

NICARAGUAN CANAL TALK

Mr. Peffer Expresses Concern Regarding the Day of Settlement.

IT NEEDS SIX COINAGE

The Opinions of Various Senators Upon the Scheme—Bill for Preservation of Forests Receives Consideration of the House of Representatives.

By the United Press.

Washington, Dec. 17.—Vice President Stevenson presided over the senate today. A numerously signed petition from the citizens of Pennsylvania for the passage of the house bill providing for a consular inspection of immigrants was presented by Mr. Quay (Rep. Pa.) and referred to the committee on immigration.

The debate on the Nicaraguan canal bill was of an interesting character. Mr. Peffer declared himself in favor of the enterprise, but opposed to the financial features of the bill. He questioned the ability of the government to make in gold the bonds provided for in the bill and asked, in a despairing tone, what the government was to do when the day of the final payment of its outstanding loans should arrive. He forewarned financial difficulties in which domestic insurrection, or foreign war, or both, were the logical possibility. If silver coinage were restored, or a fresh issue of paper currency made, in which to pay the expenses of the construction of the canal, he would be in favor of the bill; but he opposed to the further issue and sale of bonds for any purpose.

Mr. Turpie is severe. But the pending measure was handled by Mr. Turpie with vehemence. While declaring himself in favor of an isthmian canal, he did not regard the pending measure as furnishing a means for its accomplishment. He regarded it as one of those measures that would certainly lead to another failure (the Fifty-first he thought) of a similar complexion. Besides, he had grave doubts of its constitutionality, holding, as he did, that the government has no right to subsidize or to guarantee the paper of any corporation. The only precedent that could be found for it was the case of the Pacific railroads, and he said that he would support the measure if the government security for the repayment of the immense sum due by those companies was ample, compared with the security which it would have from the Nicaraguan company—all of whose assets had been sold two years ago in New York under a decree of the United States court for \$257,000, and would not fetch \$200 today in London or Amsterdam. Mr. Turpie had not completed his speech when the senate at 5 p. m. adjourned.

FOREST RESERVATION BILL

This was suspension duty under the action of the house and before the army appropriation bill was called up by Chairman Outwater, of the committee on military affairs, Mr. McKee, (Dem. Ark.), chairman of the committee on public lands called up the bill to protect public forest reservations.

Mr. Wells, in opposing the bill, said that it was being put through the house under a whip and spur, no chance being given to show the reasonableness behind it. The proposed law gave the secretary of the interior—whoever he might be—authority to dispose of, with a single stroke of his pen, 50,000,000 acres of forest reserve. Some secretaries had not been honest, and he was afraid there might be dishonest ones in the future.

Mr. McKee said that there was not one iota of truth in the statement made by the gentleman from Wisconsin that the bill was being urged by speculators and timber kings. Under the bill the timber could only be cut, when such cutting would benefit the reserve. The bill as reported from the committee was amended so as to give free timber to miners and settlers on public lands, and was passed by a vote of 129 to 52.

Mr. Springer (Dem. Ill.) reported from the committee on banking and currency the Carlisle bill providing for a new system of currency and gave notice that he would ask the house to begin general debate on it tomorrow. The bill was accompanied by the views of the majority prepared by Mr. Springer, and of the minority prepared by Mr. Walker (Rep. Mass.). The army appropriation bill for the year ended June 30, 1895, was passed, carrying a total of \$23,250,000,000, and an urgent deficiency bill of \$10,000,000 to continue the operations of the government printing office.

BAKER WELL RECEIVED.

Military Parade Is Given in Honor of the American Minister.

By the United Press.

Washington, Dec. 17.—Secretary Graham has received the following telegram, dated today, from Jesus Velasco, minister of foreign relations, of San Salvador: "A military parade was given today by the government of Salvador in honor of the American minister as evidence of its friendship for the people and the government which he represents and of the distinguished esteem in which it holds him."

MINISTERS BAKER IS NOW VISITING SALVADOR, WHICH IS ONE OF THE CENTRAL AMERICAN COUNTRIES TO WHICH HE IS ACCREDITED, FOR THE FIRST TIME SINCE THE EZETA AFFAIR.

