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TWO CENTS.

SCRANTON, PA., THURSDAY MORNING, JANUARY 23, 1902.

TWO CENTS.

MEREDITH CHARGES TO BE INVESTIGATED

The Mine Workers' Election Has Been Postponed Until Friday.

FEELING THAT MITCHELL WILL BE EXONERATED

National Officers Will Not Be Elected Until Charges Preferred—Miss Meredith Denies That Any One Is Back of Her and Declares That She Has Acted Upon Her Own Responsibility—Scale Committee Organized.

Indianapolis, Jan. 22.—National officers of the United Mine Workers of America will not be elected until the committee appointed to investigate charges preferred against President Mitchell and Secretary-Treasurer Wilson has made its report to the convention, probably Friday.

The feeling in the convention was that the report of the investigating committee will exonerate Mitchell and Wilson and that they will be re-elected. The miners cheered President Mitchell when he appeared on the stage at Tomlinson hall today.

A minute after taking up the gavel he said he felt it would be more satisfactory to the convention at large if a delegate from each of the two additional districts to which Miss Meredith's charges had been sent be appointed on the committee named to investigate, so W. D. Van Horn, who presided yesterday, took the chair and appointed Delegate Lawrence Lewis, of district 11, of Iowa, and Patrick D. Ryan, of district No. 5, of Pennsylvania. Thereupon President Mitchell resumed charge of the convention.

The first order of the routine business was the appointment of the committee on constitution as follows: J. W. Howell, district No. 19, of Ohio; Evans, No. 6; Peter Hauray, No. 21; John T. Dempsey, No. 1; W. T. Morris, No. 12; G. W. Purcell, No. 11 and Paul P. Pulaski, No. 19.

The convention at 10:30 o'clock adjourned to 1:30 p. m. because little or nothing could be done and the committee had time to get to work. J. C. Heenan, of Linton, a member of the commission, appointed by Gov. Durbin to codify the Indiana mining laws, will serve as chairman of the special committee appointed to investigate the charges against President Mitchell and Secretary-Treasurer Wilson.

The investigating committee elected W. D. Ryan, of Illinois, secretary. Ryan is the delegate who offered the resolution condemning Miss Meredith for having preferred the charges.

Miss Meredith Alone.

Miss Meredith denies that anyone is back of her and declares she has acted on her own responsibility in making the charges.

The minutes in the official journal of proceedings of the Ohio state miners' convention show that the Ohio miners voted to invite Miss Meredith to the national convention and agreed to pay her expenses while here. President Haskins, of the Ohio district, says the committee on resolutions and the Ohio miners in Ohio and that the state convention wished to have the national convention held there.

The scale committee which has the most important work of the miners' convention, organized at noon, making John P. Reese, president of the Iowa miners, chairman, and President Haskins, of the Ohio miners, secretary. It will not be ready to report until the first of next week. Its work is secret, even from delegates of the convention.

The committee on resolutions and minor committees met today and organized for work. The charges against the national officers of the United Mine Workers came up again when the convention met this afternoon.

Foster Criticizes Papers. Delegate Foster, of Ohio, took exception to a statement appearing in a morning paper, concerning Miss Meredith's charges, and also to a bulletin displayed in another newspaper office window, saying there was an "uproar" in the convention yesterday afternoon. He moved that the representative of each of the papers be excluded from the convention hall.

President Mitchell explained that Foster was mistaken in some of his statements, and he advised him not to try to push through such a radical measure, saying the newspapers would "print what they pleased."

The miners, he said, could not expect the newspapers to print anything but what they wanted to print. He said Delegate Foster had a right to object to the published statement, "notwithstanding the fact that Miss Meredith gave the interview herself."

At the suggestion of a delegate, the matter was dropped and the convention resumed its jovial mood, and called for songs. Delegate Mates, of Wilkes-Barre, Pa., sang the "John Mitchell Song," a strike song dedicated to Mitchell. It was heard with prolonged cheering. Ben Tillet was next called out and sang English and American songs, and the miners joined in a labor song, including the chorus, "Glory, glory, hallelujah—'tis the people marching on."

