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EPITOME OF A WEEK'S NEWS

Most Important Happenings Told in Brief.

Washington

President Taft had a cordial interview with the Japanese ambassador, Baron Uchida. He sent for the baron to felicitate him upon the ratification of the new treaty with Japan. He assured the ambassador that never in the history of the two countries had the relations been so pleasant as they are today, and never had talk of war been more absurd.

It now is admitted in administrative circles at Washington that an extremely serious condition of affairs prevails in Mexico and that it may be necessary for the United States to intervene for the protection of American residents and interests. President Taft himself is reported to have made statements to visitors at the White House which bear out this view of the situation.

Hereafter employees in the postal service will have one day off a week. Mr. Hitchcock, postmaster general, issued instructions to that effect. In order to give the letter carriers a day of rest on Sunday the present system of delivering mail through the letter carriers' windows for three or four hours on Sunday will be discontinued.

Conversations have been held between President Taft and M. Jusserand, French ambassador at Washington, respecting a comprehensive agreement for arbitration between the United States and France upon the general outline of the president's ideas regarding international peace treaties.

Domestic

The workmen's compulsory compensation law passed the New York legislature last year, which provides compensation to workmen injured in certain specified dangerous employments, regardless of the employer's negligence, was declared unconstitutional by the court of appeals.

John F. Gaylor, who, with Benjamin D. Greene, served four years in the federal penitentiary at Atlanta, Ga., for participation in the Savannah harbor improvement frauds, was allowed to take the pauper's oath and was released from custody. This clears him of paying the \$275,000 fine imposed.

Four firemen were killed and twelve were injured, two perhaps fatally, by falling through a roof during a fire in the building of the Midwestern Manufacturing company, wholesale hatters, at Milwaukee.

Federal officers joined in the search for four masked men who blew up with nitroglycerin and robbed the express car No. 104 of the St. Louis, Iron Mountain & Southern railroad on a lonely prairie, 12 miles south of Coffeyville, Kan. The bandits secured booty amounting to \$20,000.

A verdict of \$10,000 damages was awarded to Percival L. Harden, who sued William T. Hoops in New York courts for alienating the affections of Maude Alene Sullivan Harden Hoops.

Mrs. Gertrude H. Horrikan, thirty-four years old, niece of James J. Hill, was granted a divorce from William J. Horrikan, president of the Northwestern Ice and Fuel company, at St. Paul, Minn.

After October 1 it will be unlawful to have a "common drinking cup" in any park, public building, factory, theater, school, railroad station or ferry house in New York city.

Dr. C. F. Carrizosa of the Mexican revolutionary junta, issued a statement at San Antonio, Tex., declaring that the United States will intervene in Mexico unless some definite progress toward peace is made by May 1. He urges Madero, the leader of the revolt, to accomplish the capture of Chihuahua by that date.

Rear Admiral Charles E. Vreeland, now in command of the second division of the Atlantic fleet, has been detailed to represent the navy at the coronation of King George V. Admiral Dewey declined the appointment because of the length of the voyage.

By the will of Mrs. Clara B. Snow, widow of George C. Snow, a shoe manufacturer, \$75,000 is bequeathed for summer excursions, Christmas dinners and Christmas presents for the poor of the city of Brockton, Mass.

The First National bank of Blue Mound, a village near Decatur, in Macon county, Illinois, was entered by robbers and the cashier was forced at the point of a revolver to give up \$2,500 in cash. The two men were masked.

The Honduras National railroad, of which L. H. Fairbanks of Mansfield, Ill., brother of former Vice-President Fairbanks, is president and chief promoter, was placed in the hands of a receiver, according to information received from Trujillo, Honduras.

Active opposition to revision of the tariff was undertaken by the officers of the National Wool Growers' association after a conference at Salt Lake City on the tariff situation as it affects wool.

