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WILL PURCHASE GOODS ABROAD

Taft's Plan for Canal Supplies Is Approved

ROOSEVELT SATISFIED

President Transmits to Congress Letter From Secretary of War and Endorses Plan for Buying in the Markets of the World—What Freed Shows.

(By the Associated Press.) Washington, May 15.—The president today transmitted to congress a letter from Secretary Taft, accompanied by numerous appendices, bearing on the controverted question of the right of the isthmian canal commission to purchase supplies abroad if they can be secured cheaper than in America. The president clearly states that the views expressed by Secretary Taft in the affirmative have his full approval. The letter of Secretary Taft to the president relates to the purchase of dredges for use in the construction of the Panama canal. In this particular case, says Secretary Taft, there were nine bids for the construction of two new goin' section dredges, one to be used at Colon and the other at La Boca on the Pacific side of the isthmus. The lowest two bids were submitted by, first, the Maryland Steel Company of Sparrow Point, Md., at \$724,850, and the second by the Scotch firm of William Simons & Company of Renfrew at \$549,000. The Maryland dredges were to be delivered at Sparrow Point and the Scotch on the Clyde, but the Scotch firm offered to deliver them at Cristobal and LaBoca at an advance on the contract price of \$17,980 for the first, and \$34,020 for the second. Having in mind certain arguments advanced by the Maryland Steel Company in favor of their bids, the secretary says: "The result of these comments seems to be that there is, under any circumstances, a difference in favor of the bid of Simons & Company of about 8 per cent. of the total expenditure. There is no question of the high standing of both bidders, and no doubt that if the bid of either is accepted it will be satisfactorily performed. The exact question now presented is whether, on the sole ground that one bidder is an American manufacturing corporation and the other is Scotch, the isthmian canal commission shall pay to the Maryland company from \$60,000 to \$70,000 more for two steel dredges than the price at which it may buy those dredges from Simons & Company. "In my letter of January 12, 1905, in which I transmitted to you the first report of the isthmian canal commission, I invited your attention to the general policy to be pursued in cases like this. "In the letter referred to the secretary appealed to congress to specifically direct him whether or not he should continue this policy of purchasing in the cheapest market, but he remarks that no action has since been taken. He then briefly reviews the law as it stands bearing on the procurement of supplies under government contract beginning with the appropriation act of 1875, giving preference to American material which he points out applies only to the United States and not to the isthmus. Counting down to the experience of the army in the Philippines the secretary shows that large amounts of meat have been purchased from Australia instead of from the United States because its cost was about one half of that brought from the Pacific coast. "Therefore," says the secretary, "the result of a consideration of general principles of the law and the practice of the government, in the absence of specific direction to the contrary, is that in the construction of the Panama canal in the canal zone on the isthmus, which is outside the tariff wall surrounding the United States, proper, and into which, by virtue of the Hay-Vandell treaty with the republic of Panama, material, supplies and machinery of all kinds for the construction of the canal are to be instructed free from tariff or imports, it is your duty to buy where you can obtain the material, supplies and machinery at the cheapest price, other conditions with respect to quality, prompt delivery, etc., being equal. This view it seems to me is confirmed by the failure of congress to direct any different course on your part, although the matter was brought to its attention more than a year ago, and your view of your duty in the premises, if congress took no further action, was clearly indicated. "I ought to add that, while of course a very large proportion of all the purchases made for the construction of the canal have been from American merchants and manufacturers, some purchases have already been made abroad, and a saving effected in the purchase of comparatively small quantities of cement. In the construction

SENATE GALLERY WAS CROWDED

Tillman Corrects a Printed Statement

THE LODGE AMENDMENT

Providing for Increase of Commission and One From Each Judicial Circuit—Opposed by Hopkins and Endorsed by Martin, Who Commended Proposition to Increase Salaries.

CHILDREN AND THEIR DEFECTS DISCUSSED

(By the Associated Press.) Philadelphia, Pa., May 15.—Children and their defects were again discussed at today's session of the national conference of charities and correction. The subjects included the work of probation officers for dependent and delinquent children; their work before the trial and like matters. Those who took part in the discussion included Mrs. Annie Ramsay, senior probation officer of the juvenile court in this city; Miss Lucy Friday, a probation officer of Baltimore, Md.; Mrs. Martha Patterson, superintendent of the girl's house of refuge, this city; Hastings H. Hart, superintendent of the Illinois Children's Home and Aid Society; Homer Folks, secretary of the New York State Charities Aid Association; and Mrs. E. C. Dudley, Chicago. Mrs. Ramsay emphasized the importance of thorough preliminary investigation of every case that is to come before the court. In this connection she spoke of the power acquired by forming friendly relations with the family and with the child. With a thorough knowledge of the needs of the child and the desires of the parents, Mrs. Ramsay said that the probation officer is in a position to offer facts and suggestions to the judge and possibly present a plan for further action.

AFTER LYNCHING EVIL

Governor of Louisiana Wants it Minimized

In Message to General Assembly He Deals With Subject and Urges a Compulsory Primary Law—Railroad and Insurance Suggestions.

