The Evening Times

NUMBER 1454. WASHINGTON, TUESDAY, MARCH 27, 1900. PRICE ONE CENT.

ITALY READY TO MEDIATE

Consents to Intervene if Boer Demands Are Modified.

A Cablegram Sent From Rome to Her Consul at Pretoria After Consulting the British Ambassador. The Foreign Office Declines to State the Nature of the Modifications Required of Presidents Kruger and Steyn—Mafeking's Garrison All Well on March 18—Cattle Captured From the Besiegers—The Casualties Reported to Be Slight.

LONDON, March 27.—A despatch from Rome of even date says: "The Foreign Office today cabled the Italian Consul at Pretoria that Italy would consent to mediate for peace if Presidents Kruger and Steyn would modify their demands.

"This message was sent after a number of long consultations with Lord Currie, the British Ambassador to Italy. The Foreign Office declined to explain what modifications had been suggested to the Boer Presidents."

A despatch from Mafeking, dated March 18, via Buluwayo, March 20, says:

"All well. Our patrols are active. We have rushed one of the Boer entrenchments and effectively fusilladed another. We captured twenty-six head of cattle and killed twelve Boers. Our loss was two killed and three wounded."

No reliable news is arriving from South Africa where the rainy season is commencing with exceptionally heavy storms, thus converting the camps into swamps. Two transports at Durban are being converted into hospital ships, owing to the increase in the number of sick and wounded and with a view to clearing the field hospitals, preparatory to the next operations by the English troops.

A despatch from Maseru, Basutoland, dated yesterday, says:

"It is stated that Commandant Olivier's commando, which is trekking toward Kroonstad, reached Clocolan, some thirty miles north of here, where it laid up for forty-eight hours in order to give the men a chance to recover from their fatigue and to rest the horses and oxen."

A later despatch from Bloemfontein says that the 5,000 Boers with sixteen guns, under Commandant Olivier, who were slipping along the Basutoland frontier, have succeeded in eluding General French. It is intimated that the Boers have joined the Transvaal forces at Kroonstad. If they have done this the burgher army at that place has been materially strengthened.

The difficulties that General Roberts must overcome before reaching the Transvaal frontier have been greatly increased, too. Olivier's force was made up of Boers who came from Colesberg, Norvall's Pont, and points in Northern Cape Colony, and has been reported at various points along the Basutoland border, where it was apparently trekking northeastward in the hope of slipping around Roberts' army.

French was sent eastward from Bloemfontein to intercept them, and it was reported that he had done so, near Thabanchu, and that a force, sent southeast by Roberts, was harassing the fleeing Boers in the rear. It was hoped that they would be surrounded and captured as Cronje was.

General French is now announced to be returning to Bloemfontein without having met any Boers. He reports that many burghers have surrendered to him at Thabanchu.

A despatch from a correspondent with General Roberts' army, dated at Bloemfontein, March 26, 12:10 p. m., says:

"General Prinsloo, who was at one time the Commandant General of the Orange Free State forces, but, according to various reports, resigned his command some months ago, went to live on his farm with the full permission of President Kruger. It is now stated that the Johannesburg police, under President Kruger's orders, have deported him to Pretoria. Two other Free State farmers who also possessed passes or permits have been arrested and sent to Pretoria.

"A guard of the Lancers brought in three Boers named Pretorius yesterday. They lived on a farm near the place where Lieutenant Lygon, of the Guards, was killed and Lieutenant Colonel Codrington, Lieutenant Colonel Crabbe, and Captain Trotter and a guide were wounded on March 23.

"Lord Roberts received General Tucker's Seventh Division this morning.

"The Boer commandos are assembling in great force at Kroonstad where, it is said, a Boer council of war is now being held."

RECRUITS FOR THE BOERS.

A Large Contingent Arrives at Lourenco Marques.

LOURENCO MARQUES, March 24.—The steamship Gironde has arrived here with a large contingent of foreign mercenaries for the Boer army. There are many Irishmen in the contingent.

Among the passengers is Michael Davitt, formerly member of Parliament for South Mayo, Ireland. Mr. Davitt says he is traveling for his health.

TO ANNEX THE REPUBLICS.

A Resolution to Be Moved in the Cape Parliament.

CAPE TOWN, March 27.—Hon. J. Rose-Innes, formerly leader of the opposition, will move a resolution in favor of annexation of the Boer Republics in the Cape Parliament on March 29. Lord Roberts will come here to meet Lady Roberts on the arrival of the steamship on which she is traveling.

DISPLEASED WITH LEYDS.

A Report That the Boer Agent Will Be Replaced.

