

## Plan to Pension the Employees of the Government

### Clerks to Contribute to a Fund for Retirement on Account of Age or Disability

Washington, Dec. 24.—Special.—Two bills introduced into Congress just before the recess are likely to attract attention before this Congress closes, one that by Mr. Gillett of Massachusetts will affect the whole civil service.

A bill for the retirement of government employees in the classified civil service without cost to the government, as enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled.

That, beginning with the first day of July, nineteen hundred and two, two per centum of the salary of every employee in the classified civil service of the government shall be withheld and shall be deducted from his or her monthly pay, and shall be deposited in the treasury of the United States to the credit of the civil-service retirement fund; and the money so deposited shall constitute a fund which shall be known as the civil-service retirement fund, and which shall be held as a special deposit by the secretary of the treasury to be expended for the retirement of employees in the classified service of the government and for certain expenses in connection therewith; and the said fund shall not be subject to attachment or other legal process.

Sec. 2. That at stated periods, to be fixed by the secretary of the treasury, at least once annually, the unexpended balance of money to the credit of the said civil-service retirement fund, or so much thereof as in the judgment of the secretary of the treasury as will not be required for the purposes of this act during the ensuing period, shall be by him invested in interest-bearing bonds of the United States, which, when so purchased, shall become assets belonging to the said fund as an increment thereof. Provided, That such bonds may be sold whenever it shall become necessary, in the opinion of the secretary of the treasury, to procure funds for the purposes of this act; and the proceeds of such sales shall form part of the cash in the said fund and shall be available for all the purposes of this act.

Sec. 3. That on and after July first, nineteen hundred and five, the employees in the classified service of the government shall be retired from duty as hereinafter provided, and when so retired shall be entitled to receive from the said civil-service retirement fund, in monthly payments, an annual retired payment equal to seventy-five per centum of the average annual pay received during the last five years previous to retirement. Provided, That no retired payment shall exceed the sum of one thousand five hundred dollars per annum.

First. Every person in the classified civil service who shall have been employed in the civil service for a period of ten years, and who shall have become physically or mentally disabled for the performance of his or her ordinary official duty may be retired upon his or her application, or may be compulsorily retired, and when retired shall be entitled to receive from the said fund the retired payment hereinbefore provided. Provided, That the said period of ten years shall be computed from the original employment of such person in the civil service of the government, whether as a classified or unclassified employee, and may include service in one or more departments of the government; and periods of service at different times, with an interval during which such person was not in the service, may be computed together so as to constitute a total service of ten years. And provided further, That in cases of mental disability an application for retirement may be made by the next friend or guardian-of any person who shall be declared non compos mentis.

Second. Every person in the classified civil service who shall attain the age of sixty years and shall have been employed in the civil service for a period of thirty years, may be retired, upon his or her application, and when retired shall be entitled to receive from the said fund the retired payment hereinbefore provided. Provided, That the said period of thirty years shall be computed in the same manner as herein provided for computing the period of ten years in the preceding paragraph.

Third. Every person in the classified civil service who shall attain the age of seventy years and shall have been employed in the civil service thirty-five years shall be compulsorily retired, and when retired shall be entitled to receive from the said fund the retired payment hereinbefore provided. Provided, That the said period of thirty-five years shall be computed in the same manner as herein provided for the period of ten years in the preceding paragraphs next but one.

Sec. 4. That applications for voluntary retirement under the provisions of this act shall be made to the United States Civil Service Commission by the employee seeking such retirement, or by his next friend in his behalf in cases of mental disability, and applications for the compulsory retirement of any employee shall be made to the United States Civil Service Commission by the head of the Executive Department in or under which such employee shall be employed. And the said United States Civil Service Commission is hereby empowered, and it shall be the duty of the

said Commission, to hear and determine all applications for voluntary and compulsory retirement and to make suitable regulations for the filing of such applications and for the keeping of full and accurate records of its action thereon. And the said United States Civil Service Commission shall certify the retirement of each person retired by it under the provisions of this act to the head of the Executive Department in or under which such employee shall be employed, and shall also certify the same to the secretary of the treasury, and such certification shall entitle the person so retired to receive from the said fund the retired payment hereinbefore provided, and the secretary of the treasury shall forthwith cause the name of every such person to be placed upon the retirement roll of the said fund, and shall make monthly payments from the said fund to him or her during the remainder of his or her natural life.

