

THE UNITED STATES WILL BE HELD.

SUITS FILED.

Spanish War Claimants For Maine Disaster Have Good Cases—Investigation of Horror Must Be Resumed.

The suits filed before the Spanish claims commission by the survivors of the Maine explosion for injuries received in that disaster, has attracted wide-spread attention among officials in Washington.

A feature of the claims, just filed, grows out of the fact that the United States becomes a defendant through the treaty stipulations by which it releases Spain from all claims growing out of the Spanish-American war.

STRIKE ORDER ISSUED.

Involves Indirectly 500,000 Men in Metal Trades—Effective May 20.

A general strike involving directly 150,000 machinists and indirectly 500,000 men in metal working trades is expected to take place on May 20 unless some arrangement is effected in the meantime.

Mr. O'Connell says that about 200 firms whose employees represent probably 20 per cent. of the 500,000 men who will be affected by the proposed strike have signed agreements for the reduction in hours of labor and the increase of pay so that the agitation on the subject already has benefited them materially.

SACRIFICED HIMSELF.

A Deed of Noble Heroism to Give Married Man a Chance.

William Phelps and James Stansbury were cleaning the inside of a boiler at the Cereatine mills at Indianapolis, Ind., when an employed turned on the steam, thinking the cock was tight.

Experts Going After Gold.

A party of 100, including civil engineers, machinists, mining experts, assistants, and guides, has left Chicago for New York, where they sail for Colombia, South America, whither they go in quest of gold along the river Nechi.

KILLED BY TROLLEY CAR.

Wagon Load of Young People Met With Serious Accident—Two Killed.

Of 26 young people who started from College Point, L. I., on a "star light" ride, two were carried home dead, five are in a hospital, four were allowed to leave the hospital after having their wounds dressed and everyone of the remainder was more or less bruised.

Kansas Town Must Be Good.

Dr. J. A. Henning, who was elected mayor of Garnett, Kan., at the recent election, has been sworn into office.

He declares that the prohibition law must be enforced, that cigarette smokers will be prosecuted, the curfew law must be enforced, and that drunkenness, either on the streets or in private houses, will be dealt with stringently.

Costly Michigan Fire.

A great portion of Delray, a small suburb to the south of Detroit, Mich., was burned out Sunday. Among the property burned were 100,000 cedar telegraph poles owned by the Western Union Telegraph Company.

LATEST NEWS NOTES.

Mayor Tom L. Johnson has abolished the "keep off the grass" signs in Cleveland, O.

Heavy runs on the Kioto, Japan, banks have caused one of them to suspend.

A New Orleans, La., bank teller has been arrested, charged with a shortage of \$30,000.

A meteor fell near Hyndman, Pa., and exploded when within 200 feet of the ground.

Two miners were killed by the explosion of a shot in the Pleasant Valley mines, near Carthage, Mo.

Manila priests have sent a petition to the pope protesting against Archbishop Chapeau as administrator.

Dr. Thomas E. Eldridge of Philadelphia, Pa., has been arrested on a charge of conspiracy to kill his wife.

A big cloud burst in the Capon valley in West Virginia caused the inhabitants to take refuge on the house tops.

Mayor Frank E. Woods, of Omaha, Neb., has revoked his order that the liquor saloons shall be closed on Sunday.

John C. Mersereau attempted to murder his wife and her sister in New York and then committed suicide.

Alderman Donohoe, of Wilkesbarre, Pa., thrashed a negro wife better in court for being abusive while on trial.

The Massachusetts Supreme Court has decided in favor of the constitutionality of the law for electrocution of murderers.

James Maxwell, Edward Roy and R. Teblane were burned to death in a fire that destroyed a boarding house at Ottawa, Ont.

President Alfaro, of Ecuador, is making great preparations to meet the revolution expected to follow the next presidential election.

Two California sheriffs had a fierce fight with two escaped prisoners, in which one of the criminals was killed and the other escaped.

The third trial of Dr. Samuel J. Kennedy for murdering Dollo Reynolds was begun in New York and five jurors were secured.

The pope has confirmed the appointment of Rev. Father O'Connell, rector of the American College, at Rome, as Bishop of Portland, Me.

At Augusta, Ga., fire in cotton bales caused a damage of \$100,000. The loss on buildings is about \$100,000. The cotton is fully insured.

