

## NATIONS JOIN IN FIGHT ON OPIUM

Forty-four Powers Confer to End Traffic in Drug.

## TURKEY AND PERU NOT IN.

Convention at The Hague Expects That Turkey Will Yield at Request of Others—American Antiopium Law Likely to Have Good Effect on Conference Action Against All Noxious Drugs.

With the purpose of taking the last step necessary to crush out the international traffic in smoking opium, cocaine and other noxious and habit-forming drugs, representatives of forty-four nations gathered at The Hague a few days ago to continue the international conference which adjourned in that capital on Jan. 23, 1912. The purpose of the gathering is to ascertain whether a sufficient number of powers will join in ratifying the international convention looking to the suppression of the opium traffic, drafted by that conference, to insure its successful operation.

Opium has long been a cause of serious international conflict, China and Great Britain having gone to war on the subject in 1840, when the "opium war" finally resulted in the cession of Hongkong to Great Britain. The recent movement for the suppression of the trade in habit-forming drugs is American in origin. Beginning in 1906 a systematic effort to secure this result by international action, the state department succeeded in the creation of the international commission, which met in Shanghai in 1906 and paved the way for the more official gathering of delegates at The Hague in December, 1911. This conference, after two months' hard work, agreed upon the form of a general convention, which, broadly speaking, was calculated to put an end to international dealing in harmful drugs.

### Twelve Powers in Accord.

There were twelve powers party to this agreement—America, China, Germany, France, Great Britain, Italy, Japan, the Netherlands, Portugal, Russia, Siam and Persia.

It was pointed out that it would be useless for these countries, the largest producers and users, to agree to radical measures for the international control of habit drugs so long as it was open to the citizens of states not represented at the conference to continue or take up the production and traffic. Therefore the congress adjourned on Jan. 23, 1912, with the understanding that the thirty-four governments of Europe and America which had not participated should be invited to join in the ratification of the convention. If this could not be accomplished by Dec. 31, 1912, another conference was to follow at The Hague to provide for the ratification of the convention. This date was subsequently postponed until July 1, 1913.

### Two Powers Held Out.

In the meantime the government of the Netherlands and the United States government have been earnestly addressing themselves to the task of securing the adherence of the outside powers with such success that but two—Turkey and Peru—are now holding out.

As Turkish opium is of the highest grade and used altogether for medicinal purposes, it is practically certain that Turkey will adhere to the convention when it can be shown that this industry would not be injured by the treaty. Peru has been reluctant to join because of the serious loss that would result from the destruction of her present profitable trade in cocaine, from which cocaine is extracted.

No doubt is entertained at the state department of the ultimate approval of the convention, though it is admitted that some effort may be made to amend it in certain respects. The next step then will be for the various governments to deposit at The Hague formal ratifications.

## DECALOGUE FOR DANCERS.

Pastor Fixes Six Inch Neutral Zone Between Partners.

Hoping to stem the tide of the popularity of the "turkey trot" and other modern dances, the Rev. George B. Gilbert, rector of the Maranatha Episcopal church, Middletown, Conn., has leased the dancing pavilion at Lakeview Park, a popular resort in that place, and will conduct it as a model dance hall during the summer.

Leading society women from Middletown are expected to chaperon the dances. Prominently posted about the hall will be lists of ten commandments for the dancers which Mr. Gilbert has prepared. Among them is one which provides that partners must dance with at least six inches of space between them.

### Co-eds Mustn't Chew Gum.

Co-eds at the University of Chicago are inclined to pout at a new order which, in effect, places the ban on chewing gum. They don't want the gum so much, but many of them regard the order as an undue infringement of personal rights. There was a rumor that several "blind pigs" where the chicle product may be obtained were already in operation in co-ed dormitories. The order of the board of governors took the form of eliminating gum from articles sold at the university book store.

## Father Stays at Home

The family's at the seashore to watch the billows roll, And the sight of that old ocean must be soothing to the soul. I'm home here a-tolling every summer day, But once a week they tell me just all the wild waves say.

(I reckon, though, I know it And feel it deeply, too— "Please send your salary. The board bill's due.")

