

TRYING TO SOLVE CHINA'S PROBLEM

Plan of Premier Yuan Regarded With Suspicion

Thought He is Attempting a Shrewd Move—However Premier Has Consent of Imperial Court Members to Abdicate and Will Himself Later Resign—Returned American Delegates Chinese Not Fit to Govern Themselves.

Peking, Dec. 27.—Representative members of the Imperial court have signified to Premier Yuan Shi Kai their willingness to agree to abdication. The court realizes there is no hope for it in the detention of three or four detached sections of the country and the revolutionary provinces, and hopes to obtain better terms by agreeing to the proposed referendum on the question of the form of government.

Yuan realizes that the Republican spokesmen gathered at the peace conference at Shanghai are not likely to accept his proposition for an elected assembly, representing the entire empire. Yuan probably will resign his office after making the best terms possible for the throne.

Thought to Be a Trick.

Tokio, Japan, Dec. 27.—Yuan Shi Kai's proposal to decide the form of government which shall prevail under China's new regime by a convention of the delegates from all over the Empire is regarded as a shrewd move, but opinion is divided as to whether it can be successfully done. Well informed men here believe the Revolutionists are too impatient to wait the outcome of a convention and being aware of the Peking Government's helplessness may insist upon a refusal of Yuan's proposal.

Unfit to Govern Themselves.

Palo Alto, Cal., Dec. 27.—A Republican form of government in China would be an absolute failure and would be a calamity to the Chinese nation, according to Prof. W. G. Bates, of the Imperial University at Tien Tsin, who arrived yesterday at his home here, after being driven out of China as a result of the Revolution. "The people of China are more ignorant than we Americans realize," said Prof. Bates. "Their condition is awful. They are in no condition to govern themselves."

PROMINENT GALVESTON CITIZEN INDICTED

Sterling, Ill., Dec. 27.—Duncan Mackay, one of the largest real estate owners in Galveston, Texas, whose name is linked with the rebuilding of that city after the great storm there, was indicted today by the grand jury on charges of misappropriation of the funds left by his father as part of an estate valued at \$3,000,000.



SECRETARY FISHER

Washington, Dec. 23.—The fifth annual meeting of the American Association for Labor Legislation will be held here Dec. 28-30. Walter L. Fisher, secretary of the interior, will preside during the discussion of the mining industry. Safety and health in mines will be considered and will be discussed by experts.

BUILDING WALL FELL AND ONE KILLED

Philadelphia, Dec. 27.—One man was killed and five injured when a wall of the Ederer Thread Company building collapsed today. Seventy-five men and women were in the building, when the crash came. Many narrowly escaped death.

VALUABLE TIME HAS BEEN LOST

By Mr. Taft on The Wool Tariff

And the People Had to Pay Big Monetary Tribute This Year in Consequence of His Veto Last Summer—Why Roosevelt's Candidacy Was Mentioned is Explained—Was "Big Stick" Held Over Mr. Taft's Head?

Washington, Dec. 27.—An important point in connection with the President's message on the woolen schedule has escaped attention.

It is this: Mr. Taft is giving the people a discourse on wool instead of cheaper woolens. Whether the President's message, which doesn't tell Congress any more about the difference in the cost of production at home and abroad than it knew before, will be accepted by the country as a satisfactory substitute for cheaper and better clothing, which he promised in his pre-election speeches, and was in a position to give but flatly refused by vetoing the Underwood-LaFollette wool bill, remains to be seen.

Here are some facts which will aid the reader to reach a conclusion as to whether the President is now, ever was or ever will be in good faith with the public when it comes to interfering with the profits of the tariff trusts which make big campaign contributions to the Republican party: When the Payne-Aldrich bill was passed Mr. Taft said the woolen schedule of that measure was "indefensible," and that he would like to see it revised and revised downward.