Sec. 5. That the secretary of the treasury shall make all needful regulations for carrying into effect the provisions of this act, and he is hereby authorized to designate an employee of the classified civil service as chief of the retirement bureau, which bureau is hereby established, at a compensation of one thousand eight hundred dollars per annum, and also to designate from the classified civil service such number of clerks, not exceeding three, as may be necessary, in his judgment, to assist the said chief of bureau, at a compensation of one thousand two hundred dollars per annum, the composition of the said chief of bureau and that of his assistants to be paid from the said civil-service retirement fund. And it shall be the duty of the said chief of bureau and his assistants to keep full and accurate records of all retirements which shall be certified to the secretary of the treasury by the Civil Service Commission as hereinbefore provided, and to keep full and accurate accounts of all receipts, investments, reinvestments, and disbursements on account of the said civil-service retirement fund, with proper vouchers for all disbursements; and such accounts shall be audited by the auditor for the treasury department as the monetary accounts of the government are audited by him, and the said chief of bureau of retirement may be designated by the secretary of the treasury as a disbursing agent in connection with the said fund.

Sec. 6. That the United States Civil Service Commission is authorized to employ a clerk from the classified civil service in addition to its present clerical force, whose duty it shall be to record all proceedings of the Commission in connection with retirements under the provisions of this act, whose compensation shall be one thousand two hundred dollars per annum, and shall be payable by the secretary of the treasury from the said civil service retirement fund.

Sec. 7. That all payments and disbursements in connection with retirements under the provisions of this act shall be paid from the said civil-service retirement fund, and in no event shall claims or demands which shall or may arise under the provisions of this act become a charge upon the government, or upon any government funds, or upon any fund, excepting the said civil-service retirement fund. And if the claims and demands upon the said fund shall at any time exceed the funds applicable thereto, such demands shall be declared by the secretary of the treasury to be demands failing for lack of funds and shall not be paid until the said fund shall be augmented as herein originally provided.

Sec. 8. That any employee of the classified civil service who shall be discharged from his or her position before becoming eligible for retirement under the provisions of this act shall have refunded to him or her the amount of pay withheld during his or her term of office. Provided, That if any such discharged person shall afterwards be reinstated in the classified civil service, his or her period of service for purposes of retirement under this act shall be computed from the date of such reinstatement, unless such person shall, within thirty days after reinstatement, return to the civil-service retirement fund, by payment to the secretary of the treasury the amount of money refunded to him or her as pay withheld at the time of such discharge, in which case the former period or periods of service shall also be counted; and if any person shall be removed from office after becoming eligible for retirement and before being retired under the provisions of this act, the right to such retirement shall not be affected by such removal.

Sec. 9. That any employee of the classified civil service who shall have been retired because of physical or mental disability under the provisions of section three of this act shall be eligible for reinstatement in the classified service, in a class not higher than the class from which he or she was retired, and in a grade which does not require a higher grade of examination than that which is required for the grade from which he or she was retired, upon his or her recovery from such physical or mental ailment; and the fact of such recovery shall be ascertained and determined by the United States Civil Service Commission upon the application of such retired employee, and his or her retired pay shall continue until such reinstatement shall be in fact accomplished. Provided, That such reinstatement shall not prevent the future retirement of such employee upon the basis of his or her whole period of active service.

**Universal Alphabet**  
The other bill is that of Mr. Cushman of Washington. It provides that the

president of the United States be, and he is hereby, authorized to invite the nations of the world to join in a conference for the purpose of formulating an alphabet of written and printed characters to represent the elementary sounds of the human voice, which alphabet shall be adapted to the uses of all languages.

Sec. 2. That the said conference shall assemble on October first, nineteen hundred and two, in the city of Washington, the capital of the United States of America, and shall hold its sessions in a room which shall be provided for the purpose by the secretary of state at the expense of the United States.

Sec. 3. That immediately after the passage of this act the president of the United States shall appoint, with the advice and consent of the Senate, eight persons, citizens of the United States, who are distinguished scholars, and who desire to offer their services without pay, who shall be the delegates on the part of the United States in said international conference.

Sec. 4. That the secretary of state shall formulate such regulations as he may deem wise for the guidance of the said delegates on the part of the United States in said international conference.

Sec. 5. That each nation shall be entitled to one delegate for each ten millions of its population. Provided, That each independent nation shall be entitled to at least one delegate to said conference.

Sec. 6. That the sum of five thousand dollars, or such part thereof as may be necessary for the purposes of this act, is hereby appropriated, out of any money in the treasury not otherwise appropriated.

