

WILL RALLY AROUND TAFT

When Full Facts of Army Movement Are Known, the People Will be Praising the President.

JAPAN AS AN OBJECT

Government Official Gives Out Statement Which Puts Trust In Actions of the President.

WASHINGTON, March 17.—From the highest authority there has been evidence that Japan has been spending money for the Mexican revolution and expected to be rewarded by a coaling station.

The demonstration on the border is expected to break off the Japanese plan. There is a little jingo in this. If the order to move comes, the national guards and 60,000 soldiers will be sent into Mexico to stop the Japanese plan, under pretext of protecting the American interests.

There is no trouble between President Diaz and President Taft.

Misunderstanding. WASHINGTON, March 17.—Japan, rather than Mexico, is the objective move of the army maneuvers. This statement was made today to The United Press by an official.

"President Taft is today the most misunderstood man in the country," said this official. "Those who have criticized him in this matter are merely putting themselves in a bad light. The president did not order these maneuvers without thought that he would be questioned for the reason. When the full facts are known, all the people will rally to his support."

In a Short Time.

PARIS, March 17.—"Japan must attack the United States before 1912, the date of the opening of the Panama canal," said Admiral George Forner, head of the French navy, in an interview with The United Press today.

Japs Leave for Mexico.

DENVER, March 17.—Nearly all of the Japanese servants in and around Denver are leaving in squads and going south toward Mexico. They give no reasons for their movements.

Mining Another Harbor.

SAN DIEGO, Cal., March 17.—It was learned today that the planting of mines in the harbor here had been going on for ten days. The work has been going on at nights.

Mining the Harbor.

SAN FRANCISCO, March 17.—Three companies of coast artillery will commence planting mines in the harbor here April 1. At the same time a regiment will take possession of the fort and will commence target practice. This move is considered significant considering the possibility of trouble with Japan.

Roosevelt is Ready for War.

ALBUQUERQUE, March 17.—Col. Roosevelt before leaving for Arizona made arrangements to form a company of rough riders in case of war with Japan. His company will consist of old rough riders.

Aeroplane Test.

WASHINGTON, March 17.—An unannounced exhibition of aeroplanes in warfare was made here today by J. A. D. McCurdy, before Secretary of War Dickinson and others. He flew for over half an hour over the city and showed how bombs could be dropped.

THREE CHILDREN WERE CREMATED

Father Heard Their Cries But Was Unable to go to Their Assistance.

FREELAND, Pa. March 17.—Three young children of John Gallas were burned to death today in their home which was destroyed. The father found it impossible to get to the attic where the children slept. He heard their cries but was unable to save them.

PEACE DOVE IS FLUTTERING NEAR

Latest Mexican Rumors Are That President Diaz Has Offered Peace Terms to the Rebels.

HEAD OFF AMERICA

Overtures Are Thought to Have Been Made to Madero in Order to Prevent U. S. Intervention.

EL PASO, March 17.—A statement issued by Gonzales Garza, the Mexican provisional secretary of state outlining the terms of peace the insurgents would accept is interpreted to mean that President Diaz may have made overtures to Madero for peace with a view of heading off American intervention.

The fact that Limantour is speeding here on a special car from New York leads to the belief that peace overtures are being made.

Through St. Louis Last Night.

ST. LOUIS, March 17.—The private car Hidalgo, understood to have on board Senator Limantour, Mexican minister of finance, hurrying from New York to Mexico City, passed through St. Louis last night very closely guarded in order to prevent any demonstration or bodily harm which might come from emissaries of the insurgents or their sympathizers.

The car came in over the Pennsylvania at 8:10 p. m. All efforts to reach Senator Limantour failed. The door was guarded by a diplomatic young man who said he was Aureo La Madrid, that he owned the car and was a merchant of Mexico City traveling from New York with friends. Every effort possible was made by the occupants of the car to keep away reporters and others who wished to see the minister of finance. Immediately the name Limantour was mentioned the Mexican forgot to talk English and would answer with characteristic shrugs. One of the party volunteered the assertion that Senator Limantour had left New York yesterday by boat, forgetting he had said a minute before that he was entirely unacquainted with the movements of the minister.

