

Cooperstown Courier.

Ferry A. Trubshaw, Publisher.

COOPERSTOWN, N. DAKOTA

Messrs. Willett and Gray now estimate the production of beet sugar in the United States for the season 1903-04 at 210,000 tons, a reduction of 23,000 tons from the preliminary estimate of a few weeks ago.

Of our leading articles of exports to Switzerland, Kansas wheat—in great demand last year—was largely supplanted by a fine quality of grain from Russian and Rumania, offered at a lower price; but toward the end of the year there was an advance in the price of wheat, irrespective of its origin, the home crop having proved deficient in quality.

German chemists have seriously interfered with the business of indigo raising in British India by the production of artificial indigo. The maduro growers of France are frightened by the synthetic manufacture of that coloring matter, and now the government monopoly of camphor-making in Formosa is threatened by a plant near New York, which is making artificial camphor.

The most serious menace to the British industry is the German invasion of the English markets. This has been growing of recent years, and is now a serious factor in the situation. Woolen cloths and clothing "made in Germany" are on sale in nearly every important town in the kingdom, and the qualities, styles and prices are such as to astonish English makers and tailors.

The steady improvement of recent years in the methods and processes of American woolen mills has brought the domestic fabrics to a standard of quality and style which the English manufacturer frankly admits is nearly, if not quite, as good as his own. The hope has been that the trade lost in the United States would be made up elsewhere, but this anticipation has failed to realize.

The inhibitory measures in Germany against the importation of foreign cattle and meat products have greatly advanced the price of meat in the country, causing a considerable reduction in the consumption thereof, as the middle and working classes can not afford to pay the high prices demanded. In consequence of this, the consumption of fresh, dried and salted fish has largely increased.

The demolition of the Eiffel tower, which must be commenced soon, is an engineering proposition as monumental in many respects as the construction of the great tower. Engineers have the consideration of the matter in hand at the present time and are devising the means by which the work shall be performed. The removal of the tower is necessitated by the fact that it is commencing to lean.

The Chamber of Commerce of Chemnitz, Germany, has petitioned the Imperial German chancellor to make efforts to induce the Swedish government to repeal or modify the regulations prohibiting the importation of goods colored or dyed with preparations containing arsenic. The chamber also requests that a central inspection bureau be established in Sweden, with experts to investigate the presence of arsenic in goods entering Sweden.

It is a common thing for a Colombian boy of 12 or 14 years to be thrashed to death with cowhide whips for "deserting" from the army—that is, running back home after he had been forcibly enlisted. It is generally common for a mere child to be hung up by the thumbs until he dies because he will not—or can not—say where his father is hidden. Women have been crucified because they have refused to betray their husbands, and others have been treated infinitely worse.

Dr. Pellegrin, of London, an advocate of the light cure for consumptives, has had a London architect prepare plans for a seaside resort on the coast of France, where consumptives may be treated according to his methods. The houses are constructed so as to be revolved on their foundations, and keep always full of sunshine. It is built upon a plate of steel, which can be revolved by means of a motor or a crank worked by hand, two men being sufficient to do all that is required.

A man has invented a device by which any man can sole and heel his own boots and shoes. On the edge of the permanent upper sole is a ridge which allows an overlapping slide on the under sole to be pushed up till the hole in the heel piece is over the heel, or, rather, the inner and permanent piece of the heel. The whole is firmly fixed in place when the bottom portion of the heel is slid into position and fastened by a plug from inside the boot. The process of soiling and heeling only takes a minute.

A new geological survey of England is proposed by Prof. Watts, which shall do as much to make known the subterranean world there as previous surveys have done to make known what lies on and near the surface. The possible exhaustion of the coal beds has given rise to this project. Prof. Watts believes that there are coalfields as yet undiscovered as large and as productive as those already explored, but that to develop them work will have to be done at a depth of thousands, instead of hundreds, of feet.

THINK THAT WAR HAS COMMENCED

Belief Is Widespread in Panama That Colombian Invasion Is Now Under Way.

Twelve Thousand Fighting Men Ready to Guard Passes in the Mountains—Preparations Being Made to Arm Friendly Indians for Aid in Defense.

Panama, Jan. 15.—Authentic information from the frontier is anxiously awaited here, as the belief is widespread that the Colombians have already started to march upon the isthmus. The Panamanian troops are ready to leave on a moment's notice. The conscription has been completed and 12,000 fighting men can be placed in the field.

