

THE WAVERING FATE OF CHINA

More Trouble Over the German Missionaries is Reported.

DELAY IN SETTLEMENT

Mission of a Representative of France.

These Government Refuses to Agree to a Foreign Control-of-War Excitement in Japan--The Native Press Assumes a Defiant Tone Toward Europe.

Peking, Dec. 31--Further German missionary trouble is reported from the Shan-Tung Province. It will possibly delay and complicate the pending negotiations.

Berlin, Dec. 31--The German first-class cruiser Kaiserin Augusta arrived yesterday at Kiaochau Bay.

London, Dec. 31--A special dispatch from Paris says that M. Roume, head of the Asiatic department of the French Colonial office, starts on a secret mission to China on Sunday in connection with the crisis in the far east.

The dispatch adds that a special military mission will also start for China shortly.

Peking, Dec. 31--Although desirous of obtaining a British loan, the Chinese government refuses to agree to a foreign control of the internal revenue, either immediate or in case of default.

Hung Chang, however, is disposed to favor control of the internal revenue in case of default.

In the event of a loan not being procurable China will not pay her war indemnity until 1902, in accordance with one of the provisions of the Treaty of Simonoseki. The final decision is postponed until after the holidays, awaiting a reply from London.

WAR EXCITEMENT IN JAPAN.

The Native Press' Defiant Tone Towards Europe.

Washington, Dec. 31--A high state of public feeling in Japan over the complications of the far east, centering in China, is shown by the last press advices received here from Japan. That the government itself has an eye to the gravity of the question is shown by a statement of the prime minister, made in the course of a reply to a delegation.

He said: "When affairs pertaining to dangerous developments, as is now the case in the east, we shall not hesitate to ask the Diet for thirty millions, or even forty millions, if necessary."

This was only a short time before the premier was forced to resign, because of the public feeling that the cabinet was too weak to deal with the descent of the European powers upon China, and the probable dismemberment of the latter country.

The Jiji Shimpo, the most influential paper in Japan, contains a scathing arraignment of Germany's course, declaring that the occupation of Kiaochau shows that the laws and tenets of international morality have ceased to be anything more than specious pretenses by European powers, and that the rule by which she conducts her affairs is the rule of the fish of the weak is the food of the strong.

After declaring that Germany has thrown off the mask of a greedy power, the paper adds as to the attitude of Japan: "The configuration is on the other side of the river, but the river is narrow and the sparks may fly across easily. The reason for Japan is that a country's security depends upon its strength, and that strength has come solely from her own resources. It will not suffice that she should be merely on the defensive. To preserve what one has already, it is sometimes necessary to add more. A Japan, and her own strength must be devoted to warding against the perils that menace her."

OPAL SMUGGLE CAUGHT.

Government Makes an Important Arrest Near New Mexico's Border.

San Antonio, Tex., Dec. 31--It has been known for some time to the United States customs officers along the Mexican border that operations in the smuggling of fine opals into the United States were being conducted by a band of Mexicans. Government secret agents were put to work to capture them, and word was sent here today that the first arrest had been made at Alice, Tex. A man named Manuel Herrera was arrested, and about 1,000 opals, which he had smuggled over from Mexico, were found in his possession. He was being shipped to New York by a steamer, and it is believed that the smugglers have confederates in New York who place the opals on the market there. Dealers in opals in Mexico have asserted for some time that their business was being ruined by smugglers, and that opals were sold cheaper in New York than they could sell them in the city of Mexico.

Lucille Pulitzer Dead.

Bar Harbor, Me., Dec. 31--Lucille Pulitzer, daughter of Joseph Pulitzer of New York, died today at her home of typhoid fever.

William Gross Captured.

Monto, Ont., Dec. 31--William Gross, a boy who was charged with stealing \$5,000 worth of goods, is in custody here.

THE UNDERGROUND SYSTEM.

Metropolitan Street Railway Company Preparing to Make a Bid.

New York, Dec. 31--Alexander E. Orr, president of the Rapid Transit commission, announced today that the capitalists in control of the Metropolitan Street Railway company were preparing to make a bid on the underground tunnel project.

The idea of the Metropolitan capitalists, prominent among whom are John D. Crimmins, Thomas F. Ryan, P. A. B. Widener and William C. Whitney, is that by obtaining control of rapid transit they can establish a very valuable auxiliary to the present surface lines of the Metropolitan Street railway, and that by free use of transfers they can control not only the short distance travel, but also the long distance passengers, who now go largely by the Manhattan elevated.

