BATTLE ROYAL IN THE CHICAGO CONVENTION

Republican National Gathering Aside Will Determine Who Candidate Is to Be.

GREAT 1908 CAMPAIGN NOW ON.

In the Democratic Field, Washington Political Observers Think Bryan Is a Certainty.

Washington correspondence:

THIS city will be the center of the great political campaign which will rage from California to Maine until the ballots of next November determine the people's choice for President. From now on until the successor of Mr. Roosevelt is chosen there will not be an instant's intermission in the political battle.

Secretary Taft stands sharply in the limelight and his friends are redoubling their efforts in his behalf. The fact that he is the candidate of the administration is sure to have the effect of keeping Washington on the jump to watch every move. Senators Foraker and Knox and Secretary Cortelyou, also located in Washington, will help to keep the political pot furiously boiling in the capital. New York will get the height of its excitement from the fact that Gov. Hughes seems destined to be a factor of no small moment in the line-up of the contestants in Chicago. Vice President Fairbanks and Speaker Cannon, presiding officers respectively of the Senate and House, must inevitably keep these bodies embroiled in the stress growing out of their candidacy, and their home States of Indiana and Illinois are likely to feel the heat.

Between these men, Taft, Knox, Hughes, Foraker, Fairbanks and Cannon, the convention at Chicago is regarded an open chance. All are powerfully backed, all will push their campaigns with that energy for which the American politician is famous. For them will be expended limitless eloquence, and in their interest the quiet work, which appears little on the surface, but which means so much in the final result, will keep forces of trained men busy from now on until the nomination is made.

For the first time in twenty years the Republican convention will see a real battle. The gathering that nominated Benjamin Harrison in 1888 was an open fight much similar to the one that promises for this year. In 1892 the renomination of Harrison was a foregone conclusion; in 1896 the movement against free silver had fixed on McKinley in advance of the convention as the man to lead the fight; and in 1900 not a shadow of opposition developed against his renomination. Similarly Roosevelt outranked in popularity every name suggested for the Republican nomination. But this year the quadrennial upheaval will be made still mor chaotic by the sharpness of the Republican battle.

Democratic Fight Different.

The Democratic fight is a little different. There is no mixed field with the hopes even. It is everybody against Bryan. In opposition to the Nebraskan will be welded all the forces that contend that his two defeats for the place eliminate him, but though Judge Gray, Gov. Johnson of Minnesota, Chanler of New York, and Hoke Smith have been tentatively mentioned, there is no evidence of any boom powerful enough to prevail against the magnetic Nebraskan's undoubted strength in his party.

Six months of contention must take place before the two parties place their standard bearers in the field, the Republicans at Chicago, the Democrats at Denver. Meantime the nation's business will be swayed and moved by every new boom, by every straw, by every indication. Capital, sensitive above all things of which man has knowledge, will rejoice or tremble as this man or that seems to gain the ascendancy, and gigantic projects will hang fire pending the nominations.

And when the men are in the field, far from helping the situation, a new and even worse upheaval will take place. Frenzied stump speakers will tramp up and down the country, painting in horrible phrase the terrific experiences that confront the nation in the doleful event of the success of the opposition party. Platforms will be torn to pieces in this delirium of exhortation; men's lives, aims and characters riddled; the constitution of the country will be both invoked and condemned; the giants of business will on the one hand be extolled, on the other savagely condemned. And every speech, every mass meeting, each attack, will further send new tremors up and down the spinal cord of business.

The campaign will last four months, and in that time both parties will call on the biggest guns they have; the star speakers will be drafted to present the opposing arguments. As a forensic struggle the fight is bound to be more than ordinarily interesting. Each side has orators of the first rank, veterans who understand the art of stirring audiences.

Chicago Regulates Bake Shops.

One direct result of the recent agitation in Chicago concerning the filthy conditions of the city's bakeries is the passage of a regulating ordinance providing for the instant revocation of the baker's license if he fails to conform to the rules of cleanliness prescribed.

PRESIDENTIAL CAMPAIGNS SINCE 1856.

Good Things to Cut Out and Save for Reference.

There have been thirteen campaigns by the Republican and Democratic parties.

Republican Candidates.

1856—Fremont and Dayton.
1860—Lincoln and Hamlin.
1864—Lincoln and Johnson.
1868—Grant and Colfax.
1872—Grant and Wilson.
1876—Hayes and Wheeler.
1880—Garfield and Arthur.
1884—Blaine and Logan.
1888—Harrison and Morton.
1892—Harrison and Reid.
1896—McKinley and Hobart.
1900—McKinley and Roosevelt.
1904—Roosevelt and Fairbanks.

