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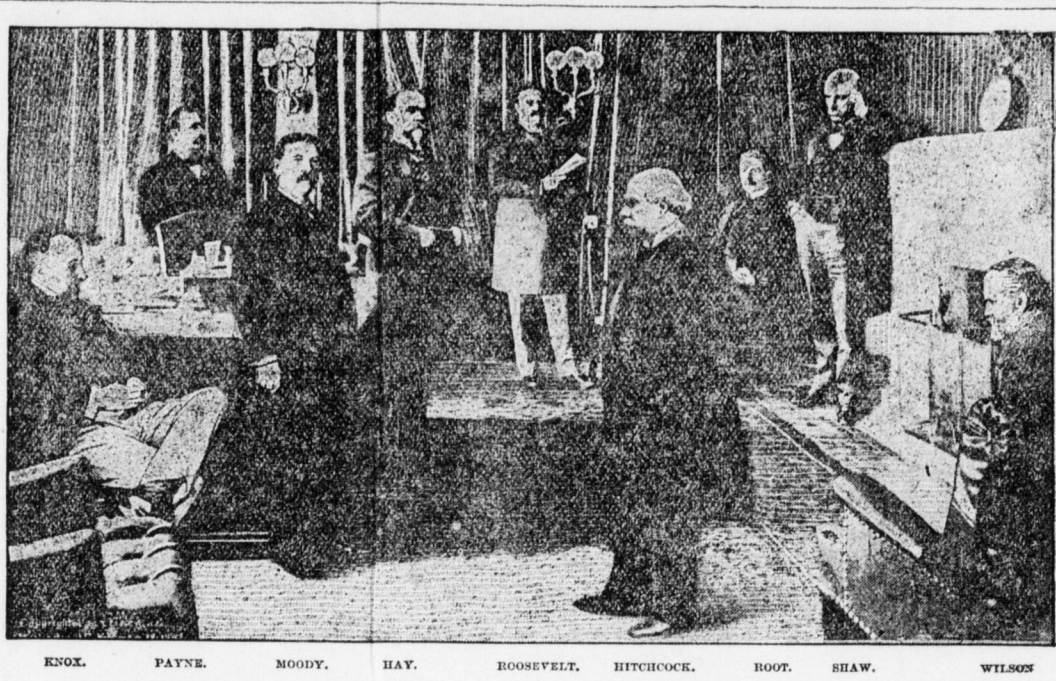
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THE PRESIDENT READING HIS MESSAGE TO CABINET BEFORE SENDING IT TO CONGRESS.

UNCLE SAM'S NAVY.
Its Most Imperative Need Is More Officers.

Number of Enlisted Men in the Service on June 30, 1902, Was 21,433—Use of Smokeless Powder Rapidly Increasing—New Type of Shell.

Washington, Nov. 29.—The annual report of the secretary of the navy says: The task which is employing the highest energies of the navy, and receiving the greatest attention from the heads of bureaus, the commanders in chief of stations, the commanding and subordinate officers of squadrons, divisions, and single vessels everywhere, is the work of training. To the development of the greatest efficiency in all branches of the service the attention, zeal, and thought of those in charge is mainly directed. This is an era of training. The reports of the several bureaus are largely made up of criticisms upon and plans for the improvement of present systems of practice, drill, and instructions.

At the close of the last fiscal year there were under construction for the navy, by contract, the following vessels: Eight battleships, six, armored cruisers, nine protected cruisers, four monitors, 13 torpedo boat destroyers, seven torpedo boats, and seven submarine torpedo boats. The general progress of work upon these vessels, particularly those of the larger class, has not been satisfactory. The battleships were, on the 20th of June, 1902, from 10 to 29 months behind contract time; the armored cruisers from four to 13 months; the protected cruisers from six to 18 months, while the monitors were from 16 to 19 months in arrears.

The most imperative need of the navy to-day is of additional officers. It invites the instant attention of congress. The administration of the department is embarrassed almost daily by the lack of officers below command rank. This condition has been approaching for some years.

The number of enlisted men in the naval service on June 30, 1902, was 21,433. Of these 8,032 were landsmen and apprentices. Many of these came from the middle western states, and at the time of their enlistment were unacquainted with the new life upon which they had entered. Their progress has been eminently satisfactory.

All men now enlisted are required to be either citizens or to have declared their intention to become such. Eighty-nine per cent. of the enlisted force are now citizens and 76 per cent. are native born. Ninety-three and three-tenths per cent. of the landsmen for training and 94 per cent. of the apprentices are native born.

