

CAMERON COUNTY PRESS.

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JOB PRINTING. The Job department of the Press is complete and affords facilities for doing the best class of work.

The London Sunday-school Union proposes to celebrate its centenary next July by a forward movement, which shall gather a million new scholars into the Sunday-schools of Great Britain.

It is reported that the Russian minister of the interior is considering a project for nationalizing the medical profession, so that all doctors and chemists would be state officials.

It is not generally known that the jackal is a greater destroyer of humanity in India than the tiger.

"Big Ben," the world-famous clock in the tower of the house of parliament, London, is being lighted by electricity, so that its time may be read during the occasional clear night.

The United States geological survey report for 1900 gives a list of 541 mineral or medicinal water springs, which list does not include those of purely local celebrity.

In Venice water is somewhat of a luxury, as the inhabitants have to depend upon the rains, and there is no company for supplying the city.

Wert Gerrare, in his book on "Greater Russia," tells some amusing stories of Russian slowness to appreciate modern improvement.

However little credit a horse may commonly receive for possessing delicacy of scent, there are some perfumes grateful to him.

Man has by no means the monopoly of the coughing function. The coughing bean also possesses this function.

Hamburg has a sort of animal university at which beasts from all parts of the world are trained and acclimated for the zoological gardens of Europe.

A Good Friday custom of long standing, the counterpart of which can be seen in possibly no other city on the Western hemisphere, was observed in the climbing of Catholic pilgrims to the Church of the Immaculate Conception on Mt. Adams from East Third street, Cincinnati, near the reservoir, up to the church.

UNABLE TO DO IT.

Lowell Cotton Mills Cannot Afford to Increase Wages.

Massachusetts Board of Arbitration and Conciliation Reports Unfavorable on the Demand of the Employes for More Pay.

Boston, April 23.—According to the report of the state board of arbitration and conciliation presented to Gov. Bates yesterday the textile corporations in Lowell involved in the present strike of 17,000 operatives, with a single exception cannot afford to pay their help the 10 per cent. increase in wages demanded by organized labor.

After reviewing the demands that have been made since March, 1902, for increase of wages and the refusal by the operators to concede the increases, the report says: "The point at issue is whether the mills can afford the increase. The operatives assert that they can. The agents claim they cannot and will consent to an examination of their books by the board."

The board shows that the cost of living in 1902 is 15.37 per cent. higher than in 1897, against the 25 per cent. claimed by the workingmen, and that the wages in cotton mills in Lowell have been raised 10 per cent. in the same period.

The books of the Massachusetts mills show increases in wages since 1898, ranging from 14 to 23.3 per cent.

The board does not find from examination of the lists of stockholders that the Lowell mills are controlled by a combination, as alleged by the employes, nor does it find that the selling agents control prices in such a way as to depress wages.

On the question of salaries paid to officials the board shows that out of every \$100 received from goods made, \$1.62 was paid in salaries in the Fall River cotton mills, \$1.51 in New Bedford and \$1.43 in Lowell.

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BANDS OF SMUGGLERS.

Their Methods are Exposed by a Young Man at Buffalo.

Buffalo, N. Y., April 23.—The operations of a well organized gang of smugglers who have, it is alleged, brought hundreds of Chinamen into this country over Niagara river, were disclosed Wednesday by James Fox, 22 years old, while on the witness stand. Fox was placed under arrest while riding on a street car, with a "contraband" Chinaman.

Upon the testimony of Fox the federal authorities have arrested George E. Judson, of this city, who, it is alleged, is the leader of the smugglers. The hearing yesterday was merely preliminary to a trial when, it is said, evidence will become public showing the smuggling operations and the participation therein of persons doing business in New York, Chicago and Toronto.

More Islands for Uncle Sam.

Washington, April 23.—Official advice received at the navy department from the Philippines record the discovery of a number of valuable islands in the southern part of the archipelago which are not on any of the charts in the possession of the government.

Decreased Nearly 23,000,000 Tons.

Wilkesbarre, Pa., April 23.—The annual report for 1902 of James E. Rodrick, chief of the state bureau of anthracite coal last year was 36,911,531 tons. This is a decrease of 22,994,400 tons compared with the production of 1901, due to the strike. To mine this coal 300 lives were lost and 641 men were injured out of a total of 148,141 men employed. In 1901, working full time, 513 men were killed and 1,245 injured.

A Fatal Wreck.

