The Leon Reporter

O. E. BULL, Publisher.

LEON - - - IOWA.

THURSDAY, APRIL 26, 1900

The darkest hour of human misery comes just before the dawn of delivery.

Boxing bouts which have been held in the basement of the South Division High school, Chicago, under the supervision of Principal Smith, have found favor in the eyes of the Board of Education authorities. Superintendent Andrews not only indorses the exercise, but says that he believes that boxing is the best sport in which the students can partake.

Who are the ten greatest men in the nineteenth century? This is a favorite conundrum just now across the water, but we have seen only one attempt to solve it in print. It is by a Dublin, Ireland, editor, and names Lincoln, statesman; Napoleon, soldier; Darwin, scientist; Thackeray, novelist; Pasteur, medicine; Froebel, educator; Beethoven, musician; and Morse and Stephenson, first masters of electricity and steam.

Consular reform is brought perceptibly nearer than it ever was before by the action of congressional committees. Both in the Senate and in the House of Representatives a favorable report has been made upon bills dealing with the organization of the consular service. The bills differ in details, but are one in purpose. They aim to make the foreign service of the United States something like a profession, for which men may fit themselves with a reasonable assurance of finding employment, and from which, when their fitness has been proved, they may not be dislodged by political caprice or the restless ambition of some one who wants a place.

In Europe there are many young men whom fate has destined to be the rich men of the next century. For a long time it was supposed that Lord Belgrave, who inherited the wealth of the Duke of Westminster, would head the list, but since the duke's death it is reported that his fortune has been greatly overestimated. At present this young man is but 20 years of age, but it will not be many years before he will become one of the richest men in the world, according to accepted belief in England. At the same time he has succeeded to every rank in the British peerage from baron to duke, as well as to three of the finest estates in the united kingdom, and a racing stable that cannot be surpassed.

A recent review of the progress of the University of Illinois reveals the fact that there are six different colleges and four schools united under one head. These are the College of Agriculture, College of Literature and Arts, College of Science, College of Engineering, College of Law, College of Medicine, the School of Library Science, School of Pharmacy, School of Music and the Preparatory School. The following official figures indicate the remarkable growth of the institution in number of students, during the last thirteen years: 1887-88, 377; 1888-89, 429; 1889-90, 469; 1890-91, 510; 1891-92, 583; 1893-94, 714; 1894-95, 810; 1895-96, 855; 1896-97, 1,075; 1897-98, 1,585; 1898-99, 1,824; 1899-00, 2,250.

There is a general desire for a decision by the Supreme Court of the United States to determine the question whether the new island possessions are a part of the United States, or its property. It was thought that a suit brought by a New York firm of importers to recover duties paid on Puerto Rican goods might furnish a basis for the desired interpretation; but this suit has been halted by the refusal of the lower court to grant the injunction which was applied for. A case has now arisen at San Francisco, occasioned by the collection of tonnage dues on vessels from Hawaii, in the same manner as from foreign countries, which may afford an opportunity for the settlement of the broad constitutional question.

The free town library, one of the best educational gifts to the nineteenth century to the world, bids fair in the twentieth century to become still more than it is now a stimulant to intellectual progress. Collections of books for the scholar and the rich there have been from the earliest times; but a library belonging to the whole community, rich and poor, learned and ignorant, laborer and professional man, is purely a product of the last half century. Fifty years ago there were about a score in Massachusetts. Today all but seven of her 350 towns have a free library. In the whole country there are not less than 10,000 such libraries. But a mere collection of books, without a faithful librarian, however valuable, is like an undeveloped mine, practically of no use. The town librarian is, like the library itself, a product of the closing century, and has become a new intellectual leader in the community.

To the dwellers in northern latitudes the coming of spring is like a release from prison. Barriers built by snow and ice are leveled, and doors sealed by the frost swing open. To all, doubtless, the season brings a feeling of emancipation; it is perhaps to the bicyclist that it speaks most directly of "fresh woods and pastures new." One who watches the wheelmen taking advantage of the first good weather and dry roads can hardly fail to notice the look of new-found liberty so often reflected in their faces.

Another lucky child millionaire is the infant marquis of Titchfield, who is but 7 years of age. The young marquis is the eldest son of the duke of Portland, and while it is impossible to estimate the value of the property that he will inherit, it probably will not be less than $40,000,000, says the New York Telegraph. This includes a large amount of the most valuable land in London, as well as several valuable country estates, upon one of which, [illegible] spent

THE NEWS IN IOWA

HON. MATT PARROTT DEAD.

