

MAY YET FORCE FRANCE TO WAR

Germany's Attitude is Causing Much Anxiety.

THE UNITED STATES IS CAUTIOUS.

Conferences Between Secretary Root and French and German Ambassadors—Washington Government Not Interfering—Other Neutral Powers May Try to Bring France and Germany Together.

Washington, D. C., (Special).—The news received here from Algiers is by no means encouraging of a speedy and harmonious result. It is complained that the German representatives are not acting in absolute good faith and that the propositions which they bring forward from time to time are merely for effect, as it is known to the Germans themselves that they must prove objections to the French delegates to the conference.

The French delegates display, according to the advices received here, an almost equally unyielding spirit, and it would not be surprising to Washington if the conference adjourned before long, leaving the vexed Moroccan question in such a delicate position that hostilities between the continental powers might result.

The German Ambassador, Baron Stenberg, and the French Ambassador, M. Jusserand, called on Secretary Root at short intervals, but no information was given as to any news they might have received from Algiers.

It is intimated here that the failure of the conference is expected by Germany, and indeed, not unreasonably, and that the German government is perfectly willing to make the Moroccan question the pretext for another war with France, believing that the conflict is inevitable and irrepressible, and that the German empire are now better prepared for the final struggle than they will be again.

While other neutral powers will no doubt continue efforts to bring Germany and France together, the United States government will maintain its policy of noninterference in so delicate a controversy.

Edward May See William.

London. (By Cable).—Reuter's Telegram Company is informed that King Edward will shortly meet Emperor William at sea or at some port. The announcement, however, is unofficial.

St. Petersburg. (By Cable).—The Moroccan conference continues to absorb the attention of the diplomats here. King Edward's approaching visit to the Continent is regarded as a hopeful sign of the possibility of an agreement being arrived at between Germany and France, and it is the general expectation that the outside powers at the conference will seek to induce the disputants to submit the points on which they cannot agree to the decision of the full conference.

In government circles, however, the crisis is not considered to be passed. The Svet, which has always been noted for its Anglophobia, says it believes France was drawn into her present position by the belief that she would have Great Britain's support, but that she is doomed to disappointment.

"England, as usual," says the Svet, "will prefer to reap the fruits of the quarrels of others, which helps to ferment Germany's inflexibility, which is explainable on no other hypothesis. England will not draw the sword and France cannot now withdraw. The world will wake up some fine morning and find the German troops at Nancy."

It is learned from an indisputable source France feels assured of the support on the question of policing Morocco of a majority of the delegates to the conference in order to demonstrate falsity of Germany's contention that France represents only the minority view.

FAMINE IN NORTHERN JAPAN.

Condition of Sufferers Said to Be Worse Than Described.

Seattle, Wash., (Special).—The steamship Dakota brings advice from Nagasaki that the famine situation in the northern provinces of Japan is steadily growing graver.

A second appeal has been issued by W. E. Langer, chairman of the foreign committee of relief in which he says: "When we issued our first appeal to the foreign communities in Japan in December we estimated that 600,000 persons out of a population of 2,821,000 were on the verge of starvation. Since then members of our committee have personally visited 26 counties and as many towns in the Provinces of Miyagi and Fukushima and have distributed 9,000 yen. Our first figures estimating those affected by the famine are too weak to describe the actual famine."

Abled-bodied men, ragged and hungry, are facing the snow and icy winds to bring wood from the mountains in the hope of earning enough through its sale to keep the starving families. Women are covering their babies with their own clothing to keep them warm, and such conditions as these can mean only death in the end. Families once proud and comfortable are now reduced to want."

The appeal tells of special instances of suffering and death.

George Small Indicted.

Mount Holly, N. J. (Special).—The Burlington County Grand Jury found a true bill of indictment against George Small, colored, for the murder of Miss Florence Alfinus at Morestown on January 18. Rufus Johnson, also colored, who was arrested in Baltimore and confessed to murdering Miss Alfinus, but who subsequently charged Small with the murder is awaiting execution for participation in the murder.

Castellane's Creditors.

