IS AFTER THE POLE

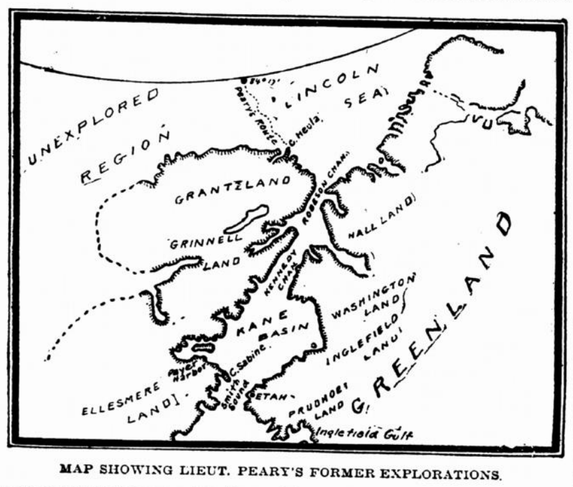
PEARY TO MAKE HIS FIFTH EXPEDITION TO THE NORTH.

PREPARING VERY CAREFULLY

Confident That He Will Succeed This Time—Something About His Former Expeditions to the Land of Ice.

COMMANDER ROBERT E. PEARY, of the United States navy, who already has made four attempts to reach the north pole and plant the Stars and Stripes upon the spot which scientists tell us is cut by the axis of the earth's rotation, is making careful preparations for a fifth expedition into the frozen north, and this time the intrepid and persistent explorer expects to win the prize which has tempted so many to risk life and endure every hardship and peril to gain. Commander Peary proposes to sail next July, fix his permanent base at Cape Sabine, push on to winter quarters on the northern coast of Grant land at Cape Hecla, and make "the dash for the pole" in February of next year, a month earlier than upon previous expeditions. It is said that the German antarctic exploring steamer, the Gauss, whose machinery and structure have proved excellently adapted to polar ice, may be purchased for Peary's expedition.

The secret of Commander Peary's indomitable purpose to reach the pole is revealed in the preface to his book describing his first journeys into the polar regions when he says: "The constant incentive in my work has been an ineradicable feeling that I saw something before me worthy and possible of accomplishment, and that I could never have content until it was done, or that I had satisfied myself that I was not the one to do it." And the preparations which Peary is making for a fifth try for the pole is proof that he still believes that the pole can be reached and that there is no good reason that he should not be the one to win the prize. In fact, every successive expedition which the commander has made has strengthened his convictions that the pole can be reached, and that conditions being favorable, he is the one who can reach it.



MAP SHOWING LIEUT. PEARY'S FORMER EXPLORATIONS.

PLANTING THE STARS AND STRIPES AT PEARY'S FARTHEST NORTH.

In 1886 Peary made a summer voyage and reconnaissance of the Greenland inland ice, and it was preliminary to the splendid arctic work which Mr. Peary was to do later. The first expedition was made in 1891-92, and consumed 13 months, spent in northern Greenland. A 1,200-sledge journey was made across the ice cap of Greenland, and the crowning success of the expedition was the determiantion of the insularity of Greeland.

One year later, in 1893, Commander Peary again penetrated to north Greenland, and made a 25-months' stay there. He again covered 1,200 miles by dog sledges, crossed the ice cap again, completed the study of the Whale sound natives, and made a detail survey of that region. In addition to this, the explorer made the discovery of the great Cape York meteorites.

The third trip, or rather trips, for 1896 and 1897 saw Commander Peary making summer trips to Meteorite island, was devoted to the securing of the meteorites previously discovered. One meteorite called the "Woman," and weighing 5,500 pounds, and another the "Dog," somewhat smaller, were successfully placed on board the Kite and brought back home. Peary, in the following year (1897), returned and, after tremendous and marvelous skill, succeeded in bringing down to the shore and placing upon the Hope the 90-ton meteorite called the "Tent," because of its peculiar shape.

Peary returned from his fourth expedition to Greenland and his attempt to reach the pole in 1902, and still believes in the Smith sound route. There are two routes, the Franz Josef Land route and the Behring strait route, and although in 1902 there were various polar expeditions from the different routes, the vexed question as to the best route was not settled. Mr. Evelyn B. Baldwin, whose elaborately equipped and expensive expedition set out to gain the pole by way of Franz Josef Land, failed, it is said, because of bad material in the party and owing to insufficient equipment. The trouble growing out of the abortive attempt, and the dissatisfaction of Mr. Zeigler, who furnished the funds for the expedition, are still fresh in the public mind.

The only explorer who returned in 1902 with valuable discoveries was Capt. Otto Sverdrup, who was commander of the Fram during Nansen's drift across the Arctic ocean in 1893-95, and who had set forth in the same vessel in 1898 to make explorations in Greenland waters.