The ex-Lieutenant Governor of Iowa Passes Away.

WATERLOO, April 24.—After an illness of several months, Hon. Matt Parrott, ex-lieutenant governor of Iowa, died at 10:50 o'clock Saturday night at the sanitarium in Battle Creek, Mich., of Bright's disease. Mr. Parrott was an old-time resident of Waterloo, where his influence has been wide-felt as a newspaper man and a progressive, public-spirited citizen. He was a man of the people, of unblemished character, genial, kind-hearted and ready to lend a hand to every good cause. He had long been a main-stay of the Episcopal church of Waterloo. While Mr. Parrott had been prominently in politics for years, he was first of all a newspaper man, understanding every department of the business, and training his sons to take up the work and carry it forward in his absence. A wife, who has been a companion and helper in every sense of the word, survives, also three sons, to all of whom Mr. Parrott was most devoted.

[Matt Parrott was born in Schoharie county, New York, May 11, 1837. At thirteen years of age he left school and entered a printer's office to learn the trade. He went to Troy in 1857 and in a couple of years drifted west and worked in newspaper offices in Chicago, Burlington and Davenport. In 1869 he associated himself with J. Smart in publishing the Iowa State Reporter of Waterloo, the paper he owned with his sons at the time of his death. He held the office of state binder from 1879 to 1885. At the expiration of that time he was elected state senator from Blackhawk and Grundy counties. In 1895 he was elected lieutenant governor with Gov. F. M. Drake.]

HE FAVORS ALLISON.

Walter Wellman Tells of McKinley's Preference.

DES MOINES, April 18.—Walter Wellman, the Washington correspondent of the Chicago Times-Herald, says that President McKinley has decided that he would like to have Senator Allison as his running mate in the campaign this year and announces that the president is waiting to hear from Allison in regard to his acceptance. Wellman speaks in glowing eulogy of Allison and says that Senators Spooner, Wolcott, Fairbanks and Representative Dolliver are on the list as possibilities. Senator Allison's term will expire in 1903. At the expiration of a term as vice-president in 1905, Senator Allison would be 76 years old. This would practically end his career. But the presidency is out of the question with Allison and it might be that he would accept the vice presidency to round out his career.

MOTHERS' CONGRESS.

Mrs. Roosevelt Will Probably Be at Des Moines.

DES MOINES, April 20.—Plans of the local committees for the coming session of the Mothers' Congress in this city, are progressing. Many arrangements have already been made for the convenience and comfort of the visitors who will be here for the congress, but there are many others yet to make. One of the most interesting topics which it is hoped to bring before the congress is a paper on the subject of "The Condition of Homes in Cuba," which Mrs. Theodore Roosevelt will be asked to deliver. Mrs. Roosevelt is at present in Cuba investigating the conditions of the country there, and if she does not think her investigations are too superficial to put them into form for the congress, she will probably report some of them at that time.

HULL WINS IN STORY.

Defeats Payne for the Congressional Nomination.

NEVADA, April 23.—The Story county primaries, held in accordance with the primary system in vogue in Story county, resulted in a decided victory for Captain J. A. T. Hull for congress. The total vote on congressman is as follows: J. A. T. Hull, 979; W. O. Payne, 561. The overwhelming victory of Captain Hull in Story county is conceded to assure his nomination without further contest.

Frances Shebeck Ends Life.

WASHINGTON, April 22.—Frances Shebeck, who lived with her sister, Mrs. S. P. Ramsey, four miles west of Washington, took four ounces of carbolic acid. When her sister discovered her lying on the bed, she asked what she had done and the girl replied that she had taken carbolic acid and wanted to die. A physician was summoned, but nothing could be done to save her life and she died. She was a Bohemian girl about 18 years of age. No cause is known why the girl should commit such a deed.

Seek Bank Wrecker's Pardon.

SIOUX CITY, April 20.—A petition is being circulated asking President McKinley to pardon Frank M. Dorsey, of this city, convicted and sentenced to six years in prison for wrecking the First National bank of Ponca, Neb. Former Congressman G. W. E. Dorsey is in Washington, supposedly to secure clemency. As one judge of the federal court of appeals dissented from the opinion sustaining the sentence, execution of the sentence will be deferred.

Small Pox at Toledo.

TOLEDO, April 20.—Two cases of small pox have developed in Toledo. Editor Russell, of the Independent, and Neil Harrigan, a printer in the employ of the Toledo Chronicle, are the patients. It is thought that about ten or fifteen families have been exposed and they will probably be quarantined also.

