

PRESIDENT WANTS REFORM

Asks Congress for Law on Child Labor, Employers Liability and Other Purposes.

IN FAVOR OF TARIFF REVISION

Urges Amendment to Anti-Trust Legislation in Favor of Railroads. Not to Affect Suits Now.

Washington.—The much-heralded and anxiously looked for special message of President Roosevelt was submitted to both houses of Congress on the 25th. It is the briefest state paper ever submitted by the President and deals solely with the measures he desires to have enacted into laws.

He asks the immediate re-enactment of an employers' liability law drawn to comply with the recent decision of the supreme court. He also urges legislation along the lines of his previous recommendations concerning injunctions in labor disputes. He is urgent in his demand for amendments to the interstate commerce law, and especially the anti-trust law. The President says that in the modern business world combinations are absolutely necessary, and he makes a plea for laws which will give justice not only to the corporations but to the laboring men and farmers.

The President comes out for at least a partial revision of the tariff. In order that the diminishing forests may be protected he recommends that wood pulp be put upon the free list immediately, with a corresponding reduction upon paper made from any country that does not pay an export duty upon them.

The President would have the government represented in railroad receiverships. He would have power vested in the interstate commerce commission to supervise security issues. He would have right of recovery of three-fold damages abolished and would substitute therefor an allowance of only the actual damages sustained, with the cost of the suit and a reasonable attorney's fee, and (even in the interest of labor than of business men) if combinations would permit suits if combinations or combinations complained of were unfair and unreasonable and against the public interest.

WILL ATTACK 2-CENT LAW.

Western Railroad Officials Encouraged by Supreme Court.

Chicago.—Presidents and general counsels of railroads in Illinois and Missouri conferred here and decided to attack the two-cent fare laws in those states, and also the freight rate law in Missouri. The petitions probably will be filed in the state courts and will ask that the laws be declared unconstitutional because of alleged excessive penalties.

It is the presumption of the railroad men that the enactments in both states come within the decision of the supreme court of the United States in the Minnesota and the North Carolina rate cases.

It is asserted that the state courts will, therefore, have no recourse save to follow the decision of the supreme court and declare the laws invalid.

KNICKERBOCKER RESUMES

Gets Deposits of \$725,000 Shortly After Opening.

New York.—The Knickerbocker Trust Company, which suspended payment on October 22 last, after sustaining a run of its depositors, was reopened for business March 26, with new management and under an agreement by which the depositors may withdraw only about one-third of the \$36,000,000 in the books at once. Payment of the remainder is due at intervals for two and a half years.

Officers of the company announced that they had assurances that \$1,500,000 would be deposited with the company today, and shortly after the office opened they stated that \$725,000 of that amount had already been deposited.

TO INVADe CARD PARTIES

Constable Bell of Franklin, Says the Lottery Law Is Violated.

Franklin, Pa.—Constable Joseph Bell caused a stir here by announcing that hereafter he will make a return to the grand jury of prizes awarded at private card parties. In a letter of warning to the public he quotes the law relating to lotteries, and says that the giving of prizes by a woman at a bridge whist, progressive euchre or other party is a violation of the statute.

I do not anticipate it will be very difficult to get evidence," says Bell. "Whenever I read in the society columns of local newspapers that prizes have been awarded to winners at a card party I shall investigate the case. When I secure the names of those people that were there I shall subpoena each one of them."

The law will apply with equal force, Bell says, to merchants who conduct diamond and china leagues.

A resolution for the erection in this city of a monument to the memory of General Robert E. Lee was introduced by Representative Ferris of Oklahoma.

Over Sixty Miners Killed.

Hanna, Wyo.—Five bodies have been taken from the ill-fated Hanna coal colliery and 60 odd victims are still entombed, but all are dead. Four of those recovered were badly burned, while two were blown to pieces. Alexander Tennant's body was blown a distance of 100 feet from the east shaft, but his head is still in the mine. A leg was found some distance from the trunk. Practically the entire official force of the three local mines were killed.

EARTHQUAKE KILLS HUNDREDS

Many of the Dead Are Incinerated and the Exact List of Lost Will Never Be Known.

Mexico City.—As a result of an earthquake in the republic, two cities and three villages were completely destroyed and many villages damaged.

The cities are Chilpancingo and Chilapa. The villages are Concepcion, Tetillilla and Cottepe. The combined population of the destroyed municipalities is 22,000. The number of deaths is estimated at 500.

The greater part of Chilapa burned and the panic-stricken people made no effort to extinguish the flames or care for the dead, who are thought to number 300. At Chilpancingo, reports say a few were killed. The other dead are reported from the villages. Many of the dead are incinerated and the exact number will never be known.