Democratic Candidates.

1856—Buchanan and Breckinridge.
1860—Douglas and Johnson.*
1864—McClellan and Pendleton.
1868—Seymour and Blair.
1872—Greeley and Brown.
1876—Tilden and Hendricks.
1880—Hancock and English.
1884—Cleveland and Hendricks.
1888—Cleveland and Thurman.
1892—Cleveland and Stevenson.
1896—Bryan and Sewall.
1900—Bryan and Stevenson.
1904—Parker and Davis.

*By the northern Democrats and Breckinridge and Lane by the southern Democrats.

Electoral Votes.

The number of electoral votes received by the two parties in these contests and the pluralities are shown here:

	Rep.	Dem.	Plu.
1856	114	174	60 D
1860	180	*72	108 R
1864	212	21	191 R
1868	214	80	134 R
1872	286	63	223 R
1876	185	184	1 R
1880	214	155	59 R
1884	182	219	37 D
1888	233	168	65 R
1892	271	176	132 D
1896	271	176	95 R
1900	292	155	137 R
1904	336	140	196 R

*The electoral vote of the Breckinridge-Lane ticket of the southern Democrats; the Douglas-Johnson ticket of the northern Democrats received 12.

PHEW! IT'S GETTING HOT.

PROGRESS OF THE THAW MURDER TRIAL

Court Refuses to Exclude the Public While Defendant's Wife Is on the Stand.

EVELYN A MATCH FOR JEROME.

Drops Child-Like Pose and Fences Well—District Attorney Merciless in His Examination.

Just as a year ago, Evelyn Nesbit Thaw has been the star witness in the second trial of her husband for the murder of Stanford White. District Attorney Jerome, of whom it had been hinted that he would spare the woman no mercy this time, asked that the public be excluded, and Littleton, for the defense, raised no objection, but Judge Dowling held that the prisoner had a right to a public trial.

During the first week Littleton devoted himself to demonstrate Thaw's insanity, by right of inheritance and by his actions from infancy to the climax of murder. His purpose in putting Evelyn Thaw on the stand was to demonstrate how the story of her abuse by White, which she says she told Thaw in Paris, acted on his erratic brain with such force as to make him irresponsibly insane.

Under his questioning she maintained her pose of the ingenuous school girl who in her innocence had been made the toy of a monster. But under Jerome's severe cross-examination she dropped the mask of girlish innocence which she had worn when sailing on the smooth waters of direct examination. She revealed herself as a shrewd woman of the world, at times more than a match for her questioner.

She told how, when he had learned of her relations with White, Thaw said: "Poor little girl, you have done no wrong." And yet, she was forced to admit, that within two weeks he made her his companion and started on a tour of Europe which lasted for months, during all of which time they traveled as man and wife.

Jerome also forced her to admit White's kindness to her, his sending her to school, his paying her surgeon's bill, and his furnishing both her and her mother with money. She also admitted that White gave her and her mother money with which to go to Europe, and that once there she went direct to Harry Thaw's quarters.

Evelyn told her story much as she did a year ago, leaving out some of the most indecent details and adding a few more incidents. Mrs. Thaw had a remarkably clear recollection as to what she had testified to a year ago. Jerome confronted her with hundreds of the statements made then, in the hope of confusing her or leading her into contradictions, but she adhered to her story in every detail.

LEADING FIGURES IN THE THAW TRIAL.

MILLION DOLLAR FIRE.

City Hall and Police Buildings of Portland, Me., Destroyed.

Fire which caused damage of $1,600,000 destroyed the Portland, Me., city hall and police buildings and endangered the lives of more than 700 persons. The city hall was occupied by city and county offices, while the police building sheltered the Supreme, judicial and municipal courts, in addition to the police department. Delegates attending the Western Maine Knights of Pythias jubilee were in the auditorium of the city hall when the flames were discovered, but only a few persons were hurt.

The estimated financial loss does not include papers in the office of the registrar of deeds, where everything was destroyed. Other city departments lost everything, with the exception of the city clerk's and treasurer's offices. One of the most valuable libraries in the State, the Greenleaf Law Collection, was destroyed, with a loss estimated at $10,000.

The fire originated in the city electrician's office and was caused by crossed wires, which made it impossible to ring a call for the fire department in any of the boxes.