There is great bustle in the armory today in the preparation for the shipment of rifles and ammunition to the Indians of the interior who have agreed to join against the Colombian forces.

Predicts Panama Victory.

Col. Barrett, of the Panamanian army, said today: "Four hundred to 500 men, stationed in the only three passes available, can defeat an army. We have all the men we actually need, for the fighting will be done in the mountains."

"We expect to repel the invasion without calling out all the available troops. The Indians will certainly fight on our side. The San Blas Indians, who are Colombian allies, will not fight at all."

The American marines along the railroad will soon be supplied with new batteries. A collier has been sent to the island of Culebra, near Port Orico, to obtain guns placed there in the naval maneuvers of 1902.

Deny Annexation.

The junta has denied the petition of the inhabitants of the island of Salandres de Providencia for annexation to the republic of Panama, as it will not be possible to protect the island in an emergency. The islanders complain bitterly because the Colombian troops who recently went there demanded \$18,000 taxes, sacked many houses and treated the women brutally. For these reasons the inhabitants sought to sever their connection with Colombia.

Newspapers received from Bogota contain a long letter from President Marroquin calling upon patriotic citizens to contribute funds liberally to assist the republic in the impending struggle to regain its lost territory.

Marauders, Not Invaders.

Washington, Jan. 15.—Admiral Coghlan cabled the navy department today from Colon as follows: "Report of the appearance of Colombian force between Colon and Chiriqui Lagoon, due to men now in that vicinity who belonged to Colombian forces who would not join Panama men, but took to the mountains behind David and are now unorganized marauders. There were originally about 200 men; some unarmed have been seen about Santa Fe and Cooleo river, committing depredations."

SIX MEN KILLED.

The Boiler in a Sawmill at Hicks' Lake, Mich., Suddenly Explodes with Terrible Results.

Tustin, Mich., Jan. 12.—The boilers in the sawmill owned by H. W. Marsh, of Manistee, located at Hicks' lake, in Oscoda county, exploded yesterday and killed six men, injuring four others, perhaps fatally. Portions of the mill were thrown hundreds of feet. It is believed that the explosion was due to low water in the boiler.

The dead are: Bert Lester, Len Chase, Mark Bradley, F. L. Morris, Len Dalton and E. Powers. All were married men and lived at Dighton.

Treaty Ratified.

Washington, Jan. 15.—Ratifications of the American-Chinese commercial treaty were exchanged at the state department yesterday by Secretary Hay and Sir Chentung Liang-Cheng, the Chinese minister. The treaty provides for the opening of the ports of Mukden and Antung, Manchuria, to the world's commerce.

Driggs Sentenced.

New York, Jan. 13.—Ex-Congressman Edmund H. Driggs, of Brooklyn, has been sentenced to imprisonment for one day in Raymond street jail and to a fine of \$10,000. Driggs was convicted of accepting money while a congressman-elect for securing a government contract.

Death of Col. Denby.

Jamestown, N. Y., Jan. 14.—Col. Charles Denby, of Evansville, Ind., United States minister of China, during the administration of President Cleveland and Harrison, died here suddenly yesterday of heart failure. Col. Denby lectured here Tuesday night. He was 74 years old.

Killed Wife and Self.

Philadelphia, Jan. 16.—Crazed by inhaling chemical fumes, Edward K. Landis, one of the best-known chemists in the country and a wealthy coal operator, shot and killed his wife, Emily R. Fotta Landis, at their home in this city, and then committed suicide.

Cleveland's Are Grateful.

Princeton, N. J., Jan. 16.—Ex-President and Mrs. Cleveland gave out a statement Friday expressing their gratitude for the sympathy conveyed to them on the recent death of their eldest daughter, Ruth.

Gov. Cummins Inaugurated.

Des Moines, Ia., Jan. 15.—Gov. Albert B. Cummins was inaugurated governor of Iowa for the second time yesterday, Supreme Court Justice H. E. Deemer administering the oath of office.

THE IROQUOIS INQUEST.

Testimony Given Concerning the Theater Horror Shows Great Disregard for Public Safety.

Chicago, Jan. 13.—That carelessness and wanton negligence on the part of officials of the building department of the city of Chicago formed an aid to the Iroquois theater fire horror, which now has claimed 597 lives, was established by the coroner's jury yesterday. That an appalling lack of system and organization controls this department was brought out from the reluctant sworn statements given by Inspector William Curran.

