

The Centre Reporter

Centre Hall, Pa.

THE PRICE OF PROGRESS.

The historic reluctance of Oriental races to indulge in reforms is little understood, but time and experience will explain. These races are old in experience and in wisdom. Therefore, they are always apprehensive of the ultimate ends to which any reform will reach, says the Detroit News. Japan has modernized rapidly. It enjoys the benefits of a very improved form of government. Out of this change develops a gradual rise in the status of the masses and one of the consequences is a discontent. Alexander II. of Russia emancipated 23,000,000 serfs in the spring of 1861, after giving all landowners and serf masters three years' notice to prepare for the event and setting his own serfs free as an example. In 1881 the sons and daughters of the emancipated serfs, having enjoyed the benefit of education and thereby discovered the wrongs of the past and the oppressions to which the poor were still subject at the hands of the nobles and great land owners, expressed their discontent by killing the emperor who had lifted them to the status of free men and women. Russian discontent was fomented by Michael Bakounin, the founder of terrorism in Russia. Japan has her Bakounin in Denjro Kotoku, a publicist of discontent. Recently a band of 36 conspirators were arrested upon the charge of plotting against the life of the emperor, and 12 of them have already been executed. These terrible blunders seem to be unavoidable consequences of a change in the status of the people of any nation, but only the superficial observer could condemn all attempts at progress because, in governments as in railroading, they involve a certain element of danger.

Rats are regarded as the most dangerous propagators of the bubonic plague that is raging in the East, and the matter has been under consideration by the Russian military authorities east of the Caucasus. They believe in killing off the rats to check the spread of the disease. But some of the methods they propose to employ will arouse the special wonder even of an age which is accustomed to remarkable developments. The military inspector of the district in question has issued an order in which is set forth "the hypnotic influence of music, as employed by wizards and witches," and it is remarked that this should not be ignored. In fact, the methods by which rat-catchers can lure their prey from the hiding places are specified, and the order concludes with the assumption that "it is very possible that among the soldiers of the Caucasian military district there are such wizards." If there is a piper in the Russian army he may now proceed to get busy.

Ecuador has rejected the proposition to submit the boundary dispute with Peru to The Hague tribunal. Colombia has sent a force of troops into territory claimed by Peru. War seems inevitable between those perennial squabblers, Haiti and Santo Domingo. And what looks like a pretty full-fledged revolution is under way in Honduras, says the Troy Times. It would seem that there are several unruly children in the international family of the western hemisphere who need a little wholesome discipline to make them behave themselves properly.

A woman, with a mandolin and a guitar, has sailed from New York on a wager that she can make a trip around the world on what she can earn with her music. Perhaps, those who do not appreciate it may be glad enough to pay her to move on.

Aviators engaged to be married are withdrawing from aeronautics at the command of their fiancées. No one can blame an engaged girl for objecting to her lover's being in the clouds in any other fashion than Cupid's way.

"Chicago has limited all its sky scrapers to 200 feet," says the New York Telegram. Not all. Merely those to be built between the time when the ordinance goes into force and the time when it shall be declared of no effect.

The No. 13 is still looked on as a hoodoo in some quarters, although it is hardly probable that the most superstitious person would turn down a gift of \$13,000, while some would not seriously object to \$13.

Flea are to be exterminated in Worcester, Mass. A college biologist there has formed plans for this extermination, and the students will catch the fleas. It remains to be seen in the contest who stays longer in the ring—the fleas or the students.

A southern planter has domesticated an alligator and is using it for a "watchdog." However, our notion of nothing to have running around the house is an alligator.

FROM THE STATE CAPITAL

Information and Gossip at Harrisburg.

DOINGS OF THE LEGISLATURE.

Brief Mention of Matters as They Occur at the State Capital Official and Otherwise.

Ballon Finally Escapes Gallows.

The State Board of Pardons announced that it had recommended for commutation to life imprisonment the sentence of John Ballon, condemned to be hanged at Norristown April 25. Ballon's case is one of the most remarkable ever before the board, as the date for his execution has been fixed no less than six times and respites granted to allow proceedings. Ballon was convicted of murder near Norristown with two other men, who were executed last year. It was claimed that Ballon's guilt had never been clearly proven and since December, 1909, efforts have been made to save him. The case was appealed to the Supreme Court and has been before the Board of Pardons since November.

Complete Utilities Bill.

