BALLOONS IN RACE.

FOUR GREAT NATIONS VIE IN AERIAL CONTEST.

Nine Teams of Leading Countries of the World Race Amid the Clouds at the International Airship Contest at St. Louis.

Nine mammoth balloons, representing four of the great nations of the world, started at St. Louis Monday afternoon on a voyage which was expected to add an important chapter to the history of aerial navigation.

The contest was known officially as the second international aeronautic cup race, and the prize, a massive silver trophy and $2,500 in cash, was to be awarded to the pilot whose skill and daring should land his car farthest from the starting point. As the balloons were of similar design and material the race would go to the French, English, German or American aeronaut who was capable of taking the best advantage of favorable winds and who lost the least ground under adversity.

The race marked the entrance of the United States into competition with the European nations in a field which had been left almost exclusively to them in the past. It was through the winning of the cup last year in a race from Paris by Lieutenant Frank P. Lahm of the United States army that the contest was brought to this country. The three American teams are all that were allowed to enter under the rules of the competition, but so great has interest grown that the Aero Club of America, which was in charge, could have entered many times the number of balloons permitted.

The average person who reads about balloon ascensions has very little idea of the amount of moral and physical courage it requires to remain up in the clouds after the first twenty-four hours. The strain on the nervous system is something hard to describe until it has been experienced. One gets in that state where he can not trust his eyes and frequently imagines he sees great bodies of water beneath him when he is hundreds of miles away from any coast. In a balloon it frequently happens that you see the lights of a city directly in front of you as you look down from the basket, and in a few minutes the city may have fallen squarely behind you. But that does not prove by any means that you have sailed over it. Oftentimes the balloon is whirling around, and you seem to have swept over a town when in fact you may not have moved fifty yards.

In addition to the international event, in which only ordinary balloons were allowed to compete, the St. Louis Aero Club offered $5,000 in other prizes to be competed for by any who had an air craft to enter. In this competition dirigible, or balloons propelled by motors, took part, as well as aeroplanes, or any other type of balloon or airship that has demonstrated that it is anything more than an experiment.

TO PAY LOUISE'S DEBTS, QUEEN SELLS HER GEMS.

An auctioneer has been commissioned to sell the linens, jewels, souvenirs, etc., belonging to the late Queen of Belgium, the proceeds to be devoted to paying the debts of her daughter, Princess Louise, who was divorced last year by Prince Philip of Saxe-Coburg and Gotha. Among the objects thus to be sold is a diadem presented to the queen by the people of Belgium on the occasion of her silver wedding anniversary. The diadem cost $30,000.

Dr. Cooke Ahead of Peary.

That another famous American explorer, Dr. Frederick A. Cooke of Brooklyn, N. Y., is now at the head of an expedition safely in winter quarters at Etah, Greenland, 650 miles south of the north pole and north of the farthest Peary station, became known when John R. Bradley, the wealthy New York sportsman, returned to North Sydney on his schooner yacht after landing Cooke, with sleds, dogs and provisions for two years. Mr. Bradley, who is the financial backer of this expedition, says that their intentions were kept secret for fear that the Peary expedition would be stirred to greater activity. Cooke will leave Smith's Sound at 79 degrees north latitude, next spring, and after crossing Ellesmereland, will try to reach the pole by the open polar sea. Unlike Peary, Dr. Cooke is to be accompanied by only two Eskimos and dogs sufficient for two sleds. The sleds are built with roofs and warmed with lamps so that the occupants may sleep while progress is being made. Two canvas boats are also carried

From Far and Near.

The best glass eyes cost about $50 each.

Mrs. H. D. Money, wife of the Senator from Mississippi, died suddenly at her home near Beauvoir, Miss.

The body of Mrs. W. F. Turner, a niece of the late Samuel J. Tilden, was taken from the river at Detroit. She had committed suicide.

The Navy Department has awarded to Armour & Co., Chicago, the contract for furnishing 1,000,000 pounds of beef at $70,800. This is part of the supplies for the Pacific cruise of the battleship squadron.

