

A BIG BEEF TRUST.

Gigantic Combination to Control Prices.

PLANS FOR MERGER COMPLETE

Expects to be Ready for Business by April 1—It Will Have a Capital of About \$50,000,000.

Chicago, Special.—The Post says: Plans are practically completed for the merging of the interests of the firms that comprise the so-called beef trust. Unless something unforeseen arises April 1 will see the official announcement of the incorporation of a securities-holding company, which eventually may control the meat trade of the world. Unlike the popular idea of the packers' merger, however, for the time being it is not to embrace everything in sight, nor is it to be capitalized at \$500,000,000, as announced for the United States Packing Company. Further, the plans contemplate no friction with the Federal Courts because of the recent decision by Judge Grosscup against the packing house combination. The nucleus of the great combination of world-wide interests is to be the merger of the smaller independent plants bought last year by the big packers, preparatory to the general merger planned at that time.

"The securities held by the new corporation are those of the G. H. Hammond Packing Company, the Omaha Packing Company, the Anglo-American Power Company, the St. Louis Beef Company, and the United Dressed Beef Company, and possibly several of the outside stock yards now controlled by Chicago interests. Chicago will be the headquarters of the combination, but as far as the public is concerned there will be no immediate change in the ownership of the individual plants under the new regime. It is planned to lead the new securities company with the present officials of the individual companies, instead of the big packers themselves, or those immediately associated with them in the 'Big Six' companies.

"The slate of officials for the securities company has been prepared and is said to contain the names of J. C. Melvin and J. P. Lyman, of the Hammond Company; Frederick Cowan, of the Anglo-American, and F. F. Robbins, of the Omaha Packing Company. Probably the last named will be chairman of the board of directors. It is not known definitely what will be the capital of the securities-holding company, but it is thought the figure will be in excess of the purchase price of the companies to be combined, probably something like \$50,000,000."

NEWS OF THE DAY.

Pointed Paragraphs and Brief News Items.

The jubilee of Pope Leo was celebrated at Rome with brilliant ceremonies, the Pope appearing to be in fine health and spirits.

In the Austrian Reichsrath Herr Saszynski openly charged that Prince Philip of Saxe-Coburg and Gotha is a criminal.

Oil has been found in Dublin, and there are hopes that the boglands of Ireland will produce considerable petroleum.

Emperor William, in his letter on Christianity, declares his belief in two kinds of revelation.

Venezuelan papers complain of the tardiness of the allies in returning ships seized during the blockade.

Mayor Hayes was the principal speaker at the annual banquet of the Maryland Society of New York last night.

Ten persons were burned to death in a fire that destroyed a hotel at Cedar Rapids, Iowa.

New Orleans police "smoked out" and shot a negro desperado who was barricaded in a boarding house.

The Cedric, the largest steamship in the world, reached New York.

Justice W. W. Goodrich made a scathing criticism of Judge Alton B. Parker's candidacy for President at a dinner in Brooklyn, N. Y.

George H. Pell was sentenced to three years and six months' imprisonment for grand larceny in New York.

The coroner's jury in the Reading railroad wreck at Graceland, N. J., found no fault with the engineer, Davis, on the dead end of the express.

John S. Wise says he believes the State will be allowed to regulate suffrage, but those which restrict the negro must have less representation in Congress.

CONGRESSIONAL PROCEEDINGS.

Senators Honor Washington—Speech By Tillman.

Washington, Special.—A large crowd was attracted to the Senate Monday, most of them visiting Daughters of the American Revolution. Washington's farewell address was read by Mr. Dubois, of Idaho. The omnibus public building bill was passed and the post-office appropriation bill was considered without final action. Mr. Tillman spoke for nearly two hours, principally in reply to Mr. Spooner, on the Indianola, Miss., postoffice case. He said that if the policy of the administration in regard to the equality of the negro was carried on and Booker Washington should be appointed to the cabinet, he would vote for his confirmation. He did not conclude his remarks. During the reading of the Washington address, Reed Smoot, Senator-elect from Utah, entered the chamber and took a seat beside Mr. Kerns. The Rawlins resolution calling on the Secretary of War for information concerning court-martial cases in the Philippines was favorably reported by Mr. Lodge and adopted with an amendment limiting the reply to summaries of the records and testimony. Among amendments which was adopted excludes the case of Maj. L. W. T. Waller. Mr. Kerns, of Utah, presented the credentials of Senator-elect Reed Smoot, of Utah, which were read. Mr. Smoot was sitting in the rear of the chamber when the document was read. Mr. Burrows, of Michigan, stated that a protest had been filed with his committee against Mr. Smoot's admission. A House resolution was agreed to for the erection in Washington of the bronze equestrian statues of Count Pulaski and Baron Steuben, of the continental army, and appropriating \$50,000 for Mr. Mason then called up the post-office appropriation bill. Its formal reading was dispensed with and the bill was read off amendment. The statehood amendment was passed over for the time being. Mr. Mason yielded to Mr. Fairbanks, who presented an omnibus public building bill.