Paris. (By Cable).—An application was made to the civil tribunal of the Seine in behalf of a money-lender for permission to levy on the household goods in the Castellane mansion to satisfy a claim for money advanced to Count Boni. The lawyers of the Count resisted the request on the grounds that the goods are her separate property. The case finally was referred to a judge in chamber to determine whether a portion of the Count's belongings are in the mansion.

LATEST NEWS IN SHORT ORDER

DOMESTIC

Sir Alfred Harmsworth, chairman of the protection committee of the British policyholders of the New York Mutual Life Company, has urged Stuyvesant Fish not to resign, but to continue to support genuine reforms.

Pittsburg Street railways and gas supply have practically passed from control of the Philadelphia company to the United Railways Investment Company of San Francisco, the deal involving nearly \$10,000,000.

Attorney General Mayer denied the application of William R. Hearst, who would him to institute proceedings to annul the charter of the Interborough Metropolitan Holding Company.

Secretary Taft discussed government aid of railways at the hearing of the House Committee on Territories on the Lovering bill for the government guarantee of Alaskan railway bonds.

President Patrick Dolan, of the miners of the Pittsburg district, is reported to have broken down from the severe strain to which he has been subjected.

Dr. H. Preston Pratt, x-ray expert, said in Chicago that universal blindness is to be humanity's penalty for the benefits of electricity.

The body of Johann Hoch, the Chicago Bluebeard, was taken from the potter's field and buried in Elmwood Cemetery.

The remains of ex-Speaker Henderson were buried with distinguished honors in Dubuque, Ia.

Gustav A. Closson, of Morrisville, Pa., was sentenced to be hanged for poisoning his son.

The Southern Bank and Trust Company of Fort Smith, Ark., closed its doors.

Plea of guilty was entered in the Norfolk and Western Railroad \$4,500,000 bond forgery case in New York. All the defendants except Charles T. C. Colney pleaded guilty, and were remanded for sentence.

A deal by which the immense ore properties of James I. Hill, on the Mesabi Range, pass into control of the United States Steel Corporation for 30 years is about to be consummated.

Two daughters of George Storer, of Camden, Michigan, were fatally poisoned by canned salmon which had been left in the can sometime after it was opened.

The Board of Directors of the Pennsylvania Railroad met in Philadelphia, and made announcement of several appointments and promotions.

Plans are afoot to construct a 10-mile elevated road in Chicago to connect with rapid transit lines interlacing Illinois and Indiana.

Testimony was given in the Greene-Gaynor case as to Capt. O. M. Carter's deposits in five banking institutions.

A second Chinese commission, headed by Prince Tsai Tai, has arrived in San Francisco.

John D. Spreckels is seriously ill with grip at his home in San Francisco.

It is alleged that, in connection with the case of Bertie Claiborne, the French girl charged with shooting and killing Emil Gordon in New York, the crime was planned by a policeman, and that the woman shot her old lover to win a policeman who was present to help make the arrest at the time of the murder.

Kuhn, Lobe & Co., the New York bankers, have resigned as directors of the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad and some other railroad corporations, and will retain interests in railroads, will devote more time to their banking interests.

Robert Collier, editor of Collier's Weekly, states that he is willing to spend over \$100,000 to expose Colonel Mann, of Town Topics, and that he has been pursuing Mann since Town Topics attacked his father.

Mrs. Josef Hoffmann, wife of the pianist, is crossing the Atlantic to recover her six-year-old son, who she claims was brought to America from Italy by her divorced husband, George P. Rustin.

FOREIGN

The new commercial treaties between Austria-Hungary and Germany, Italy, Russia and Belgium, and also the new Austro-Hungarian autonomous tariff, on which the treaties were based, have become effective.

Financiers have proposed to Premier Witte to take over the Russian government railroads for \$750,000,000 and operate them under foreign management.

A dispatch from Shanghai says French Catholics are blamed to a certain extent for the trouble leading up to the massacre at Nanchang.

A fight at Tammerfors, Finland, with handbills who robbed the Russian State Bank at Helsinki, cost four lives.

The Austro-Hungarian government continues to impose extreme measures upon Hungary, even to suppressing the press.