But they still remember father where they hear the harbor bells. Yesterday I paid the freight on boxes (six) of shells. Shells from the ocean where thunder roar and clash; But, oh, the way I feel each day a-shelling out the cash!

(I know the ocean is sublime And feel it deeply, too— "Please send your salary. The board bill's due.") —Atlanta Constitution.

## REORGANIZATION PLANS FOR WOMAN'S CIVIC WORK.

Congressional Section Starts Movement to Centralize Effort.

A movement has been started in Washington to reorganize the congressional section of the woman's welfare department of the National Civic Federation in order that the work that falls upon many women in official life there in answering appeals for help may be centralized.

Mrs. Wilson, the wife of the president, is to be asked to become the head of the new organization, and Mrs. Marshall, wife of the vice president, and other women in official circles will be asked to hold office in much the same order of precedence as do their husbands.

Mrs. Champ Clark, wife of the speaker, is actively behind the new project, and she is being assisted by Mrs. William A. Cullop, president of the Woman's National Democratic League; Mrs. James R. Mann, wife of the house Republican leader, and Mrs. Victor Murdock, wife of the house Progressive leader.

A meeting is to be held in the near future, which Mrs. Wilson is expected to attend. Among those interested in the plan are Mrs. McKenna, wife of Justice McKenna; Mrs. John Sharp Williams, Mrs. Oscar Callaway, Mrs. Isaac Sherwood, Mrs. Charles C. McChord, Miss Mary Wilcox, Mrs. Robert C. Page and others.

A district and other committees to care for different kinds of work are to be named soon after the formal organization is completed.

## AID FOR LAND CULTIVATORS.

Government Offers Easy Terms to Real Reclamation Settlers.

Special consideration for farmers who actually cultivate land on government reclamation projects, as against speculators, has been announced as an interior department policy by Secretary Lane. In line with this the secretary ordered a temporary reduction to one-third of the amount due from present settlers on final building charge installments, provided no payment shall be less than 50 cents an acre. The unpaid balance will be added to the last installments for water right applications.

This action was taken in recognition of the difficulties many settlers on irrigated lands have had in meeting their obligations to the government.

No person will receive the concession who has not paid all the amounts due for operation and maintenance on Dec. 1 next and who has cultivated less than one-half of the irrigable area of his land or not less than five acres for each full irrigation season since water was first available.

The man who makes a farm and irrigates it is the man I am interested in primarily, not the land speculator," said the secretary. "On some of our reclamation projects we have been making money for land speculators rather than homes for farmers. The man who irrigates his land should have the easiest terms from the government, because he is the one who is giving the public the benefit of that land."

## PEARLY TO ASK CONGRESS.

Wants Permission to Accept Decoration of Legion of Honor.

Bear Admiral Robert E. Peary, the discoverer of the north pole, who, with Mrs. Peary, recently returned to this country from Europe, will ask congress for permission to wear the small red button which is the decoration of a grand officer of the Legion of Honor conferred upon him by France. It is contrary to the law for any officer of our government to accept any title, decoration or present from a foreign state without such consent, and so when the honor was conferred upon him Peary placed the decoration in the custody of the American ambassador in Paris pending developments.

Admiral Peary's trip abroad was made in the capacity of delegate. He represented this country at the international geographical congress and the international polar congress at Rome. He also traveled a little in Egypt and in France.

### A Unique Banner.

One of the many unique banners seen at the reunion was that which flew before the headquarters of the Manassas picket post, D. A. R., and Ewell camp, C. V. The banner, which is commemorative of the peace jubilee on the battle field of Bull Run in July, 1911, at which celebration President Taft delivered the principal address, displayed

## ANECDOTES AND NOTES FROM REUNION OF BLUE AND GRAY

### Many Incidents, Touching and Amusing, at Gettysburg Celebration.

General Daniel E. Sickles, Only Surviving Corps Commander, a Picturesque Figure.

the Confederate flag on one side and the stars and stripes on the other.

In addition there appear the inscriptions, "Let Us Have Peace—Grant," and "Duty Is the Sublimest Word in Any Language—Lee." A special guard of honor, composed of veterans from both sides, cared for the flag.

