

REPORT FAVORS  
ARMY INCREASE.

Hull's Military Bill Enlarging  
Regular Force to 105,000  
Men Receives Com-  
mittee Sanction.

## MINORITY IS OPPOSED.

Probability of a Determined  
Fight When the Measure  
Is Taken Up in  
the House.

## WESTERN MAN FOR CABINET

WASHINGTON BUREAU CHICAGO TRIBUNE.

Washington, D. C., Dec. 20.—

After a hard fight the House Military  
Affairs committee has agreed upon a bill for  
increasing the regular army to about

Favorable  
Report on  
Army Bill.

105,000 men. No radical changes were made in the measure introduced by General Hull. The bill as agreed upon provides for thirty regiments of infantry, the companies to consist of 112 privates; twelve regiments of cavalry, each company consisting of eighty-three privates; and a corps of artillery.

Several minor changes were made in the bill, among these being a provision for 100 dentists to be graduates of a dental college with rank, pay, and allowance of a Second Lieutenant, and 100 pharmacists, whose pay will be \$40 per month. The number of chaplains was increased from thirty to forty and they will be assigned to regiments and corps at the discretion of the Secretary of War. Two veterinarians are provided for each regiment of cavalry, who will have the rank, pay, and allowance of a First Lieutenant.

In the Judge Advocate General's office the number of Colonels was fixed at five instead of two. In the Quartermaster's department the Colonels were reduced from ten to eight, and the number of Quartermasters increased to twenty-six. In the Department of Subsistence the number of Deputy Commissary Generals, with the rank of Lieutenant Colonel, was increased from six to eight; the commissaries with the rank of Major increased from ten to twelve, and those with the rank of Captain from twenty-seven to thirty-seven. In the corps of engineers the number of Lieutenant Colonels was increased from fifteen to twenty; Majors from twenty-five to thirty-six, and the number of captains reduced from fifty-seven to forty-one.

A clause was inserted in the bill which provides that the Record and Pension office of the War department shall consist of a chief clerk, whose rank will be that of a Brigadier General, and one assistant with the rank of Colonel to Brigadier. Considerable opposition was encountered in the committee, and the Republicans were divided as to what the provisions of the bill should be. Colonel Marsh, who is opposed to an army of 100,000 men, led the fight, but voted to report the bill, reserving the right to antagonize it upon the floor of the House. Colonel Marsh favors General Miles' proposition of appointing one man to every 1,000 of population in the United States, which would make an army of 72,000 to 75,000 men; and to provide for a provisional army to be used in the West Indies, to be enlisted on the basis of two men to every 1,000 of population.

The Democratic members of the committee bitterly antagonize the measure and will make a minority report. They are not in favor of increasing the army in this country, but are willing to authorize the President to enlist about 50,000 men to be used in time of peace in the West Indies and the Philippines. The bill will be reported to the House tomorrow, but will not be taken up for consideration until after the holiday recess.

Mrs. Grant has been quite ill for the last week, but is now much improved. Her condition has at times been serious, although it is possible she may be confined for some days longer to her room.

It is semi-officially announced that Secretary Bliss will retire from the Cabinet by the end of the year.

The fact is admitted that the fact to several of his Congressional colleagues, and it is said at the Interior department that work is being arranged to provide for the contingency of a change. There is a strong movement on foot to have the place filled by a Western man. The Pacific slope is especially insistent in its claims for recognition, first, because it has no representation in the Cabinet, and secondly, because the work of the department chiefly concerns the States west of the Missouri.

The far Western men claim that there was an understanding when Attorney General McKenna was promoted to the Supreme bench and the place given to New Jersey, that they should have the Interior department when Mr. Bliss retired, as he has expected to do from the first. Practical politicians in Congress say the President should recognize the States where there has been the most marked development of Republican sentiment, and insist that Kansas, Nebraska, the Dakotas, Wyoming, Oregon, Washington, and California made a majority in the next House possible, and should be rewarded. They point to the fact that the Secretary of State, Secretary of the Navy, Postmaster General, Secretary of the Interior, and Attorney General are now all from States east of the Alleghenies, while the Mississippi Valley has the Secretaries of the Treasury and Agriculture, but no representative from west of the Missouri is in the Cabinet.

