

THE WEEKLY HISTORIAN



- 1634—First settlement in Maryland, that of St. Mary's, founded.... Lord Baltimore's first colony landed in Maryland.
- 1662—Public inauguration of omnibuses in Paris under a royal decree of Louis XIV.
- 1719—Spanish armada dispersed by a storm.
- 1744—France declared war against England.
- 1766—Stamp act repealed by the British Parliament.
- 1804—Louisiana territory divided into two sections by act of Congress.
- 1806—France restored the old relations with the little republic of Andorra, in the Pyrenees.
- 1812—New Spanish constitution promulgated by the Cortes.
- 1818—United States Congress granted pensions to needy veterans of the Revolutionary war.
- 1820—Bank of New Brunswick incorporated.
- 1836—First issue of the Philadelphia Public Ledger.
- 1849—Charles Albert of Sardinia abdicated in favor of his son, Victor Emmanuel.
- 1854—France declared war against Russia.
- 1858—Nicaragua placed herself under the protection of the United States.
- 1860—Japanese embassy, first to leave Japan, arrived at San Francisco.... Treaty of Turin, by which France acquired Savoy and Nice.
- 1863—Prince William George of Denmark elected King of Greece.
- 1868—Admiral Farragut received by the Pope at Rome.
- 1871—French National assembly met at Versailles.
- 1874—Fiji Islands ceded to Great Britain.
- 1878—British warship "Eurydice" foundered.
- 1885—Rebels of Northwest Canada defeated Major Crozier at Duck Lake.
- 1887—Dakota suffered heavy loss through floods.
- 1891—The Canadian Pacific completed between Montreal and Vancouver.
- 1894—Coxey's "army" moved from Massillon to Canton, Ohio.
- 1895—Sixty miners killed in explosion at Erwin, Wyo.
- 1898—Port Arthur "leased" to Russia.
- 1905—William Warner elected United States Senator from Missouri.... Fifty-eight persons killed by boiler explosion in factory at Brockton, Mass.... United States took charge of the revenues of Santo Domingo.
- 1906—Two hundred and fifty men killed in a coal mine at Nagasaki, Japan.
- 1907—Twenty-six persons killed in Southern Pacific train wreck near Colton, Cal.

FOREIGN LANDS

The Russian duma has adopted unanimously an interpellation asking M. Kokovsov, the finance minister, to explain his reasons for inducing the emperor to issue a ukase about the end of January authorizing an international loan of \$85,000,000 in violation of a provision of the fundamental law requiring the sanction of the duma in all budget operations.

The Belgian Parliament received from King Leopold's ministers a new annexation treaty in which the king agrees to abandon the crown domain in the Congo Free State, provided that Belgium assume obligations amounting to \$21,000,000, continue the king's use of the Congo revenues for life, and respect the American concessions of 1906, with which Thomas F. Ryan is identified.

Prince Ludwig Menelik of Abyssinia has been expelled from Germany as an undesirable foreigner. The prince is a near relative of the King of Abyssinia, and a negro. He was born at Addis Ababa, and for a long time past he has been making unsuccessful efforts to organize companies for the exploitation of mines, rubber and cotton, in the kingdom of his relative. He has been charged repeatedly with drunkenness and disorderly conduct in various parts of Germany.

The Yaqui Indians are again killing miners in Mexico. They have extended their operations into districts where Americans are numerous. Mexican troops are pursuing them.

The sweeping concessions made by King Leopold in the new treaty which provides for the annexation of the Congo Independent State to Belgium are attributed to his dread of British intervention, backed by the United States. The king, it is declared, would rather run the risk of facing an international accounting of his stewardship than the former contingency.

WHITE PLAGUE NOW DECLARED ON THE WANE

Census Bureau Figures Show a Decrease in Tuberculosis Deaths in 1906.

CANCER IS ON THE INCREASE.

Table of Mortality Rates Announced by Officials of Department at Washington.