### Oldest Survivor of War.

Major Daniel C. Boggs of Pittsburgh, ninety-six year old and believed to be the oldest survivor of the civil war, was among those who came to Gettysburg to celebrate the sesquicentennial of the battle.

Major Boggs did not participate in the battle, but he bears an honorable record of service in the war and belongs to a family of pioneers and soldiers which began in colonial times.

His father was one of the first to settle in Pittsburgh, and his grandfather fought in the Revolutionary war.

Although now close to the century mark, the major showed himself to be livelier than many of the veterans present at the celebration a score of years his junior. He could read without glasses and recalled the names of many old comrades whom he had not seen for years.

### Slept In Same Room.

General F. M. Easton of Boston came to the celebration a day early in order that he might sleep in the same room in the Eagle hotel in which he slept on June 30, 1863, the night before the battle opened. Finding it occupied, he almost wept at the prospect of having his dearest hopes defeated.

Fifty years ago he was sent to the town for supplies and, being unable to get them that night, went to the hotel and spent the night. The room had been engaged months before the celebration, but one of the men occupying it, hearing of General Easton's request, volunteered to double up with another man and let the veteran have his wish. So the general was not disappointed after all.

### Died Where He Fought.

The first man to die at the celebration died near the spot where he fought fifty years before. He survived that battle, where thousands fell, only to find his fate on the same field half a century later.

The man was Augustus D. Brown of Kimball post, Livermore Falls, Me. His death was caused by heart disease superinduced by the heat.

### Key's Grandson at Celebration.

The grandson of the man who wrote the "Star Spangled Banner" was one of those who attended the celebration. It had looked for a time as if he would not be there unless he walked the seventy-five miles between Pikesville, Md., where the state home for Confederate veterans is situated, and Gettysburg. But just as he was about to start friends came to his assistance, and John Francis Key, the eighty-two-year-old descendant of Francis Scott Key, the poet, got his railroad fare and a sum besides. If he hadn't got it, being a "right smart man" for all his years, as one of his friends remarked, "he'd a' come anyway."

### Joe Trax's Cannon.

Joe Trax of Newcastle, Pa., brought a cannon with him to the celebration the like of which is seldom seen. As Trax himself said, he wouldn't trade it for one of the modern artillery guns in the regular camp even if something were given to boot. When asked why, he explained that it was composed of melted brass buttons from Federal and Confederate uniforms, field spoons, a key from Ford's theater, Washington, where Lincoln was assassinated; twenty-five pounds of regulation silver watches and—he couldn't remember just what else was dropped into the melting pot. "Junk, but historic junk," he laconically asserted.

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Both had been at Andersonville prison and recalled the same experiences of the killing of prisoners too near the dead line by the guards on the stockade walls and the methods of avoiding starvation employed by the imprisoned men of the north.

Sergeant Anthony weighed eighty-six pounds when he left the prison. He was five feet eight inches tall. When he entered he weighed 465 pounds. He claims to have been the lightest man ever discharged from the prison who survived the ordeal.

### Advocates Weeds for Food.

Medical Man Declares It Would Reduce Cost of Living.

One means of solving the question of the high cost of living was offered by Dr. A. W. Miller of Philadelphia at the thirty-sixth annual convention of the Pennsylvania Pharmaceutical Association in East Stroudsburg, Pa.

His plan is a greater realization of the food possibilities of various common plants now regarded as little more than weeds, but which are cheap, highly nutritious and delicious. He declared that the United States is behind many foreign countries in this respect, saying that our humble dandelion is extensively cultivated in portions of France for food.

### Prohibitory Opium Tax Passes House.

A prohibitory tax of \$200 a pound on the manufacture of opium was provided for in the Harrison bill, which passed the house recently. The bill prohibits the importation of the drug except for medical purposes.

## Minute "Movies" of the News Right Off the Reel

Greece plans to prevent the emigration of male Greeks under forty.

The governor of Massachusetts has appointed a commission to study drunkenness.

An Illinois farmer made more money gathering chin-chin bugs for the bounty of \$2 a bushel than he did from his crops.

That hundreds of horses have been deliberately blinded to make them docile is charged by agents of the Anti-Cruelty society of Chicago.