A number of children chipped away the supports of a building in Chicago and one was killed by the collapse and several others were hurt.

Mrs. Bedinah Carlson killed her two little children and committed suicide at Providence, R. I., by turning on the gas in their bedroom.

The governor of Florida has decided to continue martial law at Jacksonville in fear of an outbreak by unwholly applicants for food.

The Baptists of Jacksonville, Fla., have issued an appeal to Baptists throughout the country for help to rebuild their burned church.

King Victor Emmanuel of Italy has refused to accept gifts when his expected child is born and asks that the money is devoted to charity.

Henry Johnson, a negro, accused of shooting at a white man named Foraker, who was not injured, was lynched by a mob at Valdosta, Ga.

Nine hundred employees of the Delaware, Lackawanna & Western railroad at Scranton, Pa., struck for a nine-hour day with present wages.

H. H. Hanna, of Cleveland, O., has given to the Western Reserve University \$12,000 to establish a research fellowship in its medical school.

A Burlington passenger train was derailed at Thayer, Ia., by striking a freight train. Engineer S. D. Brown was killed and 30 people injured.

Nearly the whole of the business portion of the town of Dumont, N. J., was destroyed by fire. Eighteen business houses were burned. Loss, \$50,000.

In the bank at Seattle, Wash., was found \$200,000 belonging to Frederick Hutchinson, a Klondike miner, who died last week in Philadelphia, Pa.

Seven counts charging James Callahan, alleged to be one of the abductors of young Cayah, with perjury on his late trial, were filed at Omaha, Neb.

APPROPRIATIONS BY CONGRESS.

SALARIES INCREASED.

Record of the Second Session of the Fifty-Sixth Congress Shows a Grand Total of \$730,338,575.

The appropriations of the second session of the Fifty-sixth congress were \$730,338,575. The details by bills are as follows: Agricultural, \$4,852,420; army, \$115,734,049; diplomatic, \$1,849,428; district of Columbia, \$5,502,269; fortification, \$7,264,011; Indian, \$9,747,471; legislative, \$24,594,968; military academy, \$772,653; naval, \$78,101,791; pension, \$145,245,230; postoffice, \$123,782,988; sundry civil, \$61,795,908; deficiencies, \$15,017,446; miscellaneous, \$7,900,018; permanent appropriations, \$124,358,220.

In addition to the specific appropriations made, contracts are authorized for public works by congress in the aggregate of \$4,224,640. The new civilian offices created number 3,820, with an annual compensation of \$2,500,000 and those abolished or omitted aggregate 211, at an annual pay of \$245,526, a net increase of \$3,003, at a yearly cost of \$2,239,075. There was a net increase in the military establishment of 77,194 officers and enlisted men, with annual pay amounting to \$16,312,910; and 50 officers and 5,000 sergeants in the naval establishment, with a yearly pay of \$1,802,425. The net number of salaries increased is 328. The total appropriations made by the Fifty-sixth Congress aggregate \$1,440,489,438, or \$127,723,198 less than the \$1,568,212,637 appropriated by the preceding Congress.

MURDERED HIS WIFE. Wealthy Illinois Farmer Commits a Brutal Crime—Attempts Suicide.

Merritt Chism killed his wife at his farm near Carter, Ill., Sunday. A quarrel arose as Mrs. Chism was starting for church in a buggy with her two little step-daughters. Chism jumped into the buggy and with a knife cut his wife's face and neck to pieces. He then threw her to the ground, jumped on the prostrate body and stabbed her repeatedly.

Her son, Harvey, 12 years old, struck at Chism with a baseball bat; the man wrested it from him and renewed his attack upon his wife, beating out her brains. He again tried to stab the woman, when Harvey caught the hand which held the knife. Chism stabbed the boy in the arm and then fled across the fields. He tried ineffectually to drown himself in a shallow well. Next he went to the house with a son, where he tried to end his life with a revolver, but this the son prevented.

He was overpowered and taken to Bloomington, where he surrendered to the sheriff. Chism is one of the wealthiest farmers of the county, he having inherited a large farm and \$200,000.

CONTEMPLATED SLAUGHTER.

Became Insane Over Religion and Decided to Sacrifice Family.

