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THE FEATURES OF CONGRESS

Senate and House Listen to the Reading of the President's Message.

GENERAL ALGER IS SWORN IN SENATE

Fills the Vacancy Caused by the Death of Senator McMillan—Mr. Cannon, of the House Committee on Appropriations, Gives Notice That the Bill to Defray Expenses of the Strike Commission Will Be Called Up Today—Representative Hull Introduces Bill Creating General Staff Corps of the United States Army.

By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press.

Washington, Dec. 2.—Interest in the session of the senate today was heightened by the fact that the president's message to congress would be read and also that General Russel A. Alger, of Michigan, former secretary of war under President McKinley, would be sworn in to fill the vacancy caused by the death of Senator McMillan.

His desk and chair were hidden beneath a mass of flowers, and as he took his seat he was surrounded by a number of his colleagues, who extended hearty congratulations. In the gallery were a number of General Alger's personal friends and members of his family.

One hour and fifteen minutes were consumed in reading the president's message. Almost the entire Republican representation was in their seats, but not more than half the seats on the Democratic side were occupied. The closest attention was paid to the message as it was being read, and frequently senators would confer regarding some special portion of it which had attracted their particular notice. A number of bills and resolutions were introduced following a brief executive session. The resignation of Rev. W. H. Milburn, the blind chaplain of the senate, was received with genuine regret. He had become a familiar figure in the body and was personally acquainted with every senator.

No action was taken on the resignation.

At 1.15 p. m. the senate adjourned until tomorrow, out of respect to the memory of the late Charles H. Russell, representative from Connecticut.

The house was in session an hour and forty minutes today. One hour of that time was consumed in reading the president's message. The reading was listened to with attention by members without regard to party, but without demonstration except at the conclusion of the reading, when the Republicans applauded generously.

Mr. Cannon, chairman of the committee on appropriations, gave notice that the bill to defray expenses of the coal strike commission would be called up tomorrow. The deaths of the late Representatives De Grafenreid and Sheppard, of Texas, which occurred during the recess, were announced, and after adopting the customary resolutions of regret the house adjourned as a further mark of respect to their memories.

Will Press Immigration Bill.

Washington, Dec. 2.—Senator Penrose, chairman of the senate committee on immigration, said today that if there should be a favorable opening he would make an attempt tomorrow to call up the immigration bill, which passed the house in the last session and was favorably reported by the committee, and if not then he would make the effort later in the session. "I mean to press the bill," he said, "and I hope to see it become a law during the present session, although I expect that considerable opposition will be encountered, just as was the case in the consideration of the Chinese bill."

The present effort on the part of the exponents of the bill will be directed toward postponing consideration until after the statehood bills have been taken up on the 10th instant. They then count on that measure to keep the immigration bill in the background until the appropriation bills force themselves to the front.

Anthracite Strike Commission Bill.

Washington, Dec. 2.—The house committee on appropriations today directed Chairman Cannon to make a favorable report on his bill appropriating $50,000 to defray the expenses of the anthracite coal strike commission.

AN ARMY BILL INTRODUCED.

Representative Hull Brings Up Measure to Create General Staff.

By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press.

Washington, Dec. 2.—Representative Hull, chairman of the house committee on military affairs today introduced a bill creating a general staff corps of the United States army. It provides that the staff be composed of officers detailed from the army at large under such rules as the president may prescribe. The proposed duties of the staff are to prepare plans for the national defense and for the mobilization of the military forces in time of war, to investigate and report on all questions affecting the efficiency of the army and its state of preparedness for military operation; render professional aid to the secretary of war and to general officers and other superior commanders and to act as their agents in informing and co-ordinating action of all the different officers in carrying out their orders. It is proposed that the general staff corps consist of one chief of staff of the army with the rank and pay of a lieutenant general, one major general and one brigadier general, to be detailed by the president from officers at large not below the grade of brigadier general; four chief, six lieutenant colonels and twelve majors, to be detailed from the corresponding grades in the army at large; twenty captains mounted.

Details shall be for four years and officers while so detailed may be assigned to any branch of the service. The bill provides further that the chief of staff under the direction of the president and secretary of war shall have supervision of all troops of the line and of the several administrative staff and supply departments and shall be a member of the board of ordnance and fortifications. Under the bill, inspection of troops are to be made habitually by commanding officers and inspections of the army at large by the general staff. The inspection of money accounts now made by the inspector general of the army is transferred to the treasury department. Provisions is made for the gradual reduction and final abolishment of the inspector general's department as a separate organization. The measure was introduced in the senate by Senator Proctor. The bill was drawn by the war department and differs considerably from the measure of the past session.

