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 Probabilities.
 Washington, December 31.—President, East Texas, Western Texas and New Mexico Indian Territory—Walt Monday and Tens light northern winds.

THE ANTI-GOEBELITES
 Engaged Headquarters to Be...
 Frankfurt, Ky., December 31.—The anti-goebelites, through ex-Congressman W. Owens, engaged headquarters today, which will be opened tomorrow. Senator Hart was conspicuous in the anti-goebel committee. Chairman Long of the republican State campaign committee, has called a meeting of republican members of both houses for a joint conference tomorrow morning, expected that then a report will be given from the anti-goebelites regarding their attitude on the organization of two houses and the general policy for session will be talked over. Tonight's anti-goebel conference brought together a large number of political leaders already here. Among them was General P. W. Hardin, who had headed the anti-goebel platform. Hardin came ex-Secretary of State. He and several senators and representatives, who are pronounced anti-goebel men.

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ANNUAL DINNER.
 Texans Will Be Speakers in Chicago Saturday.
 Chicago, December 31.—Arrangements have been completed for the fourth annual banquet of the William J. Bryan League of Chicago. It will be held at the Tremont House Saturday night and Colonel Bryan, who has attended every year since the organization, will be the guest of honor and principal speaker. Plates will be laid for 500 persons only, the experience of last year having convinced the managers of the affair that it is unwise to hold the dinner in sections or to attempt to accommodate all comers. The list of speakers will include the following: William Jennings Bryan of Nebraska, Cato Sells of Iowa, Carter H. Harrison of Chicago, Governor Benton McMillin of Tennessee, Senator Charles Culberson of Texas, ex-Governor Hoag of Texas, James A. Mulligan of Kentucky, General Joseph B. Doe of Wisconsin, Samuel B. Barlow of Michigan, Dr. Howard S. Taylor of Chicago.

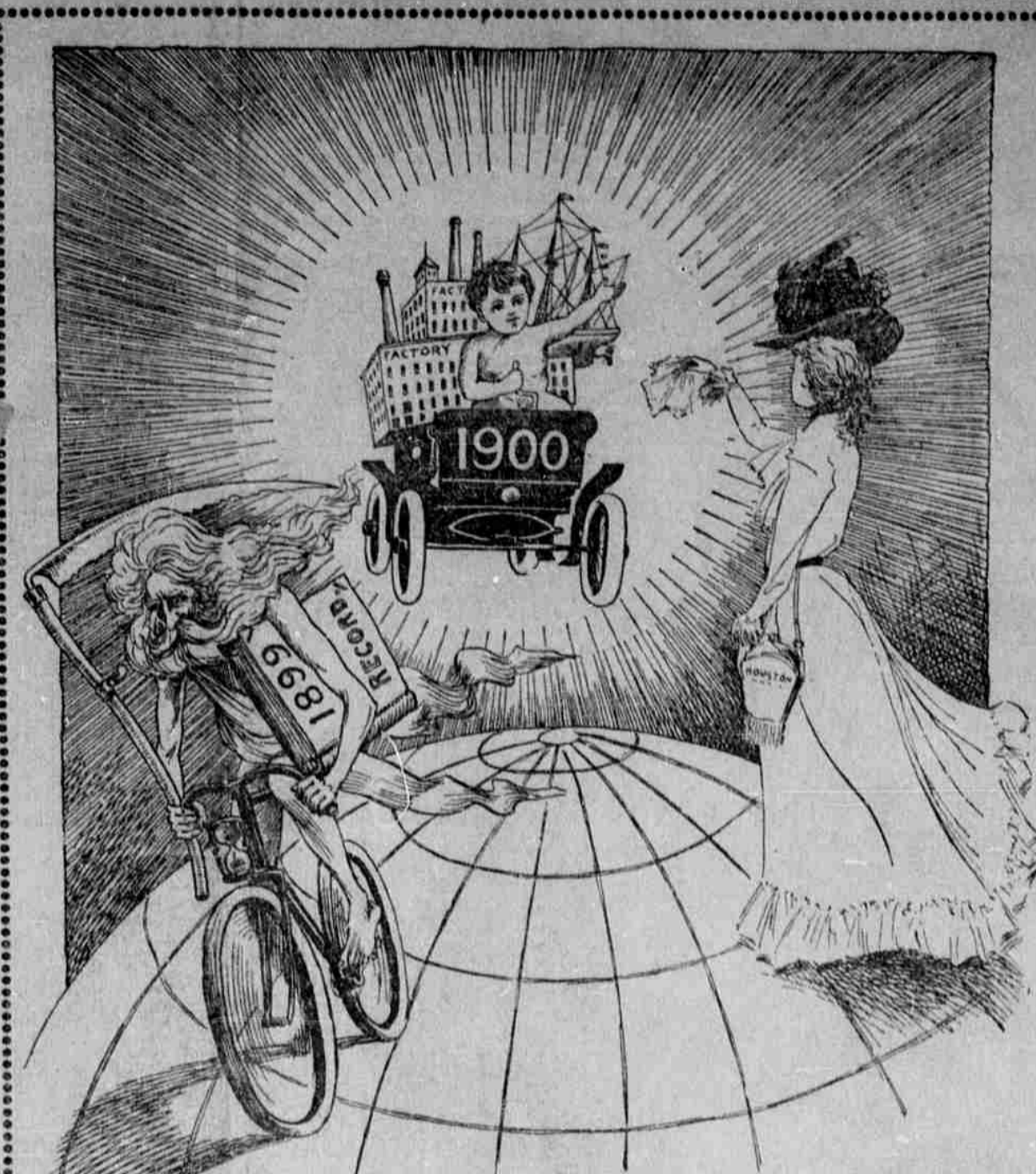
KENTUCKY DEMOCRACY.
 General P. W. Hardin Says What Should Be Done.
 Louisville, Ky., December 31.—General P. W. Hardin, who was democratic candidate for governor in 1896 and who sought the nomination at the hands of the last State convention has just returned from a trip in the Northwest. Speaking of the Kentucky-political situation, General Hardin said today: "I find great apprehension in the North concerning the electoral vote of this State in the presidential election next year. It seems to me a matter of first importance to reorganize the democratic party that Kentucky may be taken out of the list of doubtful States. Two years ago the democratic party carried Kentucky by a majority of 17,000. Because of bad leadership, because of undemocratic measures, because of actions which the party can not defend, but for which it is now proposed to make it responsible, we have lost Kentucky. If it is to be regained we must act now, act promptly and act decisively. We must so act as to make it clear that Goebelism is not democracy."

