

ENGLAND CONSIDERING PROPOSAL BY HOLLAND FOR PEACE WITH BOERS

Announcement of Fact by Mr. Balfour Today. DUTCH GOVERNMENT AS MEDIATOR. British Will Probably Act Favorably Upon Offer. END OF WAR DESIRED.

Holland Makes Peace Proposition.

The British Government has under consideration a proposal for peace in South Africa, submitted by Holland in behalf of the Boers, and will, it is believed in London, act favorably on it, and thereby terminate the war.

tures from the Boers had been received. He said that that was not so, but that overtures had been received from the Dutch Government late on Saturday night.

Mr. Balfour said he proposed to lay the communication on the table before the House as soon as possible, with the Government's reply.

Belief That England Will Act. No official intimation of the action which will be taken upon the proposal, is given out, but there prevails a general belief that the Government will meet the Boers half way.

This belief is based upon the generally known fact that, because of the unrest now prevailing in India and Ireland, the

recently assumed attitude of Australia and other colonies, and the growing discontent in England itself, the Government is uneasy and anxious for peace upon any terms, at will not compromise the dignity or prestige of the empire.

It is supposed that the Boers are fully cognizant of the favorableness of the moment for peace negotiations, and that it is not by mere chance that the overtures have come at this time.

IN FAVOR OF CABLE BUILT BY UNCLE SAM

Committee to Report the Amended Corliss Bill. MUST BE ONE OF AMERICAN MAKE. From California to Honolulu and Manila. COST LIMIT TEN MILLIONS.

Half Million Made Immediately Available for Enterprise—Mr. Hepburn to Submit Report.

The House Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce, by a vote of 8 to 7, today declared in favor of Government construction of a Pacific cable.

The Corliss bill was ordered reported to the House with favorable recommendation. It was amended by a provision that it shall be operated from any desirable point on the coast of California, instead of specifically naming San Francisco.

The Postmaster General, Secretary of War, and Secretary of the Navy were authorized to negotiate further for connecting lines to other Pacific islands and to China and Japan.

Cable to Be American Made. It was further provided that the cable shall be of American make, of the best manufacture, and not exceeding the price of foreign-made cable by more than 10 per cent.

The Corliss bill authorizes the construction by the United States of a cable from the coast of California to Honolulu, thence to Manila by way of Midway or Wake Island and the Island of Guam, or by whatever route the President may select.

Those in Control. The work shall be under the control of the Postmaster-General, Secretary of War and Secretary of the Navy. The tariff is not to exceed 25 cents a word to Honolulu and 50 cents to Manila.

The sum of \$500,000 is made immediately available and the entire cost is not to exceed \$10,000,000.

Chairman Hepburn is against the bill. He will present a minority report and fight the measure on the floor.

DIRECTOR MERRIAM HEARD BY HOUSE COMMITTEE ON CENSUS

Benefit of Permanent Bureau. Gives Reasons for Making Bureau Permanent. WOULD RESULT IN GREAT ECONOMY. Service Would Be Made Much More Satisfactory. ANNUAL CROP REPORTS.

A REMARKABLE TRIP BY SANTOS-DUMONT

The Young Brazilian Inventor Sails His Airship Around the Harbor of Monte Carlo.

LONDON, Jan. 28.—A despatch to the Central News from Monte Carlo says M. Santos-Dumont made an ascent in his airship there at 10:30 o'clock this morning.

A light breeze prevailed at the time. The airship worked perfectly, answering her helm without the least trouble.

M. Santos-Dumont made a tour of the harbor and then returned to the shed, where the balloon was stored without any mishap.

The entire town witnessed the experiment. M. Dumont was cheered enthusiastically on his return.

First Flight Over Sea. This was the first attempt ever made over the sea in a navigable balloon and was most successful.

The aeronaut made an easy start and headed his airship over the bay. He maneuvered at a height of forty-five yards.

In the light air which was blowing the balloon speeded along at a rate of fifteen miles an hour, the aeronaut sailed about the bay twice and finally landed at 11:30. The landing was made with some difficulty owing to a wall which was in the ship's way.

