

WIRELESS SPANS OCEAN

Transmits 572 Words From Coney Island to Coast of Ireland, a Distance of 3,200 Miles.

Wednesday night, according to officers of the De Forest wireless telegraph system at New York, 572 words were flashed across the Atlantic ocean from Coney Island to the coast of Ireland, a distance of 3,200 miles, without the use of cables, wires or any other medium than the atmosphere. This trans-Atlantic achievement is regarded as marking the greatest forward step yet taken in the development of telegraphy without wires.

A total of 1,000 words was sent out from the Coney Island station. The messages were sent in various keys, pitches or tunes, to use the wireless vernacular, in order to ascertain the correct one. Ireland reported by cable yesterday morning that 572 of these words were received and recorded. Heretofore the longest distance reached was between Coney Island and Colon, Panama, stations, 2,100 miles apart.

In the experiments the Coney Island operator began with the longest distance, or Colon, pitch, and constantly changed his pitch at the end of fifteen minutes in sending a new code message. The result showed that 428 words were pitched in the wrong key. Comparison will show in what key the 572 words were pitched, and that key will become the most important to the world at large among recent inventions.

KAISER PARTIAL TO WEALTHY

Poor, But Aristocratic, Germans Chagrined by Change in Ruler.

Berlin—The kaiser's growing partiality for millionaires, trust magnates and such rich men as own yachts and automobiles is causing intense chagrin among the proud but poor Prussian nobility, who see their influence with the emperor lessening.

At one time, they complain, they were favored with the kaiser's confidence and were exclusively admitted to his set, but since he has become interested in yachts and automobiles he has sought the society of the plutocrats, who can afford these luxuries.

For Popular Election of Senators.

The Ohio legislature, which has been busily considering the relation of the United States senators to the people, and which has strongly indorsed popular election, now has a new proposition before it tending toward that end. A house committee has reported favorably a resolution providing for the creation of a committee to seek to procure the co-operation of the necessary two-thirds of the states to secure a constitutional convention.

A Tired Stomach

Does not get much good for you out of what you eat, for it does not digest much—it is wasteful. It feels sore and lame and is easily distressed and often upset by food. The best treatment is a course of Hood's Sarsaparilla which is positively unequalled for all stomach troubles.

For testimonials of remarkable cures send for Book on Dyspepsia, No. 5. C. I. Hood Co., Lowell, Mass.

The passage of the resolution will be welcomed outside of the state as well as within it. Both houses of the Iowa legislature, on Governor Cummin's suggestion, have passed a resolution for a convention of the states to meet in Des Moines next summer. Many of the states, which have already gone on record individually, are anxious for leadership which will unite them in a movement that can not be ignored by senatorial obstructiveness.

Leadership is absolutely necessary. It is only a question which state will take hold first. The state that does stand in the lead will make itself a name in history.—Record-Herald, Chicago.

250,000 PERISH IN INDIA FAMINE

Failure of Cotton Crop Adds to Regular Yearly Disaster.

Calcutta—India is threatened with another great famine. The alarming premonitory symptoms were naturally not allowed to interfere with the reception of the Prince and Princess of Wales on their recent tour, but now the real facts are becoming apparent through official statistics.

These show that nearly a quarter of a million people are receiving government relief. The chief cause of the famine is the failure of the cotton crop. Although there are about half a million more acres under cultivation in British India than in 1904-5, the crop has decreased by 16 per

A NEW POLITICAL MOVE

American Federation of Labor Will Question Candidates for Office Upon Matters Affecting Labor.

(Special to The Independent by George H. Shibley.)

Washington, D. C., March 31, 1906.—The executive council of the American Federation of Labor has taken vigorous steps for carrying into operation its recent threat to retire to private life such of the representatives in the federal government as are opposing to labor interests. The following resolution was adopted March 23rd:

"The American Federations of Labor's policy of interrogating candidates for public office upon question affecting the interests of labor and of the people generally will be continued and more aggressively prosecuted."

This brief declaration contains three prominent features and one that is implied, namely: that all candidates are to be questioner; that a more vigorous campaign is to be conducted; that the interests of the people in general are to be worked for; and that all who are opposed to machine rule and private monopoly are invited to join in questioning candidates.

The far-reaching possibilities of this

firm ground. Few, if any, candidates will dare to openly oppose so sane a proposition.