In this city 200 houses were destroyed, but only one death was reported. In Chilpancingo not a building is left standing. The shocks continued all day Friday and the people had little sleep last night. Because of the interruption of the telegraph, little information has reached here from many towns believed to have been razed.

The greater portion of the damage reported is in that district lying to the south of Mexico City from 90 to 115 miles. The towns and cities to the north do not appear to have suffered so heavily.

One American, Mrs. Emma J. Dorville, dropped dead from fright in a panic in the theater at Vera Cruz.

TOOK OVER A MILLION

Trusted Emploves of Pittsburg Bank Carry on Their Plans for Ten Years.

National Bank Examiner William L. Folds filed information against Henry Reiber and John Young, charging them with embezzling \$1,050,000 of the funds of the Farmers' Deposit National bank of Pittsburg, of which Reiber was paying teller and Young was auditor. A second new information was filed by Folds charging Reiber and Young with making and causing to be made in the teller's statement book false entries to conceal the defalcation, with intent to embezzle and defraud.

The most startling revelation that has been made by the examination of the bank's books is that the embezzling continued over a period of more than 10 years.

An official statement issued by the bank, signed by T. H. Given, president, is as follows: "At a special meeting of the board of directors, held at the banking house, corner Fifth avenue and Wood street, it was resolved that the actual amount of the defalcation of the paying teller and the auditor having been definitely ascertained to be \$1,105,000, this amount was ordered to be charged off at once out of the surplus and other undivided profits of \$2,863,000, leaving the capital \$6,000,000 and the surplus and other undivided profits \$1,753,000."

AGREE WITH METCALF.

Sub-Committee Members Approve Request for \$2,000,000.

Washington.—Secretary of the Navy Metcalf made a statement to the sub-committee on deficiencies of the house committee on appropriations in support of his recent request for a \$2,000,000 deficiency appropriation, to be made at once in order that work on the battleships now building might not be interrupted. He enlarged upon his recent communication to the committee, showing that the department is already indebted to the extent of \$500,000 to contractors and contending that serious results would follow if the money was not appropriated. The deficiency is due to the fact that the last naval appropriation bill carried \$2,000,000 less than was called for by the department's estimates.

The sub-committee voted to report favorably to the committee tomorrow the \$2,000,000 deficiency appropriation.

TRADING STAMPS IN FUNERALS

Chicago Widow Turns Down One Undertaker for Premium Given.

Chicago.—Trading stamps with every funeral" is the placard one may expect to see soon in the windows of up-to-date Chicago undertakers. That two or three funeral directors on the north side of the city have adopted the trading stamp system to increase business was revealed when a bereaved widow canceled an order in a downtown undertaker because he would not give her trading stamps.

Friends of hers, she said, who recently had deaths in their families were given trading stamps by the undertaker. The matter will be brought before the Chicago Undertakers' association at its next meeting.

Tried to Kill General Wells.

Telluride, Col.—Former Adjutant General Bulkeley Wells narrowly escaped death or serious injuries at his home here from a well-planned effort to assassinate him. A stick of dynamite or a prepared bomb was placed under or near General Wells' bed.

More Filipinos for West Point.

Washington.—A senate joint resolution authorizing the secretary of war to permit the entrance to West Point military academy as cadets of more than seven native Filipinos on graduation to be eligible to commission in the Philippine scouts, was agreed to by the house committee on military affairs.

Discovery of a plot between city employes and big firms by which Chicago has been robbed of hundreds of thousands of dollars.

STATES CHOOSE DELEGATES

Indiana and Iowa Instructed for Bryan-Iowa Adopts the Nebraska Platform.

ILLINOIS IS FOR CANNON

Rhode Island Republicans Refuse to Give Instructions for Anyone for President.

Indianapolis, Ind.—The Indiana Democratic state convention closed after naming a state ticket, adopting a platform and instructing the 30 delegates to the national convention to vote for William J. Bryan for president.

John W. Kern, of Indianapolis, was endorsed for the vice presidential nomination.

The state ticket is: Governor, Thomas R. Marshall, Columbus; lieutenant governor, Frank J. Hall, Rushville; secretary of state, James F. Cook, Columbus; auditor of state, Marion Bailey, Lizton; state treasurer, John Isenbarger, North Manchester; attorney general, Walter J. Lotz, Muncie; supreme court judge, M. B. Lairy, Logansport; appellate court judge, E. W. Felt, Greenfield; reporter of the supreme court, Burt New, North Vernon; state statistician, Patrick J. Kelleher, Indianapolis; superintendent of public instruction, Robert J. Aley, Bloomington.

