

The Centre Reporter

CENTRE HALL, PA.

THE SERVICE OF BIRDS.

Among the creatures that render service to mankind the birds occupy a foremost place. It is their function to suppress the insects that play havoc with the farmer's hard-earned crops. Fifty-three per cent. of the food of birds in one locality was found to consist of the larvae of the disease disseminating mosquitoes. Horse flies are the burden not only of horses, but of other valuable stock, and the larvae of this fly are the natural food of several species of birds. The fever tick, so injurious to cattle, is the natural food of the killdeer and the plover. Corn, cotton and other crops are destroyed to a large extent by grasshoppers, and there are at least 23 species of birds that feed upon grasshoppers. Grass lands and grain crops in general suffer greatly from various insect pests, which are destroyed in vast multitudes by birds. The greatly dreaded boll weevil is food for the plover, the killdeer and others of the feathered tribe. It is a common experience to see birds following the plow and consuming grubs that are destructive to garden and other valuable plants. These friends of the planter should in every state be protected by right legislation.

The announcement by a Boston physician that electrifying the atmosphere of crowded apartments will make dull pupils bright and indolent workmen active may be worth looking into. It is possible that it would even make drowsy churchgoers attentive to long sermons. There is a stimulating influence in ozone, and this the electric current, as employed by the doctor, is said to diffuse in the atmosphere. Of course, it cannot be a substitute for fresh air. Ozone is not oxygen, and oxygen is indispensable to life. If it proves as beneficial as the doctor affirms the world will give it a cordial welcome, but the extent of its employment necessarily will be governed very largely by what it costs.

The Chicago health board secretary who condemns all flats as bad morally and physically—unfit places for the rearing of children—states a melancholy truth. It is likely that they will persist in cities as a necessary evil, but parents who can give their children the benefit of the larger, freer life of a separate home should never hesitate to do so.

A rich man in Illinois, who found wealth too much worry, has distributed his millions. Here is a hint to the other millionaires who are always bewailing the burden of their money, but to whom the thought of shedding the burden has never apparently suggested itself.

Historians tell us that Julius Caesar drank beer, and a French scientist comes to bat with the announcement that there was no such person as Julius Caesar. But even the most hardened skeptic would hesitate before claiming that there is no such thing as beer.

Menus with the food you eat pictured in lively colors are a new thing in a fashionable New York hotel. Doubtless the artist employed is he who painted a large red lobster to decorate the walls of the New York aquarium.

The rescue of a "rat" at a New Jersey resort reveals the fact that fickle femininity has forsaken a long-trusted financial depository for another, as when the "rat" was placed in the hands of its excited owner she drew from his hairy depths a roll of money. Now a woman will be sure of her personal wealth if she only keeps her head—that is, keeps it intact.

After walking some thousands of miles across the country, a man and his wife are in Boston greatly improved and increased in weight. Walking is decidedly more healthy than riding in sleeping cars, but it takes more time and costs more money, unless the pedestrians rely on hand-outs from the agricultural population.

Railroads announce that after the end of the year they will not carry trunks more than 70 inches long. The theatrical profession and mercantile travelers will have to make up for this restriction by giving their trunks the aspect of sky-scrapers.

An "artist" writes to the New York Sun rejoicing in the loss of the Mona Lisa, and speaking with measureless contempt for the "crowd" who admire it. No doubt he has scores of better pictures of his own painting.

May we remind you, worthy householder, busy with the manifold cares that a modern civilization imposes upon you, that this is a good time to have your furnace overhauled and put in order for the coming winter?

TO DISPLAY OUR NAVAL STRENGTH

Atlantic and Pacific Fleets to Mobilize.

126 WARSHIPS IN REVIEW

The Vessels, Which Will Have a Combined Tonnage of 693,844, Will Assemble At New York and Los Angeles.

Washington.—The mobilization of the Atlantic and Pacific fleets at New York and Los Angeles October 30 to November 2 will mark the gathering of the greatest naval force that ever floated in the waters of this hemisphere. This probably will be the last assembling of present-day warships with the United States of America standing second in the list of great maritime powers, for it is certain that at the rate of development of the ship-building plans of Germany that nation, within three years at least, will move up to second place unless Congress should see fit to authorize each year additions to the American Navy at least double those now provided for by the existing naval program, which contemplates the construction of but two battleships yearly.

The Navy Department just made public the full list of the vessels to be assembled for the great reviews at New York and Los Angeles, and while the number combined does not equal the 135 vessels reviewed by the German Emperor at Kiel last summer, the 126 American ships, with their tremendous displacement of 693,844 tons, are really more powerful than the German fleet.