Peary, as we have said, still believes in the Smith sound route, and will try for the pole again from that direction. In his "dash for the pole" in 1902 he found himself unable to proceed beyond latitude 84 degrees and 17 minutes, mainly because of men and delay in starting across the sea ice, due to the fact that his headquarters were too far south of the Polar ocean. Nansen had previously reached 86 degrees and 14 minutes north latitude, and Duke of Abruzzi 86 degrees, 34 minutes, so that there are two explorers who have penetrated farther north than Peary. The latter spent the winter of 1901-02 at Payer Harbor, near Cape Sabine. On March 3, 1902, an advance party of six sledges, under the command of Mr. Peary's colored servant, Matt Henson, started to transport provisions to Fort Conger, and on the sixth 18 more sledges left Cape Sabine. From Fort Conger it was necessary to carry supplies to the edge of the ocean at Cape Hecla, and thus a difficult preliminary journey of more than 400 miles had to be accomplished before the expedition could leave the land—a journey that would have been unnecessary had the expedition carried a party strong enough to establish a headquarters at the limit of solid land.

On April 1, with Henson, four Esquimos and six sledges, the leader set forth over the rough ice of the Polar sea. After 15 days, confronted by small floes, of which the edges were crumpled into mounds sometimes 50 feet high by the pressure of the pack, he was forced to abandon further advance. He reached Cape Hecla on April 24 and continued to Cape Sabine, where he arrived on April 29. The auxiliary steamer Windward, bearing Mrs. Peary and her daughter, Marie Anneghito, who was born in the frozen north during the expedition of 1893, reached Payer Harbor on August 5, took off the explorer and his party and made towards home.

The plans to reach the pole in the future, as announced by Mr. Peary, are an evolution of schemes put forward at different times by various explorers, namely: A headquarters on the furthest attainable land, supported by a line of caches down to the limit of regular navigation; a large supporting party to replenish the supplies of the caches and of the headquarters; and a dash with a light party over the ice floes. The new features of Mr. Peary's plan are a light pioneer party to go in advance of the main party, for the purpose of mapping out a route, and the use of Esquimaux in the preliminary work. In fact, the expedition has in mind the redistribution of the entire tribe of Whale sound Esquimaux in a series of settlements extending from Cape Sabine in the south to Cape Hecla, the proposed point of departure of the "dash for the pole."

With plans carefully laid, and Commander Peary's long experience in arctic exploration to overcome the difficulties, there is reason to hope and expect that he will reach the goal of his ambition, if it is possible for man to reach the pole at all.

MAKING PRECIOUS STONES

Rudolph Oblatt, a chemist and expert on precious stones, is reported to have invented a process for the fusing of particles of ruby, known as ruby waste, into stones of a commercial size. The stones which he has produced have received considerable attention from local geologists and are pronounced genuine. He selects, says the New York Commercial, from the small, rough, genuine ruby particles whose colors and qualities are practically the same. One chip he places upon the top of a U-shaped platinum tube. He then applies the heat, which is concentrated by a special process and forced upon the ruby with an air pressure of 800 pounds. As the chip is melted he adds other chips until he has built up a genuine ruby whose weight varies from five to ten carats. The operation requires from one to two hours.

After the ruby has been produced a difficult task remains—that of cooling of the stone, which is at a tremendous heat. This is accomplished by a scientific process which prevents cracking. The ruby is sent to the precious-stone cutters, where it passes exactly through the same process as a stone from the Burmah mines.

Trial by Fire.

Church—You can't tell what's in a man until he's tried by fire.

Gotham—The same thing can be said of a cigar.—Yonkers Statesman.

GOSSIP FROM SKANDINAVIA

Holger Drachmann, the Danish poet, wrote a very significant poem at Eidsvold, Norway, on the one-hundredth birthday of Runeberg, the great poet of Finland. The poem consists of nine long stanzas, and every one of them breathe more or less of the spirit expressed in the following words: The Scandinavian nations are divided; they ought to stand together as a unit before the outside world; if they do not stand together they may be gobbled up by the Muscovites. The motto of the poem reads thus: "Out of the way, Muscovites!" In the seventh stanza the Russian is called "a terrible beast," Swedish words (fasligt djur) being used in this case, while the poem as a whole is written in Norwegian-Danish.

The Swedish system and the Danish system of gymnastics have been struggling for supremacy in Denmark during the past few years. Until very recently the struggle was confined to civil life, that is to say, to the schools and to the medical practice. Now the champions of the Swedish system have carried their campaign into the army, and so strong an impression have they already made on the highest military authorities that experts have been ordered to draw up new regulations of gymnastics for the Danish army. As far as known, the new rules will embody what might be called an eclectic system, retaining many features of the present system and adding some important ones from the Swedish system.

