

TALKS CITY OWNERS

New York Convention Hears Authoritative Papers on Municipal Costs.

SCHEME DECLARED SUCCESS IN ENGLAND

London Editor Says British Towns Are Rapidly Extending System.

YERKES CLAIMS COUNCILS ARE WASTEFUL

Alleges Private Companies Save Money in Management of Franchises.

PORTER REVILES THE SERVICE GIVEN

Lays It Down as Certain that Publicly Run Lines Produce Privileged Unions, Small Profits and Bad Accommodations.

NEW YORK, Feb. 25.—The convention on municipal ownership and franchises, which is to continue for three days, opened here today. There was a good attendance. The delegates were welcomed by John G. Agar, who in his address held that the conditions in American cities are such as to make the thoughtful and patriotic seek some method of improvement.

"This convention has been called," he said, "for the purpose of furnishing facts and information and of organizing a permanent bureau for the collection and distribution of municipal statistics relating to the best methods of supplying commercial wants."

The first paper read, "Recent History of Municipal Ownership in the United States," was prepared under the direction of the late Charles Waite Haskins, Gen. of the New York University School of Commerce, and was read by Joseph E. Johnson, the present dean of the school.

Private Corruption Aids State.

Clinton Rogers Woodruff of Philadelphia made the next address, in which he said:

"What is the cause of the undebatable growth of popular interest in the municipal ownership of public utilities? It is the danger of corruption in the hands of private ownership. The people are awakening to an appreciation of the dangers lurking in the shadows of such relationships as now exist between city governments and private corporations. There is an ethical reaction against such practices as I have briefly mentioned and it is manifesting itself in a demand for municipal ownership."

MAY PAY MEXICAN DEBT

Multimillionaire Offers \$50,000,000 to Square National Account.

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QUEEN'S GEMS OFFERED FAIR

King Edward Will Send Victoria's Jubilee Presents to St. Louis Exposition.

LONDON, Feb. 25.—King Edward will send the late Queen Victoria's precious collection of jubilee presents for exhibition at the Louisiana Purchase exposition as his personal contribution toward the king personally announced the decision today to D. R. Francis, president of the St. Louis exposition, who accompanied by Ambassador Choate, was received by his majesty at Buckingham palace.

FIRE ON PEACE OFFICERS

Mob of Foreign Strikers Boast Service of Ignominious Papers.

Three Die and Twelve Are Wounded When Rifles Flash in Charleston's Streets, Both Sides Shooting Freely.

CHARLESTON, W. Va., Feb. 25.—At 10 o'clock this morning a battle took place between the joint posse of Deputy United States Marshal Cunningham and Sheriff Cook on one side and rioting miners on the other, as a result of which three were killed, two others mortally wounded and twelve others on both sides more or less seriously hurt.

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Modification Proposed by Attorney General Knox is Accepted by Panama Officials.

PARIS, Feb. 25.—It is reported in responsible quarters that the chief officials of the Panama Canal company have informed American officials here that the former has no objection to the two changes in the arrangement suggested in the recent dispatch from Attorney General Knox, which proposed the acceptance of the company's tender subject to the two modifications and to the United States senate's ratification, but it is assumed that this willingness on the part of the company has been communicated to the authorities at Washington.

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BIG BANK CASE DISMISSED

Jury Exonerates Firm Which Let Fraudulent Paper Free to Re-Enter Market.

NEW YORK, Feb. 25.—The suit brought by Ladenburg, Thalmann & Co. against the Importers & Traders' bank for the recovery of \$100,000 was dismissed tonight. The jury was out six hours, and was said to have stood 11 to 1 in favor of the defendants.

The case is one of the most interesting of the year. It has done up in the supreme court in 1882 the state of Virginia ordered \$2,000,000 worth of bonds from engravers in this city, which, being badly printed, were rejected and returned to the engravers.

The engravers refused to pay the expense, and the bank sued them. The Virginia authorities were never able to destroy all of them.