CREW OF THE HEBARD RESCUED SUNDAY

The Members Pulled Ashore in a "Bo'sun's Chair"—An Exciting Experience.

By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press.

Detroit, Mich., Dec. 2.—A special from Sault Ste Marie, Mich., says that the crew of the lost steamer Hebard was rescued Sunday morning and pulled ashore in a "bo'sun's chair," between the hours of 2 and 10 a. m., while the steamer was pounding to pieces on the rocks 200 yards off shore.

The vessel went on the rocks in a blinding snow storm after midnight off Mamainsen point about sixty miles north of the Soo. The crew could just distinguish the outlines of the rocky shore and it looked as though no small boat could possibly live in the raging sea, which was washing over the ship's decks. But the boat was already settling and it was evident that the rocks would punch great holes in her. Volunteers to make the attempt to carry a line ashore were found in first mate Burrell and second mate Jackson. The ship's yawl had been stove in by the sea and nothing remained for the perilous trip ashore but a little skiff. In this two men set out. Twice their boat was hurled back by the waves, when they had all but reached the goal and the third time the boat spilled them out just inside the line of safety. Clambering up the rocks, clinging tightly to the line upon which hung the lives of their comrades, the two men, bruised and bleeding from head to foot fell exhausted on the shore.

Oscar Carleson, who lives nearby came upon the scene with his sons in time to assist in moking fast the line and help the first members of the crew to the shore.

Two were hauled in the chair at once for two trips and the fifth passenger was Miss Jennie Barnes.

Captain Ryan had a narrow escape from death at the last moment. As he was swinging clear of the vessel, the lines became entagled and it was difficult to drag him ashore. He was thrown out of the chair and had to be hauled out of the surf by the members of the crew who had preceded him. It was 10 o'clock in the morning when all were safely on the shore.

EX-SPEAKER REED ILL.

Suffering from a Sudden and Acute Attack of Gastritis.

By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press.

Washington, Dec. 2.—Ex-Speaker Thomas B. Reed had a sudden and quite severe attack of gastritis this evening. He was prostrated for a time, but Dr. Gardiner, who was called in, succeeded in relieving his patient. The sudden illness of the ex-speaker caused considerable alarm to his friends, but at a late hour Mr. Reed was getting on better than had been hoped earlier in the evening. At 10.45 o'clock Dr. Gardiner made the following statement:

"Mr. Reed had an attack of acute gastritis this evening about 6 o'clock and is resting very quietly now."

The doctor said that he would not call to see his patient again during the night unless summoned, and that he did not expect that to happen, as Mr. Reed was improving.

Abe Buzzard's Pal Arrested.

By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press.

Lancaster, Pa., Dec. 2.—Deputy United States Marshal Myers, of Philadelphia, today served warrants on John Lippincott, G. Milton Fryburger and Albert Dunlap in the county jail, charging them with having robbed the New Holland postoffice on Nov. 11. The accused are Welsh mountaineers, Lippincott being a notorious ex-convict and an old pal of the famous Abe Buzzard. They are now imprisoned awaiting trial for depredations among farmers.

Train in Rock Slide.

By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press.

Grand Junction, Col., Dec. 2.—The Pacific Coast Limited train, westbound on the Rio Grande Western railroad, ran into a huge rock slide, two miles east of West Water, Utah, today, killing Fireman C. W. Beedle, and seriously injuring Engineer John Cummings and Mail Clerk Benson.

Pensions Granted.

By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press.

Washington, Dec. 2.—Pensions granted: Calvin Herring, of Wilkes-Barre, $10; William Schlager, of Scranton, $12; Michael Carroll, of Scranton, $12.

FOREIGN AFFAIRS DISCUSSED.

Interesting Meeting of Cabinet—Encouraging Reports from Havana.

By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press.

Washington, Dec. 2.—Foreign affairs were discussed briefly at the cabinet meeting today. Secretary Hay has had encouraging reports from Havana, where Minister Squiers and General Bliss are working in harmony with a special commission designated by President Palma to draw a satisfactory reciprocity treaty. Venezuelan conditions also were touched upon, especially with reference to the plans of some New York financiers to relieve Venezuela's embarrassments by floating a loan.