SWEDEN.

A company has been organized or the construction of a new railway between Hvetlanda and Malilla.

A newspaper at Ystad states that the minister of agriculture and another member of the cabinet are going to mediate between the beet growers and the sugar manufacturers for the purpose of inducing them to settle the present conflict between them by means of a compromise.

The labor unions of Malmo have passed a resolution in favor of a grand national strike as a means of extending the political privileges of the workingmen. The labor unions of Malmo have been looked upon as careful and conservative, but during the last few months their old leaders have been crowded into the background by younger and more radical men.

The vestments for the bishop of the new diocese of Lulea have been made by a Gothenberg firm at a cost of about $675.

Mrs. Caroline Cadier of Stockholm has turned $13,500 over to the board of education of Jacob and Johannes parish with instructions that 5 per cent of the interest shall be added to the principal every year, time without end; that 95 per cent of the interest shall be given to persons who have worked for Mrs. Cadier; and that after the death of the last one of them, their share shall be given to the outing colonies of the schools of the above mentioned parish. About 30 of Mrs. Cadier's former servants have applied for the pension to which they are entitled.

Erik Wijk, a Gottenberg merchant, donated $13,500 to Chalmer's Institute of that city.

The mobilization of the infantry on the island of Gotland was effected with dispatch and great regularity, and wherever the soldiers came in contact with the people at large they were met with marked good will.

The Russian government seems to be keeping agents in the northeastern part of Sweden for the purpose of making the common people believe that it would be better for them to be subjects of the grand, sacred Russian empire than to remain under the heels of their Swedish tyrants. The political gospel preached by these agents is expressed as follows by Norrbotten-Kuriren: Away with the lordlings and establish connections with Russia, which has sympathy for the peasant, and wants to help him. In Russia one does not need to do more work than what is fair, pleasant and expedient in order to make a living. The agitation is carried on quite openly.

A bran new type of freight cars has just been introduced on the state railways of Sweden. There are ten cars in the first lot, and they were made at the Arlof carshops. They are constructed exclusively for transportation of steam boilers and similar objects. The frame rests on six wheels and has a capacity of 30 tons, or twice that of the latest make of the old type of freight cars. One of the features of the new cars is, that their bottoms can be removed so that there will be space for loading clear down to the axles. When the old cars were used it was often necessary to remove projecting portions of the steam boilers in order to keep the profile of the load within its prescribed limit. This trouble will be avoided by the use of the new type of cars.

Krupp and other German manufacturers have made contracts with the Svappavara mining company for the delivery of large quantities of iron ore provided the government makes a reduction of the rates on the government railway from Svappavara to Kiruna.

Mr. E. J. Ekman, superintendent of missions of the Swedish mission Covenant, wrote a book against the doctrine of eternal punishment and some other dogmas, and his colleagues made it so hot for him that he resigned all positions held by him in the Covenant.

Rev. Olof Bergquist of Gellivare has been appointed bishop of the new diocese of Lulea, in the extreme north of Sweden. He was born at Brunstog, Vermland, in 1862, and completed his theological studies in 1892. The new bishop preaches in Swedish and Lappish and is very popular.

In view of the fact that the Russian Baltic squadron has been twice sighted off the coast of Sweden, it is officially announced by the Swedish government that submarine mines have been laid off the coast at certain points.

Engineer Ake Sjogren, Count Erik von Rosen and Capt. Fredrik Bjorkenstam spent half a month hunting bears in the Finnish and Russian Karelen. They brought back as trophies two live bear cubs, two huge bears and several bear-skins. Engineer Sjogren killed one of the big bears with a spear constructed by himself. It took him three or four minutes to finish the beast. The handle of the spear is about seven feet long, and next to the head it is protected by a strong brass ferrule. When Mr. Sjogren ran the spear into the neck of the bear the latter took the ferrule between his teeth and bit deep dents into it though it is made of thick material. In the den of this bear were also three two-year-old bears which were shot by the other men. The big bears were taken to Upsala, where they will be mounted by Mr. Kolthoff, and Mr. Sjogren intends to keep them as well as his spear on exhibition at his Malsaker estate in Malaren. The mother of the live cubs was shot by Capt. Bjorkenstam, and Count von Rosen remained in the Karelen to try his luck once more.

S. A. Andree, who disappeared with his balloon in the polar regions almost six years ago, was officially declared to be "dead" Feb. 24, 1904.

The whole number of strikes and lockouts that occurred in Sweden in 1903 was 142, affecting 470 employers and 22,474 employes.

The population is on the decrease in the farming communities of southeastern Skane, some of the people emigrating to foreign countries, others removing to Swedish cities.

