

28 PAGES

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Business Firms Address the News.

A Protest Against Prohibition, and the Paper's Reply to the Protest.

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JAPANESE SHOW NO EXCITEMENT

**ATLANTIC FLEET LEAVES GIBRALTAR**

Bands Played "Home, Sweet Home" as Battleships Started on the Last Lap.

**DOUBLE COLUMN FORMATION.**

Way in Which Vessels Got Out of Narrow War Basin Challenged Admiralty.

Difficult Operation Perfectly Executed—Weather Conditions Perfect—Voyage by Southern Route.

Gibraltar, Feb. 6.—With the bands on board playing "Home, Sweet Home" the American fleet of 16 battleships under Rear Admiral Sperry left Gibraltar at 11 o'clock this morning for Hampton Roads on the last lap of its famous around-the-world cruise of 42,000 miles. One hour later the vessels were clear of the land and steaming westward in double column formation at a speed of 10 knots an hour. They will follow the southern route to Hampton Roads, a distance of 2,400 miles, and about 1,000 miles off the American coast they will be met and escorted home by the third squadron of the Atlantic fleet under Rear Admiral Arnold.

The weather conditions at the time of departure were glorious. The sky was without a cloud and there was just enough breeze to curl the crests of the sun-flooded waves. Nothing could have surpassed the beauty of the marine picture as the American armada weighed anchor from under the shadows of the towering rock of Gibraltar and moved out in to the strait.

**CHALLENGED ADMIRALTY**

The difficult operation of getting the 16 battleships out of the narrow war basin of the port and under way was accomplished with a skill and perfection of maneuvering and detail which won the admiration of all the foreign naval men who witnessed the proceedings. Critically from land and sea, Admiral Sperry directed the whole operation from the center bridge of the Connecticut. At half past 8 o'clock the signal to unmoor was given and the great chains holding the ships to the piers were loosened one by one until the vessels were held to their anchorages by but a single strain. At 9:30 a system of multi-colored signals on the flagship communicated the order to get under way to the Georgia, the Nebraska, the New Jersey, the Rhode Island and the Virginia, lying at the rear of the basin. As the flag came fluttering down five minutes later the designated battleships cast off their last lines and, like freed Leviathans seeking to escape their slowly swung net, moved in the direction of the broad Atlantic breakwater. Twisting and turning to the clanging of engine gongs they crept out, the Georgia leading the way with the Connecticut, Commander George W. Kilne on the bridge.

Once outside Rear Admiral Wainwright's division fell into formation and waited for the second and third groups. The second group consisted of the Vermont, proudly flying the "battle ensign," together with the Minnesota, Kentucky, Ohio and Kansas, and the third was composed of the Wisconsin, Kansas, Louisiana, Missouri and Illinois.

The American battleship fleet composed of 16 warships is now on its last lap of its famous cruise round the world. It left Hampton Roads Dec. 16, 1907, and when it again anchors in the harbor of Gibraltar, it will have been one year and 68 days. No account has marked the progress of the great armed fleet that has ever made such a long voyage. The cruise has been in every respect an unqualified success.

The trip has been watched with the greatest interest by all foreign powers, wherever the vessels called. South America, Australia, Japan, China, Ceylon, Egypt and the ports of the Mediterranean, the officers and men have been given hearty official and private welcome.

The fleet left Hampton Roads under Admiral Robley D. Evans, who conducted it as far as San Francisco. Rear Admiral Charles M. Thomas then took command, but he was succeeded May 15 by Rear Admiral Sperry, who brought the vessels home.

Part of the Atlantic fleet, consisting of the battleships Maine, Mississippi, New Hampshire and Idaho and the scout cruisers Chester and Birmingham and Salem, will meet Admiral Sperry's fleet in the Atlantic about a thousand miles from the coast and then, with Admiral's ships as an escort, the world-touring vessels will proceed toward Hampton Roads, where they will be received by President Roosevelt on Washington's birthday.