The government would be glad to see this done if it could be accomplished without involving the United States in any liability for the repayment of any debt or place the government under the obligation to coerce Venezuela. It has already been made perfectly clear to the promoters of this plan that the state department would not bind itself by any promises in this matter and this attitude of the department was thoroughly approved by the members of the cabinet.

UNITED STATES COURT PROCEEDINGS

The Cases Disposed of—Lawbreakers Sentenced at the Session in Harrisburg.

By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press.

Harrisburg, Pa., Dec. 2.—In the United States District court today, George and William Crawford, aged 13 years, charged with breaking into and robbing the postoffice of Sandres, Tioga county, were convicted and sentenced to the house of correction at Glen Mills.

J. H. Mearhoff, of Lehighton, charged with devising a scheme to defraud by ordering merchandise through the United States mails, was convicted and sentenced to thirty days in the Carbon county jail.

W. H. Oswald was ordered to be imprisoned for six months in the Dauphin county jail, for devising a scheme to defraud by ordering merchandise through the mails.

Clara Henry, of Port Royal, was found guilty of sending an obscene letter through the United States mails and sentence was suspended.

LUKE FIDDLER VICTIMS.

Four Men Killed in the Recent Explosion Are Buried at Shamokin.

By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press.

Shamokin, Pa., Dec. 2.—The funeral of Charles Marut, Leon Zukasie, Thomas Zalintas and Thomas Zacerkiewitz, victims of the Luke Fiddler colliery gas explosion, occurred this morning. Besides relatives and friends two thousand United Mine Workers attended, headed by President John Fahey, and the executive staff of District No. 9.

The deceased were members of the union. The colliery where the accident occurred is idle today and a lot of miners at neighboring operations ceased work to attend the funeral. Four hearses conveyed the victims to Springfield cemetery, where they were one after another lowered to their respective graves.

RAILROAD MEN MEET.

A Demand of from 10 to 20 Per Cent. in Wages May be Expected.

By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press.

Chicago, Dec. 2.—The Chronicle says: With the purpose of formulating requests for increases of from ten to twenty per cent. in the pay of 170,000 railroad employes, committees from four powerful labor organizations are now meeting in Chicago. They are holding daily sessions in four Chicago hotels and may be expected to present their demands to the railroad officials early next week. The four organizations represented by the committees are: Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers, Membership 41,000; Brotherhood of Locomotive Firemen, membership 47,000; Brotherhood of Railroad Trainmen, membership 60,000; Order of Railway Conductors, membership 22,000.

For the first time in eight years, the four organizations are working together in harmony and may be counted upon to stand together in the possibility of trouble with the railroads.

It is announced by members of the committees representing the organizations that requests for increases in pay will be made by the four organizations from every railroad system in the middle and northwest. Eastern roads entering the city will be similarly dealt with.

BUTTE BANK ROBBED.

By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press.

Butte, Mont., Dec. 2.—The bank at Bridger, in Carbon county, was entered by three masked men today and Cashier Trumbon, was, at the point of revolvers, relieved of $2,000. Immediately after the robbery, the men left on horseback for the Crow reservation.

A pursuing party has been organized. The scene of the robbery is in the vicinity of the famous hole-in-the-Wall country, for years the hiding place of thieves and desperadoes.

To Amend Anti-Trust Law.

By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press.

Washington, Dec. 2.—Senator Cullom today introduced a bill to amend the Sherman anti-trust law. It prohibits interstate commerce in articles produced by trusts, the penalty for violations being a fine of from $500 to $5,000.

Dr. Hand Condensed Milk Company.

By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press.

Dover, Del., Dec. 2.—The following corporations were filed here today: Increase in capital stock of the Dr. Hand Condensed Milk company, of Scranton, Pa., from $200,000 to $500,000.

Steamship Arrivals.

By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press.

New York, Dec. 2.—Arrived: Rotterdam, Amsterdam. Cleared: Celtic, Liverpool; St. Louis, Southampton. Sailed: Kaiser Wilhelm der Grosse, Bremen; Sicily—Passed: Amsterdam, New York for Rotterdam. Antwerp—Arrived: Vaderland, New York.

PHILADELPHIA MURDER CASE

Indications That the Killing of Kate Hassett by Barry Johnstone Was Premeditated.