Well Satisfied With Trial. Santos-Dumont said he was well satisfied with the trial and that the wall would be removed and a pier built to facilitate further trips.

The trial attracted much attention, and large crowds watched the balloon's maneuvers with intense interest.

M. Santos-Dumont will now attempt a flight in his airship from Monte Carlo to Corsica, and across the Mediterranean to Africa.

They Would Be Made Possible, Says the Director, if the Census Was a Continuous Institution.

Hon. William R. Merriam, the Director of the Census, today appeared before the House Committee on Census, which is preparing the bill embodying a plan of organization for a permanent Census Bureau.

The committee has drafted a tentative bill and the hearing this morning was directed toward a consideration of its provisions as well as toward meeting the instructions of the House, which referred the original bill, which simply continued the old Bureau, back to the committee.

Necessity for Permanence. Mr. Crumpacker asked the Director as to the necessity for a permanent Census Bureau.

Mr. Merriam, in answer, went into a history of the organization of the present Census force and the difficulties he had encountered in securing competent persons to do the class of work required.

The chief difficulty was that people with experience could not be easily obtained. He had no one to start with except a few employees of the last Census. It was almost an impossible task, he said, to get a force to do the work in the time prescribed by the law.

Economy and Better Service. There was some discussion among the members of the committee as to the date when the Bureau should become a permanent institution.

Mr. Merriam said that the whole theory of having a permanent Bureau was that a moderate force could be kept employed for a number of years finishing up the work already authorized and used in preparing the work for the next census.

Economy and better service, he contended, would result.

Under a permanent census, Mr. Merriam said, the statistics of manufactures could be taken every five years and the crop statistics annually under a permanent Bureau.

SUGAR TARIFF CAUSES DEBATE

Novel Arguments Before Committee.

THE SENTIMENT OF THE MEMBERS

It Crops Out During the Discussion, Colorado's Representative Heard in Opposition to Cuban Appeal.

F. K. Carey, of Baltimore, who owns beet sugar factories in Sugar City, Col., made an energetic argument against a reduction of tariff duties on Cuban sugar before the House Ways and Means Committee today, in the course of which, by the propounding of questions several members of the committee indicated their views on the pending question.

Mr. Hopkins of Illinois declared that a reduction could well be made; Messrs. Daboll of Pennsylvania and Grosvenor of Ohio seemed in earnest opposition to any reduction; and Mr. Newlands of Nevada intimated that a 50 per cent rebate was about the proper thing.

Benefit Sugar Trust Only. Mr. Carey declared that the American Sugar Trust alone would be benefited by a reduction of duties and that beet sugar men would be the sufferers as they are not strong enough to fight an \$84,000,000 trust.

Nothing is so easy," he declared, "as to be possessed of a sense of duty, obligation and generosity at the expense of someone else. It would be at our expense for it would mean death to our industry."

Doubters as Jackasses. In answer to a query by Mr. Richardson of Tennessee he declared vehemently, provoking applause and laughter, after explaining that the gentlemen in question were wrong on the subject: "Anyone who would doubt the sincerity of President Roosevelt, Secretary of War Root, or General Wood is a Jackass."

He wandered from his subject to speak for irrigation, declaring Colorado could create more wealth in the beet industry alone than all of Cuba. He uttered a warning, as follows:

Cannot Escape Perseus. "No political power which would assume responsibility for the abandonment of these factories (the beet sugar factories) could escape being pursued day and night by the ghosts which will haunt them."

F. B. Macheo, a Cuban planter, read a paper favoring reciprocity. The hearings will continue in the afternoon.

BANK CHARTERS EXTENDED.

Bill Reported to Senate to Repeal Their Expiration.

A bill extending for twenty years the charters of national banks was favorably reported to the Senate today by the Committee on Finance.

The act authorizing the chartering of national banks for that period was passed July 12, 1882, and the charters of those banks chartered shortly after that date will expire next summer. The bill passed the Senate last session but failed in the House.

Bloodhounds on Trail of the Train Robbers.

