

taken with a view to testing the earnestness of British and Russian representations. The Shah subsequently disclaimed responsibility in connection with the re-pledging of the proclamations abolishing the Constitution, and promised to adhere to the pledges he had already given.

Unrest in India.

Sir Andrew Fraser, Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal, against whose life five attempts have been made and have failed, has survived another plot to murder him. He is sailing shortly for Tuticorin, on the south-east corner of India, leaving that port on his homeward voyage to England.

Three Bengalis, aware of this intention, proceeded to Tuticorin by an earlier steamer in order to make another attempt to murder him before he left India. They were arrested, however, and many incriminating documents found in their possession were seized.

AFRICA.

Rosette tribes attacked a patrol of General Carman's troops in the Cameroons, a German colony on the west coast of Africa, killing four men, including an officer, and wounding ten.

United South Africa.

London's Agency reports that it is understood that the South African Conference now sitting at Capetown unanimously favours unification on the Canadian plan.

An important section of the South African Chamber of Commerce desires to model the Constitution as closely as possible on the lines of the British Constitution.

Egyptian Nationalists.

The Egyptian Legislative Council has unanimously urged the Khedive's Government to confer upon the nation the right of effective participation in the interior administration of the country.

Dinizulu's Trial.

At the trial of Dinizulu, the paramount Zulu chief, who is accused by the Natal Government of fomenting the native rising of 1906, Mshini, one of Dinizulu's wives, testified that she heard Dinizulu order Mankulwana to summon regiments for a war, and also plot with his followers to murder Sir Charles Saunders, Chief Magistrate and Civil Commissioner in Zululand, and the late magistrate Stembek.

The Court consists of Sir W. J. Smith, judge of the Supreme Court of the Transvaal; Mr. H. G. Boshoff, judge of the Native High Court of Natal; and Mr. Henrique Shepstone, C.M.G., son of the late Sir Theophilus Shepstone. The indictment comprises 23 counts, including the collecting of arms, the encouragement of rebellion and the harbouring of rebels. The trial is expected to last until Christmas, as the Crown intends to call 150 witnesses and the defence 300. Cakijana, who was Dinizulu's principal lieutenant, has already been found guilty of high treason by this court, and has been sentenced to seven years' imprisonment with hard labour. In passing sentence, Mr. Justice Smith said there was nothing in the evidence to show that Cakijana had acted under the direct or indirect orders of Dinizulu. Mjombolwana, another Zulu chief, was found guilty of murdering Sit-sithili, a chief loyal to the British, and was sentenced to death.

Indians in the Transvaal.

Eight thousand out of ten thousand British Indians in the Transvaal have registered under the Act of last session.

A thousand applications for registration were rejected, and the remaining thousand will be prosecuted for refusing to register.

The new law provides that after December 31, 1909, no new trading licenses shall be issued to Indians, and that no license shall be issued to or held by Indians after December 31, 1910. The Indians resolved to ask the Imperial Government to veto the measures, in order to prevent the ruin of the Indian traders. The "Natal Mercury," foreboding an ending of the conflict, importation declines that South Africa, whether federated or unified, will not permit it longer. It relies upon Queensland's example in dealing with the coloured question.

Echo of the War.

A monument to Commandant Scheepers and his companions, who during the South African war were convicted of murder and executed, has been unveiled at Graat Reinet.

Mr. M. T. Steyn, who was President of Orange Free State from 1896 to 1900, sent a message declaring that if Commandant Scheepers had done anything conflicting with the laws he had only obeyed the instructions of his superiors. "But," Mr. Steyn added, "I am unaware that anything conflicting with the laws was done."

AMERICA.

The agreement between America and Japan relative to the status quo in the Far East has been signed at Washington.

Mr. J. D. Archbold, vice-president of the Standard Oil Trust, testifies that the trust owns or controls companies with a capital of 163,000,000.

The Rev. W. Bayard Hale, writer of the interview with the Kaiser, which was excised from the current number of the "Century Magazine," reiterates that the account of the interview which the "New York World" and "New York American" published, is a silly concoction.

The U.S.A. Tariff.

The New York correspondent of the "Times" states that the Ways and Means Committee on Tariff Revision at Washington is started by the numerous proposals in favour of free trade.

Demands have been received for free trade in lumber, steel, hides, and works of art, and for the substantial reduction of duties in other directions.

Throughout the States both parties have been clamouring for tariff amendment, and Mr Taft is committed to revision. At the Republican Convention in Chicago there was a contest between those who wanted revision and the "stand-paters," but the former won easily.

Heavy influence is being brought to bear on the Ways and Means Committee on Tariff revision urging them to include hides in the free list.

Roof manufacturers declare that if the duty is abolished they will be able to secure complete control of the British market.

No Respector of Persons.

President Roosevelt, while walking to church in Washington on Sunday week, was knocked down by a motor-car. The President was unhurt, but had a very close shave.