It is plain, therefore, that the control of the underground system by the Metropolitan capitalists will greatly increase the antagonism between the two companies, and, in the opinion of some, will lead to an early understanding, resulting in the virtual consolidation of all the transportation interests in the city.

There are those who intimate that one of the chief purposes of the Metropolitan capitalists is bidding for the Manhattan lot to sell out, since it has long been a theory in some quarters that the former were anxious to get control of the elevated, but only the opposition of certain members of the Gould family prevented the consummation of the deal.

HAULING DOWN THE STARS AND STRIPES.

A High Handed Proceeding on Part of the Commander of a Mexican Gunboat.

San Diego, Cal., Dec. 31--The steamer Albion arrived today from a month's cruise down the coast, and her passengers tell of a rather high-handed proceeding at Clipperton Island, on the part of the Mexican gunboat Democrita, being no less than the hauling down of the stars and stripes by an armed force, landed for the purpose, and the raising of the Mexican flag. The story is told as follows:

"Our trip down the coast as far as San Diego was void of any particular incident," said Roscoe Howard, one of the passengers. "On our return we took on a sailor at Acapulco and from him I learned that he had been brought to that port by the Mexican gunboat Democrita. From Clipperton Island, he said, the Democrita had been employed by a guano company to take charge of about 4,000 tons of guano that was stored in the warehouses on the island, and when they were landed there some nine months ago they hoisted the American flag and notified the secretary of state of their action. On Dec. 14 the Democrita anchored a short distance from the island and sent a boat's crew of marines to land the boat, and on attempting to land the boat suffered considerable damage. Finally the marines were landed, and after an official ceremony the stars and stripes were hauled down from the flagpole that had been erected by the Americans, and in its place the Mexican flag was formally hoisted. The marines withdrew and notified the men who remained on the island not to allow anyone to take away the guano under penalty of violating the Mexican laws. The island is about eight hundred miles off the Mexican coast, almost due west of Acapulco, and is known as an atoll, or coral reef. It is about four miles in circumference. Two palm trees constitute the sole vegetation on the island, which is made the home of millions of sea fowl. The island is the richest guano island to be found on the island. When the marines landed to take possession of the island in behalf of Mexico they were fully armed."

YOUNG COUNTERFEITER.

Deputy Marshal Arrests W. F. Baldwin, Said to be an Expert.

Cincinnati, Dec. 31--William F. Baldwin, alias Frank Watson, alias James Lawrence, aged 23, and said to be one of the most dangerous counterfeiters in the country, was arrested here at the house of a relative this afternoon by Deputy United States Marshal Snyder and Spillard Baldwin, using counterfeit bills at Dayton. At his trial he so successfully feigned insanity that United States Judge Sage sent him to the hospital for insane federal prisoners in Washington, D. C. There he was discovered in a plot to kill the guard and escape. When brought back to Hillsboro, O., he broke jail. Next he was caught and imprisoned at Kingston, Canada, and again escaped.

Crank at the White House.

Washington, Dec. 31--A young white man named Frank Kecheese was arrested at the white house this afternoon and sent to the station. His sanity will be investigated. He is said to be a crank that the president had a lot of property belonging to him and he wanted it. His claim was rambling but was not dangerous. When brought back to Hillsboro, O., he broke jail. Next he was caught and imprisoned at Kingston, Canada, and again escaped.

Daring Attempt at Robbery.

New York, Dec. 31--The discovery was made today that there was a daring attempt to break in the mails depot of the Adams Express company, No. 17 Broadway, during an incendiary fire yesterday. This depot is said to contain property valued at \$100,000 every day and the police have evidence to show that the fire was set to enable the thieves to loot the place during the excitement.

Basil Tyler at Least 101 Years Old.

St. Louis, Dec. 31--Basil Tyler, who was buried today, was one of the oldest men in this section. He could accurately account for 101 years of his life. Tyler was born in Maryland and a boy he was sold to the family of Dorsett, grandfather of Dr. Walter Dorsett, of this city.

Card at Saratoga.

Y. Dec. 31--Four inches of snow fell this afternoon and a blizzard swept through Saratoga and western New York and the

RELIEF PLANS FOR KLONDIKE

American and Canadian Expeditions to Go Together.

CLIFFORD SIFTON'S PROPOSITION

The Duty on All War Department Supplies to Be Waived by Canada. May Not Attempt to Reach Dawson City During the Winter--Reindeer Cannot Be Shipped Here in Time.