"The Friends of Needle-Work" is the name of a Stockholm society which for a quarter of a century has done a great deal of good. During the last few months the manager has been at loggerheads with the directors, and the friction at last became so unpleasant that the crown princess handed in her resignation as the patron of the organization.

NORWAY.

The Ronneberg Preserving Company of Stavanger has so far managed to remain outside the canners' combine. Time and again the managers of the combine urged Mr. Ronneberg to join the combine, and when suasion failed they served notice on their purveyors to this effect: If you sell goods to the Ronneberg Preserving Company we shall buy no more goods of you. Mr. Ronneberg answered by beginning legal proceedings against the combine on the charge of boycott and illegal attempt to destroy his business. Mr. Ronneberg declares that he cannot even buy provisions for his own family.

The "spring herring" catch is considerably larger this year than last year, but the prices are so much lower that the actual returns to the fishermen will be smaller. The codfish season opened under favorable circumstances in many localities, notably in Tromsoamt, where the returns up to March first were 1,900,000 fish, or more than one-half of the average catch for the past ten years. This success is due in a large measure to the contribution of the Svendsgrund and the Melangsgrund, two banks far out in the ocean. Codfish shoals are approaching Finmarken, but they still remain in deep water. At the close of February there were 3,650 fishing smacks on the Lofoten fishing grounds, but the total catch up to Feb. 27 was only 257,000 codfish.

The new bill for the regulation of the liquor traffic provides that no liquors shall be sold after ten o'clock at night.

More about Oscar II, the passenger steamer that was grounded near Kristiansand. It contained a cargo of 3,300 tons, the bulk of which was grain. After it had settled down solidly the top of its hull rose about nine feet above the water, and all the rooms were full of water.

Ludwig Meyer, the whilom leader of the social democratic party, who emigrated to Africa a few days ago, is now admitted by friend and foe alike to have been one of the most eloquent of the Norwegians of his day.

The controversy aroused by the proposition to appoint Rev. Ording to the chair of systematic theology in the university of Norway, became so heated that the whole matter was dropped for the time being, the crown prince, in the capacity of regent during the king's stay at Abazzia, deciding that "the position shall not be filled at present." The objections against the candidate came exclusively from the orthodox church people because he is said to look upon the sacrament of baptism as a symbol of future grace, not as a power of salvation; and upon the eucharist as a symbol, not as an embodiment of, the "body and blood of Jesus." Ibsen, Schonning and Michelsen, members of the cabinet, are said to have voted for Ording.

DENMARK.

The second edition of Prof. Block's book, "Death," has just appeared. It is a unique book, and it is in process of translation into other languages.

Copenhagen, Denmark, Feb. 9.—United States Minister Lauritz S. Swenson and his wife have taken a prominent part in the social life of Copenhagen during the present season and have entertained extensively. As Minister Swenson is the dean of the diplomatic corps his formal functions are among the notable ones of the season in the Danish capital and attract considerable attention.

The folketing has passed the bill which provides for government life insurance, the establishment of a government loan fund and a loan fund for workmen's homes.

The Scandinavian interparliamentary peace convention for which arrangements have been made in Paris, will take place November next, during the session of the French chamber of deputies, and the gathering will be made the occasion for a great peace demonstration. It is expected that the Scandinavian friends of peace will turn out in great numbers.

The population of Abazzia, on the Adriatic sea, turned out in large numbers upon the arrival of King Oscar, and the authorities as well as the common people gave him a very cordial reception.

MINNESOTA NEWS.

Cannibalism.

A party who has been cruising between Tower and Koochiching confirms the report of the alleged cannibalism on the Lett Lake reservation.

Brandon was near Pelican lake at the time the Indian was claimed to have killed and eaten his wife and child, and the second day after met a small party of Boise Fort Indians, who were on their way to the west end of Vermillion lake. From these Indians Brandon learned of the killing, and he says his information is unquestionably authentic. He was told that the Indian who is claimed to have committed the horrible deed was a shiftless sort of a fellow, and during a drunken spree killed both his wife and child, and later devoured parts of their bodies to avert starvation.

This Indian lived in a distant part of the reservation, and the first news of the deed was brought by a guide. A party was sent to the Indian's cabin at once and will bring him to Nett Lake if possible.

Horticultural Society.

The Red River Valley Horticultural society met at Crookston for its first annual gathering and permanent organization. The association was started at a farmers' institute held at Crookston last year, but officers were not selected. Representatives of the fruit growing industry from various points in the valley gathered and after an interesting session choose Frank T. Haseltine of Crookston president, O. J. Hagen of Hendrum vice-president, T. A. Hoverstad of Crookston secretary and A. E. Cannon of Detroit, treasurer.