CHARLESTON, S. C., Jan. 28.—A sheriff's posse with bloodhounds, which went on the trail of the train robbers near Branchville, on the Southern Railway last night, succeeded in capturing the gang before it could be fitted.

When closely pursued by the hounds, the robbers dumped the safe into Edisto River and then crossed in a skiff to escape being torn to pieces.

There were nine men in the gang and reports from Branchville indicate that they will be caught as they are surrounded in the swamps. The local safe which was robbed contained a very small amount of cash.

REAR ADMIRAL KIMBERLY DIES OF HEART DISEASE

The Distinguished Retired Naval Officer Passes Away at West Newton, Mass., After a Long Illness.

The Navy Department was informed this morning of the death from heart disease of Rear Admiral Lewis A. Kimberly, retired, at West Newton, Mass.

Rear Admiral Kimberly was one of the officers first appointed on the Sibley Court of Enquiry last summer. He was compelled, however, to decline the duty on account of his health.

In declining he made the statement that it was the first assignment he had had to obey orders in the course of his whole naval career.

Rear Admiral Kimberly was a native of New York, but was appointed to the Naval Academy from Illinois in 1846. In 1856 he

served on the coast of South Africa. He was assigned in 1861-2 to the Western Gulf blockading squadron. As a lieutenant commander he was on Admiral Farragut's flagship, the Hartford, 1862-64.

Made a Commodore in 1884. It was not until 1884 that he received his commission as commodore and became commandant of the Boston Navy Yard. His promotion to rear admiral came three years later in 1887, when he was assigned to the command of the Pacific station.

Rear Admiral Kimberly retired before the beginning of the Spanish war and took no part therein.

PHILADELPHIA, Jan. 28.—Robert Roderick Meacham, a young Scotsman, came to this country nine months ago to seek his fortune. But fortune crossed the ocean after him, for he had been in Philadelphia little more than a month when he received word from the other side that he was the sole heir to an estate valued at about \$40,000.

Since his arrival in this city Meacham has been employed as a freight handler at the Kensington freight station of the Pennsylvania Railroad at Front and Berks Streets. He made his home at 1762 North Front Street. He gave up his position yesterday and will return to his home in Greenock, Scotland, in two weeks.

TO DEMAND AN INCREASE

Railroad Men Want Ten Per Cent Additional Pay.

CHICAGO, Jan. 28.—At a joint meeting of the conductors and track men of the Chicago and Northwestern today decided to demand an increase of 10 per cent in their wages.

The meeting was held in pursuance of a general plan of the Order of Railroad Conductors and Brotherhood of Railroad Trainmen to obtain a similar increase for the members of both organizations from all railroads in the United States, Canada, and Mexico.

Should the demand be refused a strike will be called on the lines directly affected and all other doing business with them.

The demand has already been made on the great Northerns, Santa Fe, Baltimore and Ohio, Lake Shore and Michigan Southern, Union Pacific, Rock Island, and six other important lines.

None of the roads have given an answer, and the trainmen will wait two weeks before taking another step. If nothing has been done to accede to their request by that time an insistent demand is to be made, and this will be followed by an ultimatum.

The men claim that while the business of the railroads has increased greatly during the past several years, causing a general increase in labor, the wages have remained the same and they now feel justified in making demands.

IRRIGATION BILL REPORTED.

The Senate Hears the Measure Read by Mr. Hansbrough.

The irrigation bill was reported favorably to the Senate today by Senator Hansbrough, from the Committee on Public Lands. It provides that all moneys received from the sale of public lands in the Western States and Territories be appropriated as a special fund in the Treasury, to be known as a reclamation fund, to be used in the examination and survey for, and the construction and maintenance of, irrigation works for the storage and development of waters for the reclamation of arid lands.

The bill is in line with the recommendations of President Roosevelt in his annual message, which were strongly in favor of the irrigation project.

MATTERS DISCUSSED BY THE CABINET

Admiral Schley's Case Not One of the Topics.

PRESENTS TO THE PRESIDENT

President Roosevelt will not be prepared to make a decision on the Schley case for about two weeks, according to the statement of Secretary Long, made after the Cabinet meeting today.