At the extra session of Congress Democrats and progressive Republicans passed a bill reducing the abnormally high tax on woolens in a sincere and patriotic attempt to lighten the burden of taxation to the users of woolens. Had the President signed this bill it would have meant a reduction this winter in the price of woolen clothing of all sorts for men, women and children, also in the prices of blankets and other forms of woolen manufactures needed for warmth by the general public.

But the President vetoed this bill affording the very kind of relief he had declared to be in sympathy with, forcing the American people to continue to pay a subsidy in artificial prices to the wool industry of approximately \$100,000,000 a year.

"I must veto this bill," declared the President, "but after the tariff board reveals the difference in the cost of production at home and abroad I will favor downward revision of the wool schedule."

This report is now in, has been read and analyzed, and found to contain practically nothing more on the subject of difference in the cost of production at home and abroad than the Democratic Ways and Means Committee was in possession of when it framed the Underwood bill.

The joke is on the public again. The people asked for cheaper and better clothing, and all they get, so far as Mr. Taft is concerned, is a nicely worded but useless message; words as a substitute for relief from the extortionate prices exacted by the tariff trusts!

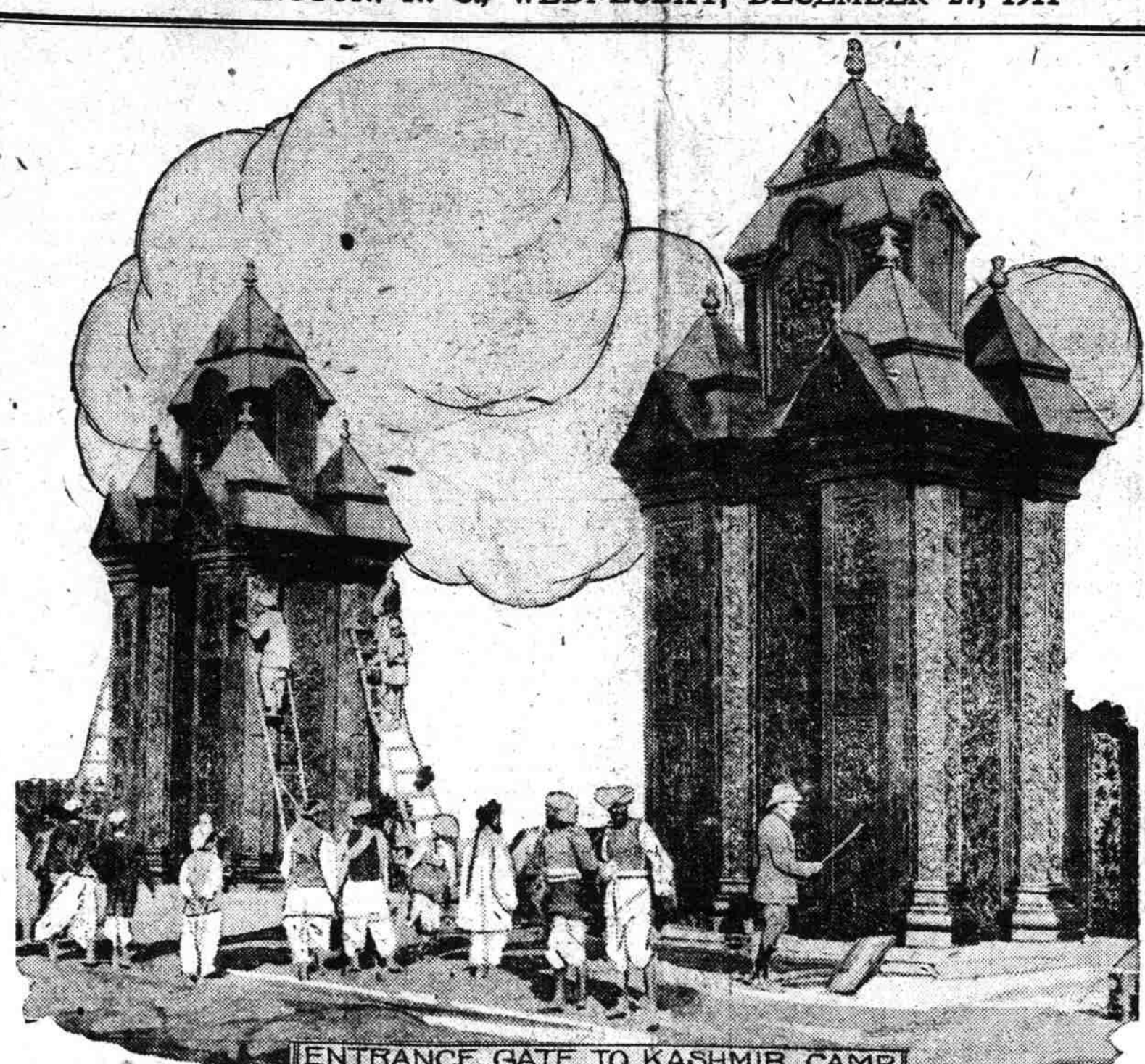
Getting First Hand Facts.

