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EIGHT PAGES.

LEAGUE MEETING HERE TODAY

Eleven Cities From Three States Are Represented at the Conference Being Held in Keokuk Today.

GREAT ENTHUSIASM

Applications Made From Hannibal, Galesburg and Clinton For a Franchise in the League.

This afternoon at 3 o'clock, a vote was taken on the new club to be admitted into the Central league and Hannibal was selected, the vote standing as follows: Hannibal, 4 votes. Clinton, 2 votes. Galesburg, 1 vote.

Keokuk was visited by base ball men from three states—Iowa, Illinois and Missouri—today, representatives of eleven cities being present at the meeting of the league this morning held in the Elks' club rooms. The meeting was heralded as one of the most important at which the Central association directors ever gathered, and well represented, the great interest and enthusiasm that the great American game has aroused in the middle west.

Frank Belt, manager of the Keokuk base ball club was present and listened with interest to the many propositions and measures brought before the body. He did not express himself on any base ball matters during the meeting.

The meeting of the Central association was called to order by President M. E. Justice in the Elks' club room this morning at 10 o'clock, with J. H. Hall of Quincy, secretary. On roll call the following were found present from the various clubs: Waterloo—Henry Junge, Frank Boyle.

Keokuk—Louis Sterne, Ed Woolley, Joseph Carwalho, E. P. McMannus. Quincy—Larry Hofer, Leroy Holcomb, J. A. Hall. Ottumwa—Dr. J. C. Bonham, George A. Warden.

Burlington—Ned Egan. Kewanee—Louis Hill, J. P. Brady, Mr. Pomeroy. Jacksonville—L. S. Fosgtte.

On motion of Harry Hofer the meeting decided to elect officers for the coming year. President Justice stated his view as to the presidency, and added that he would leave the body while they discussed the proposition. Dr. Bonham was appointed chairman, but Mr. Justice was not permitted to leave and was elected by acclamation.

Frank Boyle moved that the president's salary be raised from \$500 to \$800 per year. Motion was carried. On motion of Secretary Hall, Harry Hofer was placed in nomination for vice president. Mr. Hofer was elected unanimously.

The report from the applicants for the vacant berth in the league were heard from the committee appointed by President Justice on this subject. The report of Galesburg was quite lengthy one and summarized the excellent locality of that town, dwelt upon the city as a business center and as a city well able to support a base ball team. The report touched upon the history of the great American game and added that should Galesburg be permitted to a vacant berth in the league, the support of the business men of that place would be behind the team and that the team would not lack support from any source. The attendance figures of last year were also included.

The full report of Hannibal was also read. This report was identical with that published in The Gate City several weeks ago, and was, mostly statistical. The third report read was that from Clinton. The report stated that the population of that city was as much as the total of the other two applicants. There are no Sunday attractions in Clinton and there is no reason why that city should not be one of the best drawing towns in the league. It also expressed the favorable attitude of the business men of that city towards base ball. It touched upon Clinton's career in the Three-Eye league and of the weakness of the manager of the team during the last year. The loss of Clinton

SELECTING JURY FOR HAINS CASE

Court Busy Examining Talesmen Who Will Hear the Evidence in the Hains Murder Trial.

HAINS IS FEELING FINE

He Will be Put on the Stand and Be His Own Chief Witness—Mrs. Hains Will Not Say Anything.

FLUSHING, N. Y., Dec. 15.—Half of the jury selected for the trial of Thornton Hains, the task of weeding out unfit talesmen was resumed this morning before Justice Crane. The prisoner and the judge were the only persons not to show the effect of the physical strain to which the court was forced yesterday in three sessions expediting the trial. Hains today smilingly remarked: "I feel as fine as a man can feel who has this sort of thing to face."

The report he was on the verge of a nervous breakdown is the real joke of the trial. Twirling a yellow pencil in his fingers he scans the court room as though about to sketch a scene. The defense of the attorneys refused today to furnish letters which the prosecution may desire. They deny they have letters from Jenkins to his brother Peter, and further declare if they had they should not be a part of the case. McIntyre today confirmed the report that Hains would be his own chief witness. Mrs. Annis, the widow of the murdered man, arrived at Flushing today and will be one of the first witnesses called by Darrin, who largely depends on her story to convict Hains. She declared she had every confidence and integrity in her husband, and considered the charge against him by Captain Hains preposterous, and simply felt she must take the stand to defend the memory of her husband and protect the honor of her children.

