

FOREST REPUBLICAN.

VOL. XLI. NO. 48.

TIONETSA, PA., WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 17, 1909.

\$1.00 PER ANNUM.

RATES OF ADVERTISING:
One Square, one inch, one week... \$ 1.00
One Square, one inch, one month... 3.00
One Square, one inch, 3 months... 5.00
One Square, one inch, one year... 10.00
Two Squares, one year... 15.00
Quarter Column, one year... 30.00
Half Column, one year... 50.00
One Column, one year... 100.00
Legal advertisements ten cents per line each insertion.
We do fine Job Printing of every description at reasonable rates, but it's cash on delivery.

J. E. WENK.
Office in Smearbaugh & Wenk Building,
ELM STREET, TIONETSA, PA.
Terms, \$1.00 A Year, Strictly in Advance.
Entered as second-class matter at the post-office at Tionetsa.
No subscription received for a shorter period than three months.
Correspondence solicited, but no notice will be taken of anonymous communications. Always give your name.

BOROUGH OFFICERS.
Burgees—J. T. Carson,
Justices of the Peace—C. A. Randall, D. W. Clark,
Onocemen—J. W. Landers, J. T. Dale, G. B. Robinson, Wm. Smearbaugh, E. W. Bowman, J. W. Jamieson, W. J. Campbell,
Constable—Archie Clark,
Collector—W. H. Hood,
School Directors—J. C. Snowden, R. M. Herman, Q. Jamieson, J. J. Landers, J. R. Clark, W. G. Wyman.

FOREST COUNTY OFFICERS.
Member of Congress—N. P. Wheeler,
Member of Senate—J. K. P. Hall,
Assembly—A. R. Mochling,
President Judge—Wm. E. Rice,
Associate Judges—F. X. Kreidler, P. C. Hill,
Prothonotary, Register & Recorder, &c.—J. C. Geist,
Sheriff—S. R. Maxwell,
Treasurer—Geo. W. Holoman,
Commissioners—Wm. H. Harrison, J. M. S. Deland, H. H. McClellan,
District Attorney—A. C. Brown,
Jury Commissioners—Ernest Sibbie,
Lewis Wagner,
Croner—Dr. C. Y. Dejar,
County Auditors—George H. Warden, A. C. Grezz and J. P. Kelly,
County Surveyor—D. W. Clark,
County Superintendent—J. W. Morrison.

Regular Terms of Court.
Fourth Monday of February,
Third Monday of May,
Fourth Monday of September,
Third Monday of November.
Regular Meetings of County Commissioners 1st and 3d Tuesdays of each month.

Church and Sabbath School.
Presbyterian Sabbath School at 9:45 a. m.; M. E. Sabbath School at 10:00 a. m.; Presby. in M. E. Church every Sabbath evening by Rev. W. O. Cannon.
Preaching in the F. M. Church every Sabbath evening at the usual hour. Rev. E. L. Monroe, Pastor.
Preaching in the Presbyterian church every Sabbath at 11:00 a. m. and 7:30 p. m. Rev. H. A. Bailey, Pastor.
The regular meetings of the W. C. T. U. are held at the headquarters on the second and fourth Tuesdays of each month.

BUSINESS DIRECTORY.

TI NESTA LODGE, No. 369, L. O. E. F.
Meets every Tuesday evening, in Odd Fellows' Hall, Partridge building.

CAPT. GEORGE STOW POST, No. 274, G. A. R.
Meets 1st and 3d Monday evening in each month.

CAPT. GEORGE STOW CORPS, No. 187, W. R. C.
Meets first and third Wednesday evening of each month.

RITCHIE & CARINGER, ATTORNEYS-AT-LAW,
Tionetsa, Pa.

CURTIS M. SHAWKEY, ATTORNEY-AT-LAW,
Warren, Pa.
Practice in Forest Co.

A. C. BROWN, ATTORNEY-AT-LAW
Office in Arner Building, Cor Elm and Bridge Sts., Tionetsa, Pa.

FRANK S. HUNTER, D. D. S.
Rooms over Citizens Nat. Bank, TIONETSA, PA.

