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PROSPERITY AND WEST POINT.

The present shortage of 70 or more in the authorized strength of the cadet corps at West Point is not explained by the superintendent as due entirely to the severity of the entrance examinations.

It is the opinion of Dr. Hirsch that children are entitled to fairy tales. They are one of the pleasures of youth which stern old people trying to raise them by rules should not take from them.

Liberia has lately lost nominal control of part of the territory over which the congress of the black republic was supposed to exercise sovereignty.

The present first class of midshipmen at the Naval academy, who have pledged themselves voluntarily against a revival of hazing in any way, are to be commended for their perception of what is meant by their future as officers and gentlemen of the United States navy.

Do not as a brilliant workman imagine that you are the proprietor of the establishment, for just when you feel that you are indispensable, then perhaps the boss may ask your resignation and break the day dream of your lofty importance.

Short-sighted citizens who in times of untroubled prosperity are habitual purchasers of gold bricks are the first in times of stringency to hide their savings in their socks and cripple the nation's industries.

The Japs say all they want is equal privileges with citizens of the United States. That's something citizens of the United States can't always get themselves.

Part of the gold we brought over from Europe with so much trouble will hurry back again with aliens who, having made their piles, are going home to live in comfort.

TWO MEN KILLED; 13 INJURED.

AN EXPLOSION IN A STEEL PLANT AT BRADDOCK, PA.

Molten Metal Sifted Through the Lining of a Converter, Throwing 15 Tons of Metal into a Pit Where Men Worked.

Pittsburg, Pa.—Two men were killed and 13 others were seriously injured by an explosion Wednesday in Converter No. 3 of the Edgar Thomson plant of the United States Steel Co. at North Braddock, about seven miles east of here.

Stephan Dovich, aged 35, Braddock, and the others Slavs. All were removed to a hospital in this city, where it was said their injuries were not serious.

No official statement of the cause of the explosion has been issued, but old converter mill men say the cause could hardly be other than that some of the molten metal sifted through the soapstone lining of the converter and came in contact with the steel sheathing, which perhaps was damp.

When the explosion occurred the bottom of the converter dropped out, throwing 15 tons of molten metal into the pit where 15 men were working at the ladles. There was no explosion when the hot mass of steel struck the bottom of the pit, but instead flames of burning gas were sent up, which burned the men in the pit.

The force of the explosion blew the sheet iron roof of the converting mill and caused two of the walls to collapse, besides breaking all of the windows in buildings in the vicinity, and partially destroying the engine house and warehouse near the converting mill.

SOME ADVICE TO LEGISLATORS.

It Is Given by Gov. Hughes, of New York, in His Annual Message.

Albany, N. Y.—The annual message of Gov. Hughes, which was sent to the legislature Wednesday, contains many important recommendations. Chief among these is a recommendation regarding the amendment of the law relating to banks and trust companies.

Another important recommendation has as its object the complete suppression of race track gambling throughout the state.

Direct nominations at primaries and a simplified form of ballot are urged in the message, and recommendations also are made for better provision for the care and protection of emigrants; for the extension of the state's forest preserves; for careful revision of the forest, fish and game law; for the enactment of a license law, providing reasonable license fees for hunting; for amendment of the constitution of Greater New York to exclude from the city's debt limit all bonds issued for purposes which produce revenues in excess of their maintenance charges; and for the establishment of a secondary agricultural school, which would provide a suitable complement to the work of the college at Ithaca.

POLICE ARE BAFFLED.

Murder Mystery of the "Woman in Red" at Harrison, N. J., Is Unsolved.

New York City.—The mystery enveloping the murder of the "woman in red" is seemingly as impenetrable to-day as when the nude body was first discovered on Christmas day partially concealed in the water and slime of a lonely pond near Harrison, N. J. Thus far the detectives have failed to find a single reliable clue to the identity of the woman or her slayer.

The identifications of the dead woman by Mrs. Harle Hull and Detective Drabell, of Orange, N. J., have completely collapsed and left the case more puzzling than ever. Word was received Wednesday from Philadelphia that Agnes O'Keefe, whom Detective Drabell believed the murdered woman to be, had been found in that city. Mrs. Hull's identification is not credited by the police.