William Libengood, who resides on Chestnut ridge, Westmoreland county, Pa., has become violently insane and his family have taken steps to have him declared a lunatic and placed in the Dismont asylum. His mania is upon religious matters, and for weeks he has raved about an ordinance of God making him His representative on earth.

Recently he became possessed of the idea that he was Christ, and he concluded that it was necessary to make a sacrifice, which was to consist of his wife and family. He confined the terrible plans to his neighbor, and a secret watch was placed over him. When one night he cautiously stole to the woodshed to get an ax, with which to carry out the bloody work, he was taken in charge by stout men and is being held a prisoner.

MURDER AND SUICIDE.

Young Woman Driven to Desperation by Family Squabbles.

At St. Louis, Mo., Ida M. Baare, aged 29 years, shot and killed her father, Gustave Baare, and then killed herself. Baare came home under the influence of liquor, and began to abuse his wife, finally attacking her. He was induced to refrain from further violence, and then went into his bedroom and lay down.

Ida, who manages a notion store adjoining the Baare residence, was summoned by her mother. On learning of the trouble she procured a revolver, and entering her father's bedroom, fired a bullet into his left temple. She then turned the pistol against her own head, pulled the trigger, and dropped dead beside the bed.

CENSURE AWAITS THEM.

Late Speeches of Schley and Chaffee are Severely Condemned.

Admiral Schley and General Chaffee will probably be reproved for their indiscretions in speech, the former at Peking and the latter at London during the after-dinner speaking. The officials of the State Department are irritated to the complaining point, and the attention of President McKinley has been drawn to the statements of Admiral Schley to the British officers and public men at Ambassador Choate's dinner that blood is thicker than water, and that he hoped to see the day when the American navy will be second in size only to the British.

Chaffee told the British officers that the Americans and British, while they may meet on the field of battle, will never again face each other.

WILD RIOT IN MICHIGAN.

Twelve Civilians and Five Police Hurt During "Tax Dodger" Lecture.

Fully 10,000 men and boys ran riot in the main streets of Detroit, Mich., for more than three hours Friday night and a continual running fight with police, both mounted and on foot, made an exciting scene. The net result so far as known are 12 citizens and 5 policemen injured.

FALLING OFF IN WHEAT.

Returns of Government Statistician Show Decrease in Acreage Sown.

Returns to the statistician of the department of agriculture made up to May 1 show the area under winter wheat in cultivation on that date to have been about 28,267,000 acres. This is 2,015,000 acres, or 6.7 per cent. less than the area sown last fall, but 2,036,000 acres, or 7.7 per cent in excess of the winter wheat acreage harvested last year. Of the reduction, about one-half is reported from Texas and California, due in the former state to the ravages of the wheat plant louse, and in the latter to the cutting, as is not unusual in that state, of a considerable acreage for forage.

In the states that had 1,000,000 acres or upward sown last fall the following per centages are reported as abandoned or cut for forage: Missouri 1, Kansas 1, Illinois 1.9, Pennsylvania 2, Indiana 2.5, Ohio 3.2, Tennessee 4.7, Michigan 9.6, Oklahoma 12.5, California 18 and Texas 42.4. In Kansas the wheat crop has held its own at the high average, 105, reported April 1, while an improvement is reported of five points in Pennsylvania, Ohio and Indiana, eight in Illinois and four in Missouri.

Of the state having 1,000,000 acres or upward to be plowed this spring, only North Carolina, Georgia, Alabama, Mississippi, Louisiana, Arkansas and Tennessee report the proportion actually done up to May 1 as in excess of their respective 10-year-old averages. The lateness of the season is especially marked in New York, Pennsylvania, Indiana, Minnesota, Iowa, Kansas and Nebraska.

ANOTHER RAISE REPORTED.

Pekin Advances State that the Powers Now Demand \$337,000,000.

The efforts of the United States to keep the Powers from demanding that China pay an enormous money indemnity seem certain of failure. Commissioner Rockhill has advised the State Department that the aggregate of the minimum demands of the nations participating in the Peking troubles reaches the enormous total of \$337,000,000. This is \$14,000,000 higher than reported by former dispatches. It is \$94,000,000 higher than the limit of \$243,000,000 frames first reported from the French Foreign Office, and \$137,000,000 higher than the United States set the limit. Nobody dares guess how much higher it will be the next time the diplomats hold a meeting.

