

# WHAT ALL THE WORLD IS DOING

Trend of Civilization in All Lines From Week to Week

## POLITICS and GOVERNMENT

### Executive.

#### Pension Roll Decreasing.

Pension Commissioner Ware in his annual report shows an unexpended balance of \$1,706,508, the total outlay for the year being \$144,712,787. During the year 47,374 persons were added to the pension rolls, 323 by special act of congress and the balance by the pension bureau. During the same period 49,157 pensioners were dropped from the rolls. The report refers to the order issued by the commissioner March 15 last, in which age is made an evidence of disability, and says that in three and a half months of its operation only 8 per cent of the pensioners have asked for increase under its terms. The total number on the roll was 994,762, apportioned as follows: War of Revolution, 3; war of 1812, 919; Indian war, 5,886; Mexican war, 13,035; civil war, 945,358; Spanish war, 16,829; regular establishment, 12,734. The commissioner recommends laws causing a pensioner to forfeit his pension on becoming a convict, to prohibit pensioning women who marry soldiers after the soldiers receive a pension and to pension superannuated clerks.

#### To Watch Food Importations.

To prevent the importation of impure foods into the United States the department of agriculture has authorized a chemical laboratory to be opened at New York. Five expert chemists have been selected by the civil service commission to be installed on this work. Samples will be taken direct from each cargo to the laboratory, there to be analyzed, instead of being sent to Washington, as heretofore. Other laboratories are to be established at various ports.

#### Chicago's Mail Tube Service.

A new system of pneumatic brass tubes for the quick transportation of mail bags from railroad stations and other important points to the central postoffice was formally installed and accepted by the postmaster general at Chicago last week. It is the largest system of its kind yet installed in an American city.

#### Against Naval Wireless Control.

Secretary of the Navy Taft made known in a letter to President Roosevelt his disapproval of the plans giving the navy department control of all wireless telegraph stations. He says that it would be sufficient for the joint navy and army boards in time of peace to keep a record of all stations, both private and public, with power in the navy department to assume control of them in time of war.

### Notes.

During the last fiscal year more than 16,000,000 acres of public land were disposed of, 258,000 less than the year before. The cash received amounted to more than \$8,790,000.

Major General Wood in the Philippines has organized four fighting companies of 100 men each to operate independently of the regular forces for the capture and destruction of the Moros under Datto Ali. The rebels have adopted guerrilla tactics.

Arrangements have been completed with two telephone companies whereby the weather bureau at Pittsburg, Pa., will introduce the idea of sending out local forecasts by telephone every day to farmers and remote villages.

The department of agriculture has addressed a circular to various commission merchants asking for information regarding their methods of preserving food products by refrigeration.

The government printing office for the first time in its history is using a type machine. It is a monotype machine, and the output is matter for the Patent Office Gazette.

The war department has authorized the national board for the promotion of rifle practice to carry out a plan for the formation of a national reserve.

### Foreign.

#### To Head Off Russian Raiders.

The reported detention of several British merchantmen in South African waters by the Russian volunteer steamer Smolensk again aroused the ire of the British public, and Prime Minister Balfour ordered two cruisers to start from the Cape of Good Hope with instructions to head off the Smolensk and Petersburg and notify them not to interfere with neutral shipping. He said that this action was taken on the request of the Russian government. The announcement was made in response to an appeal by a committee from the chamber of commerce.

#### Christening of the Czarowitz.

Aug. 24 at the Russian capital, and indeed throughout the country, was a day of universal festivity on account of the christening of the heir to the

throne. This ceremony took place in the chapel of Peterhof palace with solemn religious rites. The infant had been brought in a golden state carriage drawn by eight white horses. The baby gave a lusty yell when he was immersed in the sacred fountain. Bells chimed and guns boomed when the ceremony had been completed.

A proclamation was issued the same day abolishing corporal punishment among the rural classes and remitting arrests for first offenses of the army and navy. It grants amnesty to Finns who emigrated without authorization and reduces the sentence for all common law offenses except assassination. It sets apart \$1,500,000 from the state funds for the purpose of forming an inalienable fund for the benefit of landless people in Finland.