The Japanese government has a scheme for nationalizing the Japanese railroads.

Ambassador Meyer has advised Americans claiming damages during the recent internal disorders in Russia to press their claims through the regular Russian courts.

Mendez Capote, leader of the Cuban Moderate party, vice president-elect, announces his desire to withdraw before vote of presidential electors is actually cast.

Bishop Thomas F. Gallor, of the Protestant Episcopal Church, was the chief speaker.

To Turn Down Castro.

Paris (By Cable).—According to information which has reached official quarters here a revolutionary movement against Venezuela is on foot. The revolutionists are concentrating on the Island of Trinidad, where they are awaiting arms and supplies, previous to landing on the Venezuelan coast.

A Menace to Peace.

London (By Cable).—In introducing the navy estimates in the House of Commons Financial Secretary of the Admiralty Robertson commented on the fact that since The Hague Peace Conference the naval expenditure of the great powers had increased 50 per cent, reaching the enormous total of \$507,500,000. He regarded this inflated expenditure as a menace to the peace of the world, and thought that a league peace was desirable.

For a Miner's Convention.

Indianapolis, Ind., (Special).—B. Wilson, international secretary-treasurer of the United Mineworkers of America, issued the official call for a special national convention to convene in Tomlinson Hall on Thursday, March 13. The call is signed by President Mitchell. Local unions are to select delegates for a regular national convention, and again 1,000 delegates will gather here for the purpose of considering the wage scale and the transaction of such other business as may lawfully be brought before the convention.

19 PEOPLE KILLED BY CYCLONE

Property Loss At Meridian Put At \$1,000,000—Many Persons Were Injured—About 400 Small Houses Topple Under the Terrific Force of the Wind in a Few Minutes.

Meridian, Miss., (Special).—Nineteen persons are known to have been killed as a result of the tornado which swept over a section of this city shortly after 6 P. M. Twenty-four persons were injured, and property with an estimated value of \$1,000,000 was demolished or otherwise damaged.

Many sensational reports were sent out from here of an appalling loss of life, due probably to the chaotic condition of affairs immediately following the visitation of the storm.

A mass-meeting of citizens of Meridian was called and \$8000 was immediately subscribed to aid the destitute and injured. The Mississippi Legislature, in session at Jackson, appropriated \$5000 for the relief fund. Governor Vardaman at noon secured a special train and dispatched it at once with convicts to Meridian. The city now enjoys the unique spectacle of convicts aiding in the rescue work.

Hunter George, president of the Board of Trade, was made chairman of the general relief committee, and J. W. Donovan was elected secretary.

The tornado which played such havoc appeared in the southwest at 6:27 P. M. A low, funnel-shaped cloud was seen to form near the city. A heavy down-pour of rain had been falling when suddenly the humidity became intense. With a roar that could be heard a great distance the storm approached from the southwest and descended upon the city. The greatest loss of life is reported from "Cotton mill settlement." The cotton mill there was partially wrecked and probably 400 small houses were demolished or badly damaged.

The tornado swept Front Street and wrought great damage there. Many houses were demolished and others were partly damaged. The electric light plant was partly wrecked, and to add to the terror of the situation the city was thrown into total darkness. Lanterns, candles and even coal-oil lamps were used by the people in seeking places of safety. The tornado also did severe damage on Twenty-second Avenue, between Front and Railroad Streets. Several houses on this avenue were partly wrecked. The storm lasted for only a brief period, many persons claiming that the entire destruction was wrought in the brief space of five minutes.

Among the buildings destroyed or practically ruined were those of the Thomas Lyle Grocery Company, Elnora's restaurant, Meyer-Boville Hardware Company, Grand Avenue Hotel, Thornton's Transfer Company, Calpeper Hotel, New Orleans and Northeastern freight depot, Young Men's Christian Association building, Meridian Chair Company, the city electric light plant, W. J. Woodside & Co., Pearce Press Company, Gulf Press Company and innumerable smaller buildings used by workmen and negroes.

It is generally understood that there was but little, if any, tornado insurance carried and the loss will, therefore, fall heavily upon the owners of the damaged property.

