TWO PARTS

The St. Paul Globe

PART ONE
Pages 1 to 12

VOL. XXII.—NO. 365. SUNDAY MORNING, DECEMBER 31, 1899.—TWENTY---TWO PAGES. PRICE FIVE CENTS.

MINNESOTA HISTORICAL SOCIETY

HOPE IN AMERICA

BRITONS AND BOERS TURN TO THE UNITED STATES IN THEIR EXTREMITY

ENGLAND MAY NEED FOODSTUFFS

BOERS WILL GO FURTHER, AND MAY ASK UNCLE SAM TO ACT AS PEACEMAKER

AGENTS TO BE SENT HERE

Will Present Their Case to Congressmen in Washington, and Bring Other Influences to Bear—American Interference Not Considered Probable—Coal Famine Is the Latest Difficulty for England.

Copyrighted by the Associated Press.

LONDON, Dec. 30.—It is strange to note that as the new year dawns for Great Britain the largest army she ever put in the field remains passive in South Africa, held at bay by two of the smallest republics on the face of the earth, while at home, in spite of the large volume of trade and apparent prosperity, her financial interests are in a state of instability not seen since the Baring crash. All Europe is yelping at her heels, and the necessity for America's friendship is recognized on all sides. Papers and people that for years have been ready with a jibe for America's good will no longer make any attempt to belittle the desirability of securing her friendship.

"America," says the Globe, usually humorous at the expense of all things transatlantic, "with a crop of 542,000,000 bushels, is especially in a position to help us."

ECONOMIC SHOE PINCHES.

The economic shoe already begins to pinch the military foot. Not very seriously, but enough to suggest grave cogitations as to what would happen if Great Britain were at war with a great power. The fact that the navy has chartered so many transports has resulted in a rise in the price of bread, while coal is rising by leaps and bounds to famine prices. It is such unpleasant results as these that silence the scoffer at things American, and induce such a vituperative publication as the Saturday Review to say:

"The Americans have had their eyes opened to the possibilities of a foreign policy and are taking a sounder, broader view of the situation. They are not less friendly to us than before, but the insincere element has been eliminated and has left a substratum of good will."

The Saturday Review, under different circumstances, would doubtless construe this into damning evidence of the insincerity of American friendship. It must be inferred that this view is held by many of the sincere English friends of America, who now point to what they are pleased to term its great friendliness as proof of what they have always maintained.

COMPELS ADMIRATION.

With such a serious outlook for the coming year it is hardly surprising that articles are appearing under the heard, "Are We Decadent?" and similar strains. On the other hand there is still a small section of the press and public which devotes its energies to senselessly abusing the Boers and prophesying the speedy entrance of the British into Pretoria. Yet, on the whole, the organs voicing the better class of opinion face 1900 and its eventualities in South Africa with an even-minded, unhysterical determination that compels admiration. That there will be a day of reckoning for someone is a certainty that even the most guarded and conservative do not try to conceal. Whether it be Lord Lansdowne, Lord Wolseley or Gen. Buller it is impossible to tell. But all the information obtainable at present and the gist of criticisms point to Lord Lansdowne having to shoulder the onus for the terrible mismanagement.

BOERS TURN TO AMERICA.

While Great Britain feeds contentedly upon long special cables, showing American friendship, the Boer agents in Europe believe sentiment in the United States has been gradually turning Boerward, until the time is now ripe to drop it into material effect. Under this impression, the Associated Press learns, they are contemplating dispatching a special mission to the United States for the purpose of influencing public opinion, possibly by open meetings and by personally assisting the efforts of those in congress whom they believe friendly. Moreover, they consider it advisable to offset what they declare has been a systematic campaign of John Hays Hammond, the American engineer, who was a member of the Johannesburg reform committee, to influence Washington opinion. If the plans now under consideration are carried out the mission will include a very prominent Boer agent and a pro-Boer member of the British parliament, who intended to sail this week, but was prevented by what is thought to be a temporary hitch in the arrangement. Their desire is to affiliate themselves with no particular party, but by influencing political and public opinion to secure at least an offer of mediation from the United States.

A representative of the Associated Press has made careful inquiries, but failed to find any circumstances to warrant the belief that such an offer, however made, would receive the slightest consideration.