DR. J. C. DUNN, PHYSICIAN AND SURGEON,
and DRUGGIST. Office in Dunn & Fulton drug store, Tionetsa, Pa. Professional calls promptly responded to at all hours of day or night. Residence—Elm St., three doors above the store.

DR. F. J. BOVARD, Physician & Surgeon,
TIONETSA, PA.

DR. J. B. SIGGINS, Physician and Surgeon,
OIL CITY, PA.

HOTEL WEAVER, E. A. WEAVER, Proprietor.
This hotel, formerly the Lawrence House, has undergone a complete change, and is now furnished with all the modern improvements. Heated and lighted throughout with natural gas, bathrooms, hot and cold water, etc. The comforts of guests never neglected.

CENTRAL HOUSE, GERARD & GREGG, Proprietors.
Tionetsa, Pa. This is the most centrally located hotel in the place, and has all the modern improvements. No pains will be spared to make it a pleasant stopping place for the traveling public. First class livery in connection.

PHIL EMERY, FANCY BOOT & SHOEMAKER.
Shop over R. L. Hassel's grocery store on Elm street. Is prepared to do all kinds of custom work from the finest to the coarsest, and guarantees his work to give perfect satisfaction. Prompt attention given to mending, and prices reasonable.

Fred. Grettenberger, GENERAL BLACKSMITH & MACHINIST.
All work pertaining to Machinery, Engines, Oil Well Tools, Gas or Water Fittings and General Blacksmithing promptly done at low rates. Repairing Machinery given special attention, and satisfaction guaranteed.
Shop in rear of and just west of the Shaw House, Tionetsa, Pa.
Your patronage solicited.
FRED. GRETTEMBERGER

JAMES HASLET, GENERAL MERCHANTS, Furniture Dealers, —AND— UNDERTAKERS.
TIONETSA, PENN.

Dr. August Morck

OPTICIAN.
Office 1 & 7 1/2 National Bank Building, OIL CITY, PA.
Eyes examined free.
Exclusively optical.

ICE BLOCKS NIAGARA

Only a Tiny Rivulet Flowing Over American Cataract.

Flow Over the Horseshoe Fall Greatly Diminished—Gorge Below Is Choked, Rapids' Fury Is Gone and the Whirlpool is Barely in Motion—Third Time in History Such a Combination of Ice and Wind Has Affected the Falls.

Only a tiny rivulet, not swift or deep enough to carry a log over the brink, is flowing over the American side of Niagara Falls. A strong northeast wind which has blown since Friday has held back the water and allowed the ice to gain a foothold. Two employees of the American reservation walked from Prospect Point nearly to Bath Island Sunday morning. They desisted from completing the trip merely because they did not care to get their feet wet, a stream at one point being a few inches above the tops of their boots.

A great wall of ice runs from the head of Goat Island to the American mainland, through which only tiny streams are able to trickle. This wall has even encroached on the Canadian channel, extending out some 200 feet beyond the Third Sister Island and greatly diminishing the flow over the Horseshoe. Only the very apex of the Canadian falls is left and that is robbed of half its flow.

The gorge below is choked and the rapids have lost their fury, while the whirlpool is barely in motion.

This is only the third time that this combination of ice and wind has thus affected the falls since the white man came here. The other occasions were on March 29, 1849, and March 22, 1903.

LINCOLN CENTENARY

South Joins With North in Honoring War President's Memory.

The 100th anniversary of Abraham Lincoln's birth was fittingly celebrated Friday throughout the United States. For the first time the cities of the South joined with those of the North in honoring the memory of the war president.

In the capitals of Europe the day was also fittingly remembered with appropriate ceremonies in Paris, London and Berlin.

In New York city the principal speakers in honor of Lincoln were Senator Theodore E. Burton of Ohio, Representative Burke of Pennsylvania, Booker T. Washington and Howard Duffield, D. D.

In Chicago the day began with a great meeting at the Auditorium, at which Dr. Woodrow Wilson, president of Princeton university, was the chief speaker. Hundreds of men and women were turned away from the Auditorium because of lack of accommodation, and it would have been possible to fill the building twice over.

