

DREYFUS IS VINDICATED.

French Supreme Court Annals Captain's Condemnation. The French Supreme Court Thursday announced its decision, annulling the condemnation of Dreyfus without a retrial.

As the decision was pronounced the scene was one of impressive dignity. The court, consisting of forty-nine judges, gowned in flowing red robes, solemnly mounted the bench.

The reading of the decision lasted an hour and it was only at the close that the spectators realized the sweeping nature of the vindication.

History of Famous Case. Capt. Alfred Dreyfus was arrested on the charge of treason in Paris on Oct. 15, 1894.

For more than a year it was known to the French government that a traitor in the French war department was selling military secrets to foreign governments.

Dreyfus was arrested by Major Du Paty de Clam. Of five experts who compared the bordereau with the handwriting of Dreyfus two did not attribute it to him.

Dreyfus was convicted and publicly degraded on Jan. 5, 1895. He was taken before his regiment, drawn up in parade order.

On Feb. 9, 1895, Dreyfus was transported to Devil's island, off the coast of Cayenne.

Almost at once the French people, convinced that a great wrong had been done to an officer of the army, began an agitation for a revision of his trial.

There was a formidable, far-reaching conspiracy in the French army to prevent the vindication of Dreyfus.

Finally Emile Zola, the famous novelist, made himself the champion of Dreyfus. He wrote the celebrated "I accuse" letter, which aroused public opinion.

In the meantime Col. Henry had committed suicide in his cell after his arrest for forgery in connection with the case.

Dreyfus returned to France on July 1, 1899. His second court-martial began at Rennes on Aug. 7.

Gov. Hoch Against Hangings. Speaking of the fifty or more first-degree murderers now under sentence in Kansas, "at the will of the Governor," Gov. Hoch said: "I shall not will that those men be put to death, and, furthermore, the present Governor will never will the death of any man."

Andrew Carnegie, at Gravesend, when he was the first distinguished stranger to receive the freedom of the borough, said that he only understood one machine—the human one—and he always patted it on the back.

Melville Ingalls, the western railway man, commented once on a preacher's long sermon to a friend, who asked: "Dr. Blank is a most eloquent minister, is he not?" "Very eloquent," was the dry response of the railroad man, "but he has poor terminal facilities."

Senator Lodge's Secretary Sentenced. Judge De Courcy, in the Supreme Court at Boston, Monday, imposed sentence of ten months in the house of correction upon Robert G. Broton, formerly Senator Lodge's secretary, who was convicted of misappropriating \$225 of contributions to the Republican campaign fund of 1904.

James B. Reynolds of Boston has been assistant secretary of the United States treasury fifteen months and has signed his name somewhere close to 100,000 times. As a rule he uses up three fountain pens a week.

JOINS THE THEOSOPHISTS.

Lyman J. Gage, Former Secretary of Treasury, Goes to California. Lyman J. Gage, former Secretary of the Treasury, has given up financial life, in which he had been a most prominent figure in Chicago, Washington and New York for many years, and has taken up a residence, which he expects will be permanent, with the colony of theosophists at Point Loma, Cal., of which Madame Tingley is the high priestess.

While the news of Mr. Gage's action comes as a surprise to the financial world to those who have been thrown into intimate personal contact with the financier his leaning toward theosophy has long been known.

Slaters at Bangor, Me., who have been on strike for some time, recently succeeded in defeating a move to operate the plants with strike breakers.

The first member of Boston (Mass.) Newsboys' Protective Union to go to Harvard under the union's scholarship fund will begin his studies this year.

Fourteen more machine shops, some of them the largest in the vicinity of Boston, Mass., have established the fifty-hour work week for the machinist within the last month or so.

The memorial fund started three months ago by the United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners for the widow and family of the late P. J. McGuire aggregates nearly \$4,000.

Brockton, Mass., the great shoe-working center, has enjoyed "industrial peace" since 1898, and has seen wages advance from 10 to 20 per cent, while the shoe industry has increased one-third.

Organized workmen of Reading, Pa., have about perfected their plans for the erection of an ice-making plant to fight the ice trust.

Boston Bricklayers' Union, which has declared 60 cents an hour, and the Saturday half-holiday as new rules, has so few men on strike for the new conditions that it is not even maintaining a strike headquarters.

The executive board of the Massachusetts State branch of the American Federation of Labor has decided to request Gov. Guild to select one member of organized labor for the proposed technical trade school commission.