Citizens of New York Meet to Declare Their Sympathy.
QUARTETTE OF EMBLEMS USED
 In Decorating the Academy of Music for Occasion.
SUPREME COURT
 And Congressman Sulzer Made to Address on Freedom and Liberty.

"FOR HOME RULE AGAINST THE BAYONET"
 Is What He Termed It—Senator Mason Spoke on the Struggle in South Africa.
 New York, December 31.—The United Irish societies of New York and vicinity filled the Academy of Music tonight at a mass meeting called to express sympathy with the Boers and opposition to England in consequence of the South African war. Senator Mason of Illinois, Congressman Sulzer, Congressman Cummings of New York and others addressed the meeting. Justice Fitzgerald of the supreme court presided. The entire house was filled. The proscenium boxes and balconies were all decorated with a profusion of American flags, the Green Irish emblems and occasionally the flags of the two South African republics.

Justice Fitzgerald, after calling the meeting to order said: "The great heart of the American people goes out to the people of the Transvaal and the Orange Free State. They are fighting for the same principles. They are against the same sovereign and red coated soldiers that fought us a century ago and would fight us tomorrow, if they dared and thought it would benefit them."
 Congressman Sulzer spoke next. He said: "I am not ashamed to have it known that my sympathy is with the heroic Boers in their resolute endeavor and determined effort to maintain their homes and their independence against the piracy and the tyranny of the British crown. I want to see them win in this contest, because they are right and deserve to win. Their cause is a just one. No one can honestly dispute that. They are defending their home and repelling a remorseless invader. England's attempt to steal their country is an outrage, an act of criminal aggression, and should be condemned by the Christian powers of the world. In my judgment nine-tenths of the American people are against England in this matter and in sympathy with the South African patriots."
 "These brave Boers are fighting for republicanism against monarchy, for democracy against plutocracy; for home rule against the bayonet; for the sovereignty of the individual against the sanctity of the crown; for the love of home against the love of gold; for Saxon freedom against British tyranny; for the integrity of their country against a ruthless invader; for the school house and the church against the army barracks and the military fort; for religious freedom against foreign domination; for the grendle of civilization against the blazing torch of despotism; for free institutions against imperialism, and above all and beyond all they are fighting a battle for the rights of man."