PARIS, March 27.—It is stated here that one of the first acts of the Boer peace delegates, now on their way to Europe, will be to proceed to Brussels and relieve Dr. Leyds, the diplomatic agent, of his official position. It is stated that the Boer Presidents are thoroughly disappointed and displeased with Dr. Leyds' acts.

Against the Government.

LONDON, March 27.—Over eighty representatives of trades unions attending the congress of the National Liberal Federation at Nottingham have signed a manifesto against the Government policy in South Africa. The congress now in session is the largest that has been held in many years.

Seeking a Second Term.

MARTINSBURG, W. Va., March 27.—Letters have been received here by a number of prominent Republicans from Hon. Alston Gordon Dayton, Representative from this district, announcing himself as a candidate for re-election. He asks them to have the delegates from this county instructed for him in case U. S. G. Pitzer, of this city, who is also a candidate for the nomination, withdraws or stands no chance of securing the nomination. In his letter Mr. Dayton states that information from all over the district causes him to feel very sure of his renomination.

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OTIS' FAILING HEALTH.

His Friends Declare That He Is Verging on Collapse.

NEW YORK, March 27.—The following despatch has been received from Hongkong:

"General Otis is on the verge of collapse. Surgeons say that he must return to the United States soon or he will break down mentally. His friends admit it, and declare he ought to return immediately.

"There is growing indignation among Army surgeons because Otis refuses sick leave to officers and men whose cases demand immediate return to a temperate climate. Usually deaths occur as the result.

"The transport Sheridan left Manila on March 6 with a lot of military prisoners. Against the protests of the surgeons Otis sent as guards for the prisoners men from the hospitals who were scarcely able to stand on their feet. They are expected to do two hours on and four hours off duty in the hold of the transport in a tropical sea.

"This ought to be investigated when the Sheridan reaches San Francisco.

"Guerrillas and Ladrones are so active that we are burning towns wherever the telegraph wires are cut or ambushes are attempted."

While the War Department officials deny that General Otis is to be brought home, there appears to be little doubt that he will be relieved by May 1 and will return to this country, arriving in June, when he will be made a major general, to succeed General Merritt, and will probably be given the command of the Department of the Lakes. General Brooke will succeed General Merritt in command of the Department of the East.

At the Surgeon General's office it was stated today that no official reports had been received concerning General Otis' health, but that as far as possible the officers on the sick list at Manila were being brought home. It was admitted that many who had been ill were not brought home because they could not be spared from important commands.

"I have no doubt that General Otis' health is breaking down," said a prominent medical officer, "for he persists in attending to every minor detail of the campaign in the Philippines. I have known him for some years and he is an officer that worries himself over little details that ought to be left to his subordinates. It is a wonder to me that he has stood the strain as long as he has. It would be a good thing for General Otis to recall him, and it would also be an advantage the Army, as he worries the men under him by his attention to the trifling details of the campaign."

According to an officer acquainted with the situation in the Philippines, General Otis will be relieved soon after the new Philippine Commission arrives at Manila. The Commission is expected to arrive there early in May. Otis will have a long conference with the Commissioners at which he will explain thoroughly the situation existing in the islands; his plans for civil government, and the needs of the inhabitants, and what he thinks should be done to pacify the insurgents and restore order.

Gen. Arthur MacArthur, it is said, will succeed Otis. He has the confidence of Secretary Root and is one of the ablest officers in the Philippines. He has had charge of the principal expeditions against the insurgents since the death of General Lawton and is said to be thoroughly acquainted with the needs of the natives.

The report that General Otis had detailed sick men to guard the military prisoners aboard the Sheridan will probably be investigated on the arrival of that vessel at San Francisco which will be about April 6. It was said at the War Department today that no complaint had been received concerning this employment of sick men.

The order issued by Secretary Root today appointing a board of officers to enquire into the fitting up of the hospital ship Missouri and Relief is said to have been issued upon the advice of surgeons at Manila in order that the vessels will be ready for hurrying home sick soldiers who will be returned to this country when the rainy season begins.

THE PHILIPPINE COMMISSION.

A Meeting at Which No Business Was Transacted.

The new Philippine Commission met this morning at 10 o'clock at its rooms, 815 Vermont Avenue, and the members were together for more than two hours, when they adjourned for the day. There were present W. H. Taft, chairman; Dean C. Worcester, Luke E. Wright, Bernard Moses, and H. C. Ide. Speaking for the Commission, the chairman said that they had transacted no business, but had simply met to become acquainted and to suggest plans for a more formal meeting in the near future.

No one of the members would say that any policy had been adopted by any individual to offer to the Commission, but each was emphatic that the meeting had been of the most informal nature. After the adjournment photographs were taken of the members as they sat at the table.

It has not yet been decided when the Commission will sail for Manila, but it is expected that the members will hold at least another meeting in this city before leaving, at which certain business will be transacted, the result of which they can offer to the President for his inspection and comment.