HAD TO LET NEGRO LOOSE

Prisoner Was Deaf and Dumb, Also Unable to Read, Write or Understand Signs.

WILMINGTON, Del., March 17.—Deaf and dumb, unable to read or write, and unable to comprehend signs made to him, Wesley Irons, a giant negro arraigned in the city court for assault and battery upon Fred Plumb, a white man, had the court proceedings "stumped" for a while and was finally dismissed, as there was no way he could be made to understand. Plumb said the negro struck him after he, Plumb, had accidentally bumped into him on the street.

The court held that the prisoner could not hear what was said against him; that he could not give his side of the case, and that he could not understand anything the court might say to him. So he was dismissed. Police Captain Evans was instructed to try the best he could to warn the negro to be good in the future, but does not know whether his warning was comprehended.

Plague Reaches Trinidad.

WASHINGTON, March 15.—Plague has appeared at Port-Au-Spain, Trinidad, according to a telegram received by the state department from American Consul Hale at that point. Only one case of the disease has so far developed.

Something of a Joke.

A good example of the kind of story Mark Twain used to like to weave into his after-dinner speeches was the tale of the drinker who unwillingly put in an application for membership in a temperance society, sailed the next day on a three years' voyage, on which he kept the pledge in spite of longing and temptation, and returned to resign only to find that his name had been blackballed originally.—Buffalo Commercial.

Deterioration of the Fox.

Has the fox deteriorated in recent years? Authorities differ in their opinions. My own is that he has not the stamina, and often not the constitution or the bone of the species 50 or 60 years ago.—Country Gentleman.

NEW LAWS FOR MISSOURI

Common Law Marriages Are Prohibited in the State Unless Contracts Are Already Completed.

SPORTSMENS MEASURE

Anti-Convict Labor Bill Has Been Signed by Governor and Now Becomes a Law.

JEFFERSON CITY, Mo., March 17.—Marriages under the common law are prohibited in Missouri by a bill which passed the house by a vote of 95 to 27.

Mr. Britton of St. Louis county is the author of the act. It does not apply to contracts entered into prior to the passage of the bill.

The Boyd bill, intended to permit hunting in the home county and adjoining counties of rural hunters upon the payment of a license fee of \$1 was defeated in the house by a vote of 60 to 30. The measure was opposed by sportsmen of the cities and larger towns, who argued that it would have a tendency to encourage "pot hunters."

Gov. Hadley signed the anti-convict labor bill, which provides for the gradual abolition of the existing system in the prison of permitting the convicts to work at contract prices for private manufacturers.

Beginning a year from April 300 of the convicts will be put to work manufacturing articles to be used only in state institutions. An additional 300 will be farmed out to various counties to build good roads.

Each year an equal number will be withdrawn from the contract factories until the entire system has been eliminated.

Other Bills Passed.

Permitting state institutions to place funds in the local bank offering the highest rate of interest.

Railroad anti-rate discrimination bill. This was introduced by Mr. Lloyd of St. Louis at the request of Gov. Hadley and is similar to the Phelps bill, which has passed both houses.

Classifying vital statistics law so as to permit local registrars to issue burial certificates.

Making it prima facie evidence of an intention to defraud for a man to pass a bad check on a hotelkeeper.

Prohibiting the gigging of fish.

Permitting highway engineers to open roads without petition.

Requiring druggists to file monthly with county clerk list of all prescriptions calling for intoxicating liquors.

Hookworm Ravages Checked.

WASHINGTON, March 15.—Excellent results, are being accomplished in the fight being waged in the south against the hook-worm infection, according to reports from the commission established by J. D. Rockefeller's \$1,000,000 donation. Dr. C. W. Stiles, scientific secretary of the commission, believes scientific treatment is getting the upper hand.

Steel Trust Official Resigns.

NEW YORK, March 17.—W. B. Dickson has tendered his resignation as vice president of the United States Steel Corporation, to take effect on May 1. The resignation has been accepted.

Guatemalan President Inaugurated.

NEW YORK, March 17.—A cable dispatch received by Guatemalan counsel from Guatemala City announces the inauguration of President Manuel Estrada Cabrera for his third term as chief executive.

Dynamite Kills Stone Cutter.