Mortality statistics compiled by the census bureau, according to a report recently issued by the government, show a decrease in the death rate among those afflicted with tuberculosis and meningitis and an increase in the mortality from cancer diseases, typhoid fever, whooping cough and violence. The report covers all mortality statistics in the fifteen registration States and the District of Columbia and in seventy-seven cities in non-registration States for the years 1905 and 1906.

The causes of death, with their rates, for 1906, ranked according to the number of deaths for each 100,000, are as follows:

Tuberculosis of lungs.....	159.4
Pneumonia (including broncho-pneumonia).....	149.0
Heart disease.....	130.7
Diarrhea and enteritis.....	122.9
Violence.....	120.9
Bright's disease and nephritis.....	99.8
Apoplexy.....	71.8
Cancer.....	70.8
Premature birth.....	34.8
Old age.....	34.3
Congenital debility.....	34.2
Epidemic fever.....	32.1
Bronchitis.....	30.3
Diphtheria and croup.....	26.3
Meningitis.....	25.0

While a part of the decrease in the number of deaths from tuberculosis shown in 1906 as against 1905 is due to the inclusion among the registration States of several with a low mortality rate from this disease, there was also noticeable a noteworthy decrease in the old registration area. Of the total number of deaths 36,632 were shown to be males and 29,300 females, the age of greatest mortality among males ranging from 25 to 29 and among females from 20 to 24 years. South Dakota and Michigan showed the lowest mortality among the States, while Colorado and California had the highest. Neither of the latter States showed an increase in the disease among the native population. New York had the highest mortality rate among the cities, that rate being 593 in 1906, as compared with 536 in 1905.

Cancer was the cause of 29,200 deaths in 1906, of which 11,166 were males and 17,854 females. The age of greatest mortality from this disease is between the ages of 60 and 64. California showed the highest death rate and New Jersey the lowest, while Boston led all the large cities.

Practically all of the increase in the mortality from typhoid fever comes with the inclusion of new registration States. This rate was 28 in 1905 and 32 in 1906. Pennsylvania and Colorado showed the highest death rate from typhoid, while Massachusetts and Rhode Island had the lowest. Pittsburgh and Allegheny, Pa., lead the registration cities in mortality from typhoid.

The total number of deaths in the entire registration area for 1906 from all forms of violence was 49,552, corresponding to a death rate of 120.9 per 100,000 of estimated population. The death rate from suicide apparently showed a large increase for each year of the period from 1902 to 1905 and a decrease for 1906.

Deaths from accidental traumatism numbered 20,842, and the rate was 50.6 per 100,000 of population; the corresponding rate for 1905 was 42.1. Deaths from steam railroad accidents and injuries for the registration area numbered 7,090, and 183 were due to automobile accidents.

Girl's Nerve-Racking Experience.
A midnight battle with three score infuriated blood-sucking bats, which assailed her from all sides, was an experience which came recently to Miss Alice L. Earle of South Norwalk, Conn.

Attacked in bed in the middle of the night, Miss Earle jumped up in alarm, only to be more generally attacked by the vampires. Her nerves stood her in good stead, for she wrapped a bed covering about her head and body, rushed from the room, slammed the door, and fainted in the arms of her maid.

Miss Earle was spending the winter in San Antonio, Texas. Contrary to the custom of these parts, she threw open her window. During the night a terrific thunder storm arose, which drove the bats into the room. When daylight came the attendants of the hotel entered the room and killed sixty-one bats.

San Francisco Grafting Agent.
Coincident with the liberating of Schmitz and Roof, the convicted San Francisco grafters, a number of the police officers under the present administration have been caught with marked money taken to protect divekeepers in Chinatown.

Parents of Truants Punished.
Five fathers and one mother of truant school children were sentenced to one day in jail and a fine of \$5 by a Chicago justice and warrants for other parents were out.

