



TWO CENTS.

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CENTENNIAL AT WASHINGTON

Imposing Ceremonies at the National Capitol in Honor of the One Hundredth Anniversary.

BIG MILITARY PARADE

An Impressive Spectacle Presented at the House of Representatives. Decorations of the Galleries—A Stately Procession—Speaker Henderson Calls the Meeting to Order. Eloquent Addresses Made.

By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press. Washington, Dec. 12.—With imposing ceremonies the national capitol today celebrated the centennial anniversary of the founding of the seat of the federal government in Washington. The exercises combined a brilliant military parade, a review by the president from the east front of the capitol and orations in the hall of representatives, where a brilliant audience was assembled. By act of congress the day was made a national holiday in the District of Columbia, the government departments were closed, business was suspended and the whole city gave itself over to celebrating the capitol's natal day. President McKinley and the members of his cabinet took a prominent part in all the exercises, and with them were the chief executives of a large number of the states and territories of the Union, the senators and representatives in congress, the judiciary of the United States Supreme court, the ambassadors and ministers from foreign countries, the heads of the army and navy and a great outpouring of the people. It is seldom that a celebration of greater brilliancy has occurred in the city at the capitol and at the white house. Early in the day the president received the governors of states and territories at the white house, and the model for a new and enlarged white house, to commemorate today's exercises, was unveiled with suitable addresses. At 10 o'clock the president, escorted to the capitol, where he reviewed a parade, headed by Lieutenant General Miles and including the full military strength of the capitol, regulars and militia.

The ceremonies at the capitol began at 3.30 p. m. and included addresses by Senators Daniel, of Virginia, and McComas, of Maryland; Representatives Payne, of New York, and Richardson, of Tennessee, and a notable historical oration by Senator of Massachusetts. A reception by the president to the governors of states at the Corcoran art gallery tonight closed the festivities.

WOMEN MUST BE HOME BEFORE MIDNIGHT

The New York Supreme Court Denies Her the Privileges That Are Accorded Wicked Man.

By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press. New York, Dec. 12.—Justice Andrews in the Supreme court today handed down a decision, in which he holds that women, early in the day, the president received the governors of states and territories at the white house, and the model for a new and enlarged white house, to commemorate today's exercises, was unveiled with suitable addresses. At 10 o'clock the president, escorted to the capitol, where he reviewed a parade, headed by Lieutenant General Miles and including the full military strength of the capitol, regulars and militia.

THE SCHNIEDER'S WANT ROYALTY

On Account of the Nickel Steel Armor Adopted by United States. A Claim of \$375,000.

By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press. Washington, Dec. 12.—Secretary Long today heard an argument by General Joseph K. McCann, representing the Schneider Steel company, of Creusot, France, in behalf of their claim for indemnification because of the use by the United States government of nickel steel armor for warships. During Secretary Whitney's administration, when an effort was being made to secure for the United States navy the best armor then known, the Schneider company submitted for test, in competition with the great armor makers of England, a nickel steel armor plate. This test was conducted at Annapolis and resulted in demonstrating the superiority of the nickel steel compound. The United States government immediately adopted nickel steel as a basis for its armor plate, but placed no orders with the Schneider firm, and our domestic armor makers have since used that material.

Woman's Skull Crushed.

Baltimore, Dec. 12.—John F. Butler, colored, was convicted at the federal court today of a jury in the criminal court tonight for killing a wife on November 27 last. The woman's skull was crushed by a cobblestone. Judge Phelps did not pronounce sentence tonight.

Westinghouse Divided.

Pittsburg, Dec. 12.—The Westinghouse Air Brake company today declared a quarterly dividend of 2 1/2 per cent, and extra dividend of 2 1/2 per cent. The regular dividend of the Union Switch and Signal and Westinghouse Machine company was also declared.

POWERS AGREE ON CHINA

Foreign Representatives Accept the Conditions Proposed by Germany on November 19

ONE ALTERATION MADE

Objections to Making the Demands Irrevocable—That Clause Has Been Eliminated—Joint Note Now Ready to Be Presented to the Chinese Peace Envoys—Regarding Compensation to Missionaries.

By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press. London, Dec. 12.—The negotiations of the powers in regard to the joint China note were concluded satisfactorily yesterday. All the governments have accepted the conditions as outlined by Count von Bulow, the imperial chancellor of Germany, on Nov. 19. The only exception was taken to the introductory clause in which it was said that the demands were irrevocable, which has been eliminated. Count von Bulow, on the occasion of his first appearance in the Reichstag as imperial chancellor, Nov. 19, after making a statement defining Germany's policy toward China and outlining the Anglo-German agreement, proceeded to give the text of the demands which the representatives of the powers in Peking had at that time agreed to recommend to their governments to embody in a collective note for presentation to the Chinese government, as follows:

Article 1. An extraordinary mission headed by an imperial prince shall be sent to Peking to confer with the Chinese government on the subject of the import of arms to China shall be maintained till further notice.