DAVENPORT, March 17.—Angelo Ingeloff, a stone cutter, was instantly killed in an explosion of dynamite which he was tamping into place at the quarry. A Bulgarian had an arm blown off.

FORCED INTO MATRIMONY

Not Only That, But the Wedding Took Place Before Large Sized Audience in a Theatre.

MARRIED IN HASTE

Mrs. Hast Escaped From Husband After Two Days of Captivity and Now Wants a Divorce.

ST. LOUIS, Mo., March 17.—Held a prisoner in a room by her husband-to-be and two guards while a woman forcibly clothed her in bridal robes and then compelled to go onto the stage of the Colonial theater and marry before a large crowd are the charges made by Augusta Hast, who seeks to have the marriage set aside.

Mrs. Hast is young and pretty. She escaped from her husband after two days.

The dramatic marriage, enacted among all the tinsel of stage settings and savoring of the make-believe of the surroundings, took place January 10, last, she states.

Mrs. Hast says in her petition that on the day before the marriage Hast asked her if she would consent to the novel stage wedding with him. She says she decidedly refused.

He then pleaded with her to at least appear at the theatre and announce that the marriage, which had been extensively advertised, had been called off. She declares that after much persuasion she agreed to do this.

She went to the theatre and ascended to the rear of the stage, where she says Hast met her, and with threats compelled her to enter a room, where he and two strange men guarded her and forced her to remain. In a short while a woman attendant appeared and commenced to garb her in bridal clothes against her will, she says.

When she had donned her wedding gown she was brought onto the stage, where the ceremony was gone through with Hast, the petition declares.

After the ceremony, she says, Hast took her to a hotel, where they stayed for two days. Then, she says, she managed to escape. She has not seen him since, the petition recites.

KENYON MAKES ANOTHER GAIN

Lacks But Nine Votes Now of Breaking the Senatorial Deadlock.

DES MOINES, March 17.—Kenyon gained again in the joint ballot today for United States senator and was but nine votes short of being elected. The vote: Deemer, 32; Kenyon, 68; O'Connor, 51.

Strike Not Over.

SOMERSET, Ky., March 17.—That the firemen's strike will not be ended soon on the Queen & Crescent was stated here today. It is declared there is actual suffering in several towns for want of staple foods and business along the line is demoralized.

Illinois Phone Men Elect.

QUINCY, Ill., March 17.—The Illinois Independent Telephone Association adjourned after electing three officers: L. A. Herrick, Freeport, president; E. S. Sterrett, Henry, vice president; W. W. Halliday, Jacksonville, treasurer; M. B. Farnell, Bloomington, secretary.

Fire at Luray.

LURAY, Mo., March 17.—Fire broke out here and a portion of the town was destroyed before the flames could be subdued. The fire started in the Shussea residence and spread to the business houses, taking restaurant, blacksmith shop, livery stable and some other buildings. Loss about \$10,000; partly covered by insurance.

TWENTY YEARS FOR MURDERESS

Inhuman Mother Who Killed Her Son by Giving Him Carbolic Acid When He Asked for Drink.

IS READY TO DIE

Mrs. Melber Calm When Sentenced But Later Exclaimed "Why Didn't They Kill Me?"

ALBANY, N. Y., March 17.—A minimum sentence of twenty years at hard labor in Auburn prison and a maximum of life imprisonment was imposed by Justice Howard on Mrs. Edith Melber, following her conviction of her killing her son by giving him carbolic acid, when he asked her for a drink in a desolate marsh on the night of January 6, last.

A verdict of murder in the second degree was returned by the jury after about two hours debating. Last night Mrs. Melber's attorneys were unprepared to say whether they would take an appeal.

After giving the verdict several jurors explained that the jury had agreed that such a verdict would not keep Mrs. Melber from the insane asylum, if she is demented, but would operate to prevent her discharge later on insanity proceedings. Three ballots were taken. On the first there were six votes for conviction of murder in the first degree. Eight jurors favored a verdict of second degree murder on the second vote and on the third all agreed on this verdict.

Mrs. Melber exhibited no sign of appreciation of her position as the sentence was pronounced.

Later realization seemed to come to her and she cried: "Why didn't they kill me? I'm ready to die."

