

Clearing tonight; fair tomorrow; light to fresh westerly winds.

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NUMBER 3557.

WASHINGTON, MONDAY EVENING, MARCH 7, 1904.

PRICE ONE CENT.

OVERSTREET GIVES HIS REPORT UPON BRISTOW CHARGES

Deep Interest During Its Reading by Members of the House.

DISCUSS IT WEDNESDAY

Specific Cases of Law's Violation--Integrity of Representatives Not Doubted.

Representative Overstreet (Rep., Ind.) in the House today, by direction of the Committee on Postoffices and Post Roads, reported the Hay resolution calling for the appointment of a committee of five members of the House to investigate the charges made in Mr. Bristow's report that members of Congress were implicated with Beavers in leasing buildings to the Government for postal purposes, and in obtaining increased allowances for clerk hire in various postoffices.

Accompanying the resolution, which he asked to lie upon the table, he submitted the detailed report of Fourth Assistant Postmaster General Bristow, setting forth the circumstances upon which his charges are based. The action of Mr. Overstreet was anticipated, and it caused a greater flurry of excitement in the House than has been seen at any time this season. Members gathered about the Representative from Indiana and in the center aisle and listened intently to everything which he said, not knowing whether their names were included in the list and the statements made by Mr. Bristow.

Take It Up Wednesday.

Although a motion to lie upon the table is not, under the rules, debatable, Mr. Overstreet asked unanimous consent for two hours' debate upon the subject matter of the Bristow report. This brought half a dozen protests from the minority side. Mr. Underwood (Dem., Ala.), taking the lead in all matter, insisted that inasmuch as it has been stated that the integrity of half of the membership of the House had been reflected upon, two hours' time was altogether too short to consider the matter, especially as members had not had an opportunity to read the report, which has not yet been printed.

Honor Not Questioned.

Mr. Overstreet declared that in his opinion there was not an instance which reflected upon the integrity of any member of the House, and that their only motives had been to promote the interests of their constituents. Even in the three cases where members had rented buildings to the Government Mr. Overstreet declared that there had been no criminal violation. The committee had decided to make the entire matter public.

Resume of Report.

The Hay resolution was introduced on January 5, calling for an investigation by five members of the House of the charges made in the Bristow report that "long-time leases for postoffice premises were cancelled and the rent increased upon the recommendation of influential representatives," and further that "if a member of Congress requested an increase in the clerk hire allowed a postmaster, Beavers usually complied, regardless of the merits of the case," and also that Beavers "made contracts with members of Congress for the rental of premises either in their own names, the names of their agents, or some member of their families."

Rules of Department.

It appears that the Postoffice Department has certain tests set forth in its (Continued on Second Page.)

WEATHER REPORT.

It is considerably warmer in the Atlantic States district, and temperatures are above the season's average in all parts of the country, except along the Gulf Coast and in Texas.

There will be rain tonight in the eastern portion of the middle Atlantic States and the lower lake region, and rain turning into snow along the lower lakes tomorrow.

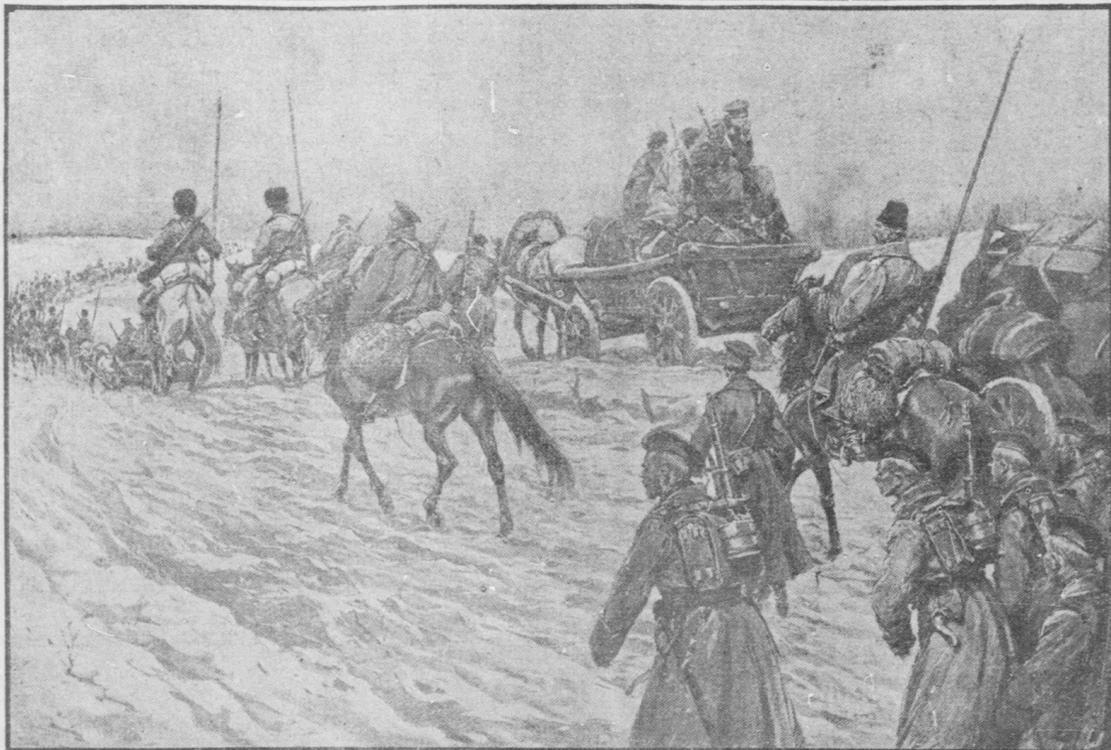
It will be somewhat colder in the lower lake region tonight and tomorrow, and colder tonight in eastern portion of the south Atlantic States.