### Submitted to Arbitration

Washington, Dec. 24.—Wm. P. Lord, envoy extraordinary and minister plenipotentiary of the United States to the Argentine Republic, in a communication to the State Department this morning, says that Argentina has withdrawn her demand on Chile for an explanation and has passed the subject over to arbitration. That the arbitration of the difference is to be left to Great Britain is agreeable news to the administration. No danger of any attempt to gain prestige in South America is feared from Great Britain, while in this respect Germany would be under suspicion.

### Successor to Grimsley

Greensboro, N. C., Dec. 24.—Special.—Prof. E. B. Broadhurst, superintendent of Thomasville, Ga., graded schools, has been elected superintendent of Greensboro schools to succeed Prof. G. A. Grimsley, who becomes secretary of the Security Life and Annuity Company. Prof. Broadhurst is a native of Goldsboro and a graduate of the University. He was formerly principal of Lindsay Street school, this city.

### INDIAN AND ALL

#### The Gold Brick Swindle as Practiced in Massachusetts

Springfield, Mass., Dec. 24.—James Blackwell of New York, one of the most expert gold brick men in the country, is now on trial here for swindling Daniel Leonard, a farmer, out of \$5,000. In company with E. L. Smith, also of New York, Blackwell induced Leonard to draw his money out of the bank after assaying the brick which they represented to be of full value. Blackwell wore the costume of a wild Indian. He is a member of a gang that has perpetrated most clever frauds. Smith was released on bail, which he jumped.

### WASHINGTON DUKE GETS A BAD FALL

#### His Right Arm Broken in Consequence of an Attack of Vertigo

Durham, N. C., Dec. 24.—Special.—Late this afternoon Mr. Washington Duke had an attack of vertigo while standing in the Fidelity bank and fell, breaking one bone in his right forearm. Dr. A. G. Carr was quickly summoned and had Mr. Duke moved to his home, after which the broken parts were set. Late tonight the patient was resting as well as could be expected, although he suffered great pain for a short while after he was hurt. Dr. Carr said that his patient was getting along very well and that nothing serious was expected. He said that Mr. Duke had been quite weak recently and while standing in the bank fell to the floor. Still conscious, he caught with his right hand, and the radial bone in the right forearm was broken near the end.

Mr. Duke is now something more than eighty years of age, and his vitality is wonderful. Notwithstanding his extreme age he takes long walks daily, and but recently has showed signs of declining.

### CRIME IN WASHINGTON

#### Superintendent of Police Says the Force is Inadequate

Washington, Dec. 24.—Major Sylvester, superintendent of the police department of the District of Columbia, gave out today a statement in regard to the recent outbreak of crime in the District. He attributes the cause to the inadequacy of the police force. He makes a strong plea for additional men and

the general strengthening of the force. Regarding the recent homicides and other violations of the law in the district he calls attention to the fact that the mystery surrounding most of these cases has been cleared away and the guilty ones placed under arrest, with the exception of one case, that involving the murderous assault upon Mrs. Ada Gilbert Dennis on the morning of December 10. Major Sylvester further considers the causes that made such a series of crime possible and suggests remedies for the exciting conditions.

### Fifty Lives Lost

Liverpool, Dec. 24.—It is feared now that fifty persons lost their lives in the overhead railway accident last night. More than fifteen bodies have been recovered so far. Of these four have been identified.

### Worked Too Hard

Chicago, Dec. 24.—Jas. A. Todd of Newburyport, Mass., largest hardware manufacturer in the United States, committed suicide in his office by asphyxiation. Overwork is believed to have unbalanced his mind.

### Cleveland Improves Slowly

Pittsford, N. J., Dec. 24.—Mrs. Grover Cleveland, in a statement today concerning the health of the former president, said: "While Mr. Cleveland's health is such as to entirely relieve his friends from any apprehension, he is yet far from well and has not been able to leave his room for nearly five weeks."

### Payne's Private Secretary

Milwaukee, Wis., Dec. 24.—Frank H. Whitener, who for ten years has held a confidential place in Henry C. Payne's office, will be the private secretary of the new postmaster general. Mr. and Mrs. Payne will leave for Washington January 7th. They will be accompanied by Miss Louise Jones, a niece of Mrs. Payne.

### The Historian's Beer Bill

New York, Dec. 24.—Judgment for \$36 and costs was rendered today against Edgar Stanton Maclay, the navy yard historian, by Justice Van Wert in the second district municipal court in Williamsburg, in an action brought by the William Umer Brewing Company. It was alleged that in November, 1897, while Maclay was keeper of the Old Field Light House near Port Jefferson, L. I., the brewing company sent him cases of beer on his order. Neither Maclay nor his counsel appeared in court.