WORK OF CONGRESS

The Senate was not in session Saturday. But little progress was made in the House in considering the agricultural bill. The discussion dwelt mainly upon the proposed establishment of federal standards of cotton grades and federal inspection of grains. Consideration of the bill had not been concluded when the House adjourned till Monday.

The passage of a large number of bills of minor importance and an extended discussion of a measure to authorize the building of the Snake River, Washington, occupied the entire time of the Senate Monday. The session was brought to a sudden close by lack of a quorum. Charges of a serious nature against Gifford Pinchot, chief of the forestry bureau, were made in the House by Messrs. Smith of California and Mondell of Wyoming, during the consideration of the agricultural appropriation bill. Mr. Smith accused him of entering into a secret understanding with the City of Los Angeles with the view of securing the city valuable water rights in the Owens River Valley as against the interests of private parties having prior claims. Mr. Mondell denounced him for, as he charged, illegally paying the expenses of forest officials in attending conventions in the West. The bill was under discussion all day.

Nearly the entire session of the Senate Tuesday was consumed in consideration of a bill to permit the building of a dam on the Snake river, Washington, and an adjournment was only reached after Mr. Heyburn of Idaho announced that he would not permit a vote to be taken. During the discussion of the bill Senator Teller made a speech against executive enlargement. Several bills of minor importance were passed. After having undergone many changes, the paragraph of the agricultural appropriation bill relating to the bureau of forestry, was finally passed by the House. Messrs. Mondell of Wyoming and Smith of California continued their attacks on the bureau, supported by Messrs. Bonny of Colorado and Cushman of Washington. These emboldened charges that the bureau had created timber monopolies in favor of large corporations, illegally assumed jurisdiction over water rights belonging to the Western States, and juggled with figures in order to obtain large appropriations from Congress. The appropriation for the investigation of soils was increased.

The passage of a bill authorizing the construction of a dam across the Snake River in the State of Washington, and the consideration of a measure for adjusting the claims of States against the government account of the disposition of the proceeds of public lands, occupied nearly the entire session of the Senate Wednesday. Debate of the agricultural appropriation bill in the House was devoid of the charges and imputations which marked its consideration on Monday and Tuesday. More progress was made with the measure than on any previous day. The discussion dwelt on a proposition for an increased appropriation for the farmers' bulletins, which, however, was refused, and the subject of inquiries into road building, etc., by the department, the trend of opinion being that such work should be encouraged. The session was opened with a bitter attack on Attorney General Bonaparte by Mr. Clark of Florida, who denounced him as being no lawyer, and unfit to hold his office. The occasion for the utterance was the reporting out of committee of a resolution by Mr. Clark calling for a statement of the expense connected with postage investigations and prosecutions. That the resolution was simply a further and unnecessary attack on the Attorney General by Mr. Clark was the declaration of Mr. Canfield of Missouri, who led the opposition. The resolution was tabled.

The session of the Senate Thursday was largely consumed by discussion of a bill to reorganize the public school system in the District of Columbia by placing it under the control of a director appointed by the national commissioner of education. The bill relating to the settlement of claims of States on account of the disposition of public lands was again taken up and the Bacon amendment for settling the accounts of owners of cotton seized by the government during the Civil War, amounting to \$5,000,000, was considered, but without results, either on the bill or the amendment. The Senate adjourned until Monday. Carrying a total of \$11,508,806, the agricultural appropriation bill was passed by the House. During the debate a brief flurry was created by Mr. Harrison of New York, a Democrat, characterizing as socialistic the bill of Minority Leader Williams providing for the utilization of the treasury surplus in the construction and improvement of roads in the several States. With the agricultural bill out of the way, the Democrats, under the leadership of Mr. Williams, conducted a successful filibuster against the transaction of any further business. At 10:10 p. m. a motion to adjourn until Friday was forced through by the majority.

NATIONAL CAPITAL NOTES.

The Cullom bill, providing for an addition to the land at Fort Sheridan, Ill., passed the Senate.