Vice President Fairbanks was the principal speaker in Harrisburg, Pa., and James S. Sherman, the vice president-elect, the orator of the day in Pittsburg.

At Springfield, Ill., where a stricken nation gave back to mother earth the body of the Titan who had saved it from the fate of permanent disruption, William Jennings Bryan, Democracy's chosen leader and the political rival of Roosevelt, laid his garland on the tomb, while James Bryce, England's famous historian and ambassador, and M. Jussarand, the ambassador from France, were there to symbolize in their persons the homage of two of the greatest Old World powers.

But perhaps the most interesting event occurred at the farm near Hodgenville, Ky., on which Abraham Lincoln was born and where he lived for eight years. President Roosevelt made the centenary speech and participated in laying the cornerstone of a memorial hall which is to rise on the spot where stood the log cabin in which the Emancipator was born.

The cornerstone laying took place after appropriate ceremonies which were participated in by the president of the United States, Governor Augustus E. Wilson of Kentucky, former Governor Joseph W. Folk of Missouri, president of the Lincoln Farm association; Luke E. Wright, secretary of war, who spoke as an ex-confederate soldier; General James Grant Wilson of New York, who represented the Union soldiers, and I. T. Montgomery of Mississippi, a negro and an ex-slave, to whom had been assigned the task of depositing in the box a copy of Lincoln's emancipation proclamation.

Winter Refuge for Elk.
Protection for elk in the form of a winter refuge is the proposal in a memorial to congress asking that a tract of land south of Yellowstone park be set aside. The suggestion comes from the Wyoming legislature and is the outcome of reports that 20,000 elk are starving in the mountains of Western Wyoming. Communications have been received from lodges of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks all over the country asking that the government take steps to protect the great elk herd.

Law Against Miscegenation.
In the legislature at Bismarck, N. D., the house passed the senate bill prohibiting under heavy penalty the intermarriage of whites and blacks or sexual relations between the races. The governor will sign the bill.

ANOTHER EEL CITY

To Be Built Around Proposed Plant on the St. Louis River.

A new city, like Gary, Ind., is to be built by the United States Steel corporation around a \$15,500,000 plant to be erected this spring at a point on the St. Louis river within three miles of the city of Superior, Wis. The blast furnaces are to be located on the Minnesota side of the river, but auxiliary plants are to be located on the Wisconsin side.

The Steel corporation has purchased and cleared 1,600 acres of land on the Wisconsin side. The sum of \$14,500,000 has been set aside, plans have been drawn and the same construction crew which put in the steel plant at Gary has been ordered to Superior to begin work when spring opens.

SCHOOL BILL DEFEATED

Refused Passage by California Assembly by Vote of 41 to 37.

The assembly by a vote of 43 to 34, decided to reconsider the Johnson anti-Japanese school bill, which was passed a week ago at Sacramento.

Another vote was taken and the school bill was refused passage by a vote of 41 to 37.

A motion to reconsider the vote by which the bill was refused passage was lost, the vote standing 38 to 38.

In the senate a long resolution by Marc Anthony of San Francisco, Indiana, United States Senator George C. Perkins' attitude in the Japanese controversy was quickly disposed of by reference to the committee on judiciary.

FEWER JAPANESE

Number Leaving in December Exceeded Arrivals by 700.

The number of Japanese of all classes who left the United States for Japan in December, 1908, exceeded by nearly 700 the number who entered this country during the same month, according to figures given out by Kokiichi Mizuno, Japanese consul general in New York city. The Japanese who returned from this country to their native land during the month in question, numbered 1,907. Of these 905 were males and 1,022 females. The number of Japanese who came into this country during the same period was 113 males and 187 females, of whom over one-fourth were of the student and merchant classes.

PROPOSED INCOME TAX

President Thinks Question Should Be Threshed out at Extra Session.

President Roosevelt says he has no intention to send congress a message recommending an income tax. He has, however, been consulted on this subject by Representative Stevens of Minnesota, who is preparing a bill on the subject. The president's views as to such a tax have been repeatedly set forth in speeches and messages, but he believes that this question will have to be threshed out in the coming extra session, which will deal not only with the revision of the tariff but with the question of sufficient revenues to run the government in the next fiscal year.