REPUBLICAN CAUCUS.

Announcement Is Made That It Will Be Held at Harrisburg on January 1, 1900.

By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press. Harrisburg, Dec. 12.—Announcement is made today that the Republican caucus to agree upon a candidate for United States senator to fill the vacancy caused by the expiration of the term of Mr. Quay will be called to meet on Tuesday night, January 1, at 8 o'clock. The legislature meets in biennial session at noon that day. The caucus will be held at the house of representatives and will be presided over by the speaker of the senate which is stated, the previous night.

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Emperor William's Failure to Receive Kruger Is Explained by Count Von Bulow.

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THE CANTEN WILL PROBABLY REMAIN

The Senate Committee Will Doubtless Favor the Retention of the System.

Washington, Dec. 12.—In connection with its consideration of the army reorganization bill the senate committee on military affairs today listened to an argument by Adjutant General Corbin for the continuation of the present canteen system in the army. The committee has taken no formal vote on the subject, but there has been more or less exchange of opinion among members, the result of which has been favorable to the retention of the present system and the elimination of the house canteen provision. The committee expects to conclude its hearings on the bill tomorrow.

STEAMSHIP ARRIVALS.

New York, Dec. 12.—Clearing: Friedrich Der Grosse, Bremen via Southampton; La Bretagne, Havre. Sailed: New York, Southampton; Deutschland, Hamburg via Plymouth and Cherbourg; Tennessee, Liverpool. Arrived: Queen Victoria, New York for Liverpool. Arrived: Kensington, New York via Southampton. New York—Arrived: Southark, Antwerp. Southampton—Sailed: Kaiser Wilhelm der Grosse (from Bremen), Cherbourg and New York.

Flour Mill Burned.

Lancaster, Pa., Dec. 12.—The four and a half story mill of Samuel M. Nolt, of Oregon, was destroyed by fire this morning with all its contents. The building was a large three-story stone structure and was equipped with the most modern machinery. There was a small insurance on the building.

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THE NEWS THIS MORNING.

- Weather indications today, FAIR, WARMER.
- 1 General—Doubtful if Scranton Can Avoid Going into the Second Class.
 - 2 Local—Special Election for Councilmen May Be Postponed.
 - 3 Opinions on the Change to a Second Class City.
 - 4 Local—One Day's Work in Criminal Court.
 - 5 Editorial.
 - 6 Note and Comment.
 - 7 Accused on the Stand in the Murder Trial.
 - 8 Local—West Scranton and Suburban.
 - 9 General—Northeastern Pennsylvania, Financial and Commercial.
 - 10 Local—News of the World of Labor.

FREIGHT TRAINS IN HEAD-ON COLLISION

Two Trainmen Are Killed and Four Injured—Both of the Engines Demolished.

By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press. Des Moines, Mo., Dec. 12.—In a head-on collision here today, between freight trains, two trainmen were killed and four injured. Both engines were demolished. The dead: Engineer James Britt, Olney, Ill.; brakeman Edward Bradley, Desoto, Mo. The injured: Fireman Barrett, Conductor Ralston, Brakemen R. D. Scott and G. L. Scott.

THERE WILL BE TWO INQUIRIES

Congress and the War Department Will Investigate Booz Case Simultaneously.

By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press. Washington, Dec. 12.—It was said at the war department today that, notwithstanding the inquiry which the house has directed to be made into the case of Cadet Booz through its special committee, the department will prosecute its own investigation through the board appointed yesterday, headed by Major General Brooke.

THE MADISON SQUARE BICYCLE RACE

Over Fourteen Hundred Miles Clicked Off by the Riders in the Six Day Race.

By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press. New York, Dec. 12.—With over 1,400 miles clicked off in their pursuit of prizes in the six-day bicycle race at Madison Square Garden, which ends on Saturday, eight teams were still represented on the track at midnight tonight, or the beginning of the fourth day of the contest. The men have not been able to keep up the heroic pace jumped into at the outset, but they have struggled to do as much as their strained and tired bodies would allow them. For the first two days they kept ahead of the record, but now they are far behind, the 1,400 miles and one lap reeled off by the leaders being 15 miles and 7 laps behind the record for 1899.

Privileges Extended.

