THE BIRMINGHAM ECCENTRIC
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WHITEHEAD & MITCHELL, PUBS.
BIRMINGHAM, FRIDAY, DEC. 21

MICHIGAN EVENTS NOTED

From Lakes to Ocean.

The season of navigation on the interior waterways will soon end, and it will be a record breaker. Particularly is this true of the great lakes and the transactions on the Sault Ste. Marie canals. The figures for October showed that 44,404,850 tons of freight had passed through the canals up to that time, a quantity largely in excess of any preceding year. The November returns will bring the total to 50,000,000 tons, which will be a gain of more than 13 per cent over 1905. The bulk of the business is done by the American canal, and the largest part of the shipments is made up of ore from the Lake Superior beds. These shipments are certain to increase rapidly and indefinitely, for the development of the ore regions is going on at a prodigious rate, says the Troy News. Articles other than ore are transported on the great lakes and through the canals, and will multiply in number and increase in bulk as the country grows in population and advances in industry. The time must come when the canals now in use will not furnish a sufficient outlet, and the west is intensely alive to that fact. The action of the state of New York in appropriating $101,000,000 to enlarge its canals is regarded as a great step toward improved water facilities, but the west will never be content until it has a ship channel from the lakes to tidewater, and that is why special effort is now being directed toward getting congressional approval and national aid for the deep waterways from Chicago to the Mississippi.

The Value of Publicity.

Nearly every month somebody cites the danger of arresting justice through publicity. The best detective, however, is the honest newspaper—ever ready to correct its mistakes. The juror who does not read the newspapers is the most dangerous juror. As a rule, you may safely trust intelligent men to decide a case in harmony with the evidence. The effort to prevent publicity from invading the mind is like the effort to promote health by arresting the circulation of ozone. When a newspaper unfairly tries the case beforehand and hangs somebody before conviction, it makes friends for the accused. If a man is abused before trial, he should be grateful; for unwarranted abuse is a boomerang. We know of a successful man who says that he is chiefly indebted for his success to his stupid enemies whose ample rope gets about their own necks. This world is promoted by its martyrs. The innocent can best afford full publicity, says the Lewiston Journal. Prejudice or misinformation are eliminated by turning on the light.

The Slavery of Superstition.

There is no form of mental slavery so torturing as the slavery of superstition, says Lillian Bell in Delineator. We are fond of relegating believers in it to the unenlightened, but few are the men and women to-day who are perfectly free from it in some shape. And after all, what does it amount to but fear? Fear of disappointment or disaster. We spend our lives in the shadow of a great fear. I feel no scorn for the victims of superstitions of whatever sort cherished, any more than I would feel contempt for the ill-treated child, which, when snatched from the beatings to safety, will up its tiny arms to guard its face from expected blows, at the slightest move on the part of its new-found friends. But my heart is wrung with the same sympathy for all unnecessary and inexplicable fear, which is allowed to torture and make miserable lives which but for that would be mostly sunshine.

Young men who are wondering what opportunity the world holds out to them when they leave college may be interested in some figures given in the latest published report of the United States commissioner of education. The commissioner says that since 1890 there have been created an average of about a thousand new college professorships every year, and more than 1,300 new positions in the high schools and academies. Thus about 2,300 new teachers have to be found annually, without making any allowance for the retirement of many hundreds of others on account of age or other disability. It is apparent that the man who wishes to live the scholarly life has ample opportunity in these days of popular education.

Elephant grey, says the London Tribune, is to be the fashionable color for this autumn. Therefore, beware of the unscrupulous tailors who, merely to get a little extra profit, strive to array you in hippotamous brown or hyena yellow.

A man in Pittsburg, Mass., killed his wife and himself because she spilled a cup of tea at the supper table. There's nothing like thoroughness. He never will be bothered in that way again.

A New York monkey jumped on a five third rail a few days ago and was instantly killed. Sometimes a monkey exhibits a lack of intelligence that is almost human.

That Milwaukeean who told the judge he always carried a revolver when he went to a christening would make good material for a South American revolutionist.

Extremes meet in football. The improved game has more foot in it and also more brains.

THE LEGISLATURE

Forecast of the Opening and Choice of U. S. Senator.

The prevailing sentiment among members-elect of the legislature of 1907 is for holding the senatorial caucus not later than Thursday, January 3, and more favorably to Wednesday evening, January 2. The election is fixed by statute for the second Tuesday of the month, which will fall this time on Tuesday, January 14.

Gov. Warner's second inauguration will take place about noon, Tuesday, January 8, and Lieut.-Gov. Kelley and the other state officers will be sworn in immediately afterward. In the evening a reception will be held and early in the evening the house members will caucus for the election of a speaker.

