

ESTABLISHED JUNE 19, 1871.

OMAHA, MONDAY MORNING, OCTOBER 17, 1904.

SINGLE COPY THREE CENTS.

OFFICERS TO BE BLAME

Report of Commission on the Burning of the General Slocum.

INSPECTORS ARE HELD RESPONSIBLE. Recommends Discharge of Meritt and Do Their Duty.

FIRE FIGHTING APPARATUS. Deck Crew Composed of Incompetent Who Are Poorly Trained.

PRESIDENT REVIEWS THE EVIDENCE. He Directs that Findings of the Board Be Carried Out and Suggests Changes in Present Laws.

WASHINGTON, Oct. 16.—The report of the United States commission of investigation on the disaster to the steamer General Slocum, appointed June 23 last by the then secretary of commerce and labor, Mr. Cortlyon, was today made public.

In connection with the important findings of the commission presented in the report, President Roosevelt, to whom the report was submitted, has written a letter to Secretary Victor H. Metcalf of the Department of Commerce and Labor, briefly summarizing the report and directing him to carry into effect the recommendations of the commission.

Robert S. Rodie, supervising inspector of the Second district, is held otherwise responsible for the laxity of the steamboat inspection to which the Slocum disaster was directly attributable.

Commissioner Usher dissenting to that portion of the report which places responsibility on the supervising inspector of the Second district, Robert S. Rodie, otherwise he concurs with the commission.

Appended to the report is a report from the Department of Justice on the criminal proceedings connected with the disaster and the lives preserver cases.

President Roosevelt's Letter. WHITE HOUSE, WASHINGTON, Oct. 16.—My Dear Sir: I have received the report of the commission on the burning of the General Slocum.

It is a very interesting and instructive report, and it is one which I believe will be of great value to the nation.

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COFFEE DRINKING IN ENGLAND

Systematic Effort of Merchants to Popularize the Beverage Among the Masses.

LONDON, Oct. 16.—(Special Cablegram to The Bee.)—A trade movement that has been perceptible this week at the grocers' exhibition at the Royal Agricultural hall has been in the direction of drawing attention to coffee, and in various ways the retailers have had it rather specially brought before them as a branch of their trade.

The recent experiment with direct primary nominations, instituted by the republican county committee for the selection of the county and legislative tickets, seems to have met with general approval.

The direct primary is a system of nomination which is being introduced in various parts of the country.

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DISTRESS AMONG LONDON POOR

Approaching Winter Will Prove One of Great Hardship for the Dependent Classes.

LONDON, Oct. 16.—(Special Cablegram to The Bee.)—Speaking on behalf of the church, army and also as one of the trustees of the Houseless Poor society, Mr. Colin P. Campbell this week fully confirmed the view that the approaching winter was likely to prove one of the most disastrous for the poor.

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DIRECT PRIMARY A SUCCESS

Late Experiment in Douglas County is Generally Commended.

INTERESTED PARTIES ENDORSE THE PLAN. Some Suggestions for Modifications Are Made, but the Basic Idea is Looked Upon as the Proper Thing.

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WORLD'S FAIR ATTENDANCE

Nearly Two Millions See the Big Show First Two Weeks in October.

ST. LOUIS, Oct. 16.—The following statement of the attendance at the World's fair was given out today by the department of admissions.

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OFFICIAL VEIL IS LIFTED

Russian Army Falling Back Upon Harbin Fighting as it Retreats.

STORY OF LIAO YANG IS DUPLICATED. All Hopes of the World Herald Advance Upon Part Author is Abandoned—Streams Bank High.

ST. PETERSBURG, Oct. 16.—(New York Herald Cablegram—Special Telegram to The Bee.)—A terrific rainstorm on the sixth day has put an end to the continuous fighting, during which whole battalions have been completely wiped out and both sides have fought like lions.

The fighting at Liao Yang is a story of a desperate struggle.

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KANSAS CITY STOCK SHOW

Great Exhibition of Cattle, Horses, Sheep and Swine Begins This Afternoon.

KANSAS CITY, Oct. 16.—The American Royal Live Stock Show which opens here tomorrow to last all week, will be the greatest live stock exhibition ever held in the west.

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NEBRASKA WEATHER FORECAST

Fair and Colder Monday, Tuesday Fair.

Temperature at Omaha Yesterday: Hour. Deg. Hour. Deg.

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BATTLE ALONG THE CENTER

Russians Fall Back After Six Days' Strenuous Fight.

MUKDEN, Oct. 15.—Via Pekin.—(With the Russian Army of the Center.)—After six days of the hardest kind of fighting, this section of the Russian army fell back last night to a position on the north side of that stream.

The Russian army fell back after six days of fighting.

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LULL IN THE BATTLE

Both Armies Nearly Worn Out and There Was Little Fighting Saturday.

HOSTILITIES RESUMED YESTERDAY. Russians Near Mukden and Will Be Able to Extricate Themselves.

MUKDEN, Oct. 17.—The battle was renewed and continued throughout the night, being especially heavy at midnight.

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CZAR'S LOSS PLACED AT THIRTY THOUSAND

Field Marshal Oyama Reports Finding One Thousand Dead Russians.

MUKDEN, Oct. 16.—There was a lull in the battle yesterday, but fighting was continued today on the right.

The battle was renewed and continued throughout the night.

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NO FIGHTING AS MATTER OF PRIDE

Manchuria is Forgotten and Kouropatkin's Men Feel that They Must Win at Least One Battle.

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Many Russian Officers slain.

Evening.—The firing to the southwest is less violent. The men are tired out and food has been insufficient.

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