It was thought that they would be able to sail from San Francisco during the first week in April, but that date has now been postponed to a later one, and it may be the middle of the month before they are on their way. No date was today set for the next meeting, but this matter was left to the chairman, who will summon the members by mail at his option. He declined to even guess when this would be done, and reiterated the statement that the meeting had been devoid of all business.

WARFARE IN CHINA.

Imperial Troops Engage the Boxers, With Heavy Losses.

PEKIN, March 27.—An engagement has been fought between the Imperial troops and the rebellious "Boxers." The result was not decisive. The casualties on both sides were heavy.

The Boxers are a Chinese anti-foreign secret society. Some time ago the Boxers announced their intention of going to Pekin to further their campaign against the "foreign devils."

The engagement took place at Yen-Chui in the Province of Pechili. About 1,500 men were engaged on each side.

RUSSIAN SQUADRON ARRIVES.

Demands for Land Likely to Be Made at Masanpho.

YOKOHAMA, March 27.—A Russian squadron has arrived at Chemulpho. Its appearance is regarded as presaging a demand for the concession of land at Masanpho, twenty miles to the south.

The Prince's Visit to France.

LONDON, March 27.—The well-informed society paper, the "World," denies that the Prince of Wales will go to Paris in April. It says he will not be there before Whitsuntide.

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FAILED TO FREE POWERS

The Taylorite Held Without Bail for the Grand Jury.

Judge Moore States That He Believes the Prisoner Was Implicated in Goebel's Assassination. Taylor's Pardon Ignored—The Defendant Cheerful—The Other Cases.

FRANKFORT, Ky., March 27.—Caleb Powers, Republican Secretary of State of Kentucky, was at 10 o'clock today held over to the grand jury without bail on the charge of being an accessory before the fact to the assassination of Goebel. The defence, when court convened at 9:20 o'clock, announced that it would introduce no evidence, but would file in bar the pardon issued to Caleb Powers by W. S. Taylor. They therefore moved the dismissal of the defendant. County Judge Moore overruled the motion.

Former Governor John Young Brown, the chief counsel for the defence, therefore asked for the dismissal of the prisoner on the merits of the case. This motion was likewise overruled. Brown then submitted the case without argument by agreement with the Commonwealth, stating that they were anxious for bail for the defendant and could furnish it to any amount. Judge Moore said:

"I want to say for the defendant that I don't think he fired the shot that killed Goebel, but I do think he was concerned in the conspiracy that brought about the death of Senator Goebel. I therefore hold him over to the April grand jury without bail, so that the case may be further investigated."

The Prisoner Cheerful.

Caleb Powers did not change expression at all during the trial. He seemed rather cheerful, and conversed with his attorneys. Court adjourned until 2 o'clock, when the cases against the other alleged conspirators, Capt. John Davis and W. H. Culton, will be taken up.

Many Kentuckians are incensed today over the action of Attorney Tom Campbell in almost causing a riot during the trial of Secretary of State Powers yesterday. Scores of guns were leveled on Powers and a massacre seemed certain.

The leveling of pistols at Secretary of State Powers during the panic in the court room recalls the story that on Saturday, when it was rumored that Taylor's troops were to attack the Governor's forces at the jail, a number of rifles were pointed at the windows of Powers' and Davis' cell. The intention seemed to be to shoot them down in case of any trouble. It is said that a Democrat came to Mr. Powers last evening and said: "Powers, I felt for you. I thought they had you."

Capt. Will Horn, a nephew of Mrs. F. W. Golden, whose husband is the chief witness against the accused Republicans, has received the following letter from Mrs. Golden, which denounces her husband in scathing terms and accuses Golden of perjury:

Mrs. Golden's Letter.

"Tuesday evening Will came home on the first train. I have heard what Wharton is said to have told. I believe if he told it he has been drunk or bribed. You tell Mr. Powers he can have all of their evidence thrown out. I would not believe him or Frank Cecil on oath. I don't know Howard, but he has got a bad reputation. To think those men thought so much of him and then for him to lie against them, oh! I'm killed. I am not sorry for Wharton. It is those innocent men he has lied on. I had a thousand times rather have seen him buried. I can hardly bear to lose confidence in a person. Oh, my God, the restless days and sleepless nights! How can I bear it? I have grieved so much about those men who were in prison, I believe, to my heart, innocently, and those the money would have punished. I am almost crazy. I never want to see Wharton again. He sent me the money to come to see him last night. I sent it back to him. I never dreamed that he would do such a thing. Oh, who is to be trusted? I have not got sense enough to know what is the best for you to do. Come home, if you think best, but if you can do any good by staying, do so. Please see Mr. Powers and tell him he has my greatest sympathy, and every Republican has the greatest admiration for him. Wharton can never come back here. I would help the people lynch him, and he certainly will be hung if he ever comes back. Yours respectfully, BETTIE."