Plans are being made by the Baggage and Parcel Delivery Drivers' Union, at Chicago, to increase the wages of single wagon drivers employed by firms in the Expressmen's and Furniture Movers' Association from \$13 to \$14 a week.

West Virginia Federation of Labor, in its Wheeling convention, recently passed resolutions giving permission to delegates to enter politics and to have committees in each county for the purpose of investigating the assertions of all political candidates.

The strike of street car men at Allentown, Pa., took on a serious aspect Tuesday, when a platoon of State constabulary fired into a crowd and injured a boy.

Pittsburg reports a reaction from the speculative in favor of the industrial market, to the discomfort of the brokers, but to the comfort of the rest of the community.

The A. F. of L. issued 215 charters during the eight months, as follows: Three international unions, 4 State labor unions and 101 local trade unions.

As a result of the Dupont Powder Company's refusal to grant an eight-hour day to its employees, the works at Wilmington, Del., are badly crippled by a strike.

The New Zealand Trades and Labor conference passed a resolution that the arbitration act be amended to bring all State employees under its provisions.

Women cooks to the number of 150 have organized the Cooks' Union, of New York. All of its members so far are working in Yiddish restaurants on the East Side.

A basket nailing machine has been invented which promises to do away with the present system of nailing by hand.

James A. Garfield of New York has purchased a big farm house on Prudence island, in Narragansett bay, where he will establish a hospital for crippled children.

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Nearly 200,000 artisans are on strike at present in France.

Navy yard machinists at Boston have been granted an advance of 24 cents a day.

Steps are being taken to organize the hotel and restaurant employes of Minneapolis.

Toronto (Canada) electrical workers have gone on strike. They wish 35 cents an hour, the present pay being 27 1/2 cents.

A new union of quarry workers has been organized in Mankato, Minn., under the jurisdiction of the Quarry Workers' International Union.

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PACKERS GET CLEAN BILL.

Investigators Find Meat In Wholesale and Yard Methods Good. The committee of experts engaged by the Illinois Manufacturers' Association and the Chicago Commercial Association to investigate conditions at the Chicago stock yards has made its reports, giving the packing plants a clean bill of health.

The report covers a period of two weeks, during which the committee inspected conditions in fourteen packing houses. On many points the inquiry showed conditions satisfactory.

Night cleaning system is ample. Carcasses of sheep, cattle and hogs never touch floors. Ante-mortem examination less important than post-mortem.

Preserved meat can be spoiled by improper handling. Federal inspection laws sufficiently rigid. Condemnation of young carcasses too strict.

Yards not injurious to live animals confined therein. Cattle inspection rigid. Hog inspection reasonably efficient. Sheep inspection less thorough. Cripples and "downers" sometimes wholesome.

The experts made recommendations touching sanitation in brief as follows: Abolition of old sections of all plants. Obedience of bosses to anti-spitting rule.

More and modern toilet rooms. Impervious material for killing floors. Better light and ventilation for cutting and trimming rooms. Installation of fly screens.

Workers' clothing should be cleaned daily. Requiring workmen to wash hands. Hospital for sick animals advised.

As to methods in vogue, improvements urged were in short as follows: Preservatives should be subjected to further inquiry. Supervision on all materials used for canned goods.

Correct and explicit labels on cans. Clearer methods of handling sausage meat. Responsibility for any meat unfit for human consumption that may in the future get into interstate or foreign commerce is placed squarely with the federal authorities.

The committee of experts represents that it has examined the meat inspection bill recently passed by Congress and finds that its provisions are so stringent that government inspectors are to blame if any unwholesome meat is passed.

FOREIGN POSTAGE IS REDUCED.

Universal Congress Agrees Upon a Rate Beneficial to Commerce. In connection with the work of the recent universal postal congress, the Postoffice Department has given out the following statement as to the effect of one of the provisions of that convention as affecting this country:

The universal postal congress, recently in convention at Rome, Italy, ordered a substantial reduction in letter postage by increasing the unit of weight, effective on and after Oct. 1, 1907, from fifteen to twenty grams, and providing that while postage on the first twenty grams shall remain at 25 centimes (5 cents), every additional twenty grams shall be at the rate of 15 centimes (3 cents).

"Great Britain and the United States strongly urged that the unit of weight for them should be fixed at one ounce, as it would be extremely difficult for them to express an equivalent weight for twenty grams, not having adopted the metric system. This request was granted. This will give the two great countries exceptionally low rates for the exchange of letters. Under the reduced rates a letter to Great Britain will cost 5 cents for the first ounce and 3 cents for the second ounce, or 8 cents for two ounces. In other words, when the new rates become effective a letter packet weighing six ounces can be sent to Great Britain at the rate now charged for a two-ounce packet."

