on the rollcall.

The venerable Mr. Morrill of Vermont was first recognized by the Vice-President. He offered a resolution, which was passed in the usual form, that the secretary inform the House that the Senate was in session and ready to do business.

Mr. Allison of Iowa presented a resolution that a committee of two Senators be appointed to join a like committee from the House to inform the President that Congress was in session and prepared to receive any communication which he might desire to make to it. The resolution was passed and the Vice-President named Allison and Gorman as the Senate committee.

By the resolution of Mr. Cullom of Illinois, the time for the daily meetings of the Senate was fixed at 12 noon. On motion of Hale of Maine a recess was taken until 1 o'clock.

At 1:30 the Senate assembled and the committee, headed by Mr. Forman, reported. He said a like committee from the House had waited upon the President and informed him that the branches of Congress were in session and were ready to receive from him any message he might desire to present to them. Mr. Allison said that the President would communicate to Congress in writing, and he expressed the hope that the deliberations of Congress might result in great good to the country and reflect honor upon itself.

The President's message was presented by Mr. Pruden, the President's Assistant Secretary, and was at 1:35 o'clock laid before the Senate and read.

The Senators gave the closest attention to the reading of the message, a majority of them following it from printed copies. That part of it which dealt with the Cuban question and outlined the policy of the administration with reference to that question was listened to with particular interest.

The reading of the message was concluded at 2:05, and the document was then ordered printed for the use of the Senate.

Mr. Walthall of Mississippi was recognized and announced the death of his colleague, Hon. J. Z. George, at Mississippi City, on the 14th of August last. "By his death," said Senator Walthall, the State of Mississippi has lost its most useful and distinguished citizen and this body one of its most prominent and useful members." Mr. Walthall presented the usual resolution of condolence with the family of the deceased Senator, which was adopted, and as a further mark of respect the Senate adjourned until to-morrow.

HOUSE FORMALITIES.

Having Reviewed and Referred the Message the Representatives Are Now Ready for Business.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 6.—The opening day of the regular session in the House passed without unusual incident of any character. The formalities attending the inauguration of the session are dry and except as a spectale hardly repaid the crowds which thronged the public and private galleries. Yet with few exceptions the visitors sat through the whole proceedings.

Mr. Dingley, the floor leader of the majority, Mr. Bailey, the recognized leader of the minority, and Mr. Grosvenor of Ohio enjoyed the distinguished honor of being appointed to wait upon the President, whose message was of course the event of the day. Its reading was long and tedious, but it was followed with close attention by the members and the spectators in the galleries. There was no demonstration until the reading was concluded, when the Republicans joined in a hearty expression of approval. Immediately after the reading of the message the House adjourned out of respect to the memory of Senator George of Mississippi and Representative Wright of Massachusetts, who had died during the recess.

The House of Representatives presented an animated appearance long before the arrival of the hour of noon. The surrounding corridors were filled with jostling, moving crowds, and before 11 o'clock the encircling galleries which overlooked the floor were black with people.

The hall buzzed with the subdued hum of conversation, as the members exchanged greetings and chatted in groups. The leaders, who were eagerly pointed out from the gallery, were slow in putting in their appearance. Statesmen, like ordinary mortals, have an eye for tiramatic effect.

Chairman Hitt of the Foreign Relations Committee and Chairman Waller of the Banking and Currency Committee, whose positions will probably bring them a hint of the public eye during the session, were early on the floor mingling with their colleagues.

The floral tributes of the members were numerous and in some instances imposing. One, which attracted probably more attention than any other on account of its unique character, graced the desk of General Grosvenor of Ohio. It consisted of a huge tree of yellow chrysanthemums and American Beauty roses, under the nodding branches of which stood an innocent-looking toy lamb. It was a tribute from the National Wool-growers' Association. Some one discovered that upon the application of pressure to a portion of the lamb's anatomy it would give forth a sound resembling a bleat, and much amusement and merriment followed this disclosure.

The representation of a huge gavel in red and white carnations stood upon the Speaker's table.

At fifteen minutes before noon the floor was cleared of all persons except members and officers. Soon afterward Mr. Bailey of Texas, the leader of the minority, and "Silver Dollar" Bland of Missouri entered the hall together. Mr. Dingley, the floor leader of the House, smiling and affable as ever, came in just before the Speaker appeared. As the hands of the clock pointed to 12 Speaker Reed, attired in a black cutaway coat and wearing a red tie, pushed through the doors from the lobby and ascended the rostrum.

