

CONGRESS OUTGROWS HALL OF SESSIONS

400 Members Now Crowd Seating Capacity of the House.

AUTOMATIC STAMP MACHINES ARE TOO EASILY BUNCHED.

Washington, March 10.—It does look as if an automatic postage stamp vending machine of the penny-in-the-slot sort was going to be an iridescent dream. The government has been trying to get a machine that will be guaranteed not to give up its stamps unless real money is being put into it. It looked as if the real thing had been found. A battery of them stood in front of the city postoffice for weeks, most being once but once used. At last the secret service men and Assistant Postmaster General Lawshe decided on a desperate effort to "bust" them. They got a supply of especially prepared lead slugs, and succeeded in bunching the machines out of all their contents. Anybody who will invent a machine certain to know the difference between real and bad money will get a fine and medal. But it hasn't been done.

Washington, March 10.—When congress ordered the construction of the two great office buildings, one for the Senate and the other for the House, which are now being completed, it admitted that it has outgrown the capitol's facilities for sessions. The House chamber has long been crowded uncomfortably in order to seat the nearly 400 members of that body. Each member has a desk and a chair on the floor, and the available space is all occupied. Oklahoma came in with five members recently, and was taken care of. The Philippines were given two commissioners with seats on the floor. There is no possibility of much more expansion.

Now, the census of 1910 is looming close in sight. It is going to indicate a big increase in population, and will be followed by an increase in the number of representatives. This is inevitable, for every census thus far has necessitated this. Reduction of the number of members has always been found utterly impossible. Increase of the ratio of representatives prevents the growth of the House in proportion as the country grows. But some states grow a good deal in a decade. Others grow little or not at all. No state will consent to an apportionment which reduces its number of representatives. In order that the states showing slow growth shall retain their former number of members, those growing rapidly must be given considerable increases.

The census of 1910 is certain to show great disparities in the rate of growth, and the House is likely to expand in the next apportionment, beyond the 400 mark. When that happens the question of finding seating space for all the members in the House chamber will be more serious than ever.

The proposal to remove the desks and provide only benches, such as are used in English house of commons, is coming to be more favored. Without facilities for writing, members would at least have to stand to the proceedings so long as they were on the floor. That this condition must be reached before many years and also that some step must be taken to prevent the indefinite growth of the House membership is a fact that is realized. The House is too big to do business readily now. With another 100 members, as it will certainly have in another 30 or 40 years of the present policy, it would be hopeless.

ONE-FIFTH OF PANAMA CANAL DUG

Washington, March 10.—One-fifth of the excavation for the Panama canal, 28,414,934 cubic yards, has been completed. The entire excavation, estimated May 1, 1904, will be 142,000,000. At the present rate the excavation could be completed in three years, but it will be interrupted for the construction of locks so that all parts of the canal can be completed at about the same time.

Excavation in February was 2,945,880 cubic yards, or 233,312 greater than January.

WAS MARKSMANSHIP AT SANTIAGO POOR?

Washington, March 10.—The unpublished reports of the engagement at Santiago show 3 per cent of hits. The showing was so poor that the navy department never published it. The hits made by the gunners of the Atlantic and Pacific fleets last year as a whole reached 50 per cent. One division of the Pacific fleet scored 70 per cent.

When the battle of Santiago was fought it was possible to fire a 12-inch gun once in five minutes. Today it is possible to fire it twice a minute.

In response to a request for a comment on these statistics, Rear Admiral W. S. Schley, one of the heroes of the battle of Santiago, said:

"I must decline to be drawn into this unfortunate controversy. I have no desire to fight the battle of Santiago over again. I would say, however, that during my active service I commanded a number of vessels, and in every one of them I have found them, class for class, comparably equal to those of other navies of the world."

Two other officers replied as follows: "At Santiago the navy maintained its highest reputation by quickly destroying the Spanish fleet. The smoke from black powder and sights inferior to those now in use prevented the accuracy which has since been obtained with smokeless powder and telescopic sights. But in this respect other navies were as badly off as our own. The American navy has always been accustomed to smoke, straight, and no criticism can deprive it of this reputation, won in many a victorious fight."

"Thomas O. Selfridge, Rear Admiral."

"Compared with present standards the accuracy and rapidity of fire at Santiago was not good." Yates Stirling.