Washington, Dec. 30--Mr. Clifford Sifton, the Canadian minister of the interior, and Mr. George Melkior, the acting secretary of war, arranged at a conference today that the expedition which will be sent by the Canadian and United States governments to the relief of the Klondike gold seekers shall start together and make the trip in company. Officially the co-operation of the two countries will not extend further than that in each expedition will be separate, but each will endeavor to assist the other in the journey. The most important outcome of the conference was the practical decision not to attempt to reach Dawson City during the winter. While the war department has not decided to abandon the idea of securing the relief of the Klondike, it is likely that its efforts will be directed to relieving the distress among those who have left that place on account of the lack of supplies and are now quartered at camps along the Yukon east of the lake region of Alaska and the British north-west. Secretary Alger had not sufficient recovered from his attack of the grip to permit him to confer with Mr. Sifton, and Acting Secretary Melkior was designated to represent him. The plan of the Canadian government for relieving the distress is set forth in this statement given out by the war department:

The Hon. Clifford Sifton, the minister of the interior of Canada, says that the only practicable route to Dawson City is what is known as the White Pass or commonly called the lake route, commencing at Skagway, on Lynn canal. He says they have sixty men in the territory, and expect to have fifty more on or before Jan. 3. They have twenty tons of supplies stored at Skagway for transportation over the pass, to which will be added ten tons more within the next ten days for transportation over the pass. The Canadian authorities have a post at Lake Bennett, another at Tashit, and a third at Tashit. He said that the latter point and Fort Selkirk. It is the intention of the Canadian government to have a detachment of 20 men in the territory within the next ten days. The detachment will be taken to leave Skagway on the 15th proximo, but the minister has kindly consented to hold the expedition that may accompany the expedition of the war department, which will leave Skagway on or before Feb. 1, and to escort their detachment to the point of co-operation cannot be consummated.

THE REINDER PROJECT.

The probable abandonment of the intention of Secretary Alger to use reindeer in hauling down the supplies of the American expedition was foreseen today in the receipt of a cable despatch from William A. Kjellman, the assistant superintendent of the Alaska reindeer herd, who was sent to Norway to purchase 600 deer. Mr. Kjellman, at Allen, a cable station in that country. His message read: "Can probably ship 500 reindeer Feb. 15."

Leutenant Devore, military aide to the secretary of war, who called from New York on Christmas day in company with Dr. Sheldon Jackson, of the bureau of education, the originator of the scheme to establish a reindeer herd in Alaska, carried with him instructions from Secretary Alger not to purchase any deer unless he could provide for their shipment to the United States by Feb. 15. If the deer are not shipped from abroad until that date, as indicated by Mr. Kjellman, they cannot reach the United States in time to get them into the Klondike country this winter.

The reports have been received at the department from Captain W. W. Johnson, Jr., an officer of the quartermaster general's department, stationed at Seattle, on the result of his interviews with men who have a knowledge of the trails leading to the Klondike region. One of the men he saw was Jack Dalton, after whom the Dalton trail was called. Captain Robinson expresses great faith in the judgment of Dalton, who recommends the use of horses from northern Montana in hauling the relief supplies through Alaska and the Northwest Territory. Dalton thinks his trail is not available for winter traveling.

A member of a firm of cattle raisers told Captain Robinson that he had 70,000 pounds of beef packed in ice at Lake Bennett, which it would sell to the government for \$1 a pound, and that from ten to twenty horses were at that same place. An officer of a company which is putting a railway into the Klondike told the quartermaster that two-thirds of his line between Skagway and Lake Bennett would be ready for traffic by Jan. 1, and that the entire trail to Lake Bennett would be available by Feb. 15.

Not a line has come to the war department since Sept. 13 from Captain P. H. Ray, the army officer sent to investigate the conditions in the Yukon country. His failure to send reports is unexplainable to department officials, and several mails have come through since that date given. He will probably make an explanation.

Card at Saratoga.

Y. Dec. 31--Four inches of snow fell this afternoon and a blizzard swept through Saratoga and western New York and the

KING OF THE COWBOYS WEDS

The Bride is Miss Woodward, of Coatesville, Pa.

New York, Dec. 31--George W. Burch, known as the "King of the Cowboys," was married in Brooklyn today to Miss Lilla Woodward, of Coatesville, Pa., well known there because of her prominent family and through her charitable and church work. The ceremony was performed by Rev. W. E. Newman, formerly of Coatesville, but now of Brooklyn.

Mr. Burch is the superintendent of Buffalo Bill's Wild West, and the show winters at Coatesville, where he first met Miss Woodward and Mr. Newman, whose brother is still a pastor there.

