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BILLION-DOLLAR SESSION.

Democrats Denouncing Republicans for Extravagance of Which They Are Equally Guilty.

The latest "paramount issue" bears the caption "A Billion-Dollar Session." It is a striking phrase.

Men who will take the pains to examine the appropriation bill will discover at the outset that the aggregate is a little over \$800,000,000, or nearly \$200,000,000 short of a billion dollars.

The appropriations actually made aggregate a little over \$800,000,000. Of this sum \$50,000,000 is for the Panama canal and \$50,000,000 more is for

CALAMITY ONCE MORE.

The Democrats Are Put to the Pitiable Resort of Taking Up the Old Cry.

The Boston Herald, which is hostile to republicanism, sometimes bitterly and vehemently so, uses a curious argument to discourage the democrats from too strenuous effort to get control of the next congress.

"If next winter or next summer the extraordinary conditions we have recently experienced in the line of industrial activity should come to an end—and this may well be through over-speculation or losses of foreign markets through the unwillingness of the party in power to negotiate trade treaties—and if this industrial decline were accompanied by the success of the democrats in electing a majority to the house of representatives, the country would be told by the republican orators and newspaper organs that that political change was what had been the cause of business disaster.

Correctly interpreted, this means nothing more nor less than falling back on the old democratic plan of relying on "calamity" to get into power.

2,000 LIVES LOST.

Terrible Result of Another Eruption of Mont Pelee—Thousands of People Leaving Martinique.

Castries, Island of St. Lucia, B. W. I., Sept. 5.—The mail steamer Yarr arrived here last evening from the island of Martinique.

Paris, Sept. 5.—The Paris edition of the New York Herald publishes a dispatch from Pointe-a-Pitre, island of Guadeloupe, French West Indies, dated September 4, which says that constant detonations heard there Wednesday night indicate a terrific volcanic eruption on the island of Martinique.

The minister of the colonies, in placing \$100,000 at the disposal of the government of Martinique to relieve the distress in that island, has urged the governor not to congregate refugees at Fort de France, but to distribute them in the south, where their necessities can be most easily supplied.

Recognizing the danger of a tidal wave at Fort de France, the colonial minister has instructed Gov. Le Maire to adopt all the measures necessary to enable the inhabitants to immediately evacuate the place in the case of necessity and seek refuge on the heights above the town, where food depots should be established.

Kingston, Jamaica, Sept. 5.—The German steamer Castilia, which arrived here from St. Thomas, D. W. I., reports encountering a heavy fall of volcanic dust while 800 miles at sea.

GREATER LONGEVITY.

The Census Bureau Issues an Interesting Statement Which Shows the Age of the Population to be Increasing—Whites Live Longer than Blacks.

Washington, Sept. 4.—The census bureau has issued a statement showing the increasing age of the population from decade to decade.

The report shows that there was an increase in the median age of the white population during each decade from 1810 to 1900, amounting in the 90 years to 7.4 years, or an average amount of about five-sixths of a year in a decade.

The statement concludes as follows: "Many complex influences have cooperated in producing this steady change in the age composition of the population. Three may be mentioned: the rapid progress of medical and sanitary science, which has tended to increase the average length of life; the decrease in the relative number of children born, which has made the earlier age periods less preponderant numerically in the total population; and the influx, especially since 1840, of great numbers of adult immigrants, increasing the number in the older age periods.

HARDSHIPS AND EXPOSURE.

The Sad Case of an Officer of the Army Signal Corps.

Washington, Sept. 5.—An example of the mental havoc wrought by extreme exposure and privation is furnished by the case of Capt. Joseph E. Maxfield, of the signal corps, who, for about six months, has been in charge of the army's signal work in Alaska.

A few days ago the war department received a telegram stating that Capt. Maxfield was beset with a hallucination that there was a conspiracy directed against his life, and it was suggested that the officer should be returned to the United States.

Aid for Martinique's Sufferers.

Paris, Sept. 4.—The Martinique commission met here yesterday and decided that \$100,000 should be immediately sent to Martinique for distribution among the sufferers from the last eruption there.

A NARROW ESCAPE

The President's Landau Meets With Disaster.

An Electric Car Dashes Into It—Mr. Roosevelt's Head Cut—William Craig, of the Secret Service, Killed—Secretary Cortelyou Slightly Injured.

Pittsfield, Mass., Sept. 4.—The president of the United States escaped a tragic death by only a few feet in a collision between his carriage and an electric street car in this city Wednesday, while one of his most trusted guards, Secret Service Agent William Craig, was instantly killed, and David J. Pratt, of Dalton, who was guiding the horses attached to the vehicle, was seriously injured.

Secretary Cortelyou, who occupied a seat directly opposite the chief executive in the landau, sustained a minor wound on the back of the head, and Gov. Crane, who sat beside the president, extricated himself from the wreck practically without a scratch.

The president and party were driving from this city to Lenox, through South street, one of the principal thoroughfares of Pittsfield, which was lined with cheering people, and the catastrophe occurred in the plain view of hundreds.

The trolley car approached the road crossing under a good head of speed with gong clanging just as the driver of the president's carriage turned his leaders to cross the tracks.

Alarmed by the clanging gong, they both turned in their saddles and waved vigorously to the motorman to stop his car. Almost at the same instant Gov. Crane rose to his feet and motioned to the motorman.

