

COMMITTEES HARD AT WORK FOR CONVENTION

Representative Business Men of National Reputation Appointed Yesterday Are Already Exerting Their Influence Toward Having New York Chosen as the Meeting Place.

John D. Crimmins, Who Is at the Head of the Movement, Expects to Have the Preliminary Organization Fully Completed by Next Tuesday.

Mr. John D. Crimmins, who is heading the movement started by The Evening World to bring the National Democratic Convention to New York in June, 1904, began to-day by seeing representative business men in New York, all of whom have become interested in the plan and most of whom will not only work for the convention and use their influence, but will contribute to the necessary fund to make a bid to get the convention here.

The meeting held in the ante-room of the Board of Aldermen yesterday, and another in Mr. Crimmins's office, have already begun to be productive of results. Both meetings have had the effect of making New York in earnest, which means that New York will get the convention if concerted action can now be relied upon.

FAMOUS MEN ON COMMITTEES.
Working with Mr. Crimmins are Daniel S. Lagan, Anthony Brady, O. H. P. Belmont, James A. Gorman, Jefferson Levy, F. L. Lawrence, J. Edward Simmons, W. Bourke Cockran, J. C. Hendricks, T. J. Grant, W. T. Sheehan, C. T. Barney, R. A. C. Smith and other gentlemen of prominence. Besides these gentlemen is the committee appointed at the meeting yesterday in the ante-room of the Board of Aldermen. This committee is composed of W. L. Jaques, Simeon L. Ford, Daniel N. Donegan, W. C. Whitney and John Quincy Adams.

It will be the purpose of the head of the movement and the various committees formed under him to appoint other working committees, all of whom are expected to display the same activity now being shown by Mr. Crimmins and his co-workers.

"I believe that by next Tuesday," Mr. Crimmins said, "our organization will have been completed. We will then be in the position to make a bid for the Convention. We are progressing nicely."

NOT OF POLITICAL SIGNIFICANCE.
Mr. Crimmins has impressed upon the gentlemen who are working with him, and upon those he is trying to interest, that this movement is not of political significance; that it is a movement which was started for the city's welfare alone, and that the convention, if brought here, will be of untold commercial benefit to the city. He believes that it will give New York a business impetus that will continue and be of lasting benefit.

Mr. Crimmins has not yet accepted the offer made by the Merchants' Association, first through its former President, Mr. W. F. King, and later by Mr. H. D. Dumont at the meeting in the City Hall yesterday, to lend the clerical force of the Merchants' Association to aid in the clerical work to get the convention to New York. This offer, however, Mr. Crimmins thinks well of. He said when it was made to him:

WOULD BE OF GREAT SERVICE.
"That is a splendidly organized force and would be of great service to us should there be any great amount of clerical work necessary."
Mr. Crimmins has not made known the amount of money he has received in pledges for the convention. That he has progressed he admits. To this fund will be added \$5,000 given by The Evening World, \$1,000 by Sam Shubert, the theatrical manager; \$1,000 by Fred Thompson, President of Luna Park, and \$1,000 by Congressman Timothy D. Sullivan.

GOV. ODELL HERE, WILL SEE PLATT

Appearance of the State Executive Unexpected, and, While Retirent, He Admits that He Will Confer with the Senator.

DREDGE SINKS IN NIGHT.

Believed that the Engineer Was Asleep Aboard.

BROWN & CO. GET CITY PRINTING

Henri Rogowski's Bid, Which Was \$19,500 Lower than His Rival, Was Declared Irregular and Thrown Out.

Martin B. Brown & Co. will publish the City Record for the year of 1904. The Board of City Record-to-day threw out the bid of Henri Rogowski as irregular and informal and voted unanimously to give the contract to the Martin B. Brown Company. The contract for the City Record will mean an expenditure of about \$150,000, while there are "extras" enough to bring this sum up to \$225,000.

Rogowski's bid was \$19,500 lower than that of the Martin B. Brown Company. When it was submitted at a former meeting of the board, the Supervisor of the City Record was asked to make an investigation as to the ability of Rogowski to do the peculiar kind of work required.

JOHNSON FANCIED TRUNK.

Now He's Facing a Charge of Larceny.

MEETING OF CITIZENS AT THE CITY HALL MAKING PLANS FOR BRINGING NATIONAL CONVENTION.



THREE NOTABLES HERE FROM ABROAD

Henry Norman, M. P.; Charles Allen, Burglar, and W. H. Ellis, Who Visited King Menelik, All Arrive on the Majestic.