Little or no business will be transacted until the committee, which are not ready, can be heard.

The investigation committee is in session tonight and probably will be ready with its report tomorrow. Then will follow the election of officers. The general feeling is that President Mitchell and Secretary-Treasurer Wilson will be exonerated and that they will be elected again. No opposition has developed to Vice President Lewis' reelection, which is conceded. Few matters have been sent to the committee for consideration, and it is likely, therefore, that much important business will come up tomorrow. A member of the investigation committee said they had decided to investigate only the charges preferred against President Mitchell and Secretary-Treasurer Wilson, with the evidence adduced in the convention, and would make no examination of the books of the order to ascertain what they showed as to the shortage of ex-Secretary-Treasurer Pearce.

MR. CLEVELAND TALKS OF CUBA

Emphatic Opinions Are Expressed on the Tariff Question.

By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press. Allentown, Pa., Jan. 22.—The "Scranton flyer" on the Bethlehem branch of the Philadelphia and Reading railroad, which left Philadelphia at 6 p. m., was wrecked tonight at Conowingo, nine miles south of here. A spread of the rails caused the front coach to jump the tracks and tear into the depot platform and demolish the station shed. Three cars were overturned and wrecked from their tracks. No one was killed, but all the passengers were roughly shaken up and some cut by flying glass. George O. Albright, George Wantling and William Weber, of Allentown, were slightly injured; George Walter Tyson, of Philadelphia, had his knee injured, and Rev. J. M. Haysman, Episcopal rector at Mount Chank, had a leg hurt and a tendon of the right hand cut.

Dr. John Wentz, C. W. Fulton and C. E. MacQuivey, of this city, were on board the wrecked train and escaped without injury. The wreck occurred in a cut, and when the Pullman in which they were seated left the track it toppled over against the side of the cut. A train was made up at Bethlehem soon after the wreck occurred and the Scranton passengers arrived in this city soon after 1 o'clock this morning.

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MEETING OF STATE BOARD OF AGRICULTURE

Officers Elected—Other Business Before the Sessions at Harrisburg.

By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press. Harrisburg, Pa., Jan. 22.—The Pennsylvania state board of agriculture convened today in this city. It will continue in session until tomorrow evening. The morning session was devoted to the election of officers and other routine business. The following officers were elected: President, Gov. H. C. Heisterkamp; Secretary, W. H. White; Treasurer, William P. Beck; Executive Committee, M. N. Clark, Carlisle; J. Kahler, Hughesville; H. G. McGowan, Geiger Mills; W. H. Stout, Pine Grove; H. C. Snavely, Lebanon; J. M. Sexton, North Wales.

A resolution was offered by State Forestry Commissioner J. T. Brothrock, which was adopted that the legislature be requested to furnish funds requisite for the establishment of a training school of elementary forestry at Gratzburg, Adams county, where on state reservation the pupils may work down on state forests, earn what it costs the commonwealth to board, clothe and educate them, provided these pupils furnish bond to repay the state what it costs to educate them if they fall on examination or are discharged from the school.

At the afternoon session papers were read by H. G. McGowan, of Geiger Mills, on "That Which Pays the Average Farmer"; Dr. M. E. Conrad, West Grove, "The Importance of Dairy Hygiene"; and H. V. White, Bloomsburg, "The Art of Living."

The following papers were presented at tonight's session: "The Question of Farm Labor," by W. E. McSparran, Furness; "The Necessity for Better Preparation for Farm Work," Prof. George C. Watson, State college; "The Pollution of Domestic Wells," Prof. Cochran, Westchester; "The Relation of Birds to Agriculture," Prof. H. A. Surface, State college.

Match Factory Burned. By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press. Reading, Jan. 22.—The plant of the American Match company, F. F. Linder, president, was burned here this afternoon. Origin of the fire was due to sparks. Loss \$25,000, covered by insurance.

Strike Against Non-union Men. By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press. Wilkes-Barre, Jan. 22.—The miners at the West End coal company's colliery at Moanags, went on strike today because non-union men were employed. The strikers number five hundred.