Messrs. Daniel and Martin, of Virginia, made an earnest plea for an increased appropriation for a building at Portsmouth. Va. Mr. Martin explained that the amendment was directly in line with the purpose of the bill and asked Mr. Fairbanks why he objected to it. Mr. Fairbanks declared that his reason was that the committee had information that there was a real estate deal or combination to run up the price. Mr. Martin emphatically denied this, on a ye and no vote the amendment was lost, 20 to 34. All other amendments were voted down and the bill was passed.

Consideration of the postoffice appropriation bill was then resumed. The President pro tem. appointed Messrs. Alger and Bacon visitors to the Military Academy. He also appointed Messrs. McComas and Daniel visitors to the Naval Academy.

Mr. Tillman, who had been standing in the aisle endeavoring to get recognition to speak regarding the Indianola, Miss., postoffice case, inquired what was up, if the postoffice appropriation bill went over. Injecting some humor into the proceedings, the President pro tem. replied that he understood "the Senator from South Carolina was coming up on his feet," at which the Senate was convulsed.

Mr. Tillman then said he proposed to surprise his friends and astonish his enemies, if he had any, by using very mild and temperate in what he would say. "If we had known at the beginning of the civil war," said he, "what we know now there would have been no war." He asked why the large majority of law-abiding people of Indianola should be punished because there was a small lawless and brutal element. It was contrary, he said, to the fundamental principles of Anglo-Saxon jurisprudence. Replying to some remarks made by Mr. Spooner in his speech, Mr. Tillman said: "It is not in the dream of the wildest ass that roams over the Southern States with a wax skin on him, that the Federal government is not supreme," but he said there were some cognate propositions which have been ignored. He said that in the South the people have a constant reminder that their ancestors, 35 years ago, were conquered. "We are perpetually reminded," he said, accentuating his words, "that we are in the Union, but not of it, except to pay taxes."

The poison in race conditions in the South, he declared, lay in the referee system which had been adopted. The balance of power, he said, in national Republican conventions was held by the machine of the South and that machine was composed of negroes. When the people of the South, said he, lose patience and do "cruel, bitter, fearful, fiendish and savage things, there is a

howl from men who know nothing and who have never been South of the Potomac, but who have theorized." Continuing, and addressing the Republican side, he said that if this policy of negro equality is carried out and if some of them could be given places in the cabinet, he would vote for them. "I will vote to confirm Booker Washington as Secretary of anything. Let us have a negro, a genuine negro, not a mulatto or hybrid. Then let us make them officers in the army and the navy. Let us give them pro-rata share of all the good jobs wherever they exist without regard to local conditions." He added that nothing of the sort would be done. After speaking for nearly two hours and not concluding, he yielded for an executive session. The postoffice appropriation bill is still before the Senate.

Agreed on Suicide.

New Orleans, Special.—Ella Atkins and Folger Green are in the hospital with three wounds as the result of a compact they entered into to end their lives. The woman died of morphine poisoning. The man stabbed himself twice in the neck and then slashed his wrists. The tragedy occurred in a room in the Victor Hotel, on Bourbon street, where the couple passed as man and wife. The following note was found: "Good bye to all and forgive. Am my worst enemy and go hence to the great beyond through force of circumstances. Notify Miss Atkins, Box 83, Hawesville, Ky., that her sister has at last gone home. (Signed) 'Folger Green and Ella Atkins.'"

Corner Stone Laid.

