco. On this occasion Dr. Ruy Barbosa, president of the senate, will deliver a speech of welcome. January 13 Mr. Dudley will give a reception in honor of the American officers at his residence in Petropolis.

Peru Getting Busy.

Forty rooms in the best hotel at Petropolis already have been reserved for the use of the American visitors.

News comes here from Peru of the preparations being made by the government of that country to entertain the officers of the American fleet when they reach the west coast. President Pardo will give them a banquet of 300 covers, the minister of marine is making preparations for a great ball, for which 1,200 invitations have been sent out, and the government will give to each officer an album, containing a collection of Peruvian photographs.

Barrett on the Fleet.

MADISON, Wis., December 28.—The beneficial effect of the Pacific cruise now being made by Admiral Evans' big fleet on the relations of the Latin-American republics to the United States was pointed out by John Barrett in an address before the American Political Science Association in session here today. Mr. Barrett, now director general of the international bureau of American republics and formerly United States minister to Argentina, Colombia and Panama, spoke on "The New South America and Its Relations to the United States."

Continuing, after reviewing the development of South America and speaking of the high importance to the United States of maintaining commercial control and moral influences in competition with Europe in the republics, Mr. Barrett said:

"One of the most important effects, if not the principal result, of the sailing of the battleship fleet to the Pacific has been almost overlooked in the constant discussion of the effect on Japan, and that is the impression created in South America.

South America Progressing.

"We have failed to note that the great newspapers and leading men of our sister republics are giving even more attention to movements of this armada than are those of our oriental neighbors.

"The powerful and progressive republics of South America, like Brazil, Argentine, Chile and Peru, which are fast becoming world powers, are not only welcoming the coming of the ships and applauding this vast and unique naval undertaking, but are planning to give the fleet a reception that will not be surpassed in cordiality, enthusiasm and extent by any reception that may be accorded them later on either our own Pacific coast or in the ports of the orient.

"At Rio Janeiro in Brazil and again at Callo in Peru, Admiral Evans' fleet will be greeted and treated as the real representative of the naval strength, as Secretary Root was the true envoy of the new diplomacy of the United States, which politically, commercially, historically and geographically is the natural ally and friend of all South America.