One crack of the gavel subdued the din on the floor and the conversation in the galleries. The gavel with which the Speaker called the House to order was presented to him by J. C. Groner, Sheriff of Knox County, Tenn., who sent it in the name of the "Stalwart Republicans of East Tennessee." It was formally presented to the Speaker by H. Clay Evans, the Commissioner of Pensions. The gavel is made of apple tree wood which grew beside the log house in which Farragut was born, at Lowes Ferry, on the Tennessee River, six miles below Knoxville.

In the deep silence which followed the calling to order, the prayer of the eminent divine, Rev. Charles A. Berry of Wolverhampton, England, who delivered the invocation, was solemn and impressive. The Speaker then immediately directed the clerk to call the roll, and this consumed half an hour.

In the diplomatic gallery were Mr. Lefevre, Charge d'Affaires, and other attaches of the French Embassy; Senor Corea, Charge d'Affaires of the Greater Republic of Central America, and other diplomats. In the executive gallery, reserved for the President, were a number of the executive household, who were admitted on cards from Secretary Porter. On the floor were a number of ex-members.

The rollcall showed the presence of 301 members. There were five vacancies from death or resignation during the recess, and the credentials of the members-elect were read by direction of the Speaker, who then made administration of oaths to them. They were F. M. Gritt (Dem.), successor to the late Judge Holman in the Fourth Indiana district; H. C. Boutelle (Rep.) of Chicago, who succeeded Edward D. Cook, deceased; James Norton (Dem.) of the Seventh South Carolina district, who succeeded John L. McLaurin, now a Senator; George P. Lawrence (Rep.) of the First Massachusetts district, who succeeded Ashley E. Wright, deceased, and J. N. Griggs (Dem.) of the Third New York district, who succeeded Francis W. Wilson, who resigned to accept the position of Postmaster at Brooklyn.

The credentials of Mr. Griggs had not yet arrived, but the oath was administered to him by unanimous consent.

On motion of Mr. Hopkins (Rep.) of Illinois, the clerk was directed to notify the Senate that the House was ready for business, and on motion of Mr. Dingley, the floor leader, a resolution was adopted for the appointment of a committee of three to join the committee of the Senate to wait on the President and inform him that Congress was ready to receive any communication he desired to make. The Speaker selected Messrs. Dingley of Maine, Grosvenor of Ohio and Bailey of Texas for this honor.

On motion of Henderson of Iowa, a member of the Committee on Rules, the rule at the extra session for three-days' adjournments was vacated and daily sessions to begin at noon each day were ordered. There being nothing to do but await the reception of the President's message the House took a recess until 1:20 P. M.

When the House reconvened another recess for twenty minutes was ordered.

When the House reassembled at 1:40 the committee appointed to wait upon the President came down the middle aisle and reported that the committee had performed its mission.

"The President," said the chairman, "was pleased to send the two Houses his respectful salutations, and to inform them that he would communicate with them in writing."

Pruden, who had followed the committee into the hall, immediately presented the message, which, by direction of Speaker Reed, was read at the clerk's desk.

The message was listened to with great earnestness, especially the portions dealing with the question of revising currency legislation and with our attitude toward Cuba. The President's utterances on both subjects seemed to impress the members deeply, but there was no demonstration of any kind until the conclusion, when the Republicans joined in a sharp round of applause. The reading consumed an hour and twenty minutes.

On motion of Mr. Dingley, the message was referred to the Committee of the Whole and ordered printed.

Mr. Lawrence (Rep.) of Massachusetts then officially announced the death of his predecessor, the late Representative Wright, and Mr. Allen (Dem.) of Mississippi the death of Senator George. Out of respect to their memories the House at 3:05 P. M. adjourned until to-morrow.

GERMAN TROOPS ON CHINESE SOIL

Continued from First Page.

would in no case disavow the present one, if the latter was convinced that the proposed increase must be completed in seven years.

Finally his Majesty spoke of the general position of the affairs of the world, which, he said, admitted of no delay in the matter. At the conclusion of the audience, which lasted half an hour, the president and vice-president of the Reichstag were received by the Empress.

It is deemed significant that 120 volunteers, including a number of members of the aristocracy like Count von Kessler and the Prince of Thurn and Taxis, are to accompany the expedition to Kiou Chau Bay, with Prince Henry of Prussia as its commander.