The residence portion of the city was safe from harm.

Meridian has always considered itself tornado-proof. Mount Barton and the Sand Mountain Hills were accepted as a sentinel against such disasters. The Sowshee Valley was crossed by the storm, and this was most unexpected.

Will Ethridge, a young man, was carried 100 yards through the air and set down well balanced on his feet unhurt.

The only damage done to the immense shops of the New Orleans and Northeastern Railroad, which were directly in the path of the storm, was the unroofing of the roundhouse; the roof was hurled about 100 feet. The freight depot was destroyed. The records, papers and everything contained in the building were lost, the first floor being blown away from under the second. The upper floor was crowded with clerks, but fortunately no one was on the first floor. None of the clerks was more than slightly hurt, and no lives were lost.

A row of brick buildings along Twenty-sixth Avenue, from the freight depot to Fifth Street, was demolished. The store occupied by Lyons & Co. was swept from its foundation and hurled across Twenty-fifth Avenue and Second Street.

Fire at Wesleyan.

Middletown, Ct., (Special).—Wesleyan University sustained a severe loss by fire when old North College, containing 150 rooms, was practically destroyed. The fire, which started in the attic, burned so rapidly that little was saved. The loss is placed at \$80,000, covered by insurance.

The burned building was erected in 1847 and formed the nucleus of the present college group, and was of great historic interest at Wesleyan. About all that was saved from the fire were the valuable college records of President Raymond and Professor Nicholson, the secretary of the faculty. All of the 150 students in the building made their escape, and many left the dormitory in their night clothes.

Prof. Snead Burned to Death.

Washington (Special).—A dispatch from Christiansburg, Va., says: "Professor Snead, of the Montgomery Female Institute, committed suicide by saturating his clothing and bed with oil and then setting himself afire. He returned from a Southern trip, and after returning to his faculty and duties, which he had resumed, he was found in flames in his room to find him writing in flames on the floor. He lived only a few hours. His mind is supposed to have become deranged through brooding over the long incurable illness of his wife."

Plan to Honor Franklin.

Paris (By Cable).—Ambassador McCormick and Premier Rouvier are planning a notable Franco-American celebration on the occasion of the unveiling of the statue of Benjamin Franklin, April 20. Former Postmaster General Charles Emory Smith, of Philadelphia, will be the chief speaker, and it is probable that ex-President Grover Cleveland and ex-President Loucheur will be asked, respectively, to head the American and French honorary committees.

Conspiracy in Colombia.

Washington (Special).—The following dispatch, dated at Bogota, Colombia, was received at the State Department: "Another group of prominent men, including Fernandez, ex-Secretary of War, and Chief of Police Ramirez, have been arrested for conspiracy. The former has been exiled to Curacao and the latter was tried by court martial. The would-be assassins of the President have not yet been apprehended. The police are patrolling the city armed with rifles."

Ex-Governor Hogg Dead.

Houston, (Special).—Former Governor James Stephen Hogg died Saturday at the residence of Frank C. Jones, his law partner. Mr. Hogg had been in failing health for a year or more. His condition was not considered critical by his physicians and he was planning a trip to Battleground, Mich. Governor Hogg reached Houston Friday night and, feeling ill, took to his bed.

President Was Sponsor.

Washington (Special).—William Loeb jr., the infant son of the Secretary to the President and Mrs. Loeb, was christened Saturday afternoon at the residence of Rev. Henry Y. Satterlee, Bishop of Washington. The President and Mrs. Roosevelt acted as sponsors for the child, who was born on December 26 last. Bishop Satterlee conducted the ceremony of christening.

FINANCIAL.

Rumors are again current that Union Pacific will distribute a big extra dividend.

Harriman's friends brand as untrue the assertion that he is trying to wreck the Illinois Central preparatory to buying it for the Union Pacific.

Northern Central directors were re-elected at the annual meeting of shareholders. It had been expected that the committee appointed several years ago to see whether it could be done without leasing the Northern Central and the Pennsylvania, also to recommend that the dividend rate be increased, would make a report, but nothing was said about it at the session.

