

PLAN TO MASSACRE TROOPS

Ex-Soldier's Sensational Story of Brownsville Affair.

THREATS HAD BEEN HEARD

The Shooting and Shouting Were All Outside the Walls of the Barracks.

Startling testimony concerning alleged plans to massacre negro soldiers at Brownsville, Tex., by men from the town firing over the barracks to stampede the soldiers, and challenges to them to come out of the barracks, was given by negro ex-soldiers at the investigation before the Senate Committee on Military Affairs. The most sensational story told was that of William Mapp, who was a member of Company C, Twenty-fifth Infantry.

Mapp said that at breakfast on the morning following the shooting he had heard Willurt Voshelle, the preservation corps boss, and a white man who had been in charge of the corral prior to the arrival of a battalion of the Twenty-fifth Infantry, discussing the case. According to Mapp's story Voshelle said:

"Well, it is a good thing it happened as it did. I was out in town last night and the crowd came in front of me—the plan was to catch a lot of you fellows in Allison's saloon and massacre you."

Mapp said the remark was not addressed to him and that he did not question Voshelle.

Before giving this testimony Mapp said that on the night of the shooting he had been awakened by the firing and had gone to the window of his quarters, and from there he saw several gun flashes and the shots seemed to be directed over the barracks. A man with a deep voice, he said, shouted:

"Come out, you black——!"

Mapp said this challenge was repeated several times, but the call to arms was then sounded and he hurried to get dressed and fall in with his company. He said the shooting and the shouting were outside the wall, at the end of Company B barracks.

TWENTY KILLED IN WRECK

Electric Passenger Train Derailed Within the City of New York.

Twenty dead, two fatally hurt and 145 others more or less seriously injured, is the result of the wreck of an electric express train on the New York Central railroad at Two Hundred and Fifth street and Webster avenue, New York City. Of the large number of injured, 50 are, according to hospital and police reports, seriously hurt, and the death list may be increased.

Two of the derailed cars were overturned and burst into flames, the woodwork catching fire from contact with the third rail. Many who had not been killed outright were burned alive as they lay pinned beneath the wreckage.

The train consisted of a double-header motor coupled into one engine, with one motorman, drawing five coaches. The first was a smoker, the second is described as a power car, though it is commonly designated as a combination baggage and smoker, and the three following were ordinary passenger coaches.

The coroner said: "It appears to me that a spreading of the rails caused the disaster. I think that one of the motors hit a section of the track with force enough to cause it to jump off. The smoker followed and swung the cars following completely off the track, breaking the coupling. When the rear cars broke loose they ran wild for a distance and finally turned over."

400 Bales of Cotton Burn Up.

Fire destroyed the Southern railway depot at Elberton, Ga., 400 bales of cotton, eight freight cars and the contents of a passenger train. The loss is about \$60,000. Sparks from a passing train are said to have started in the cotton.

TORPEDO BOATS COLLIDE

Hole Fifteen Feet Long Torn in Port Side of the Hopkins.

The torpedo destroyer Vesuvius returning from range practice collided with the torpedo boat Hopkins at the government wharf at Key West, Fla. The Vesuvius struck the Hopkins on the port side, opposite the coning tower, ripping a hole 15 feet long from the water line to the coning tower and penetrating three feet. The lines on the Hopkins broke from the wharf which probably prevented the Vesuvius going through the other vessel. Quick action on the part of the officers and crew saved the Hopkins from sinking.

Saloon Has No Legal Existence.

Judge Samuel R. Artman, of the Boone county, (Ind.) circuit court, held that the saloon business had no legal existence and, therefore, could not be licensed by the state. He quoted many authorities to show that the citizens had no inherent right to engage in the selling of intoxicants because, as had been decided by the courts, the business is attended by danger to the welfare of the community.

EARTH SHOCKS RECORDED

Distinct Tremors Experienced in New York State and Virginia.

An earthquake of considerable violence was felt about Charlottesville, Va., February 11. In Charlottesville, dishes were rattled at the breakfast tables. The shock, which was recorded at the University of Virginia, lasted 20 seconds.

A sharp earthquake shock was felt at Kingstons, N. Y. on the same day. It did no damage.

RUSSIAN WAR HISTORY

General Kourpatkin Reveals the Secrets of Russia's Defeat.