Sixty of the Democratic members of the House of Representatives are utilizing the holiday recess to make a first hand study of conditions in the Panama Canal zone. Inasmuch as the canal is eating up government money at the rate of several thousands of dollars a day the Democrats hold that it is their duty to see, personally, that this money is being wisely and properly spent. The question of fortifying the canal will come up soon, and as this will mean a large additional expenditure, the Democrats propose to know just why and where this money is to be expended. Hence they are taking advantage of the temporary let-up in affairs at Washington to investigate.

Speaker Clark has urged all the Democrats to visit the canal zone at some time, and practically all of them are in line with the announced Democratic program to get to the bottom of every proposition which calls for an expenditure of government money.

Why Roosevelt Was Doomed.

The Roosevelt renomination talk, which was more pronounced during the recent meeting of the Republican National Committee than at any time since the former president's return from Africa, has died down again. And now comes the report that this talk was started by the old guard leaders among the committeemen for the purpose of frightening Mr. Taft into allowing them to have control of the preliminaries of the next Republican convention in Chicago. This control means a big advantage to those who possess it, for with it goes the authority to dictate seating arrangements, admissions, distribution of patronage and committee assignments; in short, it means control of the convention right up to the time



ENTRANCE GATE TO KASHMIR CAMP

Delhi, Dec. 27.—Many of the decorations designed for the durbar will be the first visit of an English King and Queen to India. Among the most important decorations was the entrance gate to Kashmir camp. The pillars of this gate are of walnut carved and figured emblematical of Kashmir architecture. The carving was done by native workmen, and great artistic skill is shown.

LOOKS SIGNIFICANT

Thought That Railroad Will Be Built From Knoxville, Tenn., to Rutherfordton and Other Points in North Carolina—Meeting Tomorrow Expected to Further This Development.

Special to The Dispatch.

Raleigh, N. C., Dec. 27.—That the directors of the North Carolina Transcontinental Construction Company, which owns the South Atlantic Transcontinental Railroad Company's charter, intends pushing the road from Knoxville, Tenn., to Rutherfordton, N. C., and to other points in the State, is inferred from the fact that E. C. Duncan, one of the directors, and a railroad promoter, left today for New York, to attend a meeting. The plans have not been given out, but from railroad activity in the State it is believed the meeting tomorrow will mean further developments.

DYNAMITE OUTRAGE TRIED IN PENNSYLVANIA

Rochester, Penn., Dec. 27.—Twenty-four sticks of dynamite, 12 caps, wrapped in cotton, and ten yards of fuse, packed in a case, were found in the yards of McDonald and Hartman, dealers in contractors' supplies, today. Since the discovery of a quantity of explosives near the railroad bridge across the Ohio River, several months ago, said to have been planted there by agents of the McNamara's, the police have been active.

A Big Surprise Song.

By Jolly Harry Morgan at the Grand Theatre Today.

of balloting.