Revolt in Hayti.

After the success of the Southern revolutionaries under General Simon, the people of the Haytian capital, Port-au-Prince, rose against the present President, General Nord Alexis, and his Government.

They ousted the administration from office, and formed a provisional Government, with General Legitime as President.

When the rebel forces, under General Simon, approached the capital, the Government forces sent out to oppose them offered no resistance.

Instead they retreated before the advance of the rebels, and voluntarily laid down their arms, thus giving Simon's followers a free entrance to the city.

The populace are now clamouring for the elevation of General Simon to the Presidency, the administration under General Legitime being but provisional.

When it was evident that the revolutionaries would succeed in capturing the capital the French Minister at Port-au-Prince, throwing the folds of the tricolour round the shoulders of the overthrown President Alexis, escorted him to the quay and took him aboard a French cruiser anchored in the harbour.

The populace looted the French Minister, and endeavoured to assassinate their aged President, but he was protected by the French guard.

Both the American and French Ministers have stationed parties of bluejackets round their respective Legations.

Pillaging has begun in the market place, and a butcher was killed while defending his stall from the mob.

foiled in its attempt to assassinate the President, the mob in Port-au-Prince pillaged the shops and houses.

They fought among themselves for the spoil, and four were killed.

Ultimately General Poidevin and a party of soldiers and civilians fired on the mob, killing twelve.

Order was then restored.

In the Heart of the City.

A "hold up" gang, consisting of four men, armed with revolvers, and three women, boarded a trolley in the heart of New York at three o'clock on Wednesday morning.

They murderously assaulted the conductor, and covering the 65 passengers with their revolvers, robbed them of their jewellery and money and then decamped, getting clear away.

Remorse.

The San Francisco correspondent of the "London Daily News" states that Chief of Police Biggely has committed suicide.

Biggely was severely criticised for neglect of duty during the campaign against the grafters.

Statesmanlike.

President Roosevelt has made 15,500 fourth-class sub-postmasters, formerly on the temporary list, and subject to dismissal when their nominators were displaced from political power, permanent officials. They are thus removed from political influence, and their positions are made secure.

Escaped in a Motor.

A gang of burglars dynamited the vault of the National Bank at Pepperell, Massachusetts.

They secured a sum of £3000, which they placed aboard a motor car and drove away.

Defence of Canada.

The "Toronto Mail," discussing Lord Roberts' warning to Britain of the necessity for preparing to resist a land invasion, urges Canada to reduce expenditure on her militia by a million and spend that amount in the purchase of four cruisers for the Atlantic, thereby offering a better defence for the coastal and river fronts.

PERSONAL NOTES.

Mr and Mrs. G. T. Seymour, of Meadowbank, Blenheim, intend leaving on a visit to the Old Country in March next.

Mr. C. Ranson, manager of the Northern S.S. Company, left by the *Rarawa* for Wellington on Sunday.

Mr and Mrs Charles Hughes, who have been on a visit to the Old Country, have returned to Hastings.

Sir Robert Stout, Chief Justice, is at present at Taupo on business connected with the Native Lands Commission.

Mr William Miller, a well-known resident of Gisborne, has returned to Wellington after making a tour of the world.

The Ven. Archdeacon Calder, of Auckland arrives from England by the *Arawa* this week.

Mr and Mrs S. H. Meredith, of Apia, Samoa, are at present on a visit to Auckland.

Mr L. Birks, engineer-in-charge of the railways at Rotorua, is spending a week in Wellington on Departmental business.

Mr J. Kirker, general manager of the South British Insurance Company, left for Wellington by the *Rarawa* on Sunday.

Mr. Thomas Mahoney, architect, Auckland, has been elected president of the New Zealand Architects' Association, Wellington.

The Christchurch Artists' Club gave a farewell dinner to Mr. Raymond F. McIntyre, who is about to leave for England to pursue his studies.

The death is announced of Mr Douglas C. Gilmour, one of the proprietors of the "Southland Times." Deceased was only 27 years of age.

Mr M. R. Hunter, of the New Zealand Tourist Department, Wellington, has gone to Sydney to take up an appointment in the Sydney branch.

Mr J. Gifford, clerk at the Masterton railway station, has received notice of his transfer to the traffic manager's office at Wellington.

Mr and Mrs R. Green and family, of Masterton, will leave Wellington on the 23rd inst., by the s.s. *Devon*, en route for England.

Mr W. C. Kensington, Under-Secretary for Crown Lands, has been laid up with a severe attack of influenza, but is now recovering.

Mrs. Jacob Joseph, Miss Joseph, and Mrs. Joseph Joseph are to leave Wellington next month on a trip to England. Mr Joseph Joseph will follow in March.

Mr Mark Oliver Mosen, aged 56, licensee of the Club Hotel, Carterton, died recently of heart failure, following on

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