As she was leaving the court room her eyes fell upon Howard Kirk, her love for whom, according to the theory of the prosecution, instigated the crime. A flash of anger lighted her features and she cried: "I'll have you in Auburn with me before long."

Kirk smiled but made no reply. The body of Mrs. Melber's four-year-old son, George, was found by a hunter in the swamp five days after his mother had "kissed him and laid him down" as she said after she had given him the acid to drink.

Mrs. Underwood Dead.

QUINCY, Ill., March 17.—Mrs. Sara A. Underwood, of this city, a woman writer of national reputation, died in a sanitarium in Jacksonville, Ill., after several years' illness, at the age of 72 years. During her younger womanhood she contributed freely to magazines and was actively interested in equal suffrage, being treasurer of the National Woman's Suffrage association of Massachusetts for several years. Her books to gain the widest circulation were "Herones of Free Thought" and "Automatic Writing."

Caught in Belt.

GALESBURG, Ill., March 17.—John Leadbetter, a laborer at the Burlington Brick Company, met his death in trying to put a belt on a revolving wheel, when the shaft was still turning. In doing so his body was caught between the belt and wheel, which resulted in a broken arm and leg and severe scalp wounds. He was taken at once to the Galesburg hospital where he died shortly afterwards.

Elopers Are Nabbed.

CAPE GIRARDEAU, Mo., March 17.—George McNeil, Frisco section man at Wittenberg, and Miss Mamie Boyce eloped from Wittenberg and came to Cape Girardeau. They were arrested as they stepped from the train. McNeil is said to have flourished a pistol at his fiance's father and her brother. A deputy sheriff took McNeil back to Wittenberg and the girl was given into the custody of friends.

FOURTEEN RIDE ON ONE TICKET

Mrs. Frank Scott Has Thirteen Children All Under Five Years of Age and Beats the Railroads.

MOST ARE TRIPLETS

Two Sets of Doubles and Five Sets of Threes in This Remarkable Family From Oklahoma

MUSKOGEE, Okla., March 17.—Mr. and Mrs. Frank Scott of Highland, Kan., are seeking a home in this state with plenty of land. They will need it, for although they have been married not quite ten years, they are the parents of 19 children, all boys, and 13 of them are living. They hold the record for triplets, having five sets to their credit, and two sets of twins. The 13 boys living are under 5 years of age.

Recently the Scotts, deciding that they must find more land, went to Alberta, Canada. They were not satisfied there and returned. On the return trip Mrs. Scott and her 13 children all rode on one first-class ticket. At Omaha the conductor made a vigorous protest.

"Madam, you cannot carry a whole Sunday school along with you on that one ticket," he said, "and you need not tell me those are all yours. You will have to pay fare for some of them."

"The rules of this railroad provide that a child under 5 years of age may ride free when accompanied by a parent with a first-class ticket, don't they?" retorted Mrs. Scott.

"They do, but you will have to show me."

Mrs. Scott dug down into her valise and brought out the family bible, in which is recorded the names and the ages of each of the children. The conductor had to give in. The mother and children occupied five double seats in the homeseeker's car and paid for only one.

The names and ages of the children are: Ashbell, Archer and Austin, triplets, 4 1/2 years old; Arthur and Arnold, twins; 3 1/2; Allan, Almon and Albin, triplets, 2 1/2; Albert, Albion and Adolph, triplets, 18 months; Abel and Abner, twins, 6 months. Mrs. Scott is 30 years old and her husband is one year her senior.

The mother and children are now in Highland, Kansas, while the father is in Oklahoma seeking a location. He plans to buy some cheap Indian land.

GOTCH BREAKS WRESTLER'S SKULL

Tossed Samson to the Mat so Hard That His Skull Was Cracked.

CHICAGO, Ill., March 17.—Frank Gotch, champion wrestler, in his bout last night with Henry Bahn, known as Samson, the 280 pound German champion, threw his opponent so hard as to cause a fracture of the German's skull. Physicians at the match declared Bahn was seriously hurt. The men were to have wrestled for two out of three falls.

After they had struggled for seven minutes and twenty seconds Gotch secured a leg hold and tossed the German over his head. Bahn landed on the back of his head and became unconscious.

