INAUGURATION PLANS BEGINNING TO CLEAR UP

Usual Special Session of Senate Will Be Called for March 5 to Consider Nominations.

WILSON MAY TAKE TWO OATHS

Will Be Sworn In Privately at White House on Sunday and Probably Again Publicly at Open Air Ceremonies in Front of Capitol.

[By Associated Press.]

WASHINGTON, February 23.—Plans for President Wilson's inauguration, hitherto indefinite and confused, because March 4 falls on Sunday, were much cleared up to-day by official announcement that the usual special session of the Senate will be called for March 5 to consider nominations.

This will permit the inauguration of the Vice-President in the Senate chamber, as is the custom, with all the attendant ceremonies.

President Wilson himself, it was also announced, will take an oath of office privately in the White House on Sunday, March 4. It was not made clear whether he has decided to take the oath again at the public open air ceremonies on the plaza at the Capitol on March 5, or whether he will merely make the ceremony the occasion for delivering his inaugural address. It is probable, however, that he will take another oath, then to make the inaugural ceremony complete in all its usual features.

A State Department ruling has made clear that the President may wait and not take any oath at all until March 5 if he chooses to do so.

"There is no interregnum between the expiration of the term of one President and the beginning of the term of his successor," says the State Department's ruling, "although there may be a slight interval when the executive power is suspended."

OPINION GIVEN IN LETTER BY ASSISTANT SECRETARY ADEE

The opinion is given in a circular letter made public by Assistant Secretary Adee.

Precedent is cited showing that President Hayes, who was elected for the term beginning March 4, 1877, which day came on Sunday, was sworn in at 7:05 P. M. March 3, at the White House by Chief Justice Waite, and that the oath was again taken by President Hayes on March 5, after his inaugural address.

The letter also cites an opinion by Chief Justice Marshall, given at the time when a presidential term first commenced on Sunday, in which the Chief Justice and his associates advocated postponing the oath till Monday, "unless some official duty should require it being taken on Sunday."

"As the Constitution only provides that the President shall take the oath as it prescribes 'before he enter on the execution of his office,' and as the law is silent on the subject," says the department's ruling, "the time seems to be in some measure at the discretion of that high officer. There is an obvious propriety in taking the oath as soon as it can conveniently be taken, and thereby shortening the interval is inevitable. This interval may be unavoidably prolonged. If circumstances should render it unfit to take the oath on the 4th of March, and the public business would sustain no injury by its being deferred till the 5th, no impropriety is perceived in deferring it till the 5th."

TO BE NO LONG HALT IN INAUGURAL PARADE.

Further assurance was given today that there would be no long halt in the inaugural parade while the President was having his lunch at the White House following his return from the Capitol. Chairman Harrier, of the inaugural committee, who called at the White House, was told that the President is anxious to every way possible to avoid the delay in the movement of the parade which has characterized past inaugural parades.

The President has consented to have a simple luncheon and get out on the stand to review the marchers as they pass by as fast as they can. It is understood this probably will not take more than fifteen or twenty minutes. In the occasion of former inaugural parades the time occupied by the President's luncheon has never been less than an hour.

The fact that the President will spend little time at luncheon does not mean that the members of his personal party will do likewise, it is stated. An elaborate luncheon may be served, as on former occasions, to the members of the President's personal party, including relatives and specially invited guests.

Announcement was made at inaugural headquarters today that the Democratic Club of Columbus, Ohio, may participate in the parade and sing as it marches on Pennsylvania Avenue. This is the oldest political glee club in the country, it is stated, having been organized in 1844. J. Elmer Trautman is the business manager. His father was one of the first members of the organization a number of years ago. The club has made a specialty of singing in parades, and it should participate in the procession on March 5. It will provide a distinctive feature.—Chairman Harrier believes.

Children of the Neighborhood Houses may participate in the inaugural parade as they did in the preparedness parade last summer. The participation now is under advisement, and a decision is expected within a day or so. It is proposed to have forty girls and children march in fancy costumes, and each one of them will represent a State of the Union. The costumes will be worn over their regular school dresses so that they will be warm enough should the weather be cold.