Three men, each notable in his own line, arrived to-day on the White Sea line steamship Majestic. They are Henry Norman, member of Parliament and authority on Russian affairs; William H. Ellis, a Wall Street broker, who has been on a visit to King Menelik of Abyssinia, and Charles Allen, noted post-office burglar, who escaped from the Ludlow Street Jail with Joe Killoran and Charles Russell in 1886.

Allen has been serving three years in Dartmoor prison, England, and was arrested when released. He was brought back by Deputy United States Marshal Watts and Alfred E. Ball, of Scotland Yard.

The noted burglar is now about sixty years old, wearing a neatly trimmed gray beard and dressed like a prosperous merchant. He was taken immediately to a train and started for Springfield, Ill., where he will be tried for robbing the Post-Office there in 1885 of \$5,000.

With Killoran and Russell, Charles Allen frightened Sheriff Thomas's deputies in the Ludlow Street Jail by making them believe that silver match-safes were loaded with revolvers, and they walked out of the jail unmolested. The frightened deputies ran through the streets crying, "Der chail is out!"

William H. Ellis had much to say of his visit to King Menelik. He will try to have the United States negotiate a trade treaty with the dusky monarch.

"When I started for the King's palace I was accompanied by a retinue of 200 servants. I was received in state and with much cordiality. Menelik is fifty-eight or sixty years old and claims to be a direct descendant of the Queen of Sheba. He denies that he is a negro and is not as dark as I am.

"He was very friendly with me and I know he thinks a great deal of America. He had never heard of Abraham Lincoln, but when I told him that Lincoln had freed the slaves he was greatly pleased and said he must have been a great and good man. Menelik is abolishing slavery in Abyssinia, having promulgated a law that no more slaves shall be taken and that the children of those who are now slaves shall be free men.

Menelik will sign a treaty with this country which will mean at least \$20,000,000 yearly trade for our factories and merchants. I have a personal letter from King Menelik which I shall present to President Roosevelt and it may be that a trade arrangement can be made."

Henry Norman said that Russia does not desire war, but that if urged she will fight.

"Japan would be a most powerful foe," he said, "and I think would give Russia a long and hard fight. Of course, England has the sea power, but our sympathies are naturally with our ally, Japan, but I cannot say now if our naval and military forces would be at her disposal in case of war with Russia. That would be a most drastic step and would have to be decided by Parliament."

Allen said briefly, "I am willing to go back. I guess it is all up with me."

ENDED LIFE WITH AID.
Michael Leavy, fifty-four years old, of No. 998 East One Hundred and Forty-ninth street, committed suicide to-day by taking carbolic acid at his residence.

STOCKS ADVANCE ON MONEY OUTLOOK

But While Wall Street Looks for Improved Market Broker Talks of Threatened Squeeze That May Bring on Trouble.

After showing a reactionary tendency during the early hours of trading the market developed strength and held it until the close. The report of the money movements of currency, which indicate a gain of the banks of about \$2,500,000 during the week gives promise of a fair bank statement, and this caused those who otherwise would have sold their stocks to hold them, in hope that there would be an active and strong market on Saturday.

Amalgamated Copper was one of the best stocks of the day and made a sharp advance on excellent buying. Steel issues held well, and the common showed such vigor that there are many who are beginning to believe that perhaps after all the common will be permitted to remain among the dividend payers.

Brooklyn Rapid Transit was weak early, due, it seemed, to the efforts of the bull pool to shake out some of its rather cumbersome following. This seemed to be effective, and after an hour there was a sharp recovery in the stock.

Mr. Keene was active again in Southern Pacific, which was strong on the prospect of a dividend in 1904. The Union Pacific earnings were so good for November, the net showing an increase of more than \$300,000, that the stock held firm all day.

One prominent man, the head of a large commission house, said to-day that he would not be surprised at any time to see the shorts severely squeezed as he has watched the market very closely and knows that there is a large short interest. Last night he loaned 3,000 shares of Amalgamated Copper to a party who had borrowed 10,000 shares of the same stock to the number of 20,000 shares. He thinks that other houses have also made large loans. He will call all his loans on Saturday, and he understands that there will be a general calling at the same time, which will, if the programme is carried out, cause a bearish stir which should bring about a price higher. The broker in question reports that he expects a squeeze of the shorts in many stocks, and while there will be nothing like the Northern Pacific excitement there will be moments of anxiety for the bears.