### Notes.

During the session of the Franco-Spanish convention at Paris Aug. 20 an agreement was signed providing for the construction of three railway lines across the Pyrenees. The lines are expected to be completed within three years, and it is anticipated that they will greatly increase friendly and commercial relations between the two countries.

President Castro of Venezuela has refused to comply with Minister Bowen's request for the restoration of the property of the New York and Bermuda Asphalt company in Venezuela pending legal proceedings. The Venezuelan court is to announce its decision next month.

The holy synod of Russia has modified the divorce laws so as to reduce from seven to two years the period during which unfaithful husbands or wives may not marry again provided the offenders agree to do public penance.

The Austrian government has respectfully declined the offer of the Vatican to replace France as a protector of the Catholics in the far east. This is expected to result in each country's looking after its own Catholic citizens hereafter.

### General.

#### Gossip of the Campaign.

The Democratic campaign in New York state was started aggressively Aug. 25 in two big meetings, one at Brooklyn, addressed by Senator Bailey of Texas, and the other at Deposit, addressed by ex-Senator Hill. Mr. Hill made a fierce attack on Theodore Roosevelt, calling him "the man of blood and thunder" under whom the foundation of a colonial system, contrary to the spirit of the constitution, had been laid. When Bryan and Cleveland could stand on the same platform he thought it was time that Democrats got together.

Mr. Bailey also assailed the Roosevelt personality, contrasting "the rough rider" to "the judge." He referred to the president as standing with his foot on the constitution and his sword in his hand, while the Democratic candidate stood with his feet on the sword and the constitution in his hand.

The various organs of the Socialist propaganda have broken out into more or less violent attacks on W. J. Bryan, the former radical leader of Democracy, since his announcement of a half-hearted support of the Parker candidacy. J. Stitt Wilson, a former Bryan Democrat of California, has an extended open letter in the Socialist Appeal to Reason, showing up what he regards as Mr. Bryan's utter inconsistency, charging that Bryan surrendered to Wall street at St. Louis. He calls on the workingman who followed Bryan in 1896 and 1900 to follow him no longer, but tells Bryan it is never too late to mend.

The activity of the Populists in New York, Connecticut and other eastern states is giving the Democrats some alarm.

Intimate friends of Candidate Parker have denied last week's report to the effect that he had agreed to make a stumping tour of the western states at the time he is to visit St. Louis. They say the judge will make no

### Russia's Cup of Humiliation Full

But for the ray of sentimental satisfaction to the czar and his unhappy subjects in the christening of the tiny heir to the throne, Alexis Nicholavitch Romanoff, the Russian outlook has been gloomier with each passing day. With Port Arthur withering behind the last line of defenses in a continuous hail of Japanese shot and shell, while Kuroki's legions resumed their attack on the oft defeated ranks of Kuropatkin at Liaoyang, and the Jap navy master of the sea, it seems at this writing that the outcome of the present season's campaign cannot hang much longer in the balance.

Russia lies, despite all her bulk of men and territory, helpless and waiting for the final decisive blow to fall. Danger of international complications was removed by the czar's order to have his two crippled warships at the neutral port of Shanghai disarmed. Japan's refusal to return the Ryeshiteln, captured at Chifu, is not likely to make an acute crisis. With the fall of Port Arthur the entire Japanese army may be concentrated so as to crush Kuropatkin back to Harbin or cause his surrender. The final Japanese assaults on Port Arthur were of the most desperate character at a sacrifice of many thousands of lives.

Already the European press was hinting seriously at friendly mediation by the German emperor in anticipation of Port Arthur's capture. It is suggested that the czar end the war by acknowledging Japan's protectorate of Korea, possession of Port Arthur and by turning Manchuria over to China again.

speeches merely for the purpose of appearing in any given locality and will speak only when he has some definite message to deliver.

Both sides are beginning to put out claims. Speaker Cannon, returning from the Vermont stump, says the Green Mountain State is sure to give its normal Republican majority for Roosevelt and Fairbanks. Chairman Taggart expects a greatly decreased majority.

The Democratic leaders at New York announced that the row between Murphy and McCarren had been harmonized, friends of the former being taken into the management, while McCarren continued to officiate as executive chairman.