A strong movement will be put forward for the Assistant Secretary of the Interior, Thomas Ryan of Kansas, whose brilliant service in the House, coupled with his place of residence in a State which turned from Populism to Republicanism during the Presidential administration, makes him an excellent candidate politically, while his ability is beyond question either in the office or in the stump. Webster Davis, the Second Assistant Secretary, also has warm friends, and he is popular at the White House, but he comes from Missouri, which did not distinguish itself in the recent election. Assistant Secretary Ryan is regarded generally as a stronger man.

It is also said that the only thing in the way of the appointment of ex-Governor Merriam, from the State of New York, to the position of his location, which is too close to Illinois and Iowa, which already have Cabinet members. Of the distinctively Western men,

ex-Senator Carey of Wyoming has a strong backing. He led a hopeless fight for sound money in 1896, but his State has since been redeemed. Several Senators and the New York will after all get the vacancy, in spite of geographical conditions, and also in spite of the belief that the Ambassador to the Court of St. James is to be credited to the Empire State. The name of General Stewart L. Woodford has been mentioned, and it is said his friends claim a reward for him because of the post of actual danger he filled before the war.

It has also been suggested that the President could properly celebrate the trip from which he returned today by putting a Southern man in the Cabinet. If this is decided upon, Henry Clay Evans of Tennessee might be the man. He undoubtedly held the key to the situation at St. Louis, so far as the Vice Presidency is concerned, but he was stepped aside by Mr. Hobart when the managers decided it was necessary to have an Eastern man on the ticket with Major McKinley. Mr. Evans was made Pension Commissioner, and has filled the office admirably, but the appointment was something of a disappointment to the Southerners, who expected he would be given the Postmaster Generalship. They are now out for the place and claim that Colonel Evans is the most representative high-class Southern Republican available to mark the era of good feeling between the sections. It is understood the President will hear arguments this week and make up his mind during the holidays.

"There never was a time in the history of this government," said Representative Lenz, a Democrat of Ohio, "when a large army was needed, that volunteers did not promptly respond to the call of the President. Things have not undergone a change in this respect and for that reason I am opposed to a large standing army."

In the agricultural appropriation bill which passed the House this afternoon there is a paragraph appropriating \$300,000 for the inspection of meat which is intended for shipment abroad. This is an increase of \$50,000 over last year's allowance and will permit of an increase in the force of the inspection department and facilitate the exportation of meats to a considerable degree. This increase was made at the instance of Mr. Lammie, who is a member of the Agricultural committee, and it is through his efforts that the appropriation has been steadily increased from \$150,000, which was the amount available three years ago.

Controller and Mrs. Dawes will spend the Christmas holidays with Mr. Dawes' parents at Marietta, O. They will leave her on Friday.

Grip has invaded the State department in a way which has seriously interfered with business. Secretary Hay has a bad case at home, and Assistant Secretaries Ade and Cridler are also laid up with the epidemic.

An impression prevails here that those who are peculiarly interested in debating the Nicaragua Canal are responsible for the large number of bills providing for the construction of this canal, which have been introduced at this session. Nearly every day this week a new proposition has been brought forward, and they are all of a conflicting character. It is said that the railroad companies and others who are opposed to the construction of the canal have taken this means to delay legislation. Every member who has introduced a bill is, of course, committed to its provisions and naturally thinks his scheme is the one which should be adopted, and they will make an effort to have them accepted by the different branches of Congress. Before those conflicting measures can be harmonized there will undoubtedly be considerable delay, and while the measure introduced by Senator Morgan is believed to be the best one yet advanced, it is doubtful if it will become a law without being amended so as to change its provisions radically.

Assistant Postmaster General Heath will spend Christmas in Indiana. He is not an open candidate for the Senate, but if he were the current will reach him or some of the other candidates lose their troleys.

Congress will adjourn tomorrow for its holiday recess of two weeks.

Representative Hitt this afternoon introduced a resolution providing for the removal of the body of Major General John A. Rawlins from the Congressional cemetery to Arlington, where many of the soldiers of the late war are buried. The base and granite shaft marking the spot where the body now rests will also be transferred to Arlington. The Congressional cemetery is one of the oldest in the city, but as it is located in the immediate vicinity of the jail and workhouse few prominent people are buried there. Besides this, Arlington is a national cemetery, and General Rawlins' associates want him to rest near many of his late comrades.