COAL FAMINE FEARED.

The British government is threatened with a coal famine, the most serious development of recent weeks. Unless the conditions improve many industrial concerns depending upon the coal supply may have to suspend operations before February, as their margin of profit is rapidly being wiped out. The trouble appears to be the withdrawal of so many colliers to take their places in the ranks of the reserves. Wages have gone up, but labor is hard to find.

The enormous Christmas traffic aggravates the situation, while the government need of fuel for warships, transports and depots on the way to the Cape has created an unprecedented demand.

Thomas Kite, the old parish clerk of Shakespeare's church, has quickly followed the custodian of Hathaway's cottage to the grave. He was ninety-five years of age and succeeded his father and grandfather half a century ago, and was well known to all dramatic celebrities. Amongst those he conducted to Shakespeare's tomb were Sir Walter Scott, Washington Irving, Dickens, Emerson, Booth, Keene and Nathaniel Hawthorne.

Senior wrangler promises to be a thing of the past at Cambridge, the board of mathematics having recommended the abolition of this coveted distinction. If the senate agrees, as is probable, the wranglers will all be classed alphabetically, and none will know who is the cleverest mathematician of the year. For this honor men have worked themselves crazy, and it has been secured by some of the most prominent figures in English history.

DEATH OF MR. MOODY.

The death of Dwight L. Moody is universally commented on here and his visits to England have been recalled. The Times has a long editorial comparing the career of Mr. Moody to that of the Duke of Westminster. The weeklies, and even the halfpenny evening sheets, all paid tribute to the dead evangelist. A memorial service held in London was largely attended.

Among the latest distinguished men going to South Africa is Capt. Holford, who is one of the closest friends of the Prince of Wales, and his equerry. The captain sails Jan. 6, to join his regiment, the First life guards. From 1888 to 1892 Capt. Holford was equerry to the late Duke of Clarence, and since then has been equerry to the Prince of Wales. He is a wealthy land owner and proprietor of Dorchester house, London, famous for its picture galleries.

The king of the Belgians goes on a yachting cruise in the Mediterranean in January, returning to Belgium in March.

King Menelek, of Abyssinia, is soon going to Cairo as the guest of the khedive, thus disposing of the stories that he is collecting an army to invade the Soudan.

Nearly all the military men in Dublin are wearing mourning for Gen. Roberts' son.

GEN. WOOD'S CABINET.

Assignments of Portfolios Are to Be Issued at Once.

HAVANA, Dec. 30.—The names of the members of Gen. Wood's cabinet and the assignments of portfolios will be issued tomorrow. It is believed that the list will be as follows:

Secretary of State and Government—Diego Tamayo.
Secretary of Justice—Luis Estevez.
Secretary of Education—Juan Bautista Hernandez.
Secretary of Finance—Enrique Varona.
Secretary of Public Works—Jose Ramon Villalon.
Secretary of Agriculture, Industry and Commerce—Gen. Luis Rivera.

All of these names, with the exception of that of Senor Hernandez, have been expected for the past few days. The mention of the name of Senor Hernandez as secretary of education came as a surprise, although he holds an important professorship in the university and is prominent in Cuban national affairs. The papers generally have given the governor general great credit for the other five appointments, and from a Cuban point of view the cabinet is considered a strong one.

The mayors of all the towns and cities in the province of Santa Clara have held a meeting in order to determine for what they should petition the coming council. Prominent Cubans and other inhabitants of San Antonio de los Banos, in view of the recent attempts to lynch Spaniards, have formed a committee, called the local council of general interests, which has issued a circular saying that "in view of the lawlessness of some individuals, who wish to outrage the rights of the people, the committee is determined that such outrages shall cease, the committee acting as the sentinel of public order."

In Havana there is danger of Cubans and other laborers being underbidden in the labor market by Spaniards, who, coming from Spain, where they have been accustomed to work for almost nothing, snatch at employment at half the usual wages. Instead of attempting to swamp the labor market of the different towns, the Heraldo thinks, a labor bureau should attempt to divert the immigrants to the country, where labor is wanted.

LI HUNG CHANG HONORED.