Spring Valley, Wis., April 23.—One man was killed and three others were injured in a wreck on the Spring Valley branch of the Chicago, St. Paul, Minneapolis & Omaha railroad yesterday. A mixed train was stalled on a hill two miles west of here, and two cars that had been left on the track while the rest of the train went over the ridge, broke away. They gained terrific speed and collided with another train coming up the grade.

TERRIBLE CATASTROPHE.

Ten People Killed by Explosions in the Plant of an Oil Company at Minneapolis, Minn.

Minneapolis, Minn., April 24.—Ten persons, eight men and two women, were killed by an explosion at the plant of the Northwestern Star Oil Co. at the foot of Sixth avenue about 11:30 o'clock Thursday morning. The dead are as follows: W. H. Davis, president. C. H. Durrin, general manager. Stanislaus W. Mitchell, cashier. Jacob Domm, bookkeeper. Miss Caroline A. Record, bookkeeper.

Harold C. Colbern, clerk. Miss Ella M. Rounder, stenographer. David Dacey, foreman. John Spontanski, laborer. Joseph La Pond, laborer. The injured: Will Larson, laborer; Charles Aironson, Joe McGinty, Walter E. Scott, Joseph Dronick, E. J. Link, Joseph Livingston.

The explosion came without an instant's warning and a second after the concussion, the walls had been thrown down and the entire structure was a mass of flames. Not a person in the office escaped alive. Five workmen engaged on the second floor were thrown 20 feet into the air and these were the only persons who escaped. They climbed through the debris and are now at a hospital.

Although the cause of the explosion has not been determined, it is said that some of the employes of the company were emptying some oil tank cars into the tanks in the basement of the building and it is possible that sparks from a switch engine ignited the inflammable fluids.

Several explosions followed in quick succession and made the work of the firemen difficult and dangerous. The men could not approach the ruins and the water thrown on the flames was without effect. The department could do nothing but allow the flames to burn themselves out and then search for the bodies of the dead.

At a late hour last night three bodies had been recovered, those of Domm and Misses Rounder and Record. The fire is still burning and the work of searching for the bodies is carried on with great danger, for it is believed that another tank filled with oil has not exploded.

The company was composed of W. H. Davis and was not incorporated. The stock was valued at \$40,000 and the building at \$15,000. The insurance was \$23,700 and the loss is total. All that remains of the building is a fire wall, which stood between the office and the tank room. All the other walls are leveled. Since the great mill explosion of 1878 this is the greatest disaster that has been experienced here.

DEPOSED THE SPEAKER.

Turmoil Reigned in the Illinois House of Representatives.

Springfield, Ill., April 24.—Slugging and rolling over each other across the speaker's platform in a general fist fight at the feet of a score of female guests, the members of the Illinois legislature yesterday surpassed the wildest scenes of the Austrian reichsrath. Charges by the speaker of the house, John H. Miller, that attempts had been made to bribe him were formally made last night as an explanation of the extraordinary actions on his part, which precipitated the riot. The interior of the legislative chamber last night resembled, in a measure, the track of a tornado, so general was the wreckage of chairs and desks.

Street railway franchises more valuable than gold mines were directly at stake, federal court receivership proceedings against the Union Traction Co., of Chicago, having brought the matter to a sudden issue. The federal receivership was held by many to indicate an intention by the street railway company to fight out a claim to 99-year franchises, instead of negotiating with the Chicago city council for a renewal of franchises on a 20-year basis, with a municipal ownership option on the part of the city.

The stormiest time ever experienced in the Illinois legislature began almost without warning, in a whirlwind of wild disorder, which arose in the house of representatives over rival traction measures, or so-called municipal ownership bills.

CONCLAVE OF PRELATES.

Archbishops of the Catholic Church Hold a Convention in Washington.

Washington, April 24.—The annual meeting of the archbishops, the most distinguished ecclesiastical body in the Catholic church of this country, was held Thursday in McMahon hall, of the Catholic university. The deliberations of the body, which were held behind closed doors, were presided over by Cardinal Gibbons. While no formal statement of the work of the archbishops was made, it was understood that much time was devoted to consideration of the policy of the Catholic church in the Philippine islands.

The first public ceremony of the day occurred at 3:30 o'clock. It consisted of breaking ground for the proposed Dominican house of studies, located across from the university campus. The ceremony was simple, but impressive. A party of prelates, headed by Cardinal Gibbons, turned the first earth which marked the beginning of the proposed structure.

Carnegie's Latest Big Gift.