In seven months of this fiscal year Baltimore & Ohio's gross earnings increased \$5,480,000 and the net profits gained \$2,381,000. Nearly half the net increase came in January.

If there is no setback earnings of \$35,000,000 for the current quarter or nearly \$1,000,000 in excess of earnings in the last quarter of 1905, are predicted for United States Steel.

The Cleveland "Iron Review" says: "While the demand for pig iron and some finished products is not as active as it was a few weeks ago evidence of much strength in the market is not lacking."

Chinese engineers on Manchurian railroads say \$12 to \$45 gold a month, and Japanese engineers are seeking positions on the Asiatic continent at these prevailing wages.

ON THE CRUST OF A VOLCANO

Eruption in China Likely at Any Moment.

WARSHIPS HASTENING TO CHINA.

Debate the Fact That the State Department Refers to the Outbreak as Spasmodic, It Is Believed All Foreigners in China Are in Danger—The Empress at Mercy of Viceroy.

Washington, D. C., (Special).—At the State Department it was stated that no further news had been received from Peking concerning the massacres of missionaries in China. In view of the fact that none of the victims of the massacre were Americans no official action by this government is called for. The State Department repeated its assurance that these outbreaks against foreigners were sporadic and were not the results of a concerted movement like the Boxer uprising of 1900. At the same time every representative of this government in China has been notified by the State Department to keep this government thoroughly posted and to make necessary arrangements to warn all Americans from the dangers that may threaten them.

In spite of the confidence expressed in Washington that there is no serious danger of a general uprising in China, it is held in unofficial quarters here that Americans residing in China, especially in those portions of the empire removed from the large cities are in the gravest danger. China, it is believed, is in a condition of ferment exactly similar to that which existed in Russia a year or two ago, and which led to the frightful revolts and ghastly massacres in so many portions of the Czar's empire. It is believed that there is a distinct body of revolutionaries in China who are constantly stirring up the people, just as did the agitators in Russia. In Russia the government has for itself strong enough to repress these rebellions with an iron hand, but the Empress of China has no Cossacks and no army on which she can depend. The Empress undoubtedly regrets these uprisings against foreigners when they threaten to cause her serious danger from the governments of the victims of her people. But there is no disposition to prevent the feeling of hatred against foreigners. That the Chinese government is secretly encouraging the boycott of American goods there is no doubt, but it is equally certain that the government at Peking would protect the foreigners if it dared.

It must be remembered that the Empress at Peking is after all largely at the mercy of the viceroys of the great provinces of China. The greatest of these viceroys was Li Hung Chang, and because Li was loyal to the Empress and suppressed the Boxers in 1900, that uprising proved futile. But Li Hung Chang is dead, and none of the present viceroys has taken his place. Every viceroy in China is practically the king of his own province, and his allegiance to the government at Peking is as earnest only as he chooses. Every viceroy has his own army which he pays himself, and as a rule the soldiers know only their viceroy, and the government at Peking is a shadowy conception that represents little or nothing to them.

Peking—American Consul General Rodgers telegraphs from Shanghai that the 14 American missionaries who fled from Nanchang all reached Kiukiang in safety.

The gunboat El Cano is proceeding from Nanking to the scene of the trouble.

The battleship Ohio, flagship of the American fleet on the Asiatic Station, has sailed from Manila for Hongkong, where she will dock and rush repairs so as to be prepared for possible exigencies.

PRINCE EITEL A HAPPY GROOM.

A Royal Wedding in the German Capital.

Berlin (By Cable).—The Duchess Sophie Charlotte of Oldenburg, daughter of the reigning Grand Duke of Oldenburg by his first marriage with Princess Elizabeth of Prussia, and Prince Eitel Frederick, the second son of the Emperor and Empress, were married at 5 o'clock P. M. in the chapel of the palace by the court chaplain, Dr. Dryander. Rain was falling on the chapel dome, but the inside was lit by hundreds of candles, showing the delicate costumes or uniforms of about 500 persons belonging to the royal families of Germany or the principal nobility, the cabinet ministers and a number of generals and admirals. Ambassador Tower and Mrs. Tower were present in the diplomatic circle, as were Lieutenant Commander William L. Howard, the naval attaché, Mrs. Howard and Miss Howard; Capt. Wm. S. Biddle, Jr., the military attaché, and Mrs. Biddle; Third Secretary Nelson O'Shaughnessy and Mrs. O'Shaughnessy and Second Secretary John W. Garret.