IN THE REICHSTAG.

An Interesting Debate Upon the First Reading of the Government Naval Bill.

BERLIN, Dec. 6.—The Reichstag to-day began the debate upon the first reading of the Government naval bill. The Imperial Chancellor, Prince Hohenlohe, made a statement on the subject, saying: "We absolutely require an efficient navy to maintain the position created for us by the army. This conviction has gained ground with very large sections of the population, and I declare in the name of the federated governments that they consider as an imperative necessity that the navy should be strengthened, and that its strength should be fixed by legislative enactment. The bill, it is true, demands a certain sacrifice from the Reichstag, but by its adoption the hands of the Government will also be tied. The adoption of a policy of adventure is far from the thoughts of the Government, as is any intention of rivalry with the great maritime powers. If we desire to secure a position in the concert of the powers, which we must have, a fleet of modest dimensions will be adequate. I ask you to adopt the bill for the welfare of the Fatherland." [Cheers from the Right.]

Admiral von Tirpitz, the Secretary of the Navy, then addressed the House, explaining in detail the necessity for introducing the bill to strengthen the German navy. He pointed out that the proposed new ships would establish a basis, which, for a long time to come, would meet the requirements of the country. By the adoption of the bill, the Secretary of the Navy continued, the next Reichstag would be dispaired from retarding the rate of construction, but he insisted that no further restrictions would be imposed upon Parliament.

Herr Schoenlank, Social Democrat, opposed the bill. He thought it curious that the flaws in the navy had only now been discovered. Attempts were being made, he claimed, to frighten the people with phantoms and excite them to a craving for glory. How, the speaker asked, could this be reconciled with the pacific declarations of the Emperor?

Referring to the occupation of Kiao Chau Bay by the German squadron in Chinese waters, he said that if Germany established herself in China she would become involved in endless complications with Great Britain and Japan. Germany, he declared, would never be a naval power. The bill, he said, was the outcome of personal rule.

Count Limburg-Stirrum, the Conservative leader, disputed Herr Schoenlank's contention. "We have no guarantee of peace," he said, "and must arm ourselves for the eventuality of war. Why should a German Charge d'Affaires be obliged to submit to be treated with shameless arrogance by the blacks of Hayti? And how was it that the Minister carried his point? Because he had only to telegraph in order to at once obtain efficient support."

Count Posadowski, Minister for the Interior, was the next speaker. He said the Federal Government had no idea of arresting social legislation.

The Minister for Foreign Affairs, Baron von Bulow, said: "Herr Schoenlank's fears that we shall plunge into adventures are not well grounded. The Chancellor and his colleagues are not men to seek useless quarrels. We do not poke our fingers into every pie, but nevertheless Germany must not renounce her claim to have a share of the countries having a rich future. In times past, when Germany resigned the land to one neighbor and the sea to another, she kept for herself only the heavens, where pure doctrine dwells."

Herr Barthel, the Freissinnige leader, said further light would be thrown on the bill in committee. The Freisinnige party, he added, had no idea of rejecting the measure summarily.

Count von Jazdzwski, the Polish leader, declared the Poles would not accept the bill in its present shape.

The House adjourned until to-morrow.

ANNEXATION NOW SEEMS DOUBTFUL

Chances of the Treaty Are Now Not So Bright.

OPPOSITION TO THE RATIFICATION.

There Is No Longer a Two-Thirds Vote for It in the Senate.

HOAR JOINS THE RANKS OF OPPONENTS.

White Says Joint Resolution to Annex the Islands Would Also Be Beaten.

Special Dispatch to THE CALL.

CALL OFFICE, RIGGS HOUSE, WASHINGTON, Dec. 6.

According to Senator White and other opponents of annexation the chances for the ratification of the Hawaiian treaty are not as bright as they at first appeared to be. Senator White says that it will be impossible for the annexationists to secure a two-thirds vote in the Senate. It is true that Senators Morgan of Alabama, Pettis of Alabama and Money of Mississippi have decided to vote for annexation, but this defection will be more than offset by the recruits from the Republican side, namely, Hoar of Massachusetts, Pettigrew of North Dakota and Wellington of Maryland.

The anti-annexationists were very much gratified to-day when they learned that Senator Hoar would oppose the treaty, for he is a very influential member of the Senate. His position became known in this way: Senators White and Chandler were talking together in the Senate chamber, when Hoar joined them.