The Roosevelt talk, according to the best information, did not spring from the friends of the former president, but from his enemies. The plan was, by starting this talk, to discredit and divide the "Insurgents." The plan, with Mr. Taft deserted by all except the Southern postmaster delegates, a deadlock could be forced, which could be broken at the proper time in favor of a compromise candidate acceptable to the old guard leaders.

Seeking a Way Out.

That the men who control the big industrial corporations of the country are convinced that the people are determined to break up these monopolies, and that they are seeking a way to escape this mandate of the people, are among the more important facts brought out by the Senate trust investigating committee.

Louis D. Brandeis, the noted Boston lawyer, told the committee that the statements of Mr. Gary and Mr. Perkins that the trusts were willing to accept a price fixing law, were only apparent concessions. What the magnates want, Mr. Brandeis said, is the passage of the Aldrich monetary scheme, which will insure the continuance of a centralized control of money and credit, on which all business depends. These magnates, the lawyer testified, are bending every effort to gain the enactment of the Aldrich plan into law, and one of their methods, he said, was to blind the people to their real purpose by making them believe the trusts are willing to surrender.

ANOTHER MOVE

Made by the Nationalists in the Duma to Swat the United States—Would Now Exclude All People of Jewish Faith From Russia, as Well as Raise Customs Duty.

St. Petersburg, Russia, Dec. 27.—Supplementary legislative proposal of a prohibitive character has been introduced by the Nationalists in the Duma. It is aimed directly at the United States. According to the proposed enactment's terms, American citizens of Jewish religion will be totally excluded from Russia and customs duty will be raised by one hundred per cent, unless Russia's normal schedule is lower than America's. In that case duty equaling the American duty will be collected.

Boycotting American Machinery.

Washington, Dec. 27.—The movement in Russia to boycott American machinery is growing. The State Department has been so advised.

DOING SETTLEMENT WORK.

Is Former Fiancee of Rev. Rochester, is the Report.

Boston, Mass., Dec. 27.—Miss Violet Edmonds, the heiress who was engaged to marry Rev. C. V. T. Rochester, has left her home to become a settlement worker in New York city. Announcement that she is doing settlement work comes from a close friend of the family.

REPUBLICAN PROGRESSIVES START THEIR CAMPAIGN

Youngstown, O., Dec. 27.—The real battle of the so-called Progressive wing of the Republican party against Taft's renomination starts today with speeches by Senator Robert M. LaFollette in Youngstown and Cleveland.

Old Pullman Employee Dead.

Philadelphia, Dec. 27.—James Martin, superintendent of the Pullman Company, with headquarters in Philadelphia, died today aged 65 years, of paralysis. He was with the Pullman Company for forty years.

MANY INMATES DIE FROM POISONING

Berlin, Dec. 27.—Eighteen inmates of the Berlin Municipal Shelter for the Homeless died during the night from poisoning and others are dying from the same cause. Over four thousand men took refuge in the institution last night and some brought scraps of extra food, consisting in many cases of spoiled smoked herring. This is assigned as the reason of the fatalities.

ATTORNEY STILL ON STAND

Albert Veeder Telling of Packers Previous to 1905.

Chicago, Dec. 27.—Albert H. Veeder, an attorney for Swift & Co., continued his story of the operations of the packers prior to 1905, when the Chicago, meats packers' trial was resumed this morning. Prosecutor Butler expects to conclude the examination of the witness before the day closes.

SLICK THIEVES

Rifle Hardware Establishment in the Capital City—Condition of Youth Injured by Powder Keg Explosion Continues Satisfactory—The Sandlin Case.

Dispatch News Bureau, Raleigh, N. C., Dec. 27.

Sometime yesterday a thief of thieves entered the Hart-Ward hardware store and, after helping themselves to a dozen fine pistols, several pocket knives and some cartridges, carefully closed the rear door, which they forced open, and silently stole away. No clue has been found as to the identity of the rogues.