Philadelphia, Dec. 12.—The board of directors of the Pennsylvania Railroad company at a meeting today extended the provisions of the company's existing fund to the lines of the Allegheny Valley railroad and the Western New York and Pennsylvania railroad. These appointments were confirmed: R. H. Scowden, to be assistant superintendent of the insurance department; A. C. Staud, principal engineer.

Fireman Killed.

Olean, N. Y., Dec. 12.—Passenger train No. 30 on Oil City on the Western New York and Pennsylvania ran into an open switch here today and collided with some cars standing on the switch. The engine was badly wrecked. Fireman Patterson was killed and Engineer Kidd seriously injured. None of the passengers were injured.

Fleischmann Will Permit Fight.

Cincinnati, Dec. 12.—Mayor Fleischmann today refused to revoke from his promise to grant a permit for a prize fight at Saengerfest hall between February 1 and 4 at between Jeffries and either Rubin, Sharkey or Fitzsimmons. A delegation of Methodist ministers called on the mayor to protest, but he refused to reconsider his determination to permit the fight.

DOUBTFUL IF WE CAN AVOID THE TRANSIT

It Is Contended That Scranton Can Not Stay in the Third Class Even if It Is Anxious to Do So.

OBSTACLES TO THE RE-CLASSIFICATION

Someone Opposed to Scranton Remaining in the Third Class or Some Third Class City That Aims to Enter the Second Class May Place Difficulties in the Way of Raising the Population Limit of Third Class Cities—It Can Be Done Legally if the Governor Can Be Induced to Be Busy at Things Other Than the Certification of Scranton's Census Figures Until After the Limit Is Raised—State Politics Begin to Figure in the Affair.

ARTICLE IX T. J. DUFFY.

In an early article on the second-class city situation, Senator William Flinn, of Pittsburg, was quoted as saying that there would be no difficulty experienced in raising the population limit of third-class cities, so as to keep Scranton from going into the second class. This opinion was generally accepted here and no one rose to question it, until it became to be quite evident that sentiment was crystallizing in opposition to the transition and the practicability of avoiding the transit was closely considered.

It is now a very debatable question as to whether Scranton can avoid going into the second class, no matter how much it should wish to avoid it. No less an authority than Senator J. C. Vaughan doubts the possibility of preventing the transit, and Attorney Ira H. Burns, who has given the second-class city question as much of his best more, attention than any other local lawyer, shares Senator Vaughan's misgivings.

The difficulty, as they see it, is that some one from this city who favors the transit, or some other third-class city with second-class city ambitions which its population indicates will be realized at the next census, may defeat the reclassification scheme in the legislature, or, failing in this, take the matter up to the Supreme court and assail its constitutionality.

Governor's Certification.

It is safe to say that the governor's certification of the census returns, which makes Scranton a second-class city, will have been received by our city before the legislature convenes and the governor sign a reclassification act. This would place Scranton as solidly in the second class as if it had been there from the very inception of second-class cities, and those who might be opposing the expansion of the third-class city population limit would be on hand with the claims that an attempt was being made to effect retroactive legislation and special or local legislation, the latter claim finding a base on the fact that it was intended for one city alone.

Pittsburg had the population limits changed five years ago for the purpose of preventing it from going out of the second and into the first class. The maximum population limit for second-class cities is 200,000. Pittsburg foresaw that it would pass the 200,000 mark at the next census, and not wishing to become a companion of Philadelphia in the first class, it caused a reclassification to be made in 1895, which made the boundary between second and first-class cities 200,000. Pittsburg's population is shown to be 200,000, and consequently it can remain in the enjoyment of the laws which were passed especially for it.

If the governor could be prevailed upon to withhold his certification of the census figures until after he has signed a new classification act that would have 125,000 as the population boundary between third and second-class cities, the transition of Scranton would be as successfully forestalled as was that of Pittsburg.

Does Scranton want to halt the transition, and, if it does, can the governor, without being guilty of an indiscretion, withhold the certification until Scranton has had time to amend the classification act, or at least make the attempt?

In answer to the first part of the question, sufficient is it to refer the inquirer to the opinions expressed in our letters now appearing in The Tribune. As to the second part of the question, the law is itself an answer: "Whenever it shall appear by any such census that any city of the second or third class is obtaining a population entitling it to an advance in classification, as herein prescribed, it shall be the duty of the governor to certify the fact accordingly, which certificate shall be entered at large upon the minutes of the councils, etc."

As will be seen by this, it is discretionary with the governor as to when

(Continued on Page 5.)

WEATHER FORECAST.

- Washington, Dec. 12.—Forecast for eastern Pennsylvania: Fair, warmer Thursday; rain or snow at night on Friday; colder Friday; rain or break about Saturday; westerly winds Thursday.