



A Pekin cablegram, carried by the Associated Press, says: Premier Yuan Shi Kai gave his answer to those who are attempting to reform China into a republic. In an official statement he declared, without qualification, that he refused to accept a republic. At the Shanghai peace conference Wu Ting Fang, foreign minister of the revolutionary provisional cabinet, spoke strongly in favor of a republic, and later Tang Shao Yi said that he was convinced that the abdication of the emperor and the establishment of a republic was the only thing that would satisfy the people. At the same time he expressed doubt whether it would be possible to persuade Yuan Shan Kai to abandon his plan for a limited monarchy.

John O. Yeiser of Omaha caused to be filed with the Nebraska secretary of state the name of Theodore Roosevelt to be voted upon in the republican primaries in Nebraska in April as the choice for president. Mr. Roosevelt declines to be interviewed on the subject.

The Judson Harmon boom was given a little extra booming by the Ohio state officers calling on the governor and indorsing him for the presidential nomination.

Letters exchanged between George R. Sheldon and Theodore Roosevelt, follow: "New York, Dec. 15, 1911.—Hon. Theodore Roosevelt, Oyster Bay, N. Y.—Dear Mr. Roosevelt: Ever since the election of 1904, the story has been continuously published and never denied, except by you, that you asked E. H. Harriman to contribute money to aid in your election and that he thereupon raised or contributed \$250,000 to the national committee fund. Knowing this to be untrue, I several times suggested to my superior officer, C. N. Bliss, then treasurer of the national committee, that the facts in the case be plainly stated. Mr. Bliss always believed the books and accounts of the national committee were private, and although always carried on by him with the highest sense of integrity and honor, he never, like all of his contemporaries, would consent to any publicity.

"This feeling has been changed in the last few years by the laws requiring full publicity in elections. It seems therefore to me that now, in justice to you, the facts in the case ought to be known.

"Every one knew and conceded that in the election of 1904, you would carry the state of New York by a large plurality, but it was generally believed that Mr. Higgins would be defeated. The democrats centered their efforts on the election of their candidate for governor. About a week before the election, Mr. Odell, then chairman of the state committee, came to Mr. Bliss and told him that unless he had \$250,000 from the national committee that the state ticket would be defeated. Mr. Bliss told Chairman Odell that he had no money to give but would see what could be done. He visited E. H. Harriman at his office and explained to him the urgency of the situation as told by Mr. Odell.

"Mr. Harriman thereupon called up several of his friends on the telephone and next day handed Mr. Bliss \$160,000. Mr. Bliss himself raised \$80,000. This sum of \$240,000 was handed directly to Chairman Odell,

and never in any way went into the treasury of the national committee which had in charge the presidential election.

"I have personal knowledge of all the within mentioned facts. Very truly yours,

"GEORGE R. SHELDON, "Treasurer Republican National Committee."

"Mr. George Sheldon, 62 Cedar street, New York City.—Dear Mr. Sheldon: I thank you for your letter and I am glad it was written. There is little for me to add to what you have said. I have never, directly or indirectly, in any shape, way or form, asked Mr. Harriman or anybody else to contribute a dollar to any of my elections. Moreover, on the only occasion on which Mr. Harriman ever spoke to me on the subject, he did so at his initiative, and so far from there being any request from me to him, he made of me the request that I would aid in getting the national committee to contribute some of its funds for the campaign expenses of Mr. Higgins, the candidate for governor in New York state.

"He at the time stated to me that my own election was assured; that the election of Mr. Higgins, in which he was especially interested, was doubtful, and that he earnestly hoped that the national committee would divert some of its funds from the national to the state campaign, where the need was great, and where he believed the election of Mr. Higgins to be in jeopardy. As shown in your letter, this was precisely what the national committee did. Very truly yours, THEODORE ROOSEVELT."

A Springfield, Ill., dispatch, carried by the Associated Press, follows: The right of employes of a railroad to eject passengers who attempt to ride upon tickets which have expired, even though the date of expiration is not plainly stamped thereon, is upheld in a decision handed down by the Illinois supreme court in the case of Albert S. C. Pennington against the Illinois Central Railroad company.

On December 10, 1893, Pennington boarded a train at Douglas station, after being admitted through the turnstile, where he claims to have shown his ticket and to have been informed that it was good. He was going to Kensington. When the conductor came to Pennington, the latter was informed the ticket was valueless; that the time limit had expired about two weeks previously, and that he would have to pay the full fare of 31 cents or get off.

Pennington elected to take the latter course and alleges that as a result he froze his hands and feet and suffered permanent injuries. He brought suit in the superior court and secured a judgment against the company for \$4,500 and this decision was affirmed by the appellate court.

"As there can be no recovery in this case, for the reason that the conductor was within his rights in ordering Pennington to pay his fare or get off the train," the supreme court says, "the judgment of the superior court and appellate courts is reversed without remanding the case for trial."

A St. Petersburg cablegram, carried by the Associated Press, says: A telegram received here from Teheran says that W. Morgan Shuster, the treasurer-general of Persia, has been notified of his dismissal. The Persian government has instructed

the local authorities to cease hostilities and enter into negotiations with the Russian consuls to restore normal conditions.

New York City will be an applicant for the democratic national convention.

E. Emilio Estrada, president of the Republic of Ecuador, died suddenly, aged sixty-five years.

The powers have demanded that peace be restored in the Chinese empire.

Dr. Charles H. Mayo of Rochester, Minn., famous for the number of operations for appendicitis he has performed, was himself operated upon for that fashionable disease in a New York hospital.

Mayor Speer of Denver removed

Henry J. Arnold from the office of assessor. Arnold had refused to obey the mayor's order with respect to certain assessments. An enormous mass meeting protesting against the mayor's action was held on the state house grounds. Many speeches were delivered and several overflow meetings were held.

John Bigelow, journalist, diplomat and author, died at his home in New York City, aged ninety-four years.

The Iowa supreme court has upheld the Moon liquor law and as a result 500 saloons in Iowa will be forced out of business.

A jury in the Beef trust case was secured in Chicago and the district attorney in outlining his case said that the Beef trust was the worst of all the combinations.

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