"There never would have been trouble if gold had not been discovered in the land. The rich find of gold there is at the bottom of it all. This conflict should be called Cecil Rhodes' war for gold in South Africa. He is responsible for all the woe, all the sorrow, all the despair, and all the misery this war has caused. I glory in the spirit of grand old Paul Kruger. He is one of the world's great heroes. The ultimatum he issued to England rang around the globe and will live in the world's history. Have we forgotten that Thomas Jefferson issued a similar ultimatum on the 4th of July, 1776 to King George? I know the Declaration of Independence is today as much popular with kings and queens as when it was written, but I am American enough to believe that it is just as true today as it was in 1776 when it sounded the death knell of the divine rights of kings, and proclaimed to all the world a government by consent of the governed. It is too bad the Declaration of Independence is not as popular as it used to be. It seems to be in such disfavor in Washington that the present pro-English secretary of state has locked it up in a safe, and the Anglo



HOUSTON GREETS THE NEW YEAR.

American ambassador to the allied court of St. James makes after-dinner speeches to tipsy lords and dukes and the beauties of imperialism and the ironical friendship of England and America.
 There is no doubt a serious understanding exists today between the White House and Downing Street. I am opposed to an Anglo-American alliance, expressed or implied, especially when its object is the advancement of imperialism, the march of armies, the downfall of republics, the destruction of free institutions, the enslavement of man and the perpetuity of the power of kings. The president should have responded in the great and mighty petition for peace presented to him at the beginning. He should have acted on the findings, the conclusions and the judgment of the Hague peace conference. He could have done so comparatively easily.
 The friends of free institutions should not lose hope. We should not despair even though the White House seems to be enveloped in the atmosphere of an English fog. If the president will not act in the right, if he is really seeking the promotion of civilization over the whole world, if he really wants to bring enlightenment and education to the children of all lands then we should be with him in this war. But if he is selfishly seeking the acquisition of rich territory, if he is seeking to force her flag of empire over a free, liberty loving people, then we must speak out without fear or favor."

Senator Mason reviewed the history of the Dutch people in South Africa and her relations with England. In the course of this he referred to "Lilliputian statesmen who are trying to all the place of the great Gladstone, and who are now seeking to belittle his memory by insinuating that he made him direct the retreatment of the British from the Transvaal after Maribos hill."
 "I think that we as outlookers have the right to say," said Senator Mason, "that it is in that matter Gladstone had a grain of discretion, the events of the last six weeks in South Africa have shown that it was in accordance with sound statesmanship. It may be said by some that the resolutions you pass here tonight are the work of Irishmen. I want to say that I took a battle for liberty has been fought in this continent that the Irishman has not taken part in it. I also want to tell them that the sentiments of these resolutions are not only the sentiments of the Irish in America but they are the sentiments of almost all the people in this country. From every lover of liberty comes the prayer that the republic may live. They tell us that our sympathy with the Boers may interfere with politics in England. If there are any politics in England that interfere with our duty, they had better get out the way. The same rule will apply to this country also. It has been said that we must sympathize with England in this unholy cause because she was our friend in the Spanish war. Even so, we were fighting for liberty. We were fighting to stop the murder of women and children in Cuba and for the fostering of a sister republic. If England was kind enough to keep her greedy hands off during that struggle does it follow that we have sold our birthright and that the eagle must not raise his voice except in honor of the Union?"
 "Public opinion is the conscience of the people. Here is a way to make it feel all over the world, that we have sold our birthright and that the eagle must not raise his voice except in honor of the Union?"
 "Public opinion is the conscience of the people. Here is a way to make it feel all over the world, that we have sold our birthright and that the eagle must not raise his voice except in honor of the Union?"

For Delagoa Bay.
 Berlin, January 1.—It is announced that the German protected cruisers Condor and Schwabe are now on the way to Delagoa bay.