Waterman Withdraws.

OTTUMWA, April 24.—The Courier publishes a letter announcing the withdrawal of Hon. G. L. Waterman from the congressional race in the Sixth district on account of new business plans which will take him outside of the state most of the time.

His Head Blown Off.

CORNING, April 22.—Charles Ellis, aged 35, while blasting rock out of a well at Mt Etna, had his head blown off by a premature explosion of powder.

IOWA POPULISTS.

Select Delegates to the National Convention at Sioux Falls.

DES MOINES, April 18.—The populist state convention met at the Y. M. C. A. auditorium yesterday and selected nineteen delegates to the national convention to be held at Sioux Falls, S. D., in May. The resolutions adopted reaffirm the national platform adopted at St. Louis in 1896; arraigns the "administration of Wm. McKinley as being recreant to every principle of the constitution, the declaration of independence and the pledges which were made to the people before its advent into power;" denounces the administration's policy toward the Philippines; says the party is unalterably opposed to imperialism and militarism; favors an income tax; extends sympathy to the Boers; voices the opposition of the party to polygamy and slavery, "fostered by President McKinley in the Sulu archepelago;" favors rigid legislation against trusts; pledges the support of the Iowa populists to W. J. Bryan, and denounces "the recent financial legislation known as the currency bill." Delegates were selected as follows: General J. B. Weaver of Colfax, W. H. Robb of Creston, Geo. E. Reiff of Woodbine, J. C. Stockton of Leon, J. E. Anderson of Forest City, Dr. H. A. Evans of Albia, E. H. Gillette of Des Moines, O. A. Clarke of Fremont county, S. B. Crane of Des Moines, John R. Clark of Albia, J. C. Baker of Emmetsburg, A. J. Blakely of Grinnell, Matt Ewart of Ewart, Matt Saddler of Mitchellville, S. W. Johnson, of Jefferson, C. F. Davis of Bloomfield, Geo. W. Wilcox of Jefferson, John Kent of Dallas county, R. B. Richmond of Dallas county.

CENTERVILLE'S BAD FIRE.

Business Property Worth $40,000 Burned.

OTTUMWA, April 21.—Centerville, the county seat of Appanoose county, was visited by a $40,000 fire which for a time threatened to consume the entire business portion of the city. The fire originated in an implement house on the south side of the square, but in what manner is unknown. The most of the buildings destroyed were old structures, else the loss would have been much greater. The facilities for coping with the flames were inadequate and the fire spread to the yards of the Lewis Lumber Company, which were also damaged to the extent of several thousand dollars.

Wants $25,000 Damages.

DES MOINES, April 21.—H. B. Knowlton, administrator of the estate of the late Charles Downs, killed by an electric wire belonging to the defendant, has begun action against the Des Moines Edison Electric Light company demanding damages to the amount of $25,000 alleged to be due him for the death of Downs. Plaintiff claims in petition that Downs's death was due to the negligence of the defendant. While in the employ of the Mutual Telephone company as lineman, Downs came in contact with a live, uninsulated wire belonging to the Edison company. He received 1,000 bolts of electricity, from the effect of which he instantly died.

Clerk Defaults.

CEDAR RAPIDS, April 20.—Wellington Richards, a clerk in G. H. Boyson's pharmacy, has confessed to being a defaulter in the sum of more than $3,000 and the exact amount will never be known. His operations have covered a long period of time, and the fact that Mr. Boyson kept no regular set of double entry books, materially assisted him is securing the money that for a long time was not missed.

$500 Fine for Killing a Man.

SIOUX CITY, April 24.—A $500 fine is probably all Ernest Meyer will have to pay for murdering his brother-in-law, Chris Bauer, on the night of March 10. The jury returned a verdict finding him guilty of assault with intent to commit great bodily injury for which the maximum penalty is $500 fine or one year in jail.

He Was Anxious to Die.

RIVERTON, April 23.—Four miles below Riverton an unknown man about 25 years of age and fairly well dressed threw himself in front of an engine running fifty miles an hour. He was cut into small pieces. A note was found stating that his name was W. H. Taylor and he was from St. Louis. About $3 was found in his pockets.

BREVITIES.

David Ahlers, a well-to-do German farmer, committed suicide two miles south of Dysart, a few days ago, by deliberately throwing himself in front of a north-bound passenger train on the B., C. R. & N. The engineer saw the man walking on the track towards the train. After repeated warnings, which failed to make him leave the track, the train was stopped only a few feet from him. Ahlers then stepped off the track, but when the train started up again he plunged headlong in front of the engine. His body was horribly crushed and mangled. Ahlers was a married man, 50 years of age. Domestic troubles are assigned as the cause for his act.

