

BRITONS NOW THINK BOERS ARE CRUSHED

Expect Operations to Be Reduced to a Small Scale.

However, Every Independent Band Must Be Taken Before War Ends.

LONDON, Feb. 27.—General French's most recent success, combined with the other advantages gained by the British forces in South Africa, have created a most hopeful feeling in the War Office here. Lord Raglan, Under Secretary for War, described it to-day as being "the thin edge of the wedge," and this also is the opinion of the military critics, who reiterate that while the war cannot be expected to end with a sudden stroke this constant capturing of men, guns and supplies and horses means that the operations will soon be reduced to a desultory stage. General French is quite the hero of the hour on E. J. M. Hill, though of course General Kitchener's controlling hand is recognized under every circumstance. It is felt by Mr. Broderick and Lord Roberts that so long as the British forces are doing something to diminish the Boers' supply of men, mounts and ammunition they are achieving the only possible objective at present in sight.

It is not believed to be at all likely that General Kitchener will grant any armistice as a preliminary to peace, or if he does he will not let the War Office know of it until he learns the result. In fact, small reliance is placed on such an offer, for even if General Botha gave in the War Office is inclined to consider that his action would only affect the forces under his immediate individual command and that the same policy which is now being pursued would have to be continued against the other Boer forces operating in vicinities far removed from the Boer commander-in-chief.

General Kitchener, telegraphing from Middleburg in the Transvaal, on the railroad between Pretoria and Portuguese East Africa, under date of February 27, says:

"The following additional captures are reported by French up to February 25: Three hundred Boers, surrendered; a 15-pounder Krupp, one howitzer, a Maxim, 20,000 rounds of small arms ammunition, 120 rifles, 280 horses, 534 treks, oxen, 500 cattle, 380 sheep and 287 wagons and carts. The Boer casualties were four killed and five wounded."

The War Office selected the double anniversary of the battle of Majuba Hill and General Buller's surrender to publish General Kelly-Kenny's dispatch to Lord Roberts dealing with the events immediately preceding the surrender at Paardeberg. The dispatch contains no news, but it threatens to reopen the discussion regarding the responsibility for the attack on the Boer lines at Paardeberg which proved so costly to the British. Only last evening in the House of Commons Mr. Broderick, the War Secretary, said that General Kelly-Kenny was in command. Presumably he was, although his dispatch concludes as follows:

"Lord Kitchener, the chief of staff, was present all the time. In accordance with the instructions conveyed to me in your note of February 21 I recognized his suggestion as conveying to me your Lordship's orders and acted thereon."

A special from DeAar, Cape Colony, dated February 24, says: Thornycroft's column, when last heard from, was a few hours' march behind Dewet. The other columns have seemingly lost touch with him. Hertzog, the Boer commander, is reported to have crossed the Orange River and appears to be still inside the rectangle formed by the railroads and river.

A Port Elizabeth, Cape Colony, special says: A private message received here says Schepers Laager, near Willowmore, has been captured by the British. The main body of Boers was absent, but forty hangers-on and the whole of the supplies were taken.

BOTHA'S ALLEGED SURRENDER.

It Is Probable, However, That He Is Still in the Field.

LONDON, Feb. 28.—The Daily Chronicle, which has received a report it believes trustworthy, though it has no means of verification, that General Botha has surrendered to Lord Kitchener, says: "According to earlier information General Botha was to have been received at Lord Kitchener's camp about the end of this week, but if the foregoing report is correct, events have ripened with unexpected rapidity."

Bennett Burelligh wires to the Daily Telegraph from De Aar, under Tuesday's date, as follows: "The Orange River remains high. Our columns are tightening their grip upon Steyn, Dewet and Hertzog near Petrusville, and our patrols have been engaged. I anticipate that a general action is about to be fought, and that the collision is likely to prove serious."

Special dispatches from Pretoria locate General Botha, with a small force, north of Middleburg. They point out that he is probably making for the headquarters of Commandant Viljoen and the seat of the Boer Government beyond Roosenburg. Lord Kitchener has been at Middleburg for the past three days, but there is no indication from any other quarters than that relied upon by the Daily Chronicle that General Botha has surrendered.