(By the Associated Press.) Baton Rouge, La., May 15.—The Louisiana general assembly convened today. Many important matters are to come before the assembly, among them the curtailment of the executive powers that assessors, school boards and practically all other officers may be elected by the people and the question of submitting a constitutional amendment to enable the issue of between \$8,000,000 and \$10,000,000 additional bonds for the completion of the sewerage, water and drainage system in New Orleans of which \$16,000,000 is now being spent. There is a promise of many bills designed to protect resident policy-holders in life insurance companies. In his message to the legislature Governor Blanchard announced that there can safely be made a reduction in state taxation of from three quarters to a mill and a half and of two mills in parish, municipal and levee taxation. The state rate is now six mills and the maximum of the other ten mills. He favors the passage of a compulsory primary law, minimizing the lynching evil and authority for the railroad commission to put out of commission railroad lines which refuse to improve their road beds, equipment and schedules.

TRAIN ROBBERS TAKEN AFTER A BATTLE

(By the Associated Press.) Vancouver, B. C., May 15.—A dispatch from Kamloops says that the train robbers who held up the Canadian Pacific train last week were captured last night. One man was wounded in a fight with the mounted police. The latter surrounded the bandits and compelled their surrender.

A MYSTERIOUS AFFAIR

Freight Car Burned and Possible Murder

Car Contained Household Goods and Two Horses of Col. S. W. Taylor, Commandant at Fort Worden, Wash.—Soldier in Charge Tells Strange Story.

(By the Associated Press.) Portland, Ore., May 15.—A dispatch to the Oregonian from Pendleton, Ore., gives the account of the mysterious burning of a freight car near Foster, Ore., and the death of two persons, one of whom is thought to have been murdered and the body consumed in the flames. The other was shot by a member of a sheriff's posse under the belief that he was the murderer.

A TELEGRAPHER RUNS AMUCK

Killed One Man and Shot Four More

Believed to be Mentally Unbalanced, He Aggravated His Condition by Drink—Was Night Operator at Chamblee, Near Atlanta—Set Fire to Kitchen.

(By the Associated Press.) Atlanta, Ga., May 15.—James H. Clark, night telegraph operator at Chamblee, twelve miles from here, late yesterday afternoon killed Will J. Cheek of Dunwoody, dangerously wounded S. Purcell and his son, W. S. Purcell, and W. S. Mark, the day operator at Chamblee, and escaped to the woods of DeKalb or Fulton county, where today he is being sought by officers and volunteers. Clark, who is believed to be mentally unbalanced, aggravated his condition yesterday by drinking. Late in the afternoon he went to the home of S. Purcell, with whom he boarded, and demanded admittance. Being refused he broke down a door, set fire to the kitchen and encountered the Purcells, father and son, and Mark. Clark then began firing, first with a revolver and then with a shot gun, seriously wounding each of the three.

ESCAPED TO THE WOODS

SAY HE IS NOT WIGGINS' SLAYER.

(Special to The Evening Times.) Winston-Salem, N. C., May 15.—Solicitor Hammer came here this morning from Salisbury with a white deaf mute who was on the street car when conductor W. A. Wiggins was killed at Salisbury, and a colored woman who conducts a boarding house in Salisbury with whom the negro who shot Mr. Wiggins stopped the night before the crime. Both asserted positively that Chas. Whit, the negro in jail here, was not the right man. Whit will be held here for his father, who lives at Reidsville, to come here and identify.

PROTESTS ARE HEARD

Against Action Regarding Doctrinal Faith

It Is Asserted That Members of General Conference Did Not Understand Purport of Motion, and That the Paper Adopted Is Too Sweeping.

(By the Associated Press.) Birmingham, Ala., May 15.—Protests against all the action of the general conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, yesterday in voting to appoint a committee to draw up a new statement of faith, were heard today immediately upon the opening of the session. W. E. Williams of northwest Texas objected to the action of the conference, and Charles M. Armstrong of Baltimore presented a written protest. In the Armstrong protest it is asserted that members of the conference did not understand the purport of the motion, and that the paper adopted "authorizes the committee to draw up any statement of faith whatsoever and to frame without limitation an expression of doctrinal system which they may deem called for in our duty."

BARN BURNED; NEGRO KILLED.

(Special to The Evening Times.) Tarboro, N. C., May 15.—Last night the barn and stables on one of ex-Sheriff Knight's farms were destroyed by fire, one of the mules was badly burned, all of the corn and fodder was destroyed. The origin of the fire is not known. A colored man near here, while stretching a wire fence, was accidentally struck by a piece of the machinery used for stretching purposes and instantly killed.

FIRE ON STEAMER KEPT IN CONTROL.