The government of the little African republic of Liberia has appealed to America to protect her territorial integrity against France.

The House committee on navy affairs decided to report favorably the bills introduced by Mr. Butler of Pennsylvania and establishing the rank of machinists in the navy as warrant officers, and increasing the pay of mates to \$1,200 at sea, \$1,180 on shore and \$960 on leave or waiting orders.

DEEP WATERWAY TO THE GULF

The Mississippi River Commission Favors Project.

A deep waterway between Chicago and the gulf seems to be one of the possibilities of the near future. The project has been discussed for many years, but now at length it seems to be ripening to a head.

The Mississippi River Commission, in a report now in the hands of the Secretary of War, proposes to go ahead with that portion of the lakes-to-the-gulf deep waterway which lies within its jurisdiction on the Mississippi River. The members believe that it will be both economical and in the line of permanency for them to adopt immediately a deep waterway project, and in future work have that big enterprise in mind instead of temporary bank revetment, desultory dredging and sporadic attempts to clear certain harbors. The report recommends that the Secretary of War asks Congress to give the commission a million of dollars a year for three years, in addition to the sum now at the disposal of the commission, and with this amount permanent work on the deep waterway can go forward. The commission now has at its disposal the sum of \$2,000,000 a year for three years, and it holds in the report to the Secretary of War that it cannot expend the \$6,000,000 already authorized by Congress in an economical way if there is ever any thought of building a deep waterway.

The real significance of this recommendation from the Mississippi River Commission lies in the fact that three members of the commission are also members of the Board of Survey, which was authorized at the last session of Congress to study the whole situation. It is believed that the board will be in readiness to make its report in October or November and that it will recommend a 22-foot channel from St. Louis to the sea. With the Mississippi River Commission already committed to a deep waterway from Cairo to the gulf and the prospect of an intelligent, comprehensive and technical report on the project from St. Louis to the gulf, there is every reason for believing that initiatory legislation for the deep waterways will be secured at this session of Congress. As is generally known a survey has already been made and a complete report is in the possession of the government for that portion of the deep waterway from Chicago through the drainage canal, Des Plaines and Illinois rivers to St. Louis.

With a Board of Survey outlining the plan for the entire distance, appropriations will be sought for the immediate starting of the work.



The average length of life of a tradesman is two-thirds that of a farmer.

The union movement is beginning to make rapid strides among the farm laborers in Ireland.

Union printers of the country have contributed \$12,977.79 to the Cummings memorial fund.

The Women's Trade League is planning to get all of the 6,000,000 American working women into labor unions.

Literature published by the A. F. of L. is to be translated into Yiddish, to be used for educational purposes among immigrants.

Strong pressure has been exerted by manufacturers on Gov. Harris of Ohio to veto the Reynolds child labor bill, now passed by both houses.

William D. Hayward is no longer secretary and treasurer of the Western Federation of Labor. Ernest Mills has been appointed to that position by the executive board.

The Legislative Council of Victoria, Australia, has excluded clerks, carters and drivers, stablemen, firewood carters and other workers from the benefits of wage boards.

In order to carry on a labor war against the Western Federation of Miners at Fairbanks, Alaska, agents in Portland, Ore., are offering employment to 2,000 men at \$5 a day to go to work in the North.

The National Railway Trackmen are planning for the establishment of a home for their aged and indigent members. It is proposed to acquire a tract of 500 acres near Ft. Scott, Kan., as the location for the institution.

Statistics show that in 1906 there occurred in France no fewer than 1,300 strikes, in which 438,466 persons were concerned. This number included 386,435 men, 31,331 women and 16,710 young persons of both sexes. Most of these strikes were successful in securing shorter hours for the wage earners.

From the year 1890 to the close of 1906, 22,849 men met death in the coal mines of the United States. Not since 1897 has the annual list numbered less than 1,000, and each year the number has grown larger. In 1906 the fatalities were 2,061, and 1907, when the figures are all in and compiled, will number more than that.