The match was awarded to Gotch, who later announced he had signed a contract to meet any wrestler in the world. Walter Willoughby of Cleveland, champion middle weight, threw William Moonson of Tampico, Ill., in twenty-one minutes, twenty-one seconds. Willoughby won the second fall in ten minutes, two seconds.

Pictures on Damp Walls.

Take as many corks as are required, cut them in two and pass a short pin through each piece, so that the point protrudes at the other end. Fix one piece on each of the two lower back corners of your picture frames. This prevents the pictures when hung, from touching the walls and permits a current of air to pass uninterruptedly between, carrying off all damp and moisture that would otherwise be absorbed by the pictures.

Good Manners a Requisite.

A brilliant mind, the possession of unusual talents and worldly success are all to be desired, but nothing will compensate for a lack of good manners, while the possession of good manners will frequently make amends for a certain lack of book knowledge, talent and world success.

HIGH COST OF FARM HANDS

Were Paid Better Last Year Than Any Time in the Past Lifetime According to Statistics.

WEST PAID THE HIGHEST

Average Wage for Labor on Nevada Farms Was \$54 Per Month While Carolina Paid But \$16.50.

WASHINGTON, March 17.—Higher wages were paid to American farm laborers during 1910 than at any time in the last forty-five years, according to statistics just made public by the department of agriculture. The average wage for the country was \$27.50 per month during 1910, while twenty years ago it was only \$18.33, with board the average wage was \$19.21. In some parts of the country the rate of wages of farm laborers was higher than in others. The highest was in Nevada, where the rate was \$54 while in Montana and Washington it was \$50. South Carolina paid the lowest rate, \$16.50 a month.

In the New England and North Atlantic states the average was \$33.19, with Massachusetts paying the highest, \$37.20. With board the average was \$21.65.

In the South Atlantic states the average was \$19.75, with West Virginia paying the highest, \$29. With board the average was \$13.77.

In the northern central states east of the Mississippi river, the average was \$31.51 with Wisconsin paying the highest, \$37.35. With board the average was \$22.94.

In the northern central states west of the Mississippi the average was \$35.45 with North Dakota paying the highest, \$42. With board the average was \$25.30.

In the south central states the average was \$21.90 with Oklahoma paying the highest, \$28.10. With board the average was \$15.25.

In the far western states the average was \$46.48 with Nevada paying the highest, \$54. With board the average was \$32.69.

Senator Stone Better.

KANSAS CITY, March 17.—Senator Stone who has had the grip for several days, shows considerable improvement today.

THE WEATHER.

For Keokuk and Vicinity.—Unsettled with snow and rain and colder tonight. Saturday generally fair and colder.

For Illinois.—Increasing cloudiness with rain or snow northern and rain southern portion tonight or Saturday. Colder Saturday.

For Iowa.—Unsettled with snow or rain and colder tonight, Saturday generally fair with colder east portion.

For Missouri.—Unsettled weather with rain or snow tonight or Saturday. Colder Saturday and north and west portions tonight.

Weather Conditions. The field of high pressure from the Central Valleys has moved to the Atlantic Coast, where the weather is generally fair, and moderately cool, and the advancing western era of low pressure forms a trough extending from Western Texas to Minnesota the temperature rising with its advance from the Rockies eastward, and there has been light snow from the Rockies to the Upper Lake Region.

A field of high pressure developing in Montana, is attended by falling temperature in the northwest. Conditions indicate rain or snow for this section tonight, followed by clearing colder weather Saturday.

Daily River Bulletin.

Stage Height Change With'r St. Paul ... 14 0.2 ... Snow La Crosse ... 12 0.8 -0.1 ... Clear Dubuque ... 18 ... Clear Davenport ... 15 2.2 -0.2 ... Clear Galland ... 8 1.3 0.0 ... Keokuk ... 15 2.4 -0.2 ... Hazy St. Louis ... 30 19.7 -0.5 ... Clear

River Forecast.

The river will fall slowly for the next 48 hours.

Local Observations.

March 17. Bar. Ther. Wind Weather 16 7 p. m. ... 30.20 31 SE Clear 17 7 a. m. ... 29.92 35 S Hazy Mean temperature, 26. Highest temperature, 35. Lowest temperature 18. Lowest temperature last night 20.

FRED Z. GOSEWISCH, Observer.

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