Acting Mayor Daly, of Harrison, N. J., announced Wednesday that the city council would offer a reward of \$1,000 for the arrest and conviction of the slayer of the woman.

An American Consul Is Attacked.

Guatemala City, Guatemala.—The American charge d'affaires, William F. Sands, has returned here from Ocos, whither he went to investigate an alleged attack on the American consul there by the Mexican consul.

It is said the American consul fears a further attack and declares that the Guatemalan authorities have refused to protect him, alleging that Guatemala fears Mexico may misconstrue any step taken against Mexican citizens. The Mexican minister to Guatemala claims that if the United States makes demands on Guatemala they will serve as an excuse for a serious attack on Mexicans residing at Ocos.

Coke Workers' Wages are Cut.

Uniontown, Pa.—Announcement is made by the H. C. Frick Coke Co. of a decrease in wages affecting all of its coke plants in this region. The decrease is about 7 1/2 per cent, and places the wages slightly above what they were prior to the increase made in March, 1906.

Brewers are Refused an Injunction.

Atlanta, Ga.—Judge Newman, on Wednesday, refused to grant a temporary injunction requested by the brewery interests to stop the enforcement of the prohibition law of Georgia.

TAFT PROGRAM IS ADOPTED

OHIO REPUBLICAN CONVENTION TO BE HELD MARCH 3 AND 4.

PRIMARIES ON FEBRUARY 11.

Voters Will be Given a Chance to Express Their Choice for a Presidential Candidate at Primary—Central Committee Meets.

Columbus, O.—The republicans of Ohio will be given an opportunity to express by direct vote their choice for the party's candidate for president at primaries to be held on February 11, when delegates and alternates to the republican state convention will be elected.

The call for the primaries and convention were adopted last evening by the republican state central committee after a protracted and lively session. The friends of William H. Taft, secretary of war, and candidate for the republican nomination for president, were in control of the committee, casting 14 votes to 7 for the supporters of Senator Foraker, also an avowed candidate for the presidency.

The vote stood 14 to 7 on every proposition which required a roll call except the selection of a temporary chairman for the state convention. James R. Garfield, secretary of the interior, the choice of the Taft supporters, receiving 13 votes to 8 cast for Harry M. Daugherty, of Columbus. Richard McCloud, of London, a close personal friend of Mr. Daugherty, but a Taft supporter, voted for him as against Mr. Garfield.

The officers chosen for the state convention are:

Chairman, James R. Garfield, Cleveland; secretary, R. M. Switzer, Gallopis; assistant secretary, Malcolm Jennings, Athens; sergeant-at-arms, Richard Gibson, Steubenville.

The state committee decided that it had nothing to do with the selection of national delegates in the congressional districts and declined to make any suggestion in regard thereto.

The committee met early in the afternoon to draft a call for the primaries and convention. This committee called upon Gov. Harris during the recess to consult his wishes in regard to the call. A committee representing the Foraker supporters also called on the governor and asked him to permit his name to be presented for chairman of the state committee, but the governor declined.

The call reported by the sub-committee and adopted by the general committee by a vote of 14 to 7 is one of the most elaborate issued by a state committee.

Several amendments to the call were proposed by the friends of Senator Foraker, but in each case they were voted down. The chief fight was made against the direct primary plan for the selection of delegates to the state convention. The Foraker men proposed that delegates to county conventions be chosen by direct vote, the county conventions to choose the delegates to the state convention.

The call as adopted provides for a total of 815 delegates to the state convention. The Australian ballot is to be used in the primary. If petition is made the names of candidates for delegates may be printed under the name of the person who may be their choice for presidential candidate. The unit rule in the election of delegates will be observed in all except Cuyahoga and Hamilton counties, which may be divided into districts. Provision is made for challengers at the polls, which will be open from 1 to 7 p. m., February 11.

LONG MISSING HEIR RETURNS.

Man Who Left Home 17 Years Ago Comes Back to Get \$12,000.

Lancaster, Pa.—Although officially declared dead years ago and for years believed by his wife and friends here to have died, George M. Gable appeared in the local court Thursday to claim \$12,000 from the estate of his uncle, Jacob Gable. Seventeen years ago Gable disappeared, leaving his wife and several small children. All efforts to trace him failed and his wife believing him dead, remarried.