EXCITEMENT AT THE BOARDING HOUSE

Johnstone First Forced an Entrance to Woman's Room and Tore Her Clothing Into Shreds—A Farewell Letter Directed to the Murderer's Brother—Friends of the Dead Woman Say That Johnstone Had Been Persecuting Her for at Least a Week.

By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press.

Philadelphia, Dec. 2.—Developments today in the murder of Kate Hassett, of Keith's Bijou Theater Stock company, who was shot and killed last night by Barry Johnstone, an actor, formerly with Richard Mansfield's company, indicate that the crime was premeditated. Johnstone, who after he had shot the woman, attempted suicide, is tonight in a critical condition. The hospital surgeons intended performing an operation upon him this afternoon, but the wounded man's condition was such as to necessitate a postponement. At the hospital tonight it was stated that Johnstone was much weaker than at any time since he received the self-inflicted wound and his chances of recovery were less bright. He is in possession of all his faculties and during the day he occasionally made inquiries concerning Miss Hassett. Each time he was given an evasive reply.

Johnstone's sister and brother arrived here today and spent most of the evening with their brother. His mother is expected here tonight or tomorrow. Everett Beckwith, husband of the murdered actress, has sent word to this city that he is on his way east from Chicago and expects to arrive some time tomorrow. It is also reported that Michael Hassett, father of Miss Hassett, is enroute from Aurora, Ill., to assist in arranging for his daughter's funeral.

The police learned today that shortly after Miss Hassett had left her boarding house for the theater last night, Johnstone forced an entrance into her apartments. He carried a coil of rope which he attached to a post of the actress' bed. The police believe it was the murderer's intention to await the return of Miss Hassett and shoot her in her room, hoping to make his escape through a window by means of the rope. His presence in the room was discovered by other boarders. They assert that the actor was greatly excited and that he had torn into shreds all of the woman's clothing which he found in the room. Fearing that he meant to harm the actress the boarders intercepted her at the door of the house and related what had transpired. As Miss Hassett turned to seek other quarters for the night, Johnstone, it is said, rushed from the house and joined her. They had not proceeded far before he shot her and then turned the weapon upon himself.

A Farewell Letter.

The following letter, addressed to Robert H. Johnstone at Syracuse, N. Y., was found in Johnstone's clothing:

"Dear Bob: Enclosed I send you a check on the Excelsior Savings bank for the sum of $290. I want mother and yourself to have all my effects, clothes, trunks, etc. Bury me inexpensively wherever seems most fit. God bless all, and be good and true to all the world, as I have tried to be. Your brother."

The letter was dated December 1, and was written on a letterhead of the Clarendon hotel, New York. Accompanying it was a brief note addressed to the cashier of the savings bank, instructing him to give to the writer's brother the amount of his deposit.

Friends of the dead woman say Johnstone had been persecuting her for at least a week, and that she frequently expressed the fear that evil might befall her.

The acquaintance of Miss Hassett and Johnstone dates back a year, when both were members of Mme. Modjeska's company. Miss Hassett in private life was Mrs. Minna Beckwith. Her husband resides in Chicago.

Syracuse, N. Y., Dec. 2.—The mother, brothers and sisters of Barry Johnstone, who killed Kate Hassett, left this afternoon for Philadelphia.

Barry Johnstone married Octave Barbe, a singer, in 1895. She secured a divorce from him in 1900.

ATTEMPTS TO KILL THE MIKADO.

By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press.

Victoria, B. C., Dec. 2.—The steamer Kaga Maru which arrived today from the Orient brought news of an attempt on the life of the Emperor of Japan, when the Imperial train was at Otaka en route to the scene of the manoeuvers of Kinshin. A number of conspirators had gone there and arranged to blow up the emperor's train, but the police authorities learned of the plot and the would-be dynamiters fled. They have not been captured.

New York Will Support Cannon.

By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press.

Washington, Dec. 2.—At a meeting of the New York delegation in the house this afternoon it was unanimously decided to support Representative Cannon for speaker and Frank Lyon, of New York for doorkeeper.

Died at His Desk.

By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press.

Washington, Dec. 2.—Joseph Trainor, for thirty years a clerk in the treasury department and prominent in Grand Army circles, died at his desk today of heart trouble. He was a native of Maryland, and was 59 years old.

FAVOR OF POINT LOMA SCHOOL.

Commissioner Sargent Finds Institution Provided with Ample Means.

By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press.

