

# The Independent.

A WEEKLY JOURNAL DEVOTED TO

POLITICS, AGRICULTURE AND HOME LIFE

Vol. 19. No. 940.

Lincoln, Nebraska, June 14, 1906

Subscription \$1.00

## FACTORY BLOWN UP

Eleven Killed and Five Injured in Explosion of Dynamite Factory Near Lancaster, Pa.

Lancaster, Pa.—Eleven men were blown to pieces and five others were seriously injured by the explosion of a dynamite plant today near Pequea, along the Susquehanna river. The dead are:

Benjamin Gebhardt, aged 22.  
Benjamin Rineer, aged 21.  
George Rineer, aged 20.  
Fred Rice, aged 23.  
Collins Parker, aged 18.  
Phares Shoff, aged 18.  
William Funk, aged 19.  
John Boatman, aged 17.  
Three unidentified men.  
Seriously injured:  
Walter Brown.  
Martin Rineer.  
George Gray.  
Charles Cramer.  
Jacob Shoff.

### Bodies Horribly Mangled

The accident was one of the most horrible in the history of Lancaster county. The victims were literally torn to pieces, hardly enough remaining of the bodies to make identification possible.

The cause of the explosion is not known. Two of the unidentified victims had just started to drive from the place with a load of dynamite. They had gone scarcely fifty feet when the plant blew up with a detonation that was plainly heard fifteen miles away. A great cloud of smoke covered it cleared away there was not a vestige of the horses, wagon or men. Fragments of human human bodies were found hanging to trees 100 yards away.

### Injured Taken to Homes

Persons living near the factory began the work of rescue, but there were few in the place who had not been blown to atoms. The remains of these were gathered up and placed in soap boxes, identification being impossible. The injured, some of whom it is thought will die, were taken to their homes in the immediate vicinity. George and Benjamin Rineer, who were killed, were sons of Martin Rineer, one of the injured.

The plant consisted of a dozen buildings. All were blown to pieces except a remote structure in which seven girls were at work. The factory was owned by G. R. McAbee & Co., of Pittsburg, and manufactured explosives for use in the Pennsylvania railroad construction work.

## DOCTORS CONDEMN PACKERS

Association Says Antiseptics Will Not Kill Purelaction

Boston.—Before adjourning today the American Medical association passed the following resolutions dealing with the conditions at the Chicago stock yards:

"We strongly condemn the revolt-

ing evils which have been shown to exist in regard to foods and food supplies, especially in the meat packing industry.

"In the fundamental interests of the people such evils must be controlled by appropriate and adequate legislation, which we strongly urge as the paramount duty of the national congress.

"In connection with this question we wish to emphasize the fact that antiseptics and preservatives can not mitigate in any degree the dangers from decayed or decaying meat. Antiseptics may destroy putrifiactive organisms, but can not neutralize toxins or ptomaines.

Any contention to the contrary is unsound and meat that requires such treatment is totally unfit for food because it still contains poisons of a virulent and dangerous character."

A resolution also was passed urging the establishment of a national department of health, with a representative in the cabinet.

## EXPORT RATE ISSUE IS RAISED

District Attorney Argues Kansas City Rebate Case of Packers

Kansas City.—Advancing in a federal court for the first time the contention that the interstate commerce commission has the power to regulate export rates, District Attorney Van Valkenburgh concludes today the argument in the rebating case of the Armour, Swift, Cudahy and Morris Packing companies and the Burlington railway. Judge McPherson then adjourned court until next Tuesday, saying the importance of the issues raised demands that he give them deliberate consideration. He will instruct the jury when court reconvenes.

## GOVERNOR FOLK WILL PRESIDE

Will Be at Meeting That Is to Welcome Bryan.

Jefferson City, Mo.—Governor Jos. W. Folk tonight telegraphed his acceptance of the invitation extended by Harvey Walker of New York to preside over the meeting which will welcome William Jennings Bryan when he returns from his trip around the world.

## FEVER IN NEW ORLEANS

Three Cases Are Quarantined on Ship Island

New Orleans, La.—The fact that three cases of yellow fever have been under quarantine for the past ten days at Ship Island, a government quarantine station in the Gulf of Mexico, about midway between the mouth of the Mississippi and Mobile, Ala., was made public by Dr. C. H. Irion, president of the Louisiana board of health.

