

### THE WASHINGTON NEWS

#### WHAT OUR NATIONAL LAW MAKERS ARE CONSIDERING.

Some of the More Important Work of the National Congress—Bills that the Committees Report Favorably Upon—Washington Topics.

The Senate has under consideration the Alaskan Civil Code bill. The amendment providing for the mining of gold along the beach in the district has been perfected.

The President nominated Charles H. Allen, of Massachusetts, to be Governor of Porto Rico.

Senator Thurston has introduced a bill to limit the meaning of the word "conspiracy," and also the use of restraining orders as applied to disputes between employers and employes.

Lieutenant Commander William Winder has been ordered to take command of the Michigan on the Great Lakes, in place of Commander P. Garst. Captain G. E. Ide has been ordered to command the New Orleans.

Judge Advocate General Lemly has taken the final steps toward the acquisition for the use of the navy as an ammunition store ground of Ionia Island, on the Hudson, above New York. The price paid was \$160,000.

The House has adopted the resolution reported from the Insular Affairs Committee to authorize the Secretary of the Treasury to designate depositaries in Porto Rico, Cuba and the Philippines for the deposit of government funds. A Senate bill which will permit dependent mothers of soldiers or sailors of the Spanish war, even though they married Confederate soldiers, to receive the benefit of the general pension law, has been passed.

Assistant Secretary of the Navy Allen has been selected as the first Governor of Porto Rico. In accepting the appointment he says he will endeavor to administer the affairs of the island to the best interests of the people.

The Senate has refused to displace the Spooner Philippine bill for the Nicaragua Canal bill or for the Alaska Civil Code measure. Senator Burrows, of Michigan, made an exhaustive argument in opposition to the Quay claim to a seat in the Senate.

The Spanish Government has offered to sell the floating steel dry dock at Havana for the sum of \$200,000, but this price is considered excessive.

The House, 161 to 153 has passed the Porto Rico Tariff bill as it came from the Senate. It now goes to the President.

Senator Clarke has decided to resign and thus save Congress any more trouble.

The Senate has agreed to take a final vote on the right of M. S. Quay to a seat as a Senator from Pennsylvania on Tuesday, April 24, at 4 P. M. Tributes were paid to the memory of the late Richard Park Bland, long a Representative from Missouri.

The House has passed the Agricultural Appropriation bill substantially as reported.

The Ways and Means Committee of the House has, by a vote of 8 to 5, ordered the Porto Rico bill reported, with a recommendation that the House concur in all the Senate amendments.

The Senate Committee on Privileges and Elections has decided unanimously yesterday to recommend that the seat of Senator Clark, of Montana, be declared vacant.

Captain James G. Green has been relieved, at his own request, of command of the United States naval station at Havana, and will be succeeded by Lieutenant Commander Lucien Young, at present Captain of the port at Havana.

Brigadier General William Ludlow, at present in command at Havana, has been ordered to New York to await further orders.

The army transport Conemaugh has sailed from Manila for San Francisco, to Congress the report of a Board of Engineers and Architects in favor of the construction of a bridge across the Potomac river from Washington to Arlington, "as a memorial to American patriotism," in accordance with designs submitted by Professor Burr, a bridge engineer, of New York, at an estimated cost of \$4,800,000.

#### COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY.

Latest News From the Active Business World.

The union journeymen molders of Cleveland, 900 in number, have made a demand for an increase in pay amounting to 25 cents per day, to go into effect May 1.

Thirty-three of 219 Japanese steamer passengers who arrived at San Francisco on the steamer Belgian King a few days ago, have been refused a landing by the immigration officials. It is alleged that they came as contract laborers.

#### Dewey Will Stick.

"Withdrawn?" said Admiral Dewey. "Withdrawn? Of course I haven't withdrawn. Who says I have withdrawn? I have just entered the race. I am in this thing to stay. I'm not accustomed to withdrawing from any undertaking I engage in, and shall not withdraw from this."

This was the Admiral's reply to a reporter's question concerning the rumor that he would write a letter putting himself out of the race for the nomination for President.

"When will the statement of your position be ready, Admiral?"

"I can't tell. Not for a few days, at any rate."

The Ohio Supreme Court has handed down a decision sustaining the law which prohibits the coloring of oleomargarine in imitation of butter.

The Directors of the Ogden Gas Company of Chicago has voted to increase the capital stock from \$5,000,000 to \$10,000,000.