Chandler said, jokingly, "Well, we ought at least try to oppose one of the President's recommendations."

Senator Hoar responded: "Well, I think I will be able to oppose his Hawaiian annexation recommendation without half trying. If the vote should be taken to-morrow I should vote against the treaty. In the meantime if the war and navy experts can convince me that the islands are absolutely indispensable for the protection of the Pacific Coast of the United States I will vote to annex, but not otherwise."

Senator White says that of course there will be no regular "filibuster" against the treaty, but at the same time a square, honest fight will prolong the debate, for he understands that very many Senators have announced their intention to make exhaustive speeches on the subject. He had a talk with Caffrey of Louisiana about the matter to-day, and they agreed that the best way to exploit their side of the case would be for Senators opposed to annexation to deliver their speeches "piecemeal"; that is to say, to devote attention to the different phases of the question at different times and on different days, instead of finishing their argument in one day. Senator White is certain that a two-thirds vote cannot be mustered for the treaty. The recruits gained from the Republican side will more than offset the defection of Morgan, Pettis and Money. Senator Daniels of Virginia has assured him that the report that he would vote for annexation was false.

Most, if not all, the Populists will vote against annexation. Allen of Nebraska is particularly hostile to the treaty. Turner of Washington is doubtful. Senator White was asked when the debate would begin.

"Senator Davis of Minnesota, the Chairman of Foreign Relations Committee, will manage the fight for the annexationists," said he, "and I do not know when the debate will commence. Neither do I care how long they put it off. If the treaty is beaten in the Senate, and I think it surely will be, there will be a good chance to defeat the joint resolution also. Indeed, it is doubtful whether it will come to a vote.

"I notice in this morning's papers that the Japanese Minister Hosai is quoted in the dispatches as saying that Japan will not consent to annexation. If this statement was allowed to go unchallenged it would harm the cause of anti-annexationists, but I know that the Minister has not been correctly reported, for in Harper's Magazine he recently said that Japan cared nothing about our annexation of the islands, but would insist upon the payment of her claim for indemnity. In my speech on the subject I will also quote from Secretary Sherman's book, where, in speaking of Samoa, he takes strong ground against the acquisition of territory not contiguous to the United States."

The delegation representing the natives of Hawaii, Colonel Richardson, James K. Koulia, William Auld and D. Kalaukalani, arrived at the Ebbitt House to-day. They paid a visit to the Capitol. This is Colonel Richardson's first visit to the United States and he is greatly impressed with our country, and especially with Washington City.

A joint resolution was introduced today by Representative Cooney of Missouri proposing an amendment to the constitution which provides that hereafter the United States shall acquire no territory which is not contiguous to this country.

A Washington correspondent who has given careful attention to the annexation matter has wired his paper that according to a carefully revised estimate made by the managers of the opposition the following Senators can be relied on to vote against ratification: Bacon, Bate, Berry, Caffery, Chilton, Clay, Cockrell, Faulkner, Gorman, Gray, Jones of Arkansas, Kenny, Kyle, Lindsay, McLaurin, Mallory, Martin, Mills, Mitchell, Money, Murphy, Pascoe, Pettigrew, Rawlins, Roach, Smith, Tillman, Turpie, Vest, Walthall and White. Total, 31.

In addition to the foregoing it is believed that the following Senators will vote to reject it: Allen, Cannon, Chandler, Harris, Heitfeld, Hoar, Lodge, Mantle, Mason, Pettis, Teller and Turney.

These added to the known opponents of annexation would give the opposition a total strength of forty-three, or almost a majority of the Senate.

NEW YORK, Dec. 6.—The Washington correspondent of the Herald sends the following: Overconfidence by Republicans since the Hawaiian treaty was first sent to the Senate has, it is feared, somewhat endangered its chances. Its friends have remained inactive during the summer, while its opponents have been putting in some hard work. The result is beginning to show itself in the efforts on the Democratic side to unite in opposition to the treaty. There are also inuications that several Republicans who were confidently slated in favor of the treaty will co-operate with the Democrats in staving off action, if they do not actually vote against ratification.

Senator Davis' request to take up the treaty for consideration in executive session to-morrow will probably be opposed, and a vote may be taken which may indicate whether it will be wise to proceed with the consideration of the treaty, which requires a two-thirds vote for ratification, or to accomplish the same end by bill or joint resolution, which requires only a majority of votes.