Iowa Rewrites Platform.

Cedar Rapids, Ia.—William J. Bryan's friends controlled the Iowa Democratic state convention. The platform adopted was a recast of the Nebraska platform, including the endorsement of Bryan for presidential candidate. Every mention of Bryan's name was greeted with a storm of cheers.

The resolutions committee heard a request from Mr. Bryan that the ideas of the Omaha platform be endorsed by the Democrats of Iowa. There was some sentiment in favor of adopting the Nebraska platform in toto, but finally it was rewritten as to words. The committee spent all the afternoon at this work, while the convention listened to speeches by Judge Wade, General Weaver, Fred White and other leaders.

Indorsed Cannon.

Springfield, Ill.—Republicans of Illinois in state convention enthusiastically indorsed Joseph G. Cannon as candidate for the presidency, declared in favor of a revision of the tariff and elected the following four delegates at large to the national convention: United States Senator Shelby M. Cullom and Albert J. Hopkins, Governor Charles S. Deneen and Mayor Fred A. Busse of Chicago. The convention also indorsed the administration of Governor Deneen and that of all other state officers.

Rhode Island Does Not Instruct.

Providence, R. I.—The Republican state convention, which was held here to select delegates to the national convention at Chicago, refrained from instructing the men chosen and from expressing preference for any candidate for the presidential nomination. No resolutions on the subject were introduced. The convention adopted a platform indorsing the national administration and its policies. Neither of the district conventions instructed its delegates.

Hughes Indorsed.

Albany, N. Y.—Governor Charles E. Hughes was formally indorsed for the nomination for president of the United States on the Republican ticket by Republican and independent voters of Albany and vicinity at a largely attended meeting under the auspices of the Hughes League of the United States, at which General Stewart L. Woodford of Brooklyn, president of the league, was the principal speaker.

Objection was made to admission to senate of Senator-elect Smith of Maryland on ground that he had not been elected regularly, but he was seated and question of his holding seat left to committee. Amendments to Aldrich bill were adopted.

ROBBER'S HEAD IS BLOWN OFF

Thief Killed by Explosive He Was Using on Bank Vault.

Gentry, Ark.—In a futile attempt to blow open the safe of the Farmers bank at Springtown, near here, the head of one of the robbers was blown from his shoulders by a premature explosion of dynamite.

The body of the dead robber was found in the bank near the safe. In his pocket was a map showing Gentry, Springtown and Sulphur Springs marked with crosses.

Banks at the two latter places have been robbed lately, and the police are led to the belief that the same gang attempted to rob the Farmers bank today. The identity of the dead robber is not known.

Messenger Murdered.

Newton, Kan.—Two robbers murdered O. A. Bailey of Kansas City, an express messenger of the Wells Fargo Express Company, in the express car of a westbound Atchison, Topeka & Santa Fe train, between Florence and Newton, Kan., robbed both the local and the through safes, taking at least \$10,000 and some jewelry and escaped.

ROB MINE PAYMASTER

Held Up in Buggy Near Public Square and \$5,000 Taken.

Lincoln, Ill.—Frank Frorer, president of a Lincoln bank and of the Lincoln Mining Company, was held up by three highwaymen two blocks from the public square and robbed of the \$5,000 monthly payroll of the mining company. Two robbers were caught but the third escaped with the money.

ROBBER KILLED IN CAB

Bold Trio Ride Through Chicago, Robbing Pedestrians on the Road.

Chicago.—James Kane, 151 Chicago avenue, was found dead in a cab at Eighteenth street and Calumet avenue, with a bullet through his head, after he and two companions had beaten a cabman, stolen the cab and held up and robbed two pedestrians in a wild dash through the streets, and still later treated in a like manner.

Kane and his companions engaged Robert Campion soon after midnight at State and Madison streets to drive them in his cab to an address on the North Side. At Rush and Ohio streets Campion was attacked and robbed and left unconscious at the basement entrance to a hotel. An hour later the three men, one of whom acted as driver, robbed and beat William Willard, at North Clark and Kinzie streets, and still later treated in a like manner at Monroe and Halsted streets George Morris. The policeman who probably fired the shot that killed Kane ordered a halt as the men drove furiously through Halsted street near Archer avenue.

The policeman opened fire in response to shots with which the men answered his command to halt. The jaded horse and the partially wrecked cab with the dead body of Kane within, was found by the police in a distant part of the city. Kane's companions, escaped. Kane, who was 18 years old, had a police record.

STOPS COIN SHIPMENTS

Cortelyou to Send No More Silver Dollars Free of Charge.