Crocker Will Return. LONDON, Feb. 27.—Richard Crocker says he will return to America in good time to take part in the coming campaign.

CUBANS FAIL TO HEED UNCLE SAM'S WISHES

Clauses Adopted on Relations Are Not Satisfactory.

Request for Naval Stations Turned Down and Future Government Not Bound.

HAVANA, Feb. 27.—Clauses adopted by the Cuban convention relating to relations between the proposed island republic and the United States will not be satisfactory to the Washington Government.

The scheme of relations was publicly approved this afternoon by the convention. The preamble, which is lengthy, sets forth the receiving of letters from General Wood outlining the wishes of the Washington executive regarding future relations. It asserts that the convention understood the desire of the executive to be to bring about these specified relations with the object of preserving the independence of Cuba, and that the suggestion as to the naval stations was made on those lines.

"But this in itself," the preamble goes on to say, "would militate against the independence which both parties desire to preserve."

Regarding the other conditions for preserving peace, such as raising loans, the preamble points out that these are fully covered by the constitution, which document, in the opinion of the convention, amply protects independence, including liberal laws as to the rights of foreigners and individual rights.

Regarding the sanitary question, the preamble declares that the future government should make arrangements with the United States to protect that country as well as Cuba.

The convention clearly implies that its action would not bind the future government, for the last part of the preamble reads:

"The convention considers that relations might exist if the first government under the republic thinks it advisable."

Appended are the resolutions adopted by the convention relating to relations with the United States:

"First—The Government of Cuba will not make a treaty or agreement with any foreign power which may compromise or limit the independence of Cuba, or which may permit or authorize any power to obtain, by means of colonization or military or naval purposes, or in any other manner, any foothold or authority, or right over any portion of Cuba.

"Second—The Government will not permit its territory to be used as a base of operations for war against the United States, or against any foreign nation.

"Third—The Government of Cuba accepts in its entirety the treaty of Paris, in which are affirmed the rights of Cuba, to the extent of the obligations which are explicitly indicated in these, and especially those which the international law imposes for the protection of life and property, and substituted itself for the United States in the pledge which they assumed in that sense, according to articles 12 and 16 of the treaty of Paris.

"Fourth—Cuba recognizes as legally valid all acts of the military government during the period of occupation, also the rights arising out of them, in conformity with the joint resolution and the Foraker amendment and the existing laws of the country.

"Fifth—The Governments of the United States and Cuba ought to regulate their commercial relations by means of a treaty based on reciprocity, and with tendencies toward free trade in natural and manufactured products, mutually assuring ample special advantages in their respective markets."

POLICE CHARGE ON ASSEMBLAGE OF STUDENTS

Mob Stones the Building of Catholic Assemblage at Oporto and Denounces Clericals.

Oporto, Feb. 27.—At a meeting of the council of the Industrial Institute and the students to-day it was resolved to request the Government to prosecute the police, who abused their authority respecting students' bands. The students and others gathered and paraded through several streets in front of the residence of the Brazilian Consul, cheering for liberty and denouncing the clericals. The mob stoned the Catholic Association's buildings and made a demonstration in front of the office of the Liberal newspapers, shouting: "Long live liberty!"

Mounted and dismounted police then charged on the manifestants and dispersed them. Numbers of persons were injured, four of them so seriously that they had to be removed to a hospital.

EIGHT GERMANS WHIP BAND OF CHINESE TROOPS

BERLIN, Feb. 27.—The War Office has received the following from Count von Waldersee, dated Peking, February 25: "A patrol of eight Germans repulsed an attack by one hundred and sixty Chinese Imperial troops at Suling Pass, killing twenty."

PEKING, Feb. 27.—The committees of the Ministers met to-day to decide on the general basis of the indemnities to be discussed at the meeting of the Ministers to-morrow.

The accounts of the fearful famine in the province of Shensi, where horses are said to be dying from lack of food and water, are not believed here. It is thought the court ordered the publication of these reports in order to frighten off the expedition threatened.

