

PROPOSED CANAL BILL AMENDMENT

Mr. Davis Reports Amendments to Hay-Pauncefote Treaty.

REVIEW OF THE SITUATION

An Analysis of the Suez Canal Treaty—Special Stress Upon Article 10 Which Prescribes Limitations of the Utmost Importance Upon the Stipulations—The Situation of the United States Requires the Incorporation Into the Pending Convention of Stipulations in Favor of the United States Similar to Those in Article 10 of the Convention of Constantinople.

Washington, March 9.—The senate committee on foreign relations today agreed to report the Hay-Pauncefote treaty amending the Clayton-Bulwer treaty with an amendment granting authority for the defense of the canal by this country when constructed. The following is the text of the amendment: "Insert at the end of section 5 of article 2 the following: It is agreed, however, that none of the immediately foregoing conditions and stipulations in sections 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, of this act, shall apply to measures which the United States may find it necessary to take for securing by its own force the defense of the United States and maintenance of the public order."

The report submitted with the treaty is in the main a review of the general situation with reference to the canal with comparatively few recommendations. It says, however, "We are in full accord with the purpose expressed in article 2 of the pending bill to adopt the basis of neutralization, the limitation of the treaty substantially as embodied in the treaty of Constantinople for the free navigation of the Suez maritime canal."

No equivalent limitations are specifically expressed in the convention now under consideration. It may be argued with considerable force that these limitations are applied by the general declaration in Article 2 of the pending treaty, that its basis is substantially the treaty of Constantinople. But this contention is not, in the opinion of your committee, clearly correct. The question of the right can be safely left to interference or implication. The committee think it prudent that all doubt be removed by an amendment equivalent in its substance and effect to the precedent offered by Article 10 of the treaty of Constantinople, which it cannot be supposed requires to have no place in the pending convention. In principle the same reasons which justified Article 10 in the treaty of Constantinople require that its equivalent shall be included in the pending treaty. If it was proper that the treaty of Constantinople should not interfere with the measures which the sultan and khedive might find it necessary to take for securing by their own forces the defense of Egypt and the maintenance of public order, or if it was proper that the provision of the enumerated articles of that treaty should be in no case occasion any obstacle to the exercise of the right to suspend Ottoman government may think necessary to take in order to insure by its own forces the defense of its own possessions situated on the eastern coast of the Red sea, a coast 1,100 miles in length, with Turkish possessions on both coasts of nearly 600,000 square miles, inhabited by 12,000,000 of its sub-

ENGLAND FAVORED BY THE AMEER

OFFICIAL STATEMENT OF THE POLICY OF AFGHANISTAN.

Always Ready to Fight for Great Britain—Russia Denounced—Latter Fears to Make War on Afghans. Dreams Rising of Islam, Which Would Spread Through Russia-Asia.

London, March 9.—The ameer of Afghanistan has authorized his agent in London to publish the following statement of the policy of Afghanistan toward Great Britain and Russia. After saying that he had devoted much anxious thought to the possibility of Russia taking advantage of the Transvaal war to advance through Afghanistan on India, the ameer adds: "I have come to the conclusion that Russia feared Afghanistan, as a war with the Afghans would mean a general rising of all Islam, which would spread through Russia-Asia. Russia had not troops enough to combat such a rising. Her hold on the Mussulman countries she has conquered is insecure. They hate her, and with ten times her power she could not fight Afghanistan and India successfully. The Afghans prefer death to slavery, and their women and children are being taken by the Russians. After saying he is willing to send numerous troops to help Great Britain in the Transvaal, but feeling that the Afghans are unacquainted to the sea, the ameer adds: "But England's troubles are always my troubles, her strength is my strength and her weakness is my weakness. England must remember that I am always ready to fight for her, on land or sea."

BASE BALL TOPICS

National League Schedule Will Call for 140 Games.

New York, March 9.—The national league managers wound up their three days' session tonight. The last day was marked by a six-hour session. For the first time in three years the president of the New York club attended the meeting. He made a speech in which he asked the annual rental of Manhattan field. This was accepted to the meeting by Mr. Freedman.