Washington.—Secretary Cortelyou has issued a general circular announcing that the amount appropriated by congress for the transportation of silver coin for the year 1908 having become exhausted, "no more standard silver dollars will be sent to applicants free of charge for transportation from the offices of the treasurer or the several assistant treasurers of the United States.

The policy of shipping to bankers silver coin free of express charges was adopted about 25 years ago, when it was deemed desirable to stimulate the general circulation of silver, and this policy has been continued to the present time. During the last several years, however, the subject of permanently discontinuing this appropriation, especially as to standard silver dollars, has been under frequent discussion in congress, and the opinion is expressed that the government no longer having any interest in extending the use of silver coin, the present congress may decide not to make any further appropriation for that purpose.

Shipments of subsidiary silver will continue to be made as usual as the appropriation for that purpose is not exhausted. The shipments of standard dollars during the last several years has averaged about \$40,000,000, and during the crop-moving period the shipments have averaged as much as \$1,500,000 a month.

CYCLONE DESTROYS TOWN

Two Persons Killed, Many Injured, Much Damage Done.

Bainbridge, Ga.—The town of Lynn, six miles from here, was destroyed by a cyclone early on the morning of the 23rd. Two persons were killed, Jim Wright, colored, and a child of Major Lyle's.

A number of others were injured, including Bozell and Pet Hatcher, Mrs. Bailey, Miss Blanche Williams, George Williams, Miss Kate Arline and Mrs. William Lynn.

The home of Mr. Bailey was carried ten feet. Every dwelling, tenant house, barn and storehouse was destroyed and all the contents ruined. A child was blown into the woods. The track of the cyclone was 400 yards wide and two miles long.

Annexation of Congo.

Brussels.—Some basis for the belief that the Congo independent state will be actually annexed to Belgium was found in the acceptance by the chamber of deputies commission of section 17, of the annexation scheme which provides for a government of the natives under Belgian rule.

MILLIONAIRE IN THE RING.

Drexel Biddle of Philadelphia, Will Meet Jack O'Brien.

Philadelphia.—Drexel Biddle, millionaire clubman, expert boxer and a prominent figure in Philadelphia's exclusive social circles, whose wife was a Miss Bradley of Pittsburg, will appear in the squared circle before a select audience at the fashionable Merion Cricket club on Saturday, April 4. His opponent will be Jack O'Brien, conqueror of Fitzsimmons and hero of half a hundred ring battles in this country and in England.

The encounter will be one of the events on the athletic program prepared by Harry C. Thayer, banker and clubman, brother of John B. Thayer, one of the vice presidents of the Pennsylvania railroad.

Emperor Accepts Hill.

Emperor William announced through Germany's foreign office that Dr. David Jayne Hill would be perfectly acceptable as ambassador to Berlin, succeeding Charlemagne Tower. His majesty let it be known that any impression to the contrary was erroneous.

Canal Bids Rejected.

Washington.—The isthmian canal commission has authorized the rejection of all bids for cable railways and duplex ways opened on February 3 last, on the ground that they are too high and that other excavating apparatus may be more advantageously used.

The Ways and Means committee has absolutely refused to give hearing to advocates of legislation putting post paper and wood pulp on free list.

BANKER FLEES FOR HIS LIFE

New York Italian Closes Doors When Run is Made.

SAYS HE WILL PAY ALL CLAIMS

Notice That Bank Will Be Closed for Two Weeks, But Depositors Are Safe.

New York.—A malevolent plot relentlessly worked out by members of the Black Hand, declares the police, in defiance of the authorities pressing hard upon their trail, ended dramatically in a run of depositors and the suspension of the bank of Pasquale Pati, an Italian banker on Elizabeth street, and his flight from the city in fear of death threatened by the Black Hand because he recently shot and killed Francesco Pelletro, one of their alleged members, who had demanded money under the pain of killing the banker and family.

Three thousand depositors clamored loudly at the Pati bank for their savings, and in the excitement a run was started on the bank of F. Acritelli & Son, across the street from the suspended institution, and caused it to shut its doors. The two banks were small private institutions.

Engineered by Black Hand. The run on the Pati bank, the police charge, was engineered by the Black Hand as a revenge on Pati, who was acquitted by the coroner of having killed Pelletro. When the run was at its height police reserves were rushed to the district to quell the fast rising disorder.

The nature of his alleged offense was the opening of letters coming from the old country, from which he extracted various sums of money. It is alleged that he wrote letters to friends and relatives of local foreigners in the old country, and fraudulently signing, gave instructions to put the box number on the address.