Definite assurance was given Chairman Harrier today that the Boy Scouts of Washington will take part in the parade. Even if the day is cold they will march, but in event of snow they will not, it is stated.

Pershing Leaves El Paso.

EL PASO, TEX., February 23.—Major-General John J. Pershing left here late last night for San Antonio, Texas, to take command of the Southern Department, filling the place made vacant by the death of Major-General Frederick Funston. Brigadier-General George Bell, Jr., succeeded automatically to the command of the El Paso patrol district by reason of seniority.

Would Give Power to Seize Food

Lewis Amendment, Conferring Authority on President, Proposes Public Sale.

[By Associated Press.]

WASHINGTON, February 23.—Senator Lewis, Democrat, to-day introduced as an amendment to the revenue bill a provision to authorize the President to seize foodstuffs deemed to be monopolized in violation of the law. Foodstuffs so seized would be disposed of at public sale under government supervision.

The Lewis amendment would authorize the President, whenever information to justify his action should be obtained, to proclaim "that the food and necessities of life of a citizen are being monopolized and wrongfully held by persons in the United States for the purpose of an unjust increase in price," and to provide for lawful seizure of such necessities in any United States court by processes that might be filed by any United States attorney.

Seizures might be made by any law officer of the Federal government or State officer authorized to act in conjunction with him, or by authority of the President through executive order.

Senator Martine to-day introduced a bill to empower the President to declare an embargo on food exports. It was referred to the Foreign Relations Committee without debate. Similar resolutions are pending without prospect of action.

EXPECTS LARGE NUMBER AT GOVERNORS' MEETING

Conference to Be Held March 6 Assured of Success, Believes Chairman Williams.

WASHINGTON, February 23.—That there will be a big attendance of Governors and representatives of trade bodies throughout the country at the conference to be held at Hotel Powhatan on March 6 to consider plans for the establishment in Washington of a permanent States' exposition is believed to be assured.

Numerous communications are being received by Nathan B. Williams, chairman of the joint committee of State societies, and William M. K. Clayton, chairman of the exposition committee of the Federation of Citizens' Associations, which jointly are arranging for the conference, indicate that the exposition idea is meeting with warm response outside the capital. One Governor has gone so far as to express the hope that the conference would develop a working plan which could be presented to the legislature of his State next month.

Invitations went out recently from Mr. Williams's committee to 1,000 trade organizations, asking them to send at least two delegates each to the conference. The meeting will be called to order at 10:30 o'clock on the morning of March 6 in the new ballroom of the Hotel Powhatan. District Commissioner Newman will deliver the address of welcome.

As proof that there is interest outside the capital in the permanent exposition suggestion, Mr. Williams has called attention to the fact that the Governors of Arizona, Kentucky, Florida, New Hampshire, South Dakota and Texas appointed voluntary committees to cooperate in the endeavor to get a successful issue of the movement.

Mr. Williams also made public indorsements received from the following State executives: Governor Bickett, North Carolina—"It is a great idea, and should prove a powerful educational influence." Governor Lister, Washington—"I believe there is a good deal of merit in it." Governor Bilbo, Mississippi—"I will be glad to render any aid needed."

"Such an exposition as is planned," said Mr. Williams, "will do for the several States in a broad and comprehensive manner what the Pan-American Union is doing for the American republics. At this time, when the leading spirits in American industry and the government itself recognize the growing importance of foreign trade, the utility of such permanent exhibits in the capital of the nation is readily apparent. They will make possible also a better understanding of the relation of the several States to the growth and development of the nation as a whole."

Mr. Williams said that the various States have spent $[illegible] in recent years in temporary exhibitions at world fairs. He also called attention to the fact that George Washington in 1886, in collaboration with Major L'Enfant, in laying out plans for the development of Washington, designated a site for permanent State buildings to house permanent exhibits from each of the original thirteen States.

Ill at Hospital.

Raymond Hayward, son of W. H. Hayward, of 803 East Leigh Street, is ill at the Sheltering Arms Hospital.