"Rear Admiral (Retired)."

The exports of manufactures of the United States averaged more than \$2,000,000 a day during the entire year, including every day in the calendar year.

HOHENAU DEPRIVED OF RANK IN ARMY

Berlin, March 10.—General Count Wilhelm von Hohenau, former commander of the guard corps, at one time adjutant to Emperor William, has been sentenced by the military court of honor to be deprived of his rank in the army and surrender all the orders and decorations conferred upon him.

Von Hohenau is accused of being one of the so-called "court camarillo" recently exposed by Maximilian Harden.

CARS ROLL OVER; TWENTY INJURED

Kansas City, March 10.—The Burlington passenger train which left Kansas City at 7:30 o'clock this morning for Chicago, was derailed at Kearney, Mo., 25 miles north of Kansas City, and went over a 15-foot embankment. Twenty persons were injured, four seriously.

The seriously hurt: D. Guyton, Kansas City. R. E. Wilcox, Kansas City. Chappell, divinity student studying at Liberty, Mo.

Traveling man, name unknown; unconscious. Injuries to others consist mostly of cuts and bruises.

The accident was caused by spreading rails. The train was not running fast and this fact probably prevented more serious results. All but the smoker turned over and went half way down an embankment.

KILLS HORSES TO SAVE CHILDREN

New York, March 10.—In order to save a number of children from what appeared to be certain death, Patrick Mullin, driver of a fire engine, killed both his horses.

Mullin was answering a fire alarm in Brooklyn, his horses on the run when he approached the school building. In the street were a number of children just out of school. The horses were bearing down on them on a full run and it was impossible for the driver to check the animals.

Suddenly Mullin saw a little girl in a red cap and coat whom he believed to be his own daughter. The driver threw his weight on one rein, swerved the horses over the sidewalk and into an iron fence. Mullin, who was thrown off the engine, was picked up unconscious, but was not seriously injured. Both horses were killed. His act probably saved several lives.

BIG FLOODS ARE RAGING IN INDIANA

Indianapolis, March 10.—Floods are reported today in Indiana. The Wabash is out of its banks five miles northeast of LaFayette. South Peru is partially under water. The inter-urban line is out of commission for 30 miles.

At Plymouth, Elkhart, Warsaw and other points the adjacent rivers are out of their banks, many houses being submerged.

EAST TOLEDO CUT OFF WITHOUT LIGHTS

Toledo, Ohio, March 10.—Water in the Maumee river is falling today, no further damage is anticipated. By breaking down the Cherry street bridge, East Toledo, with a population of 50,000, was without fire protection last night and without lights. There will be no car service between east and west sides of the city for several weeks. Railroads are running shuttle trains between the two sections of the city.

TROLLEY CARS ON OCEAN GREYHOUNDS

New York, March 10.—A quarter mile long ocean greyhound is the ship of the coming generation, says Lewis Nixon, the American shipbuilder. It will have trolley cars to take passengers to their staterooms. There will be moving sidewalks across the ship. Vaudeville companies and opera troupes will be carried and a stock ticker will record the market quotations of London and New York.

The White Star line is preparing to lay the keel for a new 1,000-foot liner. The quarter of a mile greyhound, Mr. Nixon says, is only a step farther along the path of the 20th century expansion.

GRAVE INDICTMENT AGAINST FRATERNITIES IN THE HIGH SCHOOLS

Chicago, March 10.—The gravest indictment which yet has been drawn against secret societies in Chicago high schools is in the hands of President Schneider of the board of education. It is contained in the report of an investigation made at President Schneider's request by detectives of the city police department.

In substance the police report charges that gross immorality is practiced at several of the houses. Six specific instances are cited in which women (not connected in any way with the houses by boys who in each case were members of the fraternity which maintains the building).

GERMANY'S FIRST GREAT WARSHIP IS CHRISTENED

Wilhelm's Haven, March 10.—Germany's first mammoth warship was successfully launched here today and christened Nassau by the grand duchess of Baden, Emperor William, the grand duke of Baden, Prince Henry of Prussia, and Prince Henry of the Netherlands, as well as a brilliant assemblage of prominent officials were present.

