

THE MINISTERS LEAVE PEKIN

Latest Developments in the Chinese Muddle.

MYSTERY OF DEPARTURE

Minister Wu's Despatch Ominously Silent as to the Conditions Under Which the Foreign Representatives Left the City—Self-Confessed Inability to Maintain Peace and Order at the Capital—Telegraphic Communications Reopened

Washington, June 27.—The following cablegram was received at the navy department late this afternoon:

"Che-Foo, June 27.—Secretary navy, Washington: Peikin force and ministers reported with Peikin relief expedition entrenched eight miles from Tien-Tsin. (Signed) Kempff."

London, June 27.—The foreign office this evening issued the following telegram, received from Mr. W. H. Charles, the British consul at Tien-Tsin, undated but probably sent June 24 and forwarded from Che-Foo June 24:

"A note has been received by the commissioner of customs here from Inspector General Hart (Sir Robert Hart) at Peikin, June 19, stating that the foreign legations had been directed to leave Peikin within forty-eight hours."

Rescued Seymour. London, June 28, 3.20 a. m.—The composite brigade of 2,300 men who raised the investment of Tien Tsin and pushed on to help Admiral Seymour has probably saved him, but the news has not yet reached Chefoo, the nearest wire point.

Several thousand Japanese have left Taku for Tien Tsin and altogether 15,000 Japanese have landed. The international troops now aggregate nearly 20,000, and Japan is preparing to send 20,000 more. With British, American and other troops ordered to go, probably sixty thousand men will be available in a month. The Tong Shan refugees and the foreign engineers at Chefoo estimate that the Chinese troops now in the field are near 215,000.

The despatch received by the foreign office stating that the foreign legations were requested to leave Peikin within a specified time is interpreted in some unofficial quarters as tantamount to giving the ministers their passports and to a declaration of war, but as China does nothing like other countries, the official opinion is that there is nothing to do but to await the course of events and to see what the ministers themselves say when they are rescued.

The magnitude of the arrangements Japan is making suggests provisions against contingencies other than the suppression of the present disturbance in Asia. She has chartered nineteen additional transports and now has thirty-five in all.

Developments of the Day. Washington, June 27.—The developments of the day respecting China were important and interesting. The Chinese minister's report of the departure of the foreign ministers and their guards from Peikin greatly relieved the officials here, who took it as the first tangible evidence that the imperial Chinese government had a full realization of the enormity of permitting the ministers to come to personal harm, and were thus undertaking, as far as lay in their power, to observe the amenities of international exchange.

The keenest interest is shown by the officials to learn the conditions under which the ministers left Peikin. Minister Wu's despatch was ominously silent on that point, and though the minister himself maintained almost obstinately his confidence in the non-existence of a state of war, it is generally admitted that it will be difficult to accept his conclusion if it shall transpire that the Peikin government itself has sent the ministers away with their passports, or what may come to the same thing, with a guard as safe conduct. At the state department it is said that if it shall be explained that the imperial government did this, not with a purpose of rupturing diplomatic relations but simply to ensure the safety of the ministers, which they were unable to guarantee as long as they remained in Peikin, then there is still ground for an understanding.

It is, however, pointed out that in such case the self-confessed inability of the imperial government to maintain peace and order at the capital would amount to an admission of its utter failure as a government and would leave China in a state worse than that of actual war. In either the report was investigated and found to be untrue. Similar rumors have been prevalent the day after each of the last three or four contests between prominent fighters.

Little Boom for Oliver. Pittsburgh, June 27.—The Post tomorrow will publish a story in which it is stated that the latest applicant for the Republican gubernatorial nomination is Henry W. Oliver, who is willing to give up the uncertainty attached to the senatorial race for what appears to be the more certain contest for governor. Among the numerous aspirants prior to Mr. Oliver the most likely successor to Governor Stone, was Charles Miller, of Franklin, but now the tip comes from the Olay people that Mr. Oliver will be the favored one.