WHY JAPAN WANTS NO WAR.

Another Struggle Would Impose an Unbearable Financial Strain.

Japan's national debt is $1,100,000,000, a sum equaling almost one-seventh of her total national wealth. Of this amount $571,135,500 represents loans made abroad for carrying on the wars with China and with Russia, and the remainder internal obligations. These loans bear, on an average, 5 per cent interest, making her interest item alone some $55,000,000 annually. To meet this debt, principal and interest, and to provide for her running expenses, Japan has a revenue, estimated, for the present year, at $308,227,000, derived in large part from direct taxation on land, incomes, business, mining, customs, sugar, bourses, etc. The fact that this estimate exceeds that of 1904 by $144,494,000 affords a striking illustration of the increasing strain upon the taxpayer in paying the cost of wars. Furthermore, there has been an increase in the annual pension expense of Japan of from $15,000,000 to $18,000,000 during the past two years. Another war would mean more interest charges, increased pensions and heavier taxes upon a people already overburdened with war debt.

Japan could not hope to prosecute a war against the United States with less expense than that of her struggle against Russia, even if she were successful in obtaining the necessary funds for conducting the conflict. It will be recalled that her 40-year 5 per cent bonds for her $115,000,000 loan in London and Paris last March brought only 99½, whereas gilt-edged, 40-year, 5 per cent investment securities ought to bring more than par. If it is true that the money markets determine wars in these days it is clear that war between the United States and Japan is not among the possibilities of the immediate future.

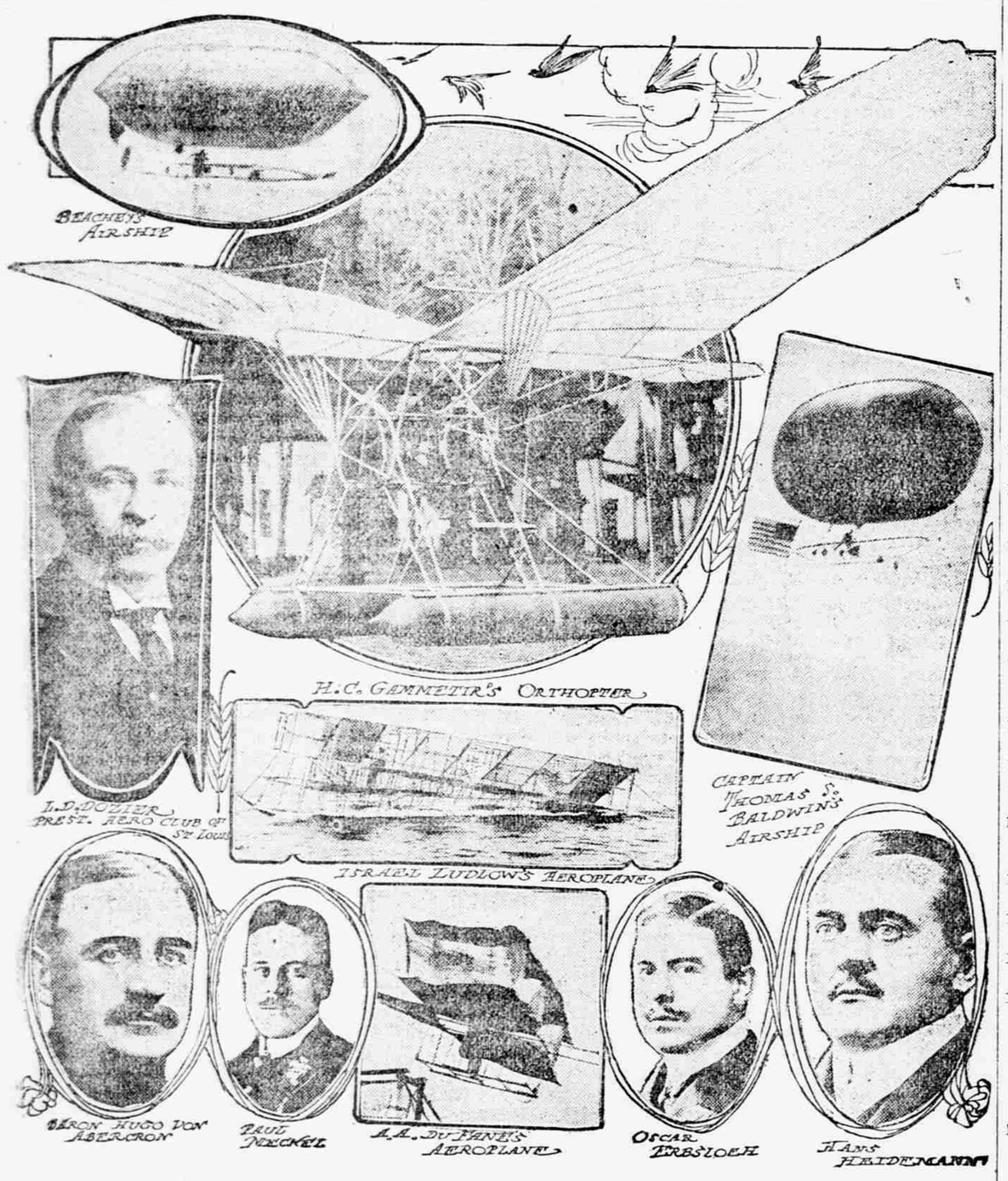
A Successful Airship.

