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LEADS ALL NORTH CAROLINA DAILIES IN NEWS AND CIRCULATION.

Rebels Fight With Flame OUTBREAK OF FIRE BUGS IN MANILA; BIG PROPERTY LOSSES.

Aguinaldo Issues a Manifesto Declaring That the People Will Perish Rather Than Accept American Dominion

Manila, Feb. 23.-7:50 a. m.-Last night was one of terror to thousands of the inhabitants of Manila, the rebels making good their oft-repeated threats to the extent of burning acres of buildings, wounding an officer and three men by firing through windows during the excitement. At 8 o'clock an incendiary fire occurred in a block of brick buildings occupied by Chinese on the Calle La-coste, in the Santa Cruz district.

A stiff breeze was blowing and the inflammability of the structure caused the blaze to spread with alarming rapidity. The city fire department was helplessly incompetent and the English volunteer brigade from Santa Mesa was summoned and with a modern engine pumping adequate streams from the canal, succeeded after four hours' work, in getting the blaze under control. Meantime the entire block and the greater part of two others across the street were completely gutted.

Hundreds of inhabitants were rendered homeless. The Chinese and natives lined the adjacent streets, while hundreds more, fearing a general conflagration, removed their furniture and other portable goods in every direction, within a radius of a quarter of a mile, when the fire alarm was first given. General Hughes personally superintended the police arrangements. The whole city was thoroughly patrolled and guards were doubled. Every available man was despatched to the region of the fire.

Impediments were placed in the way of the firemen and the hose was cut five times. This resulted in all the natives being driven off the streets, those in the immediate vicinity of the blaze being corralled in vacant lots and guarded until the excitement was over. In many instances the natives were insolent and paid no regard to the orders given them, and the soldiers were compelled to use harsh measures. The butts of their rifles and their bayonets were freely applied.

The danger from live electric light wires necessitated the closing of the circuit in the burning regions; and the only light in certain parts of the city was that furnished by the blaze. Shortly after midnight another big fire was started in the Tondo district where the natives are thickest; and when the firemen and soldiers attempted to work a regular fusillade of rifle and revolver shots were fired from the windows and roofs of the buildings.

The firemen, escorted by soldiers, proceeded to clean out the houses while the fire was unheeded. The Thirtieth Minnesota were reinforced by detachments from the Third infantry, the Second Oregon, the Third artillery and the Tenth Pennsylvania. Bayonets were fixed in almost every street in every direction. The excitement was the most intense excitement.

Captain Robinson of Company C, Thirtieth Minnesota, and three men were wounded. Many timid persons, thinking that the rebels had effected an entrance through the American lines and were advancing into the city, hurried from their hotels and houses, only to be stopped at the first corner by a guard. The sounding of a native bugle call, immediately preceding the firing, led to the story. Thousands of Chinese crossed the bridges and plazas under fire, hurrying with their bundles to the Chinese Consulate. All night long the fire spread through the Tondo district, sweeping away rows of houses and devastating areas of territory. The damage is incalculable. Will daylight punitive measures were decided upon and the Americans, though tired after their sleepless night's work, soon cleared the district of every native after a slight resistance.

MANIFESTO BY AGUINALDO. Hong Kong, Feb. 22.-Aguinaldo has issued a manifesto accepting the situation caused by the "unexpected provocation of the Americans" while lamenting the hostilities which, he says, he "tried to avoid by every means" in his power, "making humiliating concessions, and tolerating insults and outrages of the army of occupation against the people of Manila." He adds that he is prepared to sacrifice everything to maintain the "integrity of the national honor," calls upon all "to witness the good faith and honesty" of his intentions and complains that he has been treated as a rebel "because I defended the national interests instead of becoming the tool of the Americans' preposterous pretensions." "The rebel leader further alleges that the country is unanimously in his support, that the people 'will perish rather than accept the odious American dominion,' and alleges that 'even the corrupt Spanish dominion is preferable.' The Philippine commission is considered by Aguinaldo to be a farce, and Otis, Denby, Dewey and Secretary Harden are classed as "pronounced annexationists," the latter being charged with having "maliciously defamed" the

A MONSTER PETITION. Asking for the Dispensary, Will Arrive From Charlotte Today.