During the past year 233 guns, chiefly of large caliber, have been manufactured at the naval gun factory, making a total of 1,216 guns thus far made at that establishment. No material change has been made in the method of gun construction, except that the tubes of all guns of and above six inches in caliber are now reinforced to the muzzle. Very great increase in energy has, however, been obtained by increasing the length and weight of guns and by the use of smokeless powder.

The manufacture and introduction of smokeless powder has been proceeded with as rapidly as practicable. Beginning with the Kearsarge and Kentucky, all the new ships of the navy and some 30 of the older vessels have been supplied with smokeless powder. No other powder has been bought or manufactured for the navy since 1898, except for auxiliary purposes.

The most interesting event of the year in connection with projectiles is the development of a new type of shell having the perforating power of an armor-piercing projectile, with a capacity for a large bursting charge.

CROKER FOUND GUILTY.

New York's Fire Chief is Dismissed From Office—He Will Fight the Decision.

New York, Nov. 29.—Edward F. Croker, chief of the fire department, who recently was tried on a series of charges, was yesterday declared guilty by Commissioner Sturgis and was dismissed from the service, the dismissal to take place on December 1.

Chief Croker was found guilty on the charges of "failure to enforce the requirements of law for properly safeguarding the Park Avenue hotel;" of "The conversion of public property to his private use;" of "Conduct prejudicial to good order and discipline in unjustly discriminating against certain members of the uniformed force" and of "Conduct unbecoming an officer and a gentleman and prejudicial to good order and discipline."

On the charges of "Incompetency as chief of the department in the management of great fires" and of "Sending false reports," he was acquitted.

Chief Croker declined to make any comment on the sentence, but it is known that he will fight the matter to the end. On being informed of Commissioner Sturgis' action Mayor Low issued a statement, sustaining the commissioner and expressing the belief that he had acted in accordance with the law.

Chief Edward F. Croker is 39 years old and has been connected with the department for 18 years. He is the nephew of Richard Croker. In 1898 he became deputy chief and on May 1, 1899, he succeeded Hugh Bonner as chief of the department. He also is president of the National Association of Fire Chiefs.

Deputy Fire Chief Charles D. Purroy will become acting chief.

RETURNS FROM EUROPE.

Charles Kelly, an Alleged Hoodler, is Arrested in Philadelphia—Broken-Hearted on Account of the Death of His Son.

New York, Nov. 29.—Charles F. Kelly, former speaker of the house of delegates at St. Louis, arrived here Friday on the steamship Celtic. On the same steamship were William Ratigan, a St. Louis contractor, and William J. Sullivan, of St. Louis. Kelly's name was not on the passenger list, but Sullivan's and Ratigan's were. At the dock when the Celtic arrived was Congressman-elect James J. Butler of St. Louis.

Kelly's face looked white and wrinkled. He was recognized, as he walked down the gang plank, by R. C. Carroll, correspondent of the St. Louis Post-Dispatch, and when he was called by name, he started back as though he had been struck. Congressman Butler tried to keep the correspondent away, but Kelly held out his hand and said:

"For God's sake let me alone for to-day. I have nothing to say. I have just received word that my son is dead and I am going right back to St. Louis."

"Where have I been? Everywhere. The trip has been no rest for me. I will be glad to get back to St. Louis, to my wife, who is broken hearted over the boy's death. I can't tell what is ahead of me there. I don't care, now that the boy is dead."

The party left here for Philadelphia.

Philadelphia, Nov. 29.—Charles F. Kelly, formerly president of the house of delegates of St. Louis, was arrested in this city Friday afternoon. He was taken from the western train which left New York by a local detective. The arrest was made on a fugitive warrant charging Kelly with perjury and bribery. Kelly told the detective that he had been in Ireland and left Londonderry with the intention of proceeding direct to St. Louis and facing the charges against him. There is a reward of \$1,700 for his arrest. Kelly will be arraigned and held for requisition papers.

St. Louis, Nov. 29.—Charles F. Kelly left St. Louis several months ago, soon after the grand jury had returned indictments charging him on several counts with bribery, in connection with municipal legislation for street railway and other franchises. His bonds were fixed at \$30,000. Kelly, it is charged, is the man who distributed the \$47,500 boodle fund among members of the house combine three years ago, for the passage of the city lighting bill. Until yesterday his whereabouts were unknown to the authorities. A reward of \$300 offered by the state for Kelly's arrest still stands.

BARBAROUS TURKS.

They are Torturing the Peasants in Macedonia.