Communication Re-opened. Notice has come to the government that the cable companies have again re-opened communication telegraphically with Taku and Chefoo. This arrangement has been made by means of the Russian telegraphic system connecting with the Siberian railroad system. An European agent has managed to re-open the lines, though the means of communication between Chefoo and Taku and Tien Tsin are tortuous and probably precarious.

The war department officials still insist that no orders have gone forward to send more troops to China than the Ninth regiment, now on its way from

PROHIBITIONISTS MEET AT CHICAGO

PROCEEDINGS OF THE NATIONAL CONVENTION.

More Than Three-Fourths of the 1,034 Delegates Entitled to Seats Are Present—It Is Expected That by Today's Nominations for President and Vice-President Will Be Made—Dr. Swallow Prominent as a Candidate.

Chicago, June 27.—The national convention of the Prohibition party met today in the First regiment armory. Of the 1,034 delegates entitled to seats more than three-fourths were in attendance when Chairman Oliver W. Stewart, of the national executive committee, called the convention to order. It is expected that by tomorrow, when the nominations for president and vice-president will be made, that almost a thousand representatives of the party will be present. Almost all of the eastern and central western states had full delegations present, the absentees in most instances being from southern and Pacific coast states.

Three avowed candidates for the presidential nomination are in the field—John G. Woolley, of Chicago, editor of the New Voice and a prominent platform advocate of the cause of prohibition; Hal Johnson, of Newton, Ill., and the Rev. Silas C. Swallow, of Harrisburg, Pa. The latter has a high reputation as a pulpit orator, and has many supporters among the delegates from the eastern states.

The afternoon session was called to order at 2.40 o'clock. The report of the committee on credentials was not ready and, pending its completion, the convention was entertained by instrumental and vocal music, in which prohibition was lauded. Representatives of the Young People's Prohibition league, of New York, were also introduced and spoke briefly on the work of that organization. The report of the committee on credentials was then presented by Chairman Johann, who stated that the committee had decided that only those delegates present with certificates duly signed were entitled to seats. There were 633 delegates actually seated, representing thirty-seven states. The report was submitted. Homer Castle, of Pittsburgh, submitted the report of the committee on permanent organization and order of business. The report recommended Samuel Dickie, of Michigan, for permanent chairman, and Colonel R. S. Chever, of Tennessee, for permanent secretary. It was approved and the delegates voted to accept the report. The committee on credentials was then reported on and a roll of names was read. "Speech! speech!" shouted some of the delegates.

"This is just the opportunity I've been waiting for," said Chairman Dickie, "but I won't make a speech. Instead, I'll ask those delegates in the rear of the hall to sit down and sit down now."

The delegates sat down. The list of national committeemen as selected by the delegations of the various states was then read and adopted and a recess was taken until 9 p. m. The Pennsylvania national committeemen are A. A. Stevens and Charles R. Jones.

The national committee of the Prohibition party met at the Palmer House at the close of the session and unanimously re-elected Oliver W. Stewart as national chairman. Other officers elected were: Samuel Dickie, Michigan, vice-president; William T. Wardell, New York, secretary, and S. B. Hastings, Wisconsin, treasurer. The executive committee was increased in number from four to five. The committee resolved to conduct a household campaign, holding meetings in every available place in the country in a general endeavor to arouse interest in the cause of prohibition.

Issue of the Campaign. The Prohibition party will make its national campaign this year upon a platform of a single issue, the liquor traffic, all other issues being subordinated to this one question. Upon this platform it is probable that either H. W. Swallow, the "fighting parson" of Harrisburg, Pa., or John G. Woolley, of Chicago, editor of the New Voice, the Prohibition national organ, will be nominated for president.