The public utilities commission bill which has been under preparation by Attorney General Bell and his assistants for several weeks, has been finished for the final inspection by Governor Tener. It is expected the committee of various State and city officials, Legislators and lawyers will go over the bill and it will make its appearance in the Legislature about the close of the week. The belief is that the bill will be generally satisfactory. The measure has been drafted several times to meet questions of constitutionality and to cover various utilities. The laws of several States have been gone into and some have been adopted to apply to this State.

Answers Rate Complaint.

Answering a complaint that a conductor charged a berth rate of \$1.50 after 11 P. M. for a distance covered by a 25-cent seat rate in day time the Pullman Company informed the State Railroad Commission that the "ordinary hour for retiring is fixed at 10.30 P. M."

Tener Appoints Arbor Days.

Governor Tener appointed April 7 and 28 as arbor days.

Bills Signed by Tener.

Governor Tener signed the following bills:

Regulating extent to which a defendant may be cross-examined when testifying in his own behalf.

Permitting County Commissioners to issue bonds for erection and repair of buildings for the care of children under jurisdiction of courts.

Refunding to A. Sidney Reynolds, of Philadelphia, \$470 erroneously paid as a State license.

Authorizing County Commissioners to erect and maintain dykes along non-navigable streams affected by the tide or floods.

Appropriating \$25,000 for State Hospital near Shamokin to complete buildings.

Bills Passed by Senate.

Abolishing the offices of Superintendent and Assistant Superintendent of the Bureau of Railways in the Department of Internal Affairs and creating a chief of the Bureau of Railways at an annual salary of \$2,500 and an assistant chief at \$1,800.

Authorizing road supervisors in second class townships to aid in the construction of sidewalks.

House bill providing for the payment by the proper county of witnesses committed and held in default of bail to testify on behalf of the Commonwealth.

Twelve bills amending present laws relating to road jurors by fixing the number of jurors in all cases at three.

Creating the office of First Assistant City Solicitor in Philadelphia.

Supplementing the act relating to the relief of wives and children deserted by their husbands and fathers, by providing that desertion cases may be referred to probation officers and providing for the imprisonment at hard labor of such husbands and fathers with their wages payable to the wives or children.

The Senate passed a concurrent resolution extending the life of the commission investigating the Carbonale mine fire from March 15 to April 17.

Among the bills that passed the second reading stage was that abolishing the Rittersville Hospital Commission and giving the Governor the authority to appoint a new commission.

Bills Passed by House.

Permitting consolidation of public schools when necessary for erection of new building.

Fixing terms of Mayors and Select Councilmen at four years and Common Councilmen at two years in all cities.

Extending to petroleum companies right to erect buildings and hold real estate.

Providing for removal of the Western Penitentiary and appropriating \$300,000 for site.

PROGRESS OF THE WAR

Federal Barracks at Jurez Blown Up--Minor Fights--American Camp.

El Paso, Texas.—An attempt was made to blow up the barracks at Jurez, Mexico. Two heavy charges of nitroglycerin were exploded, tearing out parts of the buildings occupied by the Mexican troops. Two of a small band of insurgents who secretly entered town were wounded and captured.

Calexico, Mexico.—Firing from the American side of the international line, Mexican customs officials at Ilgodones sent a volley into the insurgents, the latter replying by firing across the line into the American town of Andrade. No one was wounded so far as known.

Douglas, Ariz.—General Blanco and his rebel force moved east of Douglas to a point four miles from the American border.

Of the three wounded insurgents carried off the battlefield on Sunday, two are dead and the third is near death. This brings the death list of Sunday's battle to 14.

Troops sent from Augua Prieta have not arrived.

Mexico City.—The government received a report of the battle of Casas Grandes, in which the rebels were defeated, from Colonel Cuellar. He states that he took 40 prisoners, including 17 foreigners, and that all those are receiving humane treatment.

Cuellar confirms the report that he was wounded in the arm. He says that 57 men were killed.

San Diego, Cal.—The arrival of Mexican federal reinforcements numbering 150 at Tijuana, Mexico, across the line from Tia Juana, Cal., is reported. This gives Captain Nuñez, in command, about 250 men for the defense of the place.

The border is reported quiet from Camp to the ocean. Captain Evans, in command on the American side, has received reinforcements, Company B of the Thirtieth Infantry having been sent by General English from this place.

The Medical Corps is vaccinating the men of General Bliss' command against typhoid.

HORSELESS FIRE ENGINE

Motor-Driven Machine Goes 40 Miles an Hour.