Washington, Dec. 2.—Commissioner General Sargent of the immigration bureau has returned from California, where he made an investigation into the character of the universal brotherhood school at Point Loma, in connection with the question of whether the eleven Cuban children, now held at New York and destined for that school, should be admitted.

While Mr. Sargent has not made his final report, it is learned on good authority that he finds the school provided with ample means to take care of the children and that he will report in favor of their admission. The department undoubtedly will follow his recommendation in this matter, and the children will be admitted within a day or two.

OFFICER'S DESPERATE FIGHT WITH BURGLAR

Policeman Carroll and George Dickinson Struggle for Over an Hour. Both Men in Hospital.

By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press.

Philadelphia, Dec. 2.—The police tonight divulged the identity of a mysterious prisoner who has been under surveillance at a hospital since last Tuesday night, when he was arrested by Policeman Carroll, after a desperate encounter lasting over an hour. The man gave his name as Charles Westcott, but admitted it was an alias, adding that when his identity was discovered it would occasion much surprise. After diligent investigation the detective department learned that "Westcott" is in reality George Dickinson, a notorious burglar, who has been in prison in Charleston, S. C., Trenton, N. J., Boston, and this city. Dickinson is also junior member of the firm of Weyl & Dickinson, of this city, manufacturers of novelties in shirts and waists. The partnership, however, has existed only about two months.

Late last Tuesday night Policeman Carroll observed Dickinson acting suspiciously on the front piazza of a West Philadelphia residence. In answer to questions by the patrolman, Dickinson said he had escorted a young woman home and was about to leave. This did not satisfy Carroll, who attempted to arrest Dickinson. The latter struck the officer in the face and attempted to escape. Carroll fired five shots after the fleeing man, and Dickinson, returning, grappled with his pursuer.

During the encounter the burglar secured possession of Carroll's revolver and shot the policeman in the foot. Both men are powerful, and for more than an hour they struggled to gain the mastery. Carroll finally bore his opponent to the ground just as assistance arrived. Then he fainted from loss of blood and exhaustion. Dickinson's body was a mass of bruises, and his hands and face were terribly lacerated as a result of the beating administered by Carroll. Both men have since been in a hospital.

During their investigation the detectives unearthed Dickinson's room and recovered from the apartments $2,500 worth of silverware, jewelry and bric-a-brac. Seventeen persons, whose homes have recently been robbed, have identified portions of this booty as their property. Yesterday a dress suit case belonging to Dickinson was found at his office. It was filled with mutilated silverware and contained, in addition, two jeweler's crucibles and scores of skeleton keys, the latter evidently made by Dickinson.

Mr. Weyl told the detectives that he has known Dickinson for a period of two years, having at one time employed him as a salesman. Dickinson, Mr. Weyl said, suggested that they form a partnership and about two months ago the firm was established.

FAMOUS HORSE DEAD.

Governor Curtin's Steed Lived to Be 44 Years Old.

By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press.

Lancaster, Dec. 2.—"Andy," a horse that had the distinction of having been the favorite rider of the late Governor Andrew G. Curtin, as well as being one of the oldest horses in the country, is dead. He was 44 years old. The war governor always rode Andy when reviewing the troops during the rebellion. When the horse became blind, Governor Curtin sold him, and twenty-four years ago he passed into the possession of George Geigley, of New Holland, who had owned him ever since.

Andy's last years were spent rather ignominously in drawing a fish cart. He worked up to last week.

LONDON VIEW OF PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE.

By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press.

London, Dec. 3.—Some of the London morning papers regard President Roosevelt's message disappointing, inasmuch as, according to their view, "he adopts a cautious and conservative policy rather than a revolutionary one in dealing with the trust question and the tariff."

On the whole, however, while carefully reviewing the message in detail, there is not a strong disposition on the part of the press to strongly criticize it.

Pennsylvania Postmasters.

By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press.

Washington, Dec. 2.—The president today sent to the senate the following nominations of Pennsylvania postmasters: A. C. W. Mathues, Media; C. L. Forrebee, St. Clair; W. W. Morgan, Slatington; W. L. Bixler, Ephrata; W. B. Hamilton, Freedom; I. T. Klingensmith, Leechburg; A. Secor, Sheffield; Lily Waters, Evans City; J. A. McKee, New Castle; R. M. Russell, Glassport; J. M. Brothers, Knox; A. Laubach, Siegfried; S. B. Sickelsmith, New Haven.