#### MISCELLANEOUS NEWS.

#### Events of the Week Told in a Few Words.

The Supreme Court of the United States has ruled in two cases involving the stamp tax on express packages that the companies had the right to shift the burden to the shippers by means of an increase of rates.

Governor Roosevelt has signed the bill providing for shorter hours of the drug clerks in the city of New York. Under its provisions the clerks are prohibited from sleeping in the stores or in apartments connected with the stores.

The sealing steamer Panther has returned to St. John's, Newfoundland, with 12,700 seals. The aggregate returns show this year's seal hunt to have been the most profitable known for a generation.

The Governing Board of the International League of Press Clubs has decided to hold the annual meeting of the League in New York, on July 17.

Citizens of Austin, Texas, in mass meeting on Saturday, decided to build a steam plant to cost \$250,000, to take the place of the dam and water system wrecked by the flood a week ago.

The two houses of the Ohio Legislature are deadlocked on the appropriation for the Ohio Centennial at Toledo, and there is little hope now of the bill becoming a law. The disagreement is over the amount, the House insisting on \$1,000,000 and the Senate half that sum.

The Ohio Legislature has passed bills providing that eight hours shall constitute a day's work for all men employed on public works, requiring that all workmen shall be given two hours' respite from their labor on election days.

The transport Tartar arrived at San Francisco on Saturday after a run of thirty days from Nagasaki.

Murat Halstead has accepted the presidency of the new "College of Journalism," a Cincinnati institution devoted to teaching practical newspaper work.

Mr. and Mrs. John D. Rockefeller announce the engagement of their daughter, Alta, to E. Parmelee Prentice, of Chicago.

The Postoffice Department has made arrangements for providing a first-class money order system for Cape Nome, Alaska.

The Chicago Sanitary Board has reached a decision to spend \$2,000,000 for the improvement of the Chicago River, the work to be accomplished within the next twenty-four months.

The President and Fellows of Harvard have voted to guarantee \$70,000 to welcome 1,450 Cuban teachers. This action on the part of the university places the success of the enterprise beyond a shadow of a doubt.

There was a fall of snow throughout the Mississippi Valley April 12. Unusually cold weather is reported in Texas.

First Lieutenant Edward C. Brooks, Sixth Cavalry, has been detailed to duty as auditor of the Island of Cuba. Three thousand people are dying in Porto Rico for lack of supplies that could be bought for \$10,000.

Two brothers have been convicted of burning a girl to death and given life imprisonment in South Carolina. Testimony in the Clarke divorce case in Pittsburg involves a "Mr. Carnegie," who acted queerly at a dinner party in New York.

By the collapse of a building in Pittsburg April 13, three persons were killed.

The Baltimore and Ohio and the Pennsylvania Railroad companies, it is reported, will absorb the Philadelphia and Reading and Jersey Central systems.

At least two Americans of the Clark excursion party died of smallpox.

Lieut-Col. Hayes, son of the late President, will quit the army as a protest against the submission of his superior officer to robbery by a Dato of the Sultan of Sulu.

Delegates to the Republican National Convention elected in Maine are pledged to support President McKinley.

Gov. Roosevelt threatens to defy the Republican National Convention if an attempt is made to "hurry" it into naming him for Vice-President.

Messenger Boy Smith has sailed on the St. Louis bound for South Africa with his album of schoolboy greetings for President Kruger.

Lieut-Gov. Woodruff is still in the race for the Vice-Presidential nomination, although Hanna informed him in a thirteen-hour conference that the Administration desired Cornelius N. Bliss.

The Earl of Warwick has arrived in New York from Liverpool. He will fish in Florida waters and keep an eye open for mining investments.

The annual report of the treasurer of the Continental Tobacco Company shows assets of \$100,000,000; a 3 1/2 per cent. dividend was declared.

Miss Jennie E. Stevens, of Waterbury, Conn., says she was hypnotized into becoming the second wife of the late Commodore Mayo.

Moses Fowler Chase, the young Indiana millionaire who had a long legal fight to prove his sanity and get control of his estate, has had the courts change his name to Moses Fowler because of the notoriety attached to the name Chase.

Miners in the Klondike believe the gold fields at the head of the Koyukuk River will prove richer than those at Cape Nome or the Klondike.

Consul Hay, at Pretoria, reports to the State Department that he has failed to find the slightest evidence to support the charges of ex-Consul Macrum that the official mail of the Consulate was tampered with.