DANGEROUS ORCHARD PESTS

Governor Hughes Confers With Western New York Fruit Growers.

Fruit growers in Western New York, and it may be throughout the state, have been summoned to Albany by Governor Hughes, to take measures against the introduction of the gypsy moth or the browntail moth. It is understood that the officers of fruit growers' associations have been asked by the governor to take prompt measures for the protection of orchards.

Information received is to the effect that consignments of fruit affected with the pests are being brought into the state from Ohio.

FIREMAN CRUSHED BY WALL

Lockport's Block Factory Destroyed; Another Fireman Injured.

Fire Saturday destroyed the plant of the Boston and Lockport Block company and caused the death of Fireman Frank J. Reid. George Hill, another fireman, was slightly injured. The fire originated in the boiler room, and spreading to the elevator shaft soon enveloped the entire six stories.

The firemen were handicapped by poor water pressure from the new water system and could do little more than save adjoining property. Fireman Reid was crushed in the collapse of the stone walls of the factory at 8 o'clock and his death followed half an hour later. The loss is \$150,000.

STEPHENSON'S CANVASS COST \$107,793.

United States Senator Isaac Stephenson of Wisconsin, through his agents, expended \$107,793 as a candidate for the nomination for the office of United States senator from Wisconsin, incident to the primary election held on Sept. 1, 1908. This is shown in his official statement filed with the secretary of state.

Smith Barred From Cornell Varsity.
Maximilian Smith, who rowed bow in 1908 on the Cornell varsity, has been debarred for failure to pass mid-winter examinations. Coach Courtney probably will also lose Weichers, a promising candidate who stroked the freshmen last spring on account of illness with pneumonia.

KNOX MADE ELIGIBLE

House Passes Senate Bill Removing Constitutional Bar.

Bill Did Not Secure Necessary Two-Thirds Majority Under General Order—Immediately the Committee on Rules Brought in a Rule Making It In Order to Act on Bill Under Conditions Which Would Require Only a Majority to Pass It.

Washington, Feb. 16.—By a vote of 173 to 117 the house passed the bill removing the bar to Senator Knox's eligibility for the office of secretary of state. This was the second vote of the day on this measure and the two were separated only by about two hours time. The first vote was taken on the bill under general order for the suspension of the rules, and under that order, according to the standing rules of the house, a bill must receive a two-thirds majority to insure its passage.

The first vote stood 173 to 123, the majority thus falling considerably below the two-thirds requirement. Immediately after this result was announced the house committee on rules held a meeting which resulted in Mr. Dalzell's bringing in a rule making it in order for the house to again take up the bill and act upon it under conditions which would require only a majority vote to pass it.

The opponents of the measure did not cease their antagonism, which on the previous consideration had brought out a number of sharp criticisms, but immediately demanded a roll call on the previous question on the adoption of the rule. This call consumed 25 minutes and after the rule had been adopted the debate was resumed.

Mr. Olmsted, Pa., contended that the bill does not accomplish an evasion of the constitution, and cited among others the case of Senator Morrill of Vermont, who was appointed secretary of the treasury.

In the opinion of Mr. Williams, Miss. who opposed the bill, that was the only reputable authority alluded to. Senator Morrill, he said, had been confirmed through senatorial courtesy, which, he declared, was "a clear, plain, palpable, obvious and manifest case of direct and expressed constitutional inhibition."

Mr. Clark, Mo., for the second time during the day took the floor in opposition to the bill and said that congress was making itself "the laughing stock of every intelligent man on the face of God's free earth." He referred to a famous expression by the late Tim Campbell of New York, who had said "What's the constitution between friends?"

The debate was brought to a close by Mr. De Armond, Mo., who argued for the passage of the bill. On a ye and nay vote the bill was passed, 173 to 117. There was no demonstration of any kind when the announcement was made.

The bill passed by the house is the one which had been previously passed by the senate. It was not amended and will not therefore be necessary for it to go to conference. The measure requires only the signature of the president to make it a law.