It would seem that Count Zeppelin, the German enthusiast who has exhausted his fortune in aerial accomplishments, has at last won a triumph which bids fair to delay or perhaps render impossible the victory of the aeroplane over the dirigible balloon. He has driven his latest airship at the rate of thirty-eight miles an hour. In his recent trial, Count Zeppelin completely circumnavigated the Lake of Constance, remaining in the air for four hours and seventeen minutes, leaving astern the steamers that tried to keep up with him, passing over five different states and making evolutions before the windows of the royal castle at Friedrichshaven.

New Type of Motor Boat.

In France there has recently been launched a motor boat in which the screw propeller is placed at the bow instead of at the stern. This is the invention of Andre Gambin, who claims that the boat is non-capsizable. The screw is known as a "typhonoid." It consists of a number of blades symmetrically distributed around an axis terminating in a cylindrical tube. Each blade is composed of two surfaces, one of which is spiral-cylindrical, like a loosely rolled sheet of paper, with its inner edge at the axis and its outer portion forming part of the enveloping tube. The other surface is smaller, inclined and helicoidal like the blade of an ordinary propeller. It extends from the front end of the cylinder to a spiral line some distance behind the front of the first surface or sheet, the front edges of both blades being riveted together so as to form a cutting edge that slopes back from the apex to the circumference. This motor is expected to develop a speed of sixty miles an hour with 100 horse-power.

AERONAUTS OF FOUR NATIONS COMPETE AT ST. LOUIS IN GREAT AERIAL RACE FOR RECORD.



1171—Henry II. landed in Ireland and styled himself King of All Hibernia.

1448—Turks defeated the Hungarians at battle of Cossovo.

1520—Magellan discovered and entered the strait which bears his name.

1540—De Soto and his force engaged in battle with the Mobile Indians in Alabama.

1582—The Gregorian calendar introduced.

1612—Champlain arrived in Canada to take up his work as governor of the country.

1630—First general court in America held at Boston.

1631—Massachusetts Puritans limited suffrage to members of the church.

1668—Jean Talon resigned his office as Intendant of New France.

1675—Hatfield, Mass., repulsed an attack of Indians under King Philip.

1690—Massachusetts invaders retired from before Quebec without making an attack....An English fleet from Massachusetts attacked Quebec.

1692—British government took away William Penn's proprietary rights in Pennsylvania.