General Kourpatkin's History of the Russo-Japanese War, which was confiscated by the Russian Government, has at last become accessible, despite the most extreme precautions to prevent this galling official indictment from reaching the public. The work is remarkable for the merciless criticism of the men and measures which in Kourpatkin's estimation, swept Russia and its army to inevitable defeat.

The work consists of three bulky volumes, respectively devoted to the three crucial events of the war—the battle of Liao-Yang, the battle of the Sha river and the battle of Mukden. The work is an amazing revelation of disorganization and incapacity, and even of disobedience of specific and urgent orders on the part of certain officers entrusted with high commands in the field, notably General Kaulbars, against whom a formidable indictment is framed, saddling upon his shoulders practically the entire responsibility for the crushing defeat at Mukden.

Kourpatkin's reasons for the failure of the war are based chiefly on a comparison of the warlike spirit of the Japanese, their preparedness and valor, which, he says, had never been seen in any previous war, and their ability to maintain the numerical superiority necessary to assume the offensive, with the disadvantages of Russia, owing to the inadequacy of the single-track railway from Europe in feeding her fighting strength, with commanding officers disobeying orders and in a hopeless state of confusion and cross purposes, with a low state of morale and confidence among the troops, and continuous news from home of internal troubles and of insults and reproaches against the army.

The general closes his survey with the pathetic reflection that if Russia had been united and ready to make the sacrifices necessary to safeguard her dignity and integrity, the "valiant Russian army would have striven till the foe was subdued."

FOURTEEN DROWNED

British Ship Orianda Goes Down in Collision with the Heliopolis.

The British steamer Heliopolis collided at midnight with the British steamer Orianda, outward bound from Penarth. The Orianda sank and 14 persons, including her captain, were drowned. The Heliopolis put into Cardiff, February 17 with her bows damaged.

The steamer Heliopolis had been chartered to convey 2,000 Spanish emigrants to Honolulu. The Spaniards had been engaged by Hawaiian sugar interests to replace Japanese laborers. The Heliopolis was at Barry, Wales, Saturday and was to proceed thence to Malaga for the emigrants.

The Orianda was built in 1879 at Liverpool. She was of 1,500 tons displacement and belonged to the Oriental Steamship Company, of Liverpool.

CAPITAL NEWS NOTES.

At a White House conference attended by a number of Republican Senators, it was decided no extra session of the Senate would be held.

Representative Robinson of Arkansas introduced a bill to limit mileage hereafter to be paid members of Congress to actual necessary expenses incurred in traveling once each session of Congress to and from the National capital.

The House of Representatives passed the naval appropriation bill carrying \$96,000,000, provided for two big battleships and defeated amendments providing for a government gun foundry and the placing of a limit on the price to be paid for armor plate.

By a unanimous vote the Senate rejected a bill to amend the act of March 3, 1879, providing for the building of lock and dam No. 7 on the Ohio river. The action followed the hearing at which the arguments for No. 7 were presented by Senator Knox and Representative Daltzell and Acheson.

A petition from the Legislature and Governor of Massachusetts for an immediate revision of the tariff was received at the White House, the Senate and the House of Representatives.

FIRE CAUSES \$300,000 LOSS

Several Large Stores Destroyed in Allegheny City.

A \$377,000 fire, which got beyond control of the entire fire fighting force of Allegheny and once threatened total destruction to a whole block of buildings in the heart of the business district on the Northside, burned fiercely for two hours Sunday night, consumed the five-story Kenyon building, 819-21-23 Federal street, partially destroyed the Strassburger & Joseph three-story building at 813-15-17 Federal street, licked up three residences as though they were houses of cards, leveled an express company's stable with its entire equipment and damaged a number of adjoining buildings. The destroyed Kenyon building, one of the oldest west of the Allegheny mountains, is famous as the father of department stores in Western Pennsylvania.

Four Children Perish in Flames.

Four children of J. Johnson, near Bridgeville, Del., were burned to death in a fire which destroyed their home. The family was asleep when fire was discovered. The flames had gained such headway that only Johnson and his eldest child managed to escape.

Charged with Bigamy.

Charles Woodruff, who affixes "Dr." to his name, was arrested in Pittsburgh charged with bigamy. He was confronted by two women to whom he had been married within ten days.