Special Commissioner Rockhill is discouraged. He says he has been practically forced to the conclusion that it will be impossible to get any reduction. He has no hope of inducing his colleagues of the diplomatic corps in Peking to accept \$200,000,000 as the maximum.

The Chinese suggestion that she might open all the ports does not appear to have had any effect. That, however, is a very strange one. Although Germany is making a strong bid for a large foreign trade, it is apparent to the forces that control that empire that under such an arrangement the benefits would go chiefly to Great Britain, the United States and Japan in the order named. That being so, the indemnity to be asked of China is more apt to increase than decrease.

EXPANSION FOR THE NAVY.

Officers Talk of New Stations in the Atlantic and Pacific.

The attention of naval officials has been directed to the advantages of some of the Azores islands in the Atlantic and the Galapagos group in the Pacific as sites for coaling stations and naval rendezvous, and they are urging the government to acquire rights from Portugal for a station in the Azores and from Ecuador for a station in the Galapagos group. The latter is only a short distance from the western terminus of an isthmian canal, while the Azores are a midway station in the Atlantic, somewhat like the Dutch island of Curacao, off the coast of Venezuela, already regarded by naval officials as specially well adapted for our naval uses. These views may lead to overtures to the several governments interested. There is added reason for learning what can be done in the Azores, as Germany has shown a desire to secure a lodgment there.

Younger Brothers Paroled.

The managers of the Minnesota State prison have voted unanimously to parole Cole Younger and James Younger, serving life sentences for participation in the Northfield, Minn., bank robbery, in 1876. The last session of the Legislature passed a law to allow the parole of life prisoners after about 24 years' imprisonment, being 35 years, less time gained by good behavior. When paroled they are not permitted to leave the State.

Miners' March Not Given up.

Secretary George Hartline, of District No. 9, Pennsylvania, has issued an official bulletin to all miners advising them to pay no attention to reports that plans for the proposed invasion of Harrisburg were abandoned, and stating that until the State Senate passes the bills reported favorably by the Committee on Mines and Mining, and Governor Stone indorses them, the men should be ready at any time for orders to mobilize.

Ohio Banker Suicides.

A man believed to be R. N. Pollock, the missing bank president of Cleveland, O., ended his life Wednesday in the Hotel York at Seattle, Wash., by sending a bullet through his brain. A razor, a two-ounce box of rough on, and a phial containing 100 tablets of acetone, were found at hand. All papers belonging to the man had been burned before committing the deed.

CABLE FLASHES.

There was a heavy fall of snow in Devonshire and Dartmouth, England, Tuesday.

Advices from Barcelona, Spain, say several persons were killed and numbers were injured during the strike and alleged anarchist disorders.

COUNTY JUDGES ARE IN CUSTODY.

MILLIONS INVOLVED.

United States Authorities Make a New Move in a Missouri Case—Seek to Rejudicate Indebtedness.

Samuel C. Poeden and Thomas Nevitt, two of the Judges of the St. Clair county, (Mo.) court, are in the hands of the United States authorities at Kansas City.

This case has been before the courts for over 30 years. In 1870 the county of St. Clair voted bonds for the construction of the Toba and Neosho Valley railroad. The bonds were for \$250,000 and were sold, but the road was not built. For years the holders of the bonds have been trying to collect the interest on them, but they have never been able to do so, because the county judges would not make the necessary tax levy. The amount of the original bonds, with compound interest is now over \$2,000,000, but the people of St. Clair county refuse to pay. County judges are always elected on that issue.

The United States officers have frequently arrested the county judges because they would not obey the orders of the federal court to make the tax levy. Several judges have spent their entire terms of office in jail. Nevertheless or rather on this account, it is considered a great honor to be elected to the office of county judge. It is considered certain that the captured judges will refuse to make the levy and will be committed to jail to finish their terms, as have most of their predecessors for the past 20 years.

GAVE SOUND ADVICE.

Mr. Schwab Urges Boys Not to Depend Upon Influence.

During the commencement exercises of the St. George's Evening Trades School in New York, Charles M. Schwab, President of the United States Steel Corporation, addressed the boys, saying in part: "From my experience I am led to believe that many boys make the mistake of depending upon influence to obtain for them positions of profit. This is a serious drawback to any boy, for even if he have the talents necessary to advancement, other boys, his competitors, will say that his success, or partial success, was due, not to merit, but to influence. Go yourself to seek work in life and depend upon your own exertions and merits. Merit must count and merit must win."