### TAKING PRECAUTIONS

#### Signals to Do Duty Where There is No Telegraph

Washington, Dec. 24.—Among the precautions taken by the army in the Philippines to meet such accidents as the Balangiga disaster is an order just issued by General Chaffee to the signal corps as follows: "The chief signal officer of the division will procure and issue to isolated stations upon the coast with which there is no telegraph communication and to which no regular boats ply frequently, the letters D and B of the international code of signals, meaning when the letter D is placed on a half-yard above the letter B 'send immediate assistance.' The letter D is a blue pennant with white spot and B a red swallow tail burgee. Commanders of stations are cautioned to use the signal only when urgently necessary."

### WHY WU TING FANG CANNOT ACCEPT

Washington, Dec. 24.—"Why should I accept the chair of Chinese Language and Literature at the Columbia University, New York, recently endowed by Gen. Horace W. Carpenter?" asked Wu Ting Fang, the Chinese minister, this morning when questioned about the matter. "Has the chair been offered me?" continued Minister Wu. "How can I accept it if it has not been offered to me? Can you tell if you are going to get married and whom you are going to marry? Can you tell how many children you are going to have, and whether you are going to marry the girl you want, or what professions you are going to bring the boys up in? No? Well, then, neither can I tell whether I am going to accept the Chair of Chinese Language and Literature at the Columbia University. Can you tell me if they are going to offer it to me? No? Well, then I can not accept."

### LAWYER LOST HIS MIND

#### Deranged by Severe Strain, He Shot His Client

Birmingham, Ala., Dec. 24.—W. M. Little, former consul to Honduras under President Cleveland, shot and seriously wounded William L. Dodd, president of the Southern Mutual Aid Association, today. Little had been representing Mr. Dodd who is on trial on the charge of using the mails for fraudulent purposes in connection with the Birmingham Deceptive Redemption Company. Little became deranged as the result of mental strain in conducting the case, and he entered Dodd's room, declaring that he (Little) was going to die. A pistol lay on a table and Little seized and emptied every chamber at Dodd and his brother, Jas. L. Dodd. Only one bullet took effect. Dodd will recover.

## Three Suffering Innocents Have Nothing to Hope For

### Friends of Miles, Dewey and Schley Putting Their Heads Together with No Results So Far as Known

Washington, Dec. 24.—Friends of General Miles, Admiral Dewey and Rear Admiral Schley are today discussing the feasibility of a movement in the interest of a vindication of these three officials—Miles, who has been censured for discussing the Schley case, Dewey whose separate verdict in the Schley case was disapproved by the secretary of the navy, and Schley, the applicant for an inquiry in connection with the Santiago campaign. Concerted action on the part of the admirers of these officers is talked of. But little, if anything, can be done during the recess of Congress and at this season of the year; but there is already a movement on foot or will be started soon among the friends of these officers.

The matter is not now in such shape as to enable any one to talk about it with any degree of authority, but despite the influence of the administration to have the Schley matter and all questions bearing upon it dropped, it is still the main topic of conversation in official and private circles at the capital. The intimation is that the friends of Dewey, Miles and Schley will decide upon some plan which will secure a vindication. There have been so many frowns upon the suggestion of a congressional investigation of the Schley case that that seems improbable, but Congress is the only branch of the government to which these officers can, it is said, now look with any hope of obtaining what they desire.

There is nothing in the army regulations making it mandatory upon the President to grant General Miles a court of inquiry in case he should request it. Such matters are left to the discretion of the President. Judging from the ac-

tion already taken by the President in reprimanding General Miles, both officially and personally, there is no reason to believe that he would grant any request of the general for a court of inquiry. The President is extremely cautious that the whole matter be dropped, but if General Miles persists in keeping the subject alive it is ascertained that he will be summarily dealt with and placed upon the retired list. It is within the President's power to take such action without reference to a court of any kind.

On August 5th last, Gen. Miles reached the age of sixty-two years, after which the President may place him on the retired list. It is an open secret in the War Department that the late President McKinley would have retired General Miles had it not been for certain political influences which were friendly to the general's interests. At that time the matter went so far that General Miles was given an opportunity to ask for retirement, which he refused to do. It is said at the War Department that a request for a court of inquiry by General Miles would afford the department a most favorable opportunity to retire him without further remarks.

Both Major General Brooks and Major General Otis will retire within the next year—Otis in February and Brooks in July. Secretary Root, it is said, would be pleased to give these officers the highest possible grade before retiring them, but this would only be possible in case of Lieutenant General Miles' retirement before their age limit. Following these generals, General Corbin is the next ranking general, but army circle gossip says he would stand little chance to be promoted to command of the army under President Roosevelt. The President, it is said, is anxious to promote his friend, General Wood, to the highest position in the army. General Wood is now No. 5 on the list of brigadier generals, but before the end of the year 1902, in case General Miles is retired, he would stand at the top of his present grade.

