



1431—John d'Arc burned at Rouen.
1643—Union of the New England colonies.
1672—Peter the Great of Russia born at Moscow.

1794—French fleet defeated in the Bay of Biscay by the English under Lord Howe.
1813—English defeated the Americans at battle of Sackett's Harbor.

1814—Empress Josephine, wife of Napoleon, died at Malmaison.
1832—Opening of the Rideau canal.

1835—Pope Plus X. (Giuseppe Sarto) born.
1845—Wisconsin admitted to the Union.

1864—Sheridan joined Grant before Richmond.
1871—Canada issued its first post cards.

1876—Several hundred houses destroyed by fire in Quebec.
1880—Garfield and Arthur nominated by the Republican national convention at Chicago.

1889—Texas Spring Palace opened at Fort Worth.
1900—The Texas Spring Palace in Fort Worth burned.

1903—Last performance given in the historic Boston museum.

1905—Lewis and Clark exposition opened at Portland, Ore. President Roosevelt offered his services as a mediator to end the war between Russia and Japan.

1907—Widow of President McKinley buried at Canton. The Waters-Pierce Oil Company having been found guilty of violating the anti-trust laws of Texas, was fined \$1,623,900.

SCHOOLS AND COLLEGES

The will of Henry Blount, an eccentric miser of Harfordshire, England, leaving \$465,000 to Yale university, was admitted to probate at London, although relatives expected to show that his mind was unbalanced. Yale will get the money.

Freshmen and sophomores from the University of Minnesota engaged in a lively battle at a dancing academy in Minneapolis and it took a squad of police and a number of men armed with buckets of water to subdue them.

The Virginia high school debating team claims the Minnesota State championship for 1908, on the grounds of having met and defeated the strongest teams in the debating league, including the teams of St. Paul and Minneapolis, and also on the recent challenge issued to meet any team in the league or out of the league. Gold medals are being struck for the members of the team.

D. H. Burnham of Chicago and Walter Cook of New York, the two distinguished architects, who with W. M. Kenyon of Minneapolis, have been chosen as judges to pass upon the merits of the plans submitted in the open competition for improving and beautifying the greater campus of the University of Minnesota. They have begun their examination of the twenty plans submitted by architects.

Playing the "Star-Spangled Banner" on a shipboard is a ceremony which must be attended with proper respect. One of the correspondents with the cruising fleet writes that on one rainy evening, when his ship was just below the equator, the band gave the usual concert between decks. It was so hot that the members of the band took off their coats, and the members of the crew took off everything but their undershirts and trousers. When the time came to play the national air the leader paused, the band stood, and the members of the crew came to attention; but no signal to play was given until every man had put on his coat and hat, that patriotism might never lose its self-respect by being caught in dishabille.

President Roosevelt signed the bill for the reorganization of the militia of the United States, and its arming and equipment at a cost not to exceed \$2,000,000, and gave the pen he used for the purpose to General J. A. Drain, chairman of the executive committee of the National Guard Association, who was active in the movement to obtain the legislation. Assistant Secretary Oliver of the War Department, who has been charged with the execution of the provisions of the new law, said that one of the first steps to be taken will be the appointment of a board composed of five representative officers of the organized militia to consult the Secretary of War regarding the condition and needs of that branch of the military establishment.

After resting for four years less than a century in the congressional cemetery in Washington, the body of George Clinton, once major general in the revolutionary army, first governor of New York, and a former vice president of the United States, has been removed to Kingston, N. Y., for final interment. Not since the death of President McKinley has a funeral been marked with such elaborate military honors.

The president has passed upon the cases of twenty-three enlisted men from the department of Dakota, who were convicted by courtmartial of various infractions of the army regulations, principally desertion. In the most of these cases, the president approved the finding and sentence of the court, but in a few cases he mitigated the sentence to a lighter punishment than that imposed.

A subcommittee of the House committee on Rivers and Harbors unanimously decided to report to the full committee a plan under which all opposition to the sanitary canal and to improvement of the Mississippi River, based upon the claim that an intake at Chicago of 14,000 cubic feet a second will lower the level of the lakes, must disappear.

The department of justice, at the request of the president, has introduced a bill for draining the Red Lake Indian reservation in Northern Minnesota under consideration. The lands in question being vested in the federal government, it is believed that there are no legal objections to Mr. Volstead's measure.

An agreement has been made between the War Department and the International Falls Improvement Company relative to the Rainy River dam, and work will continue under the existing rights held by the company. Next session a bill will be passed extending the time for completion.