The carriage was upset and one horse fell dead on the tracks. The other three powerful grays attached to the vehicle started to run and dragged by them and pushed by the force of the car, the wrecked carriage was moved 30 or 40 feet.

No one on the car seems to be able to explain how the accident happened. Even the motorman and persons on the front seat are apparently unable to tell why it was not avoided.

Motorman Madden and Conductor Kelly remained in the station house from 10 a. m., when they were arrested, until 6:20 last evening, when bail was furnished.

Boston, Sept. 5.—Some new facts of interest bearing upon the accident to the president's party at Pittsfield were given by John B. Crane, secretary to Gov. Crane, who was in the third carriage behind that occupied by the president, and who saw the accident.

Late Returns from Vermont.

White River Junction, Vt., Sept. 4.—With practically complete returns from the state election, but one town out of the 246 towns and cities having failed to report its vote, the result is as follows: John G. McCullough (republican) 31,810, Felix W. McGietrick (democrat) 7,247, Percival W. Clement (high license) 28,607, Joel O. Sherburne (prohibition) 2,438.

Refuse to Join the Federation.

Kansas City, Sept. 5.—The National Association of Postoffice Clerks by a unanimous vote yesterday rejected the proposition to affiliate with the American Federation of Labor.

CHICAGO MAN'S SIGNAL.

To Be Used in the Park Avenue Tunnel at New York to Prevent Accidents.

The New York Central railroad has conducted an inspection of a new signal system for use in the Park avenue tunnel. A. C. Miller, of Chicago, is the inventor.

Briefly, the device provides an additional safeguard against accident, over the familiar block system. It is in a measure dependent for its operation on the block system, and yet it also acts independently.

Electricity sent through the rails, as well as through a system of wires strung beside the track, is used for the new device.

A small grass seed which had germinated while in a patient's eye, has just been removed by a Japanese oculist.

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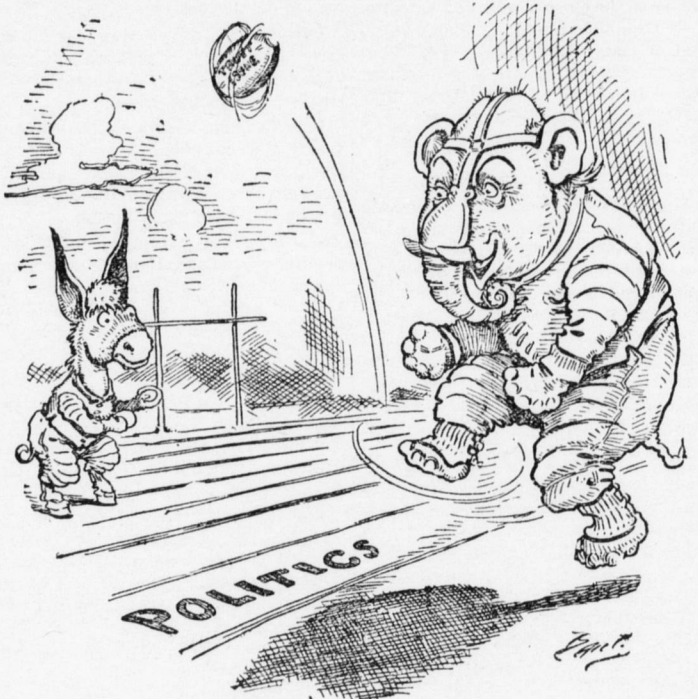
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THE KICK OFF.—Minneapolis Journal.

the sinking fund. Thus is \$100,000,000 disposed of which has nothing whatever to do with current expenses.

Here rests his head upon the lap of earth, A youth to glory hither to unknown. Fair science proved his patriotic worth, But grim dyspepsia claimed him for her own.

Now, consider the already oft-repeated statement of an increase of appropriations this year over last year of \$70,000,000. First, there is the \$50,000,000 appropriated for the isthmian canal, as already intimated.

In 1900, according to a census bulletin, the farms of the United States were valued at over twenty and a half billion dollars. Farmers' boys in the aggregate, therefore, are not to be commiserated financially.

Jane Wooley, of Leitchfield, Ky., was too fat to be pulled through the door of the courtroom to stand trial for making moonshine whisky, and the judge felt that he would be usurping jurisdiction if he administered justice in the open air.

Democrats in Michigan seem bent on proving that they can split just as far up the back and rim a million dollars as many cents as the republicans have done.

ing the dissensions in its own ranks which make harmony impossible; so it should hope and pray for commercial distress in order to have a club with which to beat the republicans, who, of course, will be held responsible for any cessation of business activity.

REPUBLICANS GET CREDIT.

Chief Magwump Organ Makes True Statement Regarding the Country's Prosperity.

An admission by the Springfield Republican, the chief organ of the magwumps of New England, that "it is mostly true that everything good and great in the legislation of the past 45 years is the work of the republican party," has caused considerable comment in the newspapers of the country.

To be sure, the democrats have not had much chance to enact laws since 1865. In 1876 they obtained control of both branches of congress, but there was a republican president in the white house to veto the political bills that were passed.

The incapacity of the democrats to legislate for the good of the country has been demonstrated whenever that party has had control of either or both branches of congress, and that is probably the reason why the people have continued to give the control of congress to the republicans, almost without interruption.

The democrats who are always troubled about appropriations include the bond issue proposed for the isthmian canal as a part of republican extravagance.—Indianapolis Journal