Wyman Elliott, president, and A. W. Latham, secretary of the state association, delivered addresses; Frank T. Haselstine, the pioneer nurseryman of the valley, O. A. Solem of Norman county, who has been successful in growing apples, and Mr. Cannon of Detroit read papers, and all reported success in some of the lines followed.

Desperate Burglars.

After beating and choking her almost into a state of insensibility, two masked burglars, who ransacked the house and piled up valuables in little heaps all over the first floor rooms, ready to carry away, attempted a dastardly outrage on Mrs. W. H. Hensel, 609 Jackson street, St. Paul, early one evening, and but for an accident would have accomplished their purpose.

Mrs. Hensel is the wife of a vice-president of the Junior Pioneers, and proprietor of a transfer company. She was ill and in a highly nervous state at the time, and is in a serious condition. Great red welts on each side of the throat, braised places on the skin of the throat and shoulders, and several scalp wounds where her hair was torn out by the roots in her struggle, tell of the desperate struggle.

Shot His Father.

G. A. Klien, one of the leading jewelers of Duluth, was shot by his son early in the morning and dangerously wounded. According to the story told by the family, Klien was awakened by a revolver shot, and investigating found his son, who is twenty-one years of age, wildly waving a revolver and shouting that there were burglars in the house. As soon as he saw his father he turned the revolver on him and shot him twice, one bullet going thru the body and the other thru the arm.

The family says the boy was subject to nightmare and was in that condition when the shooting occurred.

Badly Burned.

Mrs. Snyder, wife of Prof. Harry Snyder, professor of chemistry at the school of agriculture, was horribly burned at her home, 2990 Commonwealth avenue, St. Paul, and is said to be in a critical condition.

Miss Hansen, a servent, who went to Mrs. Snyder, was also badly burned about the arms and face. The house was set on fire, and the rear portion of it burned away, causing a loss of $500. The accident had been caused by a skirt that had been cleaned by gasoline catching fire. Altho Mrs. Snyder's condition is serious it is thought she will recover.

Lumbering.

Seventy squatters from the Twin Cities and other towns in Minnesota who have taken up the greater portion of an unsurveyed township in Itasca county, have formed the Northern Minnesota Log and Timber company, for the purpose of marketing their pine direct, without having to contribute to the middleman's profit. They will put in a sawmill, cut off the timber and dispose of it to the open market.

News Notes.

A new driving club will be organized in St. Paul.

The Minnesota Boat club is planning to hold two regattes.

Only two state banks have gone into liquidation since 1899.

Burglars ransack the home of M. L. Ellis, East Winfred street, St. Paul.

The last legislature passed conflicting laws relating to fish houses.

The Pelican Rapids Telephone company has elected the following officers: President, J. P. Wallace; vice-president, O. M. Carr; treasurer, N. P. Moen; secretary and manager, C. L. Wood.

Charles A. Harris, the Drummond mail carrier, who was caught in a blizzard, died from complications resulting from frost bites.

Tuesday, March 22, the bankers of the first congressional district will meet in Austin to organize what is known as the group system. Every city in the district will be represented.

At the farmers' institute at Westbrook fully 1,000 farmers and their families were present. The people of Westbrook had thoroly advertised the institute and furnished free a substantial dinner to the farmers and their families.

Dr. J. T. Millspaugh of the Winona state normal school of Minnesota was chosen president of the Los Angeles (Cal.) state normal school by the board of trustees.

Hokah is practically without a government, and will remain in that condition until the regular election in April. Daniel Brown, president of the board of trustees, has moved to a farm and the justice of the peace moved away.

The Great Northern has decided to discontinue its telegraph service on its Pelican Rapids branch and use telephones instead.

MINNESOTA REPUBLICANS.

The State Convention Meets in Minneapolis and Names Delegates to the National Convention.

DELEGATES-AT-LARGE.

Senator Knute Nelson, Alexandria.
Senator Moses E. Clapp, St. Paul.
Governor S. R. Van Sant, Winona.
Thomas Lowry, Minneapolis.

ALTERNATES.

E. J. Herringer, Norman County.
A. R. McGill, St. Paul.
T. W. Hugo, Duluth.
Frank T. White, Sherburne County.

The Republican state convention opened in the Bijou theater, Minneapolis, at 12:30 the 17th, with 1,100 delegates filling every seat in the balcony and lower floor.

Robert Jameson, chairman of the state central committee, called the convention to order, and introduced T. W. Hugo, of Duluth, as temporary chairman.

Thomas Girling of Minneapolis and J. S. Scribner of Cass county were elected secretaries of the convention.

A motion to the effect that the temporary organization be made permanent was passed without opposition, as was a motion to the effect that all delegates as seated be considered accredited.

The chair then named an "impromptu committee on resolutions which had been prepared beforehand," which was made up as follows:

Chairman, W. H. Grimshaw; Samuel Lord, L. P. Hunt, E. A. Cosgrove, A. R. McGill, R. P. Brower, Julius Schmall, Guy Eaton and Albert Berg, each district being represented on the committee.