At the end of a long spree, Edward Houghton, cartoonist of the Toronto Evening Star, shot himself.

TELEGRAPHIC TICKS.

Eleven of a counterfeiting gang, which floated \$100,000 in two years, are under arrest at Perkins, O. T.

TO MEET OPPOSITION.

Carlisle Currency Bill Has a Rival in a New Measure.

By the United Press.

Washington, Dec. 17.—When the Carlisle currency reform bill reaches the senate, if it ever does so, it is asserted that it will probably be antagonized by a measure which is now receiving consideration of some of the leading Democratic senators. This measure scheme is not yet perfected in all its details, but in the language of one of the senators who has taken an active interest in the matter, the senate bill is designed to bring the currency question back to solid Democratic foundations. As outlined in a general way, the new scheme contemplates:

The issue by the United States of all the money necessary for the people,

THE RETIREMENT OF THE PAPER MONEY OF ALL KINDS NOW ISSUED BY THE GOVERNMENT, AND THE SUBSTITUTION THEREOF OF A SINGLE PAPER ISSUE TO BE DENOMINATED UNITED STATES NOTES; NO NOTE OF THIS CHARACTER BELOW THE DENOMINATION OF \$5 TO BE ISSUED; THE RETIREMENT OF ALL NATIONAL BANKS TO BE CONDUCTED, WITH THIS EXCEPTION, AS AT PRESENT, AND UNDER, AS AT PRESENT, GOVERNMENT CONTROL AND SUPERVISION; AND THE FREE COINAGE OF GOLD AND SILVER ALIKE AT THE MINTS OF THE UNITED STATES.

It is pointed out by the advocates of this plan that all the good qualities of the national banking system will be retained by the proposed method, and the only dangerous power they possess—that of issuing money—will be eliminated.

LIEUTENANT GENERAL.

Mr. Outhwaite Introduces Bill to Revoke the Grade for General Schofield.

By the United Press.

Washington, Dec. 17.—Mr. Outhwaite, of Ohio, introduced in the house today a joint resolution to revoke the grade of lieutenant general in the army. The bill is drawn to carry out the recommendation of Secretary Lamont to make General Schofield a lieutenant general.

SEELY PLEADS GUILTY.

The Defunct Bankkeeper of the Shoe and Leather Bank Will Be Sent to Jail on Friday.

By the United Press.

New York, Dec. 17.—Samuel C. Seely, the \$25,000 National Shoe and Leather bank defaulter, this morning pleaded guilty before Judge Bonded to the crimes charged in the indictment, and was remanded until Friday for sentence. The plea was entered in the United States district criminal court and in the presence of as many persons as could crowd into the courtroom. Seely did not look well. Not even the intense gaze of a hundred eager eyes was sufficient to bring back to his face the slight color which the anticipation of his ordeal had taken away. He was thin and sallow, and those near him noticed that sometimes the lips moved convulsively with emotion. As he proceeded up the aisle there was silence a moment opened. His step was firm. At the bar the clerk said: "Samuel C. Seely, the indictment charges you with making false entries in the bank books and with abstracting funds. How do you plead?"

"Casting his eyes to the floor, in a tone steady and not above a whisper, said: 'Guilty.'"

REFERRING TO DEBS' CASE.

Attorney Darrow Seeks the Advice of Judge Woods on Appeal.

By the United Press.

Chicago, Dec. 17.—Attorney C. S. Darrow, representing Debs and the other directors of the American Railway union sentenced to jail by Judge Woods, has telegraphed Judge Woods to come to Chicago next Wednesday or Thursday to give his advice concerning the legal course to pursue with reference to appealing the case which would be most agreeable to the judges of the United States court in this district. If Judge Woods refuses to come Mr. Darrow will go to Indianapolis, where the judge lives. The hearing of the motion to quash the indictments for conspiracy against Debs and sixty-eight others, has been postponed until Jan. 4.