Lieutenant Frederick W. Krug of the Twentieth Infantry has been relieved from mustering duty at Springfield, Ill., and ordered to join his regiment.

Representative Belknap will be joined by Mrs. Belknap as soon as she completes her shopping in Indianapolis, and then they will spend the holidays with relatives in Aiken, S. C.

Miss Bessie Cannon, niece of the Illinois Congressman, will be married Thursday to John Herbert.

John E. Sears, an attaché of the War department, was the children of the late General Sherman.

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## GRIP ABROAD IN THE EAST.

PEOPLE SUFFERING FROM WIDE-  
SPREAD ATTACK OF DISEASE.

Contagious Nature of Ailment Practically Admitted by Authorities—Business Houses, Police Force, Fire Department, and Street Car Lines in New York Affected—Many Prominent Persons Ill—Many Cities Along the Atlantic Coast Visited.

CITY. NEW YORK. Cases. 125,000  
PHILADELPHIA. 50,000  
BALTIMORE. 40,000  
DAYTON, O. 5,000  
NEW HAVEN. 5,000  
YALE COLLEGE. 400  
TOTAL. 225,400

New York, Dec. 20.—[Special.]—The epidemic of grip assumed even greater proportions today. The downfall of rain, followed by humid weather, created atmospheric conditions which physicians fear will develop many incipient cases and retard recovery in others.

The death rate shows a tremendous increase for the last three days, and increases in deaths due to the grip, pneumonia, and bronchitis.

President of the Health Board Murphy, who is not a physician, issued a statement declaring it has not been definitely established that grip is contagious or infectious.

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think the dirt in the streets has anything to do with the present epidemic, but other physicians do not all agree with him. Dr. E. S. Janeway, dean of the New York University College, said: "Certainly dirt in the streets means dirt in the houses, and that means the spread of disease. The prevalence of snow causes a good many colds. These weaken the system and leave it susceptible to the influenza bacilli."

"I believe the disease can be spread from person to person."

Dr. Daniel B. St. John Rose, President of the Post Graduate Hospital, said:

"I believe that persons suffering from grip should be isolated as much as possible. There is no doubt that the disease is contagious. Cleanliness is the preventive."

Dr. Abraham Jacob said: "When the streets are in a filthy condition the people are weakened by it and they become susceptible to the disease, which is now an epidemic in New York. I do not favor a quarantine. There are too many cases to make a quarantine possible."

Claims to Have a Cure.

Raoul Pictet, the Swiss scientist, who arrived in this city last Sunday, claims to have a sure cure for "grip."

M. Pictet won a worldwide reputation several years ago by his successful experiments in liquefying oxygen, hydrogen, and ozone. The scientist now claims to have invented a machine which will cure by freezing any disease which has its origin in a germ.

"There are three of my machines in Europe at present," said Dr. Pictet today, "and the experiments with them by the leading physicians have so far proved highly successful. More than 250 patients have been cured of all diseases where the germ had to do with the present epidemic, but other physicians do not all agree with him. Dr. E. S. Janeway, dean of the New York University College, said: "Certainly dirt in the streets means dirt in the houses, and that means the spread of disease. The prevalence of snow causes a good many colds. These weaken the system and leave it susceptible to the influenza bacilli."

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## PROVES THE ANDREE PLAN

PROF. SPENCER GUIDES HIS AIRSHIP  
ACROSS THE ENGLISH CHANNEL.

Project Is Carried Out Under Control of a London Newspaper with a View to Demonstrating the Utility of a Principle of Steering Adopted by the French Aeronaut—Landing Is Made in Safety Near Havre—One Narrow Escape.

(SPECIAL CABLE TO THE NEW YORK TIMES AND THE CHICAGO TRIBUNE.)

London, Dec. 20.—The Daily Chronicle successfully carried out today the first trip from London to the continent in a steerable balloon.