Wednesday, noon, January 2, the houses of the legislature will meet for the first time. During that session a petition will be circulated calling the Republican members of the houses together for a caucus on United States senator. If this petition secures a majority of the members of both houses, the call will issue. The date fixed will probably be Wednesday evening, January 2.

Thus the decks will be cleared of controversy the first week, before the committees of either senate or house are appointed, and before organization for business is completed. The houses will probably adjourn Thursday evening for a week, to permit the presiding officers to choose their committees, and then another adjournment will be taken to allow committees on certain state institutions to visit them. By January 14, when the formal work of electing a senator is to take place, the strife will be largely forgotten.

Governor Investigates.

It is understood that Gov. Warner is sending to Washington to secure information from the interstate commerce commission regarding the car shortage problem which he intends to discuss in his message.

It is said the shortage of cars is one of the most important problems now confronting the shippers of the state and the delay in shipping produce often results in great loss.

It is known that Gov. Warner is greatly interested in the subject on behalf of the shippers and the understanding is that he will recommend legislation requiring railroad companies to furnish cars.

Probably something in the nature of the reciprocal demurrage bill introduced at the last session of the legislature will be favored by the governor.

Threw the Baby Out.

"The baby was mine; I threw it out the window," she said to police.

Leilia Guyette, aged 16, thus addressed the Flint officers when questions were put to her as she lay in her bedroom, in the presence of her mother.

She tearfully related that her baby was born between the hours of 3 and 4 o'clock Sunday morning, and that she was alone in the room at the time, although her mother was asleep in a room adjoining. Her mother disclaims any knowledge of the affair whatever and was prostrated by the unfounded when the girl told her story.

Whether the girl-mother will be held criminally responsible for the death of her child will not be known until the doctors who conducted the postmortem make their report.

Remender Escapes.

Because the information filed in the Bay City circuit court against Andrew Remender, charged with manslaughter in causing the death of George Brown, did not make any distinction as to the dates on which the fight took place and when death came to Brown, Remender was discharged. The fight between the two young men took place September 3. Brown was knocked down and his head struck the curbstone, the skull being fractured. He died five days later in Mercy hospital. The information made it appear that death came the day of the fight and this error, the court held, was fatal to the prosecution. Testimony had been taken for two days before Remender's attorney raised the point.

A Sudden Call.

Justus R. Webster, a farmer near the Saginaw city limits, died in a peculiar manner at the Caledonia mine. He had driven to the mine to get a load of coal, and while there became engaged in an argument with Fred. Shaltraw, a teamster. The argument became heated, and in the midst of it Webster suddenly toppled over backwards. His head struck on the wheel of his wagon, and he died shortly afterward. While his head was injured in the fall, it is believed death was due to heart disease.

Saved by a Dog.

The howling of his faithful dog saved the life of Peter Dufore, of Oconto, as he lay helpless in the snow from a broken leg, received in a runaway of his ox team. His faithful Scotch collie dog saw that something was wrong and ran about looking for help. Finally it stood over its master and set up a long howl. This it continued until it brought a passing settler to the scene.

Dufore was nearly dead from his injury and exposure.

On the third pay day of the season for the Bay City sugar factories $310,200 has been paid out, making about $1,000,000 the farmers have received this season for beets.

Mrs. Thomas P. Grimston, said to have rich relatives in New York, died in the Pontiac poor house of pneumonia.

Mrs. Julia Rhoades, aged 80, of Battle Creek, died suddenly Saturday while at dinner. She complained of pains in her heart and dropped dead as she said the words. She was well known in her church.

Joe Ehrlich, jr., was not arraigned on the charge of murdering his sweetheart, Ola Kelley, of Adrian, as it was learned that he would not plead guilty to a first degree charge. He will, therefore, be tried in the January term of court.

State Land Commissioner Rose, on Thursday, offered for sale scattering tax homestead lands in a large number of counties in northern Michigan. About 50 bidders were present.

Charles Johnson, of Escanaba, tied the trigger of his gun to a nail in the wall by a string, placed the muzzle against his forehead and pulled the gun, dying instantly. He was despondent over his drinking habits.

Sophia Looks, 15-year-old daughter of a Kalamazoo prominent family, is under arrest as a kleptomaniac. It is said she has a craze for silver things she has little use for. The charge is larceny of a cloak and two rings.

BORED THE BRICK WALL

Had Outside Help It is Believed and May Have Had a Long Criminal Record.

Escaped Sunday Night.