The federal government scored a sweeping victory when Federal Judge Noyes overruled the demurrers interposed by James A. Patten, Eugene M. Scates, Frank B. Hayne, William P. Brown and Robert M. Thompson. They are under indictment for conspiracy to monopolize interstate trade and commerce in conducting the famous cotton pool last summer.

The Illinois state senate passed the wills act, with a referendum clause, by a vote of 31 to 10.

Shattered by a storm of shell, the old battleship Texas rests on the mud in Chesapeake bay. The veteran of the United States navy sank under the spectacular marksmanship of her newer sister, the New Hampshire, during a test in her port side and two jagged wounds in her forward armor, where shells passed completely through her, showed how she succumbed.

Residents of the national capital can see an artist's hope of a masterpiece in the form of four bronze tigers, which were placed on the corner parapets of the new Sixteenth street bridge. The tigers are the work of A. Phimister Proctor, a New York sculptor, and cost \$10,000.

Fire destroyed the mechanical arts building of the Missouri state university, Columbia, Mo., causing a loss estimated at \$50,000.

Lightning struck the White Star liner Oceanic in midocean during a terrific thunderstorm. The foremast was broken off and fell heavily to the deck, wailing up passengers and causing a scare.

The indicted Chicago packers lost their fight against going on trial on the indictments obtained by the government several months ago, when Judge Carpenter in the United States district court at Chicago overruled their demurrer to the charges and held that the immunity granted by Judge Humphrey of the federal circuit court in 1906 did not apply to the present charges.

Benjamin D. Greene, who was convicted of fraud in the Savannah (Ga.) harbor improvements case and who was just completed a term in the federal prison at Atlanta, was granted his liberty at the conclusion of a hearing on his application to take the pauper's oath. The application was granted and Captain Greene immediately took the oath.

The Leavenworth county court house, Leavenworth, Kan., burned to the ground. Valuable records and documents were destroyed, bringing the loss up to nearly \$1,000,000.

Dr. Edward F. Ashley, a bacteriologist died on Swinburne island, in New York harbor, of cerebral meningitis, a martyr to his fight against the entry at this port of meningitis through infected Greek immigrants.

The Illinois state militia sent by Governor Deneen on request of Sheriff Eter of McCoupin county to keep peace at the mining towns of Bend and Gillespie have returned home, all danger of further trouble being past.

Personal

Mrs. Amanda Fisher, mother of Walter L. Fisher, secretary of the Interior, died at the home of her son, Dr. Howard Fisher, in Washington.

Death was caused by a nervous breakdown, following an accident a year ago.

Peter F. Dunne, for two years general counsel of the Southern Pacific company, announced at San Francisco his resignation, to resume private practice.

Foreign

Private cables received by London (Eng.) business houses from representatives in the far east are disquieting. They assert that it is expected that Russia will soon declare war against China.

The Diaz cabinet resigned in a body at a special meeting of that board. The announcement brings a crisis in the Mexican war situation which all at Mexico City, official or civilian, believe can be settled only by a miracle. That the resignation of the cabinet will cause the United States immediately to intervene is the consensus of opinion.

Thirty-six rebels and eight federals are dead as the result of a nine-hour battle at La Colorado, south of Hermosillo, Mexico. The rebels had possession of the town, but after hard fighting were driven out.

Provisional census returns estimate the population of Austria at 25,567,898, an increase of 2,417,190 in ten years.

The official census returns show Hungary to have a population of 20,250,700. This is an increase of 1,596,000 in ten years.

KEPT BOY LOCKED UP FOR TWO YEARS

MOTHER DIDN'T WANT YOUNG SON TO LEARN BAD THINGS FROM PLAYMATES.

MADE TEA AND TOAST FOR HER

Prompted by intense mother love, Woman Kept Her Child Under Lock and Key That He Might Not Associate With Other Children.

New York.—"I want my boy to grow up good and honorable. I don't want him to learn bad things from the boys in the neighborhood. I want him for myself, to help me in case I need it."