London, Nov. 29.—Mail advices received here from Constantinople under date of November 24 say:

"In spite of all official denials the Porte is adopting barbarous methods in crushing the Macedonian peasants. The winter has set in and the danger from revolutionary bands is over, yet the Turkish authorities seem to think the time has come to free pardon to those who returned to their homes. Christian villagers have been shockingly tortured to make them betray alleged concealed depots of arms, or give information regarding the working of the Macedonian committees. The bastinado has been frequently employed until the victims were crippled for life, their feet being beaten to a pulp by Turkish soldiers. Peasants were also hung by their heels to the ceiling and boiling hot eggs were put in their arm pits. Even priests were not spared, while the troops openly plunder the peasants, who are being driven to despair."

A Reciprocity Project.

Chicago, Nov. 29.—Reciprocity, primarily with Cuba and Canada and eventually with the whole civilized world, is the result aimed at by the National Non-partisan Reciprocity league, which to-day will send out more than a thousand invitations to its first annual convention, to be held in Detroit December 10 and 11. Governors of all the north and middle western states are to be asked to take part in the convention, as are also the Canadian cabinet and many members of the Canadian parliament.

A Sale of Human Belongs.

Lancaster, Ky., Nov. 29.—Sheriff Lawson attracted a large crowd before the court house door Friday by the sale of three negroes, two women and a man. The man, Charles Anderson, sold for 12 months, brought seven dollars, and the women, Belle Griffin and Emma Reed, sold for one and three years respectively, brought five dollars each. The three were convicted of vagrancy and ordered sold to the highest bidder.

Has Abandoned All Hopes.

Detroit, Nov. 29.—H. C. Ralph, of this city, managing owner of the steamer Sylvanus J. Macy, which is supposed to have foundered Monday morning in Lake Erie, carrying down with her a crew of 14 men, said yesterday that he had given up all hope of the steamer's safety. Mr. Ralph says that Capt. Gotham, of the tow barge Mabel Wilson, the Macy's consort, told him at Amherstburg that he could see the lights of the Macy for some time after the Wilson's tow line was cast off. His attention was called away and when he again looked the lights were gone.

REVIEW OF TRADE.

Weather Conditions Have Stimulated Business.

New York, Nov. 29.—R. G. Dun & Co.'s Weekly Review of Trade says:

Weather conditions have provided the only important developments of the past week in the business world. Excessive rains in some sections, notably in the southwest, facilitated distribution of heavy footwear, over-shoes and kindred lines, while seasonably low temperature at other points increased the movement of winter wearing apparel. These influences, together with a large Thanksgiving trade in food products, stimulated retail dealings very materially.

Jobbing and wholesale trade is fully maintained and manufacturing plants have orders far ahead, but in many cases the eke shortage retards operations. Railway officials are making every effort to relieve the freight congestion, especially in the vicinity of Pittsburgh, but thus far there is little evidence of improvement. Gross earnings are fully maintained for November, thus far exceeding last year's by 6.3 per cent., and those of 1900 by 16.4 per cent., while it is anticipated that higher freight rates will offset the advances in wages, sustaining net earnings.

A Caustic Criticism.

Berlin, Nov. 29.—The Kreuz Zeitung, discussing Ambassador White's recent letter to Henry Seligman, of Frankfurt-on-the-Main, regarding the treatment of Hebrews in Roumania, says it is to be recommended that the ambassador remove the beam from his own eye before removing the mote from his neighbor's. The Roumanian Jews, says the paper, are far better situated than the American negroes. They are not treated with the same contempt and do not suffer lynch law, nor are Jewish funeral processions in Roumania mobbed, as in New York and Chicago.

A DISAPPOINTMENT

Was the Trip to Washington by Miners' Representatives.

Statement of Attorneys—Independent Operators Not Required to Use Much Argument to Bring Coal Road Managers to Their Way of Thinking.

Scranton, Pa., Nov. 27.—Quite in contrast with the happy faces of the independent operators' committee when it returned from New York Tuesday night, were the countenances of the miners' representatives when they returned yesterday from their disappointing trip to Washington.

How the latter views the sudden and surprising turn of affairs is well set forth in a statement issued yesterday afternoon by Messrs. Darrow and Lloyd, the miners' attorneys, who accompanied Mr. Mitchell to Washington. The statement, which is signed by Clarence S. Darrow and Henry D. Lloyd, is as follows:

"The commission adjourned for ten days in pursuance of an arrangement between the parties to give opportunity for conciliation on account of a telegram which we understood was written by George F. Baer in the presence of and with the consent of every railroad concerned and was signed by Wayne MacVeagh. This telegram was written after a careful reading of the tentative agreement which had been prepared and written by counsel of both parties and which had been submitted to the commission. At the request of Mr. MacVeagh, Mr. Mitchell, Mr. Darrow and Mr. Lloyd went to Washington to consult upon some minor details of the agreement. There was no friction or important disagreement between the parties at the meeting in Washington. Later in the day and after the conference in New York with the independent operators, Mr. MacVeagh received a telegram calling off all negotiations and advising that the matter be settled by the commission in a regular hearing.