When Jacob Gable died in 1904 Gable, one of the heirs, was declared dead by the court. The executors, however, refused to pay over the inheritance to his widow and instituted a search which resulted in the long missing man being found in Sacramento, Cal. Gable came east and was identified in court by the wife he left 17 years ago as the rightful heir. The woman's second husband has begun proceedings for a divorce.

A Decrease in Gold Production.

Washington, D. C.—The production of gold in the United States fell off \$4,753,491 in 1907 as against 1906, whereas the amount of silver produced was increased by over 1,000,000 ounces. Alaska's gold production fell off a little more than \$3,000,000, according to the preliminary report of the director of the mint.

Receivers Appointed for Big Railroad.

Richmond, Va.—The Seaboard Air Line railroad system was put into the hands of receivers here Thursday through the action of Judge Pritchard, of the United States circuit court, who appointed as receivers Lancaster Williams, of Richmond, and Davis Warfield, of Baltimore.

A Gain in Shipbuilding.

Washington, D. C.—During the calendar year 1907 the bureau of navigation reports 1,056 vessels of 520,508 gross tons built in the United States, compared with 1,045 vessels of 393,291 tons in 1906.

FORAKER SAYS CALL IS ILLEGAL

HE ATTACKS METHOD FOR STATE PRIMARY ELECTION.

He Claims that It Conflicts with the Law and Is Unfair in Many Ways.

Cincinnati, O.—A flat refusal to be bound by the conditions of the call made Thursday night at Columbus for the republican state convention which is to name a state ticket and select delegates at large to the national convention is the conclusion reached by United States Senator Foraker and announced in a statement given to the press Friday night.

Primaries for selection of delegates to the convention were provided for in the official call issued by the executive committee by a vote of 14 to 7. The method provided is sharply criticized by Senator Foraker. The statement in part follows:

"I am not sure that I understand the call, although I have read it several times. If I do, it is another case of asking for bread and getting a stone. My idea in requiring primaries was to have the election of delegates brought home to the people, so that in each ward, for instance, we could select our immediate representatives. This call makes all that impossible.

"In addition it prescribes requirements not authorized by the statute and not within the power of the state central committee. Some of the requirements are in direct conflict with the statute. Some of them are very burdensome. One, in particular, is the requirement that before there can be a Taft ticket and a Foraker ticket there must be a petition signed by 20 times the number of candidates for delegates and alternates. That would mean in this county about 4,000 signers or petitioners.

"The unreasonableness of the requirement that there shall be 4,000 petitioners to authorize a ticket is shown not only by the fact that the law makes no such requirement, but that in cases where the law authorized county and city officers to be nominated by petition, only 300 names are necessary to nominate any county officer and only 50 names are necessary to nominate any municipal officer.

"If, in the contemplation of the law, 50 signers are enough to authorize placing a man's name on the ticket for mayor of Cincinnati or Cleveland, certainly it is beyond anything contemplated by the law that 4,000 signatures should be necessary to nominate a lot of delegates and alternates merely to attend the state convention."

WAS A MOTORMAN'S WIFE.

Identity of Woman Murdered on the Hackensack Meadows Established.

Newark, N. J.—After a half dozen supposed identifications had been disproved the police were satisfied Friday night that the woman murdered on the flats that border the Passaic river in Harrison was Helena Whitmore, who, with her husband, Theodore S. Whitmore, conducted a fruit store house at 235 Adams street, Brooklyn. The identification was made by the woman's sister, Mrs. Susan Schmitter, of the Bronx, and corroborated by Mrs. Schmitter's husband, Frank Englert, a friend, and finally by the murdered woman's husband.

Whitmore has been detained by the police and a summons was issued for Englert. The latter, who admitted an intimate acquaintance with Mrs. Whitmore, was able to go into so minute detail in his identification that the authorities believe he will prove a valuable witness.

Whitmore told the police of his struggle to live down an unpleasant past and how a faithless wife had held over his head a threat of exposure—to make known to new acquaintances here what he now admitted, that he was serving a sentence in Dannemora prison for assaulting a man when pardoned by Gov. Black. Bitter quarrels and as many reconciliations marked their married life of 15 years. His wife, he said, had become infatuated with a sailor.