While the committee retired with the chairman for a conference, the chair took the opportunity of introducing Gov. Van Sant to the audience as the "Hero of the Merger."

The governor was greeted with wave after wave of applause as he came to the front.

The resolutions adopted by the state convention were as follows:

The Republicans of the state of Minnesota, in convention assembled address themselves to the people of this state in the following declaration:

Resolved, We commend entirely and without reservation the administration of President Roosevelt and demand his renomination and election. We are proud of his courage, his purity and his devotion to the interests of the entire country, and pledge him the earnest support of the Republicans of Minnesota in all his efforts to continue and advance the prosperity of the people at home and the glory of the republic abroad. We congratulate the country on its happy and prosperous condition, brought about as a direct result of the application of Republican principles and policies of government.

We declare that all classes of our people have enjoyed a greater degree of improvement and prosperity than ever before in the nation's history and we congratulate the president and the party on the prompt and complete fulfilment of its pledges.

Resolved, That the following named representative citizens of the state of Minnesota are hereby elected by this convention as delegates at large for the Republican national convention.

Senator Knute Nelson of Alexandria.
Senator Moses E. Clapp of St. Paul.
Gov. Samuel R. Van Sant of Winona.
Thomas Lowry of Minneapolis.

Resolved, That we desire and instruct the above named delegates, chosen by this convention, to labor in the national convention for the nomination of President Roosevelt.

We reiterate our faith in the historic principle of protection. Under its influence our country, foremost in the bounties of nature, has become foremost in production. It has enabled the laborer to successfully insist upon good wages and has induced capital to engage in production with a reasonable hope of a fair reward. Its vindication is found in the history of its success and the rapidity with which our national resources have been developed and our industrial independence secured and we heartily renew our pledge to maintain it.

We believe that protection and reciprocity are twin measures of Republican policy and success, or, in other words, the correct application of reciprocity is protection. We demand enlarged markets for the products of our farms and factories. We demand admission of the necessaries of life which we do not produce from other countries under reciprocal agreements of mutual interests which gain open markets for us with other nations, always keeping in view the fact that our home protection must not be impaired. We favor such modifications of tariff schedules as from time to time are required by changing conditions and insist that such changes shall be made in line with the fundamental principle of protection.

TRUSTS.

We believe that the large corporations commonly called "trusts" should be regulated by law and supervised both in their organization and operation that their tendencies may be checked and their evil practices prevented, and insist that they shall be so regulated and controlled as to prevent monopoly and promote competition and in the fullest measure subserve and advance the public good.

PENSION LAWS.

The veterans of the union armies deserve and should receive the best treatment and generous recognition and they should be given the preference in the matter of employment, and they are entitled to the enactment of such laws as are best calculated to secure the fulfillment of the pledges made to them in the dark days of the country's peril.

We are gratified that we can henceforth mention Cuba as our sister republic, and it is a matter of national pride that the valor of American arms and the wisdom of American statesmanship are responsible for this grand, progressive and joyous international result. We call attention to the fact that the annexation of Porto Rico to the United States, the banishment of Spanish tyranny from this hemisphere, the expansion of this country to the extent of thousands of square miles of new territory, the acknowledged supremacy of the American army and navy, together with the existence of the republic of Cuba, which has arisen from the ruins of monarchy, has all occurred during the administration of the Republican party.

ISTHMIAN CANAL.

We urge legislation that will expedite the construction of the isthmian canal in order that our commerce may be extended in peace and our country protected in war and that our ships may come in competition with our railroads.

Resolved, That it is the sense and choice of this convention that both of our senators succeed themselves in the United States senate when their respective terms expire.

CONGRESSMEN.

The Republican party of Minnesota indorses the conduct of its Republican representatives in congress and is proud of the ability shown and the conspicuous part taken by each in shaping legislation.

We cordially and heartily indorse and commend the able, efficient and fearless administration of Gov. Samuel R. Van Sant.

IN CONCLUSION.

We recommend a substantial and uninterrupted increase in the strength of our navy. We adhere to the Monroe doctrine to the letter. We advocate the extension of the postal rural free delivery service wherever its extension may be justified. We urge the construction of good roads in every section of our state.

COURT DECISIONS.

The statute requiring notes given for patent rights to state that fact on their faces is held, in state vs. Cook (Tenn.), 62 L. R. A. 174, not to be unconstitutional.

Upon trial of an indictment for murder proof of the killing of a third person is held, in people vs. Molineux (N. Y.), 62 L. R. A. 193, not to be admissible. A very elaborate note, to this case reviews all the other authorities on evidence of other crimes in criminal cases.