Warehouse Burned.

By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press.

Philadelphia, Dec. 2.—The warehouse and office building of the Lucent Oil company, of which William F. Young is president, at Second and Arch streets, was badly damaged by fire today. The loss is estimated at $75,000, partly covered by insurance.

DALZELL WITHDRAWS.

Will Not Enter the Contest for Speaker of House.

By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press.

Washington, Dec. 2.—Representative Dalzell, of Pennsylvania, has withdrawn from the contest for speaker of the house of representatives in the fifty-eighth congress in favor of Representative Cannon, of Illinois, who has been endorsed for that office by the Pennsylvania delegation in the house. This practically assures Mr. Cannon a unanimous vote for speaker in the Republican caucus.

Mr. Dalzell's announcement and the subsequent action of the delegation took place at a dinner given by Senator Penrose tonight at the new Willard hotel, at which were present Senator Quay and the members and members-elect from Pennsylvania in the house.

Representative Sibley acted as chairman of the informal meeting which followed the dinner, and Representative Olmsted offered a resolution endorsing Mr. Dalzell's candidacy. Complimentary remarks to Mr. Dalzell were made by Senator Quay, Representatives Bingham and others, after which the motion was carried unanimously. Mr. Dalzell expressed his appreciation of the honor the delegation had conferred on him and then announced his withdrawal in favor of Mr. Cannon, for whose endorsement by the delegation he offered a motion. This was carried, and a committee consisting of Messrs. Dalzell, Bingham and Olmsted was appointed to wait on Mr. Cannon and apprise him of the delegation's action.

WINTER IN THE SOUTH.

Terrific Storms at Louisville—Professor John Denier's House Destroyed.

By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press.

Louisville, Ky., Dec. 2.—The advent of winter in the South Atlantic and gulf states, Tennessee, Arkansas and Missouri, was accompanied by general rains and in some localities high winds, which worked considerable damage to property and resulted in the injury of at least two persons. The storm struck New Orleans shortly before daylight and blew down the house of Professor John Denier, a brother of Tony Denier, the clown, fatally injuring him. Mrs. Denier was dangerously hurt. All communication southwest from Memphis has been interrupted and every other telegraph center reports a disturbed condition of regular circuits.

In some sections the rain fall has been followed by clearing and colder weather with a continuance of high winds.

GERMANS TO LEAVE SHANGHAI.

Difficulty in Evacuation Explained in Official Note.

By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press.

Berlin, Dec. 2.—An official note published in the North German Gazette today explains the arrangements made for the departure of the foreign troops from Shanghai. The proceedings, it is pointed out, are in accordance with the agreement arrived at between the powers.

The Germans will leave as soon thereafter as transports are available. In any case the German forces will sail before the end of January.

WARSHIP STATION AT ISTHMUS.

Navy to Be on Guard for Emergencies Along Panama Line.

By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press.

Washington, Dec. 2.—The navy department is informed of the departure of the gunboat Bancroft from San Juan, Porto Rico, for Colon. It is deemed advisable to keep a warship in isthmian waters at all times in view of the obligations this country is under to maintain a free transit across the isthmus.

CALL FOR CONVENTION OF MINE WORKERS.

By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press.

Indianapolis, Ind., Dec. 2.—The official call for the national convention of the United Mine Workers of America was issued today. It is signed by President Mitchell and Secretary Wilson, and is addressed to the local unions. The convention will be held at Indianapolis, commencing Jan. 19, 1903. The call quoted at considerable length several articles of the constitution which define the manner of electing delegates and the basis of representation.

DEATHS OF A DAY.

By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press.

New York, Dec. 2.—Salem H. Wales, father-in-law of Elihu Root, secretary of war, died this afternoon. He was 72 years of age. Mr. Wales came to New York in 1846. From 1848 to 1871 he was managing editor of the Scientific American, was president of the department of parks in 1874, was Republican candidate for mayor of New York in 1874, and in 1895 he was elected vice president of the East river bridge commission.

New York, Dec. 2.—News was received here today of the death in England yesterday of John Hungerford Pollen, formerly a proctor of Oxford university. He was 82 years old. Mr. Pollen was connected with the South Kensington museum for many years, and was author of leading works on gold and silversmiths' work, wood carving and furniture. He was one of the last survivors of the Oxford movement towards Catholicism in the English church, as a result of which he became a Roman Catholic. He was a friend of Cardinal Newman and at one time was professor of fine arts at Newman's university in Dublin.