JUDGES TROUTT AND COFFEY MAY NO MORE HEAR PETITIONS OF PUBLIC ADMINISTRATOR

Presiding Judge Dunne Makes a Sensational Order and Explains It in a Statement That Produces a Furor in Legal Circles.

It WILL lift the Public Administrator's office out of the turmoil into which it has been drawn through long association with the two probate departments of this court. The people of San Francisco, after this has been accomplished, will know that there are two Judges upon this bench who have escaped the mesh of scandal which has surrounded this important office, the duties of which are to see to the safe and honest distribution of the holdings of the dead to their lawful heirs.

This remarkable statement was made by Presiding Judge Frank H. Dunne yesterday in justification of his action in refusing to further assign cases in which the Public Administrator's office was involved to Probate Judges James V. Coffey and James M. Troutt. The application of the Public Administrator for letters upon the estate of the late Captain William Ward, commander of the lost steamer Rio de Janeiro, was assigned by Presiding Judge Dunne to Judge Sloss' department for adjudication and his petition for right to settle the estate of the late John Harris was placed for decision in the hands of Judge Murasky, sitting in Department 2 of the Superior Court.

Says Public Cries for a Change. "Continuing, Judge Dunne said: 'My action is in response to the public cry for a change. I am tired of constant complaints. Like Presiding Judge before me, I have been wearied by the frequent protests of members of the bar and citizens whose rights are or have been involved in the probate departments of this court. I have decided to make a change. I have selected two Judges, whom I know to be above reproach, to handle the business of the Public Administrator's office and if they fail I will bear the responsibility, but I do not look forward to any such result. 'As to the assertion that one member of this bar is given all of the business in

one of the probate departments in certain lines—such as appointments to the office of attorney for absent heirs, appraiser of the collateral inheritance tax and other similar duties—I have nothing to say, except that this fact has been included among the complaints laid before me. I would like to have it understood that my action is not resultant from my own investigation, but is based upon public complaint, which I now deem it my duty to consider. 'It is true that in the other department of the Probate Court the schedule of fees has caused much complaint. I hold that the laborer who performs his work well should be fully compensated for the sweat of his brow; I am, likewise, of the opinion that the attorney who expends his energies and learning in the settlement of probate cases should be properly remunerated for his services. There is no difference in the cases cited, though some may hardly consider them analogous. The rights of attorneys are recognized by the law, hence I will recognize them."

Creates Immense Sensation. Judge Dunne's stand and statement created an immense sensation in the City Hall yesterday. It was not wholly unexpected, but came with a suddenness that gave the principals involved but little time in which to prepare defense. When their statements were made, however, they contained an expressed disregard for Judge Dunne's opinion or action that caused but little less sensation than the statement of the Presiding Judge which brought them forth.

Judge Coffey was not inclined to make a direct reply to the statement of Presiding Judge Dunne, but said that as it had been stated that the Presiding Judge's action was "in response to the public cry for a change" he might point those interested to the public indorsement of his policy and record as contained in the figures of the election commission on the result of the last campaign. When the full returns of the last election were in it was found that Judge Coffey, after almost two decades upon the bench, had been returned to office with a plurality above them all. Hence he smiled yesterday when he asked for whence came "the public cry" for a change.

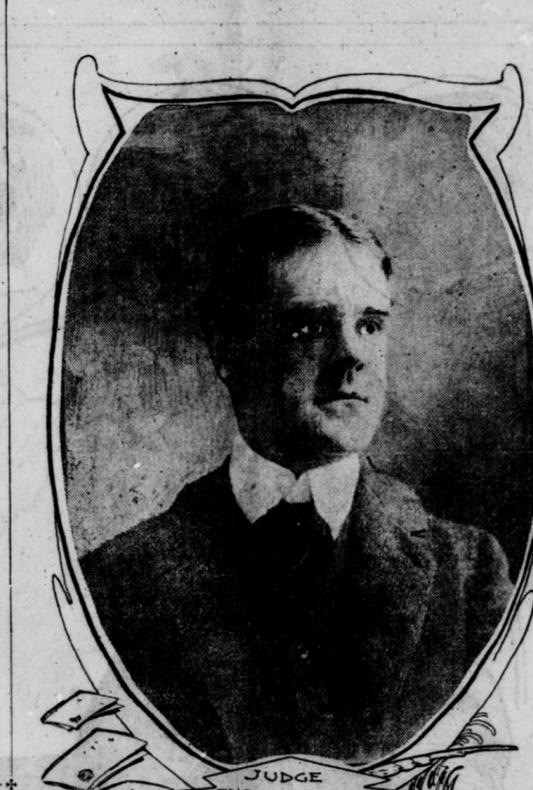
Judge Coffey's Low Schedule. There is but one schedule of fees enforced in the Probate Department and that is in Judge Coffey's court. In consequence after asserting that he was