Led 300 Against 3000.

Cincinnati, O., (Special).—Major Joseph M. Kennedy, aged 72 years, died at his home near Middletown, O. He was on General Fremont's staff in the Civil War, and distinguished himself by gallant conduct in the famous charge at Springfield, Mo. He suffered wounds in this charge that left him an invalid. In this charge 300 Union men charged 3,000 Confederates. Kennedy was promoted from lieutenant to major that night for bravery.

Flight of Chinese.

Shanghai (By Cable).—The Nanchang magistrate, the injury to whom was the reputed immediate cause of the attack by natives on Catholics and Protestant missionaries a few days ago, is still alive, though his wounds are dangerous. The native population of Nanchang is fleeing, dreading the arrival of armed forces from European and American gunboats. There have been many arrests. The officials of Nanchang are urgently asking the viceroy of the Province of Kiangsi to come personally to Nanchang.

Man Starts Blaze in Hotel.

St. Louis (Special).—While laboring under intense mental excitement P. T. Hughes, of Lincoln, Neb., began throwing furniture around in his room on the third floor of the Comfort Hotel, finally overturning a lighted lamp and starting a fire. Hughes and J. A. Courtney, 55 years old, superintendent of construction at the Missouri Pacific Hospital, who also occupied a third floor room, jumped from a window to escape and are in a critical condition. The flames were extinguished with small loss.

LIVE WASHINGTON AFFAIRS.

Plans for Invasion.

The General Staff of the Army has completed its plan for the invasion of China by an army of the United States should the necessity for such an action arise. President Roosevelt called upon the War Department for a copy of its plan for military operations in China, which, it is understood, he has carefully read and approved.

One of the most important functions of the General Staff is to prepare plans for possible campaigns against a foreign enemy. At the time when the boycott against American goods was instituted in the southern provinces of China the General Staff immediately began preparing for trouble in the Chinese Empire, and the plan for military operation just submitted to the President is the result of its work in that direction.

Of course the scheme outlined will be kept confidential by the authorities of the War Department. But sufficient has leaked out to indicate that it contemplates the throwing of an army of about 200,000 men into Southern China as soon as it becomes evident that the Chinese government is unable or unwilling to protect American interests and lives in its Empire. About 5,000 of these troops would be taken from the Philippines and the remaining 195,000 from the United States. The question of transportation, subsistence and equipment has been worked out in detail and the final orders looking to preparations for an expedition to China have been formulated.

Everything, of course, with regard to an invasion of China by an army of the United States hinges upon the word "if." Reports received by the State Department indicate that a general uprising in China may be expected and that the lives and interests of American citizens, as well as those of other foreign residents of China, are in jeopardy. It is to prepare for such a contingency that the plan has been worked out.

A cable report received by the Navy Department states that the United States gunboats El Cano and Quirós have arrived at KinKiang, on the Yangtze River, near Nanchang, where the French and British missionaries were recently massacred by an abortive uprising. It is understood that the 14 American missionaries and their families who escaped from Nanchang have arrived at KinKiang, and that they will there go aboard the El Cano and Quirós and be transported to a place of safety in Shanghai.

New Venezuelan Charge.

Senor Velez, the retiring Venezuelan charge d'affaires, called at the State Department and presented to Secretary of State Elihu Root his letters of recall.

Senor Guzman-Garibias, the incoming Venezuelan charge d'affaires, called at the State Department and presented his letters.

An intimation has already been received by the State Department that Senor Guzman-Garibias would request the United States to arbitrate the difficulties between Venezuela and France. It was stated by a high official that if such a request was made by Venezuela it would be refused.

Hermann Eaters Demurer.

