

THE FIGHTS AT WEST POINT

Gadet Bettison Tells of the Frequent Encounters at the Academy.

MORE OF INVESTIGATION

Says Authorities Made No Attempt to Prevent Them or Punish the Participants—Gives Names of Men Who Have Fought During the Last Four Years—How "Scrapping Committee" Arranges Contests.

By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press. West Point, Jan. 10.—Before the members of the congressional committee resumed their inquiries into the charges of hazing at the military academy this morning they visited the camp grounds and Fort Clinton, where many of the fights between cadets have taken place.

When the investigators reached the academy building at 5.20 o'clock Horace Booz, of Buffalo, brother of the late Cadet Booz, who was to have been the first witness today, had not yet arrived, and considerable delay ensued.

About 10.15 o'clock Cadet William R. Bettison, of Kentucky, was called and sworn. Bettison has been president of his class, now the first class at the academy, for two years. He was a classmate of Cadet Breth, but said he had never known of Breth being hazed.

Bettison said that he knew of five fights that took place during his first year at the academy between Cadets Harlow and Bender, Deen and Atman, Pearson and Kerr, Meyer and Coleman (both fourth class men), and Mueller and Ingraham. One took place in the tower room of the gymnasium, one in Battery Knox, two in the barracks, and one at Fort Putnam.

When the committee reconvened, Cadet Bettison resumed the stand and was immediately questioned by Mr. Driggs. "I just want to ask you a little about your 'sofrees'," said Mr. Driggs.

"Now, you spoke of music being played during these 'sofrees' in camp and you mentioned violin and mandolin music. Did you ever know of a cadet making music by placing paper over the ordinary hair comb and while he sat in one tent and the man being hazed was in another, the tunes that he would play would indicate the exercises that the lower class men should go through?"

"No, sir." "I mean that if 'Yankee Doodle' was the tune played, 'eagles,' for instance, would be the exercise desired?" "No, I don't remember having heard of it," replied the witness.

In reply to Chairman Dick the witness said that an infringement of the academic regulations would not be regarded by a cadet as a violation of his oath. The chairman having inquired very carefully of the witness the effects of the class agreement to abolish hazing by exercising, or any other form of rough treatment, asked Bettison if he thought it was conducive to the extermination of these practices at the academy.

"I do, sir," was the reply. "Booz would hazing would not crop out again if future classes, not bound by this agreement, should revive hazing?" "Yes, sir; it might start up again, but I think the influence of the upper classes would certainly have the desired effect."

Correcting of Booz. Bettison then told the story of his correcting former Cadet Booz for improperly patrolling his post and acknowledged to General Dick that this was one of the causes of Booz's being called out. He also explained that Booz had made an untruthful reply to a complaint made against him by Cadet Caples. Booz, he said, also made an improper remark to an upper classman when spoken to and in consequence of all these causes he was "called out."

PROCEEDINGS OF CONGRESS

Considerable Progress Is Made by the Senate on the Army Reorganization.

APPEAL OF THE FILIPINOS

Mr. Teller Presents a Memorial from More Than Two Thousand Filipinos at Manila Urging the United States Government to Cease Operations in the Philippines—Debate on River and Harbor Bill.

By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press. Washington, Jan. 10.—Considerable progress was made today by the senate with the army reorganization bill, but the final vote upon the measure seems to be as far off as ever.

The German tank steamship Helios, Captain Janson, from Rotterdam for New York, has returned to Rotterdam with a high-pressure cylinder cracked.

APPEAL OF THE PEACEFUL FILIPINOS

Mr. Teller Introduces the Memorial in the Senate—Signed by 2006 Citizens.

Washington, Jan. 10.—In the senate today Mr. Teller presented a memorial from 2,006 Filipinos and peaceful inhabitants of Manila, in the form of an appeal to congress. Mr. Teller said it was "signed personally by the leading people of Manila and that section—lawyers, bankers and professional men, representing the best elements of that community."

The appeal reviews the circumstances leading up to the present struggle of the Filipinos for independence, and pays a high tribute to the work of Aguinaldo and his coadjutors in their endeavor to obtain liberty and independence for the Philippines.

Reference is made to some of the principal events of the revolution, the petition urging that the American troops have failed to make a serious impression upon the revolutionary party. It points out that Aguinaldo declared that he might lose the hope of victory, but that he would not lose the hope of dying for the liberty and independence of his people. It declares that the revolution has the support of practically all the people of the Philippines and that through 100 revolutionists he destroyed 1,000 will rise up to support the fight for independence.

All of the islands of the archipelago, says the memorial, are supporting the revolution and they will not yield until the last drop of Filipino blood has been shed. "The Filipino nation," the memorial continues, "bearing in mind the history of America and its humanitarian doctrines, asks the government of the United States to cease its persecution of men struggling to be free—struggling against greater wrongs than those which inspired the fathers of this republic. This is asked in the name of Washington, of Jefferson, of Lincoln, in the name of justice and in the name of God eternal."

The appeal declares that an autonomy similar to that enjoyed by Canada or Australia would not be acceptable to the Filipinos, who desire full liberty and independence, which the government of the United States is urged to grant.

When the reading of the memorial had been concluded Mr. Teller asked that it be printed as a document. "I object," said Mr. Hawley, of Connecticut, "it is a treasonable denunciation of our government and an attack upon our soldiers."

RELIEF FOR RUSSIE'S CREW. Line Carried from Shore to the Wrecked French Steamship. Marseilles, Jan. 10.—In a message from Farman at 9 o'clock this morning it is reported that, in spite of the heavy sea still running, a lifeline was thrown to the stranded French steamship Russe at 3 o'clock. A line was attached by which food can be sent to the famished passengers and crew, numbering 102 persons, who have been huddled together in the forecastle since Monday evening.