Second Greatest Display.
The Atlantic fleet will comprise 102 vessels of all classes, with a total displacement of 577,599 tons, and the Pacific fleet, 24 vessels of 116,243 tons. The combined fleets will include 32 armored ships, while the German fleet numbered 29. The American battleships will number 22 and the armored cruisers 6, while the German fleet included 23 battleships and 6 armored cruisers.

France assembled 24 battleships and 10 armored cruisers at the Toulon review last summer, but the fleet was much weaker than America's will be in other ships, as the total French display included only 82 ships. Of course, none of the three countries above named could compare with England, which assembled 173 ships at the coronation review at Spit Head, comprising 32 battleships and 25 armored cruisers.

ROOSEVELT DIGS ARBITRATION.

Most Treaties Are Merely Promissory Notes.

New York.—Declaring that "general arbitration treaties are merely promissory notes and that no promise comes in the same category as action," Theodore Roosevelt in the Outlook says: "I do not regard even good general arbitration treaties as of really prime importance."

Holding up the action of Russia in refusing to permit American citizens of Jewish faith to travel in that country as an indication of the readiness with which treaties are disregarded Mr. Roosevelt suggests that the question of abrogating the Russo-American treaty of 1832 be submitted to arbitration.

Mr. Roosevelt says that it is inevitable the treaty will be denounced.

BANKS IN FINE SHAPE.

Comptroller Of Currency Issues Most Complete Report.

Washington.—That the banks of the United States are in a state of most vigorous health, was shown in the most complete report on the condition of the banks ever compiled by the Comptroller of the Currency.

Twenty-four thousand three hundred and seventy-one banks reported to the Comptroller their condition on June 7 last—1,276 more than reported the previous year.

Analysis of the resources and liabilities shows loans of \$15,047,300,000; investment in bonds, etc., \$5,052,000,000; cash on hand, \$1,552,700,000; capital, \$1,952,400,000; surplus and profit, \$2,065,000,000; individual deposits, \$15,907,000,000.

To Fight Tobacco Reorganization.

Milwaukee, Wis.—At a meeting of the Western Leaf Tobacco Dealers' Association preliminary measures were taken to fight the reorganization of the American Tobacco Company. The meeting was attended by representatives of forty-four prominent firms of the Middle West.

He Was Not Dead.

Chicago.—While being carried into an undertaking establishment on the West Side David Easley, 32 years old, of La Grange, Ill., who was thought to be dead, suddenly regained consciousness and shouted: "Take me out of here, I'm not going to die yet!" He was taken to a hospital for treatment and may recover from injuries received when he was struck on the head with a rifle while quarreling with Roscoe Holtz over a woman, to whom both men had been showing attention.

THE BIG SHOW



ARMY TO STRIKE QUICKLY TO OVERTHROW CHINESE EMPIRE

Arabs Joyfully Accept the Italian Occupation—Nineteen Transports Land the Second Division Of the Italian Army.

Tripoli.—General Caneva, commander-in-chief of the Italian expedition, has decided to act quickly, and it is believed that the troops under him will march immediately against the positions occupied by the Turks. A reconnaissance of the desert disclosed the central body of the Turkish troops with field guns not far from this city. Nineteen more Italian transports, escorted by warships and carrying the second division of the troops, arrived. The men were hastily landed. This division is 15,000 strong and there are now 22,000 Italian soldiers on the coast of Tripoli. Not only is the Italian position safeguarded against surprise, but an effective occupation of the interior can begin.

It is reported that the Arabs have accepted the Italian occupation joyfully, but some of the warships remain in the harbor in readiness for emergencies. Troops were landed also at Benghazi, Derna, Tobruk and Bomba.

Although the utmost precautions have been taken looking to the perfecting of sanitary arrangements, cholera has broken out, and it is reported that four deaths have occurred.

General Caneva has addressed a proclamation to the inhabitants, assuring them that they have not been enslaved by Italy. On the contrary, they have been liberated from the yoke under which they have been laboring for years. They will be ruled by their own chiefs, under the patronage of the King of Italy. Religious and civil laws will be respected and taxes will be reduced or abolished.

The proclamation concludes by announcing that Italy desires that Tripoli shall remain the land of Islam, under the protection of Italy.

PATCHING IT UP.

France and Germany Arranging the Moroccan Controversy.

Berlin.—The first part of the Morocco understanding between France and Germany was "initiated" signifying agreement, by the German foreign minister, Herr Von Kiderlen-Waechter, and the French ambassador, M. Cambon. Their formal signatures will be attached later, when the negotiations which are now proceeding over the second part, concerning concessions to Germany in French Congo, have been concluded.

PEACE NOT FAR OFF.