A despatch from Berkeley, California, says that Mrs. Phoebe A. Hearst has decided to establish a museum of art and archaeology at the University of California.

Dr. Nansen has arranged with a firm of Leipzig publishers to publish a five volume English work containing the scientific results of his polar explorations.

### STRIKE CAUSES DEATH.

#### FIRST BLOODSHED OF THE CROTON DAM TROUBLE.

Victim Was a Sergeant of the Militia—More Troops Sent to the Scene—Escape of the Assassin—An Unfortunate Affair.

There has been blood shed at the scene of the Italian labor strike at Croton Dam, N. Y.

Sergeant Robert Douglas, of the Eleventh Separate Company, of Mt. Vernon, was shot from ambush above the dam while calling to guard at 10 o'clock on the night of April 16, and died a few moments later in the hospital tent. The shooting was done by a hidden assassin. Post No. 10, where Sergeant Douglas was shot, is located at the entrance to the cluster of houses on the hills above the south side of the works, known as Larkinsville, or Little Italy. This has been the scene of most of the rioting and turbulence during the strike, and as the cable anchorage is located there, a guard was stationed to watch the cables. Six men were detailed for guard duty as soon as the camp was arranged, and they were given two hour shifts.

Sergeant Douglas was the Sergeant of the guard and with ten men started from the camp to relieve the force on duty. He reached the cable anchorage carrying a lantern, which made him a conspicuous figure. Corporal McDowell was beside him when he suddenly doubled up and fell over on his face. "Load, boys, I'm shot," he cried, and Corporal McDowell, who, although he had heard no shot, realized that Sergeant Douglas was wounded, gave the order to his squad to fire, at the same time extinguishing the lantern, which had fallen from the wounded soldier's hand.

Sergeant Douglas was carried to the hospital tent. Dr. Eugene Smith, the regimental surgeon, was in attendance, and made an examination of the injured man. Two inches below the navel, in the stomach, he found a gaping wound, where the bullet had entered. Before anything could be done Sergeant Douglas expired.

The night was very dark, and a dismal rain was falling, but a squad of soldiers and fifty or sixty deputy sheriffs beat the woods and brush, but without finding any trace of the assassin.

Sergeant Robert Douglas was 28 years old, and lived at 225 North Sixth avenue, Mount Vernon. He was at one time a volunteer in the English army, and a member of the Queen's Foot Guards. He leaves a widow and two small children.

#### THE PARIS FAIR.

America's Exhibition Only Will Close on Sundays.

United States Commissioner Ferdinand W. Peck has consulted with the authorities at Washington respecting the question of Sunday opening at the Paris Exposition, and has received a cablegram saying that President McKinley desired that the American section should be closed on Sunday, as far as allowed by the French regulations.

Mr. Peck thereupon saw the French authorities, and was shown a by-law, which compels the opening of all exhibits on the seven days of the week, and even gives the French authorities power to remove any covering placed over an exhibit case during unauthorized hours.

The same rule applies to machinery, and the by-law makes no exception in the case of the national pavilions. At Mr. Peck's instance, however, the Director General of the Exposition has given the American Commissioner special permission to close the American pavilion on Sundays.

#### SPREAD CONTAGION.

Flowers From the Casket of a Diphtheria Patient.

Flowers employed at the funeral services for Lucy Schreiber, a little girl, who died of diphtheria in Chicago February 27, are said to have conveyed the infection and caused the death of Anna Sewelke and the illness of May Provinck. The Health Department authorities are investigating the matter, and promise to prosecute the undertaker if the allegations are found to be true.

It is alleged that the blossoms were placed on the casket of the girl, and afterward put in the hearse, which then proceeded on its way to the cemetery. There, instead of burying the flowers with the casket, it is said they were given to relatives, who took them home to their children. The children after playing with them tore them to pieces, and the petals lay scattered about the house for some time.

Shortly afterward one child was taken ill with diphtheria, and died, while another became infected later and is very sick.

#### POLITICAL.

Mayor Carter Harrison, of Chicago, announces that he would not accept a nomination for Governor, if tendered. His chief reason is that his election would leave a vacancy in the Mayorship of Chicago, to be filled by a Republican Council.

In the Texas Senatorial fight between Senator Chilton and Congressman Bailey, the latter has thus far captured eleven out of thirteen counties.

The returns from the Alabama primaries indicate the choice of a sufficient number of Morgan candidates for the State Legislature to insure the re-election of United States Senator Morgan by a large majority.



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