While he was telling how England had gone to all her colonies for help in this war, somebody yelled out in the audience "And she'll go to Ireland for some more."
 "She had some from Ireland and the Boers disposed of them," replied Mr. Cummings, and the Irish in the hall cheered.
 Congressman Cummings blames Ambassador Choate, among others, for the existing situation of affairs, as far as the position of the United States is concerned. The following resolutions were passed with a cheer:
 Whereas, all good American citizens must view with concern the evident conspiracy of English agents, acting in the interests of stock jobbers, mining speculators and company promoters to lead the United States into an entangling alliance with Great Britain, and in an effort to strangle the liberties of the republics of South Africa, which are as precious to them and secured by as good a title as are the liberties of this republic, and
 Whereas, the war now waged by England on the Transvaal republic has for its ostensible object to enforce a demand that the right to vote within the territory of the republic be given to unnaturalized foreign residents, many of them British subjects to whom such privileges are denied by law in their own country and in contravention of a solemn treaty by which Great Britain fully recognized as guaranteed to the South African Republic the right to control its own internal affairs; therefore, be it
 Resolved, that we citizens of New York, in mass-meeting assembled, condemn the action of the British government and the strenuous struggle carried on for generation after generation by the burghers of South Africa to secure the right to rule themselves in their own way as an example worthy of the emancipated farmers whose valor won American freedom, and we recognize that the two sister republics whose citizen soldiers have defeated in a series of pitched battles the veteran legions of England, have thus won a title to independence which all mankind should recognize as valid.
 Resolved, that we protest against the seizure of American food supplies in transit to a neutral territory as an act of inhumanity and a breach of international law the evident purpose of which is to accomplish by the starvation of necessitous combatants a result which the British arms have failed to achieve.
 Resolved, that we deprecate the action of the Dominion of Canada in sending troops to defeat the Boers, and protest against any part of this contest being used as a base of operations for the conquest of a free nation in any part of the world, as a menace to the peace and happiness of the American people.
 Resolved, that we appeal to the heart and conscience of the liberty loving people, descendants of the founders of this

republic and inheritors of Washington's fame and all lovers of liberty throughout the world, to cast aside all personal and selfish considerations, unworthy of freedom to extend the hand of fellowship to the patriots and heroes now so bravely fighting to maintain their liberty and to drive the invader from the soil of their republic and we hail the victories as the happy augury of the establishment of the United States of South Africa."
 Among the vice presidents of the meeting were: N. A. Peynior, governor of Nebraska; George L. Wellington, United States senator from Maryland; John J. McDonough, secretary of state of New York; and the following congressmen: K. K. Polk and Ed. Sleight of Pennsylvania; Daniel Johnston, William F. Klein and John Lamb of Virginia; J. S. Ballou of New Jersey; John McDowell and R. D. Gordon of Ohio; Henry O. Smith of Michigan; Stanard Wilson of South Carolina; Thomas Spight of Mississippi and George A. Purce of Maryland.
 An overflow meeting attended by over 3000 persons was held in Irving Place.

SITUATION IS DISQUIETING.
 Dispatches Do Not Bear Out Official Reports.
 London, January 1.—In the absence of confirmation of the reported sortie from Ladysmith, that story is discredited. No such report view can be taken as the Boer account of the Mafeking sortie seems designed to convey. No word regarding any such movement has yet arrived from British sources and the feeling was expressed in despatches, as it is feared Colonel Baden-Powell's silence indicates that his position is becoming desperate. The dispatches from the front breathe a confident spirit, which is by no means echoed here. The latest Ladysmith advices show that the Boer shelling is becoming deadly, while sickness and hunger must also be telling strongly upon the garrison. The news of the approach of a rebellion among the Dutch colonists and of the attempts of Boers to cut the railway at widely different points is very disquieting as bearing upon the safety of the extended lines of communication.
 All the correspondents are beginning to hint at a forward movement on the part of General Buller, the danger of which is indicated in a dispatch to the Daily Telegraph from Pretoria, receding the unfortunate failure of two reconnaissances. In one case the Boer lines at Colenso were to have been bombarded by night. Mounted men drove the Boer fire and was so close that the naval guns should bombard. This however, the latter failed to do, owing to some misunderstanding and the reconnoitering party was compelled to founder back to camp through the wet and stormy night, marching in mud and water and with the greatest discomfort. According to the same correspondent, a similar fate awaited another reconnaissance in the opposite direction. Two detachments saw the dispatch lost their way in the darkness. They were unable to effect a junction for attack; they stumbled into water holes and were cut off, only to return, demoralized and disappointed in the morning.
 It is roughly estimated that there are 25,000 Boers between Ladysmith and Colenso, some 400 being on the south side of the Tugrah river. At all points the enemy shows ceaseless activity.
 A large number of Americans are said to be finding their way into the Transvaal volunteer regiments being raised in Cape Colony. It is asserted that many Americans are arriving at Delagoa, having been expelled from the Rand because they refused to work the Johannesburg mines for the government.