Alex Jardine of Long Island City, a plumber, was selected as juror No. 7. By placing Hains on the stand to testify in his own behalf the attorneys for the defense hope to score heavily on Darrin. They will question him simply as to the actual happenings on the float when Annis was killed. Crane, before the examination of talesmen began today, announced the county judge of Queens county had designated James A. Dayton and Elmer S. White special prosecutors to aid Darrin. McIntyre objected, declaring it illegal as they supersede the district attorney. The court ruled against them.

It was reported about the courtroom today the prosecution had received a telegram from Claudia Hains that she would come to Flushing and insisted on being called as a witness. The action is declared to be the result of the publication of an alleged confession of her wrong-doing with Annis.

Mrs. Hains Has Nothing to Say. WINTHROP, Mass., Mrs. Hains stated today that she will not go to New York during the trial of Jenkins Hains. "I have nothing to say for or against him," she said.

Did Not Send Telegram. BOSTON, Dec. 15.—Claudia Hains has not sent a telegram to the court at Flushing stating she demanded to testify in the trial of Hains, according to her attorney, Norton.

BIGLOW SOLICITS PROSECUTION

Magazine Writer Invites the President to Start Criminal Libel Proceedings.

MALDEN, N. Y., Dec. 15.—"If Roosevelt really expects to institute criminal proceedings against those who have criticized the mismanagement and jobbery on the Isthmus, or Panama he may start with me," said Poultney Lewis C. New, a carpenter, juror number nine.

Bishop Muldoon Installed. ROCKFORD, Ill., Dec. 15.—Bishop Muldoon for several years auxiliary bishop of the arch diocese of Chicago, was installed as the first Catholic bishop of the new diocese of Rockford. The installation took place in the pro-cathedral here at 4:30 this afternoon in the presence of a great throng of clergy and laity of Rockford.



MORE "BEFORE CHRISTMAS" JOLLITY.

HOLLAND HOPES TO AVOID WAR

Wishes to Avoid a Formal Declaration and Overthrow Castro Through Medium of Uprising of People.

THE HOLLANDERS PLAN TO PLUNGE VENEZUELA INTO TURMOIL

By Blockading Venezuelan Ports, Capturing Ships the Dutch Wish to Plunge Venezuela into Turmoil.

Capture Another Boat

LONDON, Dec. 15.—Another capture on the Venezuelan coast of a defense vessel, the Mayo, was made by the Dutch blockading squadron, according to Contra. News dispatch from The Hague. The vessel was placed in charge of a Dutch prize crew and proceeded to Caracas, under her own steam.

Emperor William Welcomes Castro

BERLIN, Dec. 15.—Emperor William today sent a cordial telegram of welcome to Castro. The Kaiser expressed his individual pleasure at his visit and also the pleasure of the nation.

Castro After Big Loan

BERLIN, Dec. 15.—Castro came to Germany to arrange a diplomatic alliance whereby the German support of Venezuela's numerous international entanglements. It was admitted by a member of the foreign office that Castro would present his proposals today. It is understood Germany is friendly and will help Castro as far as possible without impairing her international relations. Castro, it is said, is endeavoring to secure a big loan here.

AGAINST THE TOBACCO TRUST

American Tobacco Company Suffers Heavy Blow in Final Decree in the Suit by the Government.

THEY FORM A MONOPOLY

Are Enjoined From Engaging in the Interstate Commerce of Leaf Tobacco or Any of Its Products.

NEW YORK, Dec. 15.—The American Tobacco company suffered a heavy blow today when the final decree in the suit of the government against the "trust" was filed in the United States circuit court. The decree declares the American Tobacco company, the American Cigar company, the American Snuff company and the American Stogie company and the Andrews & Forbes company form a monopoly, an illegal combination in restraint of trade, be enjoined in engaging in the interstate commerce of leaf tobacco or any of its products or any articles used in connection with the tobacco trade. These companies, as well as R. J. Reynolds company, Pierre Lorillard company, Blackwell's Durham Tobacco company, Conley Foli company, are also restrained from voting the stock held by them in the companies named or the stock of any subsidiary company controlled by them.