King Edward adores plovers' eggs, which he generally spreads on Russian black bread.

Sir Wilfred Lawson is said to be rejoiced over the fact that 150 of the new members of the House of Commons are total abstainers.

The lord chancellor is custodian of England's "great seal," which in one month uses up more than four hundred-weight of seal wax.

Emile Castelar, the great Spanish statesman, once declared that "the bomb throwing anarchist is a degenerate, whose brain has been excited by debauches or ideas."

Prince von Bulow, during his recent illness, received a letter from a veterinary surgeon urging him to take the contents of a bottle accompanying it. The medicine's efficacy had been fully tested, he wrote, on horses suffering from sunstroke.

Frederick VIII, King of Denmark, is said to be in the habit of inviting editors of leading political organs to visit the castle to discuss the different political issues of the day.

Prince Kotchouff, a Russian, has been ordered by the Berlin courts to pay \$780 a year for life to a waiter whom he assaulted during the Russo-Japanese war in a Dresden hotel.

King Alfonso of Spain is devoted to the pleasures of the table, and keeps a cook up until 4 in the morning. Five meals are served in the twenty-four hours at the Escorial palace.

HIGH TIDE IN CROPS.

The following table shows for each of the States having 1,000,000 acres or upward in corn the acreage compared with that of last year, on a percentage basis, and the condition on July 1 of this year, with the respective ten-year July averages:

Table with columns: State, Acreage compared with last year, July 1, 1905, av. ga., Ten-year July averages. Rows include Illinois, Iowa, Nebraska, Kansas, Texas, Missouri, Indiana, Georgia, Kentucky, Tennessee, Alabama, North Carolina, Arkansas, Mississippi, Indian Territory, Oklahoma, South Carolina, Virginia, South Dakota, Minnesota, Wisconsin, Pennsylvania, Louisiana, Michigan, and United States.

Indications that American farmers this year will harvest the largest grain crops in the history of the country are given in the government report on condition as of July 1, and nothing now seems in the way of unprecedented prosperity throughout the farming regions.

Not only is the prospect for a bountiful harvest most bright, but market quotations show that the farmer will get a fair price for his grain, while reports from Europe are that the wheat crop will be 150,000,000 bushels short of that of 1905, indicating that the export demand will be large, and that America will have to fill a good share of it.

It was thought when last year's bountiful crops were harvested that the high-water mark for production in the United States had been reached. The percentage estimates of condition of the Department of Agriculture this year, however, indicate that even that record will be surpassed in spite of the fact that the oats crop bids fair to fall short by 80,000,000 bushels.

The total crop of all grains this year promises to be 4,291,444,000 bushels, using the July 1 condition as a basis of calculations. This is about 5,000,000 bushels above the indication at this time last year, but 217,000,000 below the final figures.

The weather in all the great grain-producing States, however, since July 1 has been all that could be desired, and the prospects are that the final figures will be as much, if not more, above the July promise this year as they were last year.

The fields upon which these immense crops are growing, or from which they already have been harvested in some instances, aggregate more than 177,000,000 acres. The following table shows the number of acres devoted to each grain, with comparisons with last year.

Table with columns: Crop, 1906, 1905, Acreage. Rows include Winter wheat, Spring wheat, Corn, Oats, Rye, and Barley.

The corn crop, of course, is in an early stage of development, and between this time and harvest last year gained an aggregate of 175,000,000 bushels, while oats gained 60,000,000 bushels. Corn is now nearly 60,000,000 bushels ahead of the July 1 indication of a year ago, although it is not as far advanced and its general condition is a little lower.

Oats started July with a prospect about 80,000,000 bushels below that of a year ago, but the acreage this year is a little larger and it is barely possible that the shortage may yet be reduced.

It is a significant fact that the government was compelled to raise its winter wheat crop estimate of a month ago by about 12,000,000 bushels. The short straw proved very deceptive. The threshers have laid bare the deception by turning out plump, heavy grain from well filled heads.

On the question of quality alone the winter wheat of the United States can go into the markets of the world unchallenged. The department is being deluged with supplemental reports from its agents showing out turns from the thrasher far above the original estimates as made up previous to July 1, from which statistics this report was compiled.