Japanese influence will be strongly exerted to prevent a consummation of annexation.

ANNEXATION OPPOSED.

Resolutions Protesting Against Admitting Asiatics From Hawaii Adopted by Wage-Earners.

SACRAMENTO, Dec. 6.—A week ago Monday the Sacramento Council of Federated Trades discussed Hawaiian annexation and unanimously opposed it. A committee was appointed to present resolutions in accordance with the council's vote, and to-night the following was received and adopted:

WHEREAS, The Sacramento Federated Trades Council, representing organized labor in Northern California, extensively reviewed the subject of Hawaiian annexation from the standpoint of wageworkers, and whereas nothing is adduced therefrom to indicate immediate or prospective advantage to labor by the annexation of Hawaii, therefore be it summarily

Resolved, That the Sacramento Federated Trades Council is opposed to and earnestly protests against annexation for the following reasons:

First—Acquisition of the islands will nowhere create a demand for American workingmen.

Second—The thousands of Chinese and Japanese laborers now in Hawaii may or may not be allowed to migrate to the Pacific Coast in the event of annexation; however, they cannot be deported and will undoubtedly remain.

Third—The imitative instinct of Asiatic labor has ruined many industries in California and the coolies of Hawaii will quickly grasp an opportunity to further augment the ranks of unemployed Americans.

Fourth—One wageworker and his family cannot exist on what an Asiatic laborer thrives. If the education and elevation of the producers is among the aims of those who shape the destinies of this great republic, in the name of justice we protest against ruinous competition. We protest against Hawaiian annexation.

Resolved, That a copy of the foregoing be forwarded to United States Senators Perkins and White and to Representative DeVries.

BIG DEBT OF THE CENTRAL PACIFIC

Will Owe the Government $46,752,087 on the 1st of Next January.

Occupies the Same Position as the Union Pacific, Though a California Corporation.

Special Dispatch to THE CALL.

CALL OFFICE RIGGS HOUSE, WASHINGTON, December 6.

Attorney-General McKenna, in his annual report to Congress, publishes a report of ex-Governor Hoadley, special counsel for the United States in the Pacific railroad case, in which is set forth a history of the foreclosure suits which resulted in the sale of the Union Pacific to the Reorganization Committee, and the postponement of the sale of the Kansas Pacific until December 15. Nothing of importance not already made public is disclosed. As to the Central Pacific the Attorney-General says:

The general features of the relations between the Government and the Central Pacific Railroad Company, which includes what was the Western Railroad Company, are the same as those between the Government and Union Pacific, notwithstanding the Central Pacific was originally a California corporation. Its indebtedness to the Government is as follows, cents omitted:

Bonds—Central Pacific, $25,685,120; Western Pacific, $1,970,560.

Interest paid by the United States—Central, $14,640,240; Western Pacific, $3,313,919.

Accrued interest four months unpaid—Central Pacific, $396,222; Western Pacific, $33,011.

Interest repaid by transportation—Central Pacific, $8,057,699; by cash, Central Pacific, $678,283; by transportation, Western Pacific, $9367.

Balance by interest not repaid—Central Pacific, $35,924,237; Western Pacific, $3,304,552.

Total indebtedness—Central Pacific, $61,909,371; Western Pacific, $5,275,115.

Grand total payable by Central Pacific, $67,184,473; sinking fund Central Pacific bonds, $457,000; sinking funds Central Pacific, cash, $7,003,509; total sinking fund, $7,440,509.

Crediting the company with all deposits, there will be due on the 1st of January next $46,752,087.

What steps may be taken to meet this indebtedness in the meantime remains to be seen, and the action of the department will depend upon the circumstances existing at that date, no action having thus far been taken in order to avoid any question arising out of the claim of the company that, by reason of the credits to which it is entitled, it has not yet been in default.

BANDITS CAPTURED WITHOUT A STRUGGLE

Surprised by Federal Officers They Surrender in Short Order.

Among Them Are the Jennings Brothers, Who Are Graduates of a University.

Special Dispatch to THE CALL.