ROSEBERY SCENES DANGER
 In the Declaration that Foodstuffs is Contaminated.
 (Special to The Post.)
 New York, December 31.—The World's London cable says: "If we can only conquer the Boer republics by making foodstuffs contraband, then I say, as an imperialist, it were better we had never entered upon this war."
 These are words attributed, by trustworthy reports, to Lord Rosebery when discussing the question with an administrator at the Brooks club on Thursday.
 The foodstuff question, which has been studiously ignored by the London press, has suddenly been pushed to the front by Lord Rosebery's letter to the Times.
 That letter was received by the Times on Thursday night, but was only published today. The interval obviously had been employed by the Times to get the opinion of the cabinet's intimates. Therefore the Times editorial intimates that the British government will strive to establish a distinction between foodstuffs for the commissariat and foodstuffs for the sustenance of the non-combatant population in taken to indicate the government's design.
 The Times states that it is expected that

KILLED A CAPTAIN.
 The Boers Have Been Actively Bombarding Ladysmith.
SEVEN LIEUTENANTS WOUNDED
 Plum Pudding and Season's Greetings Have Been Sent
BY THE BOERS IN PLUGGED SHELLS.

General French Reports that the Enemy Has Returned to Colesburg.
BECHUANALAND IS AGAINST THE BRITISH
 Farmers Joining in an Investment of Mafeking, While General Cronje's Men Went South.

London, January 1.—The following telegraph message has been received by way of Weenen from Ladysmith, dated Wednesday, December 27:
 "The Boers are actively bombarding the town. One shell struck the Davos-ships mess tent, killing Captain Dalzell and wounding seven lieutenants, Dent, Twiss, Tringham, Cahyn, Byrne, Scott and Kane."

THE NEXT POPE.
 Leo Designated Him Who Is to Follow.
 Rome, December 31.—It is asserted that the pope, after the recent ceremony of opening the holy door at St. Peter's cathedral, addressed his intimate entourage and said: "I thank Divine Providence for granting me the grace of being able to celebrate this great function, and I wish for my successor a grander and longer reign, to the greater glory of God. My successor will be young, as compared with my own age, and will have time to see many glories of the papacy and the church."
 Later Leo clearly designated Cardinal Girolamo Maria Gotti, prefect of the Congregation of Indulgences and Sacred Relics, as his successor. Cardinal Gotti, the famous Genoese monk, is a man of great piety and modesty. Now about 64 years of age, he has always lived the life of an ascetic and despite the dignity of a prince of the church, he always sleeps in a cell and on a hard mattress.
 A later dispatch from Ladysmith by way of Weenen, dated Friday, December 29, says: "All well. The Boers have been firing plugged shells containing plum pudding and the compliments of the season. They are still fortifying their positions and are evidently determined to make a firm stand."

London, January 1.—The war office publishes the following dated yesterday from the general officer commanding at Capetown: "Methuen's position is unchanged. French reports that the Boers, fearing their communications would be cut by our cavalry, have retired to Colesburg. Hear unofficially from Starbuckroom that a British reconnaissance, seven miles north of Dordrecht, engaged superior forces and was obliged to retire on Dordrecht."
 London, December 31.—The Daily Mail publishes the following from Capetown: Ninety-five per cent of Bechuanaland farmers in the Vrburg district joined the Boers, helping them to loot the stores throughout the country north of Orange River. They also undertook to invest Mafeking while General Cronje's men went south to meet Lord Methuen.
 The government of Bechuanaland is being administered as if the Dutch had been in possession for ages.
 London, December 31.—A dispatch to the Daily Mail from Kimberley, dated Friday, December 22, says: "We have food enough for three months. Fresh fruit and vegetables are obtainable daily from Kenilworth and water is plentiful."

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REGIMENT FROM IOWA.
 Chicago, December 31.—A special to the Times-Herald from Orange City, Iowa, says: An entire regiment of soldiers is said to be on route from the Litch colony in this vicinity county to join the Boers in the Transvaal. The organizers of the force are not attempting to vend the entire body to the seat of war at once, but are content to ship them out three or four at a time by different routes.