New York.—An explosion like the report of a large-bored shotgun, in front of the Fire Department repair shops here was the death knell of the horse in the fire department. The explosion came from the motor of the big new automobile fire engine, the first of its kind in the country, which the department was testing for the first time. So successful was the test that it is said within two years probably 50 per cent. of the fire engines of the city will be gasoline-propelled in five or six years, said a high official of the department, there will not be a single horse-drawn fire engine tender, truck or tower in the city.

The new engine just tested is a red machine, 20 feet long, with two seats. A 110-horsepower gasoline motor equipment was in the great hood, and the rear half was a regular steam engine, guaranteed to pump 700 gallons of water a minute at a pressure of 125 pounds. The whole rested on four huge red wheels, thickly treaded with solid rubber and bound with chains, with one-and-one-half-inch links to prevent skidding when it whizzes through the streets at 30 to 40 miles an hour.

The testing of the new engine was witnessed not only by officials of the Fire Department here, but by others of fire departments of cities throughout the country, many of which were represented by their fire chiefs.

Fire Commissioner Waldo drove the new engine 40 miles an hour and found that its pumps exceeded the guaranteed speed and strength.

BANK TELLER SENTENCED

Mellon, Pleading Guilty to Embezzlement, Gets Seven Years.

Philadelphia, Pa.—After pleading guilty in the United States District Court here to the charge of embezzling about \$7,000 from the Western National Bank of this city, Joseph P. Mellon, former paying teller of the institution, was sentenced to seven years' imprisonment in the government prison at Atlanta, Ga., by Judge McPherson.

Wm. J. Bryan's Daughter to Wed.

Wm. J. Bryan's Daughter To Wed. Lincoln, Neb.—Mr. and Mrs. William J. Bryan announced the betrothal of their daughter, Grace Dexter Bryan, to Richard Lewis Hargrave, of Lincoln. The marriage will take place early in June.

Tuber Raisers May Combine.

Presque Isle, Maine.—Farmers of Aroostook county, Maine, the largest potato-growing district in America, are contemplating the formation of a combination to govern the production and output of the tubers, with special attention to the distillation of potato spirits. The proposed organization is planned on the lines of the tobacco raisers' organization in Kentucky. There is talk of sending a delegation to Sweden to investigate the distillation question.

THE PLAGUE IN MANCHURIA.



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PRESIDENT DIAZ MUST STEP OUT

Chief Condition of the Rebels' Terms of Peace.

NO FAITH IN GOVERNMENT.

Both Sides Must Meet on Equal Terms, the Insurrectos Not to Surrender Their Arms.

El Paso, Texas.—Before any proposals for a termination of the Mexican insurrection will be entered into by the insurrectos, President Diaz must agree to declare null his election of 1910 and to submit to a new election under the terms for a free ballot allowed by the constitution of 1857. He must agree to grant all the political reforms demanded. The insurrectos must not be required to surrender their arms until peace is assured.

This is the reply of Senor Gonzales Garza, insurrectos secretary of state, to the statement from New York that Senor Limantour, Mexican minister of finance, had formulated tentative plans for ending the insurrection. In effect it is the reply of Francisco I. Madero, the revolutionary leader, who is now fighting in the field.

Madero is about 100 miles south of El Paso, with 1,000 followers. He is reported to be coming north to join General Orozco and 800 men. Whether his destination is the frontier in connection with any peace negotiations is unknown.

Senor Garza, who acted here in conjunction with Braulio Hernandez, insurrecto secretary of state of Chihuahua, outlined the demands of Madero, which he said were:

"Abolition of the re-election of president.

"Election of the government in a state, instead of by federal appointment.

"Curtailement of the powers of jefe politicos, or mayors, of cities, and provision for their selection by popular vote, instead of by appointment by the governors of states.

"Reform of the land laws, so that plantations, now as extensive as from one million to ten million acres, may be divided and distributed or sold in small lots to the people.

"Free ballots in all elections and preservation of individual rights under the constitution.

"Extension of the school system."

N. Y. C. AND PENNSY FINED

Both Roads Plead Guilty of Giving Rebates.

Buffalo.—The New York Central Railroad was fined \$35,000 and the Pennsylvania Railroad \$20,000 by Judge Hazel, in the United States District Court here, after attorneys for the railroads had entered pleas of guilty to granting rebates to the Standard Oil Company. The case was prosecuted by John Lord O'Brian, United States Attorney, upon indictments found in 1907. The fines were paid immediately.

Warships After Hunters.

Copenhagen.—The Government is sending warships to Greenland with instructions to arrest foreign walrus hunters, chiefly Americans, who are reported to be killing thousands of walrus annually.