Galveston, Special.—The corner-stone of the \$1,500,000 sea wall was laid Monday, with imposing ceremonies, and a parade of citizens and marines and officers from the United States battleships at anchor in the harbor. The work on the sea wall has progressed most satisfactorily since last October. It will be three miles in length and give absolute protection to the city even from a stage of water equal to the destructive tidal wave of 1900.

Supreme Court Decisions.

Washington, Special.—In the United States Supreme Court, Justice Holmes delivered an opinion in the case of the United States against the crew and officers of the war vessel Mangrove. The case involved the prize money for the capture of the Spanish steamer Panama, during the Spanish war. The New York, the Indiana and the Wilmington claimed a part of the prize money, but the court held they were not within signalling distance at the time of the capture and therefore were entitled to nothing.

Col. Andrews a Director.

Mobile, Ala., Special.—The annual meeting of the directors of the Mobile & Ohio Railroad here, resulted in the election of A. B. Andrews, C. C. Cuyler, C. W. Butler Duncan, W. W. Finley, Adrian Iselin, Jr., Thomas E. Jevons, A. W. McIntosh, James H. Mason, W. E. Emlen Roosevelt, E. L. Russell, C. Sidney Shepard, Samuel Spencer and A. H. Stevens as directors. The purchase of the Mobile & Bay Shore Railroad was ratified.

Findings of Court Martial.

Manila, By Cable.—General Davis has approved the finding of the court-martial in the case of Major Edwin F. Glenn, of the Fifth Infantry, who was acquitted January 29, of the charge of unlawfully killing prisoners of war, with the qualification that he disapproves of the orders issued by Major Glenn. The general says he recognizes the principle that guides may be impressed and that treacherous guides may be executed, but he adds that Major Glenn's orders show a reckless disregard for human life, which the general condemns and reproves.

Hon. William J. Bryan, interviewed in New York, said he was not a candidate for the Presidency.

Former President Kimball, of the Seventh National Bank, was sentenced in New York to pay a fine, and sentence in the case of Teller Rose was suspended, both having been convicted of the overcertification of checks.

Joseph L. J. Liddy, of Hagerstown, Md., was blown to fragments by a dynamite explosion near York, where he was foreman of a railway construction gang.

The steamer Germanic arrived in New York after the roughest voyage in her history.

John Alsbury, who once ran against Lincoln for the Legislature, died at a poor farm in Illinois.

WERE ALL SURPRISED

Officers of the Army Get Something Unexpected.

THE RETIREMENT OF BRECKINRIDGE

The Enactment of the General Staff Law and His Connection With It—Saved His Corps.

Washington, Special.—The following nominations were sent to the Senate Wednesday: Brigadier General J. C. Breckinridge, inspector general, to be major general, April 11, vice Major General Hughes; Brigadier General M. I. Ludington, quartermaster general, to be retired; Brigadier General James F. Wade, to be major general, vice Ludington, to be retired. These nominations came as a genuine surprise to army officers except those directly concerned.

There is an impression in well-informed military circles that the enactment of the general staff law and General Breckinridge's connection with that legislation were potent factors in bringing about his retirement. General Breckinridge would not have retired under ordinary conditions until January, 1906. General Ludington, however, is three years older than the inspector general and would have retired July 4 next. It was generally supposed that both of those staff officers would retire in their present grade of brigadier generals. In recognition of their long and honorable service, however, the Secretary of War, with the approval of the President, concluded to advance them both to the grade of major general, on the condition that they would retire at once. This was acceptable to both Generals Breckinridge and Ludington. In advocating the creation of the general staff, Secretary Root insisted on the abolishment of the inspector general's Department of the army as no longer necessary, as its duties would be performed by the general staff. This particular feature of the bill drawn by the War Department, was vigorously resisted by General Breckinridge, with the result that the inspector general's department was not disturbed by the bill, as it became a law. It therefore appears that while General Breckinridge saved his corps, he will no longer have the direction of its affairs.

Negro Conference.