CHICAGO DESIRES TO ENTERTAIN KRUGER

An Invitation Will Be Sent to the Boer President to Visit the City. By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press. Chicago, Jan. 22.—At a mass meeting of Boer sympathizers held here tonight, it was resolved to send President Kruger an invitation, signed by 500,000 people, to visit Chicago on June 26, the date of the coronation of Edward VII.

The meeting was called originally to take action to secure the aid of President Roosevelt to ask clemency for Commandant Scheepers. When it was learned that Scheepers already had been executed, it was decided to invite Mr. Kruger and have a pro-Boer demonstration. The invitation to President Kruger will be forwarded as soon as the signatures shall be secured.

"SCRANTON FLYER" IS BADLY WRECKED

Three Cars Overturned Near Allentown—No One Killed, but Many Are Injured.

By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press. Allentown, Pa., Jan. 22.—The "Scranton flyer" on the Bethlehem branch of the Philadelphia and Reading railroad, which left Philadelphia at 6 p. m., was wrecked tonight at Conowingo, nine miles south of here. A spread of the rails caused the front coach to jump the tracks and tear into the depot platform and demolish the station shed. Three cars were overturned and wrecked from their tracks. No one was killed, but all the passengers were roughly shaken up and some cut by flying glass. George O. Albright, George Wantling and William Weber, of Allentown, were slightly injured; George Walter Tyson, of Philadelphia, had his knee injured, and Rev. J. M. Haysman, Episcopal rector at Mount Chank, had a leg hurt and a tendon of the right hand cut.

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TEXAS SHOOTING AFFRAY

Three Killed and Several Wounded in a General Fusillade at Belleville, Texas.

By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press. Belleville, Tex., Jan. 22.—Early this evening an affray occurred which resulted in three deaths, the fatal wounding of one and the slight wounding of three others.

Dead. RAYMOND WHITE, constable at Wallis, MILAM COUNTY, his half-brother, HENRY DIPPERT, a bystander.

Fatally Wounded. Walter Pennington, shot through the bowels, the bullet going entirely through the body.

Slightly Wounded. Ellis Pennington, Anton Dippert, a bystander, John Haykwith, of Sely, a bystander.

The circumstances which caused the battle with its disastrous results was the meeting of the Pennington and Odum factions. Walter Pennington, under indictment for the murder of J. Odum, a brother of William Odum and a half-brother of Raymond White, was being tried in the district court, and a large number of people came here from Wallis as witnesses, among them the relatives of the deceased. There was no outbreak until the parties met at the depot, where a large crowd of people were assembled awaiting the trial. Just how the affair started, no one seems to know, but it is claimed that the first hostile act was committed by the Odum faction. The first person wounded was Walter Pennington. The bullet entered his stomach and ranged upward, passing through him. He then opened fire, and in an instant the shooting became general. The two Dipperts were standing together and had no chance to get under cover. Henry was struck by a bullet and dropped dead where he stood. Anton's wound is in the side and it is believed will not prove fatal.

Haykwith was shot while trying to get out of range. When the shooting ceased, it was found that White and Odum had been instantly killed, while Haykwith with his pistol cocked and ready to fire. He and Odum were lying close together.

Walter Pennington was carried to the hotel, where he now lies in a dying condition. His father, Ellis Pennington, was struck only once, the ball plunging through his hair under the scalp of the left side of his head.

Maclay's History Cut Out. By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press. Annapolis, Md., Jan. 22.—The senate today annulled an order directing the state librarian of Maryland to cut out of the library the third volume of Maclay's history of the United States navy. The senate also annulled a resolution directing the abolition of a congressional resolution extending a vote of thanks to Rear Admiral Schley for gallantry in the battle of Santiago.

Scheepers Has Been Executed. By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press. New York, Jan. 22.—It has just been discovered that through a cable error an Associated Press dispatch announced that the death sentence upon Commandant Scheepers, of the Boer army had been commuted. The execution, however, was carried out last Saturday, Jan. 18.

