DESERET EVENING NEWS WEDNESDAY DECEMBER 16 1908



Special Correspondence.

Washington, Dec. 13 .- Guessing has already commenced as to how changes will be made after March 4 in the diplomatic service. Most people seem to think that, as Judge Taft was so closely identified with the administration and policies of President Roose-velt, he will make comparatively few appointments after he becomes presit, for the first two years at least, the more important posts. With change of an administration at

bassadors and ministers of the United States to tender their resignations to the incoming president, and if he wishes them to remain he is quick to advise them of that fact; otherwise he indicates that he is looking around for a successor to this or that diplo-mat. The general supposition is that Whitelaw Reid, Henry White and Da-vid J. Hill, ambassadors to Great Brit-ain, France and Germany respectively, will be retained by President Taft. There have been some rumors, how-ever, that Mr. Reid, who is not in ro-bust health, will ask to be released, for there is talk here and elsewhere that a new man may be assigned to King Edward's court. Edward's court.

DIPLOMATIC PROMOTIONS.

More actual promotions in the di-plomatic service have been made by the Roosevelt administration than in any other. Dr. Hill, the ambassador to Germany, was for some years assistant secretary of the state de-partment before he was appointed minister to The Netherlands and sub-Washington the custom is for the am- | minister to The Netherlands and sub-

sequently placed at the head of our embassy at Berlin. Henry White, ambassudor to France, was for many years first secretary of the legation, and the embassy later, at London. He is perhaps the most thoroughly train-ed man in the diplomatic service. William W. Rockhill, minister at Pekin, is considered by long odds the most valuable man in the service in the orient. He was for many years an official of the state department and was minister to Greece and the Balkan states before going to China. Irving B. Dudley and William C. Fox, ambassador to Brazil and minis-ter to Ecuador respectively, are re-garded as the most skilled and ex-perlenced diplomats we have in the South American countries. In 1897 Judge Dudley was appointed by the late President MetKilley minister to Peru and he remained continuously at Lime until promoted and trans-ferred to Rio de Janeiro. Minister Fox was nearly 20 years in the con-sular service and just before his ap-pointment as minister at Quito was head of the bureau of American re-publics. STOLE A MARCH.

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publics STOLE A MARCH.

STOLE A MARCH. Judge Dudley's original selection for the diplomatic service was a joit and surprise for the California delegation in Congress. He was living at the time in San Diego, having been a resident of that Pacific slope city for only a few years. His first fancy was the Hawaiian mission, for Queen Lil had not then been deposed. That position chanced to be given to ano-ther. Later Judge Dudley was of-fered and accepted the Peruvian mis-sion. None of the California dele-gation had indorsed him, and they were much wrought up when this desirable berth was credited to their state. Judge Dudley did not mean to be rude and ignore the congress-men from California, but he wanted to get into the diplomatic service very badly. Judge Dudley is an Ohio man by berth and rearing and when a young man was a teacher for Sona young man was a teacher for Senator Hanna's children.

THE REASON WHY.

THE REASON WHY. Some Democrats from Missouri who have visited the capital since the elec-tion have been questioned minutely as to why their state, which used to be so reliably Democratic, has gone Re-publican in the last two presidential contests. "That's easy enough to ex-plain." said one man, and most of the others corrobrate the explanalton, "for from 130,000 to 150,000 people who formerly lived in Missouri have within the past six years moved to Okalohama. Nine-tenths of those vot-ers who left Missouri were Democrats. The new people who have settled in Missouri within the same period were mostly Republicans." RIVER AND HARBOR BILL RIVER AND HARBOR BILL.

At the present session of Congress it At the present session of Congress It is understood that a general river and harbor bill will be passed. No measure of this sort was put through last ses-sion, but in the sundry civil bill appro-priations running well up into the mil-lions were made for the projects un-der way, which are known as con-tinuing contracts.

A GREAT TRAVELER.