Des Moines dispatch: The local authorties all over the state seem impressed with the notion that the state board of health can help them in caring for the smallpox cases. As a matter of fact it cannot. It cannot compel a local health office to perform any act. It is authorized to make legislation for the management of infectious diseases when they appear, but it can only rely on local health authorities to enforce these. If the local authorities fail to do so, the remedy lies with the citizens, who may, if they choose, compel the authorities, by mandamus, to perform their duty. The number of cases of smallpox in the state now is said to be greater than in many years and they are widely scattered. The disease is in mild form, and few deaths have resulted. There are twenty-one cases in Oskaloosa and cases are reported, generally in considerable numbers, at Davenport, Fort Dodge, Lincoln township, Hamilton county, Grant township, Hardin county, Mariette, Liberty and Taylor townships, Marshall county, Marshalltown, Green Mountain, Saylor township, Polk county, Des Moines, Ruthven, St. Anthony, Grinnell, Highland township, Palo Alto county, Toledo and other places.

NEWS IN GENERAL

DIPLOMACY NEAR AN END.

Ministerial Relations Between Uncle Sam and the Sultan May Be Severed.

WASHINGTON, April 22.—Serious trouble with Turkey is threatened. Within a week it is probable that diplomatic relations between Washington and Constantinople will be severed and the interests of the United States in Turkey be placed in the hands of the German or English government. There are no indications as yet that the sultan intends to pay the indemnity. The Turkish view of the present crisis is the one which that government invariably holds whenever a foreign power attempts to secure payment of a claim—that the foreigner is making a feint or "bluff," and has no intention of going beyond that stage. Secretary Hay and Assistant Secretary Hill have done everything they could within the proprieties to convince Turkey that the United States is not bluffing, that we mean to see this thing through, and still the sultan refuses to see it in that light. He is himself so much in the habit of making these plays that they have become a regular stock in trade with him, and he cannot conceive such a thing as another government being in earnest. In official circles there is small expectation that Turkey will pay unless the screws be put on a great deal harder, and the severance of diplomatic relations is well nigh inevitable unless Turkey surprises the United States and the world by paying the $88,000 indemnity long due.

WEPENER STILL HOLDS OUT.

General Rundle Slowly Advancing to Its Relief.

ALIWAL NORTH, April 24.—Colonel Dalgety is holding out at Wepener. It is reported that all the Boers have crossed to the north side of the Caledon river.

LONDON, April 24.—The strong body of reinforcements which Lord Roberts sent to assist the relief of Wepener and to endeavor to envelop and cut off the Boers from a retreat northward, furnishes further evidence that the Boers are assembled in much larger forces around Wepener than had hitherto been supposed; and, as the Times in an editorial this morning remarks, whatever may be the difficulties of roads and rains, the Boers always appear to have guns and sometimes big ones where they want them. A Boer dispatch, dated Thaba N'Chu, April 20, says a fresh supply of cannon and ammunition has reached General DeWet at Jammersburg drift. It also asserts that one of Colonel Dalgety's guns has been smashed. Apparently the British captured Paarde kraal Sunday night. The Boers evacuated Leeuw kop during the night, removing the guns, and the British occupied the evacuated position the next morning. Although the Boers appear to be offering stout resistance to the British advance, their position is dangerous.

ADVANCING TO WEPENER.

Chermsides and Rundle to Help the Colonials.

LONDON, April 22.—Dispatches from the seat of war, though meager and unsatisfactory, clearly indicate renewed activity at all points where the British and Boer forces are in striking distance of each other. Interest for the moment centers at Dewetsdorp and Wepener, where fighting evidently is in progress. A dispatch received from Aliwal North, dated April 21, says that there was heavy firing on the previous day between Dewetsdorp and Wepener and around Wepener on Saturday, but that no particulars have been received. A special dispatch from Maseru, dated Saturday, says:

"The investment of Wepener continues. The Boers seem determined to do their utmost to capture the garrison before relief arrives. Severe fighting appears imminent."

A dispatch from Swartzkopfontein, Josfontein, dated April 21 says;

"This morning 1,500 Boers made a determined attack on a convoy returning to Boshof. The British succeeded in repulsing the attack, and their fire became so heavy and well sustained that the Boers fell back with considerable loss. The British casualties were sixteen killed and wounded. The convoy reach Boshof safely."