Horn lived with the Goldens for some time. Since writing the above letter Mrs. Golden has come here to her husband. She left him again today to go to relatives at Georgetown. The prosecution did not put Mrs. Golden on the stand today. It is thought she would not have been a willing witness.

Combs Issues a Statement.

"Tallow Dick" Combs, the alleged assassin of Goebel, gave out the following signed statement today:

"I never knew or heard of a conspiracy to kill Goebel and was in Frankfort only as a witness in the election contest cases. While there I met and talked with Wharton Golden but once, near the drug store, when I asked him about his brother Ben, who had been shot by Colson, and I never stood in the drug store or on the corner to watch Mr. Goebel. I never told Mr. Golden that I 'knew Goebel now and could shoot him as far as I could see him.' I never owned a 32-calibre pistol such as he describes and have never seen one and don't wonder that Golden became sick on the witness stand when he made such a statement.

"On the morning of the shooting I arose at about 10 o'clock and went to the Capitol Grounds. There were a number of men in front of the building with whom I spoke. It was a cold morning and I went up to the Assistant Adjutant General's office to get warm. There are several people in there, and after they moved away I went up to the fire and got warm. It was then the shot was fired. I heard the sound but did not know what it was until Mr. Gardner Wallace, who was in the room, noticed the crowd rushing up to where Mr. Goebel lay. I did not learn the identity of the injured man until about ten minutes after, and if the Commonwealth wants me I am ready and willing at any time to go into court and show my innocence.

"RICHARD COMBS."

PRESIDENTIAL AID REFUSED.

Mr. McKinley's Decision Expressed at the Cabinet Meeting.

There was a long discussion of the Kentucky situation in the Cabinet meeting today. Shortly before 11 o'clock, the hour of meeting, Senator Deboe and Representative Pugh, of Kentucky, went to the White House and had a conference with the President that continued some time after the members of the Cabinet arrived.

It was made clear today in a general way what the Kentucky Republican leaders would have the Administration leaders do in their behalf. They ask the President to recognize Governor Taylor as the executive of the State by such method as Mr. McKinley may deem best, the only stipulation being that the Democrats of Kentucky and the people of the country generally be left in no doubt regarding the National Administration's view of the situation.

It has been suggested by some of the Kentuckians that the use of Federal arms by the two factions of the State militia provides an opportunity for the National Administration to recognize Taylor as Governor. The representation is that one or the other of these militia factions is using Federal arms improperly and that President McKinley should decide which side should be deprived of its arms.

Senator Deboe and Representative Pugh discussed the situation with the President and with Attorney General Griggs, particularly.

As soon as the Kentuckians had left the White House, the Cabinet members continued the discussion among themselves. The stand was taken at once that the Federal Government has no function whatever in the Kentucky dispute and that it would be unwise as well as unjust for the Administration to interfere.

President McKinley holds that the use of Federal arms by the State militia forms no excuse or opportunity for Government interference. The arms were loaned to the State, and the State alone is responsible for their safe keeping and return to the Government.

It was unanimously held by the President and the members of the Cabinet that the Kentucky courts should be allowed to settle the troubles in the State without molestation or interference.

THE OPEN DOOR IN CHINA.

Mr. Hay's Correspondence Submitted to the House.

The President today sent to the House in answer to the resolution of Mr. Cummings, the correspondence between the Secretary of State and foreign governments concerning the arrangements for the maintenance of the open door in China. The correspondence opened on September 6, 1899, with a note from Secretary Hay to Mr. Vignaud, United States charge d'affaires, at Paris, enclosing copies of instructions to the United States Ambassadors at London, Berlin, and St. Petersberg, "in reference to the desire of this Government that the Governments of Great Britain, Germany, and Russia make formal declaration of an 'open door' policy in the territories held by them in China."

GENERAL WHEELER'S ORDERS.

Officially Placed on the Waiting List Today.

The official order placing Gen. Joe Wheeler on the waiting list was issued by the War Department today. It is as follows:

"By direction of the Secretary of War, Brigadier General Joseph Wheeler, United States Volunteers, having reported at the War Department in compliance with his orders, will await further orders for the convenience of the Government."

It is more than probable that General Wheeler will remain on detached duty until June, when General Merritt will retire and General Otis be promoted to major general. General Wheeler will be appointed to the vacant brigadier generalship.

TO INSPECT THE SUMNER.

Secretary Root and Others Going to New York.

Quartermaster General Ludington, Surgeon General Sternberg, Inspector General Breckinridge, and Commissary General Weston will leave Washington tonight for New York, where they will inspect the new transport Sumner tomorrow.