Mrs. Mary McGuire, known also by several aliases, who was arrested November 16 for shoplifting in Lansing, escaped from the county jail in Mason Sunday night by making a hole through the outer wall with outside assistance. She the same Monday to the circuit court and was awaiting trial, at which it was believed a criminal record could be produced against her.

Mrs. McGuire was the only occupant of the women's section of the jail and hence no one interfered with her plans. Her escape was not known until 7 o'clock Monday morning. Tearing her skirts into strings and tying the ends together, she let the improvised cord down through the bars of the window and a nicely constructed rope ladder was attached. This she pulled up and fastened to the bars of the window, enabling her assistant to work at the wall from the outside near the window and she from within. The brick chisels used were left and the rope ladder was still attached to the bars. It is believed she got a good start and not a trace of the direction she took was left.

The woman's home was in Milwaukee, where she reared a family of daughters who have married respectable business men, who are not aware of the criminal career of their mother-in-law. It is said if were they to learn the truth it would break up the families of two of them. She was in communication with a detective who had known her for years and who knew her daughters. He had told one of the daughters of her mother's arrest and the daughter supplied the funds which were forwarded to Lansing.

When arrested in Lansing Mrs. McGuire had several hundred dollars' worth of furs and other merchandise in her apartments in the Hotel Downey.

Paying Out Large Sums.

A large portion of the state funds, consisting of primary school money derived from the railroads for the taxes of the past three years, has been called in by the state treasurer and distributed among the school districts of the state. There was nearly $3,000,000 of this money, and it is a remarkable fact that it was withdrawn from the banks of the state and distributed without causing the slightest embarrassment to the financial institutions.

This is regarded as a remarkable fact, and one that reflects credit on State Treasurer Glazier. The money had been widely scattered, among the banks of the state, according to their standing, and the amount of their capital stock. It is a financial undertaking of considerable importance to shift within a few days $9,000,000 of currency from one set of banks to another without upsetting the equilibrium of some of them, and now that the transaction has been accomplished it is deemed creditable to the state treasurer who accomplished it.

Stratton Bound Over.

Floyd S. Stratton, formerly ticket agent for the D., G. H. & M. at Fenton, whose disappearance a few months ago is alleged to have disclosed a shortage of $76 in his accounts with the company, is a prisoner in Flint's jail. He was arrested in Chicago, where he was located through the efforts of Sheriff Zimmerman and Detective Foley, of the Grand Trunk system. The prisoner was arraigned on the charge of embezzlement, and on waiving examination was bound over to the circuit court.

Heart Salve.

Miss Belle Barco, of Benton Harbor, was awarded $10,000 damages for breach of promise against Arthur C. Loomis, of Traverse City, the jury deliberating over two hours. The plaintiff completely broke down after she left the stand. Loomis was engaged to marry the young woman and on the eve of their wedding married another. His letters to her were introduced in evidence. In one he sent "kisses to her and to the cats and dogs" and in another he told her he "would go to hades or punching cattle if she turned him down." The court room was crowded all during the trial.

No defense was made by Loomis, his attorneys only striving to keep down the amount of damages. She sued for $10,000.

Suicidal Mania.

Hereditary suicidal mania reversed itself when Jos. Byers, a prominent farmer living near Shepherd, followed the example of his son and hanged himself in his barn. The rafter from which he suspended the rope was the same which a year ago held the rope which broke the neck of his son. The bodies were found in much the same position. It is believed both father and son were suffering from temporary insanity.

Two children of Frank Lewis, of Kalamazoo, have died in a week of typhoid fever. Two more are seriously ill at home and two in Borgess hospital of the same disease.

E. M. Murphy reports that nearly all the stock for the new Pontiac hotel has been taken by prominent business men and the construction of the building will be begun in a short time.

Battle Creek stockholders in the defunct Record Printing & Box Co., who have been nearly ruined by paying the company's debts, are now sued for $21,241.78 additional, said to be still due to creditors.

Mrs. Emma Warden, of Saginaw, is trying to recover her 14-year-old daughter Belle, who was adopted by Mr. and Mrs. George W. Masters ten years ago. She says she heard that her daughter was being overworked. This is denied.

The Michigan state round-up of farmers' institutes will be held in Ionia in February. For lack of a hall the county organization has procured a new store being built by Thomas A. Carton, which will seat 2,000 persons. Mr. Carton gives the use of the store, and agrees to heat and light it. The state corn exhibit will be a feature of the meeting.

SIGNAL LIGHTS ON MICHIGAN

ANOTHER OPERATOR SHOT AT BY SOME UNKNOWN PERSON.