TEMPERATURE.
9 a. m. 52
12 noon 52
3 p. m. 55
6 p. m. 56

THE SUN.
Sun sets today 5:29 p. m.
Sun rises tomorrow 5:21 a. m.

TIDE TABLE.
High tide today 12:13 a. m.
High tide tomorrow, 12:45 a. m., 1:12 p. m.
Low tide tomorrow, 7:16 a. m., 7:56 p. m.

RUSSIAN TRANSPORT IN MANCHURIA



CZAR'S TROOPS CROSSING THE WINTRY PLAINS. Military operations for a month or more must be carried on in ice and snow-bound regions, rendering doubly difficult the movements of all arms of the service and especially of artillery and transport.

POLICE CHARGED TO WATCH BAKERS

Must Stop Sale of Short-Weight Bread.

THIS REQUIRED BY THE LAW

Obligatory Upon Them to Inspect Bakeries, Stop Drivers, and Weigh the Loaves.

Hereafter the vigilance of the Washington policemen will make it certain that no short-weight bread shall be sold in the District. The good housewife, who lays in the daily supplies, will know that she gets her money's worth in the loaves she purchases. The hungry child will be happy in the assurance that the toothsome morsel eaten at luncheon time is as heavy as the law says they must be.

This is made certain by an opinion forwarded to the District Commissioners this morning by Corporation Counsel Duvall, in which he holds that "it is the duty of police officers to enter the bakeries, shops, and stores in which bread is sold, and also to search the carts and other vehicles employed in carrying bread around, and examine and weigh the bread found therein; and if the bread shall not be made in conformity with law, the police officer shall proceed against the person or persons so offending in the manner provided."

Complaint by Citizens.

This opinion on the question was asked by District Commissioner West on account of several complaints having been received by the Sealer of Weights and Measures and the Police Department that short-weight bread was being sold in the District. There was some doubt as to whether or not it was the duty of the police to prevent such action, or whether it came within the province of the Sealer of Weights and Measures.

Mr. Duvall explains that the care of the sale of bread is intrusted to the police according to an ordinance of the late corporation of Washington of 1853. The penalty for selling short-weight bread is the forfeiture of the bread and a fine of \$2 for every loaf offered for sale and every one actually sold.

In reply to the contention that this law has become obsolete, Mr. Duvall says that it is not the case, because the police court, by its organic act, assumes the responsibility of enforcing the law in question.

DEATH OF D. P. COWL PATENT OFFICE CLERK

DeWitt P. Cowl, for thirty-five years an employee of the Patent Office, and for the past twenty-five years chief of the application room, died on Sunday morning at the residence of his daughter, Mrs. John A. Sweeney, 13 Eighth Street southeast, from a complication of diseases.

Mr. Cowl was born near Syracuse, N. Y., November 6, 1818, but had lived in Washington since 1853. He was a veteran of the civil war. When a member of fifteen he enlisted with one of the New York artillery companies.

INSTANT SUCCESS OF SUNDAY TIMES

People's Verdict on Yesterday's Issue, With Its Sections of Splendid Color Work, Emphatically in Its Favor.

"All sold out. Could have sold many more," is the summary of the reports from newsdealers regarding yesterday's new Washington Sunday Times, and this despite the fact that the edition printed was very much larger than has been customary.

It is hardly necessary to say that this popular expression of approval of The Sunday Times is immensely gratifying, for it is, after all, the people who are the final judges of the quality of a newspaper. Only a paper which meets their desires in news, special matter and illustration can reach success.

It was claimed for yesterday's paper that it would be the best Sunday paper ever produced in Washington, and the people's verdict has confirmed this claim.