The city hall survived the great fire of 1866, although it was damaged at that time. The building had a frontage of 150 feet and was 250 feet long. Its central dome rose 150 feet above the roof. The building was constructed of colored Nova Scotia Albert stone, and contained eighty rooms.

TERRORS OF "FRAT" INITIATION.

Sorority Ceremonies Shatter Nerves of Novitiate and Arouse Mothers.

The nerve racking, even though fancied, terrors of an initiation into a Greek letter society of girl students in private and preparatory schools in New York City caused a meeting of twenty angry mothers at the home of Mrs. Elizabeth Moore. Their first purpose is to break up the local organization of the Sigma Gamma Society, and their second is to start a campaign throughout the country against secret societies among school girls.

It was the story of Julia Mills, not yet 17, as told by her to her mother, that caused Mrs. Mills to take the first steps. Julia Mills was "initiated" the other night.

Miss Mills, according to her story, was summoned to appear at the Moore home. When she was ushered in she was led into a dimly lighted room between two columns of black robed, black masked figures, up to the high priestess.

"This will be a test of your fortitude, of your fitness to be a sister. You are ordered to thrust your hand into a small caldron of molten lead, which you see before you. Ready! Obey orders!"

Miss Mills dashed her hand into the liquid and sank to her knees in fright. After she recovered her composure in part she was surprised to note that the caldron was filled with mercury.

Suddenly the lights went out. Miss Mills felt the floor give way beneath her and she felt herself go down, down, and then land on the pillows.

The candidate was ordered to grasp the hand, for which she could only feel. Shuddering, she involuntarily drew back her arm when she felt the clammy fingers. She had grasped a wet chamois skin glove filled with sand.

Again she was led forth, this time to drink a nauseating liquid out of a skull, which liquid "would serve to make her of one blood with her other prospective sisters."

1546—Martin Luther preached his farewell sermon at Wittenberg.

1639—Civil government organized in Connecticut with the adoption of what is said to be the first written constitution known to history.

1666—Louis XIV. of France declared war on England.

1700—Lemoine d'Iberville took possession of the Mississippi in the name of France.

1712—Robert Walpole expelled from the House of Commons and committed to the Tower.

1751—First colonial assembly of Georgia met.

1766—Pitt advocated in Parliament the repeal of the stamp act.

1777—Vermont declared itself a free and independent State.

1778—France recognized independence of the United States.

1781—Americans defeated the British at battle of Cowpens.

1784—American Congress ratified the treaty with Great Britain.

1789—Charles IV. proclaimed King of Spain.

1797—Weekly mail service established between the United States and Canada.

1805—Michigan territory formed from a part of Indiana.

1809—English defeated the French at battle of Corunna.

1810—Masked balls prohibited in New York and Philadelphia.

1813—Americans repulsed the British at Frenchtown, on Lake Erie....John Armstrong of New York became Secretary of War.

1814—Thanksgiving in Great Britain for successes over Bonaparte...Bayonne invested by the British.

1816—The French standards taken at Waterloo deposited in the Chapel Royal, Whitehall.

1826—Phurtpore taken by the British under Lord Combermere.

1840—Steamboat Lexington burned on Long Island sound, with loss of 141 lives.

1847—Gov. Bent of New Mexico killed in an uprising of Mexicans.

1852—New constitution published by Louis Napoleon of France.

1854—William Walker, the filibuster, proclaimed the republic of Sonora in lower California.

1861—Lola Montez, adventuress who caused abdication of Louis Charles of Bavaria, died in poverty in New York.

1871—United States Supreme Court declared the legal tender act of 1862 constitutional....King William of Prussia proclaimed German Emperor.

1875—President Grant approved the act for resuming specie payments.

1875—Steamer City of Columbus wrecked off Gay Head, with loss of 97 lives ....New State capitol at Des Moines, dedicated.

1885—British force defeated the troops of the Mahdi at battle of Abu Klea.

1891—Parnell presided over meeting of Irish National League in Dublin.

1896—Capture of Coomassies and end of the Ashanti war.

1903—Several thousand lives lost in earthquake at Andijan, Russian Turkey.

1905—Japanese entered Port Arthur.... Fifty-nine lives lost in avalanche at Bergen, Norway.

Prussian Suffrage Uprising.