Carrie Nation Seriously Ill.

Leavenworth, Kan.—Mrs. Carrie Nation, the militant Kansas temperance worker, who is at a sanitarium here, is gradually growing weaker. Her condition, which is due to a general breakdown, is regarded as serious.

Man hanged, Leaves 12 Children.

Nashville, Tenn.—Napper Byron, convicted of the murder of his wife, the mother of 12 children, was hanged at the State prison here.

GEN. CARTER'S FIRST ORDER

Mobilization is For Maneuver Purposes.

NEW FIELD SERVICE RULES.

Gen. Carter's Order Sets in Motion the Severe Regime of Discipline and Training to Whip the New Recruits into Shape.

San Antonio, Tex.—General Carter issued, through Lieutenant Colonel E. F. Ladd, his first instructions, founded on the theory that the mobilization of the divisional army at Fort Sam Houston is for maneuvers only. This general order, accompanied by a memorandum of particulars, sets in motion the severe regime of discipline and training which is to whip the new recruits into soldiers as fast as possible and try out the old regulars, under the new field service regulations adopted by the general staff last December.

This is the text of General Carter's order:

"Under instructions of the Secretary of War, this camp of instruction, consisting of the maneuvers division, will be conducted:

"1. With the view of obtaining the greatest amount of information as to the efficiency and fitness of our present provisional organization and all that pertains to its strength and equipment of its component parts.

"2. With a view to economy and simplicity of administration with special reference to avoidance of unnecessary correspondence and records and the elimination from the division of all unnecessary impediment and its reduction to the least point consistent with an efficient performance for field service.

"3. That advantage be taken of the opportunity furnished this camp of instruction to give the division most efficient instruction in all branches of field training."

The first attention of all commanders is to be toward the instruction of the nearly 1,200 raw soldiers who have come into camp within the past week. For three hours a day, every day since the first recruit landed on the hard adobe of the camp, awkward squads have been doing the setting up exercise, squad evolutions and all of the grind getting into soldier shape. By next week they will be ready to be taken into the company formation and then the next stunt will be the rifle range. It was said at the camp today that it is the purpose of General Carter to rush the men through to preparation for rifle practice as soon as possible. Within a few days additional rifle ranges will be constructed at the army reservation at Leon Springs, 21 miles out on the prairie, and by companies the recruits, from tailor shop and village smithy alike, will be taught what a gun is for and how to use it.

That the men of every arm of the service assembled on the camp ground here are to be given some pretty severe sprouts, is indicated in the comprehensive memorandum accompanying General Carter's general orders. In this memorandum the commanding general emphasizes the fact that commanders are to see to it that in every way their men are prepared for the field.

For State-Wide Prohibition.

Austin, Tex.—The so-called State-wide prohibition bill was signed by Governor Colquitt Friday. It provides for the submission of a constitutional amendment for State-wide prohibition at an election July 22 next. The Governor also signed the bill transferring to the United States the San Jacinto military reservation on Galveston Island.

Ten and Half Miles of Land.

Washington, D. C.—The Panama Canal has been completed for a distance of five miles at the Pacific entrance, according to a report received by the Isthmian Canal Commission. At the Atlantic entrance the canal channel has been completed to its full width for a distance of five miles and a half inland from deep water in Limon Bay.

Big Fishing Interest Sold.

Seattle, Wash.—The Post-Intelligencer says that the Morgan and Guggenheim interests have disposed of the Northwestern Fisheries Company, one of the largest salmon packing companies of Alaska, to the Booth Fisheries Company, of Chicago and Baltimore. The consideration is placed at \$1,500,000.

Our Interests in Mexico.

Washington, D. C.—A total of \$875,708,925 gold has been invested in 21 years by foreign interests in Mexico outside of the mining industry, according to a bulletin issued by the Bureau of Manufacturers of the Department of Commerce and Labor. Americans supplied \$338,001,973, while capitalists of the United Kingdom furnished \$254,650,823; Germany, \$26,246,382; France, \$16,207,076; Austria-Hungary, \$493,200.

This Trust Gives Up.

Washington, D. C.—As the first direct result of the government's anti-trust suit against the so-called Electric Lamp Trust the Department of Justice has received intimation that the prices of all electric light bulbs will be reduced 33 1-3 per cent. all over the United States. By such a cut in present prices folks who buy the electric lamps will save more than \$6,000,000 a year.

Freed From Prison.

Pittsburg.—After 20 years in the Western Penitentiary for a murder for which he has been declared innocent, Andrew Toth will go free.