(By the Associated Press.) Havana, May 15.—The Ward Line steamer Vigilancia, which was reported from Cape Lookout May 12 to

FATAL MINE EXPLOSION

Five Miners Torn to Pieces at Shenandoah

TWELVE BADLY BURNED

(By the Associated Press.) Shenandoah, Pa., May 15.—Five miners were torn to pieces and twelve badly burned by an explosion of dynamite in the Shenandoah City colliery of the Philadelphia & Reading Coal and Iron Company today. A box of dynamite which a workman was carrying fell from his shoulder and caused the explosion which ignited the mine gas. There were about fifty men at work in the east gangway of the shaft when the explosion occurred, but so far as known all escaped except those working on the first lift. In this part of the shaft not one escaped either death or injury. All who were killed were mutilated beyond recognition. The force of the concussion was terrific. Doors were torn off and brattices wrecked, every section of the mine feeling the effect of the shock. The work of rescue was begun at once under the supervision of Mine Inspectors Lamb and Fenton, Division Superintendent Pollard and all the district superintendents. The absence of the deadly black damp made the work of rescue less hazardous than in accidents of this character. The force of the explosion was felt a great distance from the shaft and friends and relatives of the entombed miners rushed to the mouth of the shaft. So great was the crush that it was necessary to call on the coal and iron police to keep the crowds back. The work of rescue was necessarily slow because of the great distance the rescuers had to travel in the shaft. It was several hours before the last miner was brought to the surface. The injured men who were at work on the lift when the accident occurred were first taken from the shaft and hurried to a hospital. As soon as this was accomplished the rescuers directed their attention to those who were near the bottom of the colliery. All of the killed and injured were foreigners. But little damage was done to the mine.

VERDICT SUSPENDS CRAPSEY 30 DAYS

(By the Associated Press.) Rochester, N. Y., May 15.—The verdict in the heresy trial of Rev. Dr. Algeon S. Crapsey today was delivered to the accused minister. Four of the judges state that in their opinion sentence should be passed as follows: "That the respondent should be suspended from exercising the functions of the church until such time as shall satisfy the ecclesiastical authorities of the diocese that his belief and teaching conform to the doctrines of the apostles' creed and the Nicene creed as this church hath received the same. However, we express the earnest hope and desire that the respondent may see his way clearly during the thirty days that under the canons of the church must intervene before sentence can be pronounced to the full satisfaction of the ecclesiastical authorities of such conformity on his part. (Signed).

ROBBER SELLS' CIRCUS Will be Taken to Tarboro for Trial

(By the Associated Press.) Cleveland, O., May 15.—William T. Spaulth, auditor of the Carl Hagenbeck circus, was arrested here last night charged with the theft of thirty thousand dollars from the ticket wagon of the Forepaugh-Sells Show in October, 1904, while he was treasurer of that enterprise. The robbery, it is alleged, occurred at Tarboro, N. C. The arrest was made by Sheriff Karb and Deputy Phelps of Columbus. Spaulth was seized while at work in the ticket wagon, handcuffed and hustled into a waiting automobile and driven to a railroad station 20 miles away. From there he was taken to Columbus. Extradition papers have been prepared and he will be taken to North Carolina for trial.

CATHOLIC KNIGHTS AND LADIES OF AMERICA.

(By the Associated Press.) Detroit, Mich., May 15.—One hundred and fifty delegates from fifteen states are attending the eighth biennial convention of the Catholic Knights and Ladies of America, which will be in session in this city for three days. It was stated before the opening session today that no radical legislation was anticipated, although there was much important business to be transacted. Appointment of committees and routine business occupied the opening session, which was preceded by mass at St. Peter and Pauls cathedral. President Dennis Kelley of Memphis, Tenn., is presiding over the convention.

THE TRAVELS OF THE TIMES TAGGED DOLLAR.

(The tagged dollar today visited the following merchants and at the hour of going to press is at J. Schwartz's: King-Crowell Drug Co., W. B. Mann, M. Rosenthal, Heller Bros.

GOLDEN JUBILEE AT ST. VINCENT'S HOSPITAL.

(By the Associated Press.) Norfolk, Va., May 15.—The golden anniversary of St. Vincent's Hospital here was begun this morning with a pontifical mass at St. Mary's Catholic church, presided over by Cardinal Gibbons, with Bishop Van De Vyver of Richmond as celebrant. There were in the sanctuary many priests from all parts of Virginia and visiting clergy from Washington, Baltimore, Raleigh, Wilmington, N. C., and other places. The main celebration occurs tonight at a public demonstration, when addresses will be made by Cardinal Gibbons, Dr. V. P. Gilbey of New York, ex-Governor Montague of Virginia and Dr. J. Allison Hodges of Richmond, Virginia.

GAPON'S BODY IS IDENTIFIED.

(By the Associated Press.) St. Petersburg, May 15.—At the inquest on the body of Father Gapon, which was found May 13 in the upper chamber of a lonely villa in the summer suburb of Ozerki, Finland, M. Margolin, the former priest's lawyer, positively identified the body. The autopsy showed that he received a blow on the head, and the theory is that revolutionists were listening in an adjoining room and heard Gapon betray his connection with the government, and that Putenberg, the terrorist leader who is said to have lured Gapon to his death, rushed in, felled him to the floor and afterwards hanged him.

Rhode Island Grounding.

(By the Associated Press.) Norfolk, Va., May 15.—The board of inquiry investigating the recent grounding of the battleship Rhode Island off York Spit resumed its hearing today. Rear Admiral Dickens, president of the board, expects to conclude the hearing this afternoon. The findings will be sent to the navy department for approval.