Muscatine, Iowa, Dec. 2.—A cablegram received here tonight announces the death at Dijon, France, of Father P. Laurens, 51 years of age, and pastor of St. Matthews church of this city. He was one of the most prominent priests in the state.

WILL STAMP OUT CATTLE DISEASE

Following Official Notice from Great Britain, Department of Agriculture Acts Promptly.

VETERINARY SURGEONS SENT TO NEW ENGLAND

Twenty in the Bureau of Animal Industry Are Ordered to Proceed to New England at Once and Assist the Force of Experts Already on the Ground—Indications That the Disease Is Rapidly Spreading.

By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press.

Washington, Dec. 2.—Official notice of the action of the British government prohibiting the landing of live stock from the New England states was received at the department of agriculture today through the state department. Acting Secretary of Agriculture Willis S. Moore immediately issueud the following public notice:

"The board of agriculture of Great Britain, in consequence of the outbreak of foot and mouth disease in New England, has issued an order prohibiting the landing in the United Kingdom of live animals from Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, Massachusetts, Rhode Island and Connecticut. The British board of agriculture asks that the announcement of this fact be made in this country. Dr. Salmon is now in Boston, and in accordance with the directions of Secretary Wilson orders have today been issued sending a number of veterinary surgeons and experts to New England to report to Dr. Salmon and assist in stamping out the disease."

Mr. Moore today ordered about twenty veterinary surgeons in the bureau of animal industry service in various western cities to proceed to New England to augment the force of experts already at work there fighting the epidemic. This force also will be added to by the inspectors relieved from duty owing to the cessation of exportations to Great Britain. It is not known where the epidemic originated.

The Disease Spreading.

Boston, Dec. 2.—Reports indicating that the contagious foot and mouth disease is extending in this state were received at the state board of agriculture. Some of the reports were from places not heretofore mentioned.

Dr. David D. Salmon, chief of the United States bureau of animal industry, reached Boston from Washington today. His first action was to hold a conference with Dr. Samuel E. Bennett, the Boston agent of the bureau, Dr. Austin Peters, chief of the Massachusetts animal bureau and Dr. John H. Mohlern, chief of the pathological division at Washington; Dr. James Low of Cornell university and Dr. Leonard Pearson of the University of Pennsylvania; experts who are aiding in the work of stamping out the disease.

Dr. Salmon said:

"The situation is very disquieting, principally because cattle dealers have been selling diseased animals and scattering the contagion and because there has been no adequate conception of the danger of carrying the disease by persons who have visited diseased horses.

Dr. Salmon will take offices here so as to be in the closest touch with the cattle bureau. He said today that he had been in town so short a time that he could not as yet outline any plan of action excepting that every possible effort will be made to stop the spread of the disease and that no labor and expense will be spared to relieve the situation as soon as possible.

Dr. Peters today issued a notice calling attention to the statutes which direct local boards of health to report all cases of contagion among cattle as soon as their presence is known.

PITTSBURG PRESBYTERY FAVORS REVISION.

By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press.

Pittsburg, Dec. 2.—The battle for and against the revision of the creed in the Pittsburg Presbytery today was won by those favoring revision. When it came to a final vote on the question, although Rev. Drs. D. R. Breed, of the First church, and others, made a hard fight against it, they were outnumbered, the vote standing: For, 78; against, 46. The Presbytery thereby decided that the confession of faith needed remodeling.

Will Design the Hawkins Statue.

By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press.

New York, Dec. 2.—The competition for the commission of designing and erecting a $20,000 monument in Pittsburg to Colonel Alexander H. Hawkins, of the Tenth Pennsylvania Volunteer regiment, was decided today. The winner is William Couper, a sculptor of this city. The jury consisted of John W. Beatty, director of the Carnegie institute at Pittsburg, and Daniel C. French and Thomas Shields Clarke, sculptors of this city.

YESTERDAY'S WEATHER.

Local data for Dec. 2, 1902:

Highest temperature ..... 48 degrees
Lowest temperature ..... 29 degrees
Relative humidity:
8 a. m. ..... 66 per cent.
8 p. m. ..... 56 per cent.
Precipitation, 24 hours ended 8 p. m., none.

WEATHER FORECAST.

Washington, Dec. 2—Rain Wednesday; high east to south winds; colder Wednesday night. Thursday, fair, colder.