The statutory prohibition of the manufacture or sale of baking powder containing alum is held, in state vs. Layton (Mo.), 62 L. R. A. 163, not to be unconstitutional in view of the dispute as to the fact of its wholesomeness, which prevents the court from taking judical notice that it is wholesome and innocuous.

Necessary medical attendance furnished a husband temporarily incapacitated by illness, who is actually a part of the family, living with it as such, is held, in Leake vs. Lucas (Neb.), 62 L. R. A. 190, to come fairly within the rule of the statute making the wife liable as surety for necessaries furnished the family.

TRAPPED BY TREATY

WHY RUSSIA'S BLACK SEA FLEET IS LOCKED IN.

ALL EUROPE IS INTERESTED

Every Great Continental Power a Party to the Treaty That Keeps the Dardanelles Closed Against Warships.

THE key that has seemingly so effectively locked the doors against Russia's Black Sea fleet, and now prevents it taking any active part in the war game in the far east, was the treaty of Paris, signed March 30, 1856, and which marked the close of the bloody Crimean war in which England and France, as allies of Turkey, had given the ambitious house of Romanoff a set-back from which it never fully recovered.

The closing of the Dardanelles was a stipulation practically demanded by Russia at this time. Though Turkey had virtually kept them closed to the nations of the world when it was to her interest to do so, Russia had found that the Turkish fortifications offered no resistance to Turkey's allies, and England's navy had played sad havoc with Russian coast cities. The same treaty provided for the demolishment of Russia's fortifications and arsenals at points on the Black sea, leaving the nation virtually defenseless against any invading force which might be able to attack her in this weak spot, as Turkey was liable to do at any time.

The peace of San Stafana, signed March 2, 1878, and which marked the close of the Russia-Turkish war of 1877, and the secret understanding in reference to the passage of the Dardanelles forced upon the defeated sultan by the czar, would have virtually undone all that was accomplished by the earlier treaty had not England opposed the settlement between the two countries and insisted upon a congress of statesmen representing the European nations to pass judgment upon the peace treaty. England went so far at this time as to threaten war upon Russia unless these demands were complied with, and for a time it seemed as though all Europe would become entangled in one great contest. Russia, seeing herself far outclassed in fighting strength by the combinations formed against her, finally consented to the calling of a congress, and it met at Berlin on June 13, 1878, with Prince Bismarck as president. The congress settled the many vexed problems confronting Europe at that time, and among other things left the Dardanelles closed. It was during the sessions of this congress that the completion of a treaty of alliance between England and Turkey was announced, an announcement which played a prominent part in the settlement of the Dardanelles question before the congress.

As this congress was participated in by all of the great powers of Europe and as all were parties to the treaty concluded there, the passage of the Black Sea fleet through the Dardanelles even with the consent of Turkey would be an affront to every nation of Europe if they wished to consider it such. That England would oppose it, even to the extent of a declaration of war, there can be but little doubt, for it would confront her with a new danger for her possessions in India and the Mediterranean.

The narrow straits which connect the Mediterranean with the Sea of Marmora and the Black sea have played a prominent part in the history of Europe from the earliest times. Xerxes with an army estimated by historians at more than 5,000,000, including camp followers, crossed the straits on a bridge of boats at the time of his disastrous campaign against the Greeks, 480 B. C. All the land invasions of Europe by the Asiatics necessarily followed the same route.

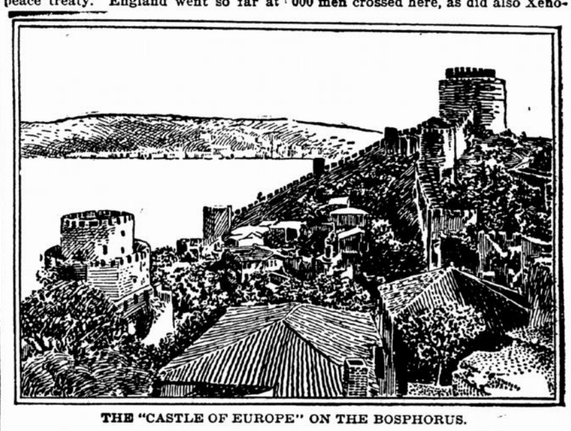
The straits were not fortified until the reign of Mohomet IV. in 1659, under whose direction there was built the castles of Sestos and Abydos on opposite shores. The building of these castles virtually marked the closing of the straits to the commerce and the navies of the world, excepting at the will of Turkey, until the treaty of Paris of 1856 opened them again to the unrestricted passage of merchant vessels.

England felt the strength of the Turkish fortifications in 1807 when she sent a fleet of warships past them to compel the sultan to renounce an alliance he had made with Napoleon, and renew an alliance with England. The Turks were so taken by surprise by the act of England that they did not seriously oppose the entrance of the naval fleet, but when, at the end of a week, the fleet was forced to repass the forts it was only at a great loss to the English.