parrying to avoid a controversy the Judge admitted that the reference to complaints as to a schedule of fees made by Presiding Judge Dunne was evidently aimed at his (Coffey's) court. His schedule of attorney fees governing the compensation of the Public Administrator for the settlement of estates upon which letters were granted to him was next produced. It follows:

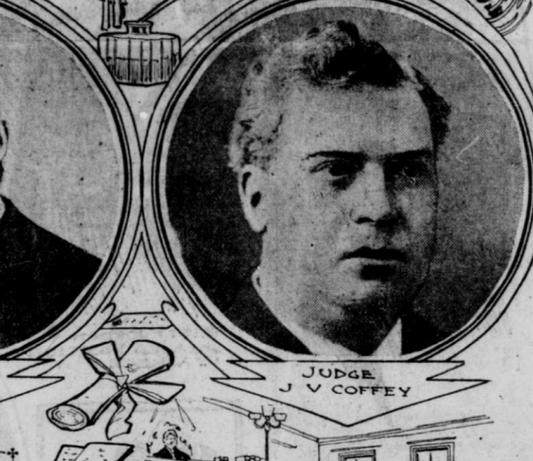
From and after this date the following maximum standard of compensation is established in estates in which the Public Administrator is appointed and qualified to act as administrator. This is to be taken as a guide in all cases where the conditions are analogous:

Amount of Estate.	Maximum Attorney Fee.
\$1,000.....	25
2,000.....	45
3,000.....	65
4,000.....	85
5,000.....	105
6,000.....	125
7,000.....	145
8,000.....	165
9,000.....	185
10,000.....	205
20,000.....	355
30,000.....	505
40,000.....	655
50,000.....	805
100,000.....	1,355
1,000,000.....	3,155

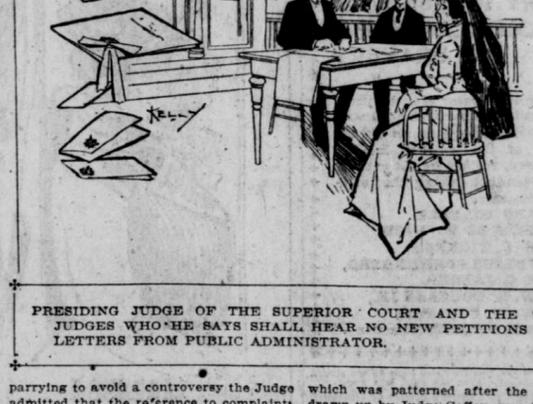
In all estates of a valuation intermediate and above these figures the same ratio shall obtain. October 12, 1898. A schedule of fees as allowed by the Superior Court of Los Angeles County,



JUDGE FRANK H. DUNNE



JUDGE J. M. TROUTT



JUDGE J. V. COFFEY

PRESIDING JUDGE OF THE SUPERIOR COURT AND THE TWO JUDGES WHO HE SAYS SHALL HEAR NO NEW PETITIONS FOR LETTERS FROM PUBLIC ADMINISTRATOR.

NO PROMOTION FOR ADMIRALS THIS SESSION

John Paul Jones Is Quoted to Justify Sampson.

But Friends of Schley Succeed in Shelving President's Nomination.

Special Dispatch to The Call. CALL BUREAU, 1406 G STREET, N. W., WASHINGTON, Feb. 27.—There will be no legislation in behalf of either Rear Admiral Sampson or Rear Admiral Schley at this session of Congress. The Senate gave evidence of its unwillingness to confirm the nomination of these officers when it declined to act upon them last night, but agreed to the confirmation of all other officers nominated by the President for advancement. The refusal of the Senate to confirm Sampson's and Schley's nominations is directly traceable to the former's expression of his strong disapproval of promotion of enlisted men to commissioned grades.