Mr. Burch is living at Coatesville, and accompanied by Johnnie Baker, the crack shot, and Miss Woodward, came on yesterday, going at once to the residence of Mr. Newman, at No. 29 Canada place, where they were made husband and wife. The couple will travel in the South on their wedding trip.

ACTRESS' SECRET MARRIAGE.

Society Man Weds a Belle of the Baltimore Lyceum.

Baltimore, Md., Dec. 31--Miss Beth Franklin, a belle of the Baltimore Lyceum Theatre stock company, would neither affirm nor deny today her reported second marriage to Richard Wallach, of Washington, but she looked pleased about it. Miss Franklin is a popular actress in Baltimore, and ever since she first appeared in the Lyceum company last September, Mr. Wallach has been paying her weekly visits. Their friends say that they were married recently in Washington.

Miss Franklin is said to have been the widow of a German officer. Now she is a member of the most prominent families in Washington. Several years ago he was engaged to one of the most beautiful society women of Baltimore.

PAPERS BY JEFFERSON.

A Valuable Find in the Old Congressional Library.

Washington, Dec. 31--In the course of the removal of the books and papers of the congressional library to the new building an unexpected find has been made in the shape of a large box of papers, which are supposed to have been those of Thomas Jefferson. These were found stored away in a little room next to the entrance of the library, which has been under lock and key for many years. They are entirely public papers, a note among them stating that all private papers with the lot had been returned to the donors and contributors.

It is believed that the particular papers came to the congressional library through John Randolph. The papers have been transferred to the state department where they will be examined and the names of other state papers by Librarian Allen.

COLORADO'S GOLD OUTPUT.

It is Said to Have Amounted This Year to \$22,000,000.

Denver, Col., Dec. 31--The books of the United States branch mint for the year 1897 are now closed. The deposits of gold are the largest ever received. The total will likely exceed \$22,000,000, and a conservative estimate made by the mint officials places the entire output of Colorado at \$22,000,000 in round figures.

Colorado will go far ahead of California, as it is said to be doubtful if California's output will exceed \$18,000,000. Last year Colorado's output was \$18,500,000 and that of California was \$17,000,000, while the total production of the country was \$4,717,928. The great increase in the Colorado output this year will send the total of the United States up to the \$79,999,000 mark.

SCOT TAKES OATH OF OFFICE.

He is Now the Commissioner of Internal Revenue.

Washington, Dec. 31--Mr. Nathan B. Scott, of West Virginia, today took the oath of office as commissioner of internal revenue in place of Mr. W. S. Foran, of Illinois, who returns to the practice of law in East St. Louis.

Mr. Charles G. Dawes, of Illinois, took the oath as comptroller of the currency. Mr. Eckels, the retiring comptroller of the currency, left for Chicago today where he becomes president of the Commercial National bank. Scott and Dawes take charge of their respective offices next Monday.

STUBBORN CUSTOMER.

William Smith Objected to the "Pull" Em I Car.

St. Louis, Dec. 31--Today while William Smith was passing a second hand store on Morgan street, Morris Mueller and Victor Goldstein, attaches of the store, seized him by the arms and tried to induce him to buy the store and make a purchase. Smith drew a revolver and fired five times.

Mueller was taken to the hospital in a dying condition. Goldstein's arms were punctured by bullets and Smith was taken to jail.

Struck a Girl a Fatal Blow.

Parkersburg, W. Va., Dec. 31--Mary Shamblin, 16 years old, who was living with James McCoy, her brother-in-law, on Red run, in Jackson county, was struck and fatally injured by McCoy yesterday because the girl refused to stay away from school to do extra drudgery about McCoy's house.

Dangerous Theatrical Props.

Manti, Utah, Dec. 31--Actor Stultz, of the Stultz Theater company, was badly burned today when he became president of the colored fireworks in his room to be used in the play when a spark from the stove set the explosives on fire.

Fatally Shot at a Dance.

Huntington, W. Va., Dec. 31--During a shooting scrape at Diggins yesterday Edward Chaffin is reported to have been fatally shot. The shooting was at a dance and Chaffin was picking a banjo at the time. Chaffin's father was murdered a year ago during a street fight.

Steamship Arrivals.

New York, Dec. 31--Cleared: La Champagnais, Havre; Etruria, Liverpool. Liverpool-Arrived: Lucania, New York via Queenstown; Amsterdam--Bated Werkendam, New York.

RECORD OF MOST SUCCESSFUL YEAR

The Smallest Number of Business Failures Since 1892.