It is claimed for next Sunday's Times that it will be better even than yesterday's, for the watchword of The Times is "Progress." Two whole sections of splendid color work will continue as one of the distinctive features.

The only flaw in the entire satisfaction concerning yesterday's issue is the fact that so many who wanted a copy were unable to get one. This defect will be remedied, it is trusted, next Sunday, when again a very large increase in size of the edition will be made.

STRIKE REFERRED TO LOCAL UNIONS

Indiana Miners Thus Avert Troublesome Issue--Debate Lasted Entire Day.

INDIANAPOLIS, Ind., March 7.—By almost unanimous vote the miners have referred to the local unions the question of declaring a strike. The debate on the resolution ordering that the question of a strike be referred to the local unions for final discussion and a vote, was commenced early Monday morning in secret session. President Mitchell and other national officers spoke strongly in favor of referring the matter.

JACKSON'S CASE GOES TO THE GRAND JURY

Arraigned in the Police Court today on a charge of assault with a deadly weapon, Albe Jackson, a negro, pleaded not guilty, waived the preliminary hearing, and was held under \$500 bond for the action of the grand jury. He is said to have used a shotgun on Sam Marshall and Mattie Brooks, negroes, who went to Jackson's home on Hamilton Road, Anacostia, yesterday, when they heard Mrs. Jackson yell for assistance because her husband was beating her.

The Brooks woman is said to have received gunshot wounds about the face, and Marshall, who turned to flee when he saw the weapon, said he was peppered in the back with small bird shot.

ROCKEFELLERS TO ENTERTAIN. CLEVELAND, March 7.—Forest Hill, the country home of John D. Rockefeller, east of this city, is to be the scene of an unusual amount of social life in the coming season. Mr. Rockefeller and his family will reach here early in the season, and it is their plan to have many house parties.

CANNOT CONTROL MILITIA FUND

Government Has No Supervision Over Allotment.

DECIDED BY COMPTROLLER

General Harries' Ruling Indorsed and His Authority Sustained--No Reference to Sea Girt Money.

The accounting officers of the Government have nothing to do with the expenditure of the allotment in aid of the National Guard of the District, according to a decision just given by Comptroller Tracewell of the Treasury Department. The decision overrules a decision of the Auditor for the War Department, who assumed he had jurisdiction to receive and examine accounts or claims of officers and enlisted men of the District and States or Territories, while the militia were in actual field or camp service for instruction.

The Case of Dennison.

The decision overruled was made by the Auditor for the War Department in the case of a claim presented by George G. Dennison, first lieutenant and inspector of rifle practice of the Fifth Battalion of the District Guard. He filed a claim with the Auditor for the War Department for pay while on duty at Sea Girt sixteen days in August and September, 1902.

This claim was made in the face of the fact that General Harries, commanding officer of the militia of the District, gave notice that no pay was to be given the District team for duty while there, the money to be expended otherwise. The Auditor of the War Department held the officer should be paid out of the allotment to the District for the aid of the militia.

Harries Fully Sustained.

The decision of the Comptroller fully sustains the position taken by General Harries. Under the opinion, neither the Auditor for the War Department nor any other accounting officer has jurisdiction to receive and examine accounts or claims of the officers and enlisted men.

So far as the prize money won by the members of the District team while at Sea Girt in 1902 is concerned, this opinion does not touch upon that. General Harries sought to hold this up, but it was held to be due the men and the Treasury Department has already turned the money over to them.

HENS GOT BUSY AND BROKE UP SERVICE

PHILADELPHIA, March 7.—During the progress of religious services in the Camden city jail yesterday a rooster began to crow and with the cackling of hens so interred with the meeting that the evangelist decided to make an investigation. He found two roosters and three hens locked up in a cell. A hen had laid an egg and that accounted for the excitement.

On Saturday a negro had been arrested with the fowls on suspicion of having taken them by moonlight. The police are looking for the owner of the chickens and wondering who owns the egg.

GENERAL OLIVER IMPROVED.

General Oliver, Assistant Secretary of War, is recovering from his recent attack of the grip, but is still unable to leave his home.

CRUISERS KEEP JAPS GUESSING

Alarm Felt in Tokyo Over Disappearance of Fast Squadron From Vladivostok--Could Play Havoc Among Transports.

ATTACK ON RUSSIAN SEAPORTS MAY BE IN PROGRESS TODAY

Chemulpo Report Says That Mikado's Forces Have Landed on the Island of Askold, Opposite Vladivostok.

ST. PETERSBURG, March 7.—The Czar and his ministers are determined to leave no stone unturned to protect Vladivostok, which was bombarded by the Japanese fleet. Already a special meeting of the council of ministers has been called.

There is much alarm among the Japs in regard to the disappearance of the Russian squadron which for some time past has been at Vladivostok.

The cruisers are more speedy than those of the Mikado, and could create havoc among the Japanese transports.