VERY NARROW ESCAPE

Waterviiet Scene of Another Attempt to Kill a Telegraph Operator—No Known Cause.

Similar to the Dynes Case.

An iron lever attached to the train signal deflecting wooden bullet and thus saving the life of Fred Blinkhorn, Pere Marquette operator at Waterviiet, who was in the act of sending a message at his desk in front of the window through which the bullet crashed, prevented a murder parallel to that of Lloyd A. Dynes, the Michigan Central operator in Gallien, in September.

The Gallien crime and the shooting at Blinkhorn both occurred at 2:30 on a Sunday morning, and it is believed that the motive of both crimes was the same, viz., to put out of the way the only man awake in the little town and the only one who might thwart plans of robbers to blow the bank's safe. Dynes, too, was sitting at his desk sending a message and there is nothing in either of the two crimes to indicate that the motive behind the firing of the shots was other than a wanton murder to further bank robbery plans.

The bullet was speeding on a dead line for Blinkhorn's head and was within 18 inches of him when it struck the iron lever and spent its force in the wall.

As in the Gallen murder there is absolutely no clue. The shot is so absolutely clouded in mystery that Sheriff Tennant has not even investigated it, having been discouraged, it is said, over the failure to solve the Dynes murder after weeks of vigorous work.

Blinkhorn came there two weeks ago from Grand Rapids. He knows of no enemy who would want to shoot him. His wife is suffering from scarlet fever and quarantined and she has not been told of the attempt on her husband's life.

One Succeeded.

Two Grand Rapids citizens made up their minds they were tired of life Monday night but only one succeeded in committing suicide.

The body of Peter Hoogland was found hanging in a grape arbor. He was about 60 years of age, despondent over the actions of his daughter, who whipped him one day last week, it is alleged. Neighbors hint at foul play, but so far the police have found nothing to back their suspicions.

Mrs. Anna Woodman swallowed morphine and carbolic acid in a fit of jealousy. A neighbor, who was visiting her husband, found her, which she kept giving the patient until doctors arrived. She was terribly burned by the acid and for two hours lay in a stupor from the morphine. She will probably recover.

Radical Changes.

Sweeping changes are in prospect for Muskegon's municipal government. At the first session of the committee of five citizens appointed to draw up amendments to the present city charter, rough plans were drafted providing that heads of the fire, water, police and other departments be appointed for life or good behavior.

Three aldermen-at-large to sit with the present board of aldermen will be provided for, as will also an elective police and fire board, and provisions for shifting funds in the annual budget will be made.

Representative Jerome E. Turner, of Muskegon county, will take the new charter to Lansing and present it as soon as the legislature convenes.

Killed by Runaway.

Herbert Swann, aged 55, was thrown from his wagon in a runaway Monday evening and sustained injuries from which he died next day. He had been to Dimondale where he had drank heavily, and when he mounted his wagon seat the horses were frractious from standing in the cold. They ran most of the way, three miles, home and Swann was thrown out only 80 rods before they stopped. He was well-to-do and leaves a widow and five children.

Died On the Train.

Death won in the race with M. Burke, an implement dealer of Port Huron, who tried hard to reach his home in a quick trip from Arizona. He died in a Pullman car, 40 miles from the city.

Mr. Burke, who was only 30 years of age, went west last June to seek relief from tuberculosis. With his brother, Edwin, he camped out in Colorado, Arizona and Mexico. Recently he was told at Phoenix, Ariz., that the end was near, and he started home.

Several hundred letters, dated between November 20 and November 22, were found torn open under a lumber pile near the Ann Arbor depot in Cadillac.

The Catholic church will not get the money willed to it by Edwin Winters. Judge Leland holds that Mr. Winters was incompetent and gives the property to the half brother.

During the fiercest blizzard of the winter 450 section men of the Duluth, South Shore & Atlantic walked out. They demand a raise from $1.50 to $1.75 a day for 10 hours.

Cuts received by Mrs. Humphreys, of Casnovia, in an alleged attempt to commit suicide with a razor will cause her death. She has been despondent since the death of her husband a few years ago. She is 70 years old.

Josiah Craig, a farmer 48 years of age, who pleaded guilty recently to a charge of criminal assault committed on a 12-year-old girl, was sentenced by Judge Wiest, of Lansing, to from five to ten years in Jackson prison.

Michigan National Guardsmen will be interested in knowing that before very long they will be equipped with the new Springfield rifle. This is the firearm now in in use by the army, navy and marine corps of the United States.

Mary Ann Stilson, of Jackson, is contesting the will of John Greenop, of Orleans, who left a $100,000 estate. She was bequeathed $5 in his will and referred to as his daughter by a former consort, but she claims she is his legitimate daughter. The estate was left to a widow in Orleans, whom Greenop married in 1870. Mrs Stilson's mother died in 1896.