BOERS HAVE 80,000 MEN.

Lorenzo Marquez Correspondent Says the British Were Deceived.

LONDON, April 24.—The Lorenzo Marquez correspondent of the Times, under Saturday's date, says:

"Information received from responsible sources shows that at one time the two republics had 105,000 men in the field, including the colonial rebels. According to the same informant, they can still muster 80,000, of whom 50,000 are in the Free State, 10,000 are in the Biggarsberg district and 15,000 in the districts of Fourteen Streams and Klerks Dorp. It is now believed that before the war the burgher lists were deliberately falsified in order to deceive the British intelligence department."

BLOODIEST WEEK.

Philippine War Becomes Interesting Once More.

MANILA, April 24.—Last week was one of the bloodiest of the war since the first day's fighting around Manila. Authentic reports, mostly official, show a total of 378 Filipinos killed, twelve officers and 244 men captured and many more wounded. The number wounded is hardly guessable. Considering that the Filipinos entirely lack hospital facilities, a great majority of the wounded will die. Probably the week's work finished 1,000 insurgents. The American loss was nine killed and sixteen wounded.

THE TURK AGREES TO PAY.

"Under Same Conditions as in the Case of Other Foreign Subjects."

CONSTANTINOPLE, April 24.—The porte has replied to the American demands stating that Turkey will compensate the American missionaries under the same conditions as in the case of other foreign subjects. There is the greatest interest in political circles regarding the attitude of the United States in the indemnity claim, and it is believed that the powers having similar claims will support the American action.

TURKEY DENIES THE CLAIM.

Ali Ferrouh Bey Gives Sultan's Side of Quarrel.

WASHINGTON, April 23.—Ali Ferrouh Bey, the Turkish minister, was asked to make a statement relative to the failure of the sultan to pay the claim made by the United States for indemnity on account of the destruction of mission buildings at Harpoot some years ago. In reply to the question whether he expected that his relations with this government would be terminated in consequence of the turn affairs have taken, the minister said:

"I must say I do not believe the Turkish government is or can be held responsible for the destruction of these buildings; for when the claim for indemnity was formally made upon the sublime porte an agreement to pay the sum asked as the damages—$90,000, more or less—was entered into by the sultan, conditioned on the proof of the fact that the buildings were maliciously destroyed by Turkish subjects and as a direct result of religious fanaticism and not as a result of the personal quarrel between the Christians and the Mohammedans. In fact, as I understand the matter, the Turkish government cannot rightly be held for this misfortune. Of course, we naturally regret the occurrence, and, if it is possible, will make some reparation, either in money or by punishing the offenders, if they can be found. But, you understand, a government does not willingly admit or pay a claim for damages unless very satisfactory and, indeed, unquestionable evidence of the justice of the claim can be established, and it does not appear that this is the case in the present instance."

REPUBLICANS PUT UP SIBLEY.

Man Who Wanted to Run With Bryan in 1896 Leaves His Party.

BRADFORD, Pa. April 21.—Joseph C. Sibley, who was elected to congress by the democrats at the last election and who lately announced on the floor of the house that he would hereafter act with the republicans, owing to the democratic opposition to the gold standard and expansion, has been nominated for congress by the republican convention of this, the twenty-seventh district. He had no opposition, it being understood that the Quay forces are supporting him in his new affiliation. Mr. Sibley first gained national celebrity as an eastern millionaire who sought nomination for the vice-presidency on the democratic ticket with W. J. Bryan in 1896. He was then a strong free silver man, but now takes the ground that the enactment of a gold standard law has eliminated the money issue.

TURKEY MAY RETALIATE.

A Word From the Sultan Would Cause Trouble in Sulu.

WASHINGTON, April 21.—There is a hint in circles acquainted with the Turkish diplomacy that they see a bulwark of protection from the wrath of the American government. In the Sulu Islands there are more than 3,500,000 Mohammedans, whose devotion to their calipha is almost fanatic. The sultan would have but to lift his finger and these Malays and Moros would join forces with the Tagalogs. The war in Luzon would be extended in every direction throughout the island, and the American forces would necessarily have to be increased many fold before peace was restored. Notwithstanding all efforts to set up defensive propositions, it is believed the American government will drive straight ahead, and that Turkey will be forced to pay or have a white squadron in the Dardanelles.

ROBERTS GOING NORTH.

Is Thought He is Headed for Pretoria at Last.