1710—Port Royal, S. C., captured by an English fleet.

1725—First issue of the New York Gazette, first newspaper in that city.

1746—Bill introduced in the New York Assembly to raise money for the erection of Columbia college.

1775—Town of Falmouth (Portland), Maine, burned....American troops captured Chambly, Quebec....Peyton Randolph, first president of the Continental Congress, died.

1777—Americans repulsed British attack on Fort Mercer, Red Bank, N. J.

1781—Lord Cornwallis surrendered at Yorktown, Va.

1788—President Washington started on a tour of the Northern States.

1793—Marie Antoinette guillotined.

1800—Spain ceded the territory of Louisiana to France.

1803—Congress assembled in extra session to act on the Louisiana Purchase treaty.

1805—Horatio Lord Nelson killed at the battle of Trafalgar.

1812—American sloop Wasp defeated the British brig Frolic off the coast of Virginia.

1813—Napoleon defeated at the battle of Leipsic.

1826—The last "State Lottery" drawing held in England.

1828—The Delaware and Chesapeake canal opened.

1831—Arms' bill passed for the repression of crime and insurrection in Ireland.

1834—British Parliament houses, Westminster, destroyed by fire.

1839—Charles Edward Poulett Thomson succeeded Sir John Colborne as governor of Canada.

1842—First submarine telegraph in America laid between Governor's Island and New York.

1845—Mme. Sarah Bernhardt, French tragedienne, born.

1846—Nathan Clifford of Maine became Attorney General of United States.

1849—Chopin, the great musical composer, died in Paris.

1852—Abd-el-Kaedir, deposed ruler of Algiers, released from his confinement by Louis Napoleon.

1853—Filibusters, under Col. William Walker, sailed from San Francisco to establish a pro-slavery colony in lower California.

1856—Seven persons killed in panic in London while Mr. Spurgeon was preaching.

1859—Col. Robert E. Lee captured John Brown and his men at Harper's Ferry.

1861—Col. Baker, friend of Lincoln, killed at battle of Balls Bluff....Stratford-on-Avon purchased the birthplace of Shakspeare.

1863—Gen. Grant appointed to the command of the western armies.

1864—Gen. Sheridan turned defeat into victory at Cedar Creek.

1866—Austria evacuated Lombardy.

1872—Steamship Missouri burned at sea with loss of 87 lives.

1883—Cetewayo, king of the Zulus, surrendered to the British.

1884—Marquis of Lansdowne sworn in as governor general of Canada.

1889—King Carlos of Portugal ascended the throne.

1892—World's Columbian Exposition at Chicago formally dedicated.

1904—Frederick Augustus III., ascended the throne of Saxony.

A Floating Trout Pond.

One of the novel features of the steamship Amerika of the Hamburg-American line is a tank in which fish, principally trout and carp, are kept alive and served to customers in the restaurant when ordered. The tanks are of zinc, and the water is supplied with oxygen by pumping air through perforated pipes extending into the water. More than 500 fresh trout and 150 carp were sold on a recent trip from Hamburg to New York.

MAGILLS SET FREE.

Judge at Decatur Declares Murder Is Not Proven.

Fred H. Magill and his young wife, Faye Graham Magill, are not guilty of the murder of Mrs. Pet Gandy Magill at Clinton, Ill., last May. So declared the jury in the case at Decatur, acting under instructions of Judge Cochran, who said that, while the State had proved beyond a doubt the death of the first Mrs. Magill, it had failed to show that a murder had been committed. This being the case, the jury was ordered to bring in a verdict of not guilty.

On May 31 Mrs. Pet Magill was found dead in her home at Clinton, Ill., and a post-mortem examination held six weeks after her death showed that she had been suffocated by chloroform.

On July 5 in Denver, Colo., Fred Magill and Miss Faye Graham, a young woman who had been a close friend of the family, were married.

Four days later in San Diego, Cal., Magill and his second wife were arrested on a charge of murdering the first Mrs.

