

RIGHT TO MEDIATION OVER VENEZUELA

Our Part in the Central American Affair Is Defended by the Hague Treaty.

CLAUSE INSTIGATED BY FRENCH GOVERNMENT

The Proposition to Allow Neutral Nations to Dispute Arbitration of Matters in Dispute Was Opposed by the United States as a Menace to Monroe Doctrine—This Country, Reluctantly Assenting, the First to Adopt Such Course.

Washington, Dec. 30.—President Castro's answer to the allies' proposal to arbitrate the Venezuelan troubles has not been received. In fact, Secretary Hay had nothing of importance on the Venezuelan situation to communicate to the cabinet. There are, however, under discussion such questions as those relating to the best means of committing the blockade and other matters touching the personnel of the commission, which it is expected will meet in Washington to lay down the lines of the arbitration scheme.

Washington, Dec. 30.—At a meeting in the executive hall today, called by the American Free Trade League, the following resolutions were adopted: Whereas, The tariff duties upon beef and coal, by assisting the extortion of monopoly or impeding relief from them, have proved a serious hardship for our people. Whereas, Such abundant evidence is affords accessible to congress that investigations need not cause delay in the removal of this hardship. Resolved, That, as American citizens, we ask that the tariff duties on beef and coal be now removed.

SITUATION AT CARACAS.

British Grant Favours to the German Vessels—Revolutionists at Work.

Caracas, Monday, Dec. 29.—United States Minister Bowen has received information that the Dutch steamer Prins Mauritz has entered certain Venezuelan ports, blockaded by the British fleet and discharged her cargo there, special permission for the Dutch steamer to do this was obtained from Commodore Montgomery, of the British cruiser Charlydis. The Italian cruiser Giovanni Bausan ordered the Prins Mauritz away from port by Commodore Montgomery directed that she continue to discharge her cargo. In Caracas this is held to be a discrimination against American steamers and the British commodore's action has been criticized.

JUDGE MITCHELL'S SUCCESSOR.

Thomas A. Morrison, of McKean, Has Been Appointed.

Harrisburg, Dec. 30.—Judge Thomas A. Morrison, of McKean county, was today appointed by Governor Stone a superior court judge to fill the vacancy created by the retirement of Judge John I. Mitchell, of Wellsboro, under the judge's retirement act.

FREE TRADERS ADOPT SOME RESOLUTIONS

The Boston Reformers Have Concluded That the Ills of the Land Are Due to the Tariff.

Poston, Dec. 29.—At a meeting in the executive hall today, called by the American Free Trade League, the following resolutions were adopted: Whereas, The tariff duties upon beef and coal, by assisting the extortion of monopoly or impeding relief from them, have proved a serious hardship for our people. Whereas, Such abundant evidence is affords accessible to congress that investigations need not cause delay in the removal of this hardship.

AGRICULTURAL REPORT.

Figures Furnished by Statistician of the Department.

Table with columns for crop type (Wheat, Corn, etc.) and quantity (bushels, tons, etc.).

ELECTRICITY FOR STEAM ROAD.

Applicants to Make the Belleair Interurban Line.

Zanesville, O., Dec. 30.—The Appellate court has required control of the Belleair, Zanesville and Cincinnati railroad, and will standardize its gauge and change it to an electric interurban line.

CARNegie MEMORIAL TO WATT

Alternative Offer Made to Inventor's Birthplace, Greenock.

London, Dec. 30.—Andrew Carnegie has notified the provost of Greenock, Scotland, that he is prepared to give \$50,000 to erect a memorial to James Watt in recognition of Watt's engineering achievements.

Jealous Husband's Crime.

Scotts, Ill., Dec. 28.—A. P. Talbot, manager of the Central Union Telephone company at Delavan, near here, shot and seriously wounded his wife and killed himself today. The affair is the culmination of a series of family quarrels. Jealousy is supposed to be the motive. Both parties are highly respected in the community.

Coachman Murdered.