Match in a Keg of Powder

NEWBERRY, Pa., Dec. 15.—Two men were fatally injured, and six were hurt as the result of an explosion early today. A foreigner accidentally dropped a match in a keg of powder.

American Girl Wins Earl

LONDON, Dec. 14.—The betrothal is announced of Beatrice, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Ogden Mills of New York and Bernard Arthur William Patrick Hastings Forbes, eighth earl of Grenard, of Castle Forbes, County Longford, Ireland.

Simon Will Become President

WASHINGTON, Dec. 15.—The Haytian situation has assumed a more hopeful aspect, according to advices which reached Washington today. It is understood Generals Firman and Fouchard have arranged with Simon and the prediction is freely made the latter will become president.

COLONEL TAYLOR ON THE STAND

Man Kidnapped When Capt. Rankin Was Assassinated First Witness in the Night Rider Cases.

SUMMONING TALESMEN

P. C. Ward, Proprietor of the Hotel and Ed. Powell, Will be Next Witnesses—Grand Jury at Work.

SLUM WARD BALL NETS A FORTUNE

About \$25,000 Gathered in by Coughlan and Kenna, Notorious Chicago Politicians.

CHICAGO, Dec. 15.—With an attack on a newspaper photographer and the smashing up of his camera as a prelude, the first ward ball, the annual revel presided over by Alderman Coughlan and Kenna, was held in the Coliseum last night, all efforts of the church people and reformers to prevent the holding of the ball having proved unsuccessful.

A large guard of police surrounded the building, extra precautions being taken, because of the explosion of a dynamite bomb in the vicinity last night. Photographers were forbidden to attend the ball and the efforts of one to violate this rule resulted in an attack on him.

It was estimated that the receipts from the sale of tickets was almost \$25,000. This sum, according to the regular customs, is to be used toward electing the alderman of the ward whose term expires next spring.

Mrs. Taft Honored

NEW YORK, Dec. 15.—Mrs. Wm. Taft was today elected honorary national chairman of the woman's department for the National Civic Federation. As mistress of the white house, Mrs. Taft is expected to be able to enlarge the scope of the organization.

DELAY ANGERS IOWA JUDGE

Shippers Attempt to Obtain Justice Drags Along For Three Years and Court Becomes Weary.

SCORED THE ATTORNEYS

Judge McPherson Notifies the Lawyers He Will Not Tolerate Any Further Delay—Two Cent Fare Affected.

KANSAS CITY, Dec. 15.—Calling up the Missouri passenger and freight hearing after a four weeks' recess, Monday afternoon, Judge Smith McPherson of Red Oak, Ia., severely scored the attorneys in the case for their tardiness and declared that he would not tolerate any further delay. The case has been on the docket three years.

Part of the state's issue is to decide whether or not the railways operating in Missouri can afford to carry passengers in Missouri for two cents a mile on trunk lines.

The law does not apply to short lines. Two witnesses, W. H. Whittenton, superintendent of the Rock Island lines in Arkansas and R. E. Kimball, auditor of the Cotton Belt railroad testified today.

In the depositions given previously the railroads had set up that it cost more to carry intra-state passengers than it did inter-state passengers.

Attorney Lehman for the state, both witnesses admit the through trains carried both state and inter-state passengers; that sometimes state passengers rode as far on their respective trains as inter-state passengers did; that the same train hauled both, and that it costs no more for state than it did for inter-state passengers.

MADISON DAVIS CRITICALLY ILL

A Former Commander of the Iowa Grand Army Suffers a General Breakdown.

SIoux CITY, Iowa, Dec. 15.—Colonel Madison B. Davis, formerly department commander of the G. A. R. of Iowa, is seriously ill at his home, 509 Ninth street, and relatives are alarmed at his condition. Although he has been gradually failing for almost a year, Colonel Davis has been confined to his home only for ten days. There does not seem to be any specific complaint, the case being general breakdown of a once rugged constitution. Colonel Davis was one of the oldest members of the legal profession in Sioux City and has appeared in the courts of Iowa for about thirty-five years. He located in Iowa shortly after the close of the civil war and has lived in Sioux City since 1875.

STRIKES BACK WITH BOYCOTT

India Strikes Back at the British For Activity in New Sedition Laws.