SETTLE JAPANESE DISPUTE

Congress Will Pass Measure in Accord with Conditions.

PRELIMINARY AGREEMENT

If Congress Ratifies the Conditions the Question May Be Settled in Satisfactory Manner.

The Japanese school controversy is settled so far as President Roosevelt, Mayor Schmitz and the members of the San Francisco school board are concerned. An amicable adjustment of the question now rests with congress. If the amendment to the immigration bill, proposed by Secretary Root, excluding foreigners who use their passports to secure admission to the United States "to the detriment of labor conditions in this country," is accepted by the senate and house, and the immigration bill is passed at this session of congress, the San Francisco board of education will rescind its order establishing the oriental schools unless the Japanese government agrees to a proposition for separate schools, which will provide equal facilities for the Japanese children.

Mayor Schmitz and his associates had a conference with the President and assured Mr. Roosevelt the amendment to the immigration bill was entirely satisfactory to them. Secretary Root participated in the conference, and made a report on his negotiations with the Republican leaders in congress and the Japanese ambassador.

While Mayor Schmitz and the members of the school board are still hopeful that Viscount Aoki, the Japanese ambassador, will agree to separate schools in California, they stand willing to rescind the order establishing the oriental schools, and again admit Japanese children to the white schools.

STOP LAND ROBBERY

President Roosevelt Urges Congress to Protect the Government.

President Roosevelt sent to Congress a long message calling attention to what he terms the "urgent need of legislation affecting the different phases of the public land situation."

He advocates the conservation of coal and other resources on lands still belonging to the Government, saving henceforth the Nation should retain its title to its fuel resources; urges Government control of the Western public land pastures, with a system of small grazing fees, etc. and asks for an appropriation of \$500,000, immediately available, in addition to present estimates, to aid in detecting and preventing land frauds. He contends for a system of Government leasing of its mineral lands and for treating these fuel lands as public utilities.

BONDS AND BANKER GONE

Securities Worth \$150,000 Missing From Vaults of Bank.

Negotiable securities to the amount of \$150,000 are missing from the vaults of the Savings bank of New Britain, Conn., of which institution the treasurer, William F. Walker, mysteriously dropped out of sight a few days ago. Walker has been treasurer of the funds of the Connecticut State Baptist convention for many years, having about \$75,000 in securities in his charge. He was not under bond in that society. The bank has deposits of upward of \$6,000,000.

Thaw Trial Delayed.

Mrs. Joseph B. Bolton, wife of juror No. 11 in the trial of Harry K. Thaw, died Thursday, just an hour after court had taken a recess in order that Bolton might go home. He had barely time to reach the bedside of his wife before she expired. Her ailment was double pneumonia. Court was adjourned till Monday.

TELEGRAPHIC BREVITIES.

Alpine climbing was fatal to 75 persons last year, according to official statistics. About 125 more climbers were injured in mountaineering accidents.

The House passed a bill amending the postal laws so as to provide for the special delivery of letters carrying 10 cents' worth of ordinary postage stamps instead of requiring as now special stamps.

A hurricane has completely wiped out the town of Cooktown, North Australia. No lives were lost, but the property damage amounted to \$2,000,000.

The British government will request the other powers to consider at The Hague conference the reduction of army and navy expenses.

The senate passed the immigration bill amended so as to give the President powers to bar coolie labor from the country, thereby solving the Japanese problem, and satisfying Mayor Schmitz of San Francisco.

Senate committee and commerce provided for dams 7 and 19, in the rivers and harbors bill, reported to the senate.

Getting Ready to Fight.

Advices from San Salvador say that both Honduras and Nicaragua are moving troops to the frontier. Honduras has a force of 12,000 men available and Nicaragua 15,000. Thus far there has been no fighting.

Wants Government to Own Roads.

Senator Patterson introduced a bill providing for the acquisition of railroads by the government. The bill was ordered to lie on the table and it is expected the Colorado senator will address the senate concerning it.

INVESTIGATION WANTED

Express Companies Charged With Unlawful Practices.