Very wide publicity has been given to an article in the Outlook by David Gray, the well known author-journalist, in which he tells how his personal investigation into the status of the Philippines had changed him from an ardent anti-imperialist who voted for Bryan in 1900 into a frank defender of the present administration of those islands.

Mr. Root again has declined in advance the New York Republican nomination for governor.

### Legal and Criminal.

#### The Phipps Family Wrangle.

Several new and somewhat surprising turns in the domestic row of the Phipps family of Pittsburg occurred last week. Aside from the personal equation the tale of the large fortune depending on the outcome of divorce proceedings is likely to affect the big financial control of the steel trust. The hand of Senator Knox as attorney for Mrs. Phipps.



Mrs. Phipps was seen in the attitude of Henry Phipps, the wealthy uncle of Lawrence, who cabled from London that the latter should return his children to Mrs. Phipps. The opposing counsel met at Chicago, but could not agree on terms for dividing the estate.

#### Daylight Holdup in New Jersey.

Paymaster Dana White of the O'Rourke Engineering and Construction company at Montclair, N. J., was robbed of \$5,112 in a secluded roadway near the company's works Aug. 24. With two others he was on his way to pay off the men at work on the Cedar Grove reservoir. They were held up by six robbers, who secured the money and made their escape. Large posesses were at once put on the trail in the Orange mountains and several arrests were made.

### Notes.

The negro assailant of a farmer's daughter near Cedartown, Ga., was shot to death Aug. 22 by a mob after being attacked by bloodhounds, and his body was burned in the public square of the village.

The famous poisoning case of Mrs. Cornelia Botkin ended at San Francisco last week, when Judge Cook of the superior court sentenced the prisoner to life imprisonment in the penitentiary at San Quentin for the murder of Mary Dunning six years ago.

Secret service agents have arrested four men at Atlanta, Ga., for making and passing counterfeit ten dollar bills, \$30,000 of which with the plates were recovered.

Because he had disclosed to the New York police secrets of the so called Black Hand society of Sicilian blackmailers, Salvatore Bossoto, eighteen years old, was shot and killed in his father's restaurant in that city last week by an Italian named Rossati. A great mob of Italians tried to lynch the murderer, but were restrained by the police reserves.

For the first time in the history of New Jersey a justice's court has been held in which no white person figured. At the request of plaintiff and defendant, both colored women, Justice Hand ordered a colored jury to be impaneled and asked Justice Peterson, a negro, to take his place on the bench.

### Street Gadders.

The race is not always to the swift but it is much more likely to go to the swift than to the street corner ornament. There is some hope for a horse thief, a burglar or a politician, but none what- ever for a dead beat. We never could see a ray of hope for the young man who wears the soles of his shoes through while shuffling along the streets with a cigarette in his mouth and a leer on his face. There is no sort of a show in this world for a girl whose whole business in life is to put on all the showy duds she can get to put on and then eternally gad the streets to try to get men to look at her. It takes brains and brains have to be developed by hard study. It takes muscle and muscle must be developed by hard work. It takes taste and taste can only be cultivated by chosing. It takes manners and manners can never come to those who will wait on the streets. The boy who sticks to his job and the girl who thinks more of her home than to be flirting with every dirty mannikin she meets are the winners in the race for earth prizes.

REPRESENTATIVE BROWNLOW of Tennessee tells that once he was running a country paper during campaign times, and was printing "fighting" language every week. One day, just after the paper was out a big man, armed with a club, walked into the sanctum and fiercely inquired if the editor was in. The frightened Brownlow had wit enough to answer that he was not, but that he would go out and hunt him up. He started for the street, and at the foot of the stairs met another irate fellow, who asked: "Will I find the editor of this dirty sheet upstairs?" "Yes," said Brownlow, "he's up there at his desk just itching for a fight." The second man went up, and Brownlow disappeared. Which whipped the other is not related—and Brownlow didn't go back during the day to find out.



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- E. J. FISHER, Bellefonte, Pa.
- B. F. EDMUNDS, Windber, Pa.
- R. C. HOLMES, Gettysburg, Pa.
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