FRED H. MAGILL. FAYE MAGILL.

Magill. They were brought back to Clinton on requisition papers issued by Gov. Deneen, and secured a change of venue to Decatur.

In the trial the State charged that Magill and Miss Graham by their conduct had driven Mrs. Magill to suicide, and were therefore guilty of murder. The defense introduced letters written by Mrs. Magill shortly before her death, in which she complained of "unbearable headaches" and constant "nagging" of her husband's relatives. Witnesses also testified that Mrs. Magill had often talked of committing suicide.

In a letter to her husband, written the day before her death, Mrs. Magill asked him to marry Faye Graham in case anything should happen to her.

Mrs. Besant Against Moral Code.

In her address before the twenty-first annual convention of the American section of the Theosophical Society a Chicago, Mrs. Annie Besant, the new world president of the organization, took a pronounced stand against the adoption of a fixed moral code, and against the imposition of penalties by the society for any individual action. She held that Theosophists are at one in their desire to raise the moral tone of society, and they differ only as to whether their ideas should be enforced by penalties. For herself, she would stand for the affirmation of their ideals and for efforts to live up to them. She said: "I appeal to the unfolding divinity in man, and not to the beggarly elements of coercive laws; I gladly affirm my brotherhood with the lowest, as I reverently hope to be accepted as brother by the highest." She said further that none of the great religions had a penalty enforcing its commandments by exclusion, but, on the contrary, they regarded it as a primary duty to try to improve their evil-doers. She thought the Theosophical Society would not wish to copy the example of those churches which employ heresy trials and excommunications. Such a code would be the denial of brotherhood. In illustrating her point of view in one of her talks, Mrs. Besant used the personality of John D. Rockefeller as an example, saying that in his next incarnation he would probably reappear as a highly developed and perfected individual; in fact, almost an angel. She explained that he would probably retain all of his capacity for doing things, and slough off the baser motives and aims actuating his present career. The society voted by a large majority against the proposed code.

Prairie Schooner on Broadway.

New York City recently witnessed the novel spectacle of an old-fashioned prairie schooner drawn by a yoke of oxen passing down Broadway. This outfit was the property of Ezra Meeker, who had come all the way from Puyallup in the State of Washington, traversing the old Oregon trail, over which he went to the Pacific coast in 1856, from his home in Ohio. Mr. Meeker's purpose in making the trip east is to arouse public sentiment in favor of a bill which he will have introduced in Congress at its next session, to build a permanent concrete road along the route of the old trail in commemoration of the pioneers who constituted the advance guard to the West. It is his intention to go to Oyster Bay to see the President, and will afterwards proceed to Washington.

War Until End of Time.

In a recent address in the army chapel on Governor's Island, Bishop Henry C. Potter expressed the belief that while the objects of The Hague conference were very beautiful, they were only a dream. He called the armies of the world the police of the world, contending that their existence was as necessary to the safety of the globe as was the existence of the police to the safety of a man in his home at night. He did not believe that peace would ever prevail, for, said he: "Until the last day of the earth there will be armies and there will be wars."

Interesting News Items.

Railway firemen on all eastern lines will demand an increase in wages in the near future. It will be refused by the companies, officials say.

In Springfield, Ohio, George F. Niuffer, former member of the board of public service, was sentenced to one year in the penitentiary for padding payrolls.

Policeman Anton Bachman was shot and killed by Peter Garrity, a plumber, in Cincinnati. Garrity, it is said, was intoxicated and fired apparently without provocation.

Labor World

The International Spinners' Union has decided on the establishment of a defense fund.

The international convention of Steamfitters and Helpers will be held in Detroit, Mich., next year.

The Wisconsin State Federation of Labor has started a movement for the adoption of a universal union label.

In Canada the boot and shoe industry employs almost 13,000 wage earners. The annual wage list amounts to $4,644,171.

The International Marble Workers' Union, while a small one, represents an almost absolute organization of the craft.