Not a Valid Marriage.

About three weeks ago Frederick Jenderreske and May Fulton were married in a den of lions as an attraction for a Saginaw theater. It now appears that the marriage was void, the bride already having one husband at the time, from whom she says she thought she was divorced.

"Miss Fulton, who is but 19, married Alonzo Broughton in St. Charles two years ago. He deserted her, she says, soon afterward going to Pennsylvania and she felt he thought suit for divorce. She was notified a month ago of the suit by service, but mistook the notice for an actual decree granting her a divorce. Yesterday in the circuit court she disclosed the facts and the couple, who are living here, will have to be married over again.

Peter's Good Shoe.

Peter Lankhuizin, in this country only a few months, used one of his old country wooden shoes to good advantage Saturday night. Peter lives in the outskirts of Holland and was returning home when he was stopped by two men, who demanded money. Peter grabbed off his wooden shoe and rapped one of the would-be highwaymen on the head. The fellow gave a yell and fell like a log and his partner ran away. The Hollander thought he had killed the man and went to get help. When he returned the robber had disappeared.

Ptomaine Poisoning.

Brief illnesses, believed to have been due to ptomaine poisoning of unknown source, have carried off Carl Mende, editorial writer on the Saginaw Post-Zeitung, and his wife within 24 hours of each other. He died Monday; she died Tuesday. Their son, aged about 12 years, who was seriously sick, also, is now believed to be recovering.

Henry Hirz, a German chemist, will make an analysis of the stomach of Mende. The family but recently moved to Saginaw, and little is known of them. Mr. Mende and his wife were about middle age.

Singer's Sudden Call.

Burdett Clark, who has been singing illustrated songs at the Bijou vaudeville theater in Oskosh, Wis., died suddenly just after leaving the stage. It is believed that heart disease was the cause, as he had been apparently in excellent health up to a few minutes before the end came.

He was 26 years of age and his home was at Lansing, Mich., where his father is chief of police. He has a brother living in Milwaukee. He was formerly at Fond du Lac and came here to sing at the Bijou.

Robbed a Cripple.

Three robbers held up Harry Beers, a cripple, owner of a billiard hall in Northport, at the point of a revolver. He was robbed of $40 in money, shoved through the door of his home and told if he gave the alarm within an hour they would kill him. The three then drove away. Beers was roughly handled by the robbers started to carry him off in their buggy, but yielded to his pleadings and left him at home. No trace of the robbers can be found.

MICHIGAN IN BRIEF.

The State Savings bank of Harrison, Clare county, has incorporated with $20,000 capital.

Machinery at the Alpena cement plant tore off the arm of Rodney McGillis, aged 21, at the shoulder.

Ten indictments have been issued by the grand jury for Soldiers liquor men and Three Oaks drug store men.

Two engines on the Pere Marquette collided in St. Louis Thursday, and Charles Hogle, of Saginaw, was probably fatally injured.

Representative Jerome E. Turner, of Muskegon, has announced his withdrawal from the race for speaker of the house next session.

Miss Frances Keller, a New York newspaper woman charged with criminal libel for her efforts to reform a city department, was reared in Coldwater.

Charles Scovey, an Exeter township farmer, was sentenced to prison for five years at Ionia for the larceny of a gold watch. He refused to testify and the jury found him guilty.

Ald. Robt. S. Taylor, of Port Huron, has sued the city for $5,000 for injuries sustained by falling on a defective sidewalk. He sent a claim to the common council, but his colleagues turned it down.

A. J. Tuttle, of Menominee, hale and hearty at 82, has celebrated his second silver wedding. He has lived 25 years with each of two wives. His first, Mary Ann Tuttle, died in 1881. In 1883 Mr. Tuttle married Marietta Clark.

E. L. Davis, of Davisburg, head of the Michigan Premium Stock Co., was badly injured while loading stock Saturday night at Davisburg. He went to the top of a car to set the brake, and in the darkness walked off, tearing the ligaments loose in both feet.

Ann Arbor recently bought a fire engine of a certain make and paid $1,000 for it. It would best any rival engine in a public test. Pontiac had an old steamer of the 1876 kind and challenged the purchaser to one. The agents quickly pulled the $1,000 down.

Deaths in Michigan during November numbered 2,864, a decrease of 510 as compared with October. Pneumonia led the list of important causes of death, with 246. There were 2,529 births during the month. The birth rate was 16.6 and the death rate 13.3 per 1,000 estimated population.