Mr. Hay's Opinion

Secretary Hay regards the proposed amendment to the Hay-Pauncefote treaty as unnecessary and as likely to lead to complications which may menace the treaty. He did not insert in the treaty a modification of articles 9 and 10 of the Suez canal rules because it did not seem to him that the conditions applying to the Nicaragua canal exactly paralleled conditions applying to the Suez canal so far as concerned the rights of the countries through the territory of which the waterway is to run. It could be of no benefit to the United States to have Nicaragua or Costa Rica enjoy the privilege of closing the canal against an enemy in time of war and to bestow this privilege upon either of the Central American republics might lead to embarrassing complications, unless, indeed, the time were chosen when the United States were exercising complete control over Nicaragua and Costa Rica as England has over Egypt.

Big Coal Land Deal

Greensburg, Pa., March 9.—The Jamison-Coke and Coal company, after a lively struggle with a big money competitor, has closed a deal for 1,500 acres of coal land, the last of the Greensburg basin to be bought up. The company will erect 300 coke ovens and open mines in the early spring. The option on the land was held by John B. Steel. The price has not been given out, but it is said it will average about \$30 per acre.

Canal to Be Abandoned

Lancaster, Pa., March 9.—The Pennsylvania canal will be abandoned on April 1. For more than sixty years this canal has been an important water way. It is badly out of repair, the condition preventing traffic, and business has been unprofitable for the past ten years.

Triplet Resolution Reconsidered

Frankfort, Ky., March 9.—The senate today reconsidered the Triplet resolution appropriating \$100,000 for the purpose of equipping a state militia and recovering the arms and munitions of war removed to London, Ky.

THE "KID" KNOCKED OUT.

Fell in the Third Before Terry McGovern.

New York, March 9.—Terry McGovern, of Brooklyn, knocked out Oscar Gardner, the "Omaha Kid," in the third round of what was to have been a twenty-five round bout before the Broadway Athletic club tonight. McGovern was a favorite at the betting at long odds. Johnny White was the referee. Gardner did some good work in the first round, succeeding in knocking McGovern down with a left swing on the jaw. McGovern rushed matters from the opening of the second round until the end of the fight. His attack was cyclonic and with a well directed left he put Gardner to the floor. Gardner's defense proved to be of no use against the torrent of fists which McGovern rained upon him. Three times Gardner went down and each time he almost took the "count."

AFFECTED BY STRIKES.

Hesitation in Business Not Unusual at This Season—Not Necessarily Disheartening.

New York, March 9.—R. G. Dun & Co.'s Weekly Review of Trade tomorrow will say: "A certain hesitation in business, with shrinkage in its volume, is not unusual now at this season. It is not necessarily disheartening, therefore, if business is no longer as large in volume as ever, but falls behind that of February or January, or of the corresponding week last year. Strikes in building trades or of machinists at Chicago affect many industries and the wages of fifty thousand hands. The remarkable rise in cotton has apparently met the expected reaction, which tends for the time to repress business. The output of iron furnaces, March 1, was 292,613 tons weekly, against 298,914 tons in February 1, and annual stocks increased 25,516 tons in February, making a consumption of 40,821 tons daily, against 41,462 tons in January. Temporary stoppage of four furnaces near Pittsburgh by a strike, and the reduction of output by many furnaces in blast, perhaps in part due to the general depression of secondary steel, have supported prices of pig and of finished products, and the only change is a slight decline in plate."

JUDGE MITCHELL'S ILLNESS.

Philadelphia, March 9.—Judge John I. Mitchell, of the superior court of Pennsylvania, was today received as a patient at the Medico-Chirurgical hospital. He was taken sick with paralysis about six weeks ago and his entire left side was affected. Despite the efforts of his physicians there has been little improvement in his condition, and his family, becoming alarmed, insisted on a change of treatment.

Arbor Days Designated.

Harrisburg, March 9.—Governor Stone issued a proclamation today, designating April 2 and 3 as Arbor days, and extending the same to the counties of Adams, Berks, and Lancaster.

Havana Visitors.