New York, April 24.—The trustees of the Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute in Alabama have received \$600,000 towards the endowment fund from Andrew Carnegie, who attended the recent meeting in behalf of the Tuskegee Institute where ex-President Cleveland presided.

Town Swept by Fire.

Fairbury, Neb., April 24.—The worst fire in the history of Fairbury broke out Thursday. One quarter of the business part of the town was destroyed. Loss \$240,000.

TYNER DISMISSED.

Sensational Feature of Postal Scandals Made Public.

Records in the Safe of the Office of the Assistant Attorney General for the Postoffice Department Were Taken by Tyner's Wife.

Washington, April 24.—A most sensational development of the investigation of postoffice affairs occurred just before the department closed yesterday, when Postmaster General Payne announced the summary dismissal of James N. Tyner, assistant attorney general for the postoffice department, coupling with the announcement the startling charge that all the papers and records in the safe of the latter's office had been abstracted by Mrs. Tyner, wife of the discharged official, with the assistance of others. The postmaster general states that Mrs. Tyner has refused the demand of the government for the return of the papers taken.

The facts are told tersely in the letter of dismissal signed by Postmaster General Payne late Wednesday afternoon and made public last night. After Gen. Tyner had received the letter of dismissal from Postmaster General Payne he called into consultation Ross Perry and L. T. Michener, attorneys of this city, who are intimate friends, regarding the matter. These gentlemen made a statement as follows:

"Gen. Tyner asks from the public a suspense of judgment until he can put before them the facts relating to his removal from office and the cause assigned therefor by the postmaster general.

Washington, April 25.—The postmaster general yesterday certified to the attorney general for such action as he may deem necessary the cases of the persons involved in the abstraction of the papers from the safe of the assistant attorney general for the postoffice department.

Attorney General Knox expressed the opinion to Postmaster General Payne that unless there is something to show whether the documents taken from the safe are government property or private papers, no case would lie. This statement was made after Mr. Knox had gone over the papers forwarded to him by the postoffice department. Mr. Payne replied by stating the circumstances attending the taking of the papers and the fact that most of the papers filed in such government safes are of a confidential nature and therefore are not of record.

Attorney Ross Perry, of this city, counsel for the Tyners, called on the postmaster general yesterday subsequent to his interview with Attorney General Knox. He told the postmaster general that the Tyners would be glad to have the postmaster general or any representative of his department look over the papers at the Tyner residence. Mr. Payne talked with Mr. Perry at some length and pointed out to him that the Tyners were given an opportunity immediately after the papers were taken to open them in the presence of the officers of the department and had refused to show them, or to indicate to the government representatives even the nature of the papers.

Mr. Payne was asked subsequently if he declined Mr. Perry's proposition, but said he could not discuss that phase of the question. It may be stated as the department's attitude, however, that it will not give much weight to any papers that are returned and that it is unlikely any further serious effort will be made to recover the papers in view of the fact that there is no way of showing whether any papers returned were the ones actually taken. Postmaster General Payne said:

"If there were conclusive evidence that all the documents taken away would be shown that would be one thing, but the fact that these papers that were taken have been out of the possession of the department for three days is another thing. If there was any motive to take the papers or any intention of doing away with them there has been ample time to do it. Whether the papers were private or not, the impropriety of the act is apparent, to say the least. I regard it as quite as improper to take from a safe in a government office the private papers of Gen. Tyner or Mrs. Tyner, or of anybody else in the manner that those papers were taken, as to take any other papers. The impropriety of the act itself is sufficient to remove any officer of the government."

Harrison J. Barrett, formerly a law officer of the postoffice department and frequently acting assistant attorney general has sent a letter to the postmaster general regarding the latter's statement that charges against Barrett are under investigation. The statement was made in the letter removing Gen. Tyner.

A British Reverse in Somaliland.

Aden, Arabia, April 24.—The British transport Harlinge arrived here Thursday from Berbera, the capital of Somaliland, East Africa, with the report of a British defeat in Somaliland. Ten officers and 180 men, out of a total British force of 230 men, were killed in an engagement with the Somalis on April 17. The British were under command of Col. Cobbe.

Bell's Flying Machine.

Washington, April 24.—The feature of Thursday's session of the National Academy of Science was a lecture by Prof. Alexander Graham Bell, on flying machine experiments. He has been conducting and displaying models of the new kite or flying machine he has constructed. Prof. Bell said he had built a kite the frame of which would present a triangle no matter from what side viewed. His frame is a perfect tetrahedron. This form he had found avoided the defects named and moreover he was surprised at the facility with which such a kite could be managed.