As stated yesterday, friends of L. M. Sandlin, the Wilmington wife-murderer, might as well abandon all hope of Governor Kitchin's commuting his death sentence to life imprisonment, for there is little likelihood that executive clemency will be extended this prisoner. It is said that physicians who have examined the man in the penitentiary declare he is sane, and the evidence to show insanity, as produced by his relatives and attorneys, is not of a most convincing nature. Governor Kitchin has said nothing about the commutation, nor has he discussed the case, but from what can be learned Sandlin's days on earth are surely numbered.

The condition of the three white boys and the colored boy who were injured Monday as the result of the explosion of a can of gun powder was reported as satisfactory today, though Hester Atwater, the negro boy, may be slightly worse. These boys were injured when Atwater applied a lighted match to a can of powder.

STANDARD OIL JUNIORS STARTED IN TODAY

New York, Dec. 27.—Thirty-five separate companies, formerly composing the Standard Oil Company, today began work as individuals, and the gigantic task of organizing operating forces for separate units of the old oil trust was undertaken. It will take some time to determine whether the dissolution plan will produce the competition that the Government hopes for. According to the independent oil men there has been no change in the situation thus far.

TWO "BACK SCRATCHERS"

React the President as Belated Christmas Presents.

Washington, Dec. 27.—Belated Christmas presents to President Taft in the shape of two "back scratchers," from a Michigan manufacturer, reached the White House today. "Should you have occasion to use them before 1912," said the manufacturer in a letter, "please entertain the happy thought that Michigan is at your back."

LABOR UNION LEADERS READY TO TESTIFY

Los Angeles, Dec. 27.—With labor union leaders ready to testify the Federal Grand Jury members resumed their investigation of the alleged nationwide dynamite conspiracy today. The preliminary hearing of Bert H. Franklin, the detective employed by the McNamara defense, charged with bribing jurors in the McNamara trial, was also resumed.

THOMPSON WITHDRAWS HIS BIG COTTON OFFER

Columbia, S. C., Dec. 27.—Colonel Robert M. Thompson, promoter of the plan to lend the Southern Cotton Growers \$25 per bale on this year's cotton crop, the rest to be paid when the farmer wishes to sell his product, has written the editor of a local paper, the letter stating that owing to the criticism of his scheme he has decided not to press it further now. He hopes the farmers will eventually accept his plan, if adopted. Thompson thinks it would save the South fifty million dollars.

A Big Surprise Song.

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CLOTH MILLS TO SHUT DOWN

Lockout in England Assumes Giant Size

Spinners Decide They Cannot Work Cloth Mills With Looms Idle and So Will Throw Over One Hundred and Fifty Thousand Weavers Out of Employment—Trouble Started Because One Man Refused to Join the Union.

Manchester, Eng., Dec. 27.—Notices have been posted at all mills belonging to members of the Federation of Master Cotton Spinners in the North and Northeast of Lancashire county that the cloth mills will be closed tonight and not reopen until further notice. Weavers, numbering one hundred and sixty thousand, will be locked out. An equal number of spinners will be reduced to half time, with prospect of complete stoppage of work if the trouble be prolonged. The Federation of Master Cotton Spinners decided it was impossible to continue turning out yarn while the looms are idle. They will curtail the production by stopping work on three days in each week, beginning January 1st. A man named Riley and his wife, two non-unionists, whose employment originated the strike in the Helene mill at Accrington, December 20, which led to the lock-out, would not consent to join the Union and thus obviate the lock-out.

RECOLLECTS OF HARD BOYHOOD PROMPTS A \$12,000 XMAS DONATION.

Springfield, O., Dec. 27.—Stirred by recollections of a boyhood spent under unusually hard conditions in an unpromising part of Indiana, where his parents were able to eke out but a bare living, a boyhood that brought an intense longing for toys which other children had but which of necessity were denied him, John W. Bookwalter, a Springfield multi-millionaire, although nearly 4,000 miles away, in Geneva, Switzerland, played Santa Claus for Springfield's poor, including several hundred children.