An Actor Falls Dead. By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press. London, Jan. 22.—During the performance this evening by a German company at St. George's, an actor named George Witzlitzky, fell dead of apoplexy upon the stage. The performance was at once stopped. The deceased enjoyed considerable reputation in Germany.

PARTISAN FIRE IN THE HOUSE

Democrats Offer Objections to Philippines Policy of Administration.

PATRIOTISM OF MR. CUMMINGS

Shakes His Fist at Associates and Hopes He May Be Paralyzed If He Refuses to Protect an American Soldier—Tribute to President McKinley—Senate Does Not Continue Debate on Philippines Tariff.

By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press. Washington, Jan. 22.—Some of the old partisan fire was injected into the proceedings of the house today, when the item in the urgent deficiency bill appropriating \$500,000 for a military post at Manila, which the Democrats have been using as a text for speeches in opposition to the Philippine policy of the administration for the last three days, was reached. Mr. Cannon, in charge of the bill, confessed that the appropriation was subject to a point of order and it went out. In lieu thereof, he offered an amendment to appropriate the same sum for the "shield and protection" of the officers and enlisted men of the army in the Philippines. This the chair held to be in order and it at once became the subject of a very spirited debate, in which Mr. Richardson, the minority leader; Mr. Williams, of Mississippi, and Mr. E. Atwood, of Missouri, were pitted against the chairman of the appropriation committee, Partisan applause rang out on each side to cheer on the respective champions and there seemed to be a solid line when the vote came to be taken. Mr. Cummings, a New York Democrat, voted with the Republicans, turning angrily on his political brethren as he did so, and with clenched fists in their faces, crying out he hoped he might be paralyzed when he refused to vote to protect an American soldier. The vote on the amendment stood: Ayes, 127; nays, 100. Before the general debate closed, Mr. Watson paid a beautiful tribute to the late President McKinley.

In the Senate. Debate on the Philippine tariff bill was not continued in the senate today, no member of the body being prepared to proceed with the bill. The bill providing for the establishment of a department of commerce was under discussion nearly two hours. Little progress was made with it, as while the debate disclosed no objections to the main features of the bill, there was a disposition on the part of the senate to give it careful consideration and to perfect the details of the measure.

Did Not Take Part in the Movement Against United States at Beginning of Spanish War.

By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press. St. Petersburg, Jan. 22.—The correspondent of the Associated Press here has obtained the following statement from the Russian foreign office regarding the announcement made in the British house of commons Monday concerning negotiations between the powers before and after the outbreak of the Spanish-American war and the Russian foreign office. A British foreign official to a representative of the Associated Press on the same subject: "Russia has always been and now is extremely desirous of maintaining amicable relations with the United States. Russia never had any intention of participating in any collective step in the Spanish-American dispute which did not directly concern her. Nor did Russia receive any proposition from any power with such a view.

"Indeed we received no information regarding Austria's alleged initiative or about any attempt on the part of any of the powers to interfere in the interests of Spain.

Schwab Meets Francis Joseph. By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press. Vienna, Jan. 22.—The mayor of Vienna presented Charles M. Schwab, president of the United States Steel corporation, to Emperor Francis Joseph at the Citizens' hall tonight. The emperor and Mr. Schwab conversed at some length upon commercial matters. The emperor expressed his regret at the early departure of Mr. Schwab from Vienna, as he would have liked to see him again. Mr. Schwab will leave for Berlin tomorrow and will thence proceed to Paris and London.

Bank Robbers Captured. By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press. Hartford, Ky., Jan. 22.—The bank of Hartford was robbed of between \$2,500 and \$3,500 at 3 a. m. today by four men who blew open the safe and carried off the money. They were captured, however, by Deputy Sheriff Koon and a pack of bloodhounds after a short chase. All of the stolen money was recovered.

Inspector Saxton Dismissed. By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press. Washington, Jan. 22.—Upon the recommendation of Immigration Commissioner Fliche, of New York, Supervising Inspector Frank Saxton, on duty at New York city, has been dismissed from the service. He has served on duty as supervising inspector at New York for the past seven or eight months. The ground for dismissal is given as neglect of duty.