MR. BAER TALKS.

President of the Reading Co. Testifies Before the Inter-State Commission.

New York, April 25.—President Baer, of the Philadelphia & Reading railroad, was present Friday when the inter-state commerce commission resumed its hearing against the anthracite coal carrying railroads. Mr. Baer said he was president of so many companies he could not remember the names of them all. He said about 63 per cent. of the mining properties of the anthracite region is owned or controlled by the Philadelphia & Reading Coal Co. About 21 per cent. of the coal produced is owned by the Philadelphia & Reading Co.

Mr. Shearn read to the witness the section of the Pennsylvania constitution which debar companies incorporated as carriers from engaging in the business of mining or manufacturing and asked if the operation of the Reading Coal & Iron Co. is not in violation of that provision.

"The Philadelphia Coal & Iron Co. exists under the statutes of Pennsylvania," replied Mr. Baer. "It does not evade any laws of the state nor of the United States. I shall be glad to have the question tested in any form you may select."

Fred F. Chambers, secretary, and Orlando C. Post, auditor of the Delaware, Lackawanna & Western railroad, were called, but on advice of the company's counsel refused to produce or discuss any contracts entered into by their company and the coal companies.

E. B. Sturgis, a coal operator of Scranton, refused to produce similar contracts. Mr. Sturgis was one of the promoters of the proposed independent railroad to tidewater. He said the scheme was dropped when the railroads offered the operators better terms.

TRADE BULLETIN.

Some Hesitation is Noted in Several Branches of Business.

New York, April 25.—R. G. Dun & Co.'s Weekly Review of Trade says: Traders responded promptly to better weather in many sections of the country, notable activity appearing in reasonable lines of wearing apparel, yet wholesalers report conservatism as compared with earlier months this year, although business is more active than it was a year ago. Some branches are still backward, and there is more or less complaint regarding collections, while renewals are frequently asked.

Outdoor work is vigorously prosecuted, agricultural communities endeavoring to make up lost time, and structural undertakings call for large quantities of lumber and building materials, sustaining quotations. Labor problems are being solved with encouraging celerity. Lake navigation had the expected effect in reducing rail freight congestion, and shipments are more prompt, yet there is no diminution in the splendid increase of gross railway earnings.

Ample supplies of fuel make it possible for blast furnaces to turn out pig iron in abundance, and a new high water mark of production may be expected for April. Augmented stocks of coke and pig iron, however, fail to result in sufficient steel as yet, billets being in urgent request. Settlement of structural labor troubles has renewed activity on bridges and buildings, which revives interest in steel. Billets will be brought from abroad at the earliest possible date. Failures this week were 166 in the United States, against 212 last year, and 15 in Canada, compared with 12 a year ago.

RESUMED HIS TOUR.

President Roosevelt Leaves Yellowstone Park.

Gardiner, Mont., April 25.—President Roosevelt resumed his tour yesterday. Before going, however, he participated in the laying of the cornerstone of the new gate at the northern entrance to Yellowstone park. The ceremony was performed according to the Masonic ritual and was in charge of the grand officers of the state of Montana. Special trains brought hundreds of people, including a large body of Masons, and as the weather was perfect, the scene was a very pretty one. The president rode down from the post accompanied by Maj. Pitcher and was escorted to the gaily decorated stand where he delivered an address.

Troops and bands of the Third cavalry were drawn up in front of the stand as a guard of honor. Frank Smith, grand master, conducted the services. The president on behalf of the Masons of the state was presented with a Masonic charm, mounted on a nugget of Montana gold. The president began his address by thanking the people and the soldiers for his enjoyable two weeks' holiday and then spoke of the natural wonders of the park.

A Big Cave-in.

Wilkesbarre, Pa., April 25.—The town of Avoca, eight miles from this city, was the scene of considerable excitement Friday, caused by a second cave-in that proved more disastrous than the one that took place on Monday last. The surface over the workings of the Langelff mine began settling and several acres of land in the heart of the town are affected. Eleven properties on both sides of Main street are within the affected district and much uneasiness prevails among those residing in that portion, as the surface went down to the depth of nearly three feet.

A Holdup on a Train.

Lincoln, Neb., April 25.—Passengers on a Burlington passenger train were robbed of \$1,000 early Friday morning as the train was leaving the Burlington station in Lincoln. The train has been robbed three times within 100 miles of Lincoln. The robbery last fall netted \$50,000 to the men who did the work, and no trace of them has ever been found.