**GERMAN RIVERS ARE STILL RISING**

Waters of the Elbe, the Main, the Rhine and Oder Continue To Swell.

**HURRICANE IN RHINE VALLEY**

Dike Commission Will Take Measures To Strengthen Dikes—Much Loss of Life.

Berlin, Feb. 6.—Many cases of loss of life continue to be reported from various parts of Germany as a result of the floods. The waters of the smaller streams are now subsiding but the larger rivers like the Elbe, the Main, the Rhine and the Oder still are rising. The lower sections of Frankfurt-on-the-Main are flooded. A terrible hurricane raged in the Rhine valley last night and demolished the Wiesbaden machinery hall and other buildings in course of erection for an exhibition this summer. The heavy rains along the Rhine valley, however, ceased early this morning and today the confluence of the Rhine are falling and the immense havoc wrought in many towns is becoming visible. The dike commission yesterday decided to take measures to strengthen the Rhine dikes. The Danube still is rising at Regensburg. Several villages are threatened with partial destruction. The Elbe is carrying down great masses of ice and the Oder is rising rapidly and many barges are frozen into the ice several weeks ago are threatened with destruction.

**DISMISSED IN DISGRACE.**

Chen Pi, President of the Chinese Board of Communications.

Peking, Feb. 6.—Chen Pi, president of the board of communications and three under secretaries of the board were today dismissed in disgrace.

Recent dispatches from Peking set forth that Chen Pi had been impeached on charges of corruption. The recent failure of the board of communications to float a domestic loan of \$5,000,000 for the purpose of paying the shareholders of the National Telegraph system embarrassed the government seriously and Chen Pi in December began negotiations with British, French, German and Japanese bankers for this money. The terms imposed were described as humiliating to the central government.

Chen Pi is the second high official to be dismissed from office since the death of the emperor and dowager-empress of China last November. His dismissal follows that of Yuan Shi Kai, a member of the grand council, by about five weeks.

Chen Pi is a native of Fokien. He is a metropolitan graduate of 1877, and he has held various public offices, including the governorship of Peking, since 1901.

**HOUSE REFUSES TO REPEAL BANKRUPTCY LAW**

Washington, Feb. 6.—By a vote of 111 to 102 the house today refused to repeal the national bankruptcy law.

**WANT TO PASS CENSUS BILL OVER THE VETO**

Washington, Feb. 6.—An attempt will be made in the house, according to the plan of the majority, to pass the census bill over the veto of the president. The action on the veto will be postponed probably until an opportune time next week.

**COMBINATION IN IDAHO LEGISLATURE**

Between Republicans and Democrats To Prevent Creating of New Counties.

(Special to the "News.")

Boise, Idaho, Feb. 6.—A combination so sweeping in extent as to affect practically every part of the state has been formed in the legislature. It includes Republicans and Democrats of both houses. 39 signatures among the representatives alone, having been secured, to bind that body together. The design of this coalition of forces is to prevent the creation of any new counties and to leave the educational institutions of the state in their present status. For the past two weeks the formation of the combination has been in progress and if the efforts of the coalition are successful, the legislature will be in full operation.

The trial of H. E. Neal, charged with forgery in connection with the capital bank failure, has been postponed today by the action of the legislature. In stating the case for the state, County Atty. Koelsch, said: "We will show that the defendant uttered and signed a note of R. P. Cook in the sum of \$5,000 and that this note was unknown to Cook. Cook never received a cent of credit, but Neal received the credit and took up a note of his own in similar amount which was held by bank." It was brought out that Neal was in full control at the bank. It is alleged that his shortage in accounts aggregated \$70,000.

**IDAHO RURAL ROUTES.**

(Special to the "News.")

Washington, D. C., Feb. 6.—Idaho: Rural routes established to commence April 1.—Aron, Latah county, route 1, serving 15 families; Twin Falls, Twin Falls county, route 2, serving 135 families.