Chicago, Jan. 14.—Mayor Harrison, testifying before the coroner's jury yesterday afternoon, frankly admitted that he feared to close the theaters of Chicago when he first became aware that gross violations of the building code were menacing the lives of playgoers. Public opinion, the mayor said, would not have sustained him in so drastic a move.

Chicago, Jan. 15.—Revelations of neglect, incompetence, ignorance and indifference on the part of the city officials continued to astonish the jurors who are investigating the Iroquois theater disaster at yesterday's session of the inquest in the city council chamber.

Chicago, Jan. 16.—Fire Chief Musham, as the principal witness before the jury in the Iroquois theater horror inquest yesterday, was forced to admit that he practically was unfamiliar with the city ordinances designed to protect life in theaters. He had shirked his duties, his testimony went to show, simply because other city departments were conducted in a negligent manner.

THE ISTHMIAN POLICY.

Secretary of War Root Makes a Statement Concerning the Attitude of This Country.

Washington, Jan. 13.—Shortly after a cabinet meeting Secretary Root issued the following statement regarding the isthmiian policy of the administration:

"The publication in various quarters of news indicating that the government is preparing to send troops to the isthmus to carry on military operations against Colombia has been the source of considerable annoyance to the executive and to the war department. No state of war exists between the two countries; no inauguration of hostilities is contemplated by this government; no preparation for war is being made. It is not believed by the president, nor by the secretary of state, that any occasion for the employment of troops on the isthmus is likely to arise."

"It is difficult to believe that the authorities in Bogota can be so blinded by passion and prejudice as to declare war against us; and even if this ruinous step should be taken by Colombia, this government would be in no haste to respond to her challenge. We have done them no wrong; we would like to be of service to them, and if they are wise they will not put it out of our power to help them by any act of rashness and violence."

BOAT GOES DOWN.

New Coast Steamer Clallam Founders Near Port Townsend and Fifty-Two Lives Are Lost.

Seattle, Wash., Jan. 11.—Fifty-two persons were drowned when the fine new passenger steamer Clallam of the Puget Sound Navigation company's fleet sank in the Straits of Juan de Fuca Saturday. Not a woman or a child in the passenger list of 56 escaped, and ten members of the crew perished in attempting to save the people in their care. The drowning of the women and children resulted, singularly, from the self-sacrificing efforts of the men to give them the first chance for life. When the Clallam was seen to be in great danger two boats were lowered containing all the woman and children, and just enough members of the crew to man the oars.

Confirmed.

Washington, Jan. 15.—The senate in executive session confirmed the following nominations: Maj. Gen. Adna R. Chaffee, to be lieutenant general; Brig. Gen. George I. Gillespie, to be major general; Col. Alexander McKenzie, to be brigadier general and chief of engineers; John J. Sullivan, United States attorney, northern district of Ohio; Robert S. Cowie, Wisconsin, to be deputy auditor for the navy department.

Eight Persons Killed.

St. Louis, Jan. 14.—A crowd of employees pressing against the elevator gate on the sixth floor of the Brown Shoe company building caused the gate to give way and ten persons were plunged down the shaft. Six were taken out dead and the other four, seriously injured, were hurried to the city hospital. Two of the injured died soon after reaching the hospital and without regaining consciousness.

Ex-Gov. Bushnell Dead.

Columbus, O., Jan. 15.—Former Gov. Bushnell, aged 70 years, died at 1:58 o'clock this morning. For several hours he had been in a stupor. Mr. Bushnell was stricken with apoplexy last Monday after witnessing the inauguration of Gov. Herrick. He died at Grant hospital in this city. His wife and family were with him.

Many Horses Burned.

Philadelphia, Jan. 12.—Eighty-four horses were burned to death in a fire which destroyed the stable of Peoples Brothers, contractors, in West Philadelphia. The loss is estimated at \$50,000, partly insured. The origin of the fire is unknown.

Herrick Inaugurated.

Columbus, O., Jan. 12.—The inauguration of Col. Myron T. Herrick as governor at noon yesterday was marked by splendor never before seen on an occasion of similar kind. At night there was a public reception tendered by the governor.

THEIR THEME IS PEACE ON EARTH

Conference to Frame Basis for Treaty with Great Britain Meets at Washington.

Will Try to Extend the Plan Throughout the Entire World—Notable Array of Speakers Address the Meeting—Resolutions Call Upon Congress to Take Preliminary Steps.