St. Louis, Dec. 30.—The dead and mutilated body of Orrin Worthen, a coachman, was found in the rear of his employer's residence in the West End today. Evidence of a terrific struggle were apparent. The police believe that robbery motivated the crime. No one witnessed the crime.

LOVING CUP FOR MR. WALLIS.

General Superintendent of Pennsylvania Given a Testimonial.

Altoona, Dec. 30.—The superintendents of the Pennsylvania railroad divisions serving under General Superintendent J. M. Wallis, who retired from office on the 15th of this year, on account of ill health, assembled in the railroad office in this city this afternoon and presented him a loving cup as a token of their esteem. The cup is a splendid specimen of the silversmith's art, seventeen inches in height and of beautiful proportions. It is inscribed: "Presented to John Mather Wallis on his retirement from the general superintendency of the Pennsylvania railroad by his superintendents."

PENITENTIARY MANAGEMENT INVESTIGATED

Report of the Sub-Committee of the State Board of Charities.

Harrisburg, Dec. 30.—The report of the sub-committee of the State Board of Charities appointed to investigate the management of the Eastern penitentiary was received today by Governor Stone. The report is signed by all the members of the committee, which was composed of Judge Isaac Johnson, of Media; Ralph Blum and George J. McLeod, of Philadelphia; George W. Ryan, of Shamokin; and Patrick C. Boyle, of Oil City. The report states that the sanitary condition of the penitentiary is good and that the prisoners are properly fed, clothed and cared for so far as the committee was able to ascertain. The matters relating to the management in the opinion of the committee calling for adverse action are as follows: First—The furnishing of food from the penitentiary supplies to officers and employees of the institution.

M'KINLEY'S FAVORITE NIECE IS MARRIED

Miss Mary Barber and Major Ralph Hartzell, of Denver, Are Wedded at Canton, Ohio.

Canton, Ohio, Dec. 30.—Miss Mary Barber, eldest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. M. G. Barber, this evening became the bride of Major Ralph Hartzell. The ceremony was performed at the Commodious old Saxton homestead, formerly the home of the McKinleys, now occupied by the Barbers, and was witnessed by Mrs. McKinley, Mrs. McKinley and Mrs. Barber, are sisters. Roy O. E. Milligan, of the First Presbyterian church officiated. The bride was attended by her sister, Miss Ida Hartzell, assistant secretary of the McKinley Memorial Association. Miss Barber was a favorite of the late President McKinley and spent much time at the white house and was in several presidential parties making extensive tours of the country. She was the companion of Mrs. McKinley. She became a great favorite in cabinet circles and of the many presents that came to her as a bride, some of the handsomest were sent by members of the cabinet and their families.

JUSTICE SHIRAS TO RETIRE.

It Is Expected That He Will Leave the Bench This Winter.

Washington, Dec. 30.—Justice Shiras, of the Supreme court of the United States, will retire some time during the present winter. The date has not yet been definitely fixed, but it is understood that his successor will be confirmed before the adjournment. Among the names proposed as his successor is that of William H. Taft, civil governor of the Philippines.

JUDGE TALCOTT DEAD.

Valparaiso, Ind., Dec. 29.—Judge William C. Talcott, the oldest newspaperman in Indiana, died suddenly today, aged 87 years. For fifty years he owned and edited the Porter County Vindicator.

GERMAN BISHOPS FOR AMERICA.

Herr Cahensly Again Urges His Plan Upon the Vatican.

Rome, Dec. 30.—Herr P. Cahensly, a member of the German Reichstag and president of the Saint Raphael Society for the Protection of German Immigrants in America, who for ten years has been agitating in favor of the appointment of German ecclesiastics to minister to German Catholics in the United States, is again actively urging the Vatican to appoint German bishops wherever the German element predominates.

King and Metzger Deny Charges.

Washington, Dec. 30.—Harry King, chief, and Fred P. Metzger, assistant chief of the draughtsmen's division of the general land office, today submitted their answers denying the charges against them of conduct detrimental to government interests. The answers are made separately and the charges against King in detail, though some of the statements of fact are admitted with the confession that there was no intention of law or regulations.