LONDON, April 21.—The reports of fighting at Karee Siding, six miles north of Glen, contained in a special dispatch from Bloemfontein, may be the first news of the progress of the British advance on Pretoria, but even if this is only an unimportant skirmish there are many other indications that Roberts is either starting or has already started for the northern goal. A dispatch from Cape Town says:

"Censorship restrictions are greatly increased, owing to movements of troops. The Boers south of Bloemfontein are reported to be retreating. Large commands were seen near Thaba N'Chu moving to the north. Progress is slow, however, owing to the terrible condition of the country. By way of Pretoria comes a report of fever decimating the Mafeking garrison and a letter from the mayor of Mafeking saying Roberts has asked Baden-Powell to hold out until May."

METHUEN HAD TO RETIRE.

Attacked by a Force of Two Thousand Boers.

BOSHOF, Orange Free State, April 21.—At midday yesterday Methuen's field force at Swartzkopjesfontein was ordered to return to Boshof. Its convoy extended over six miles. The escort took up a position on the hill commanding the road just in the nick of time as a force of two thousand Boers suddenly appeared and opened a very heavy fire. The British, however, held them in check until the column reached this point in safety, when they retired. The British had several casualties. The Boers fought determinedly and must have suffered considerably, as they once advanced to within three hundred yards of the hill, whence a concealed detachment of British opened a heavy fusilade on them.

JAPAN BEGINS TO DISLIKE US.

Anti-American Feeling Based on the Conditions in Hawaii.

LONDON, April 23.—The Daily Mail publishes a letter from Yokohama describing the "growth of anti-American feeling" in Japan. The writer says: "This development is due to the harsh treatment the Japanese have received in Hawaii and to the belief that the United States will stop Japanese immigration to Hawaii. The feeling is calculated to lead to a deplorable war of tariffs and to retaliatory restrictions."

To Advance Gen. Miles.

WASHINGTON, April 21.—The senate committee on military affairs reached an agreement to report a bill for reorganization of the army with a number of amendments. The bill confers the rank of lieutenant general upon the senior major general, and that of major general upon the adjutant general of the army.

CONGRESS.

SENATE.

Washington, April 17.—The principal event in congress to-day was the speech of Senator Hoar of Massachusetts, in which he reviewed the history of the Cuba and Philippine conquests, praising the former and severely criticizing that of the latter. The address was brilliantly written and rich in citation from history. He praised the Filipinos and pleaded for a return to safe American precedents.

HOUSE.

The second day's debate upon the naval appropriation bill in the house today was confined closely to the subject matter of the bill and was as a rule devoid of interesting features. General debate was closed today.

SENATE.

Washington, April 18.—Mason's resolution authorizing the secretary of the navy to have struck bronze medals for distribution among certain officers and men of the North Atlantic squadron, commemorating naval engagements between the forces of Spain and the United States in the waters of the West Indies and off the Cuban coast, and appropriating $25,000 for same, was passed. The Alaskan code was under consideration during the day.

HOUSE.

The debate on the naval appropriation bill under the five-minute rule to-day drifted into politics, and for the greater portion of the afternoon the members fought hammer and tongs across the political aisle. Williams of Mississippi and Grosvenor of Ohio were the leaders in the fight.

SENATE.

Washington, April 19.—The Foraker resolution providing for the administration of civil affairs in Porto Rico pending the appointment of permanent officials under the recently passed Porto Rico law, passed the senate today.

HOUSE.

The house spent practically the entire day debating a proposition in the naval bill designed to turn over to the navy the survey and charting of the waters of Cuba, Porto Rico and the Philippines. The bill carried an appropriation of $100,000 for this purpose. In the end an amendment by Cannon providing that the survey shall be performed by the coast and geodetic survey and appropriating only the regular $10,000 for ocean surveys, was adopted.

SENATE

Washington, April 20.—Bacon, of Georgia, offered two resolutions, one inquring of the secretary of war whether army officers were receiving or had received salaries for the performance of civil duties in addition to their regular pay, and the other inquiring with regard to officer's expenses. Both resolutions were objected to and went over. A resolution by Gallinger directing the secretary of the treasury to furnish a statement of the sum derived from the war revenue act, regarding each subject of taxation to be stated separately, was agreed to. The senate had under consideration during the greater part of to-day's session the conference report on the Hawaiian civil government measure. Cullom made an extended explanation of the changes in the bill. The report was the subject of sharp criticism. Final action upon it was postponed.

HOUSE.

As a result of a protracted struggle the provision of the naval appropriation bill to enable the secretary of the treasury to contract for armor for the battleships Maine, Ohio and Missouri, now awaiting their armor equipment, at $545 per ton, the price asked for Krupp armor, is out of the bill, as is the provision to repeal the $300 limitation placed upon the price of armor by the current law.