The national convention of the Prohibition party met here today and in three sessions, morning, afternoon and evening cleared up all business except the nomination for president and vice president, which will be made tomorrow morning. The convention in point of numbers and enthusiasm shows it is considered one of the greatest ever held by the advocates of cold water. Thirty-seven states of the union were represented when Chairman Oliver Stewart, of the national committee, called the convention to order at the First regiment armory today, nearly 700 delegates being present, while scores of others are expected tomorrow, when the party names its national candidates. The platform, as adopted by the convention, bears solely upon the question of the suppression of the liquor traffic. In connection with this, however, the administration and President McKinley in particular, were bitterly criticized for the position taken on the anti-liquor law, the action in this being denounced as "treasonable."

A bitter fight took place in the committee on resolutions before the platform was finally agreed upon. The members being sharply divided over the question of a single issue or "broad" platform. The advocates of woman's suffrage were particularly emphatic in demanding a suffrage plank, but after a session lasting for several hours the matter was compromised by reporting a separate resolution favoring the granting of the franchise to women, and in this form the platform was adopted by the convention after considerable debate. Expressions of various state delegations tonight rather indicate the nomination of Woolley for

president, and H. B. Metcalf, of Rhode Island, for vice president.

The voting strength of the third prominent candidate for the presidential nomination, Hal Johnson, of Illinois, apparently decreased rapidly during the day, to the gain of Mr. Woolley, and it appears probable that the contest tomorrow will be narrowed down to Mr. Woolley and Rev. Swallow. The latter's friends, however, confidently assert that his nomination is assured and a brisk contest may take place before the question of leadership is settled.

The Platform. The platform was subsequently presented and read by Secretary Hopkins, of the resolution committee. It was received with the wildest enthusiasm. Every sentence in condemnation of President McKinley was greeted with shouts of approval and cries of "him again," the delegates standing on their chairs and yelling themselves hoarse. "I have another resolution recommended by the committee," said Mr. Hopkins. He then read the following:

Resolved, That it is the sense of this convention that the right of the ballot shall not be denied any citizen on account of sex. It was evident that leaving the woman's suffrage plank out of the platform was distasteful to many delegates, and the resolution was adopted by the Women's Christian Temperance union, of Kentucky, took the platform and advocated an equal suffrage plank. She was wildly applauded.

After considerable discussion, a ringing vote was cast for one platform and an additional resolution favoring woman suffrage adopted by a practically unanimous vote, amid a tempest of cheers. Some delegates started "Blessed Be the Tie That Binds," and the whole assemblage solemnly sang the hymn, "Lead Me to the Almighty, even the throngs in the gallery taking up the old hymn. The convention then adjourned until 5.30 tomorrow morning.

The Planks. The following are among the planks of the platform:

We submit that the Democratic and Republican parties are alike inimical in their policy toward the rights of the citizen. They dare not and do not attack the most dangerous of them all, the liquor power. So long as the alcohol and its by-products are the purchasable voter money will continue to buy its way to power. Break down this traffic, elevate manhood, and a sober citizenship will find its way to control dangerous combinations of capital.

We charge upon President McKinley, who is elected to his high office by appeals to Christian sentiment and patriotism almost unprecedented and by a combination of moral influences never before seen in this country that by his conspicuous example as a public leader at public banquets and in the wine socials, he has done more to encourage the white slave business to demoralize the temperance habits of young men and to bring Christian practices and requirements into disrepute, than any other president this republic has had. We further charge upon President McKinley for his failure to control the liquor traffic, his failure to control the moral and physical degeneration, immorality, sin and death in this country, in Cuba, in Porto Rico and the Philippines; and we insist that by his attitude toward the liquor traffic, he has done more to encourage the liquor traffic, than any other president this republic has had. We further charge upon President McKinley for his failure to control the liquor traffic, his failure to control the moral and physical degeneration, immorality, sin and death in this country, in Cuba, in Porto Rico and the Philippines; and we insist that by his attitude toward the liquor traffic, he has done more to encourage the liquor traffic, than any other president this republic has had.

LOAN ASSOCIATIONS. Increase in Business as Shown in Report of Banking Commissioner.