Fire in the Dorrance Mine.

Wilkes-Barre, Dec. 30.—In some unaccountable manner the gas in the Hillman vein of the Dorrance mine operated by the Lehigh Valley Coal company, was ignited this evening. The blaze was discovered by a fire boss who summoned help and after two hours' work the fire was extinguished. Very little damage was done to the mine which will resume operations tomorrow the same as usual.

PENITENTIARY MANAGEMENT INVESTIGATED

Report of the Sub-Committee of the State Board of Charities.

MEMBERS SUBMIT REPORT TO GOVERNOR

Accounts State That the Sanitary Condition of the Prison Is Good—Prisoners Are Properly Fed and Cared For—Matters Calling for an Adverse Action.

Harrisburg, Dec. 30.—The report of the sub-committee of the State Board of Charities appointed to investigate the management of the Eastern penitentiary was received today by Governor Stone. The report is signed by all the members of the committee, which was composed of Judge Isaac Johnson, of Media; Ralph Blum and George J. McLeod, of Philadelphia; George W. Ryan, of Shamokin; and Patrick C. Boyle, of Oil City. The report states that the sanitary condition of the penitentiary is good and that the prisoners are properly fed, clothed and cared for so far as the committee was able to ascertain. The matters relating to the management in the opinion of the committee calling for adverse action are as follows: First—The furnishing of food from the penitentiary supplies to officers and employees of the institution.

REVIEW OF THE BUSINESS OF 1902

The Best Year This Country Has Experienced According to Bradstreet's.

New York, Dec. 30.—Bradstreet's review of the business year, to be issued Saturday next will have the following: To say that 1902 was the best year this country has ever experienced while the main body of the report does not suggest the enormous strides which the United States took in the year just closed. Practically every branch of industry and manufacturing showed an increase above the best of previous years and yet this immense enlargement of output was not sufficient of itself to satisfy the growing, it might even be termed insatiable, demand for all kinds of materials. In many cases the output of the best of our products was, however, neglected by American producers, who confined their efforts to supply insistent domestic demand, while in others foreign production was called upon to reinforce domestic output, with the result that new currents and channels were created in our foreign trade. Our export trade, therefore, shrank, while our imports expanded to unprecedented figures. The railroads of the country, in their efforts to handle the business offered them, suffered as never before from congestion, and complaint of interference with production and distribution of the products of the farm, the mine, the shop and the loom was practically universal of 1902. All this was, naturally, marked, as it always is in times either of prosperity or of depression, and serious disorganization of some of the country's basic industries resulted for a time. In many cases, however, resort to government aid was not deemed necessary by liberal recognition by employers of changes in the standard of living, and it is safe to say that two men obtain higher wages or had their working time reduced without resort to strikes for every one who actually quit work. Speculation, it is true, felt the checks imposed upon it by conservatism, by short crops in the preceding year, and last, but not least, by high rates for money. The result was that stock market operations were only about one-half those of 1901, bank clearings, those usually reliable guides of business, showed aggregates practically equal to the hitherto unheard-of totals of 1901. All this was accomplished with a minimum of friction, as reflected in the form of business embarrassments.

SIR CHENTUNG IN LINE.

He Already Wears the Brevet Court Button of the Third Grade.

Washington, Dec. 30.—Pekin advices here state that Sir Chentung Liang Cheng, C. M. G., decorated with brevet court button of the third grade, is expected to visit the United States, has been appointed a metropolitan expectant officer of the fourth grade. This rank puts Sir Chentung in line for promotion to high posts in the sixteenth minor ministerial in the cabinet in the future. The minister designate who succeeds Wu Ting-fang in the Washington mission, is expected here some time in January.

ADDICKS WINS ANOTHER.