Havana, March 9.—Secretary Root and General Wood, with Generals Chaffee and Humphrey, and a number of ladies left Havana today by a special train for the province of Pinar del Rio, to view the tobacco district.

New War Loan.

London, March 9.—The amount of the new war loan will be £30,000,000. The interest will be 2 1/2 per cent, and the bonds will be redeemable at par May 5, 1910. The issue price is £98 10s.

Pittsburg Harbor Cleared.

Pittsburg, March 9.—There were shipped to southern ports today 2,367,000 bushels of coal. This practically clears the harbor of loaded barges.

BOERS WANT PEACE

The Burghers Completely Demoralized—President Kruger in Tears.

WAR IS NEARLY ENDED

Special Dispatches Confirm Reports of Panic in Ranks of Boers.

Other Commanders Likely to Resign Because President Kruger Ignored Their Advice to Make Peace Overtures After the First Boer Victory. All Attempts to Rally the Retreating Transvaalers Prove Ineffectual. They Are Completely Paralyzed by the Masterly Tactics of Roberts.

GEN. JOUBERT RESIGNS

London, March 10.—The Daily Mail publishes the following despatch from Pretoria, dated Thursday, March 9, via Lorenzo Marques, which had been censored by the Boer government: "Conversations I have had with the highest state officials show that the Boers want some arrangement. They say that if England is waging a war of conquest they will fight to the finish. Otherwise, they believe that a plain statement of the British intentions will reveal a basis of negotiations, now that England's prestige is repaired."

Boers in a Panic.

London, March 10.—All the special dispatches from Poplar Grove confirm the reports of the panic of the Boers. The Morning Post's correspondent says: "President Kruger shed tears at his ineffectual attempt to rally the Boers, who were completely paralyzed by Lord Roberts' masterly tactics. They were too demoralized to heed his exhortations and declared that the British cannon were everywhere."

FOUR PERSONS KILLED.

Tragedy at the Smith Fuse Works at Pompton, N. J.—Fatal Explosion.

Pompton, N. J., March 9.—The Smith Fuse manufactory at this place blew up today and four persons were killed and a number more or less injured. The killed are John Beal, William Cadmus, William H. Tallmage, John Merritt, a boy. They were at work in the factory with about thirty other men and girls. The bodies of the four persons killed were badly mangled and some of them blown to pieces. Percy Jacobus was blown into the river and was badly hurt. The works were owned by J. H. Smith, mayor of Pompton. The firm carried on an extensive business of manufacturing dynamite fuses and cartridges. A large portion of the works was wrecked and the loss on stocks and machinery, it is estimated, will reach \$50,000. It is not definitely known how many persons were injured.

Steamer Delaware Burned.

Wilmington, Del., March 9.—The Steamer Delaware, burned to the water's edge last night while moored to the wharf in Millford. The fire was occasioned by an over-heated stove in the kitchen. The wharf and warehouse caught fire and were destroyed; loss \$20,000, insurance \$12,000. The Delaware was owned by the Vineyard Bros., of Millford.

Red Ash Mine Victims.

Thurmond, W. Va., March 8.—The total number of those taken out of the Red Ash mine tonight is 31. Of these William Robinson, Eliza Bruce and a boy named Tom, all colored, are living and may recover. The total number of dead taken out is 28, and the number thought to be in the mine is 10. This makes 38 killed and 3 injured.

Beh. d Closed Doors.

Washington, March 9.—Discussion of Mr. Mason's recent expressing sympathy for the Boer war was conducted in the senate today behind closed doors. Mr. Davis, chairman of the committee, demanding the doors be closed.

THE NEWS THIS MORNING

Weather Indications Today: UNSETTLED; PROBABLY RAIN.

- 1 General—Amendment to the Canal Treaty. Filipino Rebels Harass the American Soldiers. End of South African War is Near. Afghanistan Favors England. 2 General—Northern Pennsylvania. Financial and Commercial. 3 Local—Doings of a Day in the Courts. Sporting News and Notes. 4 Editorial. News and Comment. 5 Local—Social and Personal. One Woman's Views. 6 Local—Opinions by Local Clergymen on Call of the Methodist Bishops. Death of J. H. Steel. 7 Local—Mid-Year Convention of the County W. C. T. U. Electric Light Ordinance Up to the Mayor. 8 Local—West Scranton and Suburban. 9 Round About the County. 10 Story—"Nancy's Nod." 11 Local—Religious News of the Week. Sunday School Lesson for Tomorrow. 12 Local—Live Industrial News.