Charlotte, N. C., Feb. 22.-[Special.] The largest petition ever sent by a North Carolina county to the Legislature will be carried to Raleigh tomorrow by one of the largest delegations ever sent to the capital. The petition contains 2,160 names of white voters, and so carefully has the list been secured that a rigid examination of the names shows only five or six doubtful ones or accidentally duplicated. Nearly half the names are from Charlotte township, but some of the county townships sent nearly as many names as there were voters cast for our Senator and Representatives last fall. The people are tremendously in earnest. The delegation leaves on a special train and will arrive at Raleigh at 11 a. m. There was a mass meeting at Davidson today and a delegation came down tonight.

THE WILKES COUNTY BONDS. Bill Filed to Make Them Valid—Judge Goff's Injunction.

Richmond, Va., Feb. 22.-A bill was filed in the United States Court here today by Mr. Charles Price, of North Carolina, representing Coler and Company, of New York, asking for an injunction upon the corporate authorities of Wilkes county, North Carolina, restraining them from disposing of the interest in the bonds issued by the county in aid of the Northwestern Carolina Railway. Circuit Judge Goff granted the injunction and will hear the motion to make it permanent at Asheville in March. This bill is filed to validate the county bonds declared unconstitutional by the Supreme Court of North Carolina some months ago.

PROVES DREYFUS' INNOCENT. And That the Crime for Which He Suffered Never Existed.

Paris, Feb. 22.-The President announces that M. Manau, the Procureur General, will submit his report in the Dreyfus affair next week. The report will ask the Court of Cassation, it is said, to annul the conviction, without ordering a re-trial. If this is correct, it shows that the evidence before the court not only proves Dreyfus innocent, but that the crime for which he was punished never existed, as the French law allows the Court of Cassation to quash a sentence without re-trial only when there is proof that the offense alleged was never perpetrated.

RUDYARD KIPLING ILL. He is Suffering from Inflammation of the Lungs.

New York, Feb. 22.-Rudyard Kipling is seriously ill in this city at the Hotel Grenoble. He is suffering from inflammation of the lungs. His doctors, however, hope that with his strong constitution he will be able to pull through all right. The following bulletin was issued at 2 o'clock this afternoon by his physicians, Doctors Janeway and Dunham: "Mr. Kipling has an inflammation of the right lung. This produces the usual fever. There are at present no complications." Dr. Janeway left Mr. Kipling at 10 o'clock tonight. Dr. Dunham remained with him during the night. At midnight there was no change in Mr. Kipling's condition.

ORLEANS MEDALS SEIZED. Precautions Taken by the Paris Police to Prevent Demonstrations.

Paris, Feb. 22.-The police this morning seized in this city 10,000 medals bearing the head of the Duke of Orleans and five moulds for striking them. The medals are inscribed as follows: "I will only avenge my country's insults, Philippe." "And 'I will replace my country in the first rank of nations with the help of all true Frenchmen.'" In view of possible demonstrations tomorrow, upon the occasion of the funeral of the late President Faure, the Prefect of Police has ordered the seizure of all seditionary emblems, the arrest of their wearers and the dispersal of all street gatherings and the arrest of anybody raising insulting cries against the President, members of Parliament or other State officers.

MRS. HAYS, NEE DAVIS, ELECTED.

Richmond, Va., Feb. 22.-Mrs. Hayes, the only living daughter of President Jefferson Davis, was today elected Honorary Regent of the "Solid South" Room in the Confederate Museum, in her sister, Miss Winnie Davis. Today was an anniversary meeting falling on Washington's birthday, the anniversary of Mr. Davis' inauguration, and third anniversary of the opening of the museum. Mrs. Davis sent the museum 28 medals and four ribbon badges presented to Miss Winnie by Confederate organizations and Mrs. Hayes promised the suit of clothes worn by Mr. Davis when he was captured.