COAL ROADS MAKE DEFENSE

Their Side of Government Case Begun in New York Today.

New York, Feb. 16.—The railroads of the anthracite region began in court today their defense against the charge of the government that they form a conspiracy in restraint of the trade in hard coal.

The action of the government was begun in June, 1907, and the prosecution was concluded in Philadelphia last month. Among the evidence offered by the government is a table of statistics showing that of the 76,000,000 tons of coal produced only 16,000,000, or about 21 per cent, are produced by independent operators. Of those 16,000,000 tons it is alleged that all except 6,607,511 tons are in the control of the roads by contract or otherwise at the time the coal leaves the mines.

EIGHT CHINAMAN CAPTURED

Were Piloted Across the St. Lawrence by an Indian.

Ogdensburg, N. Y., Feb. 16.—Eight Chinamen were captured here, having walked across the St. Lawrence river on the ice from Canada. They arrived at the border from Montreal on the midnight train and were piloted here by an Indian. All the Chinamen had their queues cut off and wore American clothes. They will be charged with unlawfully entering the United States.

MR. ROOSEVELT TO BE IN ITALY 11 DAYS.

Rome, Feb. 16.—The announcement that Theodore Roosevelt and his wife will arrive at Naples the end of March on his way to East Africa and will remain in Italy eleven days has been received here with great satisfaction. Although it is reported that Mr. Roosevelt will travel as quietly as possible, it is expected that he will visit Rome, both the king and the pope having expressed a desire to meet him. Arrangements also are being made for Mr. Roosevelt to visit the earthquake zone.

HENRY VIGNAUD RESIGNS

Has Been Secretary of American Embassy at Paris For 34 Years.

Paris, Feb. 16.—Henry Vignaud, secretary of the American embassy at Paris, has resigned, the resignation to take effect March 31. In a letter which he has forwarded to President Roosevelt Mr. Vignaud assigns as the reason for his decision his advanced age and his desire not to block the path of promotion "to younger men."

Mr. Vignaud, who is 79 years of age and the oldest member of the American diplomatic corps abroad, leaves the service greatly esteemed by all who knew him. As he is without private fortune of any kind, a group of prominent Americans, who appreciate his long and faithful service, have come forward and raised a fund of \$20,000 to provide for his maintenance. Among these are Levi P. Morton, J. Gordon Bennett, Ferdinand Blumenthal, Andrew Carnegie, John Harjes, T. J. Coolidge, Henry White, J. P. Morgan and a number of others equally well known.

Henry Vignaud came abroad as secretary to the Mason and Slidell commission to Europe and was secretary of the Confederate diplomatic commission in Paris in 1863. In 1875 he became the regularly commissioned secretary of the American legation at Paris, after which he was continuously secretary of the legation and embassy for 34 years, during which time he took not a single leave of absence. He participated in many important negotiations and acquired a high reputation as a diplomat.

MACKAY COMPANIES' REPORT

Have No Debt—Properties Maintained Out of Annual Receipts.

New York, Feb. 16.—The annual report of the Mackay companies, which own the stock of numerous telegraph and cable companies, including the Commercial Cable company and the various companies constituting the land line system known as the Postal Telegraph, sets forth that the Mackay companies have no debts; that the physical properties of the subordinate companies are maintained in excellent condition, and that all reconstruction is charged to operating expenses, and that extensions, improvements and investigations are being paid for from annual receipts and not by the issue of shares or bonds.

It is stated that the Mackay companies will not oppose the recommendation of President Roosevelt that telegraph and telephone companies engaged in interstate business should be put under the jurisdiction of the Interstate commerce commission. An additional trans-continental route will be put into operation in 1909.

VETERANS MUST BE RETAINED

Those Heretofore Employed by State Engineer to Be Given Other Positions.

Albany, Feb. 16.—In an opinion to Acting State Superintendent of Insurance Henry D. Appleton, Attorney General O'Malley holds that the New York Physicians' Mutual Aid association has violated section 36 of the insurance law in making a personal loan to its treasurer.