YOUNG AND HOOD WANT MORE MEN

They Are Constantly Harassed by the Filipinos.

REBELS HOLD REUNIONS

The Red Katipunan Cross Symbol of Resistance Is Again Appearing Among the Natives—Bates' Expedition—Spanish Prisoners Report That the Enemy Has Large Lots of Hemp in Camarines Provinces.

Manila, March 9.—Generals Young and Hood are asking for reinforcements and a battalion of the Forty-eighth regiment has been sent by Aparri. Other troops will follow. The rebels recently persistently attacked Aparri for several hours, but were finally driven away. Details of the affair are lacking. The rebels are holding reunions in the province of North Ilocos, and the Red Katipunan cross, symbol of resistance, is again appearing among the natives. It is believed that the insurgent generals, Tilo and Flores, have been driven by General Young into General Hood's district, south of Aparri. The fact that General Young is unable, owing to lack of troops, to maintain garrisons in all the towns occupied, has had a bad effect on the natives. General Bates has returned here after leaving garrisons in the provinces of North and South Camarines. The expedition lost seven men killed and ten wounded. On entering New Casco, province of South Camarines, General Bates learned that 2,000 insurgents had departed the same day. The Americans immediately sent out three pursuing columns, encountering the enemy in three small engagements and killing a total of forty men. The Spanish prisoners report that the enemy has divided into small bands in the mountains, under the leadership of General Legaspi. The town of Iriga has been burned by the enemy. Both provinces were thoroughly scouted. The inhabitants of the district of Libmanan, including Abella, the provincial governor and other officials, are returning to their homes. Abella has issued a proclamation calling upon the natives to submit to the Americans. Liberated priests from New Casco reports fifty insurgents, sixty-eight Chinamen and forty Spaniards at the town of Calbana. It is estimated that there is a hundred thousand bales of hemp in the Camarines provinces. Twelve hundred well armed insurgents, formerly of Cavite province, with a Chinese general in command, surrounded the towns of Albay and Legaspi. They have effected three night attacks and continually harass the Forty-seventh regiment, which has lost eight men killed and twenty wounded in defending those towns.

Account from Otis.

Washington, March 9.—The war department has received the following: "Manila, March 8. 'Adjutant General, Washington: 'Officers, sixty enlisted men, two civil officials, captured, Spanish prisoners received today from Tay-ban. (Signed) 'Otis.'"

E. J. PHELPS DEAD.

Ex-Minister to England Passes Away at New Haven.

New Haven, Conn., March 9.—Hon. E. J. Phelps, ex-minister to England, died at his residence on Hamptown street this evening. He had been ill since early in January, with an attack of pneumonia. The end was peaceful and for several hours before he passed away he was unconscious. There were present at his bedside his wife and son, Charles Phelps, of Boston and daughter, Mrs. Horatia Loomis, of New York, and his physician. Though Professor Phelps recovered from the pneumonia attack, he was so weakened that he was unable to regain vitality. It has been hoped that he might recover until a few days ago, when it was apparent that his strength had so failed that it was but a matter of hours when death would come. The funeral services will be held from Battell chapel Sunday at 3 p. m. The remains will be taken to Burlington, Vermont, for interment.

Pennsylvania Pensions.

Washington, March 9.—Pension certificates issued under date Feb. 23, increase, A. F. Shoemaker, Windfall, Bradford, \$1 to \$6; William H. Lake, Susquehanna, \$9 to \$7; Reidsius—Agrom L. Crist, Williamsport, \$5.

WEATHER FORECAST.

Washington, March 9.—Forecast for Saturday and Sunday: Eastern Pennsylvania—Unsettled weather; Saturday, probably rain. Sunday, fair, easterly winds, becoming fresh northwesterly.