

conference to be held in the hall used for the Constitutional convention and to his Excellency the Governor of Utah for the honor shown the ladies, and to all others who in any way contributed to the success of the conference and meetings.

E. B. WELLS,  
In behalf of the Utah W. S. A.

### TELEGRAPHIC NEWS

WASHINGTON, D. C., May 16.—Secretary Hoke Smith has decided the appeal of the state of Idaho from the rejection of certain lands claimed by it as a part of an agricultural college grant. The total grant was 90,000 acres, several hundred acres of which were rejected by the land office as being in tracts smaller than 160 acres each.

The state appealed, and the secretary has held that the tracts selected must be of at least 160 acres each, but that this 160 acres may be made up of parts of different sections that are contiguous to each other, and need not be in the same section. Part of the lands claimed are therefore given to the state and part rejected, as not meeting this requirement.

MINNEAPOLIS, Minn., May 16.—It is said that President Crespo of Venezuela has evolved a scheme for the establishment of a Bank of Venezuela, in which American capital is to be heavily interested, and to which is to be entrusted the collection of taxes and duties. The bank is to have a paid-up capital of \$5,000,000, half of which is to be furnished by the Venezuelans and the rest by Minnesota men and their Eastern backers in New York. The bank will have a complete monopoly of the collection of the taxes and duties for the entire country.

HAVANA, May 16.—A special cablegram received here today says that on Monday last there was severe fighting in the neighborhood of Jobito, near Guanatanomo. The engagement lasted from 5 o'clock in the morning until 5 at evening and resulted in a brilliant victory for the Spanish.

A detachment of 400 soldiers attacked and fought bravely against 2,000 insurgents led by Gomez, the two Maceo, Rabi and Cartagena. The lieutenant colonel who led the Spanish force ordered his soldiers to open fire as the rebels advanced and fell furiously upon the troops. Eventually the enemy surrounded the Spanish troops with a vastly superior force. Major Robles, upon whom the command devolved, when the lieutenant colonel was shot down, succeeded in holding his position and repelling the attacks of the rebels, but the Spaniards were completely surrounded, and it was necessary for a portion of the force to cut its way out in order to communicate with the base of supplies and obtain reinforcements. Major Gordi Garrido, at the head of ninety volunteers, made a brilliant dash into the insurgents' lines and forced his way through the circle of fire which surrounded the troops. Shortly after Major Garrido's volunteers had pierced the insurgents' lines, another detachment of Spanish troops under the command of Captain Bruzon made an opportune flank attack upon the rebels. The latter were taken by surprise and

thrown into confusion. The two bodies of troops then united and made a combined attack upon the rebels, who were compelled to retire with a loss of 300 dead and wounded. Major Robles has gained the cross of San Fernando for the brilliant manner in which he held his position against the overwhelming numbers. The loss on the Spanish side was one doctor, four officers and eleven soldiers killed, and thirty wounded.

NEW YORK, May 16.—Senator Ekins of West Virginia, says he was frequently misquoted on his western trip as being in favor of free silver. "I believe in bimetalism and in the use of silver in the furthest possible way consistent with sound money," he added; "I am not for silver to an extent hurtful to the country. The government has the power to limit the use of metals. The republicans of the east and west must get together on the silver question. I believe the silver question will settle itself and when we come to meet next year at the national convention there will not be any antagonism between the East and the West."

WASHINGTON, May 16.—The Japanese legation has received an official cable stating in substance that final and satisfactory agreement has been reached by Japan and the European powers on the eastern question. It is regarded as closing the entire subject. It is also regarded as negating the unofficial statements of Russian newspapers that Russia would claim protectorate over Korea.

HOUGHTON, Mich., May 16.—This afternoon there was another big explosion at Hancock chemical works at Dollar Bay, three miles from here. Fred Sloper was killed. The works were blown to pieces.

SAN FRANCISCO, May 17.—John Carter, an ex-seaman of H. M. S. Royalist, arrived in this city yesterday on the steamer Australia from Honolulu. Carter came to Hawaii from Sydney, where the Royalist is now stationed.

England, according to the seaman, took very drastic measures to the punishment of the natives of the Solomon group of islands, and villages at the mouth of the river Soy were cannonaded. A landing party was started out from Verne, an adjacent town, and the savages were driven miles into the interior. A number were slaughtered. For four hours Soy was under fire.

The trouble and the subsequent bombardment were brought about by the murder of a Mr. Donald Guy last April and the later murder of eight inebriated English tars who went ashore at the island Malayta to enjoy a good time. The month after Guy was murdered a boat's crew of the labor brig Para was also fired upon by the natives. Two men were wounded. The Royalist proceeded to New Georgia and there learned that Guy had been surprised by the natives and shot down in cold blood. The sloop proceeded up the Soy river and there found the passage blocked. The natives had taken to the bushes. The Royalist cleared for action, and in ten minutes literally blew the village of Soy off the face of the earth. The land forces pursued the natives into the interior for several miles but could not force them into open battle.

The Royalist then steamed to Malayta island and anchored off the town of Altal. The ship's guns were turned on the village and a quick fire opened. Two cutters, armed with 7-pound rapid-firing guns, steamed close to the beach and poured shot into a little bunch of natives that were defending the chief's palace. A number were killed and wounded. One after another, three villages were totally destroyed, the natives driven to the bush and the residents of one of the principal chiefs of the Solomon group blown to pieces with six-inch shells. The Royalist then steamed around the island, looking for fresh villages to try its gun crews' proficiency upon, and finally steamed to Wanawana. Elaborate preparations were made for sea and land attack, the natives having assembled in great numbers. A steam launch armed with a Gatling gun and two cutters with 7-pound rapid-firing rifles were detailed to land a detachment of marines and sailors. Suddenly the Royalist received orders through a British steamer captain to cease operations and return to New Zealand. The slaughter of the defenseless was thus averted.

PROVIDENCE, R. I., May 17.—A two-and-a-half story wooden tenement house, owned by Joseph J. Lemoine and occupied by several French families, in Coventry, in that part known as Jerico, several miles from this city, collapsed late this afternoon and three persons were killed and eleven injured. It is thought that two of the latter are fatally hurt. The building had been raised to permit the building of another story beneath it.

The building was about fifty feet long, with a frontage of twenty feet. The lower portion was formerly a store, and the owner recently decided to raise it twenty feet and use the lower stories for tenements.

Two families in the upper stories did not move out. About 4 o'clock this afternoon, while the men were working at the underpinning, the building, without warning, slid off the piles on which it rested and pitched endwise into the street, striking the ground with a terrific crash. It was split and smashed into a mass of kindling wood. From the ruins rose the cries of the injured and dying, and the passer-by and others began the work of rescue. The Centerville fire department was summoned and rendered valuable assistance in tearing away the debris. An alarm was rung upon the mill bells, and soon thousands had gathered at the scene. Meanwhile the rescuers were tearing away the mass of splintered beams and boards, and soon came upon the body of a woman lying in the street under the second floor. It was crushed and almost unrecognizable, but from the clothing it was identified as that of Mrs. Mabel Guerin, a widow who lived on the second floor. A short distance away the body of a child was found. The neck was broken. Half an hour later the body of Asa Aldrich, of Arctic Center, was found, his head crushed into a pulp.

Mrs. Joseph Lemoine, wife of the owner of the building, and Noah Richards, a workman, were taken from the ruins so badly injured that they will die. Half a dozen others, including several children who had been playing, were also injured.