Secretary Root will leave for New York this afternoon and will join the officers of the Department and visit the Sumner. Secretary Root will review the military at Madison Square Garden tomorrow night.

The Sumner will sail from New York for Manila, Thursday, carrying 1,200 recruits to fill the vacancies caused by death and sickness in the various regiments. The vessel will be in charge of Capt. Charles T. Baker, Assistant Quartermaster; Col. Wirt Davis, of the Third Cavalry, will command the troops, and Lieut. Col. S. P. Jocelyn, of the Twenty-fifth Infantry, will be second in command.

MINISTERS PLEAD THEIR CASE.

Advocate in Strong Terms the Abolishment of Polygamy.

A hearing was held by the Committee on the Judiciary of the House today on the proposed amendment to the Constitution prohibiting the practice of polygamy and rendering polygamists ineligible to office under the American Government. A number of Ministers appeared before the Committee, among them being the Rev. Dr. Byron Sunderland, of this city; the Rev. Dr. McAllister, of Pittsburg; the Rev. Dr. Scovel, late President of the Wooster University, of Wooster, Ohio; the Rev. Dr. Hugh Johnston, of Baltimore; the Rev. Joshua Levering, of Baltimore; the Rev. Dr. T. P. Stevenson, of Philadelphia, and the Rev. Dr. Kerr Boyce Tupper, of Philadelphia.

Dr. Johnston was the principal speaker. He said that the day had come when the body of polygamists can be considered only as a body of fanatics. He declared that the Mormon Church controls Utah, and to a very considerable extent Idaho. Mormon colonies are at work in various parts of the country.

"It is time," he said, "to cut this festering ulcer from the bosom of our Republic, by adopting this amendment." He added that Christianity knows but one wife and one husband, and that this amendment is in the interest of pure womanhood and higher civilization.

SUFFERING WITH SMALLPOX.

A Racehorse Attache Sent to the Hospital.

John Wycher, colored, twenty years old, arrived in this city this morning with a carload of race horses shipped from New Orleans. He was ill three days on the train. When the car was transferred to the race track at Benning he went to the house of a friend in Kenilworth.

The Health Department was notified of his illness, and on investigation found him suffering from smallpox. He was removed to the hospital, the house fumigated, and the inmates sent to the detention camp.

Porto Rico and the Havana Fund.

In the House today Mr. Pierce read the answer of the "Evening Star," of this city, to the statement made by Mr. Payne in the debate on the conference report on the Porto Rican Appropriation bill Saturday, that he did not believe any Republican member of the House had stated, as printed in the "Star," that the Porto Rico Tariff bill had been passed for the purpose of securing a campaign fund.

Mr. Steele asked several questions of Mr. Pierce, to learn, supposing it to be true that a Republican member had made that statement, if he (Pierce) would believe him on oath.

Mr. Pierce replied that he believed the "Star" reporter told the truth. This statement was received with applause.

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PRODDED BY MR. LENTZ

Governor Steunenberg Continues His Coeur d'Alene Testimony.

The Witness' Motives in Calling for Federal Troops Seriously Questioned—His Evasive Replies Regarding the Employment of an Alleged Criminal as a Deputy.

The withering cross-examination of the Governor of Idaho was continued by Mr. Lentz and Mr. Cox before the Committee on Military Affairs of the House today.

Mr. Lentz impugned the motives of Governor Steunenberg in calling for Federal troops to control the situation in the Coeur d'Alenes before invoking the aid of the citizens of Idaho, it being shown that there were about 50,000 able-bodied men in the State. Mr. Lentz sought to show to the committee that the Governor's animosity toward the union miners of Shoshone county was due in a measure to their failure to vote for him for Governor in 1898, after having supported him in 1896. The witness was accused of having connived at the appointment of criminals as deputies. At one point in the examination the Governor of Idaho claimed that the Ohio Representative had insulted him, but the alleged insult will remain in the printed record of the hearing.

Governor Steunenburg entered the committee room some time before the hearing was called to order. There were but two members of the committee who preceded him. These were Mr. Hull, the chairman, and Mr. Mondell of Wyoming. The Governor spent the time intervening between his arrival and the call to order, by pacing up and down the north side of the session chamber with his hands folded behind his back. He looked at the paintings, representations of many forts and military posts, that line the walls of the committee room.

At 10 o'clock Governor Steunenburg took his place in the witness chair. The members of the committee present were Messrs. Hull, Brownlow, Mondell, Marsh, Dick, Slayden, Jett, Esch, Capron, and Stevens. Mr. Lentz entered the chamber a moment after the conclusion of the roll call.