MUSKOGEE, I. T., Dec. 8.—Four members of the Jennings gang of outlaws were lodged in jail here to-night. Al and Frank Jennings, the reputed leaders of the band, are among the prisoners. The Jennings brothers and Tom O'Malley were captured by four of United States Marshal Bennett's men early this morning while traveling in a covered wagon east of here toward the Arkansas line. The deputies surprised them on the road and they surrendered without firing a shot. The deputies then went to a house near Bond switch and captured Morris O'Malley, catching him in bed. Since last Tuesday the deputies had been close upon the trail of the bandits, for whom there are standing rewards aggregating $8000. On Tuesday last Marshal Bennett's men encountered the gang at a house in the western part of the Cherokee nation. The deputies then succeeded in arresting John O'Malley, but the others made their escape at that time and had evidently satisfied themselves that the officers had been eluded, as they were not prepared to resist when surprised to-day.

The Jennings boys and their followers are charged with several crimes, but they are particularly wanted for the holdup of a Rock Island passenger train in broad daylight several months ago, near Chickasaw, Ind. T. They are also accused of having stolen 400 head of cattle from the Chickasaw nation. Al Jennings has been a leader in Oklahoma politics. He was at one time County Attorney of Canadian County and is a lawyer of considerable ability, and both Al and Frank are graduates of the University of Virginia. Another brother was killed by Temple Houston of Texas during a saloon row about two years ago. Al Jennings was shot in the arm during the same fray. The brothers come of a highly respected family. Their father is Probate Judge of Woodward County, Okla.

ATTACKED JEWISH QUARTERS.

Fanatical Mob 20,000 Strong Pillages Shops in the Capital of Roumania.

VIENNA, Dec. 6.—A dispatch from Bucharest, the capital of Roumania, says that yesterday a fanatical mob 20,000 strong, armed with iron bars and cudgels, attacked the Jewish quarters, pillaged shops and destroyed windows and furniture. Sanguinary encounters took place between the rioters and the police, the latter being too weak to make an effective resistance. Finally the gendarmerie with fixed bayonets dispersed the mob.

WHITE YET UNDECIDED.

It Is Expected, However, That He Will Not Be a Candidate for Re-election to the Senate.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 6.—Senator White says he has not definitely decided whether or not he will be a candidate for re-election. His disposition is to retire and devote his entire attention to his large and constantly growing law practice, and it would not be surprising if he would soon announce this intention.

ROASTED IN HIS BURNING HOME

John Maguire Loses His Life on a Sonoma County Ranch.

Falls a Victim to the Flames That Destroy His Humble Dwelling.

Special Dispatch to THE CALL.

SANTA ROSA, Dec. 6.—John Maguire, who is also known as "Jack" McQuaid, met a horrible death near this city last night. He was roasted alive in the flames that consumed his home.

Maguire lived upon the ranch of Mrs. M. A. Peterson, about four miles from town. After spending Sunday in this city he returned to his cottage in the evening, presumably somewhat under the influence of liquor. He built a fire and prepared to get supper. At about 9 o'clock William Madden, who lives on an adjoining farm, saw the cabin in flames. As he started to assist his neighbor he heard Maguire screaming frantically for help, but by the time he had reached the spot the screams had ceased.

Although the fire was burning fiercely, an effort was made to force an entrance to the cabin. There were only two entrances to the room in which the flames started—one a door that had been nailed shut and had not been used for some time, and the other a window some distance from the ground. The window was broken in and an effort made to reach Maguire; but it proved unavailing, and knowing that the man was dead, no further attempt to save the structure was made.

This morning the charred remains of the old gentleman were found lying face downward beside the door that he could not force open. A Coroner's jury was summoned and a verdict returned in accordance with the foregoing facts.

Maguire was a native of New York and aged 67 years. He came to California in 1851 and resided in Sonoma County for over forty years.

BUBONIC PLAGUE IN CUBA.

Disease Adds Horror to the Fitiable Condition of Those Crowded Into the Towns.

NEW YORK, Dec. 6.—A special cable by Julius Chambers to the Journal from Havana, via Jacksonville, Fla., says: I can announce positively that the bubonic plague has appeared among the concentrados in Pinar del Rio and Sancti Spiritus districts.

It is admitted by Spaniards, who, however, describe the horrible malady as beriberi. The children and aged are attacked. We have just returned from a trip through the Western province, and in every town visited cases of beriberi were observed, especially at Artemisa, Mangas and Guira Melona.

No description can exaggerate the dreadful condition under which the country people, driven from farms to towns, are living. Villages that contained several hundred inhabitants in times of peace, suddenly had twice or thrice as many women and children, utterly without means, added to the population.