Emperor William and the Czar May Bring It About.

Washington.—State Department officials express the view that with the German Emperor working on his ally, the King of Italy, and the Czar of Russia in a favorable position to influence the Porte peace between Italy and Turkey is not far off and that an armistice, at least, can be arranged as soon as Turkey is prepared to admit that Italy is in technical possession of Tripoli.

BLOCKS A RICE TRUST.

Incipient Combine in Philippines Is Given Death Blow.

Washington.—Trust busting has spread to the Philippines, where Governor General Forbes has blocked a combine of rice traders to raise the price of the Filipinos' staple food. Suspecting the combination and acting on the Insular Bureau's authority, Mr. Forbes arranged for an adequate supply of rice and for purchase of cargoes of rice in bulk in Indo-China and for its sale at cost to the famine-threatened natives.

CANNOT GET A CONVICTION.

Fifth Man Freed In Connection With Negro's Lynching.

West Chester, Pa.—Efforts of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania to secure a conviction in connection with the burning to death of Zach Walker, the negro, at Coatesville, failed again Tuesday, when a jury acquitted Oscar Lampey, who was charged with being a member of the mob that lynched Walker. Lampey is the fifth defendant to be freed of a murder charge in connection with the lynching.

FIERCE BATTLE WITH INDIANS

Leaders Of the Rebels Unable To Hold Back the Chamula Indians—Loss of State Troops Small.

Tuxtla Gutierrez, Chiapas, Mexico.—Fighting late Monday afternoon for the possession of the little town of Chamapilla, held by insurgents whose strength was estimated as 900, a force of volunteers numbering 100, killed 130 rebels and captured 106, 18 of whom were wounded. The loss to the government forces is given as less than a dozen killed.

Early reports were that the state troops met with little opposition, but it is now known that the encounter was the fiercest since the beginning of the insurrection. The state troops were commanded by Col. Manuel Paz.

"General" Antero Ballinas is the name of the commander of the rebels, and according to the prisoners he escaped with the majority of his force. His second in command, "Colonel" Marcelin Jimenez, was killed.

The rebel force was three-fourths Chamula Indians. They were armed principally with machetes and lances and a few antiquated firearms.

Upon receiving word that the troops were advancing the insurgents dug trenches and prepared to withstand the attack; but it was impossible for the leaders to control the Indians, who ran forward to hurl their lances, exposing themselves to the fire of the mousers. For two hours the volunteers raked the ditches with their fire, but at the end of that time the defenders fled, leaving behind a mortar and an old cannon, from which they had managed to fire a few ineffectual shots.

NATIONAL DEMOCRATS JAN. 8.

Plans To Meet On Jackson Day In Harmony Dinner.

Washington.—It is stated here on good authority that plans are on foot to call a meeting of the Democratic National Committee on January 8 next, Jackson Day, for the purpose of issuing the call and selecting the date and place for the next Democratic National Convention. Norman F. Mack, chairman of the committee, favors this idea.

If the committee is called together in January it is proposed to honor the memory of Jackson with an old-fashioned Democratic harmony dinner, to which will be invited the Democratic Governors and others prominent in the party who have been mentioned in connection with the Presidential nomination.

FOR HIGHER-PRICE COTTON.

Colquitt's Proposed Conference Indorsed By Five Governors.

Austin, Texas.—Governors of five Southern States have indorsed the proposal of Gov. C. B. Colquitt, of Texas, for a conference on higher prices for cotton. They are the Chief Executives of Virginia, South Carolina, Alabama, Florida and Arkansas.

ASSAULTER LYNCHED.

Negro Is Taken To the Scene Of His Crime and Hanged By a Mob.

Greenville, S. C.—The negro Will Jackson, who assaulted a 11-year-old girl at Honea Path, was taken from the Greenville sheriff by a posse near here and taken to the scene of the crime.

A telephone message reaching here at midnight from Honea Path states that the negro was hanged to a telegraph pole there shortly after 11 o'clock and his body riddled with bullets.

Torpedo Boats Sunk.

London.—A dispatch to a London news agency from Pera says that the Turkish torpedo boats Tokat, Hamid, Abed, Alpagut and Antalia, while returning from the Ionian Sea, were surprised by an Italian squadron near Mytilene, October 9. A smart engagement followed and three of the torpedo boats were severely damaged and sank. The fourth escaped by hoisting a foreign flag.

Parcels Pact With Panama.

Washington.—Postmaster-General Hitchcock announced that a parcels post convention with the Republic of Panama had been agreed upon and would be made effective as early as possible.

Money For Indians.