To the bonds obtained at that auction were forged the signatures of the Virginia state officials. In September, 1890, Julius Schreiber obtained \$100,000 from the Importers & Traders' National bank on \$50,000 worth of Virginia bonds. He stated, it is alleged, that he obtained them by investment.

Last October he presented \$45,000 worth of the same bonds, and asked a loan of \$15,000. This lot he said he had inherited. Inquiries followed, and the bank finding the bonds fraudulent, told Schreiber he would have to make good. This he did. A short time afterward Schreiber took the same bonds to Ladenburg, Thalmann & company and got a loan of \$45,000 of them.

When the bankers learned, they were worthless and that the Importers & Traders' National bank had let them get back into circulation they brought suit against the bank to recover their loss.

POLES BREAK WITH ROME

Seek to Unite with Episcopal Church in United States.

NEW YORK, Feb. 25.—At the regular meeting of the Church club tonight, Bishop Anthony S. Koslowski, who said that he represented 80,000 Poles in the United States who have broken away from the Roman Catholic church, and the Rev. T. U. Zakim, one of his priests, pleaded for unity with the Protestant Episcopal church.

Bishop Koslowski said the Polish population of the United States was 1,500,000. The Rev. Dr. Huntington suggested that Bishop Koslowski be received into the Episcopal church as a layman.

Members of the club declared that the proposed union was the beginning of a movement that opened up great possibilities, and expressed their desire to strengthen it as much as they could.

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MILLS EXPEDITION TO SAIL

After Two Years Preparatory Work Will Go to Southern Hemisphere for Observations.

BERKELEY, Cal., Feb. 25.—The D. O. Mills astronomical expedition to the southern hemisphere, after two years of preparatory work, will sail from San Francisco for Chile next Saturday. The mission of the expedition is to throw additional light on motions of the solar system through space.

Since 1895 the line-of-sight velocities of some 400 of the brighter stars have been measured at the Lick observatory by means of the spectroscopic method.

The spectroscopic photographs obtained by the party will be sent to the Lick observatory for analysis by Professor D. O. Mills of New York.

EXPLODING DUST SLAYS TRIO

Three Illinois Miners Meet Death with Nukes in Pit Disaster.

SPRINGFIELD, Ill., Feb. 25.—An explosion of dust caused the death of three miners in the Auburn and Alton coal company's mine at Auburn, twenty miles southwest of Springfield, this evening.

The explosion occurred in the shaft between the shaft and the main level. The shaft was about 100 feet deep and the main level was about 200 feet deep.

CORNELL STUDENTS RETURN

Seabrook Suggests Special Classes to Make Up Work Lost During Fever Scare.

ITHACA, N. Y., Feb. 25.—President Seabrook sent a letter to the Deans of Cornell in which he says in view of the large influx of the returning students expected in the next few days, it is necessary to organize special classes to enable them to make up work lost during their absence.

TWELVE GOVERNORS ACCEPT

Misses, Commas and Ten Generational Colleagues Will Attend Fair Dedication.

ST. LOUIS, Feb. 25.—Replics accepting invitation from the Louisiana Purchase exposition to attend the dedication of the grounds on April 26 and May 1 and 2 have been received from the governors of Nebraska, Maine, California, Georgia, Oklahoma, Kansas, Vermont, Virginia, New Mexico, Maryland, Iowa and Illinois.

LETTER HITS SOUTH OMAHA

Belief Postmaster General Payne Had Reference to that Appointment.

OPPOSES REPEAL OF THREE LAND LAWS

Humor in Circulation That Director of the Mint Roberts Would Like to Sell His Den Molasses Newspaper.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 25.—(Special Telegram)—Eastern newspapers print today a letter from Postmaster General Payne addressed to a representative in congress, which, while names are not mentioned, is believed to have direct reference to the South Omaha postoffice fight.

The letter goes on to state that the records of the office show that the present postmaster has made an excellent record as an official; that he is a veteran of the civil war; that he is a man of high character; that he is a man of high character; that he is a man of high character.