EPISCOPAL CHURCHES HAVE RAISED $5,636

Amount Subscribed in Petersburg Will Go to General Pension Fund.

PLANNING TO GREET GRAYS

Sixty New Members Enrolled by the Juvenile Protective Association. Automobile Show to Open at Lakemont Park on Next Tuesday.

[Special to The Times-Dispatch.]

PETERSBURG, VA., February 23.—The executive committee of the Episcopal Church pension fund for Petersburg, set $6,000 as the amount to be raised for the fund in the city by March 1. At a meeting of the committee yesterday afternoon, it was officially reported that cash subscriptions to the amount of $5,636 had been secured, divided among the churches as follows: Grace Church, $2,221.50; St. Paul's, $2,219.50; Good Shepherd Memorial, $1,150; St. John's, $45. It is believed that the amount will be increased to $6,000 by the end of the month.

Early Morning Fire.

Fire was discovered about 2 o'clock this morning on the vacant floor above the Shapiro store on old Market Square, causing damage to the amount of several hundred dollars, much of it by water. How the fire originated is not known, but it is supposed to have started in a room containing some wood and rubbish.

Securing New Members.

Sixty or more new members were enrolled yesterday in the Petersburg Juvenile Protective Association, and intention is to secure 500 new members, in order to enable the association to more effectively prosecute its work of helping delinquent boys and girls.

Reception of the Grays.

Arrangements for the reception of the Petersburg Grays on their return home from Richmond next week, are progressing satisfactorily. They will be met at the railroad station and will be escorted through the streets by citizens in automobiles, headed by a band of music and a detachment of uniformed police, and will march through lines of school children waving flags. The reception will close with a banquet at the Hotel Petersburg.

The Automobile Show.

Between forty and fifty entries of cars of twenty-five or thirty different makes have thus far been made for the automobile show, which is to open at Lakemont Park next Tuesday and continue through the week. Features of the show will be music and dancing each evening.

Another Auto Accident.

What came near being a very serious accident occurred to-day on the Petersburg-Hopewell highway. J. M. Pride, of Chesterfield, was driving an automobile in which were seated Mrs. Charles Cabaniss and Mrs. John M. Hanrahan, of this city, and, in turning aside to allow another car to pass, the machine ran off the concrete roadbed, and overturned. Mr. Pride had both bones of his left forearm fractured, but Mrs. Cabaniss and Mrs. Hanrahan were not injured.

To Form Country Club.

At a meeting of a number of prominent citizens Wednesday night in the rooms of the Chamber of Commerce, steps were taken for the organization of a country club, and committees were appointed as follows: on membership, W. W. Townes, chairman; on ways and means, T. F. Heath, chairman; on plans, Arthur Kyle Davis, chairman; on location, F. M. Hobbs, chairman. The committees will get to work at once, and will make their reports at an early meeting. Several sites for the club have been offered, and the committee on location started out this afternoon to inspect them.

Thieves Get Clothes.

The store of the Belcher Tailoring Company, in Oak Street, was broken into on Wednesday night and robbed of four complete suits of clothes, suit patterns, etc., valued at $110. Entrance to the store was gained by forcing the front door lock. No clue to the thieves or stolen goods has been obtained.

Wedding Notes.

Miss Otelia Mahone Cock, daughter of Mrs. Laura Richardson, of this city, and Joseph Newton Gwaltney, of Surry County, were married on Wednesday evening by Rev. F. W. Moore, at the minister's home. The couple left for Florida on their bridal trip.

Mr. and Mrs. Lewiston Yeomans, of Trenton, N. J., announce the engagement and approaching marriage of their daughter, Marion Virginia, to Everett L. Mann, of this city.

Old Will Probated.

Commonwealth's Attorney T. H. Haverton, of Sussex County, was in the city on Thursday, and had probated in the clerk's office of the Hustings Court a will which was made forty-three years ago. The delay was due to the fact that the parties interested did not know it was necessary to record the will. It disposes of property in Petersburg and Sussex.

Notes of Interest.