Congressman Kennedy, of Nebraska, introduced a concurrent resolution at the instance of the Western Fruit Jobbers association, in which the latter charges that the American Express Company, Adams Express Company, United States Express Company, Pacific Express Company and Wells Fargo Express Company are unlawfully engaged, especially in the West, in the business of buying, selling and handling, on consignment, fruit, vegetables and oysters, thus coming into direct competition with merchants and jobbers engaged in such business. It is charged that the express companies mentioned are thus given opportunity for covering up discriminations and the payment of rebates.

The resolution calls upon the interstate commerce commission to immediately investigate the facts as to these charges.

AGREEMENT REACHED

Pennsylvania Railroad and Its Employees Come to Terms.

An agreement has been reached between the Pennsylvania Railroad Company and its engineers, firemen and trainmen on the lines east of Pittsburgh and Erie. The engineers asked for an arrangement whereby their runs would be more evenly divided as to time and the firemen and trainmen demanded either an increase in wages or a more equitable schedule of runs and division of time.

The latter complained that under the 10 per cent increase in wages granted by the company several months ago the conductors were given more money in proportion to the work they did and that the advance was not equitable.

WOMEN BESIEGE PARLIAMENT

Large Force of Police Kept Busy Preventing Disorder.

The Women Suffragists of England whose leaders have sworn not to desist in their violent agitation until Parliament has granted their demands appear likely to give the authorities considerable trouble. February 12 they made a more determined and better organized demonstration than ever before, in the course of which over 60 women were arrested.

A large force of police had their hands full in defending the precincts of Parliament from suffragist raids. Every entrance to the House of Commons was guarded by detachments of policemen while officers of the law were engaged in clearing the adjacent streets, and a body of 50 constables was kept in reserve for emergency.

NAVAL MODELS DESTROYED

Fire at Cramp's Shipyard Burns Valuable Patterns.

An almost irreparable loss was sustained by the William Cramp & Sons' Ship and Building Company at Philadelphia in a fire at their yards which destroyed the pattern shop and two storage rooms.

At least 75 per cent of the company's patterns were destroyed, among them being those of the United States battleships Pennsylvania, Colorado, Tennessee, Maine, Alabama, Iowa, Massachusetts and Indiana. Patterns for a number of vessels in course of construction were also lost and work on them will be delayed.

Several firemen were hurt by falling walls while fighting the flames. The monetary loss is estimated between \$100,000 and \$150,000.

MATCH BURNS A SHIP

Sailor Steps on It and Disastrous Fire Is the Result.

The ship Machado Novo, at Lisbon Portugal, with 40,000 gallons of gaso line on board, was set on fire by a sailor accidentally dropping a lighted match in the hold.

There was a tremendous explosion and the flames swept from one end of the vessel to the other, completely destroying it. Two other boats in the vicinity caught fire, but were got away and saved. Many sailors and firemen were injured, nine of them seriously.

LOCOMOTIVE EXPLODES

Was Running Forty Miles an Hour When Accident Happened.

The boiler of the engine pulling an Ontario & Western Railway passenger train exploded near Luzon, N. Y. The train at the time of the explosion was running at the rate of 40 miles an hour.

The fireman, Martin Mullen of Midleton, and an unknown man who was riding in the cab of the engine were killed; Engineer Gadwood of Walton was mortally and several other persons were seriously injured among them being Conductor Charles E. Doell of Middletown, who had his shoulder broken and was hurt internally.

Pass Franchises Over Veto.

City council of Chicago by a vote of 57 to 12 passed over the veto of Mayor E. F. Dunne the ordinance granting 20-year franchises to the present street railway companies of Chicago. The ordinance will become valid if ratified by referendum vote at the city election in April, thus settling finally the street car franchise question, which has been a foremost subject in Chicago for 10 years.

Censorship of the Mails.

Representative Wharton of Illinois offered in the house a resolution authorizing the President to exclude from the mails publications containing "the revolting details" of the Thaw trial and other cases of a similar nature.

Secretary of the Treasury Shaw has modified his offer of December 10 and will now accept \$25,000,000 of United States fours of 1907 at \$101.5 for both registered and coupon.

TERRIBLY FATAL COLLISION

Steamboat and Schooner Collide and Over 100 Perish.

SOME OF CREW ALSO DROWN

Freezing Blasts Add to Horrors and Misery of the Tragedy—Some Froze to Death.