The Schley appeal was not up for consideration at the Cabinet meeting today.

The second-class mail matter ruling of Assistant Postmaster General Madden, which bars a number of periodicals from second-class mail privileges, was discussed at length in the meeting.

Postmaster General Payne said that periodicals were being daily thrown out of the second class and that although there was great protest there was no intention of withdrawing the order.

The President and Presents. The visit of Prince Henry was touched on casually. There has been some discussion aroused as to the propriety of the President's receiving a gift from the Prince when he comes to Washington.

If the Prince offers Mr. Roosevelt a gift in an official manner the President will have to accept either on behalf of the Government or will have to obtain the consent of Congress to receive it for himself.

Precedent is found in the occasion when President McKinley received two handsome vases from the President of France. He accepted them on behalf of the Government.

Secretary Root read extracts from personal letters he had received from General Chaffee in the Philippines. One of these dealt with the relations between the army and the Philippine Commission, and the other with the extent of the reported dissatisfaction with the existing form of government.

Treaty With Denmark. The treaty with Denmark providing for the United States' acquisition of the Danish West Indies was under brief consideration.

Secretary Wilson submitted to the President his reports from experiment stations in Alaska, and the island groups adjacent and in Hawaii and in Porto Rico. These will be sent to Congress along with the reports of irrigation experts also submitted.

Substantial progress is being made in the problem of irrigation in all parts of the country.

Young Woman Sent to Workhouse. Elizabeth Kendrick, a good-looking woman, about thirty years of age, with black hair, big black eyes, and peevish teeth and neatly attired, was in Police Court today, charged with being a vagrant.

She denied the charge, but the evidence was against her and in default of a fine of \$40 went to the workhouse to serve four months.

Fled for Their Lives Over Red Hot Coke.

PITTSBURGH, Pa., Jan. 28.—William Morris, Frank Knux, and Peter Mullen, laborers at Eliza Furnace, were seriously burned yesterday as a result of a wild flight over red hot coke to escape a supposed explosion. They were drawing coke from beneath the furnace and had almost completed, having an immense wall of red hot coke and cinders, many feet in extent, built up and entirely blocking the passageway from the furnace, when there was a slight "drop" of hot slag inside the furnace. They dropped their tools and ran for their lives.

They scrambled over the hot coke and cinders and set fire to their clothing. Nearly all the clothing was burned off them, and their hands and faces were broiled. They were removed to the Mercy Hospital.

GIRL ATTEMPTS SUICIDE.

Edmonia Barnes, sixteen years old, takes Carbolic Acid.

Because of a misunderstanding with Mrs. Buckley, who conducts a Turkish bath establishment on Connecticut Avenue northwest, sixteen-year-old Edmonia Barnes attempted suicide about noon today by swallowing carbolic acid.

Her condition is critical. The girl formerly lived in Anacostia. She was secured by Mrs. Buckley from the Board of Children's Guardians. She had made herself useful about the place, and it was not until this morning that any trouble occurred.

She was discovered shortly after she had taken the poison and hurried to the Emergency Hospital.

TALKED TO VISITORS IN GERMAN.

The President Receives the Officers and Cadets of the Moltke.

Herr von Holleben, the German Ambassador, presented the officers of the Kaiser's training ship Moltke to President Roosevelt at the White House today.

The President accorded the officers a most cordial reception in the Red Room and compliments were exchanged between the President and his visitors in German.

In the party were Captain Carl Franz, Lieutenant von Lehsten, First Lieutenant Max Hagendorf, and Sub-Lieutenant Ernst Mehuert.

MR. DRYDEN ELECTED.

Jersey Legislature Formally Makes Him United States Senator.

TRENTON, N. J., Jan. 28.—The Republican caucus selection of John F. Dryden for United States Senator was confirmed today by the Legislature, he receiving the majority vote of both houses.

Allan McDermott was given the Democratic complimentary nomination. He was named in caucus by Assemblyman Dennis. Senator Gebhardt objected to McDermott, calling him a better from the party in silver split in 1896. He named Senator L. J. Martin from Sussex, but McDermott was selected as the Democratic choice.