The total sales of stocks were \$74,100 shares and of bonds \$1,934,000.

The Closing Quotations.

To-day's highest, lowest and closing prices and net changes from yesterday's closing prices or from last recorded sale are as follows:

	High	Low	Close	Net
Amal. Copper	52 1/2	50 1/2	51 1/2	+ 1/2
Am. Sugar	128 1/2	127 1/2	127 1/2	0
Am. T. & S. P. S. D.	91	90 1/2	90 1/2	- 1/2
Balt. & Ohio	80	79 1/2	79 1/2	- 1/2
Can. Pac.	119 1/2	118 1/2	119	+ 1/2
Ches. & Ohio	33 1/2	33 1/2	33 1/2	0
Col. Fuel & Iron	20 1/2	20 1/2	20 1/2	0
Gen. S. & W. P.	20 1/2	20 1/2	20 1/2	0
Ill. Cent.	131 1/2	131 1/2	131 1/2	0
Louis. & N. O.	110	109 1/2	110 1/2	+ 1/2
Manhattan	141	140 1/2	141	0
N. Y. Sec. Ex.	124 1/2	124 1/2	124 1/2	0
Mo. Pac. ex-div.	94 1/2	94 1/2	94 1/2	0
N. Y. C. ex-div.	119 1/2	119 1/2	119 1/2	0
N. Y. C. ex-div.	119 1/2	119 1/2	119 1/2	0
Ont. & Western	119 1/2	119 1/2	119 1/2	0
People's Gas	98 1/2	98 1/2	98 1/2	0
Reading 1st pt.	77 1/2	77 1/2	77 1/2	0
Reading 2d pt.	61	60 1/2	61	+ 1/2
Rock Island	24 1/2	24 1/2	24 1/2	0
Rock Island pt.	50 1/2	50 1/2	50 1/2	0
South. Ry.	20 1/2	20 1/2	20 1/2	0
St. L. & S. W. P.	92 1/2	92 1/2	92 1/2	0
Texas Pac.	20 1/2	20 1/2	20 1/2	0
Union Pac.	81	80 1/2	80 1/2	- 1/2
U. S. Leather	7 1/2	7 1/2	7 1/2	0
U. S. Steel	12 1/2	12 1/2	12 1/2	0
Wabash	17 1/2	17 1/2	17 1/2	0
West. Un.	17 1/2	17 1/2	17 1/2	0
Wis. Central	17	16 1/2	17	+ 1/2

+ Advance, - Decline.

WHEAT MARKET.
Strength marked the opening of the wheat market to-day with prices 3-8 of a cent higher.

There were some good orders here to buy wheat, assumed to be for European account.

COTTON BEARS ARE STILL IN CONTROL

Leader Price, with His Battering Force, Holds the Market and Forces Values Down from 15 to 34 Points.

Cotton was still in control of the bears in the market to-day and prices in the early trading showed a decline of from 15 to 34 points.

Leader Price, who checked Bull Operator Hall, in his killing campaign, declared himself in good trim to carry on the campaign for lower values and fought every attempt at a rise.

Settlement again ruled in the pit and the trading was quite heavy. August suffered the greatest loss, its closing price yesterday, July was off 25 and June 31 points. The rest of the list was down from 21 to 25 points off.

The early prices were: January, 12 1/2 to 12 3/4; March, 13 1/2 to 13 3/4; April, 12 1/2 to 13 1/2; May, 13 1/2 to 13 3/4; June, 13 1/2 to 13 3/4; August, 12 1/2 to 12 3/4; October, 11 1/2 to 11 3/4.

The bulls fought to the front in the later dealings and made gains of from 25 to 30 points, but the bears still had the list showing losses.

GOULD TO MERGE ALL HIS ROADS

Big Holding Company Planned for System That Will Be a Gigantic Trunk Line Stretching Across the Continent.

ALL PRINCIPAL TRAFFIC CENTRES WILL BE TAPPED.

Favorable Decision in Northern Securities Case Will Hasten Project, but It Will Go Through in Any Event.

George Gould has planned a big holding company for the merging of the railroads known as the Gould roads. Arrangements are quite complete for combining the lines in a continental trunk system and a favorable decision in the Northern Securities case is only awaited to launch the project. Even though the Court ruling is adverse to the Northern Securities a way will be found to operate the combine within the law.

There have been lately a number of half-hearted denials of such an action on the part of George J. Gould, but a statement made by a Gould attorney shows that such denials are made for effect.