**Business Firms Address the News.**

A Protest Against Prohibition, and the Paper's Reply to the Protest.

Friday, several gentlemen interested in various business houses of the city, circulated the letter printed below addressed to the manager of the Deseret News. The signatures printed, were obtained by the committee; other firms solicited, declined to sign the document. The letter and the reply speak for themselves.

H. G. Whitney, Esq., Manager of the Deseret News, Salt Lake City, Utah:

Dear Sir—The undersigned, business men of Salt Lake, patrons of your paper, respectfully protest against the attempt of the "News" to force the legislature of Utah to enact a prohibition law in this state. We believe prohibition in Utah at this time would greatly damage the business interests of Salt Lake, and will necessarily reduce the amount that can be spent for advertising purposes.

We confidently believe the enactment and enforcement of a prohibition law in Utah now would reduce the commercial business of the city 25 to 30 per cent; that it would increase illicit traffic in liquor, and will not improve the moral condition of Salt Lake, nor of any portion of the State of Utah.

We are not opposed to high license and the strict enforcement of the law.

Yours very respectfully,

Freed Furniture Co., Walker Bros. Dry Goods Co., A. H. Crabbe & Co., J. P. Gardner, Salt Lake Hardware Co., Houston Real Estate Co., Keith-O'Brien Co., Davis Bros. Co., Sigel Clothing Co., Geo. Moffat & Co., Peterson Real Estate & Inv. Co., Utah Implement Co., Howe & Kelly, Hammerberg Coal Co., Auerbach & Bro., L. & A. Cohn, Greenwald Furniture Co., Gray Brothers, I. N. L. Furniture Co., National Bank of the Republic, W. S. McCormick, Telluride Realty Co., Walker Bros. Bank, Carstensen & Anson Co., Paria Millinery Co., Messrs. Freed Furniture Co., Walker Brothers Dry Goods Co., A. H. Crabbe & Co., and others:

Gentlemen—We are in receipt of your communication in reference to the question of prohibition now before the Utah legislature. We disclaim any intention of "attempting to force" the legislature to enact this or any other measure. Our columns have been, and are, open to all who desire to discuss prohibition, whether their views agreed with ours or not. We have endeavored to show the members of the

**PUNISHMENT OF CAPT. QUALTROUGH**

To be Suspended from Duty for Six Months and to Lose Ten Numbers in Rank.

**HE HAS BEEN ORDERED HOME**

Court-Martial Found Him Guilty of Being Intoxicated While on Duty and of Prejudicial Conduct.

Gibraltar, Feb. 6.—Capt. Edward F. Qualtrough of the battleship Georgia, having been found guilty by court-martial of being intoxicated while on duty and of conduct prejudicial to the good of the navy, has been suspended from duty for six months, with an additional punishment of the loss of 10 numbers in rank. Rear Admiral Sperry, commander-in-chief of the Atlantic battleship fleet, which started on its homeward voyage today, has approved the findings of the court-martial, but the secretary of the navy must take official action on the recommendation for loss of numbers.

Capt. Qualtrough has been detached from the fleet and ordered home. He will go as a passenger on the Georgia, Lieut. Commander George W. Kilne, who was placed in command of the Georgia, will continue in command on the homeward journey.

**BATTLESHIP LAUNCHED.**

Newport News, Va., Feb. 6.—A great battleship Delaware was successfully launched from the yards of her builders, the Newport News Shipbuilding & Dry Dock company today. The launching was witnessed by 8,000 people.

**PROPOSED "MILL" OFF.**

San Francisco, Feb. 6.—The proposed fight between Packer McFarland of Chicago, and Lew Powell, lightweight, which was to have taken place at Coffroth's Mission street arena on Washington's birthday, has been cancelled. McFarland has been matched to meet Dick Hyland in a twenty-round contest on the same date, in lieu of the Powell fight. The battle will begin at 2:30 p. m. and the men will weigh in at 135 pounds at 8 o'clock on the morning of the contest.