Venerable Chinese Statesman Will Not Be Again Degraded.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 30—The Chinese minister, Mr. Wu Ting Fang, has received a dispatch from China stating that Li Hung Chang has been appointed acting viceroy of two provinces in the south of China, adjacent to Canton. The minister says this is a marked distinction to the venerable Chinese statesman, as the provinces are among the most populous and commercially important in the empire. Mr. Wu's dispatch clears up a misapprehension created by a recent unofficial dispatch stating that Earl Li would be made viceroy of one province, that of Canton, and that this would be followed by a degradation. On the contrary, the minister's advices show that the double viceroyalty is an unusual honr, said to be analogous to that of viceroy of India. The appearance of Li Hung Chang at the head of affairs in Southern China, it is believed, will have an important influence in that quarter, where the French "sphere of influence" is supposed to be located.

FAMILY POISONED.

Potato Vines Probably Polluted by Spraying to Kill Bugs.

ZANESVILLE, O., Dec. 30.—Hon. F. A. Durban, Mrs. Durban, Mariet Maillot, a French maid, and Mary Tysinge, a servant, narrowly escaped death by arsenical poisoning during the night. At dinner last evening mashed potatoes were served. All felt slightly indisposed when retiring last night, and early this morning Mr. Durban awoke very ill and weak. He called a physician and six hours' work were required to get the family past the danger point. Physicians think the poisoning was due to spraying the vines to kill bugs, the plant absorbing the poison.

GAVE UP AND DIED.

Well Known Railroad Official Ends His Life by Shooting.

GRAND RAPIDS, Mich., Dec. 30.—Auditor Uriah B. Rogers, of the Chicago & West Michigan and Detroit, Grand Rapids & Western railroads, committed suicide this noon by shooting himself through the head, while sitting at his desk in his private office. Death was instantaneous. Despondency over a long illness and a severe nervous strain are the probable causes of the deed. Mr. Rogers had been appointed auditor of the newly consolidated Pere Marquette system only day before yesterday.

NOW A PRIVATE CITIZEN.

Former President of Venezuela Makes His Home in Puerto Rico.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 30.—Word has been received here that Gen. Andrade, late president of Venezuela, who fled on a warship when the Castro revolution proved successful, is living quietly in Puerto Rico, where the American rule affords him every proper protection. Gen. Andrade has sent back the warship on which he left Venezuela, together with every other possession in any way belonging to the country, and he is now living as a private citizen.

Fatal Dynamite Explosion.

PITTSBURG, Dec. 30.—By an explosion of dynamite in the East end today, Peter Antonio and Ambrose Bonnell, two Italians, were fatally injured and several others slightly hurt. The men were engaged at blasting and attempted to thaw out some frozen dynamite.

CHINA TO BE OPEN

ALL POWERS SAVE ITALY HAVE RESPONDED FAVORABLY TO AMERICAN SUGGESTION

GREAT BRITAIN WAS FIRST

GERMANY CAME NEXT, THEN FRANCE FOLLOWED, AND FINALLY RUSSIA AND JAPAN

ITALY WILL LIKELY CONCUR

Powers Were Disposed to Resent the Prompt Acquiescence of Great Britain, on the Ground That It Made the Whole Arrangement Appear Like Joint Anglo-American Work—Oriental Trade Assured.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 30.—The negotiations opened by Secretary Hay with the great powers of Europe, and with Japan, towards securing a common understanding for a continued open door policy throughout China, have met with most gratifying results. The state department is unwilling at present to make public the nature of the replies received, as this information will be embodied in a special message to congress. But in other quarters, thoroughly reliable, and likely to have accurate and trustworthy information, it is learned that favorable responses have been made by Great Britain, Germany, France and Russia (the Russian communication coming as late as yesterday) and Japan. There is no doubt, it is thought, that Italy, the remaining country addressed, will make favorable answer, if indeed it has not already done so. The position of Italy is felt to be assured by the favorable course adopted by the other great powers of Europe.