SENATE

Washington, April 21.—After a discussion lasting more than two hours the senate agreed to the two resolutions offered by Bacon, of Georgia calling upon the secretary of war to inform the senate whether United States army officers in Cuba and Porto Rico were in receipt of salaries or other compensation for their services in addition to their regular pay as officers; and the second calling upon the secretary of war for detailed information respecting the amounts expended for quarters, decorations of quarters and equipages, expended for army officers in Cuba and Porto Rico.

HOUSE.

The house passed the naval appropriations bill without division. All amendments made in committee of the whole were agreed to. The remainder of the session was devoted to eulogies on the life of the late Representative Evan E. Settle of Kentucky.

SENATE

Washington, April 23.—The day was spent in debating the right of M. S. Quay, of Pennsylvania to a seat in the senate. Chandler of New Hampshire, Kenney of Delaware and Penrose of Pennsylvania spoke for Quay while Platt of Connecticut and Quarles of Wisconsin, opposed him.

HOUSE.

Upon request of Hepburn, of Iowa, chairman of the interstate and foreign commerce commission, unanimous consent was given to set aside May 1 and 2 for the consideration of the Nicaragua canal bill. The post-office appropriation bill was then taken up under an arrangement to close general debate to-day.

FLOODS IN THE SOUTH.

Millions of Dollars Worth of Damage Done in Mississippi.

MEMPHIS, Tenn., April 21.—A special to the Commercial-Appeal from New Orleans says: "The flood which commenced the early part of the week has caused fully $3,000,000 loss in central southern Mississippi, to say nothing of damages sustained by the railroads. The extent of the losses has not yet been fully realized, and it may be some days yet before an accurate total can be reached, for mail communication has been totally cut off." A special from Columbia, Miss., fixes the loss in that little town and its immediate vicinity at $500,000. Many farm houses were carried away by the mad waters, the occupants barely escaping with their lives, and the number of cattle destroyed was great. A great many houses and gins were washed away. Nearly every bridge around Columbia was swept away. Honey Island, the rendezvous of the noted train robber Burch, is under twenty feet of water, and the island, which has for years been one of the natural game preserves of the south, is now devoid of wild animals.

UNCLE SAM AND ABDUL HAMID.

London Papers Keenly Watching the Result of the Controversy.

LONDON, April 20.—Keen interest is manifested in the threatened action of the United States against Turkey, particularly in view of the sultan's recalcitrancy in connection with the increase of the custom duties. The fourth collective note of the ambassadors objecting to an increase of three per cent in the duties on account of the bad condition of the Turkish finances, without a previous understanding with the powers, was handed to the Turkish government yesterday, but Turkey maintained such a firm attitude that the suspicion is growing that some covert intrigue is frustrating the effect of the notes.

ROBERTS READY TO MOVE.

Remounts and Equipments Have Arrived at Bloemfontein.

LONDON, April 20.—The Bloemfontein correspondent of the Daily Chronicle says:

"The requisite remounts and equipments have arrived and all the provisions are now here. Lord Roberts is now ready. Several lots of concealed arms and ammunition have been discovered here this week. The epidemic of enteric fever is abating."

Serious Situation in Ashanti.

ACCRA, Gold Coast Colony, West Africa, April 20.—Governor Hodgson wires from Kumassi that the other tribes are rising again, and he asks for assistance. The loyal Bekuis have been attacked by the Ashantis, and 500 have been killed. It is feared that this will compel them to join the rebellion. Evidently the matter is extremely serious and was minimized until it was too late.

Chicagoans With Boers.

LONDON, April 20.—According to a dispatch to the Daily Mail from Lorenzo Marquez, nearly half the members of the Chicago ambulance corps, when offered Mausers on their arrival at Pretoria, tore off their Red Cross badges. Adelbert S. Hay, United States consul, notified the Transvaal government that he must report the circumstance to Washington.

NOTES FROM THE CAPITAL.

DES MOINES, April 24, 1900.

Plans for the completion of the state historical building were ordered by the council. The legislature appropriated $21,000 for the completion of the building. The third floor will be finished and the necessary furniture and fixtures will be bought by bids.

A number of cases of small pox have been reported from Fort Dodge and a letter has been received complaining of laxness on the part of the local authorities and asking the board to intervene.