REVIVAL OF MANY INDUSTRIES

More Than Half a Million Men Are Employed in a Few States Who Were Idle a Year Ago--All Financial Distress--The Wheat Market Booming.

New York, Dec. 31--R. G. Dun & Co.'s Weekly Review of Trade will say in its issue tomorrow:

Failures for the year which closed last night have been smaller than in any other year since 1892, in number smaller than in any year except in 1895, and in average liabilities per failure smaller than in any other year during the last twenty-three years.

The aggregate of all failures, commercial and banking, was 189,000, of which \$28,800,000 was in banking. In 1895, 123,000 commercial failures the amount of liabilities was \$154,800,000, of which \$89,000,000 was in manufacturing and \$75,800,000 in trading, with \$12,000,000 in brokerage and other commercial failures. The average of liabilities per failure was only \$11,925, but only three years in the past twenty-three were rivals, 1888 with \$11,695; 1886 with \$11,651, and 1885 with \$11,678.

A new year opens with conditions generally brighter from those which prevailed a year ago. Great financial distress existed then, but it passed away. After a whole year of entire freedom from disturbance or alarm, in which the country has paid heavy foreign indebtedness, taken and paid millions for stocks sent from abroad, and accumulated credits against other countries represented by merchandise balances more than \$20,000,000 in its favor for the past five months, with deferred exchanges for more than \$20,000,000 held by New York banks alone, while the great industries have been pushing their way into foreign markets with unprecedented success, the monetary situation is no longer a matter of anxiety. More than half a million men in a few states, according to official reports, are employed now who were idle a year ago, and the general advance in wages for those employed has gone far to restore the rates prevailing before the panic. The volume of business through clearing houses for the week was 14 1/2 per cent. larger than those in 1897, and for the month been 6 1/2 per cent. larger than in that year, and in many industries and branches of business the later months of this year have surpassed all records.

THE IRON INDUSTRY.

The iron industry has been greatly encouraged by increased demand during the past few weeks and while the slight improvement in pig iron at Pittsburgh has been maintained, notwithstanding the greatest output ever known, the new contracts for finished products have been unusual for the season. They include 20,000 tons steel rails to one eastern mill, 12,000 tons structural work for improvements at New York alone, with large operations at Chicago and other cities, and a greatly increased demand for manufacturing materials generally and especially for sheets. Minor metals have been rather weak with tin at 13 1/2 cents and copper at 19 1/2, in spite of large exports, while lead is quoted at 3 7/8 cents, and zinc at 23 1/2. The best Bessemer full weight tin plates are selling at \$3.05, and \$4.10 for foreign. No change in prices of coke appears, though the shipments were stopped for any week this year.

WHEAT MARKET.

After the great excitement at Chicago, wheat still goes out of the country as largely as before, from Atlantic ports 3,579,781 bushels, four included, against 1,542,540 last year, and from Pacific ports 1,712,625 bushels, and in four weeks the Atlantic exports, flour included, have been 15,969,947 bushels against 8,399,151 last year. Heavy western receipts are only reflecting temporary conditions in the Chicago market. But extraordinary exports of corn, 14,944,995 bushels, against 9,444,153 bushels in the four weeks last year, shows how sorely foreign markets are pushed by the increasing demand for breadstuffs. Wheat has declined 5/8 of a cent with the Chicago market, and corn has meanwhile advanced 5/8 of a cent. The cotton movement continues remarkably heavy, and yet the slight advance last week is maintained. The movement to date, although more than seven million bales have come into sight, scarcely supports the largest current estimates.

Failures for the week have been 395 in the United States, against 429 last year; and 21 in Canada against 29 last year.

HIS ONE HUNDRETH BIRTHDAY.

Joseph D. Jones Has a Celebration in the Tremont Temple in Boston.

Boston, Dec. 31--Joseph D. Jones, an inmate of the Home for Aged Men in this city, celebrated his one hundredth birthday in Tremont Temple today. The old man who enjoys remarkably good health and retains possession of all his faculties, received about 150 friends in the Temple and presented each one with his photograph. An entertainment and dinner were provided at which the old man presided. He is a native of Maine, but has lived most of his life in this city. He was a merchant for many years, but retired from business about twenty years ago.

Fell From a Car.

Trenton, N. J., Dec. 31--J. H. Ashmore, of Passaic, was killed tonight by falling or walking off a car platform and moving train just before the train reached the Trenton depot. Ashmore was coming to Trenton to visit his mother, who resides here. His skull fractured and he died almost instantly.