The friends of Rear Admiral Sampson deplore the publication of his indorsement on Gunner Morgan's application for his recommendation, but they insist that his statements describe the exact situation. They called attention to-day to the statements made by John Paul Jones and approved by General Washington, which are almost identical with the views of Admiral Sampson.

"It is by no means enough that an officer of the navy should be a capable mariner," John Paul Jones declared. "He must be that, of course, but also a great deal more. He should be as well a gentleman of liberal education, refined manners, punctilious courtesy and the nicest sense of personal honor. He should not only be able to express himself clearly and with force in his own language both with tongue and pen, but he should also be versed in French and Spanish. He must meet and mix with his inferiors of rank in society ashore and on such occasions he must have the tact to be easy and gracious with them, particularly when ladies are present."

SAMPSON'S SISTER TALKS. Says the Admiral Is Subject to Mental Troubles. DETROIT, Mich., Feb. 27.—"Nobody ever denied that our family was poor, least of all Will," said Mrs. Lucien E. Ellis of 908 Military avenue, when asked concerning her brother, Admiral Sampson, and his home and family. "My father was a laborer," she went on quietly, "and there was a large family of us to be taken care of, but none of us were ashamed of it."

A woman of gentle breeding is the admiral's sister, who is the wife of the School Inspector from the Sixteenth Ward. She evinced an intense sisterly affection for her sailor brother. "We lived at Palmyra, N. Y., and my father owned and worked his own farm. If he had time to spare he worked on other farms. We feel terrible over all this newspaper talk, because we know how it hurts Will, though he doesn't make any reply to it. His health is poor, so poor, indeed, that we have given up hope that he will ever be what he was before the war."

Mrs. Ellis hesitated a minute or two and then continued: "His trouble is a mental one and all this talk just makes it so much worse. He is subject to very severe attacks of mental trouble. "Oh, no," she replied, quickly to a query, "that letter never could have been written when he was having one of those attacks, because they prostrate him utterly. He isn't able to attend to anything. I can't understand the letter. It is so utterly unlike anything he has ever done and unlike what it seemed probable he would do."

VERDI'S REMAINS TAKEN FROM CEMETERY. Troops Line the Route to the Home for Aged Musicians Founded by the Composer. MILAN, Feb. 27.—The remains of Giuseppe Verdi, the composer were removed with much ceremony to-day from the cemetery to the Home for Aged Musicians, founded by Verdi. Troops lined the route between the cemetery and the home and an immense concourse of people witnessed the ceremony. A choir of several hundred voices sang one of Verdi's impressive compositions.

A detachment of troops headed the procession. The soldiers were followed by the students and various other associations. Then came a company of infantry with reversed arms and with their flag draped with craps. The hearse was followed by the Count of Turin and the German Consul in behalf of Emperor William of Germany and representatives of France and Austria, the Mayor of Milan, the presidents of the Senate and the Chamber of Deputies and delegations from these bodies and numerous other officials.

CRAMP COMPANY REFUNDATES CONTRACT. Refuses to Deliver Cruiser as Installments Have Not Been Paid When Due. CONSTANTINOPOLE, Feb. 27.—It is settled that the Porte not having paid the installments due on the cruiser for which a contract was signed recently with the Cramp Ship Building Company of Philadelphia, the latter considers the contract void and repudiates all responsibility in the matter.

KIDNAPERS ARE ANXIOUS TO ESCAPE

Mr. Cudahy Offered \$20,000 to Call Off Detectives.

Millionaire Packer Refuses to Seriously Consider the Proposition.

CHICAGO, Feb. 27.—E. A. Cudahy, the Omaha packer, whose son was kidnaped to secure a reward of \$25,000, is in receipt of an anonymous letter declaring that upon his assurance that the kidnapers would not be punished all but \$5000 of the ransom money would be returned to him. The letter was mailed at Waukegan, Ill., yesterday and sent to Omaha. Mr. Cudahy was in Chicago to-day and received a transcript of the letter by telegraph.