The importance of this unanimous verdict by all the first-class powers of the world—Great Britain, Russia, Germany, France, Italy and Japan, in conjunction with the United States—can hardly be overestimated so far as it relates to the future of China and the commerce of the world in that empire. The state department is loath to discuss the far-reaching results when the agreement reaches the stage of formal consummation, for each favorable response is conditioned upon the favorable action of all the other parties, so that in each case the negotiations may be regarded as short of absolute finality. But while the department is silent, the details come from sources believed to be fully conversant with what has occurred.

GREAT BRITAIN FIRST.

According to this information, the British answer was the first to be submitted, and was exceptionally comprehensive and explicit in yielding to every suggestion made by the United States relative to maintaining the freest entry to the ports of China.

The British answer is said to emphasize the concurrence with the United States by adopting word for word much of the phraseology employed by Secretary Hay when he addressed his original note to Great Britain and the other powers. The wording is such as to make plain that the British government concurs for the present and hereafter, without limitation, in a policy of free access to China.

Although much secrecy was observed in the transmission of the British answer, its general purport became known at the other European capitals, and there was not a little irritation at what was regarded as a precipitate response, purposely designed to embarrass the continental powers by showing Great Britain and the United States acting in concert, while the rest of the world held aloof. But this situation was made much more satisfactory to the continental powers by their determination to act for themselves.

GERMANY NEXT.

Germany is said to have been the next power to answer in the affirmative. According to the information already referred to, the German answer was rather more vague than the one which had preceded it, but its general tendency was favorable, the only condition being that any arrangement as to free access to China should be universal and assented to by all of the powers.

The French answer is understood to have come next, and the circumstances attending it were rather peculiar, and not in the nature of a direct answer, although the result was regarded as most satisfactory. Secretary Hay's note had been forwarded to Gen. Horace Porter, the United States ambassador to France, who promptly called upon M. Delcasse, minister of foreign affairs in the French cabinet. Gen. Porter made known his mission, whereupon M. Delcasse showed the most sympathetic spirit and stated that he had already made ample answer to just such a communication, although at the time he had not intended it as an answer to the American note. This answer, M. Delcasse explained, was given in a speech made by him in November, in the French chamber. The main point of his speech in reference to China was that France desired the most ample freedom of commerce. M. Delcasse referred Gen. Porter to this speech, and told him that it fully gave the assurance which the United States desired. It is said that the meeting was gratifying on both sides, and that the results were considered to be a favorable acceptance from France.

RUSSIA RATHER SLOW.

The Russian negotiations have proceeded less briskly, so that it seemed for a time that Russia's attitude might not be favorable. This was dissipated, however, by the Russian ambassador, Count Cassini, in the course of interviews with Secretary Hay. On this occasion Count Cassini pointed out that a hurried answer was by no means the best evidence of a favorable attitude toward the American proposition, but that Russia was proceeding with due deliberation in order to arrive at some solid ground for a permanent understanding. The Russians were desirous of weighing the many incidental questions involved—such as the effect of the understanding on the territory known as "spheres of influence," as well as on the territory actually leased to the foreign powers, such as Talien Wan, Kiao Chau and the British and French ports. Besides giving these assurances Count Cassini showed personally the most friendly spirit toward the American proposition, as well as being desirous of giving an answer in this case which would be another instance of the friendly co-operation long observed between Russia and the United States.

The Russian position, it is understood, is similar to those preceding it with the same condition that Russia alone shall not be bound, but that all of the interested countries shall join in the agreement to keep the ports of China forever open.

In what order in the negotiations Japan's favorable attitude was made known cannot be stated, but it suffices that Japan made her position unmistakable in favor of the American proposition with the same reservation as in all the other cases that unanimity should be reached.

Although Italy is yet to be heard from definitely, no doubt is entertained that this country also will be favorable, thus making complete the satisfactory responses of all the great powers.

SENATOR VEST TO RETIRE.

Will Not Be a Candidate for Another Term.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 30.—"My present term in the senate will end my public career," said Senator Vest, of Missouri, today. "I have written a letter to a friend of mine, an editor in Clay county, in which I have said that this term will bring my public life to a close. In saying this, however, I am simply repeating the statement made to the Missouri legislature which last elected me, that I would not be a candidate for re-election."