DAY AS A WIFE COST \$1700.

Expensive Bliss of a Widow Who Answered a Personal.

New York, Dec. 31--Mrs. Edna J. Preston, of Amsterdam, N. Y., faced Henry Berger in Yorkville police court today, and told the judge that she had met Berger through the personal column of a newspaper. He said he had \$500 and wished to meet a lady with the same amount. She kept a boarding house in Amsterdam, and sold it for \$1,750 to be able to come to New York and meet Berger, and if he filled his circular description of himself, to marry him. His \$500 did not figure in her negotiation. He met her at the Grand Central station, and took her to Rev. Clark Wright, where they were married. Then he told her he wanted to go into the saloon business in Newark, and she gave him her \$1,700. She said the cab fare because he had left his wallet in his other trousers. Berger never came back from Newark. He wrote instead that he had lost the \$1,700, and did not feel that he could ever face his bride again. He never did until he appeared in Yorkville court today.

Two letters from would-be wives were found on Berger. One was a widow of six years, with an 18-year-old son, who has a three-story house. Another was 31 years old, with a home and \$18,000 cash.

THE BIRTH OF GREATER NEW YORK

Second City of the World Will Enter Upon the Greatest Problem of Municipal Government Today.

New York, Dec. 31--The citizens of New York, which tomorrow will be the second city of the world, enter upon what is believed the greatest problem of municipal government ever presented. With the metropolis of the clock at midnight, announcing the advent of the new year, there will be born a city such as the emperors and kings of history would have deemed great for an empire.

For six months, until the machinery of the new municipality gets into motion, the mayor of New York has the duty of an apocryphal. He may appoint officials with salaries running into the thousands with as lavish a hand as ever an emperor treated his favorites. The mayor will appoint every department head in the city, except the controller who is elected for four years. He will appoint all commissioners, all justices of interior criminal courts; all the members of the school boards with the exception of the commissioner of education, the justices of special sessions and the police magistrates, and is given the power to remove any official in New York and appoint his successor.

There are five boroughs in the Greater New York, namely, Manhattan, Brooklyn, Bronx, Queens and Richmond. The municipal legislature consists of the council with twenty-eight members and a board of aldermen with sixty members. The president of the council was elected by the people. The president of the board of aldermen will be chosen by the members of the council.

Mayor Van Wyck is given power to veto any ordinance or resolution of either body of the municipal assembly unless five-sixths of the members of both houses declare otherwise.

Each of the five boroughs has a borough president, but his principal duty is to preside over the various local boards in his borough.

INCENDIARY FIRES IN MYSTIC.

Two Fires Set and the Third Attempted--Arrest of the Firebug.

Mystic, Conn., Dec. 31--An attempt to burn this village was frustrated last evening. Two fires were extinguished and a third, it is said, was prevented by the arrest of the firebug. Shortly before 6 o'clock in the afternoon a blaze was discovered on the stage of the Mystic Opera house, near the bridge, connecting the two sides of the river. The opera house is the heart of the village, and if the fire had secured a headway not only the building in which it originated, but others adjacent would probably have been destroyed. Hardly had this fire been extinguished when the department was called to a fire in a dwelling on the other side of the river.

Later a shiftless fellow named Robert Johnson, was discovered in an attempt to fire Trip's lumber yard. He was arraigned today and held for trial. It is believed he is mentally irresponsible.

Decision Against Hearst.

New York, Dec. 31--The appellate division of the supreme court today handed down a decision in the case of William R. Hearst against the Brooklyn Bridge trustees, in which the orders of the lower court granting an injunction to stop the placing of trolley track loops on the surface of the promenade entrance to the bridge on the ground that it would endanger human life, is reversed. The motion to continue the injunction is denied.

Chicago Death Record.

Chicago, Dec. 31--The city of Chicago for the year this closes today, shows a death rate the lowest on record in its or any other city of more than 200,000 inhabitants. The rate is less than 14 to 1,000 population.

THE NEWS THIS MORNING.

Warning Indications Today: Threatening; Decidedly Colder.

1 General--New Source of Trouble in China.

2 Cuba's Colonial Cabinet Appointed.

3 Plans for Relief of Klondike Sufferers.

4 Dun's Record of a Successful Year.

5 State News.

6 Local--The New Year's Ball.

7 Editorial.

8 Comment of the Press.

9 Personal and Personal.

10 Religious News of the Week.

11 Local--Charming in the New Year.

12 Year's Record of the Fire Department.

13