A bill to license motormen has been introduced in the Assembly at Albany, N. Y. It provides for a bureau in the State Department of Labor with an examiner and four assistants, to be appointed by the State Commissioner of Labor, each to hold office for three years.

POLITICS OF THE DAY

Labor Is Suffering.

The New York Journal of Commerce, the only financial and business paper that is independent of Wall street and trust influences, thinks that American mills should seek foreign markets. It quotes the opinion of a man connected in an executive and practical way with one of the largest industries in this country, who said that it was only by entering into the competitive business abroad could it be hoped to prevent one of the most trying, cruel and disastrous periods that labor has experienced. "The public have not yet begun to appreciate the severity of the labor outlook," he continued. "They hear of the hundreds of thousands of workmen of all kinds being out of work in the great cities, but they do not begin to realize the situation and the prospects at the woolen manufacturing centers, for instance, throughout New England. What is needed are foreign markets to act as a regulator or insurance for the home market."

But how is the American manufacturer to overcome the high tariff rates that foreign countries impose on American products in retaliation for our high tariff duties imposed on their products? Virtually only the English markets are open to our wares and even the British colonies, such as Canada and Australia, now impose tariff protection to protect their own manufacturers. Every country but England has a tariff wall around it and the United States has the highest tariff wall of all, with the possible exception of Russia.

To seek foreign markets for our surplus products under such conditions is a thankless task, for our manufacturers would have to offer their goods for a price, that with the tariff rates of other countries added would be less than the price the manufacturers of foreign countries sell for. We cannot compete with England for her manufacturers have free raw materials and the lower cost of living for her workmen and thus lower wages and cheaper cost of production than the manufacturer of the United States has.

The sad state of affairs that the Republican policy of protection has produced both for the manufacturer and the workman cannot be much bettered by the trusts and tariff protected industries selling cheaper abroad than here, because after all but little international trade can be accomplished between those who want to sell and refuse to buy. If we want to sell to foreigners, we must buy of them as a general proposition. No country can afford long to pay gold for foreign products, except for raw materials which it resells as finished products. The protected interests here must abide the conditions they have created and nothing but reforming our own tariff with free raw materials and other reductions that will allow our workmen to live cheaper will force open foreign markets for our surplus products.

As long as the business boom was on everything was lovely for awhile, but now the breakdown has come we are helpless under the inelastic workings of the Republican policy of tariff protection.

The Republicans now propose a tariff commission to investigate the tariff abolition, but as that far-seeing statesman, former Gov. Douglas of Massachusetts, has lately said:

"While the commission will be slowly prosecuting its investigation the tariff trusts will continue to plunder the helpless consumers and will raise a campaign fund that will almost insure the reelection of standpatters and the defeat of revisionists. Instead of this program of delay, I would have a President who would call an extra session of Congress to revise the tariff immediately and radically."

"The proper time to get rid of something bad is right now. Nor do I believe in compromising with an evil and in agreeing to abolish it piecemeal—say, 10 per cent a year—when it is possible to get rid of it at once. If I have an ulcerated tooth that should be extracted, I do not want it pulled by installments, so that the process will last several hours or several days; I want the agony of the separation to be as short as possible."

What Jefferson Would Do.
Wise men study past history to guide them for the future, while at the same time considering the difference of time and circumstances.

Jefferson in his day agreed with the beliefs of us moderns, in abolishing public debts and high taxes. To him the least possible government was the best, partly because it was less expensive, inflicted light burdens only upon industry and insured the greatest amount of freedom and independence to all men. Were he alive to-day we may be certain that he would be active for direct legislation which would put the legislative power, in practice as well as in theory, back into the hands of the people; for more and better schools; for smaller public debts; for reduced taxes; for free raw materials; for no duties on manufactured goods sold cheaper to foreigners than to Americans; for greatly reduced tariff duties, reciprocity with Canada and

other nations, for no tariff or other protection to giant trusts; for equal and uniform freight rates to all shippers; and for less intermeddling in foreign affairs."