Thus he received the mail of perhaps a dozen or more, so it is charged, and it is estimated that the foreigners which he had sent several months have lost thousands of dollars at the hands of Kocholich.

REVIVE BISON RACE

Project to Raise a Great Buffalo Herd on National Range.

New York.—Dr. William T. Hornaday president of the American Bison Society, announced the completion of plans for the preservation of pure-blood American bison on a projected permanent national bison range, 12,800 acres in extent, on the Flathead Indian reservation in North-western Montana. Dr. Hornaday has been authorized by the society to give the federal government a herd of 20 bison, which held in custody, 1,000 are expected to increase to 1,000 within the lifetime of men now living.

President Roosevelt and Earl Grey are honorary officers of the American Bison Society.

GOV. JOHNSON A CANDIDATE

Announces That He Is at the Party's Disposal.

St. Paul, Minn.—Governor John A. Johnson has announced that he is willing to take the Democratic nomination for the presidency if his party calls. He said: "If it is the judgment of the party that, through certain circumstances I am the man who would have the best chance to win, then it is my duty to so place myself as to give the party opportunity to do whatever in its mature judgment is the strongest and wisest thing for it. I should make no effort to influence the judgment of the party."

Seven Are Sentenced.

Peking.—Seven men arrested recently charged with trafficking in governmental secrets, have been found guilty and sentenced to long terms of imprisonment. This punishment is generally considered to be worse than death. It would appear that the conspiracy against the government is fairly widespread, and the revelations within the last few days have considerably alarmed the court and the administration. Thirty prisoners are being held in custody, and it is reported that the chief of police of the Forbidden City is among these.

Mormons Moving to Canada.

Cardston, Alberta.—A heavy movement of Mormons from Utah is in progress in this section, the population of the town being doubled and all accommodation exhausted. The season's trek from Utah promises to assume the proportions of an invasion, and it is threatened that shortly there will be more Mormons north than south of the international boundary.

CURRENT NEWS EVENTS.

Hepburn bill to modify Sherman anti-trust law was introduced in house. It relieves union labor, but does not legalize boycott.

Supreme court of District of Columbia made permanent injunction against American Federation of Labor in Bucks stove case.

First Assistant Postmaster General.

First Assistant Postmaster General Grandfield told house committee that many postmasters do not earn their salaries.

No strike is probable in the East Ohio or Panhandle district of West Virginia, according to officials of the miners' organization.

Railroad Situation.

Washington.—Every indication points to an improvement generally in the railroad and industrial situation of the country, according to reports made by the great railway systems of America to the interstate commerce commission. These reports are to the effect that while the railroads suffered to some extent by what has come to be referred to as the "October panic," the loss was by no means so serious as has been supposed generally.

New Senator Chosen.

Baltimore, Md.—The house and senate of the state general assembly, voting separately, named ex-Governor John Walter Smith to fill out the term of the late William Finkney Whyte in the United States senate, which would have ended on March 4, 1909.

No Trace of Missing Bark.

Valparaiso.—The British cruiser Shearwater, which has been searching for possible survivors of the missing British bark Silberhorn, reported as having been burned at sea last August off the Chilean coast, arrived at Valparaiso. The Shearwater found no trace of the missing vessel or survivors and will proceed to Juan Fernandez, to continue the search.

Emperor William objects to David J. Hill as ambassador to Germany from the United States.

SOME STANDARD SECRETS

Louis Irwin of Pittsburg, Testifies at Ouster Suit in Cleveland.

Cleveland, O.—Louis Irwin of Pittsburg, Pa., who was associated with the South Improvement Company, one of the early factors in the development of the petroleum industry, was a witness in the hearing of the government ouster suit against the Standard Oil Company.

He said each Standard refinery formerly shipped only a certain amount of oil, thus the output was restricted and the price increased. "This arrangement was profitable," he said.

Irwin stated that the Standard, through the National Transit Company, paid a premium of as high as 25 cents a barrel for oil, which kept the product away from the independent refiner. He said that was the "handwriting on the wall for the independents." Irwin attributed the closing of so many independent refineries in 1873 and 1874, however, to the panic of 1873.

SWINDLING GAME.

Foreign Miners' Leader Charged With Rifling Money Letters Sent Them.

Wheeling, W. Va.—John Kocholich, a dignitary among the foreign miners in the vicinity of Maynard, O., was arrested on one state and two government warrants.

The nature of his alleged offense was the opening of letters coming from the old country, from which he extracted various sums of money. It is alleged that he wrote letters to friends and relatives of local foreigners in the old country, and fraudulently signing, gave instructions to put the box number on the address.

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TROUBLE

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