THE KHALIFA IS ON THE MARCH.

London, Feb. 22.-According to a special despatch from Cairo, the disquieting news has been received here that the Khalifa, at the head of greatly augmented forces is marching on the Nile. It was announced on February 20th, from Omdurman, that the Duke and Duchess of Connaught had arrived there on the previous evening, had reviewed the troops, had visited the tomb of the Mahdi, and had inspected the Khalifa's house and gardens and the palace at Khartoum.

DR. DALY ON STAND. His Charges as to Chemicals Not Touched. THIS WILL COME LATER

HE WAS SHOWN HIS EMBALMED BEEF REPORT. HE SAID IT WAS PERFECTLY ACCURATE

Lieutenant Cole Tells of Beef Chemically Prepared as an Experiment. General Eagan Will Appear Before the Court To-day.

Washington, Feb. 22.-To-day's proceedings of the Court of Inquiry investigating the beef controversy developed little that was new. The testimony, with the exception of that of Dr. Daly, surgeon on the staff of General Miles during the war, and of Colonel Woodruff, assistant commissary general, was generally in line with that of yesterday. The canned roast beef was generally condemned as unsatisfactory, while the refrigerated beef was commended, the chief complaint being that it often decomposed en route to camp.

The testimony of representatives of the Subsistence Department was begun, that of Colonel Woodruff, assistant commissary general, being the most notable. He purchased more than 800,000 pounds of canned roast beef and told of the method of purchase and the reasons that prompted it. He took issue with General Miles' contention that beef on the hoof was the usual source of fresh meat supply to the army. Another feature of the day was the introduction of Dr. Daly, who charged before the war commission that refrigerated beef at Chickamauga, Jacksonville, Tampa and in Porto Rico had been treated chemically to preserve it. Examined, however, in regard to the charge, Colonel Davis announced that the contractors who were attacked were entitled to be notified of the examination upon this point that they might have ample time in which to appear should they desire to do so. The law required this, he said. Accordingly Dr. Daly was excused after a partial examination, and will be recalled later. The investigation will proceed to-morrow, when General Eagan, Commissary General, is expected to appear and tell the story of the beef supply as viewed by his Department.

Dr. Daly testified that he remained in Porto Rico five or six days after General Miles departed, being ordered to supervise the careful preparation of the transport Panama for bringing convalescents north in a manner above reproach. This was because there had previously been considerable complaint as to the outfitting of returning transports. He reported that the beef was not on the hoof, and after picking up a load of sick at various points in Porto Rico, sailed on September 5th, and arrived at Fort Monroe September 10th, landing his patients in a greatly improved condition. He reported to Washington, where he is quite ill and was given sick leave. The General was pleased with his work on the Panama, and wished him to remain with her.

While still sick in Pittsburgh, he received orders from General Miles to go on an inspection tour of the new regiments in the South, who were being fitted out for tropical service. This was the trip on which witness became acquainted with the alleged contaminated beef. There were several officers engaged in this inspection. Reports were rendered after the inspection of each camp visited. These reports in the course of regular routine, passed through the hands of the General commanding the army. During this trip he became so ill that he was obliged to return home to Pittsburgh, where, after remaining for some time on sick leave, he tendered his resignation.

In all of this very detailed recital, the question of beef was not once broached by the court, but when Dr. Daly had been chronologically carried through his terms of service and out of the army, the recorder handed him the famous "embalmed beef" report and asked him if he recognized it. Dr. Daly said that he did and it was all right, except perhaps the date, which in the copy was September 21st. He said to the best of his recollection the exact date was October 14th. The date, however, he said, was not essential, the report being genuine, and in the opinion of Dr. Daly, perfectly accurate.