The hearing of the case itself in case the motion to quash should be denied, will come up four days later. Tomorrow is the date set for moving the headquarters of the union from this city to Terre Haute, Ind. Another Theodore, will be placed in charge of them.

FOR NEW BATTLESHIPS.

By the United Press.

Washington, Dec. 17.—Secretary Herbert and his naval side, Lieutenant Southard appeared before the house naval affairs committee today in support of the recommendation for three battleships, one to be named the Kennebec, and twelve torpedo cruisers. Fresh opinions advanced by members of the committee, Secretary Herbert is confident that the proposed increase in the force about will be reported favorably to congress.

THE PHILADELPHIA BICYCLE RACE.

By the United Press.

Philadelphia, Dec. 17.—At 11 o'clock tonight there were but four men left in the six days' bicycle race that was started here this city at 12 o'clock this morning. Starbuck having withdrawn at 1 o'clock this afternoon. The score at 11 o'clock tonight stood: Ashinger, 28; Forster, 29; Gannon, 29; Melick, 29; Starbuck, 30.

MR. CLEVELAND IN THE MARSHES.

By the United Press.

Charleston, S. C., Dec. 17.—President Cleveland and party reached Georgetown at 5.15 a. m. today. Immediately on their arrival the president and his friends boarded the lighthouse tender Wistaria and went to the marshes hunting.

ANOTHER \$2,000,000 WITHDRAWN.

By the United Press.

New York, Dec. 17.—The sum of \$2,000,000 was withdrawn from the sub-treasury today for export, and of this amount \$1,500,000 will be exported tomorrow.

KNOCKED OUT BY THE COFFEE COOLER.

By the United Press.

London, Dec. 17.—Frank Craig, the Harlem coffee cooler, knocked out Ted Pritchard in the first round this evening.

TELEGRAPHIC TICKS.

Eleven of a counterfeiting gang, which floated \$100,000 in two years, are under arrest at Perkins, O. T.

At the end of a long spree, Edward Houghton, cartoonist of the Toronto Evening Star, shot himself.

FAVORS WILDCAT MONEY

Security No Longer Necessary for Safety of Circulating Notes.

MONEY THAT FLOATS ON AIR

Springer's Banking Committee Reports Favorably Upon Mr. Carlisle's Currency Bill—A Peculiar System of Security on Assessment Plan.

Washington, Dec. 17.—Mr. Springer, Illinois, the chairman of the banking and currency committee submitted, this morning, his report accompanying the Carlisle bill.

The committee, the report states, are of the opinion that a security to the full amount of the circulating notes issued is no longer necessary for the safety of the notes. The bill, the passage of which is recommended by the committee, does not require the deposit of bonds of the United States or of any other interest-bearing obligation, but in lieu of such security provides:

First—A guarantee fund consisting of treasury notes, including the notes issued under the act of congress, approved July 14, 1890, equal to 30 per cent of the circulating notes applied for.

Second—A safety fund, which will amount, when it reaches its maximum, to 5 per cent, upon the total amount of national bank notes outstanding.

Third—A first lien upon all the assets of the association issuing the same.

In case the guarantee and safety funds and the assets of the failed bank are not sufficient to redeem the notes of such a bank, a pro rata assessment upon all the other banking associations, according to the amount of their outstanding circulation, is to be made by the treasury department, and the banks so assessed shall have a first lien upon the assets of each failed bank for the amount of its circulation. It is believed by the committee that the funds thus provided will be amply sufficient to secure the notes of failed banks.

In conclusion the committee say: "The extraordinary conditions which confront the treasury department have constrained the members of the majority of the committee while not agreeing to all the provisions of the bill, nor to the reasoning employed in this report, to heartily and enthusiastically join with the Democratic majority of the committee in repudiating the measure."

REPORT OF THE REPUBLICANS.

The report of the Republican members of the banking and currency committee on the Carlisle banking bill begins with the statement that the signers "Most heartily and enthusiastically join with the Democratic majority of the committee in repudiating the measure."