Lansing capitalists have purchased 280 acres of state land in Alpena for quarry purposes.

Overcome by an epileptic fit while carrying a lighted lamp, Mrs. Susan Sutton, of Sault Ste. Marie, was so badly burned that she died Thursday.

Five of the crew of the steamer Golspie, wrecked near Michipicoten, December 4, had legs, feet and arms so badly frozen that several amputations will be necessary.

The 4 and 6-year-old children of Robert Elmy, of Caro, threw powder on the stove for amusement. The house was set on fire and they were badly burned, but will recover.

H. S. Sawdey, aged 28, of Cadillac, was killed when a dump sleigh loaded with wood upset on him on a side hill. He was walking on the lower side. His neck was broken. A widow and an infant child survive. The remains were taken to Mt. Pleasant, his old home, for burial.

We measure the D. U. R. for not having any settled schedule for running its freight cars, and we believe the D. U. R. is responsible for the death of Harriet Harger." This is, in effect, the verdict of the coroner's jury when it finished its investigation of the wreck at Birmingham on the night of November 25.

NATIONAL LEGISLATION

CONGRESSMEN SHY AT SALARY RAISE PROPOSED FOR THEM.

COST OF INTERVENTION

American Firms Only May Bid on Canal Contracts—Deficiency Bill Passed—The Philippines.

Wouldn't Go On Record.

The house passed an amendment to the legislative, executive and judicial appropriation bill providing that after March 4, 1907, the salaries of the president and vice-president shall be $12,000 each; also an amendment to increase the salaries of cabinet officers to $12,000 each, but the amendment to increase the salaries of representatives from $5,000 to $7,500 was defeated.

The members were extremely touchy about voting on record on the proposal to increase their own salaries, and while on a rising vote 135 voted for the increase, on roll call but 106 had the courage. It was noted that nearly all of the wealthy men of the house voted for the increase, as did a majority of those whose terms expire March 4, and who would not themselves be benefited.

The principal argument in a two hours' debate was the increased cost of living in Washington.

Occupation Cost Two Millions.

The Cuban financial situation was explained to the house committee on appropriations today by Secretary Taft. Through this explanation it was ascertained that American intervention in the island necessitated the expenditure of something more than $2,000,000.

It is the understanding that this claim is not to be pressed immediately, but on ascertainment of the condition of the Cuban finances an order may issue from President Roosevelt to the provisional government of Cuba to transfer a monthly sum from the Cuban to the United States treasury as payment on this claim.

The Canal Bids.

Foreign contractors are to be barred from competition for the completion of the Panama canal. Chairman Shonts, of the commission, made this announcement. Many changes have been agreed to in the form of contract to be entered into for the construction of the canal, but the most important is the limiting of proposals to American firms.

The right will be reserved by the commission to reject all the bids submitted, in case none of them is satisfactory, and the commission will then either throw the competition open to work without contract. January 12th is the date set for the opening of proposals.

A substantial reduction in the bond of the successful bidder was also made by the commission in compliance with the request of prospective bidders. The bond will be only $2,000,000 and the total liability of the contractor is to be limited to the loss of bond and premiums otherwise payable to the contractor and $3,000,000 in addition.

The Deficiency Bill.

The house passed an urgent deficiency bill carrying a total cost of $581,500 in fourteen items, as follows:

Department of agriculture to carry into effect the act of June 30, $250,000; department of the interior to complete the work of the commission to the five civilized tribes, $75,000; department of commerce and labor for the immigration service, $20,000, and for lighthouses, beacons and fog signals, $86,500; military establishment, mileage to officers and contract surgeons, $150,000, made necessary by the intervention of the United States in Cuba.

On Mr. Littauer's motion for immediate consideration, Mr. Williams asked whether there had been a pledge on the part of the government that the present occupancy of Cuba by the United States troops was only temporary.

"Unqualifiedly yes," said Mr. Littauer, as he turned to the chairman of the appropriations committee for corroboration.

Peace and Finances.

Secretary of War Taft reports that peace prevails everywhere in the Philippines, except in the provinces of Leyte and Samar. The reports of Gen. Wood, commanding the Philippines division, and Gov.-Gen. Smith predict that in a short time all trouble will be at an end.

The finances of the government are in excellent shape, showing a surplus of a million and a half in gold.

Fewer Poor.

That there is less pauperism in the country than ever before is shown by the last census bulletin. In 1850 there were 217 in the almshouses per 100,000, while in the last census, taken at the nearest interval, there were but 101 per 100,000. At the end of 1903 there were 74,854 white and 6,910 colored paupers in the United States. Michigan had 2,542 white and 52 colored.