One of the important duties of the next president will be to appoint members of the United States Supreme Court. The chief justice and three other justices have already passed the age of 70 years, and probably their places will have to be filled during the next administration.

After being exposed to a mauling by projectiles fired from the heaviest guns in the navy, the turret of the Monitor Florida still worked, her mechanism was not disabled, nor was her armor plate pierced. The test vindicates the turret system of construction for war vessels.

A new fighting mast constructed of twisted steel pipe is likely to be a feature of American fighting ships hereafter. The monitor Florida here was equipped with one in the recent test and shells thrown into the basket-like top had no appreciable effect.

Rear Admiral Evans, who has returned to Washington, says the United States should have nineteen more battleships, making forty-eight in all.

The president conferred with Gifford Pinchot, chief of the bureau of forestry, relative to the new national forest reserve in Northern Minnesota, near Cass Lake. Mr. Pinchot endorsed the bill and the president will sign it.

In the omnibus bill for revenue cutter service there is an item inserted providing for \$200,000 for a new first-class vessel to be used on Lake Superior, with headquarters at Duluth.

The House committee appointed to investigate the pulp and paper industry submitted two reports, a majority favoring postponement of action until next session and the minority favoring the placing of pulp on the free list immediately.

Senator Clapp has secured a copy of the first census of Minnesota, taken in the early fifties when the territory had only 4,000 inhabitants. He will present the documents to the state historical society.



The Coliseum at Chicago.

Chicago correspondence: All Republicans in the United States, the territories and the territorial possessions are supposed to have their voices and vote in an assemblage known as a Republican national convention. The assembly in the Coliseum at Chicago has its representatives from forty-six States, two Territories, the District of Columbia, Alaska, Hawaii, the Philippines and Porto Rico.

The number of delegates representing each State is proportioned to the population. The representation in Congress is taken as a guide, and for each member of the House of Representatives there are two delegates in the convention. For each United States Senator there are two delegates also. Thus, New York, the most populous State in the Union, has thirty-seven members in the House of Representatives and two Senators, giving that State twice thirty-nine, or seventy-eight delegates. And as each delegate casts his vote individually, the more populous States have the greater voice in the doings of the convention.

Next to New York, Pennsylvania is the most populous State, and has the second largest delegation in the convention, casting sixty-eight votes. Other large delegations are: Illinois, 54; Ohio, 46; Missouri and Texas, 36 each; Massachusetts, 32, and Indiana, 30.

The Territories and possessions are all put on the same basis, and are given two votes each in the convention. Thus, while they have no voice in the actual selection of a President, they have a slight voice in the deliberations of the body which nominates.

The choice of delegates to a national convention is accomplished by what is known as the machinery of the voluntary party organization. When the Constitution was adopted, and the office of President created, there was no idea of a national party, like the Republican party, or the Democratic party, in the minds of the members of the constitutional convention. The people

carried to the limits of the hall. And when Malloy lifts his voice he is greeted always with a round of appreciative applause. There will be a lengthy list of assistant clerks celebrated for strength of voice and ability as readers. These officials of the convention will be Attorney Thomas Williamson, of Edwardsville, Ill., and George A. Wilson, of Des Moines, Ia.

William F. Stone, of Baltimore, sergeant-at-arms, will be an important figure. As sergeant-at-arms of the National Committee the bulk of the work of preparing for the convention has fallen on his shoulders. In the convention he will be responsible for the work of ticket taking and ushers and for the preservation of order.

The national Republican convention this year is the fourteenth held since the organization of the Republican party in 1856 and the seventh to meet in Chicago. Six of the thirteen conventions which have passed into history have been held in Chicago and three in Philadelphia, where the party's first candidate, Gen. John C. Fremont of California, was nominated. Baltimore, Cincinnati, St. Louis and Minneapolis have each had the honor of entertaining the Republican delegates once. All but two of the conventions have been called in June. The conventions of 1860 and 1868, which nominated Lincoln and Grant, were held in May.

Two conventions made memorable by the length of their sessions were those of 1880 and 1888. Both of these met in Chicago, the first lasting from June 2 to June 8. Three days of the 1880 convention were spent in perfecting the organization. The fight for the nomination of Grant for third term being on, thirty-six ballots were taken before a dark horse candidate, James A. Garfield of Ohio, was nominated. The convention of 1888 was in session six days, and nineteen candidates, the largest number ever before a Republican convention, received votes before Benjamin Harrison was chosen on the eighth ballot.