## Cassatt Fires Aikens

Philadelphia, Pa.—Joseph Aikens, chief clerk to the superintendent of the Monongahela division of the Pennsylvania railroad, was dismissed by direction of President Cassatt. In

his testimony before the interstate commerce commission, Aikens said that while his salary had averaged between \$30 and \$126 per month he owned nearly \$75,000 worth of coal stock. He admitted having received checks from coal companies and also gifts from company stores.

## In Honor of Colonel Bryan

Chicago.—Plans are being made by both the Jefferson and Iroquois clubs to give banquets in honor of the return of William J. Bryan. It is expected that Governor Folk, Senator Tillman and ex-Senator Pettigrew will attend the Jefferson and Iroquois clubs.

## Bryan at German Springs

Karlsbad.—William J. Bryan, his wife, son and daughter, arrived here and left for Dresden today. Mr. Bryan's plans are somewhat uncertain, though he probably will proceed to St. Petersburg by way of Berlin.

## American to Build Railroad

Washington.—Papers have been signed and will soon be submitted to the Bolivian congress for ratification, whereby American capitalists will enter into an agreement to build a number of new railways for the Bolivian government.

## Angry Husband Kills Self

St. Louis, Mo.—After firing a bullet into the brain of his wife, Daniel Szellig shot and killed himself in his wife's boarding house. Szellig was a San Francisco refugee and committed the act because his wife, from whom he had been separated for several years, had refused to advance him money to start a tailor shop.

## Delayed in Constructing Balloon

Washington.—The war department has been advised that the completion of a war balloon ordered from a French firm has been delayed because of a rush of work for Walter Wellman's "airship." It is not probable that the balloon will arrive in time to be used in this year's mobilization maneuvers.

## Mystery in Murder of Woman

New York.—The police are not leaving a stone unturned in their efforts to capture the man who struck down Mrs. Alice H. Kinnan in her doorway and inflicting injuries from which she died later at the Fordham hospital. They believe jealousy was the motive for the murder. They are looking for a man who was nightly a caller at the house for the past two months, and are also looking for Mrs. Kinnan's husband, from whom she had been separated for eight years. It was believed he was dead, but recently he was reported alive and living in Brooklyn. Mrs. Kinnan was called to the door of her house and struck over the head with a club by a man, who disappeared in the darkness.

## BRYAN VS. ROOSEVELT

Ground-Swell of Opinion Toward Bryan Strikes Capital—Election Over Roosevelt Predicted

Washington, D. C., June 13.—(Special.)—The activity among the members of congress during the past week has exceeded that of any week during the session, although nothing has been accomplished that strikes the public eye with especial force. The fact is the members are becoming very anxious to complete the work of the session and return to their respective states where they feel that their presence is needed to keep the political machine in the ruts.

The exposures of revolting conditions in connection with the preparation of articles of food at the packing houses have caused a good deal of friction between the members of congress and senators representing the various states. Those representing the packing house states are besieged by the packers for protection against drastic regulation of their business. While the people from the other states are demanding in no uncertain tones that not only should drastic legislation for the control of the packing houses be passed, but that also an exacting pure food bill should be immediately passed. The exposures of the packing house products has called attention to the adulterations that enter into almost every article of merchandise that is susceptible of adulteration which investigation shows covers nearly the whole list of food products.

The ground swell of opinion towards Bryan for the nomination of the democratic party in 1908 struck the capital last week with terrific force. Perhaps no place in the country is Bryan so thoroughly appreciated as in Washington. Here are assembled the members who during the past ten years have sought to influence the opinion and action of the sturdy Nebraskan only to find that his convictions and opinions are not subject to the order of special interests or political bosses, and that Mr. Bryan himself was content to await the judgment of the people and bide his time, fully confident that he was right and must triumph in the end. Here it is believed that Roosevelt will be pitted against Bryan in the contest in 1908 and while opinion is divided upon the subject many of the men who are considered politically wise look for Mr. Bryan to triumph.

Two months ago Roosevelt was considered invincible, but his retreat and surrender on the rate bill, depriving the country of the great benefits that would accrue to them from the bill of the president had not yielded, and his betrayal of his allies have so weakened the president in the eyes of the country that he is now considered a quitter and more of a noise than of a substance. Yet he is the strongest candidate that the