In size, armament and speed the Nassau is superior to any warship hitherto built in Germany. She displaces 17,900 tons and is built entirely of hardened steel. Her dimensions and the thickness of her armor are not exactly known, as everything connected with her construction has been kept strictly secret by order of the marine minister. Two ships, the counterpart of the Nassau, will be launched soon.

BIG FIRE IN PEORIA.

Peoria, Ill., March 10.—A fire in the Hart Grain Weigher company's paint shop did \$195,000 damage to buildings and stock.

The principal losers are the Hart Grain Weigher company, \$110,000; Nichols & Shepherd company, \$15,000; International Harvester company, \$45,000.

DUAL TRAGEDY IN A DENVER HOTEL

Denver, March 10.—Harry Asler, of Pueblo, and a woman supposed to be his wife were found dead today in a room in the Waldorf hotel. The room had been locked since Wednesday. The couple were believed to be out of town. From appearances it is judged the woman killed the man and then committed suicide. The bodies had fallen across the corpse of the man.

FUNERALS OF THE LITTLE FIRE VICTIMS

Cleveland, Ohio, March 9.—The body of Miss Katherine Weller, one of the girls in the Collinwood school fire, was positively identified today. The body was so terribly burned it could hardly be distinguished from the bodies of smaller girls. The identification was established by her gold filled teeth.

The body of Rosetta Machnich, a former pupil in the school, also was identified today by her shoes.

There are still 23 bodies unidentified. So far 167 bodies have been recovered. The list of missing now totals with the number of unidentified, which would indicate that all of the bodies have been found and that the total death list will stand at 167.

In fully 100 cases the funerals will be individual, each family burying its own dead. The first of these funerals were held this morning and continued throughout the day. In some instances the funeral services grouped with five to ten bodies in one church.

The unidentified will be buried next Monday, according to present arrangements. The expense of these funerals, together with the funerals of the children whose parents are not in a financial condition to meet the burden, will be borne by public subscription, which are growing larger every hour. Already thousands of dollars have been raised.

In an effort to fix the cause and responsibility for the holocaust various investigations were set on foot. Coroner Burke issued subpoenas for the seven surviving teachers of the Lake View school. The inquest was begun yesterday morning when a number of witnesses were examined, without, however, developing any testimony that was beyond mere opinion.

An investigation conducted by the Collinwood school board, which lasted far into the night, at which a number of survivors of the horror told their stories, brought forth the facts that the flames came from a closet below the stairway at the east entrance; the closet contained lime and sawdust. There was but one fire escape, and that its use was never taught as a part of the fire drill.

Survivors among the children estimate that only two or three minutes passed between the time of the alarm until all escape was cut off. The building was a fair sample of the kind of school construction in use in small cities. The building was a fair sample of the kind of school construction in use in small cities. The building was a fair sample of the kind of school construction in use in small cities.

On the question, much discussed, whether the doors should open inward or outward, Fire Marshals Brockett and Feigenbaum examined the doorways and stated later that they were convinced that they opened outward. Whether they were locked they have not determined. The doors, they have testimony on both sides. Janitor Herter still insists that the doors were open.

The board of education of the city of Cleveland today ordered all flags to be half-masted on all buildings. For supreme horror the scenes that were enacted around the rear door of this ill fated school house have had few parallels in this or any other country. Little children were piled upon each other six and eight deep while strong men and frantic mothers struggled with desperation to release them, yet failed, and were compelled to stand back and see the little ones burn their eyes out. One woman found her own daughter in this press and stroked her hair in the effort to keep the flames away. She failed and the child was burned to death while her mother looked on.

The upper floors of the building two stairways offered exit. One of these led to the door in front, the other to the door in the rear. It was in this last place that the lives of the little ones were lost while would-be rescuers stood helplessly by.

The scenes that were enacted in the front hall will never be known. The door at this side of the building was never fully opened. But a sense of the horror that lay in the blackened wreckage beneath this point, the feet, the hands, the limbs and the skulls that were scattered about formed a complete index to the horrors that had taken place.

SCHOOL MARCHES OUT IN ORDER

New York, March 9.—A special call was sent in to the fire headquarters from the five-story public school on One Hundred and thirtieth street, between Amsterdam Avenue and Broadway, this morning. All the children escaped from the building. They assembled in the yard and were sent home. Parents who rushed to the building were prevented by the police from clogging the exits and were sent away. The fire was on the top floor of the building. The children marched from the school without panic or disorder.