ROME, March 7.—A telegram received here from Chemulpo asserts that the Japs landed on the island of Askold, opposite Vladivostok. The landing is said to have been effected at Tin King. An attack on both Port Arthur and Vladivostok is looked for today.

BERLIN, March 7.—The "Tageblatt" reports that Russia has resolved to defy Europe and send a fleet of warships through the Dardanelles.

Russian Advance Will Begin Early in April

BERLIN, March 7.—It is now the plan for General Kuropatkin to leave Russia for the Far East on or about March 11. The officers attached to the general staff at St. Petersburg declare that the Russian plan of operations will, in all probability, be started at the beginning of April.

By that time at least 240,000 combatants will have been concentrated at the theater of war.

It is said in diplomatic circles at St. Petersburg that Count Benckendorf, the Russian ambassador at London, in a recent conversation with Count Lamsdorff, expressed the conviction that Great Britain, far from inciting Japan to hostilities, had exerted herself to prevent the outbreak of war. It is in its own interests, Count Benckendorf asserted, that Great Britain desire peace, but its counsels were ignored by Japan.

The ambassador said in regard to the Tibetan question that Great Britain, which required several years to recover from the effects of the South African war, had no intention of entering into a serious quarrel with Russia on that account. It is declared in Russian communications to the continental press that the Russian government has reasons for believing that both Great Britain and France are endeavoring to prevent the extension of the theater of war beyond Manchuria and China.

As, however, neither they nor the other powers associated with Italy's recent proposals, can undertake to guarantee the neutrality of China, it is feared that before the war is many months older, China will break from the leash and enter the conflict on the side of Japan.

Even in that eventuality Russia will most probably refrain from appealing to France for armed assistance, which could only render worse the situation to Russia by calling Great Britain into the arena in regard to Tibet.

Russian diplomacy declares that British action in its present form, in view of assurances from London, does not render necessary any immediate counter demonstration by Russia in Central Asia, where the English Tibetan expedition is proceeding slowly toward the capital of the Grand Lama.

VLADIVOSTOK IS BOMBARDED BY JAPANESE WAR VESSELS

A fleet of Japanese warships, five battleships and two armored cruisers, appeared off Vladivostok harbor yesterday afternoon, and attacked the harbor defenses at long distance for 45 minutes, after which they withdrew.

The Russian forts did not reply. The Russian officials report to St. Petersburg that no damage was done, and the people were not alarmed, warning of the approach of the Japanese squadron having been given to them early in the day.

FOOD SUPPLIES FOR RUSSIANS FORWARDED FROM NIUCHWANG

LONDON, March 7.—The correspondent of the "Telegraph" at Chefoo, in a dispatch dated today, says that provisions and other supplies are being forwarded over the railway by way of Niuchwang for the Russians at Port Arthur, Dainy, and elsewhere.

Some of the goods have been purchased in China by contractors acting as Admiral Alexieff's agents. Some of them are American. Other consignments, including live cattle, which cannot now be forwarded readily, are offered for sale at Chefoo.

The Russians are still employing many thousands of coolies at Port Arthur and Dainy on intrenchments and new forts, and also in mounting over a hundred guns to protect the neck of the isthmus. It is said that when the works are completed the Chinese will be deported in order to lessen the demands for provisions.

SURVIVORS AT CHEMULPO PAROLED BY THE JAPANESE

HONGKONG, March 7.—It is officially stated that the Russians from the warships Varieg and Korietz, which were sunk at Chemulpo, who were brought here by the British cruiser Ebla, will leave on Tuesday on a French mail steamer for Saigon.

There they will be joined by twelve officers and 250 other sailors from the two sunken warships, who were taken to Saigon by the French cruiser Pascal, and all will proceed to Colombo, Ceylon, to join the Russians already taken there by the British.

With the consent of the Japanese government, all the Russians who have given their parole will return to their own country from Colombo.

AVALANCHES STOP JAPANESE ADVANCE

ST. PETERSBURG, March 7.—Cosack scouts report that a Japanese column from Plaksin Bay, on arriving in the snow-blocked defile of the mountains separating Korea from Manchuria, was forced to halt owing to avalanches and other obstacles.

The scouts say that one-third of the strength of this column is invalidated. It is now supposed that the column is returning for the purpose of seeking an easier route.

JAPANESE WAITING FOR 100,000 MEN

LONDON, March 7.—The "Daily Mail's" Chefoo correspondent describes a visit which he made to Chinampo. He says the country thence to Ping Yang is impassable owing to the thaw. The villages are deserted and horses and provisions cannot be obtained, everything having been bought by the Japanese.

"I am informed," says the correspondent, "that there will be no advance till 100,000 men have been concentrated at Ping Yang. It is thawing inland and the waterways have greatly