The committee on the changes of grade on Twenty-fourth street reported the addition of names to the petition, leaving but 151 feet to be secured on Twenty-fourth street.

TALK OF LIGHTS AND WALKS

Southwest Improves Disease Them with Inspector Berlin and Councilman Hoye.

Light and crosswalks were the principal subjects discussed at the Southwest improvement club, R. S. Berlin, city gas inspector, was present to explain why certain streets in the town covered by the club are dark. He said that 107 gasoline lamps had been discontinued last fall, and that this occasioned at least 1,067 protests, and that the discontinuance of these lamps is responsible for the present conditions.

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PROSPECT HILLERS AS POLITICS

By special invitation C. R. Scott, City Controller, Washington City, D. C., addressed the Prospect Hill Improvement club at its meeting at Thirty-fourth and Decatur streets last night on the topic of municipal ownership of public utilities.

From that theme the talk drifted rapidly to the question of equality of taxation, and the speaker's remarks were well received. He said that the city of Washington was doing all that it could to get the matter through.

WOUNDED NEGRO CONFESSES

George Williams Admits He Attempted to Hold Up Mrs. Morrison.

George Williams, the negro who accused Mr. Morrison, wife of Patrolman Ed Morrison, while she was returning to her home one evening last week and received a bullet in the groin in response to the demand made for her money, has made a complete confession to Captain Montoy. Williams said that he had followed her, walking on the opposite side of the street until the conditions were more favorable for his work.

WILL BID NEBRASKA DEBATE

Minnesota University, Angered at Wisconsin, Breaks Off Negotiations for Palaver.

MINNEAPOLIS, Feb. 25.—The Universities of Minnesota and Wisconsin will not meet in debate this year. Wisconsin's attitude in the negotiations regarding the judges was distasteful to the Minnesotans, who closed the negotiations and will ask Nebraska for a debate next year.

MOVEMENTS OF OCEAN VESSELS FEB. 25

NEW YORK—Sailed—Cedric, for Liverpool. Arrived—Kaiserin Marie Theresia, from New York via Punaloe, on Orono cruise.

ARRIVED—Sailed—Nederland, for Philadelphia. Arrived—Saxonia, from Liverpool for Boston.

ARRIVED—Sailed—Anchorage, from New York. Arrived—Canada, from New York via Southampton.

ARRIVED—Sailed—Philadelphia, from New York. Arrived—Kaiser Wilhelm, from Bremen, for New York.

ARRIVED—Sailed—Haverford, from Philadelphia for Liverpool.

ARRIVED—Sailed—New York, from New York for Queenstown and Liverpool.

HELP FOR BONDSMEN

Hall Introduces Resolution to Release the Men on the Bartley Paper.

DECLARES INTENTION TO FIGHT FOR IT

Other Members from Douglas Said to Be Favourable to Measure.

NOT WILLING TO DECLARE THEMSELVES

Legislators as a Rule Are Not Backward About Speaking.

CHANCES OF RESOLUTION ARE POOR

Majority Sympathetic with Men on Road, but Hold Releasing Them Would Set a Bad Precedent.

FROM A STAFF CORRESPONDENT

LINCOLN, Feb. 25.—(Special.)—As was anticipated by The Bee last week, the legislature has been asked to release the Bartley bondsmen from their obligation to the state of Nebraska. The request came in the form of a resolution this morning introduced in the assembly by Hall of Douglas.

It provides that the legislature should instruct the attorney general to discontinue all legal actions pending against the bondsmen in consideration of the payment by them of the costs which have arisen because of the litigation over this case.

The text of the resolution is as follows: "Concurrent resolution instructing and directing the dismissal of the pending action against the sureties on the bond of ex-State Treasurer Bartley."

"Whereas, There is and has been, for nearly five years, pending in the courts of this state in behalf of the state upon an unpaid bond of Joseph E. Bartley, formerly state treasurer, and

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