HEARD IN BEHALF OF IDENTIFICATION BUREAU

Major Sylvester, Chief Wilkie, and Others Appear Before the Judiciary Committee.

The House Judiciary Committee this morning took up for consideration the bill drawn by Major Sylvester, Chief of Police, for the creation of a national Bureau of criminal identification in connection with the Department of Justice. The bill was introduced by Representative Jenkins.

Major Sylvester was before the committee to explain the details of the bill. In answer to a question from Mr. Clayton of the committee, the major stated that the measure was the result of a conference of the different chiefs of police of the various cities of the country, assembled in national convention. The bill had the hearty endorsement of the Attorney General of the United States, he said, and the Attorney General had agreed to set apart a room in the Department of Justice for the use of the bureau.

Chief Wilkie, of the Secret Service, said the bill met with favor at the Treasury Department. The establishment of such a bureau, he said, would be of decided advantage to the Government, and especially to the Secret Service. It would bring about a spirit of reciprocity between the States and the General Government in the suppression of crime.

It would also prove of immense value to the Bureau of Investigation in the matter of identifying Chinamen and anarchists. The adoption of the Bertillon system of measurements, he said, would make it a comparatively easy matter to identify criminals in any part of the country.

Acting Chief Postoffice Inspector Enloe said the bill had the endorsement of the Chief Inspector. In reply to a question he said it frequently turned out that persons who violated the postal laws also violated the revenue laws. The States, he said, would co-operate with the Bureau and thus the Government would get the benefit of information obtained by several State bureaus of criminal information.

Major McLaughlin, United States warden of the Leavenworth Penitentiary, explained to the committee the operation of the Bertillon system of identification. He told the committee that during the World's Fair he was chief of police of Chicago, and that with the movements of anarchists sent him by the prefect of police of Paris he was enabled to arrest a number of anarchists and other unsavory persons and sent them out of the city.

MOTHER'S NATIONAL CONGRESS.

Committees Re-Appointed to Report at the Coming Convention.

The National Congress of Mothers met at the Cairo Hotel this morning for the purpose of reappointing committees to report at the coming convention to be held in this city February 25-28, inclusive. The committees contained from fifteen to twenty members.

The chairmen of the committees were as follows: Committee on arrangements, Mrs. A. A. Birney; badges and credentials, Mrs. Charles Verill; literature, Miss Ellen A. Vinton; information, Mrs. W. E. Gilbert; entertainment, Mrs. Bodfish, and ushers, Mrs. W. F. Holtzman.

Another meeting will be held at the Cairo next week.

TO INVESTIGATE PHILIPPINES

Senate Directs an Enquiry to Be Made as to Conditions.

The Senate this morning, by adopting a resolution introduced by Mr. Lodge, directed the Committee on Philippines to investigate the condition of affairs in the Philippine archipelago.

WANTS TO SEE METEOR LAUNCH

Representative Lessler Confers With President About Matter.

Representative Lessler, of New York, in whose district the Kaiser's yacht Meteor will be launched, called at the White House today.

Mr. Lessler desires that some of his friends may have an opportunity to witness the launching.

Courtesy to a Lady Cost Him a \$3 Fine.

NEW YORK, Jan. 28.—David H. Otten, a wealthy New Yorker, didn't spread his cloak for a fair one to walk on, but he almost did as original a thing. And he had to pay a fine for it.

Mr. Otten, who lives at 51 West Forty-third Street, was taking a young woman out for a ride in his automobile yesterday when it began to rain. He ran the machine at full speed through Central Park to Seventy-ninth Street and up on the sidewalk in front of the young woman's home, at 129 East Seventy-ninth Street. He then assisted her out, holding an umbrella over her head, and bade her "good-by" at the door.

Policeman Gallagher saw the incident and arrested Mr. Otten today.

Magistrate Mayo, in the Yorkville court, fined him \$3.

RETIREMENT OF JUSTICES.

Mr. Bellamy of the Supreme Court Code in the Department of Justice.

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The bill makes it the duty of the District Supreme Court to receive and original papers in cases which have had, whether closed or pending.