The report states that the whole action of the party majority of the committee was most extraordinary and not approved by its voting majority. The bill was only read in committee in part on one occasion, and an opportunity to consider or amend it was refused both to the Democratic and Republican members. The report continues that it is the opinion of a number of the most clear-headed and eminent financiers of the country that if the Carlisle bill is enacted into a law that it will within twenty days precipitate a panic far more severe than that of 1857, as it would compel the forced sale upon the market of nearly \$300,000,000 worth of United States bonds within six months.

"This haste to report the bill is all the more inexplicable," the report adds, "when it is remembered that Secretary Carlisle testified that this bill would be paid for by the sale of the bonds of the treasury and in any event relieve it materially for five years and might not for twenty years."

CRUSHED BY ROCK.

Serious Accident to Miners at the Stevens Colliery.

Pittston, Dec. 17.—Stevens colliery, the engine house of which was destroyed by fire Saturday night, was the scene of an accident this morning. William Donahue, a miner, and John Kiretsky, his laborer, were engaged at work trying to loosen some treacherous coal when a large piece of rock weighing over three tons fell upon them.

Donahue's spine was injured and his condition is critical. Kiretsky's injuries are not so serious. They consist of a number of bruises about the body. Donahue is married and resides on Luzerne avenue. Kiretsky is single and boards at Sturmerville.

THEY WANT ASPHALT.

Main Street Property Owners Overwhelmingly Favor That Pave.

Special to the Scranton Tribune.

Pittston, Dec. 17.—At tonight's special council meeting property-owners representing 2,341 feet frontage on Main street declared in favor of asphalt; others representing 12 1/2 feet frontage wanted brick, and others representing 12 1/2 feet frontage were non-committal. Council authorized the drawing up of a contract with the Barber Asphalt company obligating the borough to the extent of \$33,000, which is all the additional bonded indebtedness that the law permits.

BONNITY FOR AGRICULTURISTS.

By the United Press.

Washington, Dec. 17.—Leonard Rhone, chairman of the State Grange of Pennsylvania; Alexander B. Wiedehorn, of the State Grange of Virginia; and David Lubby, of California, appeared before the house agricultural commission today in support of the proposition to levy a bounty for the benefit of the agriculturists upon all farm products exported from the country.

TO INCREASE THE ARMY.

By the United Press.

Washington, Dec. 17.—In the senate today Mr. Hawley introduced an important bill for the reorganization and increase of the army. The total number of enlisted men, including militia, scouts and the hospital corps is limited by the bill to 35,000.

CONDENSED STATE TOPICS.

The question of a \$900,000 loan for Reading will be submitted to the voters at the spring election.

The clothing of 5-year-old Bianche Dawson, of Gilberton, ignited from a brush fire and she was fatally burned.

Hundreds of windows in houses at Springfield station, on the French Creek branch of the Wilmington and Northern railroad, have been broken by the heavy snowing during the government proving ground.

Constable Hawk, of Parkersburg, stepped out of a room in Lancaster for a few minutes, and John Bryson, charged with horse stealing, when he was talking to the Huntington reformatory, escaped.

POTTSVILLE IS EXCITED

Course of Poor Directors Denounced in a Public Meeting.

THE CLERGY TAKE A HAND

Management of the Almshouse Arraigned by Dr. Fiery—He Objects to Orgies and a Bill of Thirteen Hundred Dollars for Whisky.

By the United Press.

Pottsville, Pa., Dec. 17.—At the call of the Ministerial association of Pottsville a public meeting was held in Central hall this afternoon for the purpose of deciding whether there shall be an investigation of the conduct of certain officials and the business method in vogue at the county almshouses. Grave charges had been made at a meeting of the ministers last Monday and several officials were charged with gross and immoral actions toward some of the inmates.

JOHN CROMIN HANGED.

Murderer of Albert Skinner Pays the Penalty—The Automatic Gallows Works Successfully.

By the United Press.

Hartford, Conn., Dec. 18.—John Cronin was hanged at 1:02 and at 1:02 1/2 his pulse had stopped beating. He was snatched in the air twenty seconds after he was placed on the gallows. The automatic gallows worked perfectly. There were no sensational features.