So Mrs. Annie De Graaf explained why she had kept her eleven-year-old son Henry locked up in the rooms of her tenement. The little fellow is now in the custody of the Children's Society.

One look at the boy is sufficient to dispel any idea of brutality or improper guardianship. Mother love, intense, almost animal, prompted Mrs. De Graaf to keep the child under lock and key, to deprive him of all but underclothing, and to burn trousers and waists smuggled in to him by the sympathetic youngsters who lived in the same house.

"There's too much badness here," Mrs. De Graaf continued. "I have seen too much of it and I didn't want my boy to be like the rest of them. He used to go to school, and he used to play on the streets, but I was afraid. So when we moved in here I made up my mind that I would keep him away from everything that was bad, and teach him how to grow up good and honest."

Then another phase crept into the story. "I need that boy for myself. I have taught him how to make his mother tea and toast, and how to take care of her if she should take sick, or run and get an ambulance for her," she said.

"Are you a sickly person?" she was asked.

"No, but one can never tell what is going to happen to them. His mother taught him everything that was good for him and good for her. His mother taught him how to write and spell and



"Git Me a Pair of Pants."

"Oh, I want my boy back. Help me to get him."

"But why didn't you let him go to school?"

"Because the bad boys would follow him and entice him away from me."

As eager as Mrs. De Graaf was to keep her boy by her side, just so eager was he to get out into the street and be a "real" boy. He wanted to go to school, he wanted to play, he wanted to see the picture shows. His confinement of two years had deprived him of even the few joys of tenement childhood, and as he sat in the boys' room and gazed in wonderment at the little tads who romped about the room shouting glee.

He looked startlingly out of place in that room, his long brown hair brushing his shoulders, setting off a pale, but chubby face of girlish beauty.

"I don't want to go back to my mother unless she sends me to school and lets me go outside. She never hit me and we always ate four times a day and she taught me to read and write and to go outside," he said.

The boy's liberation was brought about by a note he threw out of the window which fell into the hands of the Morris children, who live in the same house.

"Git me a pair of pants," the note read, and the Morris boys smuggled them across the airshaft to him. He hid them away until one afternoon when his mother was out marketing. Then he slipped into them and was almost frantic with joy until his mother returned and threw them into the fire.

Then Mrs. Morris complained to the Children's Society and an agent and a policeman climbed into the rooms over a fire escape and found Henry, wearing only his underclothing, but eager to get away.

RUBBERING ON PHONE MAY COST \$10 A TIME

"TATTLE POINT" GOSSIP MOVES NEW HAMPSHIRE SOLON TO FRAME BILL ON SUBJECT.

Concord, N. H.—A bill presented in the New Hampshire state legislature provides a fine of \$10 "for each and every offense of unlawfully breaking in on a telephone conversation or taking down a receiver and listening to a conversation between others of the party line."

The bill was prepared by Representative Herman A. Clark at the request of telephone subscribers in the rural districts, where four and five party telephones are numerous.

"A great deal of trouble has been caused," said Mr. Clark, "through people listening to telephone conversations which they knew were not



"Rubbering" on the Phone.

intended for their ears. Why, down where I live there has been so much of this 'rubbering' going on and then these private conversations repeated that the section has come to be called 'Tattle Point.'"

People who may have been in the habit of abusing their enemies by means of the temporarily safe and sometimes satisfactory telephone should take warning from the condition brought about by similar proceedings in Texas. A bill introduced in the Texas legislature makes it a criminal offense to swear over a telephone.

HOSIERY FOR THE CORONATION

Gorgeous Hand-Painted Stockings and Slippers Are Now All the Rage in England.

London.—Americans, who sing in one of the classical vaudeville ditties, "Rings on My Fingers and Bells on My Toes," will be interested to know that the refrain in England during coronation year is "Flowers on Her Stockings and Gems Near Her Toes."