Washington, Jan. 13.—A conference called to frame a basis for an arbitration treaty between the United States and Great Britain and for extension of arbitration throughout the world was held in this city yesterday. There was a notable array of speakers, representing most of the large cities of the country, and messages of indorsement were received from many others. Ex-Secretary Foster was chosen president and Thomas Nelson Page secretary.

Previous Movements.

Gen. Foster reviewed the previous arbitration movements and said that no question can hereafter arise between the United States and Great Britain which will more seriously involve the integrity, the honor of the nation, its vital interests or its independence, than those which already have been submitted to arbitration without serious injury to our interests. He said there never was a time when the two countries were more closely united.

Addresses by Many.

Addresses in advocacy of international arbitration were made by President

FIFTY-EIGHTH CONGRESS.

Daily Summary of Work Done in Senate and House by the Lawmakers of the Nation.

Washington, Jan. 12.—The senate yesterday confirmed the nominations of William H. Taft, of Ohio, secretary of war; Luke E. Wright, Tennessee, civil governor of the Philippines, and Henry C. Ide, Vermont, vice governor of the Philippine Islands. In the house the legislative, executive and judicial appropriation bill, carrying \$28,258,895, was reported. Resolutions of respect to the memory of the late Mr. Skiles, of Ohio, were adopted.

Washington, Jan. 13.—For almost five hours yesterday the senate debated the Panama question and it was still under consideration when the senate adjourned. The house considered the legislative, executive and judicial appropriation bill, but reached no conclusions on it. A variety of topics, including Panama and the tariff, were discussed during the course of the debate.

Washington, Jan. 14.—The time in the senate yesterday was occupied in discussing the Panama question. The house, in committee of the whole, struck out the paragraph in the legislative, executive and judicial appropriation bill providing for the salaries and expenses of the civil service commission and the clerks employed under the commission.

Washington, Jan. 15.—The senate yesterday listened to speeches by Senators Newlands and Dewey on the Panama canal question, and to a speech by Senator Latimer in advocacy of the adoption of a plan for the improvement of the public wagon roads of the country. The house passed the legislative, executive and judicial appropriation bill, carrying an aggregate of \$29,711,760, and the senate joint resolution, authorizing the

BELIEVES FRAUD NOW WIPED OUT

Postmaster General Payne in Annual Report Believes All Wrongs Eradicated.

Gives the Result of the Investigations Made—Discusses Growth and Needs of the Service—Advocates More Pay for Rural Carriers—Other Items of General Interest.

Washington, Jan. 12.—Postmaster General Payne, in submitting his annual report, apologizes for the delay by saying that he had been kept busy for several months with the investigation of the postal frauds, concerning which he says: "This investigation has resulted in a complete reorganization of some of the bureaus of the department, and it is hoped has eradicated all dishonest, irregular and criminal practices, which the investigation has developed as having been in existence for several years. As a result of the investigation 17 officials were separated from the service by resignation or removal. Forty-four indictments were found and 31 persons arrested, ten of whom had been connected with the postal service. A special report covering the details of this investigation has been submitted."

Few Errors Made.

On June 30, 1903, there were 1,400 lines of traveling post offices, covering 189,298 miles in length; the number of employees in the service was 10,555; the annual distance traveled by clerks in cars and boats, 235,114,604 miles. It is estimated that these clerks handled 15,999,802,630 pieces of ordinary mail and 29,897,063 packages and cases of registered mail. The errors by clerks in handling the mail as reported indicate but one error for every 11,530 pieces correctly distributed.

Casualties.

There were 373 casualties to mail cars last year in which either clerks or mail or both were injured. There were killed 18 clerks, one substitute, and three mail weighers; and there were 78 clerks seriously and 398 slightly injured. Congress made provision in the last two appropriation bills for the payment of \$1,000 to the legal representatives of every clerk killed in the line of duty. Pensions for decrepit employees or those injured in the service are asked.

Post Offices.

There were 2,707 post offices established during the year, a decrease of 331. During the year there were 4,463 offices discontinued, 403 more than during the preceding year. On June 30, 1903, at the close of the fiscal year there were 74,169 post offices, divided as follows: First-class, 242; second-class, 1,107; third-class, 3,690; fourth-class, 69,130.

Free Delivery.

The free delivery system is expanding more rapidly than any branch of the service, according to the report. The estimated expenditure for the fiscal year beginning July 1, for city and rural delivery, is \$47,000,000, an amount equal to that expended for the maintenance of the entire postal service in 1884. There were 15,119 separate routes in operation on June 30, and the increase during the present year is expected to be great.