The new hanging machine used at the execution is thus briefly described: The condemned man steps upon a platform three feet square that is directly under the noose. After the noose and the black cap are adjusted the warden releases the spring of a mounted small shot, which runs through a valve. The shot is exhausted in forty seconds, and the lessening weight releases a 210-pound weight, which falls and jerks the condemned man seven feet into the air. If his neck is not broken by this jerk it is apt to be broken when the body drops back and is suspended.

All of the apparatus is concealed from view save the small platform, the beam and the dial that tells off the seconds. If any bungles is made in preparing the victim the flow of shot can be stopped. On the other hand it can be hastened so as to expedite the killing. The idea for this apparatus came from Colorado, but it was improved by James H. Hartnett, a carpenter, who was pardoned for his services. The apparatus is in a one-story brick building that was erected expressly for this purpose in the prison yard.

Early in the fall of 1893 Albert J. Skinner, a carpenter and joiner of South Windsor, went hunting with "Jack" Cronin as his companion. As he passed along the road, a neighbor asked him and inquired "Where's your dog?" Skinner made no verbal reply, but nodded his head toward Cronin, who was following about twenty feet behind, as if to say, "There's my dog."

That nod cost Skinner his life, as it undoubtedly furnished the motive which induced Cronin to murder him on the morning of Oct. 6, 1893, when he entered Skinner's house and shot him to death as he sat eating his breakfast.

The murder was one of the most brutal ever committed in Hartford county, the victim being an inoffensive man; the murderer a man of sordid habits and a bad character, making a slight at the careless reference to himself, deliberately planned and for weeks thought out the murder of the man who made it. Cronin has never, from the moment of the murder, expressed any contrition for the deed, nor shown by his conduct that he was affected by the transaction in any way.

LEHIGH ON HER MUSCLE.

Trustees of the University Have Endorsed Athletics.

By the United Press.

Bethlehem, Pa., Dec. 17.—The trustees of Lehigh university have endorsed athletics and have decided to place its management in the hands of a committee to be known as the Lehigh University athletic committee, to consist of a member each from the faculty, board of trustees, board of instruction, gymnasium instructor, four alumni and five under graduates.

Heretofore it is said favoritism was shown, the fraternities figuring foremost. No partiality is now to be shown and athletics at Lehigh will surely boom.

BYRNES PREFERS CHARGES.

A Number of Members of the Police Force Accused.

By the United Press.

New York, Dec. 17.—Superintendent Byrnes has preferred charges against the following members of the police department:

Captain Schmitzberger, Sergeant William O'Toole, Detective Sergeant William R. Frink, Patrolman William Mulcahy and ordinance man Bernard O'Reilly, John Townsend and Kickey. The charges are for bribery and corruption, except against the ordinance man.

EARTHQUAKE AT ALBANY.

The Capital City of the Empire State Slightly Agitated.

By the United Press.

Albany, N. Y., Dec. 17.—A special to the Journalsays: The residents of the village of Cohmans, thirteen miles south of this city, were startled from their beds early this morning by a rumbling sound and severe jarring of their houses.

It is thought that the noise and rumbling of the earth was due to earthquake disturbances. The jar lasted fully a minute.

CROMWELL'S CONDITION.

The Victim of Cashier Huntington Not Out of Danger.

By the United Press.

Council Bluffs, Ia., Dec. 17.—F. N. Hayden, of Chicago, and Cromwell, of Minneapolis, the two representatives of the Fidelity and Casualty company of New York, who were yesterday shot by John Huntington, collection clerk of the Citizens' bank, are under the care of physicians at the Grand hotel, Hayden will recover, but Cromwell's condition is critical.

An inquest was held today over the remains at Huntington. The officials of the bank are still prosecuting an investigation into the shortage. All that

STORIES LACK TRUTH.

Ex-President Harrison Is Pursued by the Malignant Club.

MURDERERS ARRESTED.

Atkins and Fields Are in the Custody of the Sheriff.

By the United Press.