Chief E. V. Farley, of the Petersburg Fire Department, who has been under treatment in a Richmond hospital for some weeks, writes that he is so much improved that he will return home next week.

Judge Dabney, of Charlottesville, will preside in Prince George Circuit Court next week for Judge West in the trial of civil cases.

Charles Jackson, colored, was sent to the Hustings Court this morning on the charge of bringing liquor into the city. He was found with twenty-eight pints of whisky, which he had brought from Washington.

RED TAPE SLASHED BY NEW EMPEROR

Officials Made to Work—Many Heads Fall in Clean-Up—Ruler Aids the People.

[By Associated Press.]

VIENNA, February 20 (via London, February 23).—The intense cold weather has passed and a thaw has set in, which has solved the fuel difficulty of Vienna and incidentally greatly facilitated the importation of foodstuffs. The flour mills, which were shut down owing to frozen rivers, are again in operation, and full bread rations are once more in force.

Emperor Charles has been a tireless worker in the campaign to relieve economic conditions, and the imperial teams are still hauling coal for the populace. The sight of the blooded stock, heretofore only harnessed to state coaches, hauling heavy coal trucks is one of the curious war-time incidents in the Austrian capital. The Emperor recently banished wheat bread from the officers' mess at army headquarters, and had both wheat bread and flour removed from a special train which was taking his brother, Archduke Maximilian, to Constantinople. In issuing this latter order, the Emperor remarked that if the common soldiers, the people and himself were contented with black bread, the navy on the train should be also.

Another result of the monarch's intervention has been that Vienna street cars are still running day and night. Dr. Weiskirchner, the burgomaster, had decided that no cars should be run between 5 in the morning and 5 in the afternoon. The Emperor informed Dr. Weiskirchner that this step must not be thought of, and at first the burgomaster threatened to resign.

After a talk with the Emperor over the telephone, however, the head of the municipality changed his mind. It appears that Dr. Weiskirchner told the Emperor that the cars must be stopped on account of lack of coal. He was promptly told that it was his business to find fuel, and he did so. In order to avoid sidestepping by the City Council, the Emperor himself fixed the number of cars which were to run.

Some official circles in Vienna and elsewhere throughout the empire have not yet recovered from the shock caused by the energetic methods of Emperor Francis Joseph's young successor. Red tape has been cut right and left, and official heads continue to fall in the general clean-up, which is still going on. It is a sad time for certain army officers who have been enjoying staff sinecures. In one instance the Emperor sent a batch of seventy to the front and replaced them by invalided officers. While the official classes were at first inclined to offer passive resistance to the Emperor, they have now resigned themselves to the inevitable. Those who feel the pace of the new regime too fast are resigning, while the rest are attempting to live up to the monarch's demands for hard work, efficiency and punctuality.

The energy and force of character displayed by the young Emperor are attributed by those who know him to the fact that he was reared in what was far from the lap of luxury, comparatively speaking. His branch of the imperial family was notoriously poor, and before he became heir-apparent he was often actually hard up.

MRS. ELEANOR GORDON DEAD

Widow of Confederate Veteran Was Said to Have Been First White Child Born in Chicago.

[By Associated Press.]

SAVANNAH, GA., February 23.—Mrs. Eleanor K. Gordon, widow of General William Washington Gordon, a Confederate veteran, died at her home here late yesterday. Mrs. Gordon, who was eighty-two years old, was said to have been the first white girl born in Chicago.

DEATHS IN VIRGINIA

L. Russell Smith.

L. Russell Smith, a well-known contractor, died early yesterday morning at his home, 2218 West Grace Street. Funeral services will take place from the residence this afternoon at 4 o'clock.

Mr. Smith was a Mason, a member of A. W. Cline Council, Junior Order American Mechanics, and a trustee of the Funeral Benefit Association. He is survived by his wife, two sons, L. Earl and Horace R. Smith, one daughter, Mabel L. Smith; his mother, Mrs. J. C. Smith, two sisters, Miss Pearl Clifton Smith and Mrs. Charles Fick, and one brother, C. G. Smith.

Death of Infant.