Three old homesteads in Battle Creek have been purchased for a site for the new high school.

George Whiting, aged 18, of Big Rapids, escaped with sixty days in jail as a sentence for beating his mother and sister, and threatening to kill them with a butcher knife. After he made the threat and was arrested his mother found the family butcher knife in his room.

A Jackson county girl was responsible for the arrest of Henry Hockzemo, brought from Chicago to Jackson, on a charge of robbing a freight car of 2,500 cigars. Hockzemo is believed to be the head of a gang that systematically plundered freight cars throughout the middle west for two years.

John Myers, aged 18, of Burt, was accidentally shot in the hip by Delbert Green, aged 14, with whom he was out hunting. The wound was inflicted by a 22-caliber bullet, which a doctor failed to locate. The youth is thought to be quite dangerously hurt.

Midland's water works system has been rendered useless by pulp from the best sugar factory. The pulp floats down the Chippewa river. When a fire broke out in the residence of Bert Finney, Friday morning, it was found that the nearest hydrant was plugged full of the pulp. When it was cleared the hose choked with the pulp and the house burned down. Loss, $1,000.

THE POPE.

Anxiety and Overwork Compel the Pontiff to Rest.

The troubles of the church in France and its anxiety that the outcome have told on the health of the pope, which has never been strong since he became pontiff. His holiness, who has remained up late night after night receiving and answering dispatches, is now obliged to remain in bed and secure a much needed rest.

His indisposition, it is reported, is not serious, but it is thought best that he remain in bed until his strength is recovered. At the vatican it was said that no alarm was felt over his condition.

The pope is rejoicing that the happenings in France are not so serious as had been feared. He had expressed the hope that the good sense of the French people will end in their finding a way to triumph over the present difficulties.

The pontiff received Cardinal Satolli, who was formerly papal delegate in the United States. The cardinal explained the situation with Catholicism in the United States where there exists no separation between church and state, saying the benevolent attitude of the state towards religion resulted in the complete and dignified liberty of the church.

"That," exclaimed the pope, "really a regime of progress."

A Strange Will.

A disputed will is one of an unusual kind terminated in the Branch county circuit court Thursday. In 1896 Christopher Shaffmaster, a wealthy retired Branson township farmer, made a will, leaving the larger part of his property to his wife, the balance going to a son and daughter. For over 10 years he suffered from a malignant cancer in his face, dying last June. His will when read was found to have a clause added in 1905 practically cutting out his former bequests to his wife, leaving her the use of the village residence and of 80 acres of land without buildings so long as she remained his widow. After her death the daughter was to get the property, while the son got $16,000 to $17,000.

Mrs. Shaffmaster, 70 years of age, was surprised at the announcement, and immediately began a contest which resulted in the jury sustaining the will.

THE MARKETS.

Detroit—Market active; dry-fed steers and heifers, $5 50@6; steers and heifers, 900 to 1,200, $4 75@5 25; steers and heifers, 800 to 1,000 lbs, $3 75@4 50; steers and heifers that are fat, 500 to 700 lbs, $3@3 75; choice fat cows, $3 25@3 50; good fat cows, $2 50@2 75; common cows, $2@2 25; canners, $1@1 50; choice heavy bulls, $2 75@3 15; fair to good bologna, $2 25@2 50; stock bulls, $2@2 25; choice feeding steers, 800 to 1,000, $3 50@3 75; fair feeding steers, 800 to 1,000 lbs, $3@3 25; choice stockers, 500 to 700 lbs, $2 75@3 25; fair stockers, 500 to 700 lbs, $2 25@2 50; feeding heifers, $2@2 50; milkers, large, young, medium size, $35@50; common milkers, $18@25.

Veal calves—Market steady; best, $7 25@7 50; others, $4@6.

Sheep and lambs—Market opened 25 cents higher, with close about steady with last week's prices; best lambs, $7 25@7 50; fair to good lambs, $6 50@7; light to good sheep, $4@4 50; fair to good butcher sheep, $4 75@5 25; culls and common, $2 50@3 50.

Hogs—Market 20c to 25c lower than last week. Range of prices: Light to good butchers, $6 25@6 35; pigs, $6 25; light yorkers, $6@6 10; roughs, $5@5 50; stags, 1/3 off.

Chicago—Beeves, $4 10@7 85; cows and heifers, $1 65@5 20; stockers and feeders, $2 40@4 50; Texans, $3 75@4 60; western, $4 25@5 75; calves, $4@8.