Dover, Del., Dec. 30.—J. Edward Addicks won another assemblyman in a special election today in Kent county, Ninth Delaware, who was elected by the voters to vote of a tie in the November election between James Wilbur Powell (Union Republican) and Solomon Sapp (Democrat). When the vote was called before at 4 1/2 today's election resulted in Sapp receiving only 204 votes while Powell secured 205, giving the latter a plurality of 102. Addicks will now have twenty-two votes on joint ballot for United States senator, to start with, twenty-seven are necessary to a choice.

MINISTER BLEW OUT THE GAS.

Philadelphia, Dec. 30.—John H. K. Sellers, a Methodist minister of Goshop, North Carolina, who was visiting his brother in this city, was found dead today in the headquarters of the Reading railway company. The cause of death was attributed to the gas which he had inhaled from a gas cylinder in the room in which he was sleeping. The minister was spending the Christmas holidays here and stopped at the Young Men's Christian association headquarters.

NEW WAGE SCALE ON JESSEY CENTRAL.

Wilkes-Barre, Dec. 30.—It is reported in railroad circles here tonight that tonight the first of the new year a new wage scale will go into effect on the Jessej Central Railroad of New Jersey. It is said all the employees will receive an 10 per cent. increase.

NEW COMMISSIONER OF POLICE.

New York, Dec. 30.—General Francis V. Greene, was sworn in as commissioner of police today by Mayor Low. He will assume the duties of the office on Thursday.

IMPORTANT RAILWAY DEAL.

Early in the Year Mr. Morgan Will Announce It.

Chicago, Dec. 30.—One of the most important deals in the history of railway corporations was made known today, says the Daily News. Four roads, according to the Morgan & Co. will announce the consolidation of the Erie, Lehigh Valley and the Reading railroads. The merger will be planned after the manner of the Northwestern Securities company, the stocks of the companies to be pooled and held as a basis for the issuance of a large amount of common shares which will take as their name the title to be given the consolidated companies. The plan for a consolidation, it is said, has been in contemplation for nearly a year and has been held in abeyance owing to the inability of the promoters to get possession of a majority of the Lehigh Valley shares. The interested parties are particularly anxious to emphasize that the consolidation will not interfere with the individual management. The roads are not to lose their identity. The earnings will all flow into one treasury, which will pay expenditures, dividends and have charge of fiscal policy of the companies generally. The holding concern will have a president who will be regarded as above the presidents of the different lines. He will be appointed by Mr. J. P. Morgan and it is intimated that without Underwood, of the Erie, is slated for the place. New York, Dec. 30.—J. P. Morgan denied that it was intended to consolidate the Erie, Lehigh Valley and Reading railroads. Mr. Morgan said: "There is not the slightest reason for such a story. It is altogether without foundation."

CORONER BLAMES RAIL ROAD OFFICERS

Verdict Rendered in the Wanstead Wreck Case—Employment of 16-Year-Old Boys Deplorable.

Wyoming, Ont., Dec. 30.—The coroner's jury which has been investigating the wreck at Wanstead last Friday night, in which twenty-eight lives were lost, brought in a verdict shortly before midnight tonight. The verdict is as follows: "We find that Arthur Wicketts was killed in the collision at Wanstead on the evening of Friday, Dec. 26, 1902. That said collision was caused by wrong orders being given No. 5 at Watford. Responsibility for the issuance of wrong orders we are not agreed upon as between Operator Carson and Despatcher Kerr. "That after No. 5 had left Watford by the issuance of wrong orders, we consider that the accident could have been averted by the operator at Wyoming or Kings Court Junction, had the railway company had more experienced operators at those points, (one being but a boy of sixteen), at each of which places the despatcher having had ample time to do it and endeavored to get the opposing trains stopped."

HEAD-ON COLLISION.

Terrible Catastrophe on the Pennsylvania Railroad Through Misunderstanding of Orders.