Twice in the history of the party but one candidate has been presented for the two offices voted upon. In 1900 William McKinley was unanimously renominated for President on the first ballot. For Vice President Theodore Roosevelt was unanimously nominated on the first ballot. In 1904 the same unanimity prevailed. The only names presented were those of Roosevelt for President and Charles W. Fairbanks of Indiana for Vice President. Each was therefore unanimously nominated on the first ballots.

The conventions of 1832 and 1824 gave Grant the full vote on the first ballot, but the vote for Vice President was divided. Other Republican presidential candidates who have been nominated on the first ballot are Fremont, 1856; Lincoln, 1864; Grant, 1868 and 1872; Benjamin Harrison, 1892; William McKinley, 1896 and 1900, and Theodore Roosevelt, 1904. William L. Dayton of New Jersey, Fremont's running mate; William A. Wheeler of New York, named with Hayes in 1876, and Whitlaw Reid, who went down to defeat with Benjamin Harrison in 1892, share with Theodore Roosevelt and Charles W. Fairbanks the honor of having received the vice presidential nomination by a unanimous vote of the convention on the first formal ballot.

Three within the fifty-two years of its history the party has had to face the problem of disaffection manifested in double conventions. Since the convention of 1880, no attempt to enforce the unit rule has been made. The convention of 1884 rejected the candidate selected by the national committee as temporary chairman and chose another.

Considering that in the past forty years three Presidents have been murdered and three Vice Presidents have succeeded them, and that previously two Vice Presidents have become President through death from natural causes, it is surprising that such indifference is shown to the vice presidency.

All statesmen of the first rank are ambitious to become President, but when the second office is named they shake their heads and try to move out of range. The reason, of course, is, not that the vice presidency is not an important and dignified office, but that it has come to be looked upon as a shelf for a political nonentity. Once a man becomes Vice President, his career is thought to be ended, though Theodore Roosevelt showed that this is a mistaken notion. The feeling is so strong that more than once political parties have named for Vice President men who were distinguished only for their wealth and were known to possess no ability that would enable them to become

MEN PROMINENT IN THE WORK OF THE REPUBLICAN NATIONAL CONVENTION AT CHICAGO.



J. C. BURROWS, H. C. LODGE, H. S. NEW, ELMER DOVER, W. F. STONE.

CURRENT COMMENT

Free trade hardly dared to show its head until 1831, when a national free trade convention met in Philadelphia, while a month afterward a counter-convention of protectionists was held in New York. Then came the enactment of the tariff bill of 1832, in which, while some duties were repealed, the protective features of the previous law were retained.

Clay's compromise bill broke the continuity of duties, but in 1841 Congress firmly reasserted the protective principle, a general tariff act, with a rate of 33 per cent, being enacted. Modifying measures followed in 1846 and 1857, but in 1891 the Morrill bill raising the tariff one-third was passed, and subsequently Congress remained faithful to the protective principle except during the brief period when the Democracy had control and passed the Wilson bill. Never has the principle of protection been more stubbornly asserted than it was during the long period that elapsed between the passage of the first tariff bill and the organization of the first trust.

Before descending further upon the tariff and its beneficiaries, Mr. Bryan's distinguished rival should again consult his history books.—Pittsburg Chronicle.

Congress is no Lawmaking Machine. Much stuff and nonsense is being printed about a "do-nothing Congress." One would suppose that Congress is merely a lawmaking machine, and the more laws it grinds out the more efficient it is. What tommyrot!

The duty of Congress is to provide for the welfare of the country. In the discharge of this duty Congress has to reject as well as approve legislative proposals.

The truth is that Congress often confers more benefits upon the country by rejecting foolish bills than by enacting wise ones.

Congress during its recent session attended to all the regular business of the country. It left no great service without attention and provision. It did not do some things that some of us think ought to have been done. But it refused to do many things which were a menace to the nation.

Congress during its recent session rejected every effort to undermine the established liberties of the people. It rejected a multitude of proposals for foolish and destructive legislation. It refused to assail the Constitution, to barter away principles for campaign funds, or to enact class laws for political effect.

In the amount of revolutionary, unconstitutional, and subversive proposals that it prevented from becoming a burden and a curse to the American people this Congress stands forth with illustrious distinction.

It has done what was necessary for the country in affirmative legislation. It has served the country magnificently in the proposed legislation that it refused to enact.—Chicago Inter-Ocean.

Consoling. Miss Thrilbee—My father suffered a horrible death. He was choked while eating a small bit of sirlon. Mr. Hiltree—That makes him a martyr. Miss Thrilbee—Why? Mr. Hiltree—He died at the steak