Whitmore is a Brooklyn elevated motorman, who ordinarily works nights. He did not go to work Christmas night.

BUSINESS BULLETIN.

Curtailment of Production is General in the Iron and Steel Industry and Cotton Mills.

New York City.—R. G. Dun & Co.'s Weekly Review of Trade says: Business quieted down at the conclusion of holiday sales, as is customary, and time was devoted to stock taking, while manufacturing plants were overhauled and repaired. Much idle machinery resumed on January 2 and more mills will reopen next week, but in many leading industries there will continue to be a reduction in output until the outlook is more definite.

This curtailment is general in the iron and steel industry and at New England cotton mills. Clothing manufacturers have received numerous cancellations, and in some lines buyers have asked delay in shipments of spring goods until the situation is more fully developed. There is a better feeling as to mercantile collections.

Many iron furnaces and steel mills have resumed and others are to open next week, but the curtailment of production has been so general that not over 50 per cent. of the capacity will then be in operation. Harden Loses; Von Moltke Wins. Berlin.—The notorious Harden-Von Moltke libel suit came to an end last evening when Harden, the accused editor of Die Zukunft, was sentenced to four months' imprisonment and to pay the entire costs of both the present and former trial.

Death of a Noted Priest.

Washington, D. C.—Rev. D. J. Stafford, pastor of St. Patrick's Roman Catholic church in this city, one of the most noted divines in the country, died Friday at an operation hospital, following an prostration last Tuesday. He was 47 years old.

OTHERS TO BE SENT FOR.

Shortly after two o'clock one bitter winter morning a physician drove four miles in answer to a telephone call. On his arrival the man who had summoned him said:

"Doctor, I ain't in any particular pain, but somehow or other I've got a feeling that death is nigh."

The doctor felt the man's pulse and listened to his heart. "Have you made your will?" he asked, finally. The man turned pale. "Why, no, doctor. At my age—oh, doc, it ain't true, is it? It can't be true—"

"Who's your lawyer?" "Higginbotham; but—"

"Then you'd better send for him at once."

The patient, white and trembling, went to the telephone. "Who's your pastor?" continued the doctor.

"Rev. Kellogg M. Brown," mumbled the patient. "But, doctor, do you think—"

"Send for him immediately. Your father, too, should be summoned; also you—"

"Say, doctor, do you really think I'm going to die?" The man began to blubber softly.

The doctor looked at him hard. "No, I don't," he replied. "There's nothing at all the matter with you. But I hate to be the only man you've made a fool of on a bitter cold morning like this."

Why He Didn't Rise.

It was married men's night at the revival meeting. "Let you husbands who have troubles on your minds stand up!" shouted the emotional preacher at the height of his spasm.

Instantly every man in the church rose to his feet except one.

"Aha!" exclaimed the preacher, peering out at this lone sinner, who occupied a chair near the door and apart from the others. "You are the one in a million."

"It ain't that," piped back this one helplessly as the rest of the congregation turned to gaze suspiciously at him. "I can't get up—I'm paralyzed!"—Judge.

Have You Noticed It?

Bacon—I see it said that the light of the glow-worm and firefly is entirely unaccompanied by heat.

Egbert—That seems strange when you consider that a wasp is accompanied by no light, and yet when it sits down you may have had occasion to notice that the operation is accompanied by considerable heat.—Yonkers Statesman.

In the Rush Lunchroom.

"Did you hear that, Silas?" queried Mrs. Ryetop, as she ate her pumpkin pie with the sugar tongs. "The man at this table called for floats and the other man called for sinkers."

"Floats and sinkers," echoed Mr. Ryetop, in surprise. "By gosh, I reckon next they will call for fishing lines."—Chicago Daily News.

THEY WERE BOTH SURPRISED.



Clergyman—I am surprised to see you here, Smith. Convict No. 100—So was I, or I'd never a bin 'ere.

Made Him Laugh.

Church—I see the public utilities commission have ordered the trolley people to put on more cars. Gotham (with a chuckle)—So I see. "But what are you laughing at?" "I furnish the straps."—Yonkers Statesman.

Tabloid Romance.

I. The count courted her. II. Society courted the bridal pair. III. She "courted" the count. Decree granted.—Chicago Journal.

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