Steamship Arrivals. By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press. New York, Jan. 22.—Arrived: Rotterdam, Rotterdam. Sailed: Philadelphia, Southampton; Germanic, Liverpool; Southwark, Anvers; Quakerstown, Trieste; New York, Liverpool (and proceeded); Southampton—Arrived: St. Louis, New York.

SPLIT IN BOWLING CONGRESS.

Western Men Accused of Stuffing the Proxy Box at Buffalo. By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press. Buffalo, N. Y., Jan. 22.—The split in the American Bowling congress, which had been threatening since the body convened here in annual session, came this afternoon, when the Eastern delegates left the hall in a body and declined to take any part in the consideration of matters before the convention. The Western delegates then elected the following officers.

President, Frank L. Pasdeloup, of Chicago; first vice president, W. V. Thompson, Chicago; second vice president, M. A. Phillips, St. Louis; secretary, Samuel Karpf, Dayton, Ohio; treasurer, George M. Sterns, Des Moines, Iowa.

The split was the outcome of the Western men voting a greater number of proxies than the Eastern men would admit they were entitled to.

COLOMBIAN REBELS ON CANAL QUESTION

Gen. Modesto Garces States His Party Is Anxious That the United States Shall Own the Canal.

By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press. New York, Jan. 22.—General Modesto Garces, commander in chief of the Colombian insurgent forces, said today with reference to the attitude of his party on the canal question: "The Liberal party in Colombia is anxious that the United States shall own, manage and control the Panama canal and if in power will enact a new constitution granting the United States land requisite for the canal, in perpetuity. It shall concede better terms than exist as to annual payments to the Colombian government on account of its previous contract with the French canal company. If successful in establishing a government the Liberal party will be in a position to treat officially with the United States regarding all canal matters.

"The situation in Colombia," he continued, "is this: The Liberal army is located at different points throughout the interior of Colombia numbers more than 20,000 men under efficient generals. All are volunteers, serving without pay and have met with most encouraging success in capturing strategic points. When these armies are increased in strength by the receipt of arms and ammunition already shipped to them, we believe the Colombian government will be forced to capitulate or amend its constitution to conform with the clear cut modern ideas which the Liberal party is fighting for and particularly relating to the matter of the Panama canal."

SWOLLEN STREAMS AGAIN ON RAMPAGE

Considerable Damage and Inconvenience Results from Recent Downpour.

By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press. Pottsville, Pa., Jan. 22.—The rain of the past twenty-four hours has swollen the Schuylkill and its tributaries, some of which have overflowed their banks. Crossroads was the scene of a deluge early this morning and much damage was caused by the flooding of cellars. The water is gaining in many of the lower workings of the mines, and it is feared that the damages of December will be repeated.

Hazleton, Pa., Jan. 22.—Eight of the collieries in the Hazleton district, which had recently resumed operations after being idle since the flood in December, were closed down again today because of the high water in the workings, as a result of last night's heavy rain.

Washington, Del., Jan. 22.—Great floods along the Brandywine attended last night's heavy rain.

At Thompson's bridge, near Birmingham, a team owned by William Forbes was washed into the stream and both horses and the colored driver, Frederick Douglas Brown, were drowned and their bodies carried down the stream.

Shamokin, Pa., Jan. 22.—A severe rain storm setting in yesterday morning and ending this afternoon, flooded a large number of collieries in this region. A section of the Lehigh Valley railroad, near Green Ridge, was washed away by Coal Run creek overflowing its banks. Lowlands between here and Sunbury are completely inundated, acres of farming land being swept by cuts from the mines.

Lancaster, Pa., Jan. 22.—An ice gorge has formed in the Susquehanna just below Washington borough. Ice has jammed between the shore and an island a half mile off shore to a height of fifty feet. No serious damage has yet been done, but danger is feared from the ice and flood waters now coming down the stream from points farther up the river. At Washington borough the tracks of the Port Deposit and Columbia Railroad are covered by water to a depth of three feet and traffic has been stopped.