Artists in England are busy these days designing all sorts of floral decorations and silver and gold ornaments for hand-painted stockings, shoes and slippers will be all the rage during the year that will mark the crowning of King George. Already, the ladies, young and middle-aged, have begun to wear some highly pleasing styles, as shown in this illustration. Here is a pair of elaborately adorned silk stockings and hand-painted shoes.

Some of the silk stockings will have designs of love birds in various colored silks, some will show silk spiders, storks, etc., while others will be embellished with Parisian diamonds. As to the slippers they will also be enriched by Parisian diamonds in the place of buckles, and there will



Coronation Style of Hosiery.

be golden shoes ornamented with silver. From London comes this photograph of hand-painted coronation hose and shoes. English styles this year bid fair to excel in bizarre effects, for they're exerting themselves to be gorgeous and brilliant in honor of King George's coronation.

Hen Lays Four-Ounce Egg. St. Louis, Mo.—Mrs. C. B. Morgan has a hen which for three weeks has laid an egg every other day. Each egg measures 7 1/2 inches at the largest circumference and 6 inches at the smallest and weighs four ounces.

BURNED TO DEATH

GRAND ISLAND MAN KILLED IN KEROSENE EXPLOSION.

HAPPENINGS OVER THE STATE

What is Going on Here and There

That is of interest to the Readers Throughout Nebraska and Vicinity.

Grand Island.—Bert Stafford was fatally burned by the explosion of a can of kerosene, with which he was attempting to kindle a fire at the home of Mr. and Mrs. H. A. Simmons, where he was boarding. All of Stafford's night clothing was burned from his body. The fire was extinguished by the department with the chemical engine.

To Have Boosters' Day.

Edgar.—At a meeting of the Commercial club it was decided to have the telephone and electric light poles painted through the business district, to mark the streets at intersections and to number the houses. The club has also inaugurated a "boosters' day" for the merchants and offered prizes for the best kept lawns during the summer.

Big Banquet at Ulysses.

Ulysses.—The farmers noon-day banquet, given by the Ulysses Grain & Supply company, was held with great success. The large, new Ulysses hotel dining room was a scene of beauty, with tables set for 130 and insufficient to seat the crowd. C. H. Challis, editor of the Ulysses Dispatch, acted as toastmaster.

Jilted Suitor Seeks Revenge.

Nebraska City.—Peter Mogis, a jilted suitor, was in the act of throwing Miss Lyon, a telephone operator, from the Missouri river bridge when the girl was seized and saved by J. Gibson, the bridge watchman, attracted by her screams.

Gas in Shale Near Fairbury.

Fairbury.—As a result of an investigation made under the direction of the state conservation congress, Dr. Condra believes that gas of commercial value has been found in a shale formation south of Fairbury. It is believed that the shale will yield about 5,000 feet of gas to the ton and that the solid matter may be used in making Portland cement.



Dr. Noyes of Valentine was seriously injured in a runaway.

Broken Bow is contemplating the use of oil on her streets and roads.

Mrs. Cederburg, living near Minden, celebrated her ninety-fourth birthday Friday.

The eating house of the Chicago & Northwestern railway at Norfolk burned to the ground Sunday.

Robbers at Powell looted several business houses, including the postoffice, where they secured two dollars in pennies.

Professor Boles, principal of the high school of Auburn, was badly hurt by being thrown from an auto driven at a high rate of speed.

The Congregational church at David City has called Rev. A. Harrison of the Crawford Congregational church of Chicago to the pastorate.

The eighteenth annual session of the Southeastern Nebraska Educational association will convene in Nebraska City on March 29, 30 and 31.

The Pi Beta Phi sorority house at Lincoln was robbed Saturday evening of about \$200. This was mostly money and little jewelry or clothing was touched.

A prairie fire came very near getting into old Fort Niobrara, where there are lots of big buildings, but the guards and a gang of men saved the fort after some hard work.

Secretary of State Waite is interested in securing a roster of the old soldiers of the state and is sending out blanks to county assessors for the purpose of collecting the information.