Harrisburg, June 27.—The annual report of Banking Commissioner Powers shows an increase in business in the various states was then read and adopted and a recess was taken until 9 p. m. The Pennsylvania national committeemen are A. A. Stevens and Charles R. Jones.

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DUSKY DEATH-DEALERS.



Here are some of the haughtiest officers in the army of Her Imperial Majesty, Victoria, Empress of India. They are the native staff of the Seventh British Infantry, en route from Bombay to Hong Kong. All are of high caste, and they regard low caste natives of all nationalities as less than the dirt under their feet. Desperate fighters, too, these Bengalese patriots. Their field work to the cannon's mouth with unfailing alacrity, and they regard death on the battle-field as the most desirable end possible.

DISCUSSION OF MUNICIPAL LAW SUBJECT BEFORE PENNSYLVANIA BAR ASSOCIATION.

An Interesting Tilt of Words Between Judge Simonton, of Harrisburg, and Alex Simpson, Jr., of Philadelphia—Judge Simonton Accuses Mr. Simpson of Reflecting Upon a Local Court—An Opinion That Juries Are Growing Better.

Cambridge Springs, Pa., June 27.—Several proposed acts of assembly referring to the laws of this state were discussed and approved by the Pennsylvania Bar association at its session here today. One of the propositions submitted was a resolution on the status of governing municipal claims. The most important reforms proposed making liens for taxes payable first out of the proceeds of a judicial sale of real estate and allowing the sale of a property cleared of all mortgages, etc., if it is shown to be encumbered beyond its value. The act was adopted without serious opposition. Another proposed statute that was approved provides for a voluntary system of official experts in court trials. A third proposal provides for the appointment of a representative of the association in the legislature to look after its bills. Judge Simonton said that a lobbyist's presence suggested the use of money in the passage of an act that such a suggestion might lead to a measure's defeat.

Mr. Simpson defended the legislature against what he called this inuendo of bribery. A spirited passage occurred in which Judge Simonton referred to statements made by Mr. Simpson, which were said to refer on a local court. A committee of seven was appointed to wait on the justices of the supreme court and suggest that the hour rule be abolished. At the evening session Talbot Williams, of Philadelphia, read a paper on "The Jury System from the Jury Panel" and Richard C. Dale, of Philadelphia, discussed the objection of the legislature as of the judiciary in giving effect to constitutional limitations. Mr. Williams contended that juries were growing morally better instead of worse, but he suggested several reforms which he thought would bring the system into more accord with modern life. Mr. Dale thought that they were drifting far away from the spirit of the constitution and the legislature and the people should bear its foundation principles more thoroughly in mind and restrain all attempts at ill-advised legislation.

EDITORS AT WILKES-BARRE. The Association Combines Business with Pleasure.

Wilkes-Barre, June 27.—The members of the State Editorial association combined business with pleasure today. A business session was held this morning, which was presided over by Vice-President J. Addison Buck, of Philadelphia. Major Nichols welcomed the editors to the city.

This afternoon a special excursion was run to Harvey's lake and this evening a number of receptions were held.

Burned by Lightning. Harrisburg, June 27.—A large barn on the farm of William J. Hetrick near Shillville, Dauphin county, was struck by lightning last night during a heavy storm and burned to the ground. The live stock and farming implements were saved. The barn of Conrad Bopp, near Grantville, was also destroyed by fire, caused by lightning. The storm was one of the most violent of the year and did much damage to the crops in Dauphin and Perry counties.

Wage Scale Conference Adjourns. Detroit, June 27.—The conference on the 1900 wage scale between the wage committee of the Amalgamated Association of Iron, Steel and Tin Workers, representatives of the great steel manufacturing companies, was adjourned this afternoon without an agreement having been reached to permit the amalgamated representatives to attend a conference in New York with representatives of the American Tin Plate company. The iron and steel scale will again be taken up later at a conference in this city.