In an opinion to State Engineer and Surveyor Williams, the attorney general advises that veterans employed in the work of the highway bureau in his department must be retained under the new state highway commission, which is to take over the highway bureau of the state engineer's department, or by the state engineer, in some other position in which they can perform similar duties.

HER HUNDRETH BIRTHDAY

Mrs. Coburn Is Real Daughter of American Revolution.

Morgantown, W. Va., Feb. 16.—Mrs. Susannah Guseman Coburn celebrated her one hundredth birthday here and scores of relatives and friends called to congratulate her. Mrs. Coburn is a daughter of Abram Guseman, a soldier of the Revolutionary war, and is an enthusiastic member of the Daughters of the American Revolution.

The Morgantown chapter of that organization has two centenarians, the other being Mrs. Lucinda Finnell, who celebrated her hundredth birthday a year ago. Both Mrs. Coburn and Mrs. Finnell have full possession of their faculties.

COLLISION AT SEA

Sailing Vessel Ramm'd Steamer; Thirty Lives Were Lost.

Algiers, Feb. 16.—Thirty lives were lost when an unknown sailing vessel ramm'd the Belgian steamer Australia during a storm on Feb. 12, near Alboran island, in the Mediterranean, 100 miles from Gibraltar, and both vessels foundered. Of this number 14 men hailed from the sailing vessel and 16 from the Australia. Ten members of the crew of the Australia who had put off from that steamer in a small boat were picked up by the German steamer Liberia and brought in here.

WOOSTER ORATOR IS A CHINAMAN.

Wooster, O., Feb. 6.—Wooster university in the oratorical contest with Dickinson and Allegheny colleges will be represented by P. W. Kuo, a Chinaman. The honor was won by Kuo in the preliminary contest over ten competing orators. Kuo's subject was "China's Demonstrances." The contest is to be held here next month.

SHORTER NEWS ITEMS

Pithy Paragraphs That Chronicle the Week's Doings.

Long Dispatches From Various Parts of the World Shorn of Their Padding and Only Facts Given in as Few Words as Possible For the Benefit of the Hurried Reader.

Wednesday.
District Attorney Jerome of New York is nearly overcome by the gas used by a servant girl to end her life. It was reported that Judge Willis Van Devanter of Wyoming had been chosen secretary of the treasury in the Taft cabinet.

President Roosevelt sent a special message to congress urging a law to compel the use of wireless telegraphy on all passenger vessels. Governor Hughes made public a letter from J. N. Dolley, speaker of the Kansas house, which denounced the old convention system and praised result of direct primaries in Kansas.

THURSDAY.

Mrs. Howard Gould appeared as defendant in the supreme court in a suit to collect a milliner's bill for \$3,610. Riotous demonstration of the unemployed mars King Edward's visit to Berlin; police charge crowd and several men sustain saber wounds.

King Edward and Emperor William emphasized their desire to cement the cordial relations between England and Germany at a banquet in Berlin. In a cabled interview from Paris Perry Belmont spoke for an increase in the American navy to guarantee the neutrality of the Panama canal.

Peter B. Olney, referee, reported to the court his opinion that the Fidelity Funding company could not be declared bankrupt, as it is not amenable to the bankruptcy laws.

FRIDAY.

William H. Taft and James S. Sherman were officially chosen as president and vice president by congress canvassing the electoral vote. President Gomez expresses the belief that reciprocity with Cuba will be easy if the United States grants concessions on Cuban sugar and tobacco.

State Senator Brough introduced a bill permitting every Episcopalian in Manhattan to take part in the election of vestrymen and wardens of the Trinity corporation. William E. Curtis, writing from Washington, states that the latest census shows two-thirds of the population of Spain can neither read nor write, but that education reforms are under way.

SATURDAY.

Two charges of champerty were made against Joseph A. Shay, the lawyer who is accused of plotting the escape of a prisoner from the Tombs. Washington advises that the Third squadron, under Rear Admiral Arnold, will meet the returning battleship fleet in mid-ocean on Feb. 17.

The New York chamber of commerce adopted a resolution opposing the amendment to the state constitution which contemplates increasing the debt limit of cities. Paul Kelly and Charles McCarthy, who escaped from the Sing Sing convict camp at Bear Mountain, were found starving and exhausted in a deserted boathouse at West New York.