Fireman Averts Panic

St. Louis, March 8.—A fire panic was narrowly avoided at the city poor house early today by the coolness and determination of the city firemen regarding the fire in the building. The fire was on the top floor of the building. The children marched from the school without panic or disorder.

ON THE BANKS OF THE WABASH, FAR AWAY

Peru, Ind., March 9.—Nearly 1,000 men have been rendered idle and 75 homes damaged by the high waters of the Wabash river, which is out of its banks.

LICKING A PENCIL CAUSES HER DEATH

Wilkesbarre, Pa., March 9.—Poisoning, which resulted from placing an indelible pencil in her mouth several times a day, caused the death of Miss Mark L. Shales, of Plains, near here. She was employed in a laundry in this city, marking laundry articles. She was received with the indelible pencil, which she moistened with her tongue. This caused blood poisoning three weeks ago.

WORLD'S FAIR NOW SHIFTS TO BAVARIA

Millions Appropriated for an Exposition in Munich This Summer.

Munich, March 9.—Elaborate preparations are being made to render the exposition illustrative of Bavaria's progress in art and industry, which is to be held here from May to October this year under the patronage of the prince regent, the center of attraction in Germany.

Not only are the arts and industries to be represented by exhibits, but historical happenings are to be reproduced on a grand scale, the participants wearing the picturesque costumes in which Bavaria is so rich. Provision also has been made for giving the public an insight into the methods of producing the hand beaten iron toys and color printing for which Bavaria is well known.

Competitions have been opened for the best models of dwellings for town and country with the most up to date household arrangements suitable for both rich and poor. Simplicity, artistic taste and practicality are to be the principles on which the judges are to award prizes. Sport will be a leading feature throughout the exposition. There will be prize contests for every branch of athletics and games, from bobbleing to ballooning, the latter comprising a test for aeroplanes with a prize of \$2,000 for the inventor who can rise from a certain spot in his flying machine, remain 10 minutes in the air and then land at the starting point.

The city council has appropriated several millions for the erection of the exposition buildings. The municipality has decided to fix the tariff for hotel accommodation in order to prevent overcharging.

WAR IF CHINA DOES NOT YIELD

WU THINKS THERE WILL BE NO WAR.

Chicago, March 9.—Wu Ting Fang, minister from China, arrived here today en route to Washington. The minister's attitude toward the idea of a war between China and Japan, as saying: "All talk of war is groundless."

Tokio, March 9.—Noon.—The Associated Press was informed this morning that the Japanese government in the matter of the seizure of the Japanese steamer Tatsu had not reached the ultimatum stage yet, and it was further stated that Minister Hayashi at Peking had not been instructed to that effect. It is also believed that Minister Hayashi will not make any threat to use force. It is admitted, however, that in the event of China failing to yield, only one course is possible.

The cabinet meeting which was held today has been postponed. The cabinet council may consider the question and steps for the future, but among the highest officials it is believed that the matter will be settled without resorting to force.

China's propositions are considered tantamount to a complete surrender. The cargo is regarded as merely a minor one and it is therefore thought that China will yield eventually.

THE STUDENTS WILL WOO LADY NICOTINE

Chicago, March 9.—University of Chicago students may test without interference from the faculty the possibilities of tobacco as a "health food," as suggested by the experiments of Dr. George L. Meylan, physical director of Columbia university. The Midway professors upheld Dr. Meylan in his statement against the "schoolbook" idea of tobacco's "horrible effects."

As to the Columbia doctor's discovery that smokers at his college were taller and had better lung capacity than non-smokers the Chicago professors confessed their ignorance, especially as they remember the experiments of Dr. J. W. Seaver, the Yale university physical director, who proved by the same methods that the use of tobacco tended not only to stunt the growth of students but also to retard their mental development.

Dr. Joseph E. Raycroft, medical examiner of the university, declared against the popular notion of tobacco's unqualifiedly evil results, "based on opinion rather than on careful experiments." Professor George E. Vincent, dean of the faculties, who has the largest student acquaintance of any of the professors, said the university had no rules regarding smoking and drinking, except that alcoholic beverages were forbidden on the campus. The students may test the direful effects of cigars on themselves without objection from the deans.