Hogs—Market strong to 5 cents higher; mixed and butchers, $5 90@6 25; good to choice, $6 10@6 25; rough heavy, $5 75@5 95; light, $5 60@6 10; pigs, $5 35@6 10; bulk of sales, $6@6 20.

Sheep—Market steady; sheep, $3 90@5 75; lambs, $4 75@8.

EAST BUFFALO.—Best export steers, $5.25@5.75; best 1,200 to 1,300-lb. shipping steers, $5@5.25; best 1,000 to 1,100-lb. do, $4.75@4.85; best fat cows, $3@3.25; fair to good, $2.50@3; trimmers, $1.50@2; best fat heifers, $4@4.50; medium to good, $3@3.50; best feeding steers, $3.25@3.50; fair do, $3@3.25; common do, $2.75@3; best yearling steers, $3@3.25; common yearlings, $2.75@3; export bulls, $4.25@4.50; bologna bulls, $3@3.75. The cow trade was dull on everything except good milkers going to extra, $45@55; medium to good, $35@33; common, $30@35; veal calves, $1 higher; yorkers, mixed, medium and choice, $6@6.35; fed choice milk, $6.50 late in the day; roughs, $5.75@5.80; stags, $4.50@4.25. Sheep—Market slow; top lambs, $7.75@7.75; culls, $5@6.75; wethers, $5.50@5.75; culls, $2.50@4; ewes, $5@5.50; culls, $2@4.50. Best calves, $8.50@9; medium to good, $5.50@8.50; heavy, $2.50@4.50.

Grain, Etc.

Detroit—Wheat—No. 2 red, 77½c; December, 2,000 bu at 77¾c, 5,000 bu at 77¾c, 2,000 bu at 77½c, 2,000 bu at 77¾c, 3,000 bu at 77¾c; May, 10,000 bu at 82¼c, 15,000 bu at 82¼c, 25,000 bu at 82½c, 10,000 bu at 82¾c, 10,000 bu at 82¼c; July, 25,000 bu at 79¾c, 20,000 bu at 79¾c. Receipts, 79,000 bu. No. 3 red, 75½c; No. 1 white, 77½c.

Corn—Cash No. 3, 1 car at 45¼c; No. 4, 1 car at 44¾c; No. 3 yellow, 3 cars at 45½c; No. 4 yellow, 1 car at 45c, 1 at 45¼c, 3 at 45¾c; old No. 3 yellow, 1 car at 46c.

Oats—Cash No. 3 white, 2 cars at 27c; sample, 1 car at 26½c.

Rye—Cash No. 2, 70c nominal.

Beans—Cash and the futures, $1 27 nominal.

Clover—Prime spot, 14 bags at $8 35; February, $8 45; March, $8 50; sample, 12 bags at $8, 10 at $7 75, 9 at $7 25; prime alsike, 3 bags at $7 50, 1 at $6 75, 5 at $6 75, $5 at $6.

Timothy seed—Prime spot, $1 90 nominal.

AMUSEMENTS IN DETROIT.

Week Ending December 22, 1906.

TEMPLE THEATRE AND WONDERLAND—Afternoons 2:15, 10c to 25c; Evenings 6:15, 10c to 50c. A Night in Eurlesk Vaudeville.

LYCEUM—Prices always 25c, 50c, 75c, 25c. Matinees Wednesday and Saturday. Billy B. Van in "Fatted Calf Pilloon."

WINTERY—Evenings, 10c, 20c, 30c; Matinees 10c, 15c, 25c. $10,000 Reward.

LAFAYETTE THEATRE—Popular Matinee Sun., Mon., Wed. and Sat. Best Seats 25c. Night Prices, 10c, 15c, 25c. The Livingston Co.

Voluntarily giving himself up at police headquarters, Irwin S. Scrimger, manager of the Detroit Auto Express Co., admitted that he was the driver of the automobile that ran down and fatally injured Simon P. Rote Sunday evening at Woodward and Willis avenues.

Ben Mac Dhui, Dowie's summer home at White lake, Muskegon county, is now held in undisputed title by Mrs. Jane Dowie, wife of the deposed leader of Zion City. In court Friday afternoon she signed away her rights in Zion City in return for a clear title to her beautiful summer home.

Ben Domboorjian, a Battle Creek merchant, is praying nowadays that the new shah may be as generous to non-Mohammedans as was his father, who died a few days ago. Domboorjian was a friend of the dead shah, though himself an Armenian Christian.

After $6,500 had been expended on the dredging of the channel through the Grand river the work was stopped by the courts. The drain commissioner wants the petitioners for the work to pay the debt but asks for a change of venue, holding that a fair trial cannot be secured in Jackson county on account of the prominence of the signers.