Los Angeles (Cal.) Central Labor Council has requested the American Federation of Labor to take steps to unionize trades in that city.

Over six millions of dollars was paid out by organized labor in the United States last year for sick and death benefits, tool insurance, etc.

The average salary paid a national presiding officer of a labor union is about $2,500. In some cases the traveling expenses are added to this.

The 12,000 coat tailors of Manhattan, who went out on strike last summer while members of the Brotherhood of Tailors, are to form a new national organization of tailors.

The International Glove Workers' Association has voted to increase its per capita tax 25 per cent. The purpose of the increase is to organize unions in the smaller cities.

The Oklahoma State Federation of Labor at its recent meeting adopted a resolution in favor of woman suffrage, and proposes to make this a test question in supporting candidates.

The Rhode Island State Federation of Labor has petitioned the members of Congress for the enactment of a law which would prohibit government bands competing with civilian bands.

A universal price list and the general eight-hour workday in every section of the United States and Canada is the plan proposed by Boston (Mass.) Steel and Copper Plate Printers' Union.

The application of the box makers and sawyers for a charter in the American Federation of Labor has been referred to the officers of the Amalgamated Wood Workers for consideration. If it is found that the jurisdiction asked for does not clash with that of the wood workers the charter will in all probability be granted.

Two years ago, at the suggestion of the Rev. Charles Stelzle, superintendent of the Presbyterian department of church and labor, the custom of observing the Sunday preceding Labor day as "Labor Sunday" was introduced in the Presbyterian church. This year, it is announced, practically all of the 11,000 Presbyterian pastors in this country preached sermons analogous to the day, with appropriate exercises.

Kansas City, Mo., is going to have a labor temple, and that at no distant date. The corner stone for the new home for labor was laid a few weeks ago with impressive ceremonies. More than $30,000 has already been raised by voluntary subscriptions for stock, and to show the earnestness with which the union men have entered into the project, they have agreed to give one day's pay toward the fund to erect the temple.

The division of information of the Bureau of Immigration, of which T. V. Powderly is the chief, proposes to have well qualified men and women travel upon steamships and mingle with incoming aliens for the purpose of informing them of labor conditions in this country and what they may expect upon arrival here. Through these agents, too, it is expected to discover attempted violations of the alien contract labor law.

The ministers of Coffeyville, Kan., have adopted a union scale of prices for conducting funerals, and they propose extending their organization to all portions of the State. Recently one of the ministers was called to attend a funeral at a neighboring point. He paid his own car fare, hired a livery team and bought his own dinner after the funeral. The result was a meeting of the Ministerial Association and the adoption of a $5 fee for a funeral or no service.

Alexander Law, president of the Eight-Hour League of America, says that the object of the league is to make the demand for the universal eight-hour day the paramount issue in the next presidential campaign. The people are agreed that the eight-hour day is a good thing, he says, hence the time has arrived to make it universal in the country. Continuing, he says that all business will in time be compelled to work to an eight-hour level, and the greatest reform since the abolition of slavery will have been accomplished for all time when this is brought about.

The Supreme Court of the State of Michigan has handed down a decision of great importance to organized labor. It is as follows: "Workingmen have a right to fix a price upon their labor and refuse to work unless that price is obtained. Singly or in combination they have this right. They may use persuasion to induce men to join their organization, or refuse to work except for an established wage. They may present their cause to the public in the newspapers or circulars in a peaceable way, and with no attempt of coercion. If the effect in such a case is ruin to the employer, there is no redress, for they have only exercised their legal rights."

If plans of union men in Milwaukee, Wis., are carried out a new labor organization will be formed. It is to be composed of bellboys, porters, chambermaids, kitchen workers and various other help around hotels.

Labor unions of Vancouver, B. C., are much exercised over the threatened invasion of Japanese from Honolulu. The Vancouver labor market is greatly overstocked, yet the records show that upward of 2,500 Japanese laborers have arrived during the last few months, with the tendency toward greater arrivals in the future.