"Let me advise you all to make an early start in life. The boy with the manual training and the common school education who can start in life at 16 or 17 can leave the boy who goes to college till he is 20 or more so far behind in the race that he can never catch up. This, however, does not apply to the professional life."

WOULD OPEN ALL CHINA.

United States Plans to Make Every City a Foreign Market.

The United States is working to open the trade of all China to the world and finds some support from other powers. If the plan is successful it would make every Chinese city a market for trade that is now confined to the treaty ports, and would help to solve the indemnity question. Dispatches from Berlin say: The troops will be withdrawn simultaneously from the provinces of Chi Li in which Peking is situated, no nation proceeding alone. The first step will be a note sent to the Chinese commissioners naming the total indemnity. If China gives a written pledge of payment the greater portion of the foreign troops will be withdrawn, but a sufficient number will remain until the indemnity question is settled.

Candidate For a Lynching.

Miss Ethel Bonnie, daughter of G. W. Bonnie, an employe of the State penitentiary at Leavenworth, Kan., while gathering mushrooms, was struck on the head by an unknown white man and rendered unconscious, after which she was assaulted and her body thrown into an old well. The young woman regained consciousness and reached the surface. Searching parties are scouring the country.

Four Persons Cremated.

Fire that started in a New York apartment house resulted in the loss of at least four lives, the serious injury of more than 20 persons and the destruction of property valued at \$50,000.

One Woman was Seen to Fall Back into the Fire from a Window of the Fourth Story. Another woman jumped to her death. Two children were seen to perish.

Turks Plan Great Massacre.

Advices from Constantinople state that a massacre of Macedonian Christians is being planned which will put the Armenian atrocities in the shade. The Sultan has assented to the plan, and Effendi Pasha has been entrusted with the execution of the project.

The telegram further states that the Macedonians have a choice between being slaughtered by the Turks and making a bold fight for freedom. An immediate revolution is urged.

To Close Starch Works.

Orders have been received at the 15 factories of the National Starch Company to get ready to close down until the corn market shall become settled again. The price of starch, it is said, has not kept pace with the price of corn, and there is no profit in buying corn at the present prices to make into starch.

To Cultivate a Giant Race.

The late Count St. Ouen de Piercourt, whose family dates back to William the Conqueror, bequeathed to the city of Rouen, France, his fortune of 10,000,000 francs, on condition that the city annually give a marriage gift of 100,000 francs to a couple of giants, in order to regenerate the human species. The candidates are to be medically examined.

TWO MEN KILLED.

A Distillery and Saw Mill in Fayette County Destroyed by an Explosion—Grievous Scenes at the Wreck.

A condemned boiler in the "Old Czar Holt" distillery, in Southern Fayette county, Pa., exploded Tuesday, killing two and injuring two men, and completely wrecking the buildings. The dead are: Ezra Thomas, owner of the plant, and Frank Fearer, an employe.

The men had just gone to work in the morning, and were using the engine and boiler of the distillery to run a sawmill, when, with an awful roar, the boiler exploded. The boiler-head and fire-box were blown through the side of the distillery and lodged against the grinding stones on the other side of the building. The portion of the boiler containing the flues was blown 25 rods in the opposite direction, and the flying pieces of machinery and the wrecked engine were blown through the distillery building and scattered about for many rods.

The boiler, engine, mill house, distillery and sawmill were completely wrecked. The body of Fearer was caught by the flying boiler and carried by it until the steam caught him and tossed him in the air and he alighted 40 yards away. His head was blown away, one leg was blown off and not found, both hands were blown off at the wrists and the trunk terribly mangled. Ezra Thomas was hurled against the side of the distillery by the escaping steam and lamed some of it, besides being badly bruised and injured internally. He gathered himself from the wreck and started to walk toward home, and after going a short distance fell dead.

The boiler was an old one and was considered unsafe by those who worked about the distillery.

OIL PRODUCTION IN CANADA.

Nine Thousand Wells Yield Nearly 60,000 Barrels Monthly.