GARY IS NEW SENATOR IN LATIMER'S PLACE

Columbia, S. C., March 9.—Frank B. Gary, of Abbeville, today was elected to succeed Asbury C. Latimer in the United States Senate on the fourth ballot, receiving 81 votes.

24-STORY HOTEL FOR CHICAGO

Chicago, March 9.—The contract for the La Salle hotel, at La Salle and Madison streets, has been let. The work of removing the present buildings will begin May 1. The new building is to be completed in 15 months. The cost will be \$3,500,000. The hotel will be 24 stories high, 22 above and two below the street level, and will contain 1,172 rooms.

PICK BRIDE FOR PORTUGAL'S KING

Lisbon, March 9.—Newspapers here state that negotiations are afoot to bring about the marriage of young King Manuel and the Princess Victoria Louise, only daughter of Emperor William.

The proposal will be discussed when the kaiser makes his promised visit of condolence to Queen Mother Amelia. Public officials and the people generally are pleased with the report.

King Manuel, 19 years old; the Princess Victoria is 16.

TORPEDO SECRETS ARE GIVEN AWAY

"EXPLOSIVE D" IS A WORLD BEATER.

Washington, March 9.—The ordnance department of the army is having trouble with congress in attempting to keep secret the ingredients in what it asserts is the first successful bursting charge for projectiles discovered anywhere in the world. After three years of experimental work and exhaustive tests, the ordnance experts have evolved "Explosive D," which is claimed to be proof from explosion when the projectile leaves the gun and which remains unexploded until the projectile pierces the armor or object at which it is directed. It then explodes with the projectile, indicating terrific damage.

New York, March 9.—The E. W. Bliss company, manufacturers of projectiles, caused the arrest on the charge of grand larceny of Wm. Esser, a mechanic of Brooklyn, who is charged with having stolen brass models of the principal parts of torpedoes now in process of secret manufacture for the government.

Detectives engaged on the case assert that other arrests will be made of men charged with offering for sale to other governments secrets of projectile manufacture. The federal authorities would be interested in the prosecution, it was said, though just how was not made clear.

Esser came to this country from Germany in 1902. He is a master mechanic and from 1904 to 1906 was employed by the projectile makers. His son was also in the employ of the company until a few months ago.

Some correspondence found in the Esser home was seized.

LITTLE IMPORTANCE IS ATTACHED AT WASHINGTON

Washington, March 9.—Little importance it attached here to the arrest in New York of William Esser, reported to have negotiated with the German government for the sale of government secrets employed in the manufacture of high explosives. It was stated today at the navy department that the Bliss firm for which Esser has been working, is possessed of no government secrets.

PHOENIX INVITES EDISON AS GREAT

Phoenix, Ariz., March 9.—The Phoenix and Maricopa county board of trade yesterday afternoon passed a resolution which was telegraphed to Mrs. Thomas A. Edison, inviting Mr. Edison "to come with his family as soon as he is able to travel as the guest of this board to the beautiful Maricopa valley during his convalescence, in the confident belief that the peculiarly dry, warm and healing qualities of our climate will promote his early restoration to vigorous health."

"We offer him, free of all charges, the use of the best private residence obtainable, furnished, in this city, together with a carriage and coachman for as long as he will honor us with his company; and we will deny ourselves completely during his visit the pleasure of all social claims upon his attention and leave him to the enjoyment of absolute rest under our bright actinic sunshine in an atmosphere now sweet with the stimulating breath of spring and the fragrance of blooming orchards and orange groves and green pastures and timber with the song of meadow larks and nightingales."

"And in the hope that he will be able to allow us to testify in this way to the admiration and esteem in which his great and useful character is held by the people of Arizona and the members of this board, we will at once solicit the loan of the best private residences, furnished, in Phoenix, and submit photographs to Mrs. Edison for her selection; and we reverently invoke the grace of God upon our great countryman in this hour of his trial and affectionately urge his acceptance of our hospitality."

NEW DAKOTA LAND DISTRICT IS FAVORED

Washington, March 7.—The House committee on public lands ordered a favorable report on the bill providing for the creation of a new land district in the northwestern corner of South Dakota, with headquarters at Lemmon, that state. The measure was introduced by Representative Hall. A like measure introduced by Senator Gamble, is pending in the Senate.