## Treasury Portfolio Tendered to Gov. Shaw

Washington, Dec. 24.—President Roosevelt announced to several of his visitors this morning that he had offered the treasury portfolio to Governor Leslie M. Shaw of Iowa. Governor Shaw is on his way to Washington and will reach here tomorrow morning. Now that the tender has been made it is thought it presages the retirement of Secretary Wilson. The offer was certainly a surprise to Mr. Wilson, for he said when questioned about it: "With the possible exception of Secretary Root I do not believe a man in the cabinet knew about it."

After the cabinet meeting today Secretary Gage said that if Governor Shaw accepts the place I will make my convenience entirely to suit his. If he is

to take the office January 1, February 1 or March 1, my resignation will be in the president's hands to let him in."

Another cabinet member, speaking of the probability of Governor Shaw's acceptance of the treasury portfolio, said: "I do not believe that Governor Shaw's appointment will disturb Secretary Wilson. I feel sure that the president would not under any circumstances lose him. As for the precedent that is against two men from the same state holding places in the cabinet, I do not believe that will have any force with President Roosevelt. He is a man who cares very little about precedent. If he thought it best for the public good he would appoint all Iowans to the cabinet."

## Maclay the Historian Bounced Out of His Job

Washington, Dec. 24.—President Roosevelt today directed Secretary Long to remove Edgar Stanton Maclay, author of the history of the navy which contains an accusation of cowardice against Rear Admiral Schley from his position as special laborer at the general storekeeper's office in the Brooklyn navy yard. This action was based on a letter from Mr. Maclay declining to comply with the request to tender his resignation.

Admiral Baker mailed the letter to Secretary Long. Mr. Long got it this morning and took it to President Roosevelt. As a result of his talk with the President Secretary Long sent this telegram this evening to Rear Admiral Baker:

"By direction of the President, Edgar S. Maclay is discharged. Notify him."

The letter of Maclay, declining to resign, follows:

New York, Dec. 23, 1901.  
Rear Admiral Baker, Commandant:  
Sir—I have the honor of acknowledging the receipt of your communication of this date in which you forwarded the

following communication from the Honorable Secretary of the Navy:

"I am directed by the President to ask Edward S. Maclay, special laborer, general storekeeper's office, navy yard, New York, to send his resignation."

I respectfully submit that I was regularly appointed to my present position, after having duly passed a clerk's examination in accordance with the requirements of the civil service regulations, and therefore cannot be removed or be compelled to resign without definite charges being made against me, and without having an opportunity to answer these charges. I have been in this office for fifteen months, have been promoted for efficiency, and so far as I know my work has been satisfactory to my superiors. I have violated no rule or regulation of this office, or of the navy yard as far as I am aware.

Such being the case, I feel that it would not only be an injustice to myself to resign under such circumstances but would establish a precedent that virtually concerns thousands of civil service employes national and state.

EDWIN S. STANTON.

### MELLEN WILL RETIRE

#### A Successful Railroad Man Wishes to Avoid Friction

New York, Dec. 24.—Charles S. Mellen has indicated his intention to withdraw from the presidency of the Northern Pacific Railroad Company as soon as the controversy over the acquisition of the Northern Pacific and the Great Northern railroad by the Northern Securities Company has been settled. Mr. Mellen has been successful in building up the traffic of the Northern Pacific Company and it is said that his proposed retirement from the executive headship of that company is contrary to the wishes of J. Pierpont Morgan. There is a well known lack of sympathy between Mr. Hill and Mr. Mellen. Charles W. Bunn, general counsel of the Northern Pacific, is spoken of as President Mellen's successor.

### Salt and Water for Alger

Detroit, Mich., Dec. 24.—Continued absence of alarming symptoms gives General Alger's family and doctors hope that he will pull through. He is eating nothing, the intention being to give his stomach absolute rest for at least 48 hours, and perhaps longer. He is occasionally given a teaspoonful of salt with temperature 99.8 to 100. One of the physicians said: "Every precaution known to the most advanced medical surgery has been taken. Mr. Alger has every chance that modern medical practice can give him."

### A Town Burned Out

Dunlow, W. Va., Dec. 24.—A fire which broke out in the postoffice here last night destroyed almost all of the business section of the town. The loss will reach \$75,000.