There were one or two committee matters which required attention before the Coeur d'Alene enquiry could proceed and it was sought to reach an agreement as to these without going into executive session. Mr. Esch presented an amendment to go upon the pending Army Appropriation bill affecting the mileage and travel allowances of officers and men. Mr. Marsh entered an emphatic protest against the proposed committee amendment and precipitated a discussion. It was then decided that the committee should go into executive session till the matter should be disposed of.

It was after 11 o'clock when the doors of the committee room were reopened to the public and the enquiry resumed.

Mr. Cox continued his line of questions, interrupted in the adjournment on Monday. He asked:

Again on the Rack.

"Did you ever give to this representative of yours, Mr. Sinclair, written authority to act for you?"

"Yes sir."

"Where is that paper?"

"I do not know."

"Well, I reckon Mr. Sinclair will know?"

"Yes, I think he will."

"Do you know Convict Murphy?"

"I do not know any such person."

"Well, John Murphy, a deputy?"

"There was a deputy whose name is John Murphy."

"Did you ever hear that this former convict, in company with a woman, broke into citizens' houses, looking for whisky, and when asked for his warrant slapped his hand on his six-shooter and said 'this is my warrant?'"

"No sir, I did not."

"Well, don't you think that was an outrage?"

There were cries from members of the committee, "Oh, let that pass;" and it was passed over.

"When were you inaugurated Governor?"

"The second time?"

"Yes."

"About January 2, 1899."

"Did you ever send any authorized officer of the State, the Attorney General or the Lieutenant Governor, to investigate the condition of affairs in the Coeur d'Alenes before you issued your proclamation declaring martial law, or did you get your information from Sinclair?"

The answer of the witness indicated that Mr. Sinclair was his principal source of information.

Mr. Hay asked: "Governor, have you consulted with the President with regard to keeping these troops in Shoshone county all this time?"

"Only as it appears in my correspondence with the War Department."

The witness told of the telegrams which had passed between him and the War Department concerning the maintenance of troops in the Coeur d'Alenes.

"So far as you know the President and War Department approve of the troops being kept there?"

"I think they do."

Mr. Lentz asked:

"Governor, how old are you?"

"Thirty-eight."

"You were elected first in 1896, again in 1898?"

"Yes, sir."

"In your campaigns did you visit the Coeur d'Alene district?"

"Yes, sir; I made speeches in Wallace, Gem, and other places."

"You carried the county by a handsome vote in 1896."

"I did."

"You thought they were your friends?"

"I so understood it."

"Well, in 1898 you did not carry the county?"

"I did not."

"Then your opinion of these men began to change?"

"My opinion began to change as early as January, 1897."

"In 1898, these men in Shoshone county sent to the Legislature of Idaho Representatives who opposed certain bills that you wanted to be passed?"

The witness' answer was substantially an affirmative one.

Regarding the Militia.

Mr. Lentz then carried the witness over certain matters that were pending before the Legislature, particularly with regard to a proposition to disband the militia.

"Is it not a fact that the Bunker Hill and Sullivan Mining Company reported its men as enrolled in the militia, so that the county was deprived of their contributions to the road fund?"

"I am inclined to the belief that the question was raised."

Mr. Lentz and Governor Steunenberg discussed the militia question at some length. The State of Idaho sent to the Philippines about 800 men. The volunteers from Shoshone county numbered about 50. There were three full companies of militia in Shoshone county and about eighteen or twenty of the Shoshone volunteers were militiamen. At the last election 40,000 votes were cast, there being equal suffrage between the sexes. In 1896, before the equal suffrage amendment to the State Constitution went into effect, there were 30,000 votes cast. The object of Mr. Lentz's examination along this line was to show that there were between 50,000 and 55,000 able-bodied men in Idaho. The Governor would admit that there were about 40,000 able-bodied men in the State.

"Did you call any one of these men to aid you in suppressing the insurrection which you alleged existed in Shoshone county?"

"No, sir."

"Did you not appoint John Murphy, a former convict, and not a citizen of Idaho, as one of your deputies?"

"I did not know that he was a former convict."

"Did not another of your deputies, St. Clair (not Sinclair), confess during the Corcoran trial that he was an ex-convict?"

"That is true."

The Governor said that St. Clair had been dismissed directly after his confession, but Mr. Lentz called the attention of the witness to the fact that St. Clair continued to make arrests and to throw men into the bull pen. The governor denied knowledge of this condition of affairs.

"Don't you keep a record of deputies employed, so that you can tell when they were appointed or discharged?"

"I think I could find out."

The Governor did not know whether any written commissions were issued to deputies. It appeared that the deputies were appointed at will by Bartlett Sinclair, and that many former convicts were assigned to the duty of arresting citizens and casting them into the bull pen. Mr. Lentz made serious charges against certain deputies as being common gamblers and generally disreputable men.

"I do not go around in gambling houses," said the Governor, with considerable heat.