In sending his check here for \$12,000 for the poor of the city for a happy Christmas, Mr. Bookwalter stipulated that a goodly share of the sum should be spent in the purchase of toys for children who would not be likely otherwise to get them. The committee in charge of the expenditure of the money carried out the donor's plans to the dot, the medium of the Salvation Army, the Associated Charities and other institutions being used to effect the distribution.

Nearly 3,000 poor people of Springfield enjoyed their Christmas dinners through the bounty of Mr. Bookwalter. Between 600 and 800 baskets containing Christmas dainties and substantial were distributed.

LIKELY TWO FATAL ACCIDENTS BEFALL MEN

Special to The Dispatch.

Raleigh, N. C., Dec. 27.—Striking a heavy city wagon, loaded with three thousand pounds of rock, with the force of a catapult, a horse ridden by Walter Tedline fell sprawling to the street today and probably fatally injured the rider.

John Johnson, white and married, of Ridgeway, was struck by a Seaboard train at Manson last night and sustained fractured shoulder-blade, five ribs and jawbone and is in a hospital here in a semi-conscious condition. He will probably die.

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COLD COMING FROM NORTHWEST

Heavy Snows in the Lake States

Bleak Weather Swept Down from the Northwest Since Yesterday and Mercury Takes Big Tumble—In the Far Northwest the Temperature is Far Below Zero.

Chicago, Ill., Dec. 27.—A cold wave sweeping down from the Northwest has reached the Lake region. Since yesterday at noon the temperature fell from forty-one to twenty-two degrees above zero. The Weather Bureau said the mercury would fall ten more degrees before tomorrow. There are heavy snows in Wisconsin and Michigan. In the Canadian Northwest the temperature ranges from two to twenty-six degrees below zero. Reports from Northwestern States in this country show the range is six above to fourteen degrees below zero.

Taft Can "Make Hay" Now.

Pittsburg, Mass., Dec. 27.—Marshall W. Stedman, a rake maker of Tyringham, has made a hand hay rake to be presented to President Taft. It is of ash—the finest that Stedman could find—and has been polished to show the straight grain.

That the rake might have the proper "hang" in the hands of the President Stedman obtained the length of the President's arm and has shaped the rake to fit his reach.

Stedman is of the third generation of rake makers on Hop Brook, the region where the American Indians first taught the white man to make maple sugar.

GOVERNOR TAKES HAND IN HUNT FOR LYNCHERS

Annapolis, Md., Dec. 27.—Governor Crothers has taken a hand in the hunt for the lynchers who put to death King Johnson, alias Davies, the negro taken from the Brooklyn lock-up Christmas morning. Johnson shot and killed Frederick Schwab, a white man, at Fairfield Sunday. The Governor, after a conference with county officials, insisted that the lynchers be brought to justice. The county police is diligently investigating the affair. Efforts to learn the identity of Johnson's slayers thus far have been futile.



CONGRESSMAN HAY

Washington, Dec. 27.—It is apparent that the entire question of reorganizing the army has been reopened and will not be settled without a long series of hearings by the house military affairs committee, of which Representative James Hay, of Virginia, is chairman. The hearings have been discontinued until Jan. 3, when Major General Wood and Mr. Simson, secretary of war, will be heard.

AUGUSTA SEEKS RELIEF FROM FREIGHT RATES

Washington, Dec. 27.—Augusta's Chamber of Commerce has petitioned the Interstate Commerce Commission claiming that the railroads and steamship lines operating along the South Atlantic Coast make rate discrimination against Augusta in favor of Atlanta. The shoe rates from New York to Atlanta are less than to Augusta, although the distance is greater.

Bargains in unrecruited Jewelry, specialty in suit-cases, bags, trunks and musical instruments. Uncle Charles, 16 South Front street.