Jimmy Regan and Monte Attell, bantam weights, will fight a twenty-round preliminary to the McFarland-Hyland event.

**CHICAGO AUTOMOBILE SHOW.**

Chicago, Feb. 6.—Machines valued at more than \$2,000,000 representing the exhibits of 35 different makes are shown at the automobile show which opened for seven days at the Coliseum today. The exhibition is said to be the largest ever held in the west.

**FLEET LEAVES GIBRALTAR.**

Gibraltar, Feb. 6.—The American battleship fleet began preparations for getting under way at 9 o'clock this morning and at 11 o'clock the ships steamed away, homeward bound for Hampton Roads, where they are due to arrive on Feb. 22.

**SMALL POX INCREASING.**

Twenty-Six Cases Reported to Board of Health This Week.

The vital statistics furnished by the city board of health show that during the week ending last night there were filed for record 26 births, of which 20 were males and 6 were females. Of the deaths occurring during the same period 20 were males, 1 female, total 21. Six bodies were shipped here for burial. Again the number of contagious and infectious diseases reached alarming proportions, there having been a total of 36 for the week. Of these 26 were cases of smallpox, 10 acute fever, 15 whooping cough, two diphtheria, three measles, one pneumonia, four chickenpox and two scarlet fever. (Business now under quarantine for smallpox number 22, while there are 26 cases at the isolation hospital. Several fever cases under quarantine.)

**EQUALITY WITH OTHER FOREIGNERS**

Is Demand of Japanese in United States, or Good and Sufficient Reason Why Not.

**TUNING UP FOR TARIFF TINKERING**

Majority Members of House Ways and Means Committee Busy Preparing Bill.

**DEMOCRATS ARE NOT IDLE.**

Are Preparing Themselves for Fight on the Floor—No Minority Measure Likely.

Washington, Feb. 6.—While the majority members of the house committee on ways and means are busily engaged with the preparation of the new tariff bill, the Democrats of the committee are losing no opportunity to prepare themselves for the fight which is expected to take place on the floor of the house when the bill is introduced. It is not considered likely that a minority bill will be introduced. At the time the Dingley tariff bill was under consideration in 1897, five days were allowed for general debate and two days for the consideration of the bill under the five-minute rule for the offering of amendments.

The result was that the chemical scale, one of comparatively little interest, was the only one that had been considered by the time the two days for offering amendments had been used up. The important schedules and items of the bill were never reached.

A number of the insurgents and several members of the majority, who have reason to believe that their particular desires will not be gratified in the new bill, will probably make a strong fight to have sufficient time allowed this year so that amendments may be offered to any or all schedules.

**FIFTY YEARS TO PAY FOR A HOME**

How a Loan from the Colorado Investment Company Figures Out.

**SUPREME COURT DECISION**

Holds That a Sample Contract Entered Into by G. T. Ensign With Company is Unconscionable.

In an opinion handed down by the supreme court today, in the case of George T. Ensign versus the Colorado Investment-Loan company, a ruling is made to the effect that a certain contract entered into between plaintiff and defendant is unconscionable. The lower court is reversed and the cause is remanded to the trial court, with directions to vacate the findings and judgment, and to grant a new trial.

The defendant is a building and loan association with headquarters in Denver and Ensign was one of its members, and the suit grew out of differences that arose over the loan of \$1,000 secured by plaintiff from defendant. The amount was covered by a note to the Deseret Savings bank and a similar note to pay the bank in case Ensign paid the loan company. When Ensign paid the association \$70.70 the company maintained that he still owed them \$46.97 and owed the bank \$50. At this rate, the supreme court holds that with such a state of affairs it would take Ensign 50 years to pay off the indebtedness, and that it would amount to a total of \$5,200.