"But you do go around breaking into the homes of innocent men, women, and children with soldiers and deputies, do you?" asked Mr. Lentz.

"I refuse to answer that question. It is an insult," said the Governor, angrily.

A discussion followed between members of the committee, but the question of Mr. Lentz and the reply of Governor Steunenberg were allowed to remain on the record.

"When a deputy was discharged were you informed in writing?"

"No. I think Mr. Sinclair simply informed me."

"Then the people of Shoshone county were dependent simply upon your memory as to who were or were not officers of the law?"

"No, I will not say that."

"Well, what did this convict Murphy have to show as to his authority except his word and his gun?"

"Mr. Sinclair may be able to tell you."

Mr. Lentz, at five minutes to 12, moved for a recess.

Governor Steunenberg asked that he might be excused, as he desired to return to Idaho, but Mr. Lentz insisted that he was not through with his cross-examination, and the hearing was adjourned until 10 o'clock tomorrow morning, when Governor Steunenberg will again be upon the stand.

THE PORTO RICAN PUZZLE.

Senators Confer With the President Regarding the Bill.

The President was today informed of the difficulties confronting the Porto Rican bill in the Senate, by Senators Frye, Hanna, and Fairbanks. The Senators mentioned went to the White House before the Cabinet meeting and were closeted with Mr. McKinley for some time. The results of the Senate caucus held yesterday afternoon were communicated to the President and the present outlook discussed at some length.

Mr. McKinley was told, it is said, that the prospects for the passage of the bill are still dubious, but in order to get it off the Administration's hands and lest it become a source of further campaign material for the Democrats it will be pressed to a vote probably some time this week. The President, it is said, was in accord with the plan outlined by the managers of the bill in the Senate if it would result in screening the measure and its authors from the unpleasant prominence which both have attained.

Representative Cannon called during the conference, but he would say but little at its conclusion. From what little he did let drop, however, it was concluded that he is strenuously opposed to any Senate amendment of the bill, fearing a House revolt from the 15 per cent tariff proposition if it ever gets back to that body. It is said he so expressed himself to the President.

Senator Deboe and Representative Pugh of Kentucky, called before the Cabinet meeting and had a short conversation with the President.

Kentucky matters were discussed, the latest developments in the situation being unfolded to Mr. McKinley. Whatever the object of the visit was, it is thought that it was unsatisfactory to the Kentuckians. Senator Deboe, when he left the White House, wore an unmistakable air of worry and dejection. Representative Pugh, in response to a question by a Times reporter, said: "I have not been seeking Federal interference and I do not know that my party wants it."

General Wheeler was a caller, but did not see the President.

Other callers were Senator Sullivan, Representatives Davenport, Littlefield, and William A. Smith, of Michigan.

FOR THE POSTAL SERVICE.

The Largest Amount the Appropriation Bill Has Ever Carried.

The bill carrying appropriations for the Postal Service for the coming fiscal year has been completed by the House Committee on Postoffices and Post Roads. While the tabulations have not yet been made, the bill will carry the largest appropriation in the history of the Postal Service—between $112,000,000 and $115,000,000.

The appropriation for the current year was $105,000,000. The increases generally are to keep pace with the growth of the service one of the most noticeable being in the appropriation for rural free delivery, which was increased to $1,500,000, the amount for the current year being $450,000.

For Printing the Code.

Mr. McMillan today introduced in the Senate a bill to provide a code of laws for the District of Columbia. The object of the bill is simply to secure the printing of the codification of the present laws, which is now at the Government Printing Office, as a public document. The matter contained in it covers several hundred pages and contains all of the laws of the District revised to date.

Corps of Naval Architects.

Representative Butler of Pennsylvania has introduced a bill to do away with per diem draftsmen in the Navy and providing for a corps of naval architects, one at $2,600, four at $2,000, six at $1,400, one superintendent of model havin at $2,500, six designers at $2,200, six at $2,150, six draftsmen at $2,000, twelve at $1,800, three at $1,600, two at $1,200, and two copyists at $1,020.

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THE PORTO RICAN BILL

Mr. Foraker Reports an Amendment to the Senate.

Natives to Be Deemed as Citizens of the Island Under American Protection—A Substitute for Levying the Two Years' Customs Duty. The Scheme for Civil Government.

Chairman Foraker, of the Senate Committee on Pacific Islands and Porto Rico, in accordance with the instructions of that committee and of the Republican caucus yesterday, has reported an amendment to the pending Porto Rican Civil Government and Tariff bill. It provides that the inhabitants of Porto Rico are to be deemed and held to be citizens of Porto Rico, and "as such entitled to the protection of the United States."