"I do not know whether the letter is authentic or a hoax," said Mr. Cudahy to a reporter. "I will pay no attention to it and certainly have no intention of writing up on these men. The writer or writers of the letter directed me if agreeable to their proposition, to let them know by means of personal advertisements in newspapers of Omaha, Chicago and Milwaukee, but I do not believe they will ever have the pleasure of reading anything from me in the advertising columns of any paper."

KIDNAPING MADE A FELONY.

Pennsylvania to Fix Penalty Same as Murder in First Degree.

HARRISBURG, Pa., Feb. 27.—A bill was introduced in the Senate to-day making the crime of kidnaping and abduction for the purpose of extorting money a felony and fixing the penalty like that of murder in the first degree. The passage of the bill will be expedited. It was drawn by Judge Thayer of Philadelphia.

LAWYER PATRICK HELD FOR THE MURDER OF RICE

If Released on Bail on the Forgery Charge He Will Be Quickly Rearrested.

NEW YORK, Feb. 27.—Professor Rudolph Witthaus, the chemist, has made a verbal report, supplementary to his first report and preliminary to his final report, to the District Attorney, in which he declares that enough mercury and other poisons were found in the stomach of William Marsh Rice to kill him. An affidavit charging Albert D. Patrick with murder in the first degree was submitted to Justice Jerome with an application for a warrant for Patrick's rearrest. The Justice issued the warrant and it will be served should bail be accepted on the forgery charge.

The affidavit is made by Charles F. Jones and reads that on the 23d day of September, 1900, at 500 Madison avenue, New York, he was employed by William M. Rice, who also resided at the same address, as private secretary and companion; that on the 23d day of September, 1900, Albert D. Patrick caused the said William M. Rice to take "a large quantity of deadly poison called mercury and divers other deadly poisons." The affidavit then charges that Rice's death was due to these poisons.

Patrick was taken before Judge McMahon in the Court of General Sessions. His counsel asked that the Judge cause an order to be issued so he could get back the \$10,000 cash deposited with the City Chamberlain yesterday to bail Patrick. The Judge issued the necessary order and Patrick was taken back to the Tombs.

DEATH OF A VICTIM OF THE DENVER TUG

Murderous Highwayman Identified as Albert Cowen, Once Treated for Insanity.

DENVER, Feb. 27.—Mrs. Josephine Unternahrer, one of the three women struck down by a heavy blow on the head last Friday night on Capitol Hill, died this afternoon in St. Joseph's Hospital. One of the others, Mrs. Mary Schort, died on Saturday. The third victim, Miss Emma Johnson, may recover from her injuries. Albert Cowen, who is charged with the murder of Mrs. Schort and suspected of being the highwayman who has attacked many women in this city during the past year, was identified to-day by Bartholomew Julien, foreman of Union Pacific car inspectors, as the man whom he saw running away from the place. Miss Annie McAtee was knocked down and seriously injured on the night of October 4 last. When confronted with Julien and Albert Frederick, who says he saw Cowen knock down Mrs. Schort, the prisoner accused them of lying.

WARLIKE PREPARATIONS MADE BY SANTO DOMINGO

Troops Rushed to the Scene of the Recent Encounter With Haytian Guards.

PORTO PLATA, Hayti, Feb. 27.—Because of the encounter between Haytian and Dominican guards on the frontier, near Najabon, warlike preparations are being made by the Government of Santo Domingo. The Vice President of the republic has started for the scene of the disturbance from Santiago with a force of cavalrymen. The Minister of War has sailed from the capital for Monte Cristi on a gunboat with other soldiers. There is great excitement throughout the country.

CRAMP COMPANY REFUNDATES CONTRACT

Refuses to Deliver Cruiser as Installments Have Not Been Paid When Due.

CONSTANTINOPOLE, Feb. 27.—It is settled that the Porte not having paid the installments due on the cruiser for which a contract was signed recently with the Cramp Ship Building Company of Philadelphia, the latter considers the contract void and repudiates all responsibility in the matter.