NEWSPAPER MAN SUES LILLEY FOR \$40,000

Washington, March 7.—Suit was instituted in the supreme court of the District of Columbia by Frank B. Lord, formerly of the New York Sun, against Congressman Lilley, of Connecticut, for damages amounting to \$40,000 which Mr. Lord claims to have sustained through statements made against him in connection with his charges that undue influence in behalf of the Electric Boat company was used in congress.

FLAG DONATED TO NEW STATE

Washington, March 7.—A joint resolution was adopted by the House honoring the state of Oklahoma "the first flag, bearing 46 stars which for the first time floats over the capitol today." The resolution places the flag in the custody of the Oklahoma Historical society.

REDUCED RATES FOR CONVENTION

Chicago, March 7.—An independent notice was given today by the Burlington road that it would make summer tourist rates in connection with common points, during the coming season on last summer's basis. This means a \$30 rate from Chicago by all the roads and a \$25 rate from St. Louis for the round trip, between June and October. It also means that reduced rates probably will be made on all roads for conventions and gatherings the same as before the passage of the 2-cent passenger laws.

OMAHA, NEB., MARCH 5.—The Union Pacific announces it will make the same low summer tourist rates to Colorado this season as were in effect last year and that it will sell tickets at \$17.50 from Omaha or Kansas City to Denver, Colorado Springs and Pueblo and return from June 1 to September 15, good until October 31, with transit limits and stopover privileges.

As last year more than 72,000 persons went to Colorado on tourist tickets the action of the Union Pacific is of considerable significance.

GEN. LIEB DIES OF INJURIES FROM FALL ON SLIPPERY WALK

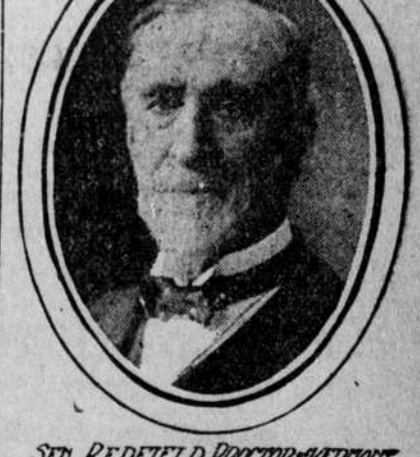
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ANARCHIST'S SISTER AND SWEETHEART ARE RELEASED BY POLICE

Chicago, March 7.—Roste Stern, the sweetheart, and Olga Averbuch, the sister of the man killed by Chief Shipley, who were arrested in connection with the police investigation of the attempt to assassinate Shipley, were released from custody at noon today.

Richest Senator Passes Away

ST. REDFIELD PROCTOR, VERMONT



Washington, March 7.—United States Senator Redfield Proctor, of Vermont, died at his apartments at the Champlain here yesterday after a short illness following an attack of grip. The senator's son, Governor Fletcher Proctor of Vermont, who was summoned to the city, was at the bedside when the senator passed away.

Senator Proctor was 77 years of age. The senator had been in feeble health ever since the assembling of congress. During the day his colleagues in the Senate learned for the first time of the dangerous turn his illness had taken. The news of his death reached the Senate a few minutes after 5 o'clock. The official announcement of the death was made by Senator Dillingham. Senator Proctor's colleague from Vermont.

IN CONGRESS

TRAIN MEN OPPOSE ANTI-OPTION BILLS

Washington, March 7.—A conference was held at the White House between President Roosevelt and a committee representing the board of trade of Chicago, headed by Hiram N. Sager, president of that organization, when the visitors had laid before the president their views on the anti-option bills now pending in the congress.

Most of the bills are aimed at dealing in futures and it is the contention of the representatives of the Chicago board of trade that the measures, if enacted into law would jeopardize legitimate products. While these bills affect trade in both grain and cotton the Chicago board of trade representatives are chiefly interested in the grain trade.

Speaking of the measures which have been introduced in congress, Mr. Sager said: "If these bills in their present form are passed they will close the large grain exchanges of the country and result in widespread confusion and ultimate loss to the grain interests, including merchants, farmers and others."

The members of the committee declined to say what took place at the conference beyond the statement that the president would take the matter under consideration.

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