The Colonial Dames of Nebraska have unveiled a bronze tablet marking the site of the first state house in Nebraska, which was built in 1854 the M. E. Smith wholesale house in Omaha.

Chris Knigge butchered a porker at Alexandria from which he rendered out 208 pounds of lard. That is "going some."

Professor Charles Rush Richards, dean of the college of engineering of the University of Nebraska, has been appointed professor of mechanical engineering in charge of the department at the University of Illinois.

The old county court house at Pawnee City is being torn down preparatory to beginning work on the new one to be erected this summer.

William Schipman, aged twenty-two and a farmer, residing near Abbott, was found dead in the summer kitchen at the rear of the farm home, his entire face blown off by the discharge of a shotgun.

Mrs. George Worthington, widow of the late Bishop Worthington of Nebraska, is dead in New York. Though she had been an invalid for years her death was sudden, coming as a shock to her many friends.



SENATE COMMITTEE SAYS NEW BUILDINGS ARE BAD.

The senate committee on public lands and buildings have filed a report asking for an investigation of the construction of state buildings that have been recently erected at the different state institutions. It reports that it found a frightful waste of state funds and the committee expresses its indignation when speaking of the architecture, construction and business management in the construction of buildings. In order that the blame may be laid to the proper source, it asks for an investigation.

The committee also severely condemns the management of the state industrial school for boys at Kearney. A most deplorable condition, is what the committee calls it. In the opinion of the committee the school as now conducted is of no advantage or help to the boys kept there and it recommends that if the state cannot get better results the institution should be abolished both in the interests of the state and of the boys, and some other arrangements be made for the training and education of the boys. This is the only institution whose management is condemned by the committee.

Is Eastman Bill Valid?

It is the opinion of opponents in the legislature that the Eastman bill, which calls for an appropriation of \$100,000 for the establishment of an agricultural school in southwestern Nebraska and which fulfills a democratic platform pledge, may be invalid because of the conflicting provisions in regard to the board under whose control it will be and on account of a provision which states that, though the school is to be built at the instance of and under the supervision of the board of public lands and buildings, the money paying for such construction is to be paid out on warrants officially certified to by the board of regents of the state university.

The Board of Control.

In the selection of a bill which will redeem the pledge of both democratic and republican platforms, to take the management of the state institutions out of politics through provision for a non-partisan board of control, the legislature is facing one of the most difficult problems of the session. If nothing else were needed to convince members of the legislature that a radical change is needed in the management of the institutions the disclosures which have been brought to light by investigating committees during this session are sufficient.

Favorable to Medical College.

The house unanimously accepted the special investigating committee's report recommending the university provide four years of medical training in Omaha after two years of academic work in Lincoln. The final test on the question whether the medical school is to be maintained or be suffered to perish for want of support will come when an effort is made to pass the bill appropriating \$100,000 to build a laboratory and recitation room building.

Concur in Report.

The senate concurred in the report of the conference committee having under consideration house and senate amendments to S. F. No. 1, by Skiles, initiative and referendum. The report of the committee, which concedes two house amendments and recedes from one senate amendment, was adopted, twenty-six voting to adopt and none against.

To Conserve Roadways.

Senate File No. 251, an act to provide for cultivating the unused portions of the public roads, defining terms, providing that such cultivation shall in no way obstruct or injure the roadway and that the products shall not be allowed to cumber the ground has been reported back to the senate. The bill was introduced by Representative Smith of Fillmore county, and has an emergency clause.

Members Protest.

The course taken by the committee on finance, ways and means of the house on the bill establishing permanently the medical school of the university in Omaha, will be overturned by a majority of that committee. Seven members have signed a protest addressed to the speaker against the report indefinitely postponing the bill.

Local option county unit won in the Missouri house.

Speaker Kuhl has consulted Attorney General Martin on whether the state banking board is intending to demand back payments of the banks under the guaranty law. A bill is pending to relieve the banks of payment by deferring the first assessment until next July.