I know this is not a new theme, but the utter inability of Spain to relieve the distress was never confessed until now. The $50,000 appropriated for Consul-General Lee to distribute was for the relief of American citizens only. The day has passed in which any such restrictions ought to be put on our humanity.

REWARD FOR AN INCENDIARY.

Portland Fire Insurance Agents Will Seek to Protect Their Risks.

PORTLAND, Dec. 6.—E. L. Jackson, secretary of the insurance compact here, has written to the office of the compact in San Francisco requesting that a detective be sent here to search for the incendiary who has several times nearly succeeded in accomplishing the destruction of much valuable property. The police have given up the search, and, as repeated attempts have been made by the firebugs, insurance men have decided that some adequate protection is necessary.

Another attempt would probably result in the refusal of agents to write any more insurance. There is talk of offering a reward of $1000 for the apprehension of the incendiary, and a meeting of the compact will be held to-day with that end in view.

ENDS LIFE WITH A BULLET.

Associate Justice Buck of the Montana Supreme Court Commits Suicide.

HELENA, MONT., Dec. 7.—Associate Justice Horace Buck of the Supreme Court committed suicide shortly after midnight by shooting himself.

SLOAN'S CLOSE CALL.

Narrowly Escapes Serious Injury While Hunting.

LONDON, Dec. 7.—The Sportsman says this morning that while shooting yesterday (Monday) at Deepden, the country seat of Lord William Beresford, with Lord William and a party, Tod Sloan, the American jockey, narrowly escaped a serious injury, a gun bursting in his hands.

Nicaragua Canal Construction.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 6.—Representative Barham to-day introduced the bill introduced in the Senate in the last Congress by Senator Perkins providing for Nicaragua canal construction.

IMPROVEMENTS ON THE COAST

Appropriations Asked by the Secretary of the Treasury.

Four Hundred Thousand Dollars Needed for San Pedro Harbor.

Half a Million Also Desired for the New Postoffice Building in This City.

Special Dispatch to THE CALL.

CALL OFFICE, RIGGS HOUSE, WASHINGTON, Dec. 6.

The Secretary of the Treasury to-day submitted to Congress estimates of appropriations required for the next fiscal year, and among them were the following of especial interest to the Pacific Coast:

He asks $400,000 for the harbor at San Pedro and $500,000 for the new Postoffice building at San Francisco; also the following: Enforcement of Chinese exclusion act, $100,000; improving Humboldt harbor and bay, $100,000; improving harbor at Oakland, $166,500; improving Grays Harbor, Wash., $450,000; improving Petaluma Creek, Cal., $4000; improving San Joaquin River, $11,000; improving Upper Columbia and Snake rivers, Oregon and Washington, $20,000; improving Columbia River at the Cascades, $334,260; improving Columbia River below Tongue Point, Or., $71,550; improving Columbia and Lower Willamette rivers below Portland, $309,000; gauging waters of the Columbia River, $1000; improving Coquille River, Oregon, $115,000; improving Upper Coquille River between Coquille City and Myrtle Point, Or., $28,981; improving Siuslaw River, Oregon, $100,000, improving Chehalis River, Washington, $3000; improving Cowlitz River, Washington, $3000; improving Puget Sound and its tributary waters, Washington, $25,000; improving Swinomish slough, Washington, $47,000.

Coaling wharf at Japonski Island, Alaska, $5000; improvements at naval station, Puget Sound, $149,432, and the following at navy-yard, Mare Island: Storage shed for lumber, $28,000; coal cylinder, $43,000; extending quay wall, $40,000; shelter roof for boats, $14,300; plumbers', tinners' and paint shop, $22,500; house for civil engineer, $1000; apartment-house for officers, $30,000; bath house at receiving-ship Independence, $1621; washhouse and drying-room, Independence, $300; wharf at the Independence, $2800; extension of oilhouse, $8600; sidewalks and roads, $7000; extension of electric system, $15,000; tools for yards and docks shops, $6750; total for Mare Island, $232,571.

Improvement of the Yosemite National Park—Construction of bridges and trails and improvement of roads, the construction of a mess hall, kitchen and stable for the accommodation of cavalry troop detailed for protection of the park and for providing a water supply for the cavalry camp, $6300; same for Sequoia National Park, $6300.

Improvement of the General Grant National Park—Construction of a trail around the perimeter of the park, and for material and labor and the construction of a barbed-wire fence, $2500.