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**WILL BE SPECIAL EXAMINER**

Position Will Take Him to Washington Soon After March; When His New Duties Will Be Undertaken.

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Mr. Cruickshank's new duties will be along special lines, and he will be practically in charge of the passenger accounting bureau of the interstate commerce commission, with headquarters at Washington, D. C. He expects to leave for the capital soon after March 1, when the appointment becomes effective.

Mr. Cruickshank was highly recommended for the position which he has just accepted by W. H. Baker, vice-president and general manager of the

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Regard Pacific Coast Agitation As Not Representing Real American Sentiment.

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**WHERE THE MONEY WENT.**

Under Protest by Bookledge, Information is Given to Council.

The board of public works met last evening in regular session, the doings being mostly routine in character. In compliance with a request from the city council, on motion of Mr. Fernstrom, the board decided to report to that body the names of inspectors for the month of January, the nature of the work inspected and the amounts paid. Mr. Bookledge suggested that the matter be ignored, further that to notify the council that the report was on file, subject to inspection, but the board concluded to submit the following report:

B. Dougherty, sewer extension, 182, on the west side, \$64.50; J. B. Dalley, water main extension 277, \$145.50; Francis Hall, sewer extension 185, \$45.50; John Ford, sidewalk extension 18, \$43; Leonard Newton, sewer extension 152, \$64.50; Leonard Newton, on intercepting sewer bulkheads, where the trouble arose over the caveing, \$24.50; A. B. Lawrence, sewer extension 208, \$25.50; A. B. Lawrence, conduit, 25th and East, Utah Light & Railway, \$11.87; C. H. Leith, permit 4227, \$45, connecting with sewers, Utah Light & Railway work; M. I. Morris, road-work, \$5.75; and Utah Gas & Coke company work, \$27; J. H. Rives, sewer extension 203, \$21.

The board will instruct the city engineer not to set men to work on contracts until he has notified the board, the charge being that he has been in the habit of so doing.

**STATE TREASURER'S REPORT.**

David Mattson Files First Official Document from His Office.

State Treasurer David Mattson has just filed his first monthly report with the state auditor, for the month of January. The receipts are shown to be \$555,038.36, which with the balance left over from December, aggregates \$1,285,285.22. The total disbursements amounted to \$156,708.28. The balance on hand for the current month of \$768,576.94. The disbursements were as follows: General fund, \$154,749.31; state district school, \$299,144.08; fish and game fund, \$1,165; extinction of wild animals, \$57.33; forest reserve fund, \$231.21; state lands (rent account, principal and interest, \$30,454.19; the balance in the various funds is as follows: General fund, \$2,495,495.31; state district school, \$74,795.96; redemption fund, \$20,491.53; sheep inspection fund, \$1,100.31; trust fund \$1,332.08; forest reserve fund, \$4,423.18; fish and game fund, \$20,189.14; suspense account, \$5,211; agricultural college, \$24,908.72; deaf and dumb asylum, \$5,032.22; insane asylum, \$12,914.59; blind asylum, \$27,461.19; miners' hospital, \$15,853.52; normal school, \$2,347.21; reform school, \$11,463.61; public buildings, \$24,701.67; reservoir, \$41,029.86; state school, \$106,430.94; school of mines, \$9,612.91; university, \$2,581.24. Total \$768,576.94.

**A VOICE ON THE PHONE.**

Wife of Business Man Calls Up Bet-terment League Headquarters.

That the entire households of the signers of the petition in the legislature signed by Jacob Morris and 59 other business men of Salt Lake are not in sympathy with the petition is evidenced by the following conversation over the telephone with the Betterment League headquarters at the receiving end yesterday afternoon:

Lady's voice: I will not give you my name but I desire to state that my husband was one of the business men who signed the anti-prohibition petition which appeared in the daily papers. I myself signed a petition asking for prohibition, for if this bill only passes my husband will spend more time at home with his family, as the saloons agree with me, will close, I am not prepared to see how many other wives of those who signed the anti-prohibition petition will be as glad as I will not I am assured and there are many who feel just as I do.