Representative John H. Grossman has received a letter from the Central Labor Union of Lincoln, commending him for his fight in behalf of labor, particularly in the bills proposing to exempt to the workman his wages.

150 OR MORE DEAD

APPALLING DISASTER IN NEW YORK SKIRT FACTORY.

MOSTLY WOMEN AND GIRLS

Pinned in Rooms, Cut Off from Escape, Victims Have Only the Choice of Which Way to Die.

New York.—Lying under flapping sheets on the bleak, wind-swept pier of the charities department are the bodies of 141 girls and men, victims of holocaust in the American Book company building, northwest corner of Greene street and Washington place, late Saturday. In the hospitals are seven more bodies and twenty-five injured, some of whom will not recover.

The fire, the most appalling in the history of Manhattan island, is charged to criminal negligence, nearly all of the victims, young factory girls, employees of the Triangle Shirtwaist company, being trapped in the upper floors of the ten-story structure unprovided with outside fire escapes, and forced to leap to certain death on the pavements below, or perish in the flames.

The entire loss, it is thought, will not exceed \$100,000.

Of the 141 bodies recovered by midnight, thirteen were those of men and the rest women. Thirty-three bodies were burned beyond recognition.

The fire resulted from an explosion believed to have occurred in the cutting room on the seventh floor, where a quantity of gasoline is said to have been stored.

Trapped on the top floors of a burning factory building, supposedly of the most modern fireproof construction, more than 500 persons had the choice of probable death by fire or by jumping to the pavement below.

Of those who jumped, three survived. The others were crushed out of all human semblance. Some others reached the street by stairways, and two of the four elevators. The remainder perished miserably, while firemen and spectators raged impotently on the street.

Strong men wept, while others stormed to and fro, vainly endeavoring to do something for those who were beyond human aid.

Sunday night what will go down in history as the fire disaster of Washington square entered up its aftermath with eighty-two of nearly 150 victims identified. The official death list has been lessened rather than increased.

A revised count shows 141 dead with twelve women and girls at death's door in the hospitals. One hundred and fifty, all told, will perhaps conservatively cover the casualties. Nearly all of the dead were under 30 years of age; the large majority between 17 and 22. Many were only 16 and a few 15 years old.

ASSASSINATION IN OMAHA.

Prominent Merchant of the City Shot Down Near His House.

Omaha.—Herman B. Cohn, vice president of the Nebraska Clothing company, and one of Omaha's pioneers, was shot and almost instantly killed, not thirty yards from his own doorstep, by one of two masked men at 12:50 o'clock Sunday morning.

A bullet from a .32 caliber revolver entered the second intercostal space at the left border of the breast. Mr. Cohn died before Police Surgeon T. T. Harris arrived.

The assassin gave no warning and asked for no money, but one of them shot point blank at Mr. Cohn. The two then ran across the street, one of them dropping his gun on the way. Two men under suspicion have been arrested.

Red Cross to Collect Funds.

New York.—Robert W. De Forest announced that the New York chapter of the National Red Cross would collect funds for the relief of the survivors of the Washington Square fire and that Mayor Gaynor had headed the contribution list with \$100. More than a thousand persons held a mass meeting the labor temple and adopted resolutions of sympathy for the bereaved friends and relatives. Nearly every pastor in the city alluded to the disaster in sermons either in the morning or at night.

Fifteen Years for Dynamite.

Omaha.—Frank Erdman, convicted two weeks ago of attempting murder by placing dynamite on the porch of Tom Dennison, was sentenced by Judge Lee Estelle to fifteen years in the penitentiary at hard labor.

President Diaz Cabinet.

Mexico City.—Francisco de la Barra, Mexican ambassador to the United States, was on Saturday named minister of foreign relations of the Mexican cabinet by President Diaz. Señor de la Barra has telegraphed his acceptance from Washington. Although up to this time no official announcement has been made, it is known that five of the new members of President Diaz's cabinet have been selected and it is almost certain Señor Jose Yves Limantour will remain as minister of finance.