The lessee of a building belonging to the Gould estate called on the attorney of the property to get him to make some improvements on the building, which is an old one, and was told that it could not be made, saying:

"Mr. Gould has no money to spend on improvements now. He is using all his funds to bring together his roads under one company. He let go of his control of the Manhattan Company for that purpose, so you can see what chance there is for you to get any improvements. The uniting of the Gould roads under one head is only a matter of a short time."

"This is the most positive statement that has been made, and it is important in that it was not intended to become public.

The recent strength in the Gould stocks on the Stock Exchange has led many to believe that the amalgamation is rapidly drawing near, and in

GOULD ROADS TO BE MERGED IN GIGANTIC TRUNK LINE

Road.	Miles.	Capital.	Funded Debt.
Missouri Pacific	5,651	\$100,000,000	\$154,248,000
St. Louis Southwestern	1,300	36,500,000	26,186,250
Wabash	2,490	52,000,000	91,523,000
Texas Pacific	1,750	50,000,000	54,259,100
Int. Gt. Northern	1,130	25,000,000	24,000,000
Wheeling & Lake Erie	490	36,980,400	19,779,370
Western Maryland	268	16,009,400	35,000,000
Denver & Rio Grande	2,390	82,000,000	81,563,000
Ann Arbor	292	7,250,000	7,250,000
West. Va. Central	208	10,546,100	4,900,000
Total	15,969	\$416,285,900	\$490,708,620

quarters close to the Goulds it is almost admitted that a favorable decision of the Northern Securities case will mean a quick announcement of a company to take over all the Gould roads.

This would mean a system of 16,000 miles covering the richest sections of the country. When completed it will be the only real trunk line, for it will reach across the continent, although part of the distance will be over the Harriman roads.

The total capitalization of the roads is \$416,285,900 and the bonded debt \$490,708,620.

The roads included are the Missouri Pacific, Wabash, St. Louis Southwestern, Texas Pacific, International Great Northern, Wheeling & Lake Erie, Western Maryland, Denver & Rio Grande, Ann Arbor, West Virginia Central and several smaller roads.

The Gould lines have now entered Pittsburg and Baltimore, so that they have an Atlantic and a Gulf seaport and a nice port and reach to Salt Lake City, whence cars will be run to the Pacific over the Harriman lines.

It will be but a year or so, under the management of George J. Gould, backed up by John D. Rockefeller, before the Wabash gets into New York through some treaty with the Vanderbilts.

Each day brings the actual uniting of these roads into one great system. That the movement to this end is well advanced, and that the plans of financing such a combination have been thoroughly discussed and arranged is almost beyond question.

CURB STOCKS DULL.

Prices Practically Unchanged in the Outside Market.

Curb stocks were dull to-day with the list practically unchanged. The bid and asked prices of the principal outside securities were:

	Bid.	Asked.
American Can	32 1/2	33 1/2
American Ice	10 1/2	11 1/2
Greene Copper	12 1/2	13 1/2
Marine	4 1/2	5 1/2
Standard Oil	69 1/2	70 1/2
Standard Air Line	10 1/2	11 1/2
Western Air Line	21 1/2	22 1/2
Union Copper	6 1/2	7 1/2
Northern Securities	8 1/2	9 1/2
New Orleans	10 1/2	11 1/2
St. Louis	30 1/2	31 1/2
St. Paul	27 1/2	28 1/2
St. Paul Elevator	7 1/2	8 1/2

SAN DOMINGO IS SWEEPED BY WAR

Three Governments, Each with an Army, Are Battling Fiercely for Control of the West Indies Republic.

SANTO DOMINGO, Dec. 31.—The situation here is desperate. Three governments are in power, one in each district, and each has an army.

On Monday there was a battle before the gates of the city near the residence of Mr. Powell, the American Minister. Commander-in-Chief Casimero Soto and several others, including a bugler, were killed in the fight. The residence of Mr. Powell is about 1,600 feet from the city. He removed eight hours before the fighting began.

A British warship is here, but is not to remain, although there will continue to be trouble, and there is not the slightest chance of a settlement. The situation appears to be war to the knife between the factions. All the telegraph lines are cut, so that communication through the island is possible only by a messenger or by boat from port to port.

Lecture by W. B. Yeats.

The Irish poet William Butler Yeats will deliver a lecture on Sunday evening next at Carnegie Hall, under the auspices of the Irish Literary Society of New York, on "The Intellectual Revival in Ireland." W. Bourke Cockran will preside and deliver the introductory address.

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