And then the receiver clicked as the women hung it up.

**JOHN CRUICKSHANK**

Portrait of John Cruickshank, a man in a suit and tie, looking slightly to the side.

JOHN CRUICKSHANK.

Oregon Short Line railroad, and C. J. McNeill, auditor-in-chief of the same line, as well as by Erastus Young, general auditor of the Harriman system. The gentleman is a trained accountant of many years experience, and his particular line of work with the commission will be to investigate the passenger accounts of the lines throughout the United States.

**STATED IN TICKET OFFICE.**

That his education and experience peculiarly fit Mr. Cruickshank for the duties required of him is evidenced by his career in railroad work, which began in November, 1886, when he was in the freight and ticket office of the Burlington route under James Hill. He remained with the Burlington until Dec. 31, 1888, when he accepted a position in the passenger accounting department of the Union Pacific railroad. Remaining with the Union Pacific for eight years, he was transferred to the Oregon Short Line as chief clerk of passenger accounts. He came to Salt Lake with the Short Line at the time of the segregation of that line from the Union Pacific. He has been connected with the passenger auditing department for some time, and understands the business in a matter of fact. It is a matter of fact that a Salt Lake man has been called to this responsible position with the interstate commerce commission, and particularly gratifying to see Mr. Cruickshank, who has been widely and popularly known as an able railroad man in this city for years, ascending the ladder of fame.

Mr. Cruickshank will move his family to Washington as soon as possible, and will make the capital city his home.

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The board will instruct the city engineer not to set men to work on contracts until he has notified the board, the charge being that he has been in the habit of so doing.

**STATE TREASURER'S REPORT.**

David Mattson Files First Official Document from His Office.

State Treasurer David Mattson has just filed his first monthly report with the state auditor, for the month of January. The receipts are shown to be \$555,038.36, which with the balance left over from December, aggregates \$1,285,285.22. The total disbursements amounted to \$156,708.28. The balance on hand for the current month of \$768,576.94. The disbursements were as follows: General fund, \$154,749.31; state district school, \$299,144.08; fish and game fund, \$1,165; extinction of wild animals, \$57.33; forest reserve fund, \$231.21; state lands (rent account, principal and interest, \$30,454.19; the balance in the various funds is as follows: General fund, \$2,495,495.31; state district school, \$74,795.96; redemption fund, \$20,491.53; sheep inspection fund, \$1,100.31; trust fund \$1,332.08; forest reserve fund, \$4,423.18; fish and game fund, \$20,189.14; suspense account, \$5,211; agricultural college, \$24,908.72; deaf and dumb asylum, \$5,032.22; insane asylum, \$12,914.59; blind asylum, \$27,461.19; miners' hospital, \$15,853.52; normal school, \$2,347.21; reform school, \$11,463.61; public buildings, \$24,701.67; reservoir, \$41,029.86; state school, \$106,430.94; school of mines, \$9,612.91; university, \$2,581.24. Total \$768,576.94.

**A VOICE ON THE PHONE.**

Wife of Business Man Calls Up Bet-terment League Headquarters.

That the entire households of the signers of the petition in the legislature signed by Jacob Morris and 59 other business men of Salt Lake are not in sympathy with the petition is evidenced by the following conversation over the telephone with the Betterment League headquarters at the receiving end yesterday afternoon:

Lady's voice: I will not give you my name but I desire to state that my husband was one of the business men who signed the anti-prohibition petition which appeared in the daily papers. I myself signed a petition asking for prohibition, for if this bill only passes my husband will spend more time at home with his family, as the saloons agree with me, will close, I am not prepared to see how many other wives of those who signed the anti-prohibition petition will be as glad as I will not I am assured and there are many who feel just as I do.

And then the receiver clicked as the women hung it up.

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