ADMIRAL CERVERA VERY ILL. Little Hope for Recovery of the Spanish Naval Officer. Madrid, Jan. 10.—In a dispatch from Puerto Real, near Cadix, where Admiral Cervera is lying ill, it is announced that his condition has grown worse, and his friends are almost hopeless of his recovery.

Commander Quackenbush Dead. By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press. Washington, Jan. 10.—Commander John W. Quackenbush, United States navy, retired, died at his residence in this city. He was born in New York and was appointed in the navy in 1847. He served on the frigate Cumberland during the Mexican war and was actively employed during the entire period of the civil war. He was retired in 1869.

MR. GARRETT RETIRES.

No Longer Vice-President of the Lehigh Valley Railroad.

JOINT NOTE IS SIGNED

The Preliminary Stage of the Negotiations at Peking Has Been Concluded.

MUCH TROUBLE AHEAD Clashing Interests of the Powers Will Have Full Play in the Coming Discussions—Reasons Given for Refusal of Powers to Transfer Negotiations to the United States. Great Britain's Attitude—Feeling Favors Shanghai.

By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press. Paris, Jan. 10.—The Associated Press is given the following statement: "The Chinese plenipotentiaries signed the joint note yesterday, thus concluding the preliminary stage of the negotiations."

It was added that this important step was insignificant compared with the difficulties to be met with between the powers themselves, where clashing interests will have full play in the coming discussions. The United States proposal to shift seat of the negotiations finds no favor in the European chancelleries. Three reasons are given for this opposition:

First—It is considered a great mistake to transfer the negotiations from China, where all the information is at hand respecting the situation and the feeling among the Chinese themselves and more especially regarding the conditions of trade and commerce with which the negotiations will be chiefly concerned.

Second—The United States commerce with China is comparatively small when compared with that of several other countries. Therefore the United States is not entitled to expect the negotiations to be carried on at Washington.

The third and most delicate reason advanced is that the European powers have not felt sufficient confidence that the United States government might not find itself influenced in the negotiations at Washington by the pressure of interests having an eye to the exploitation of China. The attitude of some of the powers, moreover, is so wary by other motives in opposing the United States proposal. Great Britain, for example, which seems to be most strongly antagonistic, has probably taken into consideration the United States attitude towards the Clayton-Bulwer treaty.

Feeling Favors Shanghai. The feeling here favors Shanghai, if any change is made, as it is pointed out that Shanghai is the most important trade center in China and moreover, that the southern viceroys who are favorable to foreigners and anxious to further trade could make their influence felt. Falling Shanghai, Berlin or Paris are more likely to be chosen. The enormous British interests are in favor of the choice of London, but it is improbable that the other powers will agree to this.

There is no reason to suppose that Russia will withdraw from the joint negotiations. The treaty she has concluded with China concerns her special interests in regions contiguous to her territory, but she has great political interests to defend, and further in the joint conference, which will bristle with obstacles to a speedy settlement. Russia aims chiefly at a wide expansion of her political influence.

WOMAN STAYED A SUICIDE.

Italian Cut His Throat After Attacking His Boarding Mistress.

Philadelphia, Jan. 10.—James Fox, an Italian boarder in the house of P. Cravaggio, at No. 223 Taylor avenue, Camden, was yesterday arrested, on complaint of Mrs. Mary Cravaggio, charged with assault and battery. According to Mrs. Cravaggio's statement, Fox, yesterday morning, attempted to enter her into his bedroom and assault her. She fought him off and he left the house. During the afternoon he returned and renewed his attack.

Fox then cut his throat with a razor, inflicting a deeply thrust, not dangerous wound. Mrs. Cravaggio succeeded in wresting the razor from Fox before he could make another slash, and her screams for help brought Policeman Stone to the scene.

Fox was taken to Cooper hospital, where he was held until this morning, when he was released after which he was locked up at the city hall. In explanation of his escapades Fox said that his wife and six children were in Italy, and rather than live longer apart from them he preferred to end his life.

Killed by Her Brother. Chambersburg, Pa., Jan. 10.—At New Germantown, six miles from here, this afternoon, Alice, the 15-year-old daughter of George Carter, was accidentally killed by her brother, George. The boy was handling a shotgun when the weapon was accidentally discharged, the charge entering the sister's neck. Arthur surrendered to the authorities and was brought to jail here.

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Rumors are spreading at Porterville that the rebels have joined the Boers in the Calvinia district. The military commissioner of police at Johannesburg has warned the public to beware of the dangerous dynamite mines laid in the Rand to protect the mines as the authorities cannot hold themselves responsible for injuries resulting therefrom.

CHINESE DRILLING IN SIAN-FU. Army of 85,000 in Temporary Capital Eager to Fight Foreigners. By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press. Peking, Jan. 10.—A Chinaman from Sian-Fu, where the court is at the present time, says that within the city 85,000 Chinese troops are being drilled continuously, and the majority of them are armed with modern rifles. The feeling of the people, he adds, is bitterly anti-foreign, and they believe that they can meet the allies in open fight and defeat them.

The foreign ministers here are considerably astonished by the Chinese grant, according to a concession north of the Pei-Ho at Tien-Tsin. The grant, voluntarily granted by the Russians, was discovered to bring about peace. The ministers are of the opinion, if that is the case, that it is good pay when the annexation of all Manchuria is taken into consideration.

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