The governor has received and indorsed over to the treasurer of state a warrant on the treasurer of the United States for $4,311.67, being the amount due the county of Delaware as indemnity for swamp lands erroneously sold by the government

The auditor of state has sent a letter to the Scott County Savings Bank of Davenport saying that branch banks cannot be operated under the banking laws of Iowa. The question was raised about six months ago when the Scott County Savings Bank opened a branch next door to the Davenport Savings Bank because of the strong rivalry existing between the two. The matter has hung fire in the auditor's office for some time, although the Davenport Savings has protested loudly. Finally it said it would start a branch itself if branch banks were in order. This called for the decision just rendered, that the Scott County Savings Bank must either capitalize its branch or close it.

Governor Shaw announces that he will go to Washington, D. C., to help push the claims of the Louisiana purchase states. He will be one of the 17 governors, representing the 17 states of the Louisiana purchase, who have been asked to join the delegation from these states and appear before the congressional committee to ask for an appropriation of $5,000,000 for the St. Louis world's fair to be held in 1903. The congressional committee will meet April 27, and the governors have all been notified of their invitations to be present through Secretary James Cox of the world's fair committee.

The executive committee of the State Agricultural society has selected the Fifty-first Iowa regiment band for the state fair this year.

Governor Shaw says he is entirely undecided whether he will sign or veto the valued policy insurance bill, now awaiting his consideration. He is informing himself, by careful investigation, as to the workings of the law in other states. He sent men to Missouri and Nebraska to investigate the workings of the law there, and is also having special investigations made of conditions in Minnesota, Wiseonsin and Michigan. He proposes to fully inform himself concerning the workings of such a statute in other states, and to be able fully to defend whatever position he takes in the matter. But thus far he has not decided what he will do. He will leave for Washington shortly, but it is not likely he will act in this matter till his return. All bills passed within the last three days of the session, as was this one, have an allowance of thirty days for executive consideration. This gives until May 6 for the inquiry.

Governor Shaw has named the members of three of the six commissions created by the legislature last winter—the library commission, which is to promote the general library interests of the state, the commission to locate the positions occupied by Iowa troops at the battle of Vicksburg and the Shiloh commission which carries an appropriation of $50,000 for the erection of monuments to mark the spots occupied by Iowa soldiers on the field at Shiloh. Captain W. H. Johnson, of Fort Dodge, president of the state library association; Mrs. D. W. Norris, of Grinnell; Mrs. H. M. Towner, of Corning, and Miss Jessie B. Waite, of Burlington, were appointed members of the library commission for terms of two, three, four and five years, as provided in the bill. The state librarian, superintendent of public instruction and president of the state university are ex-officio members. The law goes into effect July 1 and the commission will meet immediately after that.

The governor has signed the bill by Representative Miller of Fayette, requiring that teachers in the public schools shall be instructed in the rudiments of music. It is not necessary that they shall be singers or performers on any instrument, but they must understand the rudiments of the art of reading music. The governor seriously considered the advisability of vetoing the bill, but found that President Seerley of the state normal school among others, endorsed it very strongly. Finding a considerable sentiment among teachers themselves in favor of the measure, he concluded to allow it to become law.

The Vicksburg commission consists of one member of each of the Iowa regiments or batteries which fought on those fields, and three at large, making thirty-five; the Shiloh commission consists of one member from each regiment or battery, making eleven.

Treasurer of State Herriott reports that every cent of the Agricultural College endowment funds have been loaned out at 5 per cent. More than $200,000 was on hand when the legislature adjourned, but the law passed by it allowing the trustees of the college to loan the money at the market rate resulted in the quick disposition of the funds.

MONTENEGRO SURRENDERS.

Leading Filipino General Capitulates to Colonel Smith.

MANILA, April 18.—General Montenegro, one of the insurgents' best fighters, surrendered to Colonel Smith in the mountains near Camaling province, Pangasinan, where General Macabulos has been trying to reorganize the Filipino army. Colonel Smith, with five companies of the Seventeenth regiment, nearly surrounded the force of Montenegro, who, discouraged by the impossibility of making the men stand against the Americans, surrendered. Macabulos escaped. The insurgents attacked San Jose in the province of Batangas and Santa Cruz on the lake, fruitlessly.

Nicaragua Bill Amended.

WASHINGTON, April 21.—The house committee on interstate and foreign commerce has made an important change in the Hepburn Nicaraguan canal bill, striking out the provision for "fortification." This was agreed to with a view of overcoming opposition and securing action. Mr. Hepburn, in charge of the bill, announces a definite arrangement has been reached by which the bill will be considered by the house on May 1 and 2.