Maine Republicans Meet. Bangor, Me., June 27.—The Republican convention held here today was addressed by Senator Frye. John F. Hill, of Augusta, was unanimously nominated for governor and the national administration was endorsed.

THE NEWS THIS MORNING

Weather Indications Today: SHOWERS; COOLER.

- 1 General-Foreign Ministers Expelled Out of Peikin.
2 Boer Activity Stim Up Proposed Municipal Law.
3 Prohibition Convention at Chicago.
4 Local-Northeastern Pennsylvania.
5 Financial and Commercial.
6 Local-New Coal Road Sees Another Victory.
7 Bonded Company Notified to Remove Its Park Toll Gate.
8 Convention of the Knights of Columbus.
9 Editorial.
10 News and Comment.
11 Local-Plans Received for the Proposed Armory.
12 Mr. May Insists on Views of the Freshwater Trouble.
13 Another Boy Driven in Roaring Brook.
14 Local-West Scranton and Surroundings.
15 Round About the County.
16 Local-Fire Chief Walker and Department Discipline.
17 Live News of the Industrial World.

AN EARLY MORNING FIRE

J. C. McDonald Had a Narrow Escape from Death in Building at 427 Lackawanna Avenue.

J. C. McDonald, a one-legged candy maker, employed by George Anderson, who keeps a candy store at 427 Lackawanna avenue, had a very narrow escape from suffocation early this morning in a fire which broke out shortly before 2 o'clock in the basement of the candy store.

The store is located in a three-story building, and McDonald was sleeping on the top floor at the rear. The smoke from the burning sugar in the basement was especially dense and choking, and ascending through the floors and up through an airway in the back soon filled his room.

He was awakened from his sleep, and with admirable presence of mind strapped on his artificial leg and flung close to the floor after discovering that he could not get down the stairs owing to the smoke. The firemen, upon their arrival on the scene, heard that there was a man on the top floor and desperate efforts were made to reach him from the front, but to no avail.

The Hook and Ladder company finally placed a ladder against the rear of the building and Harry Rice, of the Crystal, ascended it. The smoke was pouring up around the ladder in volumes, so that nothing could be seen from the ground but the light of his lantern. He entered the room and assisted McDonald, who was then almost unconscious to the window.

The latter pluckily stepped out on the ladder and handicapped as he was by his artificial leg, he nevertheless descended to the ground with the assistance of Rice. He says it himself, was almost overcome by the smoke. Edward Kaderoff, who keeps a tailor shop on the second floor, and who lives there, also got out before the firemen arrived, accompanied by his wife. They came down the front stairs before the smoke became too dense and were the only other persons in the building.

The fire was discovered by a passer-by, who promptly turned in an alarm from box 26, at Lackawanna and Washington avenues. When the firemen arrived the cellar was all aflame and dense smoke was pouring from the front.

The first stream was run in through the rear, and in a few moments another was got into the basement from the front. The flames quickly burst through the flooring of the ground floor whereupon the front door and windows were smashed in and a stream from the new water battery directed into the building. This was the first time this piece of apparatus has been used and it did excellent work.

The candy store was owned by George Anderson, whose stock and fixtures are a complete loss. Dr. W. F. Connors had a suit of effects on the second floor and the remainder of that floor and all of the third were occupied by Kaderoff.

At 2.30 the fire was under control and practically subdued. When the firemen were able to enter the building they found that the flames had completely eaten out the cellar, burned away parts of the flooring on the first floor and climbed beneath the plastering as far as the second floor. No damage from flames, however, resulted above the ground floor.

The burned building is owned by the Handley estate. It is damaged to the extent of about \$1,000. Anderson the candyman, is the heaviest loser. All his stock, fixtures in both the store and cellar are particularly a total loss.

THE BASUTOS ARE RESTIVE

Bad Effect of a Disaster Upon a Body of Them.

CUT OFF BY THE BOERS

They Are Surrounded and Twenty Are Killed and 200 Captured. Burglers Break Through Bundles' Lines—London Anxious to Hear of Completion of Roberts' Enveloping Movement.