Senator Vest's letter was brought out by a request for his views on the best method of electing senators, whether by convention or through primaries. In declaring in favor of the convention system, on the ground that primaries had resulted in party friction, Senator Vest took occasion to refer to his own lack of personal concern in the matter by announcing that he would not be a candidate again. His term does not expire until 1903, so that he has three years yet to serve. At the expiration of that time he will have been in the senate four terms, a total of twenty-four years. He took his seat on the 18th of March, 1879, having been elected to fill the vacancy caused by the death of Senator Bogy.

ENGINES OF WAR.

America to Have Greatest Battleships in the World.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 30.—Designs for the greatest battleships ever projected for the American navy were agreed upon by the naval board of construction today, after several months of discussion over the important questions of battery, armor, speed, coal capacity and displacement. The three vessels—to be called the Georgia, New Jersey and Pennsylvania—will equal in formidability the finest line-of-battle ships yet laid down by any foreign power, and with the additional typical American improvements will surpass in fighting force any ships now afloat.

NOT THIS YEAR.

Father Time—They Want Me to Try That. Guess I'll Stick to Wings.

BLANKET INDICTMENT.

Michigan Grand Jury Finally Reaches a Finding.

LANSING, Mich., Dec. 30.—The grand jury returned one indictment just before 1 o'clock today and adjourned till next Tuesday. As in previous cases, the prosecutor moved that the contents be kept secret until the party or parties named therein are arraigned, and the court so ordered. It is believed the document is a blanket in character and covers three or more names.

MRS. MORRISON DEAD.

Exonerated Her Husband in Her Ante-Mortem Statement.

NEW YORK, Dec. 30.—Mrs. Alfred Morrison, the wife of the professor of languages at Mount Vernon, who was shot by her husband early yesterday, died from the effects of the wound today. In her ante-mortem statement Mrs. Morrison exonerated her husband from blame. She has arisen to care for her sick child and her husband mistook her for a burglar, firing the fatal shot.

BACK TO BOSTON.

Ex-Banker Cole Starts on His Unpleasant Journey.

LOS ANGELES, Cal., Dec. 30.—Charles H. Cole, the Boston banker, accused of embezzling $900,000 of the funds of the Globe National bank, of that city, and arrested here, started for Boston tonight in charge of United States Marshal Osborne. Cole's wife and son will accompany him.

BOILER EXPLOSION.

Four Men Killed and Several Others Injured.

ELIZABETHTOWN, Pa., Dec. 30.—Four men were killed and several injured by a boiler explosion today. They were employes of Keller & Cresson, railroad contractors. The dead are: Donald Haldeman, of Bainbridge; Witt Sherbahn, of West Donegal; Burt Harris (colored); an Italian known as Tony.

Civil Service Improvement.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 30.—The civil service commission, in its annual report, to be issued next week, will say that the civil service laws are being more generally conformed to than ever before. It shows that the removals of employes, based upon its statistics for this year, now average slightly less than 2 per cent of the whole number of the classified places.

WOULD BE ABSURD

SO SAYS ATTORNEY GENERAL GRIGGS OF PROPOSED SUIT AGAINST RAILROADS

HAVE BROKEN NO STATUTE

RECLASSIFICATION CANNOT BE TAKEN AS AN INFRACTION OF ANTI-TRUST LAW

RELIEF NOT IN THE COURTS

Attorney General Holds That Shippers Must Turn to the Interstate Commerce Commission—Returns Transcript of Testimony to That Body, Accompanied by an Exhaustive Summing Up of the Case.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 30.—Attorney General Griggs today returned to the interstate commerce commission the transcript of the evidence taken at a hearing before the commission last week in the matter of the new freight classification, with a view to action by the attorney general under the anti-trust law, if his judgment warranted the same. The attorney general's letter follows:

"Department of Justice, Washington, D. C., Dec. 30, 1899.—The Interstate Commerce Commission—Gentlemen: I am in receipt of your communication of the 28th instant, and have given the matter such careful consideration as the limited time at my command has permitted.

