

Condensed News of the Week

A dispatch to the Chicago Tribune under date of Annapolis, Md., February 2, said Isidor Rayner will succeed Louis E. McComas in the United States senate. He was nominated tonight by the democratic caucus on the first ballot. His selection is regarded here as a setback for Senator Gorman, who favored Governor Smith. Eighty-nine of the ninety democratic members of the general assembly cast their votes for Mr. Rayner, who is a Baltimore lawyer and was the leading counsel for Admiral Schley during the naval court inquiry. He will be elected by the members of the general assembly in joint session tomorrow at noon. Isidor Rayner was born in Baltimore in 1850 of a famous Maryland family. He was educated at the University of Virginia, and in his college days attained high rank as an orator. He adopted the law as a profession and won his way to prominence. For years he has had a large practice in the United States supreme court.

The London and New York Pilgrim societies banquets were held simultaneously January 29, and were connected by cable, messages being exchanged by guests on each side of the Atlantic.

It is reported that the Japanese emperor and empress are encouraging the writing of poetry by their people. An imperial bureau is maintained and this bureau announces the themes for verse.

Reports from Colombia say that General Reyes has assured his people that the United States will resist landing only in canal zones and that on the basis of this assurance, Colombia is planning an expedition against Panama.

London newspapers say that there is great popular indignation against what is called the persecution of the late Whittaker Wright. It is alleged that Wright was made the scapegoat for others.

The British parliament opened February 2. Austin Chamberlain acted as leader and defended the policy of his father, Joseph Chamberlain. In the debate young Chamberlain referred to his father as "My Right Honorable friend, the member from West Birmingham." Joseph Chamberlain occupied the seat as "private member" of the house of commons and a London cablegram to the Chicago Tribune says: "From this seat he saw his son act as leader of the house of commons, a position to which Joseph Chamberlain, with all his years of parliamentary experience, never attained." There seems to be general opinion that young Chamberlain's defense of his father's policy was decidedly weak.

On February 3 it was reported that the Colombians had attacked an Indian village on San Blas coast and that the United States ship Bancroft had been sent to investigate.

William C. Whitney, capitalist and secretary of the navy under President Cleveland, died at New York February 2 while being prepared for a second operation for appendicitis.

The Presbytery of New Castle, Del., on February 2 declared that Rev. Robert A. Elwood was guilty of inciting, by his remarks in a sermon, the lynching of the assailant of Helen Bishop.

On February 2, at Chicago, a switch engine on the Chicago Terminal Transfer company's track broke away from control and collided with the locomotive of a crowded suburban train at Fifteenth and Ashland avenues. Two men were killed and a number were injured and both engines were wrecked.

Walter W. Woolnough died February 2 at Battle Creek, Mich. Mr. Woolnough was a personal friend of Horace Greeley and it is said he suggested to Mr. Greeley the name "republican" for the present republican party. The Chicago Tribune says: "Woolnough was secretary at a meeting in 1854 which chose the name republican for the party formed a few months later at Jackson. Aside from his claim of being the oldest living republican, he was the oldest newspaper compositor in the United States. He wrote editorials for the Daily Moon until his death, always setting the type for this column until a few weeks ago. Woolnough was an ex-representative of Michigan."

The republicans of the First Kansas congressional district held two conventions February 2.

In one convention Congressman Curtis was renominated, while the other convention nominated for congress D. R. Anthony, jr., of Leavenworth. The state election board will determine which of the two conventions is regular.

Mrs. John Fleming of Chicago asked for novel proceedings before Justice Bradwell, February 2. Mrs. Fleming requested the justice to issue a writ of replevin for her baby. The child is three months old and Mrs. Fleming's landlord had held it for \$5 rent money. The justice could not issue the replevin writ, but he issued a warrant for the arrest of the landlord on the charge of kidnapping. The child was restored to its mother.

In the Iowa legislature, Senator Hayward introduced a bill which was intended to discourage marriage on the part of a man who wants a wife to support him. It makes it a misdemeanor for an able-bodied man having a wife or family to refuse to work, if he can obtain work, and provides he may be sent to jail for such neglect or refusal. The bill is copied after the New Jersey statute with changes to cure supposed defects in the New Jersey law.