Such were the words of Hon. William L. Douglas when Governor of Massachusetts in 1905, and this endorsement of Jeffersonian policies and indictment of the Republican leaders is as true to-day as when said. What a gulf there is between the present Republican administration for the benefit of the few and Democratic policies for the benefit of the many.

Gov. Douglas was only Governor one year, as he refused a renomination, but in a series of masterly speeches during that short time and since, he so impressed the people of Massachusetts with the necessity of tariff reform and carrying out the Jeffersonian policies of equal rights to all and special privileges to none that even a great majority of the Republicans of that State are now demanding tariff revision.

Republican Anti-Monopolists.

When the tariff planks of the Ohio Republicans and the Nebraska Democrats are put in parallel columns for comparison in Washington there appears no marked difference between them as far as language defines principle. The principle defined by the Nebraska platform is that of the restoration of the tariff from the prohibitive to the revenue basis. The Ohio platform proposes next year a revision "insuring the maintenance of the true basis of protection," which is explained as such customs duties as will equal the difference between the cost of production at home and abroad.

This Ohio promise carried out in good faith would give a low tariff. It is not claimed by anyone that the difference in the cost of production at home and abroad on articles which give the bulk of the revenue from a tariff amounts to as much as a fourth of the value of the articles in any open market. So that the Nebraska plank, representing Mr. Bryan's view of a low tariff for revenue, is seemingly in harmony with Mr. Taft's Ohio promise of a low tariff for protection.

If Kansas, Iowa, Nebraska and other western Republicans can be convinced that the Ohio plank means what it says they can be convinced that it meets their views as anti-monopolists. This is what western Republicans are in their well-known impulses. As they differ from some other Republicans elsewhere, they are nothing if not anti-monopolists.

The Nebraska plank defines itself fully on this point by proposing to withdraw government protection at the custom house from monopoly established under custom house taxation. The Ohio plank leaves such monopolies to be as fully protected by custom house taxation as other industries it proposes to protect. Where language is used with skill in Ohio, differences may seem to disappear from language itself. But on the fundamental point of opposition to monopoly Republican anti-monopolists in the West will ask the meaning of Ohio silence.—St. Louis Republic.

Truth Better Than Fiction.

In spite of the panic and business depression the Republican leaders cannot seem to throw off their habit of boasting that prosperity follows their footsteps. It is apparent that the finances of the government are in bad shape, that the revenue is falling greatly behind the expenditures, so that it has been found necessary to call upon the Wall street national banks to return \$25,000,000 of the \$250,000,000 loaned to them without interest, and that bonds were lately issued to further help the banks, all of which are hardly matters to boast of. But Congressman Boutell of Illinois has discovered that the United States Treasury is bursting with riches, having over a billion of gold in its vaults, and he boasts of it so as to thereby try and boost the flagging spirits of his Republican brethren. But unfortunately for the taxpayers this enormous amount of gold belongs to those who deposited it in the treasury and gold certificates have been issued against it. Nearly all that vast amount of gold is owned by the banks, who hold the certificates, or "yellow backs," but few of which are in the hands of the people. The ordinary business of the people is done with silver certificates and national bank currency and but little gold is in circulation.

There is \$150,000,000 of gold held by the government, in what is called the gold reserve fund, to provide for the redemption in gold of the greenbacks and treasury notes and to keep the silver certificates at par with gold. So the boasted riches of the government dwindle down to nothing, for the gold reserve cannot be touched to pay the expenditures of the government. What is the use to try and deceive the people by boasting of riches they do not possess? The voters of the United States are too intelligent to be fooled by such boasting, and even if they were not, they are entitled to know the facts and not be fed on fiction about their public financial affairs.

The Swedes are the longest lived race.