Beaver Cases Transferred. By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press. Philadelphia, Jan. 22.—The Supreme court, for want of jurisdiction, today refused to hear two beaver cases and transferred them to the Superior court for argument at the court of the appellants. The cases transferred were: Replevin Simmons et al. of township of Rochester, and Rose et al., appellants, vs. county of Beaver.

Bishop of Western Massachusetts. By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press. Springfield, Mass., Jan. 22.—The Rev. Dr. Vincent of Worcester, was elected bishop of the newly-created Protestant Episcopal diocese of Western Massachusetts today.

Patrick Jury Selected. By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press. New York, Jan. 22.—The work of selecting a jury for the trial of Albert H. Patrick on the charge of having murdered William M. Rice, formerly of Texas, was completed today.

CHAUNCEY BLACK ON DEMOCRACY

STABBED IN THE BACK.

Mazzeroni Pascolini Arrested Yesterday Charged with Feloniously Wounding Massimino Ceconi.

Mozzeroni Pascolini was arrested yesterday on Lackawanna avenue by Patrolmen Sartor and Haggerty on the charge of stabbing Massimino Ceconi last Sunday night. The warrant for his arrest was issued by Magistrate John T. Howe.

Both men are Italians residing on Breck street, South Scranton. Ceconi attended a celebration on Sunday night at the home of a neighbor and was called outside by Pascolini, who accused him of making remarks reflecting upon him (Pascolini). Ceconi told him that he wouldn't talk to him and started for the house. According to the statement of an eyewitness, Pascolini followed him and stabbed him in the back with a long knife just as he was entering the house.

Ceconi lost a great deal of blood and was taken home where he was attended by Dr. James A. Manley. The doctor thought at first that his injuries were fatal but has since discovered that no vital organ was pierced and stated yesterday that the man would probably recover.

Pascolini escaped after the stabbing but didn't attempt to leave town and was captured without difficulty. He will be given a hearing on the charge of felonious wounding before Magistrate Howe this morning.

OVERTURES FROM BOERS

Representative of the London News Hears of More Peace Talk.

By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press. London, Jan. 23.—A representative of the Daily News in the lobby of parliament hears that there has certainly been some sort of peace overture from the Boers, but that the unyielding attitude of Lord Milner, the British high commissioner in South Africa has, as before, proved an insurmountable obstacle in the matter.

The Hague correspondent of the Daily News says that Dr. Leyds, the European representative of the Transvaal, and Abraham Fischer, the leader of the Boer delegates are having frequent and prolonged interviews with Dr. Van Lindenberg, the Dutch minister of foreign affairs and Prof. Asser, the jurist and chairman of the arbitration court at the Hague.

A correspondent of the Telegraph wiring from Brussels says that the Dutch pro-Boer press has published that the peace negotiations will be considered except upon the basis of the retention of Boer independence. This note is regarded as a reply to the speech of Mr. Chamberlain, the Boer colonial secretary.

PAN-AMERICANS APPROVE CANAL

Republics Assembled at International Conference in Mexico, Applaud United States.

By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press. Mexico City, Jan. 22.—The Pan-American conference today gave approval to an inter-oceanic canal. The resolution, which was carried unanimously by acclamation, is as follows: "The republics assembled at the international conference in Mexico applaud the purpose of the United States government to construct an inter-oceanic canal and acknowledge that this work will not only be worthy of the greatness of the American people, but also in the highest sense a work of civilization and to the greatest degree beneficial to the development of commerce between the American states and the other countries of the world."

Volney W. Foster, one of the United States delegates, in behalf of the delegation, thanked the conference for its resolution.

Strikers Return to Work. By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press. Wilkes-Barre, Jan. 22.—The strike of the union miners at the West End colliery at Moanags, ended today, the men going back on the promise of the company that the non-union men now employed would be discharged as soon as they fulfilled the improvements they are working upon.

DEATHS OF A DAY.