John A. Fox, one of the delegates from Arkansas to the national rivers and harbors congress, is such an en-thusiastic advocate of the proper im-provement of the waterways of the country that during the past year he has visited most of the states of the Union and traveled something like 50,-000 miles in order to arouse interest in the subject. This is more than dou-ble the traveling done by William J. ble the traveling done by William J. Bryan in his first contest for the pres-idency, and at that time it was con-sidered that Mr. Bryon had covered a considerable extent of territory.

WEATHER REPORT

Judging from the rapidly falling barneter today there is a big storm in prospect. The high area that was pushthis way yesterday, from Francisco passed to the northeast and over the low area that dropped down to this latitude to unite with the low area pressing up from the south. Twothirds of the United States are now under a low barometer, with snow indications for tonight and tomorrow. The storm has further developed over

river is flowing directly under the draw span of the iron mountain railroad bridge which will have the effect in all probability of causing the secretary of war to change his orders that the com-peny must change the span to the east end of the bridge.

FIFTEEN PERSONS KILLED ON A FRENCH RAILROAD

Pouch Tunnel between here and Bris.

PLATT WILL PUBLISH HIS RECOLLECTIONS

Limoges, Dec. 16.—A collision be-tween a freight and passenger train here today resulted in the death of 15 persons and the injury of others. Fire

broke out after the collision and most of the victims, including the engineer of the passenger train, were pinned be-neath the wreckage and burned to death. The collision occurred in the Bauel Turned between burne of a Brie One of America's Most Famous Writers

At the bedside at the time of Mr. Mitchel's death were his sons, Harold of New London and Walter of Newark, and his daughters, Mrs. Walter Hart of Ryc, N. Y., Mrs. Mason Hoppin and the Misses Elizabeth, Bessle and Har-riet Mitchell, all of New Haven. Dies in a New Haven Suburb. New Haven, Gunn., Dec. 15 .- Donald Grant Mitcheil, 84 years old, the well known author, who wrote under the nom de plume "Ik Markel," died at his

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The storm has further developed over the plateau, and it is central over west-ern Colorado this morning, causing rain or snow over portions of Utah, Colorado, Arizona, New Mexico, California, Idaho, Oregon, Montana, Kansas, Nebraska, the Dakotas, Minnesota and Missouri. An-other disturbance is moving off the north Atlantic coast. Over central Can-ada, lake region and Ohio valley the barometric is high. Light frost is re-ported at Los Angeles. The tempera-ture changes are slight, with no zero temperatures at time of report. The minimum mercury is moderately high so the snow continues wet and there is a good deal of slush on the streets. The street car management has the six big sweepers out, covering all the lines so that there has been no de-lays in travel. The fall of snow in the mountains is heavy, making snow slides more than possibilities. Up to date the telegraph and telephone companies have suffered no special inconvenience; but as the storm continues there are probabilities of trouble. METEOROLOGICAL REPORT.

METEOROLOGICAL REPORT. METEOROLOGICAL REPORT. Record at the olcal office, United states weather bureau, for 24 hours ending at 6 a, m. today: Temperature at 6 a. m., 24; maximum, 33; minimum, 24; mean, 28, which is 4 degrees below normal. Total excess since the first of the month, 20 de-grees; total deficiency since Jan. 1, 534 degrees, recipitation at 6 a, m., trace; total precipitation since the first of the month. .09 inch. which is .50 inch below normal. Total excess since Jan. 1, 5.11 inches. Relative humidity, 65 per cent. TODAY'S TEMPERATUES

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6 a m..... a.m. YESTERDAY'S RECORD.

A NIGHT RIDER OUTRAGE.

Penrod, Ky., Dec. 15 .- The tobacco factory of Lewis Kirkpatrick and 5,000 pounds of tobacco owned by the H. N. Martin company of Louisville were destroyed by fire, presumably started by nightriders, carly today.

PINE BLUFF'S LOSS IS FORT SMITH'S GAIN

Forth Smith, Ark., Dec. 16 .- While the city of Pine Bluffs has been damaged to the extent of hundreds of thousands of dollars by the recent over-flowing waters of the Arkansas river, Fort Smith has benefitted by thou-sands of dollars. The current of the



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