The car repair shops of the New York Central railroad at Lyons were burned. One hundred and fifty employees are temporarily out of work. All of the rolling stock in the shops was saved.

MONDAY.

Mrs. Carrie Nation, says a dispatch from London, purposes to invade the house of lords. Deep sea divers worked to recover the cargo in the hold of the Florida, which sank the Republic. "Jack" Johnson, the champion pugilist, says he is willing to fight any man in any part of the world.

Dispatches received at Washington stated that United States Commissioner Buchanan had signed the treaty with Venezuela. It was announced that the Water-Pierce Oil company would pay the \$50,000 fine and meet other conditions imposed for the continuance of business in Missouri.

TUESDAY.

After hiding two leper sons for many years Galveston parents, by stress of poverty, were compelled to notify health officers. That Mexico would flood the United States with oil if the countervailing tariff duty is removed was predicted by a Pittsburg expert.

President Roosevelt sent to congress a message recommending legislation requested by the recent national conference on the care of dependent children. It is stated in Washington dispatches that friends of Rear Admiral Schley, retired, may oppose creating the grade of vice admiral for the benefit of Rear Admiral Evans.

DIVERS' NARROW ESCAPE

Both Struck Their Heads Hard on the Bottom While Gathering Sponges.

New York, Feb. 16.—Dr. C. W. Wylie of Syracuse, who arrived here from Bermuda on the steamer Prince George, told of a narrow escape from death which he and Professor S. H. Smallwood of Syracuse university experienced while diving for rare sponges on the south shore of Paget. The clearness of the water deceived them and they struck their heads hard upon the bottom. Professor Smallwood was rendered unconscious, but Dr. Wylie, who had not hit quite so hard, managed to get his companion out of the water. The divers had left their clothes nearby.

"Soon we set about, with remedies I had at hand, vigorously aiding each the other with hypodermic injections," said Dr. Wylie. "Negro fishermen found us in this somewhat ridiculous plight and were inclined to attack us with their spears. We had a hard time convincing them of what had happened and getting them to take us in a boat to our hotel."

300 PERISH IN THEATER FIRE

Film of Moving Picture Took Fire and Caught Bunting.

Mexico City, Mexico, Feb. 16.—Between 250 and 300 people were burned to death and many were injured in a fire which destroyed the Flores theater in the city of Acapulco Monday night. The news of the disaster reached this capital today, telegraphic communication with Acapulco having been destroyed owing to the fact that the telegraph office adjoining the theater was burned and all wires put out of commission.

The Flores theater was a wooden structure and Monday night over 1,000 people crowded into it to witness a special performance given in honor of Governor Damian Flores, of the state of Guerrero, who was visiting the host at the time.

One of the numbers on the program consisted of a series of moving pictures. While the operator was exhibiting these, a film caught fire and a blaze was quickly communicated to some bunting which had been used for decorative purposes. In an incredibly short time the flames spread to all parts of the structure. There were but three narrow exits and the panic stricken audience rushed to them, many falling, to be crushed to death, their bodies choking the way of escape to others.

The screams of those imprisoned were terrifying. Owing to the rapidity with which the fire spread and its intense heat it was impossible to attempt rescue work and those imprisoned were literally roasted alive as the fire burned with little smoke and few were suffocated. The efforts of the fire department were confined to attempting to save the adjoining buildings and they succeeded so that the property loss was small.

The telegraph office, postoffice and custom house was damaged, but all of the government's records and registered mail was saved.

Pitiable scenes of grief are being enacted on the streets of the little west coast port. Men, women and children are wandering from place to place hunting for relatives or friends. Many of the dead are from the first families of the state, the affair at the theater being a social event of considerable importance and calling out the wealthiest and oldest families for miles around. In some instances entire families were wiped out of existence.

The municipal authorities caused large trenches to be dug and into these the remains of the dead were laid. According to telegrams received from there, recognition of the dead has been an impossibility, owing to the fact that the bodies are burned, in most cases to a crisp.