Barbourville, Depot, Ky., Dec. 17.—Sheriff Combs and posse from Perry county have arrived here with Atkins and Fields, murderers of Judge Josiah Combs, in custody. Sheriff Combs said that they had encountered no difficulty with mobs on the road, as had been reported. Atkins and Fields, the defendants, assured a change of venue to this county and will likely be tried at once, as court is now in session.

Sheriff Combs declares that things were quiet in Perry county as any county in the state and there is no prospect of any immediate trouble between the French and Everests factions.

GREEN GOODS PLAN.

Latest Developments in the Grog Murder Case.

By the United Press.

Minneapolis, Minn., Dec. 17.—The latest development in the Grog murder case is the discovery of evidence that leads the authorities to believe for a certainty that Harry Hayward is the western agent of a "green goods" combination, whose headquarters are in New York, with a principal branch at Chicago.

Blitz, the actual murderer of Miss Grog, this morning, pleaded not guilty in his arraignment.

THE NEW WAGE SCALE.

Miners of Pittsburg Urged to Accept a Reduction.

By the United Press.

Pittsburg, Pa., Dec. 17.—The railroad coal operators of the Pittsburg district held a prolonged meeting today to hear the report of the committee which went to the Columbus meeting, and to take action upon a new wage scale. Late this afternoon the committee on wage scale reported a 55 cent rate per ton for the Pittsburg district.

This report was adopted by the meeting in resolutions setting forth the necessity for a reduction and exhorting the miners to accept the same.

ACCUSED OF AWFUL CRIME.

Hemp Awaits an Unknown Negro at Morristown.

By the United Press.

Morristown, Dec. 17.—Last evening one and a half miles east of here an unknown negro assaulted a German girl named Briggenbottom, from the effects of which she died this morning. The girl, who was about 13 years old, was on her way from church in company with a smaller sister.

The negro when caught will be strung up without ceremony.

ANDY BOWEN'S FUNERAL.

New Orleans, Dec. 17.—The funeral of Andy Bowen, the pugilist killed in a prize fight with Lavigne, took place at 11 o'clock today. There was a large attendance of mourning men and a great profusion of flowers. Lavigne attended and Hall, Dempsey and other fighters were present.

PREDICTIONS OF A CRANK.

By the United Press.

Harrisburg, Dec. 17.—A crank in Washington, D. C., has written Governor Pattison that Harrisburg and other cities will be utterly destroyed within two years.

WEATHER REPORT.

For eastern Pennsylvania, fair; cooler; north winds.

GENERAL PORTER BURIED.

The Funeral of the Dead Soldier According to Military Law.

DEATH OF STEVENSON.

The Great Novelist Succumbs to a Stroke of Apoplexy at His Home in the South Pacific Islands.

By the United Press.

Auckland, N. Z., Dec. 17.—Advices from Apia, Samoa, of date of Dec. 8, are to the effect that the well known novelist, Robert Louis Stevenson, had died suddenly from apoplexy. The body was interred on the summit of Paha mountain, 1,300 feet high. At the time of his death, Mr. Stevenson had half completed the writing of a new novel.

Robert Louis Balfour Stevenson was born in Edinburgh, Nov. 13, 1850. He educated at private schools and at the University of Edinburgh, and was called to the Scottish bar, but traveled and devoted himself to literature.

One of his earliest works was an account of his travels in California, but the work which established his reputation as a writer of fiction, was "Treasure Island," published in 1883.

Among the most popular of his works is "Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde," which was dramatized and played at the Lyceum theater in London in 1888, and subsequently in the United States. Among his other works are "Kidnapped," "The New Arabian Nights," and "The Black Arrow."

Some time ago Mr. Stevenson, who was suffering from lung trouble, went to the South Pacific for his health. He became enraptured with the Samoan islands and decided to take up his residence and spend the rest of his days there. He took a close interest in Samoan affairs and has written many letters to the newspapers in favor of the natives as against the treaty powers, under whose direction the government of the islands is conducted.

Edinburgh, Dec. 17.—The relatives of Robert Louis Stevenson discredit the report of his death. They have heard nothing of it except what has been printed in the newspapers here.

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