The desire for manhood suffrage in Prussia and the refusal of the German chancellor, Von Buelow, to meet the demand with consideration, culminated last Sunday in a tremendous demonstration at Berlin, where more than 70,000 Socialists and their friends attempted to parade the principal streets and to hold public meetings. Prior to this a procession before the Parliament building had been dispersed by the police with great violence after the Landtag had voted down the suffrage proposition without division. Von Buelow had told the Landtag that parades and riots would not influence the government a bit. Sternest measures were taken to preserve order on Sunday, large bodies of police and soldiers being stationed about the city. In most cases the parades were broken up, the police charging with swords and the people resisting with clubs and stones, so that many on both sides were injured. Thousands of women joined in the demonstrations, marching and singing with the men. Resolutions for the suffrage and the secret ballot were passed by all the meetings. The movement extends throughout Prussia.

Numerous Theater Indictments.

The grand jury at Kansas City, Mo., has returned 169 indictments against persons engaged in theatrical work, charged with violating the old Sunday closing law, many of those indicted being nonresident actors, who will have to return for trial or forfeit bonds. Each manager was indicted as many times as he had actors and employes working at his theater the preceding Sunday, on the theory that the employer violates the law as much by forcing his employes to work as does the employe by consenting to work.

RAILROAD OVER OCEAN NOW RUNNING TRAINS

Henry M. Flagler Has Line to Key West Already Partly Completed.

CONCRETE ARCHES ARE USED.

Novel Engineering Feat Is Described as the Most Remarkable in the World.

The most remarkable railroad in the world, which Henry M. Flagler is building on concrete arches through the shallow waters of the ocean along the garland of palm groves that cover the keys south of Florida, is now in operation for a distance of eighty-one miles to Knight's Key, and regular trains are running over it. Through sleeping cars will be provided from New York and Chicago, and they ultimately will be carried across on a ferry from Key West to Havana, making the distance in six hours. The railway is more than half done, and, as the present terminus at Knight's Key has all the facilities for handling the traffic, Mr. Flagler decided to place the completed portion in operation and have it earning the expense of maintenance, at least, while the remainder of the track is finished to Key West. Practically 80 per cent of all the construction work is done and everything will be ready for through trains to Havana by the opening of the tourist season next winter.

Knight's Key, the present terminus of the Flagler system, is 109 miles south of Miami, forty-seven miles north of Key West and 115 miles north of Havana. The road between Miami and Knight's Key is built twenty-eight miles upon the main land of Florida and eighty-one miles across and between forty-two keys. For nearly one-half of the distance the railway track passes over the water on concrete arches, whose foundations rest upon the bottom of the sea.

At the town of Homestead, twenty-six miles south of Miami, the track leaves the continent of North America and starts upon its way over the ocean. Seventeen miles south of that point it reaches Key Largo, the largest of the keys, which is fifteen miles long, and from there jumps from key to key by means of massive masonry and embankments of cement and coral rock. In crossing the deeper channels several drawbridges have been provided to permit of the passage of vessels. The intervening water between the forty-two keys varies in width from a few hundred feet to two miles or more, and in depth from a few inches to thirty feet. The embankments are rip-rapped with rock to prevent washing, and are defended by piles and every other device that the engineers could invent to protect the roadway from the attacks of the water, which is sometimes stirred up into great violence by the force of the wind. The track is thirty-one feet above high water, so that the passengers in the railway trains may sit in the windows of Pullman cars in serenity and have an opportunity of seeing how the Atlantic Ocean looks in a gale.

A severe earthquake razed houses on the island of Hayti.

Canada was officially assured that Japanese immigration would be restricted.

Japan and Canada came to a final agreement on the immigration question.

Mounted police had serious work to quell socialist riots in the streets of Berlin.

The peace terms submitted by the Shah of Persia were accepted, and peace again reigns in Teheran.

M. Bleriot, the noted aeronaut, fell from his machine, in Paris, and barely escaped with his life.

The Russian War Department ordered the formation of a war automobile corps, based on the German idea.

Henry Farnam, French aeronaut, won a $10,000 prize for piloting an aeroplane successfully four-fifths of a mile.

Berlin was brought face to face with the problem of feeding 12,000 starving school children during the winter.

European students of affairs declared the only hope for Portugal's salvation was the establishing of a republic.

A sensation was caused in the German court scandal by the revelation that a sister of the Kaiser supplied the information upon which the accused Harden based his editorial attacks.

Prince Bernard of Saxeweimar, who renounced his rank to wed the widowed Countess Lucchesini, died in Berlin.

Russia was reported to be considering the construction of five squadrons of battleships at an estimated cost of $2,000,000,000.

Japanese authorities professed great concern over reports from the United States indicating the adoption of a strict exclusion measure.

The pretender was proclaimed Sultan of Morocco under condition that he would expel the French troops and reject the Algeciras convention.