A concern advertised a method of increasing the height and was hauled up by the postoffice authorities. A majority of the victims were found to be Japanese.

## WILL IRWIN ADMITS HE CONCOCTED "HIGHBROW."

Magazine Writer Tells of Achievement While Visiting Former Outlaw.

Will H. Irwin, magazine writer, is preparing to write the biography of Al J. Jennings, former Oklahoma outlaw and bank robber, released from the federal penitentiary by President Roosevelt and more recently a candidate for prosecuting attorney of Oklahoma county.

Irwin recently spent several days in Oklahoma City with Jennings. During his stay he confessed to an achievement which will give him a place in the history of etymology along with Colone Roosevelt and other word and phrase coiners. He admitted inventing the term "highbrow."

Before "highbrow" arrived there was an aching void. "Snob" didn't quite cover it. "Academic" failed. Nothing could quite express the delicate shade of meaning till "highbrow" came.

"Highbrow" first peeked its way into the consciousness of the reading public one bright morning from a column of the New York Sun. "Highbrow" referred to a meeting the night before of the Society for the Betterment of Drama. Irwin was a reporter on the Sun, and persistently he forced "highbrow" to the front page after time until others' vocabularies began to absorb the term. Then "highbrow" was made. Irwin says the dictionary makers will recognize it in their next editions.

## HISTORIC PAPERS SAVED.

Declaration of Independence May Be Stored in Vacuum Tube.

The original copy of the Declaration of Independence, with its ink fading and the paper slowly crumbling to pieces in the archives of the state department in Washington, and other precious documents may be preserved through a discovery by Professor Nathan A. Cobb of the department of agriculture.

While experimenting with the big vacuum tubes in which the department was storing samples of the various grades of cotton Professor Cobb kept a newspaper sealed in a cotton tube for nearly a year. The paper has been found to be in a perfect state of preservation, although suspended in the sunlight much of the time.

"I intend to show this to Secretary Bryan," said Professor Cobb. "Precious documents could be placed on public view with no danger of light affecting them. If this paper shows no change after a year why would it not keep in the same condition for 3,000 years or more?"

## TO SEGREGATE "STUPIDS."

New Jersey Physician Declares They Recruit Criminal Class.

Addressing a convention of alienists in Chicago recently, Dr. Henry H. Goddard of Vineland, N. J., declared that slow and weak-minded children should be segregated and receive a special education. He asserted that the average stupid child recruits the criminal class when he is brought up among normal children, whose education leaves him still ignorant.

"Often the stupid child is the favored and petted one of the family, and many parents do not or will not recognize that a child of theirs is mentally deficient," asserted Dr. Goddard.

"The child thus becomes spoiled and becomes a dangerous factor in society."

"Twenty-five per cent of the criminal class belong to the mentally backward; 50 per cent of the prostitute class and 70 per cent of the persons in reform institutions are mentally deficient—stupid."

### Will Fill the Gatun Lake.

It has been decided by the Panama canal officials to close the spillway gates at Gatun lake early this month, after which the lake will be allowed to fill continuously. The lake stage on June 22 was forty-eight and one-half feet, and the maximum level about eighty-five feet, will probably be attained by December.

## DISPEL MYSTERY OF LIBERTY BELL

Old Letters Just Found Tell Origin of Inscription.

## HISTORIANS LONG BAFFLED

Curator of Independence Hall, Philadelphia, Discovers Correspondence of Isaac Morris, Superintendent of Statehouse in 1751, Which Explains How Bell Came to Carry Famous Words.

The great mystery of the Liberty bell, the manner in which the famous inscription, "Proclaim Liberty Through All the Land Unto All the Inhabitants Thereof," came to be cast in the bell, and the reason for it, which has baffled the historian for half a century, has at last been solved. With the finding a few days ago of letters written by Isaac Morris, who was superintendent of the old statehouse in Philadelphia when the bell was ordered in 1751, Wilfred Jordan, curator of Independence Hall in that city, has been able to supply the long sought explanation.

According to the papers which have disclosed the secret, the inscription was placed on the bell in England when it was made in 1751. The object was to dedicate the bell as a memorial