There is nothing in Turkey upon which money is so lavishly expended as upon the fortifications on both sides of these straits. Gen. Miles inspected these fortifications at the time of his visit to Turkey during the Greco-Turkish war, and says of the fortifications along the Dardanelles:

"For several miles after entering the straits (from Constantinople) there are no forts, the channel being wide and the banks high; but about ten miles from the mouth the stream narrows and there is a sharp bend. Here are the most formidable works defending Constantinople, consisting of ten forts on the European side and five on the Asiatic. All of these forts have been modernized and mount the heaviest of recent guns. After passing this point of the Dardanelles the straits widen again and there are no more fortifications until the mouth is reached. Here again the banks bristle with guns."

From the Black sea Constantinople is protected by the fortifications along the Bosphoros. Should the Black sea fleet attempt to pass into the Agean these are the first fortifications they would encounter. Along either bank of this 20 miles of narrow waterway are stretched 17 forts. Some of these are so antiquated as to be comparatively useless, but many of them are modern and mount heavy ordnance. Some of the older ones date back as far as the fourteenth century. The picturesque Roumelia Hissar, or Castle of Europe is among the most interesting of all the forts along the Bosphoros, but it is comparatively useless. The Bosphoros, like the Dardanelles, is famous in history. Darius with his 700,000 men crossed here, as did also Xenophon with his 10,000 men on their return to Europe.



THE "CASTLE OF EUROPE" ON THE BOSPHORUS.

The fleet which the various international treaties, and the Turkish fortifications have locked in the Black sea number among its ships some of the best in the Russian navy. The fleet is also comparatively modern, as it has all been built since 1886, when the first three ships were laid down. The fleet consists of three first and five second class battleships, and while not large, as modern fleets go, it would give Russia a strong fleet for far eastern service if it could be added to the Baltic fleet and what is left of the Pacific fleet. The three first class battleships, Catherine II., Tchesme and Sinope are monsters of their kind. Their measurements are as follows: Displacement, 10,180 tons; length between the perpendiculars, 320 feet; beam, 69 feet; draught, 25 feet. The compound armor belt has a maximum thickness of 18 inches, and the triangular rebout is plated with ten inches. This redoubt, or citadel, is a special feature. It presents its base to the bows, and, inasmuch as two 12-inch 56 ton guns are coupled en barbette at each of the angles, the bow fire is exceedingly powerful. The six heavy guns are mounted on the disappearing guns principle, and only show over the top of the redoubt when about to fire. Of the seven six-inch guns, four are also disposed for bow fire and three directed astern.

Another remarkable vessel in this fleet is the Trisuititelia, which is the heaviest protected ship in the world. Some of the vessels of this fleet are speedy, running from 16 to 19 knots an hour. The Rostislav burns oil for fuel and made 18 knots on her trial trip.

Whether or not this fleet will succeed in getting out of the trap in which it is caught by international complications is a question that only time can answer, but if it does it should give a good account of itself in the far east, or it will at least prove whether or not the Russians are adepts at naval construction, for the entire fleet is necessarily of Russian build.

DANIEL CLEVERTON.

SENATORS FROM KANSAS

John T. Ingalls' "fated succession" is vividly recalled to mind by the present trouble in which Senator Burton finds himself. The brilliant Atchison statesman so designated the line of Kansas United States senators that started out with Gen. James H. Lane.

Those in the "fated succession," says the Topeka Capital, were James H. Lane, Edward G. Ross, Robert Crozier, Alexander Caldwell, James M. Harvey, Preston B. Plumb, Bishop K. Perkins, John Martin, Lucien Baker and the present Senator J. Ralph Burton. Lane committed suicide. Ross committed political suicide by voting against the impeachment of Andrew Johnson, and was driven out of his party. Crozier, who served about a year by appointment, died without leaving a single mark by which his brief senatorial career can be remembered. Caldwell resigned after two years' service to escape investigation.

Harvey, although he had been governor of his state and had made a fairly good reputation as such, made a very insignificant senator, and was, after three years' service, defeated for reelection and dropped out of political life. Plumb died in office at Washington. Perkins served a brief term by appointment and is scarcely remembered as a senator. Martin served two years, and left the senate poorer in purse and with less prestige than he possessed when he went in. Baker was almost a total failure, and his crushing defeat for reelection at the hands of Burton is still warm in the memory of the people of Kansas.

Brother Dickey's Philosophy.

"Dey say we'll soon be talkin' wid de stars," said Brother Dickey, "but, ter my min', de bes' thing we kin do is ter fin' out somefin' 'bout de worl' whar we livin' at!"—Atlanta Constitution.

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