Death by drowning or freezing was the fate of 138 of the passengers and crew of the steamboat Larchmont of the Joy line, which sank in Long Island sound, near Block Island, after being in collision with the coal-laden three-masted schooner Harry Knowlton, at 10 o'clock in the evening of February 12. Capt. George McVey, of the Larchmont, and only 19 of his crew and passengers escaped death. It is known that there were not less than 157 persons on board the steamer. Of that number only 19 survived. Capt. Frank J. Haley and his crew on the schooner, Harry Knowlton, managed to work her close to the Rhode Island shore, where they took a small tugboat and landed safely.

The first known on shore of the disaster was when a lifeboat of the Larchmont drifted into Block Island harbor. In this were several bodies of men who had died from the effects of long hours of exposure to a death-dealing temperature. In the boat also were 11 men whose suffering was so intense that they seemed oblivious to the fact that death was in their midst and that they escaped only by virtue of their ability to withstand the rigor of zero weather in an open boat at sea.

Following closely in the wake of the solitary lifeboat came bodies, cast upon the beach by angry waves. Then came lifeboats and rafts. Each of them bore their burden of grim death, as well as a load of suffering humanity, and each brought a tale of horror of suffering and of despair.

The Larchmont was on its way from Providence to New York. The survivors of her passengers and crew got ashore in lifeboats and four rafts after indescribable suffering from the cold.

Capt. McVey asserted that the crew of the schooner was responsible for the wreck. He said that had the sailing vessel held true the course which she was sailing when she was sighted, there would have been no possible chance of an accident.

His statement was contradicted by Capt. Haley of the schooner Harry Knowlton, who declared the accident was entirely due to the steamer. He said his lights were burning and he held to his course with the expectation that the steamer, having sighted him, would pass him with plenty of sea room. When he found that the steamer would not turn out, Capt. Haley said it was too late to avert a collision.

EXPERTS TESTIFY IN THAW CASE

Defendant Was Insane at Time of Killing White in Their Opinion.

Dr. Britton D. Evans, superintendent of the State hospital for the insane, at Morris Plains, N. J., testified that he was of the opinion that Harry Thaw was insane at the time of the tragedy.

Dr. Evans was by far the most satisfactory expert witness to the defense so far produced. He detailed to the jury his observations and examinations of Harry Thaw during eight visits to the prisoner in the Tombs and declared it to be his opinion that Thaw was suffering from "a brain storm or an explosive or fulminating condition of mental unsoundness" at the time he shot and killed Stanford White.

Dr. Evans gave many and elaborate reasons for his opinion and during his examination Mr. Delmas deftly brought the fact whereas Thaw was suffering from "storm and stress" when the alienist first visited him in August last, his condition had shown steady and gradual improvement till on October 8 Thaw was "more composed and deliberate."

DEATH OF EX-GOVERNOR HIGGINS

Former Chief Executive of New York Passes Away at Olean.

Frank Wayland Higgins, former governor of New York died at his home in Olean, N. Y., February 12. The end was peaceful and free from pain.

Frank Wayland Higgins was born in Rushford, N. Y., on August 18, 1856, and received his education in the district school of his home town. In the seminary at Pike, Wyoming county, and in the Riverview Military academy at Poughkeepsie, from which he was graduated in 1873.

His political career began in 1888 when he was elected a delegate to the Republican National convention in Chicago. He was elected State senator in 1893 from what was then the thirty-second district, consisting of Cattaraugus, Chautauque and Allegheny counties. In 1904 B. B. Odell, Jr., selected Mr. Higgins as an "available" man to run for governor. He was nominated and elected, defeating D. Cady Herriek, candidate of the Democratic party, by a large majority.

Pension Agency May Remain.

The pension agency at Pittsburgh will not be disturbed if the action of the senate committee on pensions is approved by the senate and accepted by the house. The house amendment abolishing the 18 pension agencies throughout the country was stricken out by the senate committee in the belief that economy would not compensate the old soldiers for the trouble and delay they would experience in getting their money. Provision for all of the 18 agencies was restored to the bill.

KNOX DEFENDS SMOOT

Insists That a Two-Thirds Vote is Required to Put Him Out of Congress.

Senator Knox addressed the Senate in opposition to the resolution reported from the committee on privileges and elections. "That Reed Smoot is not entitled to a seat as a Senator of the United States from Utah."