TWO MEN KILLED.

Explosion Occurs with Awful Results in Powder Mills Near Peoria, Ill.

Peoria, Ill., Jan. 13.—A terrific explosion Tuesday noon at the Buckeye powder mills, 15 miles west of this city, on the Burlington road, resulted in the death of two employes and the partial destruction of the plant. Twenty thousand pounds of blasting powder blew up, and the noise of the explosion, which shook the earth for miles around, was plainly heard in this city. William Justice and Leonard Shaller, the two employes killed, were blown 300 feet in the air and a distance of 400 yards from the scene. The mill is a new one opened last October and employs over 100 men.

Hanna Declared Elected.

Columbus, O., Jan. 14.—In the presence of the joint assembly of the members of the Ohio senate and house Lieut. Gov. Warren C. Harding yesterday declared Marcus A. Hanna reelected United States senator for the term of six years, beginning March 4, 1905. The two branches in separate session had given Senator Hanna the largest majority ever given a senator from this state.

Man Freezes to Death.

Springfield, Ill., Jan. 15.—Matthew Maher, aged 35 years, a prominent citizen of Assumption, Christian county, was found frozen to death on the road side between Moweaqua and Assumption Wednesday morning. He had been to Moweaqua to purchase a team of horses. The horses he was driving returned to Assumption, and this caused a search to be instituted for Maher.

Fine Vein of Gold.

Denver, Col., Jan. 15.—A special to the Republican from Cripple Creek, Col., says: The most important gold strike ever made in the district became known Thursday. It was made on Beacon hill. A six-foot vein averaging \$200 per ton was uncovered, through which streaks run which assay as high as \$150,000 per ton.

Bank Closed.

Auburn, Ind., Jan. 15.—The Farmers' bank failed to open its doors yesterday morning and a notice posted on the doors promised that the bank would pay out dollar for dollar.

Transport Arrives.

San Francisco, Jan. 15.—The United States transport Sheridan has arrived from Manila with the Twenty-eighth infantry on board.

WATER-LOGGED.



Charles M. Schwab Finally Admits That the United States Shipbuilding Company Is Insolvent.

Jordan, of Stanford university; Frederick W. Seward, New York; Stuyvesant Fish, New York; Thomas Barclay, of London; President Gompers, of the American Federation of Labor; Judge Gray, Gov. Durbin, President Woodrow Wilson, of Princeton university, and Volney W. Foster, of Chicago.

The Resolutions.

The resolutions adopted called upon congress to take the preliminary steps toward a general arbitration treaty between Great Britain and the United States. The resolutions further declared that the world had reached a stage of civilization where a resort to arms to settle disputes should no longer be considered as even possible.

Mass Meeting.

A mass meeting was held in the afternoon under the auspices of the National Arbitration conference at the Lafayette theater. Gen. Foster presided, and a number of notable speakers, including Andrew Carnegie and Cardinal Gibbons, occupied the platform. The resolutions adopted by the conference were read and with a resounding chorus of ayes the audience voted its approval. Addresses were made by Cardinal Gibbons, Lieut. Gen. Miles, Dr. Edward Everett Hale, Rev. Dr. Joseph Silverman, of New York; J. M. Dickinson and Andrew Carnegie.

Last Honors Paid.

Atlanta, Ga., Jan. 15.—Attended by military honors with the homage of his state and the southland, Gen. John B. Gordon, soldier, statesman and citizen, and the south's last great figure of the civil war, was buried in Oakland cemetery yesterday.

Monster Rabbit Drive.

Echo, Ore., Jan. 12.—The rabbit drive on lower Butter creek Monday was the largest in the history of the northwest. It is estimated that 10,000 rabbits were killed, and 700 persons—men, women and children—participated.

Goes to St. Louis.

Washington, Jan. 13.—The next democratic national convention will be held in St. Louis July 6. This was the decision of the democratic national committee, reached at a late hour yesterday afternoon.

Hanna Reelected.

Columbus, O., Jan. 13.—The Ohio legislature by separate ballot of the house and senate yesterday voted to return Marcus A. Hanna to the United States senate for a second term.

Died of Pneumonia.

Shelby, O., Jan. 11.—Congressman William W. Skiles, representing the Fourteenth district of Ohio, died of pneumonia at his home here, aged 64. He was a prominent attorney.

Recognized by Guatemala.

Washington, Jan. 16.—The state department has been informed of the recognition of the republic of Panama by Guatemala.