As a substitute for the section levying for two years a customs duty of 15 per cent on merchandise imported into Porto Rico from the United States, the following was offered:

"Section 8—That on and after the passage of the act the same tariff customs and duties shall be levied, collected, and paid upon all articles imported into Porto Rico, from ports other than those of the United States which are required by law to be collected upon articles imported into the United States from foreign countries: Provided, That on all coffee in the bean or ground imported into Porto Rico there shall be levied and collected a duty of 5 cents per pound, any law or part of law to the contrary notwithstanding; and provided, further, that all Spanish scientific, literary, and artistic works, not subversive of public order in Porto Rico, shall be admitted free of duty into Porto Rico for a period of ten years, reckoning from the 11th day of April, 1899, as provided in said Treaty of Peace between the United States and Spain; and provided, further, that all books and pamphlets printed in the English language shall be admitted into Porto Rico free of duty when imported from the United States."

In lieu of the section extending the internal revenue laws of the United States to the Island, this section is inserted:

"Section 9—That on and after the passage of this act all merchandise coming into the United States from Porto Rico and coming into Porto Rico from the United States shall be entered at the several ports of entry upon payment of 15 per centum of the duties which are required to be levied, collected, and paid upon like articles of merchandise imported from foreign countries; and in addition thereto upon articles of merchandise of Porto Rican manufacture coming into the United States and withdrawn for consumption or sale upon payment of a tax equal to the internal revenue tax imposed in the United States upon the like articles of merchandise of domestic manufacture; such tax to be paid by internal revenue stamp or stamps to be purchased and provided by the Commissioner of Internal Revenue and to be procured from the collector of internal revenue at or most convenient to the port of entry of said merchandise in the United States, and to be affixed under such regulations as the Commissioner of Internal Revenue, with the approval of the Secretary of the Treasury, shall prescribe, and on all articles of merchandise of United States manufacture coming into Porto Rico, in addition to the duty above provided, upon payment of a tax equal in rate and amount to the internal revenue tax imposed in Porto Rico upon like articles of Porto Rican manufacture. Provided, That on and after the date when this act shall take effect all merchandise and articles, except coffee, not dutiable under the tariff laws of the United States, and all merchandise and articles entered in Porto Rico free of duty under orders heretofore made by the Secretary of War, shall be admitted into the several ports thereof, when imported from the United States, free of duty, all laws or parts of laws to the contrary notwithstanding; and whenever the legislative assembly of Porto Rico shall have enacted and put into operation a system of local taxation to meet the necessities of the government of Porto Rico, by this act and established, and shall by resolution duly passed so notify the President, he shall make proclamation thereof, and thereupon all tariff duties on merchandise and articles going into Porto Rico from the United States or coming into the United States from Porto Rico shall cease, and from and after such date all such merchandise and articles shall be entered at the several ports of entry free of duty; and it no event shall any such duties be collected after March 1, 1902."

Section 10 provides: "That the duties and taxes collected in Porto Rico in pursuance of this act, less the cost of collecting the same, and the gross amount of all collections of duties and taxes in the United States upon articles of merchandise coming from Porto Rico shall not be covered into the general fund of the Treasury, but shall be held as a separate fund, and shall be placed at the disposal of the President to be used for the government and benefit of Porto Rico until otherwise provided by the law; and the Secretary of the Treasury shall designate the several ports and subports of entry in Porto Rico and shall make such rules and regulations and appoint such agents as may be necessary to collect the duties and taxes authorized to be levied, collected, and paid in Porto Rico by the provisions of this act, and he shall fix the compensation and provide for the payment thereof of all such officers, agents, and assistants as he may find it necessary to employ to carry out the provisions hereof."

The section defining the powers of the legislative assembly in the granting of franchises is so amended as to require the approval of the President of the United States for railroad, telegraph, and telephone franchises.

The provision for representation of the Island in the United States House of Representatives by a territorial delegate is so amended that they shall be represented by "a resident commissioner to the United States, who shall be entitled to official recognition as such by all departments upon presentation to the Department of State of a certificate of election of the Governor of Porto Rico, and who shall be entitled to a salary, payable monthly by the United States, at the rate of five thousand dollars per annum."

The qualifications for voters is changed so as to provide that they shall be bona fide citizens of Porto Rico, not less than thirty years of age, and able to read and write the English language, the restriction as to possession of property being stricken out.

FOOD FOR THE STARVING.

The Burnside Arrives at San Juan, Porto Rico.

The transport Burnside arrived at San Juan, Porto Rico, today, carrying 500 tons of rice, beans, codfish, and bacon for the starving natives. She left New York city on March 21 and had a good voyage, the supplies arriving in excellent shape.

General Davis has arranged to have the food distributed to the natives as rapidly as possible. Another 500 tons will be sent early next week.

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lowest last fall, and now share profits. F. Libbey & Co.