A London cablegram to the Chicago Tribune says: "Ernest W. Birch, governor of British North Borneo, who has just arrived here, says General Leonard Wood, while recently at Sandakan, capital of North Borneo, informed him that the question of the ownership of the islands off the coast of Borneo, over which a United States war vessel had hoisted the American flag, would be amicably settled, as there was no strong desire on the part of the Americans to keep them. The governor added that the Europeans there were so friendly to the Americans that they have no doubt the United States government will relinquish its claims." The Washington dispatches say that General Wood was authorized to make the statement attributed to him.

The Kirby Lumber company and the Houston Oil company, the largest two concerns in Texas, have been placed temporarily in charge of receivers because of the alleged default in payment of \$700,000 interest to the Maryland Trust company. A run on a savings bank followed the announcement of the embarrassment of these two companies, but serious trouble on the bank's part was promptly avoided.

It is charged that chattel money lenders in New York whose business has been seriously interfered with by the district attorney, offered a bribe to that official of \$25,000 and that the arrest and prosecution of many of these money lenders will follow.

Martial law at Cripple Creek, Colo., has been declared at an end by Governor Peabody. The military prisoners have been delivered to the civil authorities.

A dispatch to the Chicago Chronicle, under date of February 1, says: John D. Rockefeller will cease to be a director of the United States Steel corporation at tomorrow's meeting of the board. He tendered his resignation January 14, but the news was kept secret until today the day before the directors will be called upon to act upon it. The resignation of Mr. Rockefeller means nothing more than his adherence to a long-settled policy not to figure personally in the management of any of his corporations except the Standard Oil company, of which he is president. Though holding extensive interests in more than 150 corporations, he is a director in only four, counting the Standard Oil and the steel corporation. He has never attended any directors' meetings except that of the Standard Oil company. Different men in the Standard Oil group represent him in the different corporations. James Stillman, president of the National City bank, is a director in fifty-four of the Rockefeller companies. John D. Rockefeller, jr., will represent his father's interests in the steel corporation.

An Associated press dispatch, under date of Johnstown, Pa., February 1, says: Employees of the Cambria Steel works today received notice of a readjustment of wages, to go into effect February 15. The basis of each man's pay is established by an agreement between himself and the head of the department in which he is employed. The readjustment affects every class of employes and the general basis will be that prevailing be-

fore the last readjustment, July 1, 1902. More than 10,000 men are affected.

Remarkably high winds were features in various sections of the country February 1. At Georgetown, Colo., a railroad train was blown off the track and several persons were injured. Considerable damage to property was done in Denver, two men losing their lives in the gale. At Cheyenne the wind reached the rate of 65 miles and great damage was done.

It is reported from New York that the dress-makers of Paris, London and various American cities will organize a trust.

Forty persons were killed February 1 in an explosion of ten tons of gun powder at Fort Bhatinda, in Punjab.

Under date of Philadelphia, Pa., February 1, the Associated press says: A general reduction of wages went into effect today at the Midvale Steel works, affecting 3,500 employes. The decrease is graded according to the wages received from 5 to 35 cents a day. The congested labor market and overproduction are said to have caused the reduction.

The Sharon, Pa., correspondent of the Associated press, under date of February 1, says: The National Malleable Steel Castings company made a reduction in wages today, affecting all employes except the laborers. The cut ranges from 5 to 33 per cent. The reduction was accepted by the men. Three of the furnaces of the open hearth department of the Carnegie Steel company were started today and three others will resume within a few days.

A wreck of the Colorado flyer of the Missouri Pacific railway occurred near Miller, Kas., February 1. One person, W. L. Brown of Des Moines, Ia., was killed while thirteen were injured.

An explosion of natural gas in the cellar of the home of Henry Magel, near Pittsburg, Pa., January 31, resulted in the death of two persons and the injury of several others.

A passenger train on the Southern railroad was derailed near Princeton, Ind., on January 31. Seventy-five passengers were on the train, but all escaped with slight injuries. The spikes and bolts had been removed from the rails and the wreck is believed to have been the work of would-be train robbers.

Governor W. J. Bailey of Topeka, Kas., has withdrawn from the contest for renomination. The factional troubles in the republican party prompted the governor's withdrawal.

Senator Young of Calhoun county has introduced in the Iowa legislature a bill making it unlawful for two or more persons to conspire to drive away trade from any place of business. This bill prohibits picketing or boycotting or the distribution of cards or requesting the withdrawal of patronage and is aimed at the union labor boycott. In the same bill employes are prohibited from black-listing employes and seeking to prevent the re-employment of discharged employes by other firms.

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