"It appears that, on the 8th instant, the interstate commerce commission ordered an inquiry with respect to certain changes in freight classification, made by 'official classification number 20,' which is to take effect Jan. 1, 1900. At the conclusion of the testimony taken at the hearing on the 21st and 22nd instants, certain protesting shippers requested that a transcript of the proceedings be transmitted to the attorney general, claiming that a violation of the anti-trust law had been shown. Accordingly, you have transmitted copies of 'official classifications numbers 19 and 20,' a copy of the order for the hearing, a transcript of the proceedings, and a copy of the resolution and petition of certain shippers. You express no opinion upon the matter, but properly leave me to determine whether the facts show warrant for me in applying for an injunction to restrain the operation of the new classification on the ground that in adopting it the railroad companies violated the anti-trust law.

"The interstate commerce act went into effect in 1887. To comply with its provisions it was necessary for the railroad companies operating in the same territory to simplify their freight classification. Accordingly, at a convention of the railroads, a committee was appointed to prepare an official classification and submit it to the companies for their adoption. This was done and an official classification was adopted which was filed with the interstate commerce commission and went into effect April 1, 1887. Since that time nineteen official classifications have been prepared, submitted to the railroad companies, adopted and filed.

CLASSIFICATIONS FILED.

"During the current year two classifications were filed, No. 18 on Feb. 1, 1899, and No. 19 (now in force) on July 1, 1899. It appears from the testimony taken before you that this official classification is used substantially by the carriers operating in that part of the United States north of the Ohio and Potomac rivers, and east of the Mississippi river. There is an official classification committee, composed of some fourteen railroad officers from different sections. This committee meets on the call of its chairman, or upon the request of three members. At its meetings suggested changes are considered, such changes as the committee, with substantial unanimity recommend, are noted by the chairman and incorporated into a new official classification, which is then submitted to each company for its individual action. Some sixty railroad companies thus independently pass upon the classification. They signify their adoption to the chairman, who, after the official classification has thus been adopted, files it with the interstate commerce commission in compliance with the law.

"The legality of the method of preparing, adopting and filing the official classification has never before been questioned, nor, indeed, was it questioned in the complaints leading to your order of the 8th inst., which were that the changes made are 'discriminating and wrongful,' and will subject shippers and shipments in the territory affected to unreasonable charges and unjust discrimination and undue prejudice and disadvantage.' The hearing had to permit the carriers to explain to the shippers the reasons for the proposed changes with a view to an amicable adjustment of the differences. During the course of the testimony it was repeatedly suggested that your commission had no power to take official action at that time, but that after the classification had gone into effect it would be open to shippers to make a formal complaint invoking the remedy provided for unreasonable rates and unjust discrimination by the interstate commerce law. During the course of the hearing the shippers who were present protesting against the changes requested the carriers to postpone the time for the official classification to take effect for sixty days or ninety days. This request was refused, the carriers insisting that the effect of the changes could only be determined by experience, and stating they would be quite willing to consider complaints and correct changes which practical operation should prove to be unjust. It was after this request for a postponement had been refused that some of the shippers presented to the commission the resolution and petition which you have transmitted.

EFFECT OF CHANGES.

"That resolution cites that whereas the changes made by the new official classification by increasing less than carload rates over carload rates will greatly inure to the benefit of the large shippers and to the detriment of the small shippers; and whereas, a postponement of their operation has been refused, therefore, the shippers petition the commission to lay the testimony before the attorney general in order that he may take action under the anti-trust law to prevent the official classification from going into operation.

"In your communication after transmitting the testimony and papers which show the facts above detailed you say: 'These changes in classification are to be made for the conceded purpose of increasing the rates on the articles advanced, and thereby increasing the revenue derived by the carrier from the transportation of such articles. The number and variety of articles advanced is shown by a list of the same annexed as above stated.

"'The protesting shippers assert that increases in rates, to the extent effected by these changes in classification, are without justification and will result in excessive charges upon most, if not all of the articles in question. They also allege that hardship and injustice will further result from the changes which will be made in the relation of rates, especially from the increase in the difference between carload and less than carload charges.'