United States Consul General Bittinger, in a report from Montreal, gives some interesting statistics on the production of petroleum in the Dominion. He says: "The production of petroleum in Canada is practically confined at present to the counties of Lambton, Kent and Bothwell, in the southwestern town of Petrolia, in Lambton county, is the center of the principal district of production, while the work of refining is carried on in Sarnia, about 14 miles distant. Crude oil is being pumped through pipes to the refineries. In this Ontario oil district there are about 9,000 oil wells in operation, and the average monthly yield is nearly 60,000 barrels. The ratio of crude petroleum to refined oil is about 100 to 40, so that more than two barrels of petroleum are required to make one barrel of refined oil ready for household use. The process of manufacture is complicated, and an expensive plant is required. The oil is first distilled from the petroleum, the latter being dark in color. The distilled oil is then refined and lastly it is bleached or clarified. From the mud-colored petroleum an illuminating oil as clear as water is obtained. It is then ready for shipment in barrels or tanks."

"The oil is in every case found in the carboniferous limestone, and the different producing areas present local dome structures on the main anticlines, which afford good reservoirs for the accumulation of oil. The oil is pumped from an average depth of 150 feet. In 1880 there were produced in Canada 11,882,927 gallons of petroleum of a value of \$1,197,870. The production of that year was equivalent to 748,697 barrels."

Fierce Riots in Spain.

Enormous crowds took part in the rioting Thursday at Barcelona, Spain, and many persons were killed or wounded. The rioters endeavored to stop work in the factories, which resulted in collisions with the troops. A number of soldiers are among the wounded. Over 100 arrests of Anarchists, Socialists and extreme Catalunists have been made. Twenty-one notorious Anarchists, including Chiefs Bofarull and Fombert, have been arrested on board the warship Polayo. General Weyler, Minister of War, has telegraphed to the Captain General of Barcelona: "You will reply by arms to every cry of 'Death to Spain.'"

England's Population.

According to this year's census, the total population of England and Wales is 32,525,716. This is an increase over the population of 1891 of 5,523,191, a gain of 12.15 per cent in ten years. The increase for the decade between 1881 and 1891 was 11.05 per cent. According to the census 48 counties show increases while 14 show decreases.

Fight in a Russian Prison.

Telegrams from St. Petersburg, Russia, tell of a fight between the guards and convicts in the prison at Saghlaia.

The governor of the place recently doubled the tasks of the convicts. When the prisoners demurred he had them flogged, irrespective of age or sex, till the blood streamed down their backs.

A political exile named Sokolenko appended to the governor, who was waiting to flog him, to do so. The latter, for an answer, shot Sokolenko. Tamult followed, and in the melee the guards fired on the convicts, killing 46 and wounding 59 of them.

Workmen Burned by Steam.

A serious accident occurred at the blast furnaces of the Edgar Thomson Steel work, Braddock, Pa., in which four men, all Hungarians, were injured. They had been sent into one of the boilers to clean the sides and a valve of a steam pipe for some reason allowed the steam to pour in over the men at work. Their cries for help were heard and the steam shut off at once, but not before they were badly scalded. Help was secured at once, and all the men were taken out. They will all recover.

THE MARKETS.

PITTSBURG.

Table with 2 columns: Commodity and Price. Includes Wheat, Rye, Corn, Flour, etc.

Dairy Products.

Table with 2 columns: Commodity and Price. Includes Butter, Creamery, etc.

Fruits and Vegetables.

Table with 2 columns: Commodity and Price. Includes Beans, Potatoes, Carrots, etc.

BALTIMORE.

Table with 2 columns: Commodity and Price. Includes Flour, Wheat, Corn, etc.

PHILADELPHIA.

Table with 2 columns: Commodity and Price. Includes Flour, Wheat, Corn, etc.

NEW YORK.

Table with 2 columns: Commodity and Price. Includes Flour, Wheat, Corn, etc.

LIVE STOCK.

Central Stock Yards, East Liberty, Pa.

Table with 2 columns: Commodity and Price. Includes Prime heavy, Medium, Fat heifers, etc.

LAMBS.

Table with 2 columns: Commodity and Price. Includes Lambs, good to choice, Spring Lambs, etc.

CALVES.

Table with 2 columns: Commodity and Price. Includes Veal, extra, Veal, good to choice, etc.

REVIEW OF TRADE.

Legitimate Business in a Very Prosperous Condition—Wall Street Flurry Causes Little or no Harm.

R. G. Dun & Co's