Prior to leaving the stand, Dr. Daly was examined in regard to the Powell experiment with beef preservatives at Tampa. Colonel Davis pointed out that it was merely experimental and no contractor was involved. Dr. Daly said Colonel J. F. Weston called his attention to a quarter of beef which was hanging in the open and he was waiting to see what would happen. Dr. Daly did not recall anything of Colonel Weston's statement indicating the beef was other than a part of the general supply or that it had been treated with a chemical as an experiment. He noticed that flies would not remain on the beef and that no larvae were deposited. Witness finally cut a piece from the beef and later cooked and ate it. After riding horseback he became nauseated. He did not suspect preservatives on the beef, although his taste suggested an experience he had with preservatives on antelope some years before while hunting. Nevertheless, Dr. Daly said, he remarked to no one about the mat-

SENATOR JONES ILL.

Washington, Feb. 22.-Senator Jones, of Arkansas, is confined to his bed with an attack of pseudo angina pectoris, an affection of the lungs. His condition is not considered serious. People would have fewer troubles if they spent less time in talking about them. It's a poor kind of repentance that doesn't insure against a repetition of the offense.

ter. Witness wanted it made plain that Colonel Weston had said nothing about the quarter of beef being experimental, and he had no reason to suspect the Government was conducting an experiment as to the efficiency of any chemical preservative.

Replying to Colonel Davis, witness said he supposed the beef was a part of a consignment from the contractors, supposed to keep seventy-two hours in the sun and perhaps Colonel Weston was merely curious to see if it would stand the test.

Recurring to the test of the beef as suggesting an experience with preserved antelope meat, witness said some years ago while en route to hunting grounds in the West he secured in Chicago what was recommended as a preservative—a white powder. It was used in camp, preserved the meat, but the latter when eaten nauseated him. An analysis divulged the presence of boric and salicylic acids.

In regard to the Tampa experience Dr. Daly said it did not arouse any suspicion, he did not look upon the incident as a government experiment, and did not feel called upon to report or take any official action about it. He gave it little thought then, and, replying to Colonel Gillespie, said he first considered his Tampa experience sufficiently serious to present to the Department when he had experience with contract beef on the Panama. Dr. Daly was then excused.

Captain R. H. Beckham of the Subsistence Department, of volunteers, was also a brigadier commissary of the First brigade of cavalry at Tampa June 16th, 1898. He had no knowledge of any experiments upon beef at Tampa. He accompanied the expedition to Cuba and issued canned roast beef on the voyage and after the landing. On the transport Rio Grande, four quarters of the beef were placed in the hold for the purpose of experiment, though he had no knowledge of any treatment, and knew nothing of its origin. He was instructed to see how long it would keep.

General Sumner gave him instructions to care for and watch it. Some of it was thrown over the second day out and the remainder on the third day out. None of it was eaten by any one. Lieutenant Cole, Sixth cavalry, who was also aboard the Rio Grande which carried General Sumner's headquarters and the four experimental quarters of beef to Cuba was much clearer in his recollection of the beef quarters than Captain Beckham. It was, he said, from some "firm of meat packers" and was sent expressly for experimentation by the soldiers with the knowledge that it had been chemically prepared. The beef lasted only three days, after which it decayed and was thrown overboard. Some of it was cooked before it spoiled. Witness saw the piece cooked but did not eat it. It looked well and the man who tasted it said, "it was all right."

The officers discussed it freely, but none of them knew how the beef had been treated, the process being secret. The beef that spoiled became very offensive and exuded dark, coagulated blood. Lieut. Col. H. H. Humphreys, Twenty Second infantry said canned roast beef was issued to his command in small quantity prior to the surrender of Santiago, but he had heard then no complaints about it. When refrigerated beef was furnished it was at first satisfactory but it spoiled in large quantities and the men finally ceased to care for it. The canned roast beef was then used in a stew, but the men would not eat it. Witness did not know why. He attempted to eat the beef from the can. It did not taste right. It gagged him. He gave it up.

Brigadier General J. F. Kent, who commanded a division in the Santiago campaign, said complaints of canned roast beef came from the men—it seemed nauseated them—but he took no action, considering these complaints unavoidable incidents of the campaign. He understood much of the refrigerated beef spoiled on route from the docks to the troops because of the delay incident to transporting it.