"It is apparent from the protests originally filed, from the terms of your order of the eighth instant, from the resolution and petition presented by the shippers and from your own communication that it is the changes made and not the method of making them which is complained of. Under the classification which has obtained for many years, all freight is divided into six classes. For these classes the railroad companies fix graded rates. A change from a lower to a higher class would increase the rate if the existing rates are maintained. It is against the increased rate thus produced that the shippers protest. They claim: First—That the changes will result in unreasonable rates. Second—In unjust discrimination against the small in favor of the large shippers. Third—In charging more for a short than a long haul. Obviously these are matters for the consideration of the interstate commerce commission. A railroad company may raise its rates to an unreasonable point, it may discriminate among its shippers, it may charge more for a short than a long haul, but none of these acts, however unjust and wrongful, amounts to a violation of the anti-trust laws.

NO CAUSE FOR ACTION.

"To authorize the attorney general to direct an injunction proceeding under this law it must be shown there is a 'contract, combination, * * * or conspiracy in restraint of trade or commerce among the several states.'

"In the first place there is no contract, combination or conspiracy shown. There is consultation by representative railroad men in committee respecting suggested changes in classification. There is subsequent independent action by railroad companies in the adoption of the new classification recommended by the committee. The testimony taken does not

Continued on Fifth Page.

BULLETIN OF IMPORTANT NEWS OF THE DAY

Weather Forecast for St. Paul.
Fair; Continued Cold.

1—America England's Hope.
Open Door in China.
Decision by Griggs.
South African War News.

2—New Guard Regiment.
Dewey Invited to St. Paul.
Alleged Shoplifter.
New Fraternal Order.
City's Cash Account.

3—Views on Dr. Smith.
New Detective's Work.

4—State Political Gossip.
Dr. Chage's Coup.

5—Sensation in Ohio.
Condition of Banks.

6—Editorial.
Chat of the Capital.

7—Close of the Century.
Medical Notes.
Social Sins.
Vagrant Verse.

8—Mercier in Danger.
German View of War.

9—Minneapolis Matters.
Northwest News.
News of Railroads.

10—Sporting News.
Gossip of the Ring.
Minister in the Ring.

11—Pun Costs a Life.
World Upside Down.

12—In the Field of Labor.
Pro-Boer Meeting.
Coming City Campaign.

13—Business Announcement.

14—Books of the Hour.
Reconquest of Reggie.

15—Business Announcement.

16—St. Paul Social News.

17—Suburban Social.

18—Kansas City Divorce Case.
Swindles of Two Centuries.

19—Gowns for Girls.
Notes for Women.

20—Markets of the World.
News of Lodge Rooms.

21—Popular Wants.

22—Week at the Theaters.
Musical Mention.
Romance of Duse.

OCEAN LINERS.

NEW YORK—Arrived St. Louis, Southampton. Sailed: Maasdam, Rotterdam; Montcalm, London.
QUEENSTOWN—Arrived: Etruria, New York for Liverpool.
HAVRE—Sailed: La Champagne, New York.
ANTWERP—Sailed: Aragonia, New York.
LIVERPOOL—Sailed: Lucania, New York.
GENOA—Arrived: Kaiser Wilhelm II., New York, via Naples.
HAVRE—Arrived: Steamer L'Aquitaine, New York.

TODAY IN ST. PAUL.

METROPOLITAN—"Humpty Dumpty," 8:15.
GRAND—"A Day and a Night," 8:15.
Olympic—Vaudeville, 2 and 8 p. m.
Palm Garden—Vaudeville, 2 and 8 p. m.
Arion Singing society anniversary, Mozart hall, 8 p. m.
Entertainment, Social Labor party, Assembly hall, 3 p. m.

SEIZURE OF A SHIP

IT MAY CAUSE SERIOUS COMPLICATIONS BETWEEN GERMANY AND GREAT BRITAIN

HAMBURG CITIZENS EXCITED

OWNERS OF BUNDESRATH, THE VESSEL TAKEN, ASK GOVERNMENT TO INTERFERE

INTENSE FEELING IS EVIDENT

Hollanders and Germans at Lourenzo Marques Openly Denounce Action of the British—Commander of the Port of Durban Declined to Give Any Explanation of the Action Taken by His Government.

LOURENZO MARQUES, Delagoa Bay, Dec. 30.—The seizure of the German East African liner Bundesrath by the British cruiser Magicienne has caused a tremendous sensation here. It is expected that serious complications will follow, as the owners of the vessel assert that there was no basis for the seizure. The British authorities are silent, but the Bundesrath is in custody and will be taken before a prize court.