The rye area of the United States is small, and the present promise is a trifle short of last year's.

The barley crop is a large one, and shows expansion in area. It is rapidly nearing harvest with a yield of record-breaking proportions.

The average condition of the growing corn crop on July 1 was 87.5, as compared with 87.3 on July 1, 1905, 88.4 at the corresponding date in 1904, and a ten-year average of 86.4.

The average condition of winter wheat on July 1 was 85.6, as compared with 83 last month, 82.7 on July 1, 1905, 78.7 at the corresponding date in 1904, and a ten-year average of 79.4.

The average condition of spring wheat on July 1 was 91.4, as compared with 93 last month, 91 on July 1, 1905, 93.7 at the corresponding date in 1904, and a ten-year average of 88.2.

The average condition of winter rye on July 1 was 91.3, as compared with 92.7 on July 1, 1905, 88 at the corresponding date in 1904 and a ten-year average of 90.1.

The acreage of potatoes, excluding sweet potatoes, is less than that of last year by 38,000 acres or 1.3 per cent. The average condition on July 1 was 91.5, as compared with 91.2 on July 1, 1905, 93.1 at the corresponding date in 1904, and a ten-year average of 92.1.

The acreage of tobacco is less than that of last year by about 40,000 acres, or 5.2 per cent. The average condition on July 1 was 86.7, against 87.4 one year ago.

That it is practicable for any farmer or gardener to advance the growth and quality of table vegetables through the direct application of electric current, and with very little expense, is in process of demonstration by Warren H. Rawson of Boston. Heretofore this has been done by the use of electric lights. Mr. Rawson found that if a copper plate was sunk in the loam at one end of the bed and connected by an overhead wire, with a zinc plate in the soil at the other end of the bed, a measurable current of electricity was set up from chemical action of the ammonia and other salts upon the zinc plate. He found that lettuce thus treated was ready for market a week ahead of that in the ordinary, and the heads were also larger.

In the Superior Court at Los Angeles Tuesday a decree of divorce was granted to Mrs. Charles T. Scamell on the ground that her husband was afflicted with the disease of tuberculosis. Before their marriage, she said, he had repeatedly assured her that he was sound in body and free from all diseases.

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LYMAN J. GAGE.

took a deep interest in that cult. This interest has grown since Mrs. Gage's death.

Even so far back as 1892, when he was one of the great directing forces of the world's fair in Chicago, Mr. Gage gave much thought to theosophy. In a personal talk with a correspondent, he said at that time that he believed theosophy explained many things that all other religions and even science left in darkness.

FIRE INSURANCE RATES HIGHER

Western Union Takes Action on Certain "Unprofitable Risks." Advances in fire insurance rates on thirteen classes of heretofore "unprofitable risks," including mercantile stocks and packing plants, have been announced, as a result of a meeting of the Western Union company managers.

Chicago, St. Louis, Cleveland, Cincinnati, Milwaukee and Louisville are "excepted cities," their rates being made by the local boards of underwriters. The Chicago board will consider the Western Union's new schedule.

The increases decided upon are shown in the following table:

Table with columns: Loss, Ratio Increase shown, needed. Rows include Colleges and schools, Churches, Boots and shoes, Elevators and contents, Flour, feed and grist mills, Furnitures, chair, coffin, piano and billiard table factories, Summer hotels, Merchandise, wholesale and retail, including wholesale groceries, Metal works, including machine shops and foundries, Mining risks, Packing houses, Paper mills, Sawmills.

Thirty-seven other "unprofitable" classes are under consideration for advances. The object of the move is to strengthen the companies weakened by San Francisco losses.



John D. Rockefeller was offered \$1,000 for a fifteen-minute conversation by the Paris Matin.

George Westinghouse, the inventor of the air brake, has been described as "a hundred horse power man."

Mayor Ekers of Montreal is addressed personally as "your worship," and in the third person as "his worship."

Dr. Francis P. Kinnicut of New York has been elected president of the Association of American Physicians.

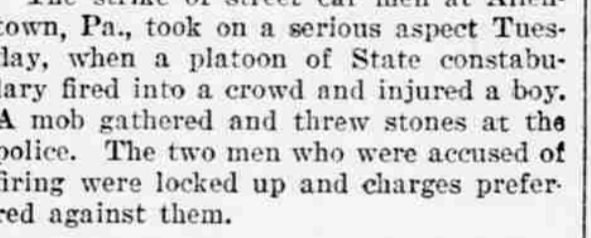
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