For weeks past a large balloon in the grounds of the Crystal Palace has been awaiting a northerly or northwesterly wind. Conditions were favorable today, and the balloon started at 11:30 o'clock in the forenoon. The passengers were Percival Spencer, the famous aeronaut, to whom the balloon belongs, and Lawrence Swinburne of the Daily Chronicle staff.

Safely Crosses the Channel.

The balloon was reported by Lloyd's signal men to be crossing Beachy Head at 1:30. Soon after 4 o'clock it was reported to be passing over Peapack.

Mr. Swinburne telegraphs the Chronicle

SAYS ROBERTS WAS  
DISFRANCHISED AND  
CAN BE UNSEATED.

Judge Goodwin, a Salt Lake Editor,  
Says Utah Congressmen-Elect Was  
Imprisoned for Offense and Never  
Pardoned and Can Be Ousted.

Salt Lake, Utah, Dec. 20.—[Special.]—Judge Goodwin, editor of the Salt Lake Tribune, today made the following statement as his opinion of the eligibility of Brigham H. Roberts to a seat in Congress.

"Mr. Roberts was regularly nominated and fairly elected. In the ordinary understanding of a contest I think none can be made to dispossess him of his seat. The only way must be, if at all, through expulsion on the ground that he is not a citizen and is an active polygamist. Congress, if I remember correctly, passed a law making the living with two or more women at the same time as wives an offense punishable by fine and imprisonment in the penitentiary under Utah law.

Roberts was fined, imprisoned, and disfranchised. He has never since ceased to live in the same relation with his plural wives. He has never been pardoned.

"My judgment as to the effect of permitting Roberts to retain his seat is that it will be to practically restore old conditions, except as to promiscuous plural marriages."

POLICEMAN RYAN RISKS  
HIS LIFE IN TRYING TO  
STOP A RUNAWAY TEAM.

Is Dragged Some Distance in Polk  
Street, but Clings to the Bridle and  
Checks the Frantic Horses—Is Badly  
Bruised.

An attempt to stop a runaway team belonging to the Frank Parmelee company almost resulted in the death of Policeman William Ryan yesterday. The team, which was in charge of William Kenna, was frightened at Taylor street and Plymouth place while Kenna was in a house. The horse dashed north in Plymouth place, and at Polk street Policeman Ryan tried to stop them. He secured a hold on the bridle of one of the horses and was dragged to Clark street, where he stopped the horses. Ryan was severely bruised, but was able to resume his work.

MILWAUKEE GIRL WHO  
HAS NOT SPOKEN OR  
MOVED IN FIVE MONTHS.

Lies Immovable with Her Eyes Wide  
Open, Unable to Fluke a Sign—Doc-  
tors Cannot Explain or Remedy Her  
Affliction.

Milwaukee, Wis., Dec. 20.—[Special.]—One of the strangest cases which has ever come to the notice of local physicians is that of Miss Tony Broschett, who has neither moved nor spoken for five months.

One morning last July her mother went to her room to call her.

The girl was lying on the bed with eyes wide open, but all that the mother could do would not rouse her. Ever since she has been in the same condition, and medical science is unable to do anything to relieve her.

She is 23 years of age. She never appears to sleep, but lies all the time with her eyes wide open.

Great Loss of Life  
FROM POWDER EXPLOSION  
IN A CHINESE CITY.

Report That Three Thousand Soldiers  
Are Killed by the Disaster—General  
of the Army Among the Slain—Amer-  
ican Mission Said to Be Damaged.

London, Dec. 20.—A dispatch from Shanghai to a newspaper here says a powder magazine situated in the center of the Chinese camp at Hang-Chow exploded, leveling a square mile of houses.

It is estimated that 3,000 soldiers were killed, including the General commanding the forces.

The American and French missions are both supposed to have been damaged, but it is said there were no fatalities among the Americans.

ANARCHISTS THREATEN QUEEN.

Rumored Plot for an Attack on Vic-  
tor's Residence When She  
Goes to Cimiez.

(SPECIAL CABLE TO THE NEW YORK JOURNAL AND THE CHICAGO TRIBUNE.)

Nice, Dec. 20.—Reports are rife that the Italian Anarchists are preparing to respond to the decision of the Rome conference to attack on the Queen of England's residence in Cimiez.

The police have been warned and are taking elaborate precautions