London, June 27.—Dispatches from South Africa indicate that the renewed Boer activity increases in proportion with Lord Roberts' quiescence, so that news of completion of the commander in chief's enveloping movement, supposed to be in progress, is anxiously awaited.

Reports today support the statement that the Boers succeeded in piercing General Bullund's lines and penetrated southward. It appears that the failure of the British to properly guard the line of communications north of Kroonstad involved disaster to a body of Basutos working on the railroad, of whom twenty were killed and two hundred were made prisoners. That had a decidedly demoralizing effect on the native militia and a recrudescence of unrest is reported in Basutoland.

Cape Town, June 27.—It is announced officially that no troops will leave South Africa until the Boer war has been ended.

LATIN TO BE RETAINED.

Roman Catholic Educators Continue the Study of Dead Languages.

Philadelphia, June 27.—Today's session of the convention of Roman Catholic priests and educators was devoted to a discussion of the teaching of dead languages. The Very Rev. Abbe A. L. Magnin, L. S., D. D., superior and president of the seminary of St. Zulphe and St. Mary's university, Baltimore, suggested a number of subjects bearing upon the retention of the Hebrew and Greek languages, relative importance of seminary courses and the conditions of admission to seminaries.

As the consensus of opinion favored the retention of Latin as the language of the church so the trend of opinion was strongly in favor of continuing to make a knowledge of Greek and Hebrew obligatory. Throughout the conference it has been seen that the instructors of the Catholic church are not in sympathy with what is sometimes called the modern and advanced theory of education which has been steadily away from the study of dead languages.

After a thorough discussion on the subject of the use of Latin in teaching philosophy, it was unanimously decided to recommend that the text books in the various seminaries should continue to be printed in Latin; that the students should be obliged to recite in Latin, and that the professor, in making explanations, should make use of the classic language. The only privilege that should be extended to the instructors is that in summing up a lesson they may do so in English.

The instructors and priests in the conference have no legislative power in enacting rules in the various seminaries. In agreeing on a tenor of action, however, their opinions are considered by the professors of the different colleges and definite action is usually taken in the matter. In view of the storm of protests recently raised in the South against what was called "an excess of Latin," the action of the conference will probably result in a demand that the subject be given further attention.

The conference adjourned sine die, after hearing a number of interesting papers read. The next conference will be held next June at Niagara Falls.

AN AGED WOMAN KILLED.

Mrs. Martin Caffrey Struck by a D. & H. Train.

Mrs. Martin Caffrey, an elderly woman, residing in Archbold, was instantly killed yesterday morning by a Delaware and Hudson train while attempting to cross the tracks at Salem avenue in that borough.

The unfortunate woman stepped hurriedly across one track to escape a train and walked directly in front of another on the next track. She was thrown to one side of the track and was dead when picked up.

The woman was well known in the valley and is survived by four children. The coroner has been notified, but has made no investigation as yet.

ADVANCE IN COAL.

New York, June 27.—All the anthracite coal roads have given notice of an advance in the price of coal 25 cents per ton, east and west, beginning July 2.

The Reading company took the initiative in the advance. The new retail prices will be as follows: Free on board, Hileator, stove and chestnut, \$1 per ton; egg, \$2.75. The western prices will be: Grate, \$4.25 per ton; stove and chestnut, \$4.50 on cars at Buffalo.

Jeffries Will Fight Ruhlin. New York, June 27.—Jim Jeffries, the champion pugilist, states that he will fight Gus Ruhlin on August 25 provided his, Jeffries' arm, which has been in a plaster cast under treatment since May 27, is in condition at that time. In any event he will give Ruhlin the first chance.

WEATHER FORECAST.

Washington, June 27.—Forecast for Thursday and Friday: Eastern Pennsylvania, sunny, showers and not so warm Thursday; Friday, showers; breeze, southwesterly; winds and squalls.