By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press. Louisville, Ky., Jan. 22.—Prof. Emil Stoffer, aged 88, one of the best-known chemists in the country, died at his home in this city today of the influenza of old age. In 1870, Prof. Stoffer discovered the formula for making liquid soap and the announcement created a great sensation in all medical and chemical circles of the world. Two years later he discovered the formula for making the soft or powdered form of soap.

Ann Arbor, Mich., Jan. 22.—Rufus Waples, a former district judge in Louisiana and the author of several well-known law text books, among them "Waples on Attorneys," died of heart disease last night, aged 78 years. He was born in Delaware, moved to New Orleans in 1849, where he studied law, and came to Ann Arbor in 1857.

Sioux City, Iowa, Jan. 22.—Bob Kneeb, the horseman, who became famous a few years ago, through his impetuosity in Germany for rescuing an alleged "ringer," Betel, is dead. He was 68 years of age.

REPLIES TO QUESTIONS AS TO THE BEST METHODS OF ORGANIZATION.

SHOULD INCLUDE ALL TO INSURE SUCCESS

Nothing Could Be More Fatal Than the Reckless and Useless Perpetuation of Recent Difficulties—He Believes That It Would Have Been Better to Have Embraced Bimetalism Than to Allow Republicans to Secure Control of the Government.

By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press. Chester, Pa., Jan. 22.—Ex-Lieutenant Governor Chauncey F. Black has written a letter to Stuart P. Fox, H. E. Schofield and others, of Chester and Delaware counties, in reply to a joint letter sent by them to Mr. Black asking his advice as to organizing the Democratic party of Pennsylvania.

Mr. Black, in his letter, treats the subject at considerable length. In part, he says: "You ask me how the Democratic party may be best organized to accomplish those great public and patriotic objects for which it exists. I answer that if we could succeed, in the immediate future, the party must be so organized as to include within its ranks all those who adhere to Democratic principles. Nothing could be more unwise, perhaps fatal, than the reckless and useless perpetuation of recent difficulties. I suppose you and I, being strict Democrats, supported Mr. Bryan and those great declarations of human rights—the Chicago and Kansas City platforms—with all the fervor of which we were capable. But there were some Democrats, most of them as honest as we, who magnified the silver question into a vital issue, and who, therefore, disagreeing with us, our platforms and our candidates, assisted directly or indirectly to put the imperialist party into power. They have realized their error. They see the republic transformed into an empire. They see the constitution disregarded, the government administered in the interest of a class, the money power omnipotent, the congress taxing for the benefit of the few at the expense of the many, gigantic industrial combinations, uncontrolled, and an European colonial system established instead of our familiar and constitutional American territorial system, with the mighty military and naval armaments required to support it. These Democrats, who were misled by false and corrupt clamor into helping to bring on this condition of things, are heartily sick and sorry. They are quite able to see now that even if bimetalism had really the menace to commercial prosperity which it was represented to be, it was a trifling in comparison with the overthrow of our Republican government, which has taken place and is taking place. The limited or unlimited coinage of silver was a question of mere economy or expediency. It was not a constitutional question. It is now, however, the rights of our people. Democrats might differ about it with perfect freedom. A mistake about it could easily be corrected.

Those, therefore, who left the Democratic party because of it, left with reasonable provocation, and we, the Democrats, who remain faithful, must be careful that we do not incur a like guilt by continuing to exclude them for difference of opinion upon an altogether minor matter. We want them all back, and Kansas City platforms and followed, with joy and pride, that glorious tribune of the common people of America, William J. Bryan, feel the smallest sense of regret for our action in those days which tried men's souls. We would gladly do the same again. But for the present the issue is overpast. The gold standard has won. The crime is complete.

As to Organization. "I always have believed that there is no organization so perfectly adapted to the work as that of popular clubs or Democratic societies. There has not been a single instance in the history of the country where the institution of an honest, earnest Democratic club has not increased the Democratic vote in the state or nation, without a thorough club organization. The club is the arena of discussion, the challenge to the enemy, the engine of agitation, as it has ever been and ever will be.

Against the combining monopolies of the country the club affords the only support to the individual voter. Only every true man stands shoulder to