CALCUTTA, Dec. 15.—India struck back at England today inaugurating a boycott as a retaliatory measure for the activity of the English authorities under the new anti-sedition law. The authorities are deporting not only the seditionary leaders, but many persons; home-rule advocates, the English idea being to crush out the last hope of Indian autonomy.

LEFT TO SEE HIS SWEETHEART

William McDonough, Pay Officer in the Navy Charged With Desertion.

MARE ISLAND, Cal., Dec. 15.—William McDonough, a pay officer in the navy, is held in irons on a prison ship at Manila today charged with desertion. McDonough has been with the fleet since it left New York. He resigned his position at Amoy and departed for the United States to see his sweetheart. He left before his resignation had been accepted, which constitutes technical desertion.

The City Rescue Mission at No. 129 South Fifth street reports having started the Sunday School with a good attendance last Sunday afternoon at 2 o'clock and being in need of bibles for the children, also money to buy papers and Sunday School cards.

KING EDWARD SERIOUSLY ILL

Attending Physicians Are Deeply Concerned About His Condition and Cancel All Royal Engagements.

AN ALARMING FEATURE

Re-Appearance of Symptoms That Preceded the Operation in 1902 Giving the King Much Pain.

LONDON, Dec. 15.—From a source of unquestioned reliability it was learned today that both the royal family and the physicians who are attending King Edward are deeply concerned about his condition. The King himself realizes the gravity of his illness which is shown by the fact that he is rapidly unloading many of the governmental responsibilities to the shoulders of the Prince of Wales. The most alarming feature of the King's illness is the re-appearance of the symptoms that preceded the operation in 1902. He suffers much abdominal pain and has lost considerable weight. Under the physicians orders all of the royal engagements have been cancelled.

TUBE SERVICE IS IMPERFECT

Postmaster General Meyer Says it is too Early to Purchase Pneumatic Tubes.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 15.—Postmaster General Meyer today transmitted to congress a report on the question of the feasibility and desirability of purchasing and operating pneumatic tubes in cities where the service is now installed, which approved the conclusions reached by the committee appointed by him to make the investigation. The committee declares the tubes are yet in the experimental stage and the contracting companies should be required to complete contracts without delay and it is undesirable at the present time for the government to purchase them.

Reward Increased

SPOKANE, Wash., Dec. 15.—The Great Northern officials here today announced that the reward for the capture of the robbers who held up a Great Northern train near Hillyard, Washington, last week has been increased to \$18,000.

TODAY'S WEATHER FORECAST

Indications for Iowa, Illinois and Missouri Wired from Chicago.

For Keokuk and Vicinity Fair to night and Wednesday.

For Illinois: Fair tonight and Wednesday; cooler tonight.

For Iowa: Fair tonight and Wednesday.

For Missouri: Fair tonight; increasing cloudiness Wednesday.

Weather Conditions

There have been light rains in an area of low barometer in the lower lake region, the pressure remaining high in the southeastern states, causing warmer weather in the eastern portion of the country.

It is cooler in the Missouri and upper Mississippi valleys, with an area of high pressure from Idaho to the upper Mississippi valley, and an area of low pressure in Arizona has been accompanied by rain in the extreme southwest.

Partly cloudy weather, with freezing temperature at night and thawing during the day, is indicated in this section tonight and Wednesday.

River Bulletin

Fld. Stage, Height, Chng. R. Fall

St. Paul . . . 14 Froz.

La Crosse . . . 12 Froz.

Davenport . . . 15

Galland . . . 8

Keokuk . . . 15 0.5 x0.2

St. Louis . . . 30 4.7 -0.9

Mrs. -Fall.

C. B. & Q. Bridge, Burlington, Iowa, Dec. 14.—The present stage of the river is 7 inches above low water mark, a rise of 4 inches since last report.

The river will remain nearly stationary.

Local Observations

14.7 p.m. . . . 29.84 50 SS Clear

15.7 a.m. . . . 30.19 43 NW Cloudy

River above low water of 1864, 5 tenths; change in 24 hours, rise 2 tenths.

Mean temperature, 50.

Maximum temperature, 60.

Minimum temperature, 41.

FRED Z. GOSEWISCH, Observer.

(Continued on page 7.)