The canned roast beef was tasteless, he declared, and often repulsive in appearance, and apparently had all nutriment extracted. Colonel Woodruff testified that he bought a total of \$2,256,000 worth of supplies in the first six months of the war. All contracts for canned beef contained clauses providing contractors should replace any beef that proved unfit for use without fault of the army officials. Each box contained a certificate of inspection and approval from an official of the Agricultural Department, approving the cattle on hoof and after slaughter. Most of the beef was shipped to Tampa. The entire supply in New York and in the entire country, together with 350,000 pounds bought from Europe, where it had been clipped, was exhausted and the factories, Colonel Woodruff understood, were run night and day to meet the extraordinary demand.

Captain Daniel L. Howell, of the Seventh infantry, said the canned roast beef was not palatable, but he believed was nutritious, and if cooked as a stew would have been satisfactory. The men generally complained about it. The refrigerated beef was good when not spoiled and he had not suspected the use of chemicals.

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A Tax On Dispensaries MUST PAY THE 1 PER CENTUM ON ALL PURCHASES.

A Graduated License Tax is Also Proposed —Jim Crow Car Bill Passes on its Third Reading.

Though it was a holiday, and other people were taking a day off yesterday, there was no rest for the House. In fact it turned out one of the best day's work it has yet accomplished. It got down to its knitting early and stuck to it late, being in session from 10 to 2:30, and from 8 to 10:45.

The Jim Crow Car Bill scored its final run, twenty odd sections of the Revenue Act were adopted and no end of local bills were enacted into laws. But it was last night's session that made the hole in the calendar. Just exactly fifty-two bills were disposed of. Half a dozen of them passed their third reading, and the others were put on their second reading. They will be finally passed to-day or to-night. The morning session was devoted entirely to the two first-named measures—consideration of the Revenue Act and passage of the Jim Crow Car Bill.

The number of new bills and resolutions was the smallest known since the session began. It took but half an hour to dispose of them and receive the report of Standing committees. It was therefore just 10:30 o'clock when, on motion of Mr. Holman, the House resolved itself into Committee of the Whole to resume consideration of the Revenue Act.

MUCH WHISKEY TAX TALK.

The Dispensaries Must Pay 2 Per Cent Purchase Tax. Over the whiskey tax, as applied to dispensaries, the debate was especially hot. The matter came up first in section 24, which provides that "every person

Mr. Robinson—"No, and it ought not to have done so." Mr. Leatherwood—"Why not?" Mr. Robinson—"Because the profits go since whiskey is to be sold anyway that to the school fund. It is nothing in the world but a police regulation of the sale of whiskey with a philanthropic object in view. A community simply decides it will get the profit instead of allowing it to go into the pocket of the bar-keeper."

Mr. Leatherwood—"I'm for the principle of equal rights to all and special privileges to none and if individual bar-keepers are to be taxed, I see no reason why the community, when it goes into the whiskey business should not likewise be compelled to pay a tax." Mr. Robinson—"Do I understand the gentleman to favor taxing the State school fund?" Mr. Leatherwood—"I think it's time to put an end to these special privileges." Mr. Robinson—"A dispensary is simply a local police regulation and taxing it would be like taxing a court."

Mr. Clark—"We up in Mecklenburg county haven't had the pleasure of one of these dispensaries, but if we do I don't see any reason why we shouldn't pay for the privilege." Mr. Winston's amendment was adopted by an overwhelming vote.

PRIVILEGE LIQUOR TAX.

A Proposition to Make Dispensaries Pay That Also. And still the matter wasn't settled, for the liveliest fight was yet to come. And it came when section 34 was struck. This section fixes the license tax on bar-rooms. To this Mr. Winston proposed an amendment imposing a license tax on dispensaries, as follows: On county dispensaries, \$500. On dispensaries in towns of less than 500 inhabitants, \$100. On dispensaries in towns of more than 500 and less than 2,000 inhabitants, \$200. On dispensaries in towns of more than 2,000 and less than 4,000 inhabitants, \$300. On dispensaries in towns of more than 4,000 inhabitants, \$1,000. On township dispensaries, \$300.