Road to the National Cemetery, Presidio of San Francisco—Completion of stone wall on the boundary line of the reservation of the Presidio, between Lombard street and First avenue, $10,000.

Benicia Arsenal, Benicia—Erection of a pumphouse, $1100; cables for harbor defenses, cables and land lines necessary to connect defenses now occupied and being constructed in the harbors of Boston, New York and San Francisco, $20,000.

The system of cables in the harbor of San Francisco has gradually disappeared through time and accident, leaving both Alcatraz and Angel Island without electric communication with the main land.

Continuing explorations in the waters of Alaska and making hydrographic survey, including survey of the Aleutian Islands, of the Yukon River, including construction of flat-bottomed vessel for river navigation; of the mountain passes at the head of Lynn Canal, and for the establishment of latitude, longitude and magnetic stations, of which $125,000 shall be immediately available, $150,000.

One hundred thousand dollars will be required for the survey of the Yukon River and $25,000 for the mountain passes, and the remainder for the survey of the waters of Alaska and for astronomical and magnetic work, says the Secretary.

For a monthly pilot chart of the North Pacific Ocean, showing geographically matters of value and interest to the maritime community of the Pacific Coast, and particularly the directions and forces of the winds to be expected during the month succeeding the date of issue; the set and strength of the currents; the feeding-grounds of whales and seals; the region of storm, fog and ice; the positions of derelicts and floating obstructions to navigation, and the best routes to be followed by steam and by sail, including the expenses of communicating and circulating information, lithographing and engraving, the purchase of material for and printing and mailing the chart, the employment of three nautical experts at $1600 each and two tabulators and copyists at $720 each—$10,000.

For drawing and engraving on copper plates the survey of Pearl Harbor, Hawaiian Islands, for completing a series of charts of the Hawaiian Islands, for the navigation of the vessels of the navy and for the benefit of mariners generally, from data resulting from the Hawaiian Government survey, which have been made available for this purpose by the Hawaiian republic, and for the construction of a series of charts of the coasts and waters between the State of Washington and the Territory of Alaska, including the reduction of the accumulated data relating to the currents and meteorology of the adjacent ocean, $12,000.

He asks $32,000 for civil government in Alaska, $268,950 for the Soldiers' Home at Santa Monica, $14,600 for quarantine station at San Diego, $13,300 for quarantine station at San Francisco, and Port Townsend $33,900; Marine Hospital at San Francisco, $18,625; Port Townsend, $5500; new penitentiary and other buildings at Sitka, Alaska, $100,000; Portland, Or., public building, $50,000.

MME. BARNA MAKES A HIT.

American Debut of the Talented California Prima Donna at Philadelphia.

NEW YORK, Dec. 6.—Mme. Marie Barna, the California prima donna, made her debut upon the American stage in Philadelphia to-night, with the Damrosch-Ellis Opera Company. Mme Barna essayed the role of Brunhilde in "Siegfried."

Mme. Barna was born in San Francisco, and is a daughter of the late Judge Barnard, who was a well-known California jurist. She is a protege of several society women of California, New York and Boston, and has studied abroad for the last three years. She appeared professionally in Italy and London before coming to her native land to sing.

Critics unite in pronouncing Mme. Barna a decided acquisition to the Damrosch company.

Funeral of Judge Baldwin.

STOCKTON, Dec. 6.—The funeral of Judge Baldwin, ex-Code Commissioner, took place this afternoon, under the auspices of the Odd Fellows and the Knights of Pythias, of which orders he was a member. The Bar Association passed resolutions of respect and court was adjourned. The remains were returned to San Francisco for cremation.

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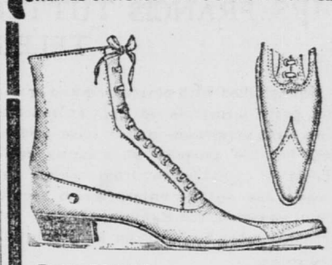

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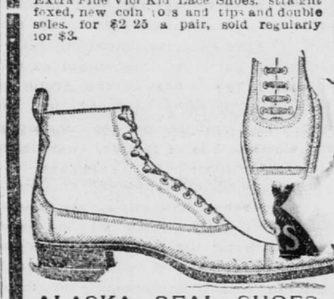

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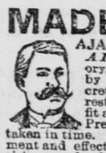

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