Counsel for Representative Binger Hermann, of Oregon, who is under indictment in the District for destroying official records of the General Land Office, of which he was commissioner, filed a demurrer alleging defects in the indictment.

The indictment, which was returned March 5, 1905, charges Mr. Hermann with destroying 35 letter-press copies of official letters concerning the affairs of the Land Office.

For Many Monuments.

The Senate Committee on the Library has made favorable reports on a number of monument and memorial bills, as follows:

For a statue of John Paul Jones in Washington, \$50,000; of Gen. James Miller at Petersburg, N. H., \$50,000; for a monument at Point Pleasant, W. Va., to commemorate the battle of the Revolution fought there on October 10, 1774, \$100,000; equestrian statue of Maj. Gen. John Stark at Manchester, N. H., \$75,000; as a part contribution toward the erection of a monument at Provincetown, Mass., in commemoration of the first landing of the Pilgrims at Cape Cod, \$40,000; to aid in erecting a monument on the battlefield of Princeton, N. J., \$30,000; for the preparation of a site and erection of a pedestal in Washington for a statue of Henry Wadsworth Longfellow, \$4,000; and a joint resolution for the erection of a monument to Dorothea Lynde Dix at Hampden, Maine, \$10,000.

Rails Cost More Here.

The selling price of steel rails abroad and in use in the United States was one of the subjects on which David W. Ross, purchasing agent of the Isthmian Canal Commission was examined by the Senate Committee on Inter-oceanic Canals.

He showed that he had purchased from American mills rails for use on the Isthmian at from \$1.50 to \$2.50 a ton less than the prevailing price to railroads in this country.

President Roosevelt has asked Congress to appropriate \$100,000 to defray the expenses of the delegates of the United States to the Pan-American Congress in Rio de Janeiro next spring.

Secretary Shaw appeared before the House committee in advocacy of the law requiring the licensing of custom-house brokers.

The Army Appropriation Bill, carrying more than \$60,000,000, was passed by the House, after five days of consideration.

Major Gillette has given up his commission in the Army to become superintendent of the Philadelphia filtration plant.

The House passed the Foraker bill providing for the marking of Confederate graves in the North.

The House committee favorably reported the bill to abolish the grade of lieutenant general.

Secretary Thompson, of the Lafayette Memorial Commission, reports that the Lafayette monument in Paris will be dedicated on the anniversary of the surrender of Yorktown.

Midshipman John H. Lolland and Earl W. Chaffee, who were reinstated by the President after their dismissal for hazing, have resigned.

The Postoffice Appropriation Bill as completed by the House subcommittee carries about \$192,000,000.

Lieutenant Commander Naomi Taniguchi, naval attaché of the Japanese Legation, called on the President.

Rear Admirals Colby M. Chester and French E. Chadwick were placed on the retired list.

General Grosvener made a public statement declaring that he was not an applicant for consular appointment.

THE KEYSTONE STATE

The Latest Pennsylvania News Told in Short Order.

Judges Shull, of Percy County, and Koozer, of Somerset County, were the guests of honor, at a reception tendered in Altoona by the Blair County Bar Association.

Rev. R. P. McPherson, pastor of the Baptist Church, of Bangor, has announced his resignation to take effect shortly. The resignation came as a surprise to the members of his congregation. He has accepted a charge at Clearfield.

The Pine Grove Free Reading Room started by public-spirited citizens three years ago was closed on Thursday. Lack of appreciation and support was the cause.

Board of Directors of Milton Fair Association elected James C. Packer, of Sunbury, president; Dr. J. H. Miles, vice-president; Edwin Paul, secretary; and H. R. Frick, treasurer. Dates selected are October 2, 3, 4 and 5.

Jacob Frederick, an old resident of Milton, and a veteran of the Civil War, died, aged 67 years. He leaves a wife and four sons.

Paul C. Ebersole, car inspector, was drawn beneath the wheels of a freight train in York and crushed to death.

Assessed valuation of taxable real estate in York for 1906 will be nearly \$20,000,000, in increase of about \$700,000 over the assessment made for city and school purposes last year.

Election of officers of St. John's Commandery, No. 186, K. of M., Stroudsburg