Tuskegee, Ala., Special.—The twelfth annual Tuskegee Negro Conference began its sessions at Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute Wednesday. The conference was organized by Principal Booker T. Washington. President Washington, in his opening address, said in part: "From the first it has been the main work of this conference to confine itself to a simple and informal consideration of the methods and means of securing homes, the freeing ourselves from debts, the saving of money, the encouragement of intelligent producers, the payment of taxes and the cultivation of habits of thrift, honesty and virtue, the building of school houses and churches, the securing of education and high Christian character and friendship between the races. Throughout the entire race we must keep alive a feeling of hope and encouragement. We have seen darker days than those through which we now seem to be passing." The conference adopted resolutions setting forth various methods by which the conditions of the colored agriculturist can be improved and concluding with the declaration that "property and peace are dependent upon good relations between the races."

Shiras Resigns.

Washington, Special.—Justice Shiras, of the United States Supreme Court, Wednesday presented to the President his resignation as a member of that tribunal to take effect February 24. Former Secretary of State Wm. R. Day, of Ohio, has been selected as the successor of Mr. Shiras.

LIVE ITEMS OF NEWS.

Many Matters of General Interest in Short Paragraphs.

The Sunny South.

The trial of Arthur L. Bishop, who killed Thos. J. Wilson, of Charlotte, N. C., on December 9th, was begun in the court at that place last week. Bishop's plea is self defence. A lot of sensational testimony has been given.

The cruiser Maryland may be launched at Newport News the same day as the West Virginia, in April.

Cleveland Craig was shot and killed while trying to stop an affray in Browntown, Va.

At The National Capital.

Canned goods manufacturers opened their annual convention in Washington.

Minister Bowen refuses to sign in its present form the German protocol for settlement of the Venezuelan dispute.

The bill appropriating \$1,500,000 for a new Department of Agriculture building was signed by the President.

It is understood the General Board of the navy recommends four first-class battleships and two armored cruisers as the basis of the annual naval increase.

The loss to the Philippine Treasury through the depreciation in the value of silver since January 1, 1902, is placed at \$1,277,941.

The Washington Government does not regard the question of the cession of the Danish West Indies as closed.

In the Senate Mr. E. W. Carmack (Dem., Tenn.) spoke of alleged cruelty of American soldiers in the Philippines, and polygamy was discussed during the Statehood debate.

The House defeated a bill authorizing the Government to advance \$6,000,000 to the District of Columbia, and sent back to conference another regarding the proposed union station.

Speaker Henderson was overruled on his decision that Sunday was a legislative day.

Senator N. W. Aldrich (Rep., R. I.) introduced a bill intended to give greater elasticity to the currency.

The Senate agreed to the House amendments to the Elkins Rebate and Discrimination bill, and the measure now goes to the President.

The House passed the Sundry Civil Appropriation bill and then broke all former records for private pension legislation, passing 325 bills.

It is hinted an effort will be made to pass the Ship Subsidy bill through the House during the closing days of the session.

Representative Charles Dick offered a bill aimed to prevent and to punish hazing at Annapolis.

It is said Secretary Root, Senator Lodge, of Massachusetts, and Senator Turner, of Washington, will constitute the United States Alaskan Boundary Commission.

President Roosevelt signed the Department of Commerce and Labor and the Army General Staff bills.

The new Chinese Minister's suite will consist of 17 expectant or titled officials, and the party will include 12 students.

At The North.

Joseph Battell, a millionaire land owner of Middleburg, Vt., has offered to rebuild the business portion of that town, which was recently destroyed by fire. The proposition of Mr. Battell is to buy the sites of all the buildings burned and to erect on each a fire-proof building.

New York, Special.—Robert Gould Shaw, Jr., and Mrs. Mary Converse, widow of the late C. H. Converse, of Newton, Mass., were married at the North Baptist church this city, by Rev. Chas. E. Nash. Mr. Shaw's first wife, who was Miss Langhorne, was granted a divorce in Virginia a few days ago.

From Across The Sea.

Wildspread floods are causing damage in Scotland.

Pope Leo XIII completed a poem on the means of prolonging life.

The Duke of Tetuan, formerly Spanish Minister of Foreign Affairs, is dead.

M. Pelletan, French Minister of Marine, says there is a spirit of caste in the French Navy, and he is trying to suppress it.

The lawyer of former Crown Princess Louise of Saxony says Mr. Girou has "broken off all relations" with the Princess.

Angry protests against the exclusive use of German words of command in the Austro-Hungarian Army were made in Parliament as Budapest.