Coopers Strike.

Chicago, April 25.—Five hundred coopers and other employes of the Pioneer Coopers Co. went on strike Friday to abolish piece work.

WANTS TOO MUCH.

United States Liable to Call a Halt on Russia.

Great Britain and Japan May Join Uncle Sam in a Protest to the Chinese Not to Accept Russia's Demands in Manchuria.

Washington, April 25.—The dispatches from Peking announcing the terms which Russia has named to China for carrying out the Manchurian agreement were read with deep concern in diplomatic circles yesterday. While the diplomats are not disposed to publicly comment on them, it is expected that the United States, Great Britain and Japan will join in a firm note to the Chinese government insisting that China do not agree to the conditions which Russia seeks to impose.

It is rather expected in diplomatic quarters that the United States will take the initiative, possibly because of the prompt action taken by Secretary Hay on one other occasion when Russia sought to secure an agreement with China which was held by this and other powers to be inimical to their interests. The interests of the United States, Great Britain and Japan in Manchuria are such, it is said, to bring those countries closely together in this matter.

In view of the late developments in Manchuria the naval strength of the various powers in Chinese waters becomes interesting. The Russian fleet has been gradually increased until now it numbers 42 vessels. France has 31 ships and 20 others in India and Cochin China waters. Great Britain at last accounts had 37 war vessels in Chinese waters and Germany 17. The Kentucky and Oregon are the only American battleships on the Asiatic station, but there are 24 smaller American warships, including two monitors and some gunboats in Philippine waters. Japan has a strong naval force on the coast.

London, April 25.—There is in contemplation a forcible joint protest on the part of Great Britain, the United States and Japan against the Russian demands in the matter of the sovereignty of Manchuria.

Sir Ernest Satow, British minister to China, in a dispatch to the foreign office has confirmed the published synopsis of the note addressed to China by M. Plancois, Russian charge d'affaires at Peking. Further official advice regarding the intentions of the Chinese government and explanations from St. Petersburg are awaited anxiously. In the meantime the British government is not taking active measures, although Foreign Secretary Lansdowne intends to circulate pourparlers looking to joint action from Washington, London and Tokio, provided further information sustains the present abstract of the Russian demands.

The Associated Press is authorized by the foreign office to state that if the Chinese government correctly represents Russia's claims, these claims constitute an absolute breach of all the undertakings given in connection with Manchuria and utterly abrogate the principles of the open door, territorial development and internal comity to which the British government has committed itself. It is added that in these principles Great Britain always has acted in concert with the United States.

UNDER LOCK AND KEY.

Declaration of Independence Will be Kept in a Fire and Light Proof Safe.

Washington, April 25.—The Declaration of Independence is to be seen no more by the public. An order has been issued that henceforth the historic manuscript shall be kept under lock and key in a great fire and light proof safe. The declaration will never be exhibited again at any of the great international fairs. This decision was reached as the result of an examination of the document by a committee of the American Academy of Sciences now in session in this city, who acted as the instance of Secretary Hay, whose attention has been called to the sad state of the famous document by Andrew Allen, librarian of the state department. Most of the text of the declaration is still legible, but only one or two of the signatures can be made out. There is only a trace of the autographs of John Hancock, the first to sign.

The committee made a careful examination of the declaration. It was found that the ink used was not of the first quality. The fact that the engrosser (now unknown to history) used a stub pen and bore steadily upon it, accounted in a measure for the better preservation of the text as compared with the signatures. The great damage sustained, however, was in 1820 when a copy was taken by the crude letter press process. This was done in order to secure a fac-simile for the surviving signers and their families.

Slaughtered 55 of Their Foes.

Vienna, April 25.—Dispatches from Sofia, Bulgaria, announce that a band of Macedonians recently surrounded and slaughtered 40 Basli Bazouks and 15 gendarmes, near Petrich, Macedonia, out of revenge for the murder of their leader, Capt. Saef, who was recently killed in an engagement. The band subsequently captured the district chief of Petrich and 25 soldiers whom they stripped and released.

Riots in a French City.

Paris, April 25.—Manifestations growing out of the dispersion of congregations continue to be reported from the provinces. The serious disorder occurred last night at Nantes, where moun' darmes were forced to charge at times to scatter a crowd of 3,000 persons. Twenty-th were made, the Marquis member of the chamber being among those who were patched from Grenoble day passed quietly at of the Grande Chartre monks are still barred