Sharon, Pa., Dec. 30.—In a head-on collision on the Pennsylvania railroad, George Gibson, Erie, freight train, and Samuel J. McDonald, Greenville, express messenger, serious. Six of the injured were brought to the Sharon hospital on a special train. Of the injured, Samuel McDonald, George Gibson and Engineer Shallenberger will die. Following is a list of the dead and injured: The dead—Neal Daugherty, Erie; body not yet recovered. The injured—Engineer Shallenberger, probably fatally; Robert Williams, Erie, fireman, passenger train, serious; George Gibson, Erie, fireman, freight train, serious; Samuel J. McDonald, Greenville, express messenger, serious. Six of the injured were brought to the Sharon hospital on a special train. Of the injured, Samuel McDonald, George Gibson and Engineer Shallenberger will die.

PLANNING TO INCREASE THE NAVY.

Scheme to Allow an Additional Cadet from Each Congressional District.

Washington, Dec. 30.—Members of the senate and house naval committees, after conferences with the secretary of the navy, have practically decided on a plan for the increase of the personnel of the navy. It contemplates an additional naval cadet from each congressional district, two for each senator and ten annually to be appointed at large by the president. The difficulty in connection with the inequality of the number of districts in the senate and house is to be solved by giving the secretary of the navy the discretion of determining the times at which the new appointments are to be made.

BIB BUILDING BURNED.

Destruction of Adventists Quarters. Loss Estimated at \$350,000.

Detroit, Dec. 30.—A fire special from Detroit, Mich., says: "In the total destruction tonight of the big building occupied by the Review and Herald of the Seventh-day Adventist community is brought face to face with a second heavy loss by fire within a year. The Adventist headquarters, having been burned only last February. Tonight's loss is estimated by officials of the Review and Herald company at \$350,000, with insurance amounting to \$150,000."

DROPPED DEAD ON A TRAIN.

New York, Dec. 30.—Charles Wessel, of the Riverdale Metal company, dropped dead on a crowded elevated train tonight of apoplexy. He was 65 years old.

STEAMSHIP ARRIVALS.

New York, Dec. 30.—Cleared: Celtic, Liverpool. Arrived: Celtic, Liverpool.

CONFERENCE OF COAL OPERATORS

Anthracite Dealers and Their Attorneys Arrange for the Coming Meeting.

MINE OWNERS' SIDE OF THE COAL STRIKE

James H. Torrey, of Scranton, Representing the Delaware and Hudson Company, Presides—Other Well Known Attorneys and Operators Present—Order in Which the Operators Will Present Evidence. Judge Hand's Statement.

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OSIFIED WOMAN DEAD.

Miss Stella Ewing, a Medical Wonder, Passes Away.

Rome, N. Y., Dec. 30.—Miss Stella Ewing, one of the ossified women who for the past ten years have been living wonders to physicians and scientists, died today, aged 39 years. At an early age she was afflicted with inflammatory rheumatism which physicians failed to relieve. At the age of 25, she lost the use of her limbs and constant specialists said she was gradually turning to stone. During the last ten years of her life, Miss Ewing was totally blind and unable to move a muscle. A sister, Mrs. Emma Ewing Palmer, is afflicted in the same manner.

A COMMAND FOR GEN. VILJOEN.

British Want Him to Lead Force Against Somalis.

London, Dec. 30.—The British government is trying to secure the services of General Ben Viljoen, who is now touring the United States, to command the Boer force which is going to Somaliland. It was General Viljoen who first suggested employing the Boers against the Somalis, but the authorities at that time were not prepared to accept his offer.

Trolley Accident.

Marion, Ind., Dec. 30.—A West Marion street car jumped from a 20-foot embankment at Lefferts avenue to the railroad tracks below this morning. Out of the twenty-five passengers aboard sixteen were injured, one perhaps fatally.

YESTERDAY'S WEATHER.

Table with columns for location (Local data for Dec. 30, Ind.) and weather conditions (Highest temperature, Lowest temperature, etc.).

WEATHER FORECAST.

Table with columns for location (Washington, New York, etc.) and weather conditions (Forecast for Monday, Tuesday, etc.).