Speaking to his amendment Mr. Winston said it was an effort to get back part of the revenue that is being taken from the State by the establishment of dispensaries. Every bar-room closed up, he said, meant a loss to the State of \$100. "In Charlotte there are 18 bar-rooms, and in Greensboro 8. Now the closing of these means a total loss of \$2,600 to the State Treasury. "Where are you going to get money to fill up this hole? The tax rate has not been increased. Suppose it were, the people of the whole State would simply be taxed for the benefit of these towns and counties having dispensaries."

Mr. Boushall opposed the amendment. "I take it," he said, "that the gentleman is not after revenue but after the dispensary. His amendment I consider an effort to accomplish by indirection that which he could not do directly." Mr. Winston—"I'll state for the benefit of the gentleman that it is not my way of doing business, and there's nothing in my life to justify the charge. When I want to do a thing I go directly at it. If I want to defeat a dispensary I do straight out; if I want revenue I go for the money."

Mr. Boushall—"Why then do you strike out the discretionary power given the commissioners and make it mandatory to issue license?" Mr. Winston—"I'll answer that when we come to it." Mr. Boushall—"I'm willing to impose a purchase tax on dispensaries, as provided for in an amendment already adopted, but I'm opposed to a burdensome license tax."

Mr. Ray said he couldn't see any justice in taking the revenue from the State and applying it to the counties. He favored Mr. Winston's amendment. Mr. Robinson was glad to see the Legislature at last coming to its senses. They had violated the will of the people in Cumberland county by refusing to submit the dispensary question to a vote of the people. Mr. Ray—"I signed a nice little document to set the gentleman (Mr. Robinson) right before his people. If he doesn't mind I'll take it back." Mr. Robinson—"I'm willing for my dispensary to pay \$1,200, the amount paid when the town had its twelve bar-rooms, but I'm not willing for it to pay twice as much, as this amendment provides." Mr. Foushee—"Where does the State tax on the bar-rooms now go?" Mr. Thompson, of Onslow—"To the school fund of the county in which it is paid." Mr. Foushee—"What will be the effect of this amendment?" Mr. Thompson—"I'm unable to answer that question." Mr. Foushee—"Do all the profits of (Continued on Second Page.)"



JOHN B. HOLMAN, OF IREDELL. Father of the House and Chairman of the Finance Committee.

who shall buy for the purpose of selling spirituous, vinous or malt liquors, shall, in addition to ad valorem tax on his stock, pay as a license tax 2 per centum on the total amount of his purchase."

Mr. Julian, of Rowan, thought 2 per cent a burdensome tax and amended to make it 1 per cent. He argued that as the law now stood many persons considered the tax too high and so considered it not wrong to evade it. He thought a 1 per cent tax would yield more revenue.

Mr. Holman didn't think so, and wanted to know if it was proposed to carry this principle through the whole bill—the lower the tax the greater the revenue. Mr. Overman favored the amendment. He said 1 per cent was the old Democratic tax, and he considered it sufficient. "Already the whiskey men are complaining that this Legislature is against them. We are establishing dispensaries around over the State and running them out of business and I think we had better reduce this license tax. I hope the amendment will prevail." It did not prevail, however. The vote was 35 for and 33 against. But this had not settled the section. Indeed, it had only prepared it for the following firebrand which Mr. Winston, of Bertie, now tossed into it: "Provided that nothing in this section shall be construed as exempting dispensaries from taxation." This brought Mr. Robinson, of Cumberland, to his feet. "Certainly the gentleman from Bertie doesn't understand the principle on which dispensaries are based," he began. "Has the gentleman from Cumberland any understanding on that question?" retorted Mr. Winston, amid laughter and applause. Mr. Hartsell—"How much profit did your dispensary make last year?" Mr. Robinson—"Four thousand eight hundred dollars." Mr. Gattis—"Did it pay any tax?"