Washington.—The Sacs and Foxes of the Mississippi tribe of Indians in Iowa and Oklahoma will receive their full pro rata share of the \$1,020,000 trust funds now in the treasury to their credit as soon as they assume citizenship.

Life Sentence For Kidnappers.

Chicago.—Giuseppe Nicolosi and his brother, Carmello, were sentenced to life imprisonment after they had been found guilty by a jury of kidnapping five-year-old Angelo Marino on August 5.

Senators To See Canal.

Washington.—A party of United States Senators sailed from New York Saturday on the steamship Ancon, to inspect the Panama Canal. They are Brandegee (Republican, Connecticut), chairman of the Committee on Inter-oceanic Canals; Bristow (Republican, Kansas); Chilton (Democrat, West Virginia); Thornton (Democrat, Louisiana); Page (Republican, Vermont); Cummins (Republican, Iowa); and Overman (Democrat, North Carolina).

STATE CAPITAL NEWS

Outside Firms Withdraw.

Four manufacturing firms which sent candy into the State under a guarantee that it complied with the laws were forced to withdraw their goods from sale, because chemists' reports to Dairy and Food Commissioner Foust demonstrated that the candy was adulterated. Over two hundred samples of candies were taken in various parts of the State this fall and the chemical tests showed five in all were not up to the standards required. In one case a Pennsylvania manufacturer was sued and fined, his wares being taken off the market immediately after, but in the other four instances, all of which occurred in Allegheny county, it was found that merchants were selling goods under a guarantee from the makers that it would be in accord with the State laws. The merchants were not arrested, but were required to ship all the candy back to the factory.

Wants Old Ticket Redeemed.

A supplemental complaint was filed with the State Railroad Commission here by W. H. Holt against the increases of suburban rates of fare on the Philadelphia & Reading Railway outside of Philadelphia. He filed a complaint some time ago signed by six hundred persons. The commission has been asked by C. W. Rittenhouse, of Scranton, to investigate refusal of the Pennsylvania Railroad to redeem a ticket bought September 26, 1880, at Tyrone. The railroad contends that punch marks show the ticket to have been used in part and that the record of the sale has been lost.

Harrisburg Curbing Condemned.

Contractors for curbing and paving of Harrisburg city streets have been thrown into a panic by the strict inspection methods adopted by Highway Commissioner W. W. Caldwell. More than two thousand feet of granite curbing on Seneca street have been condemned, some of it after being in place, and sections of asphalt paving are being inspected by experts.

Dairy Inspection.

Dr. C. J. Marshall, State veterinarian, who has taken over the direction of the State's dairy inspection service, conducted until a few months ago by the State Department of Health, has received close to three hundred responses from veterinarians throughout the State who have expressed a willingness to co-operate with the inspection work and to make inspections in their districts for the State.

Disturbed By Church Rule.

Members of the United Brethren Church in this vicinity are considerably disturbed over the action of the conference at Reading directing that the camp meeting at Mt. Gretna be discontinued unless the controversy between the clerical and lay members ends. This action has been communicated to Harrisburg members of the church, by the conference officers, and meetings will be held in an effort to reach an agreement.

Harrisburg's Open Air School.

The city school authorities have established an open air school for children under the plan adopted in Philadelphia, those having a tendency to tuberculosis being cared for in this manner. The school has proved a great success and another probably will be opened.

Pennsylvania Charters.

The following charters have been issued: Smithton Water Company, Smithton, capital, \$30,000, and Saltsburg Electric Company, Saltsburg, Indiana County, \$5,000. Charters were also issued to six water companies to operate in townships of Washington and Allegheny Counties, with headquarters at McDonald, the capital of each to be \$5,000.

Pastors Petition Wilson.

The Harrisburg Ministerial Association passed resolutions requesting Secretary of Agriculture James Wilson not to preside at the brewers' national convention at Chicago. The resolutions will be forwarded to the Secretary.

State Engages Alexander.

If arrangements made by Samuel B. Rambi, Superintendent of Public Grounds and Buildings, are ratified by the State Board, John W. Alexander, of New York, will paint the mural decorations for the north corridor of the capitol.

One Vote Nominates Man.

R. H. Koch, Republican and Citizens' candidate for Judge of Schuylkill county, was declared the Prohibition nominee as well, because on the official returns he received a single vote under that party caption.

Centipede Is Harmless.

The centipede or "thousand legger," as it is better known in many parts of the State, is just as harmless in these latitudes as a butterfly according to a bulletin which State Zoologist H. A. Surface has completed. The poison with which Keystone State centipedes are credited with is not strong enough to harm anyone, but to enable them to overpower their enemies or prey. Dr. Surface says that the prejudice against the insects is unreasonable and that they destroy much vermin.