He was accorded the closest attention because of his discussion of the legal questions involved in the point of expulsion, which would require two-thirds of the Senate, or exclusion, requiring only a majority of the votes. He contended unalterably that nothing less than two-thirds of the entire membership of the Senate could unseat the Utah Senator.

Mr. Knox asked: "Should the Senate expel Senator Smoot, and why?" And Mr. Knox then answered his own question, saying:

He should not be expelled for believing in the Mormon religion. The irrevocable ordinance expressly, and with Mormonism in view, guaranteed religious toleration in the state of Utah. He should not be expelled for being a member or officer of the Mormon church for the same reason. He should not be expelled for the violation of Utah's law, violated by certain Mormons continuing polygamous relations with Senator Smoot's consent or approval, supposing he did consent or approve for Utah without being ignorant of the facts, elected him, and the Senate would not be justified in going out of its way to enforce respect for the formally expressed will of Utah embodied in its law against polygamous relations by defeating its later expressed will shown in its electing Smoot.

After arguing that there is no federal law against polygamy or polygamous cohabitation applicable to Utah, now that Utah is a state, and that when she was admitted to the Union of States, it was known that there would and could be none. Mr. Knox again asked and answered his pointed question. His answer was:

Because, first, it is claimed he is wicked in this, that some of his friends having cohabited with several women before Utah became a state, are continuing to do so until death, and that he approves of them as officers of a church which does not chastise them for so doing; and, second, because he is a Mormon and the Mormon church is a hierarchy disloyal to our institutions whose will he is bound to obey.

To Use 100,000 Steel Ties.

Despite the fact that the use of the steel cross tie has hardly passed the experimental stage with the majority of the railroads, it is announced that the Bessemer & Lake Erie will use more than 100,000 steel ties this year. Half of this number, it is said, will be used in new construction and the remainder will be used for general repair work.

CURRENT NEWS ITEMS.

Talk of Senator Knox as a presidential candidate in 1908 is heard in Washington.

In the speech from the throne at the opening of the British parliament the plan to reduce the power of the house of lords was foreshadowed.

D. B. Koonitz, a Pittsburgh merchant and stock man, was killed and four persons were injured in a wreck on the Chicago Great Western Railway at Pearl City, Ill.

The American National Red Cross cabled \$5,000 to China for the benefit of the famine sufferers, making a total of \$15,000 cash contributions, in addition to flour and seed wheat.

Directors of the Standard Oil Company declared a quarterly dividend of \$15 a share. Of the \$15,000,000 to be disbursed John D. Rockefeller's share will be \$6,000,000.

A commission, of which Secretary Taft is president, has selected a site on the corner of Connecticut avenue and N street, Washington, D. C., for the statue to the poet Longfellow. Congress has appropriated \$4,000 for the pedestal for this statue.

M. Gustav Leeman, employed in the hydro-electric works at Fribourg, Switzerland, 36 years old and unmarried, is the winner of the million lire lottery prize at the Milan exposition.

The prize of the Fischer Foundry and Machine Company at Ford City, Pa., was burned to the ground causing a loss estimated at \$200,000.

The house of representatives of New Hampshire, by a vote of 230 to 76 killed the anti-pass bill reported by a minority of the judiciary committee, which was in accord with national legislation on the same subject.

Italy to Check Immigration.

Recent statistics having shown that Italy's population for the last five years has been gradually decreasing owing to emigration, the Government has decided to adopt restrictive measures.

Nicaragua Boils for Fight.

The people of Nicaragua demand reparation from the Government of Honduras for the invasion of their territory by Honduran troops, and have offered financial aid for a conflict with Honduras. The whole country is excited.

Boston Wool Market.

There is little interest in the wool market, but prices remained steady. The situation has been described as firm without being bullish. Leading domestic quotations follow: Ohio and Pennsylvania, XX and above, 34 to 34½c; X, 32 to 32c; No. 1, 40 to 41c; No. 2, 38 to 40c; fine, unwashed, 28 to 27c; unmerchantable, 29 to 30c; half blood, unwashed, 32½ to 34c; ¾ blood, unwashed, 34 to 35c; ¼ blood, unwashed, 33½ to 34c; delaine, washed, 37 to 38c; delaine, unwashed, 30c.