EXCITEMENT IN HAMBURG.

HAMBURG, Dec. 30.—The seizure of the Bundesrath was referred to at a meeting of merchants held here today. After a speech by Adolph Wormann, president of the Hamburg Chamber of Commerce, dealing with the great progress of the German empire during the closing century, Herr Eiffe, speaking in behalf of the firms trading with South Africa, asked whether the chamber was doing all that was necessary for the protection of German trade in that part of the world. German commerce, he asserted, had already suffered detriment through the war in South Africa, and news came of the seizure of a German steamer by a British warship.

Herr Wormann replied that the chamber had already considered the question of representations, with a view of taking action in the matter. Mr. Chamberlain had been informed, he said, that the steamship company owning the seized vessel had telegraphed to Prince Hohenlohe, the imperial chancellor, asking for government intervention, and it was declared that nothing whatever had been done by the company which could in any way be regarded as a breach of neutrality.

DIRECTORS INFORMED.

The directors of the German East African line have received news of the arrest of the imperial mail steamer Bundesrath. The commander of the port of Durban refused an explanation of the cause of the seizure.

It is declared that there was no contraband of war on board, and when application was made to the German foreign office the latter immediately promised interposition with the British government.

BRITISH OFFICERS KILLED.

PRETORIA, Friday, Dec. 29.—Three British prisoners from Malapo report that Capts. Vernon and Sandford, of Col. Baden-Powell's staff, were killed during the engagement in which Lords Edward Cecil and Cavendish Bentinck were wounded. The object of the sortie was to capture Boer cannon. The loss of the British was very severe.

The "long Tom" injured at Ladysmith has been repaired and is being replaced.

The new contract reducing the price of dynamite instituted by the raad in August was registered Dec. 28 between the government and the factory.

PROBABLE BASIS.

LONDON, Dec. 30.—A representative of the Associated Press has learned that there were three German officers and twenty men, attired in khaki, and intending to serve the Boers, on board the Bundesrath, which explains her capture.

Regarding traffic generally on the east coast of Africa, the British admiralty officials say the British government decides that all ordinary and legitimate trade conducted by foreign vessels should suffer as little restriction as possible.

SKIRMISHES FREQUENT.

LONDON, Dec. 31.—The war office communicated about midnight copies of the messages exchanged between the queen and the inhabitants of Kimberley, stating that no further news had been received up to that hour, and nothing of importance has come from other sources during the night. The sorties, skirmishes, reconnoissances and bombardments at various points where the British and Boers confront each other, so far as can be judged, have had no effect upon the general situation at the seat of war, which is practically the same as it was a week ago. During the night of Dec. 28 Ladysmith and Chieveley Camp were in full communication, the former reporting all well. While the signaling was in progress the Boers attempted to muddle the messages with flashlights from each extremity of their long intrenched line. The naval brigade took advantage of the opportunity to shell the Boer positions, which were plainly revealed by their own lights. The naval battery resumed the shelling of the Boer trenches on the morning of Dec. 29, but their fire failed to elicit any signs of life.

A dispatch from Cape Town, dated Wednesday, Dec. 27, announced that an armored train had restored communication with Dordrecht, where the Free State flag had been hauled down, and that the Boers had been driven from the adjacent hills to Stormberg.

GREETINGS WITH KIMBERLEY.

The war office issued a dispatch dated Cape Town, Friday, Dec. 29, evening, saying that Col. Kekewich wired, through the general commanding at Modder river, Dec. 28, as follows:

"I am desired by the mayor and council to forward the following for transmission through the proper channel:

"'To Her Most Gracious Majesty, the Queen: The inhabitants of Kimberley beg to send your majesty New Year's greetings. The trouble they have passed through and are still enduring only tends to love and loyalty towards your majesty's throne and person.

"'R. H. Hendron, Mayor,
"'On behalf of the inhabitants.'"

The war office also issues the following, addressed to the secretary of state for war:

"Please send the following to Col. Kekewich for communication to the mayor and council from the queen:

"'I am deeply touched by your kind and loyal New Year's greetings. I watch with admiration your determination and

Continued on Eighth Page.