"The man who wrote the telegram to Judge Gray stating that the main features of the contract were acceptable, was the same man who signed the telegram to Wayne MacVeagh three or four days later, stating that negotiations must end.

"A copy of the tentative agreement is in the hands of Hon. Wayne MacVeagh, Mr. Wilcox, of the Delaware & Hudson Co.; Carroll D. Wright and probably Mr. Baer.

"We can see no reason for the expression of any opinion, the facts speak for themselves. We have been ready at all times to consult with any one in interest and make any reasonable adjustment, but we have no anxiety whatever over the ease or its results and shall be ready for business when the commission meets.

"While admitting that they did much towards breaking off the negotiations for a settlement out of court, the independent operators do not hesitate to say that they were not required to advance much argument to bring the coal road presidents to their way of thinking. One of them said: 'The big companies had come to our way of thinking before we met them.'

"President Mitchell, District Presidents Nicholls, Duffy and Fahy and several of the other union officers who are here to attend the commission hearings spent the afternoon in conference as to the details of the evidence to be presented when the commission reassembles.

BIG DEFENSE GUN.

It Is 49 Feet Long and Will Shoot a Projectile a Distance of 21 Miles.

Albany, N. Y., Nov. 27.—The 16-inch coast defense gun which was manufactured at the Watervliet arsenal, was shipped yesterday on the Merritt Chapman Company's largest barge to the Sandy Hook proving ground and will reach there Friday. The largest crane in the world had to be pressed into service to load the gun on the barge, on which it is being transported down the Hudson river.

Under the direction of Col. Farley, commandant at the arsenal, the gun was loaded on a specially constructed car and slowly moved to the arsenal dock, where by means of a crane and a mammoth derrick it was swung onto the barge.

The following are the dimensions of this great weapon of coast defense: Length over all 49 feet 2.9 inches; diameter at breech 5 feet, bore 16 inches. Its construction was begun May 14, 1898, and finished June 12, 1902. Some idea of its power can be obtained by the statement that it shoots a projectile weighing 3,370 pounds, a distance of 21 miles. If smokeless powder is used, it will require 376 pounds, or about 1,000 pounds of black powder, which the gun was assembled weighed 358,000 pounds.

It has cost in material, labor and machinery, about \$150,000.

Cable Completed.

Washington, Nov. 27.—Brigadier General Greeley, chief signal officer of the army, was informed by cable from the Philippines yesterday of the completion of the cable connecting the island of Romblon with Masbate and Martinique island. This establishes duplicate cable communication with all the large islands of the archipelago except Mindanao.

A Message of Greeting.

Washington, Nov. 27.—In consequence of the voluntary act of loyalty on the part of the people of Tutuila in ceding to the United States sovereign rights of that and other islands, President Roosevelt has sent them a message of greeting and in addition has presented each chief who signed the instrument with a silver watch and chain and a silver medal.

Raised the Boycott.

Schenectady, N. Y., Nov. 27.—The Trades Assembly last night raised the boycott against the Schenectady Railroad Co. in an exciting meeting.

Fall and Winter Announcement.

Our stock of Fall and Winter Dry Goods is now complete. We have a nice line of heavy goods for jacket suits, and also several pieces of heavy goods for rainy-day skirts.

A full line of Ladies Wrappers for fall and winter in calico, percale and flannelette, sizes 32 to 44, from \$1.00 to \$1.85 each.

We have a large stock of white and colored all wool blankets and the prices are very low for the grade of goods.

Our stock of mercerized satin under skirts is complete. These skirts are made of the best material that can be bought for the price, and are not a back number. They are going rapidly. Do not wait until they are nearly all gone before looking them over. Prices, \$1.00, \$1.35, \$2.00 and \$2.35. These prices are special for this lot.

Have just received a shipment of ladies belts. The latest in black and colors. Prices, 25c, 50c and \$1.00 each. Also a lot of new applique trimming in black and white.

While in our store ask to see the

Lansdown Waist Patterns.

Our custom made Clothing is giving the greatest satisfaction, as is attested by the increased business we are doing in this line. We guarantee the fit and can save you from 10 to 25% on your clothing.

G. B. HOWARD & COMPANY.