The program, in a nut-shell, is for the immediate establishment of the people's sovereignty in place of machine rule, and in nation, state and city; to be accomplished in this year's campaign through the systematic questioning of all candidates. Candidates when forced to go on record pledge, almost invariably, for the people's cause. Every non-partisan organization that is opposed to special privileges is expected to take part in questioning, also citizens in general. For copies of question apply to the American Federation of Labor, Washington, D. C.

To spread the news and thus inform the people, a news bureau is to be established. Thus the entire news of the movement will be gathered at a central point and distributed to the newspaper editors of the country. It will no longer be suppressed. The Associated Press, owned by monopolist and dominated by them, can no longer conceal the campaign against private monopoly.

It is expected that funds for the work will be forthcoming. The treasury of the American Federation of Labor is at the disposal of the political movement, and special contributions are to be asked for from every affiliated union and from the well-to-do reformers throughout the country. As the contest waxes warm, the purse strings will open. Heretofore the reform movement has been sadly lacking in funds.

It is expected that a thousand or more of the daily papers will take up the anti-machine cause, while the 500 labor papers will increase their use of people's sovereignty material.

Lastly, and of the most importance, the campaign is open now. Heretofore the campaign has not been opened until August or September. This year, however, the candidates are to be questioned early and their replies published. In most cases the candidates will be questioned before the primaries are held. This will bring the issue within each party and lay it before the rank and file.

Reviewing all those new factors in politics—factors which have demonstrated their tremendous power—it is clear that a landslide against machine rule is in operation. Its extent for this year it is difficult to predict, but that it will be very great and wide-spread is beyond question.

Lawson Asked For Proof

Boston—Thomas W. Lawson was summoned tonight to appear before District Attorney John B. Moran tomorrow at 2 o'clock to substantiate his charges of insurance graft in this country. These charges are that agents in Boston of the big New York companies have written policies for which they received no premium payments or considerations other than proxies from the insured. The charges were laid before the state insurance commissioner and by him sent to the district attorney.

Free Alcohol Bill Reported

The house committee on ways and means, Washington, authorized a favorable report on the free alcohol bill. The vote was 16 to 2, Dalzell (Penn.) and Grosvenor (Ohio) opposing. The measure provides that, beginning three months after its passage, domestic alcohol may be withdrawn from bond without the payment of internal revenue tax for use in the arts and industries and for fuel, light and power, provided it shall have been mixed with denaturing material which destroys its character as a beverage and renders it unfit for medicinal purposes.

A poll of the house is in progress to ascertain whether there are votes sufficient to pass the measure under suspension of the rules.



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cent. The area under cultivation in the native states shows a decrease of 3 per cent.

Cotton is the staple industry of the Indian peasantry, and the effect of its failure is the famines which decimate the population about once in five years.

DiETING PUTS ENGINEER IN ASYLUM

Santa Barbara, Calif.—Louis Janin, Jr., known throughout the west and in many of the great mining fields of the world as a most brilliant mining engineer, has been stricken with a religious monomania and adjudged insane. He is the son of Louis Janin, Sr., of San Francisco, also an expert mining engineer, and is thirty-nine years old. Both father and son are well known in San Francisco club circles.

For nineteen years the afflicted man has been traveling the world over, handling mining engineering propositions. Recently he has lived on a large ranch belonging to his father in the northern part of this country. Lately he became so deeply impressed with the necessity of dieting, as he believed, under divine guidance, that had he been let alone he might have started himself. He took no other nourishment than a few crackers and a small quantity of milk daily.

Upon all other subjects than this one Janin's mind seems to be perfectly clear.

program are puzzling the politicians.

Few, however, are realizing that the declaration for "the people generally" means a campaign for the immediate establishment of the advisory initiative and advisory referendum—a system whereby the voters may instruct by referendum vote. It is to be installed by a mere majority vote in the national house and senate, with a forced action by the United States senators through instructions. Then initiative petitions incorporating the more pressing measures, including constitutional amendments, are to be filed at the opening of congress. In the several legislatures, too, the advisory initiative and advisory referendum are to be installed at once.

This is the program of the American Federation of Labor, Pennsylvania Granges, People's Sovereignty League of America, National Direct Legislation League, and other organizations. It was the program two years ago, and in Missouri it resulted in the pledging of twelve of the sixteen congressmen, and five of the ten representatives from Chicago. Mere questioning by the People's Sovereignty League resulted in 143 signed pledges by congressional candidates.

The great strategic feature in this program is that it is expected to enlist all who are opposed to the existing senate sovereignty and party rule, namely: practically all the people.

Organized labor by adopting this broad policy is creating much friendly comment. By asking for the people's sovereignty (majority rule) it is on