News has reached here of the death in Arcadia, Fla., of the infant son of Colonel and Mrs. John W. Burton. Mrs. Burton is the daughter of Mrs. Nellie H. Owen, who recently died in Richmond. She is the sister of Aubrey L. Owen, of this city, and of H. Malcolm Owen, now of Wilmington, N. C., formerly of Richmond.

Miss Margaret L. Upchurch.

[Special to The Times-Dispatch.]

LAWRENCEVILLE, VA., February 23.—The funeral of Miss Margaret Lee Upchurch, who died at the residence of her parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Upchurch, on Wednesday, took place from the residence on Thursday afternoon, Rev. H. L. Laws, pastor of the Baptist Church, officiating, assisted by Rev. A. P. Gray, Jr., of St. Andrew's Episcopal Church. Burial was in the Lawrenceville Cemetery.

Miss Upchurch was twenty-three years old. She was a member of the Baptist Church of Lawrenceville, was educated at the Lawrenceville High School, took the course at Farmville Normal School, taught one year at Big Stone Gap, and studied one year at Meredith College, Raleigh, N. C., when her health became impaired and she was forced to give up her work. She is survived by her parents, and one sister, Elizabeth Upchurch.

Funeral of Dr. J. L. Stearnes.

SALEM, VA., February 23.—The body of Dr. John L. Stearnes, who died here yesterday, will be taken to Dublin, Va., to-morrow morning for burial in the family burying ground.

Dr. Stearnes was born at Taylor's Store, Franklin County, on December 15, 1834. After attending private schools and the University High School at Charlottesville, he entered the University of Pennsylvania, where he was graduated in 1858 with the degree of M. D. He located in Dublin, Va., where he began the practice of medicine.

In 1858 he married Miss Phebe Rogers Meberned, of Bedford County, who survives him. He moved to Salem in 1887, where he had since practiced his profession. He had been physician of the Baptist Orphanage since the founding of that institution. He was surgeon of the post and examiner of conscripts in the medical department of the Confederate service from 1861 to 1864.

Dr. Stearnes had been a lifelong member of the Baptist Church. He is survived by his wife, four sons and two daughters. His sons are: Dr. James D. Stearnes, of Dublin; O. L. Stearnes, of Salem, Superintendent of Public Instruction R. C. Stearnes, of Richmond, and Colonel Robley T. Stearnes, of New Orleans. His daughters are: Mrs. J. A. Moore, of Cape Charles, Va., and Miss Lucy J. Stearnes, of Salem.

Mrs. J. W. Cox.

[Special to The Times-Dispatch.]

HEATHSVILLE, VA., February 23.—Mrs. J. W. Cox died on Tuesday night of pneumonia at her home in Kilmarnock, aged sixty-four years. She is survived by one son and a daughter, Mrs. Dr. Edmonds, both of Kilmarnock.

John W. King.

[Special to The Times-Dispatch.]

LYNCHBURG, VA., February 23.—John W. King, eighty-five years of age, died on Monday at the home of his son, William King, in Campbell County. He is survived by the following children: Clay and William King, Campbell County; George King, Lynchburg; Jesse King, City Point; Miss Jimmie King and Mrs. F. L. Thomas, City Point, and Mrs. R. M. Bruce, Lexington.

Taney Dillard.

[Special to The Times-Dispatch.]

LYNCHBURG, VA., February 23.—Taney Dillard, sixty-six years of age, died on Monday at his home in Northern Pittsylvania County, and, according to his last request, his body was buried in the garden of his farm home. He is survived by twelve children.

Mrs. J. W. Carr.

[Special to The Times-Dispatch.]

PETERSBURG, VA., February 23.—Mrs. Sirrilla J. Carr, wife of J. W. Carr, died last evening at her home of pneumonia, aged thirty-seven years. The family recently moved to the city from Isle of Wight County, and the body will be sent to that county on Sunday for burial.

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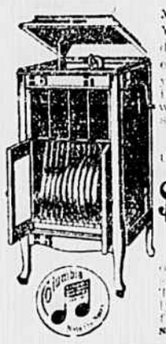

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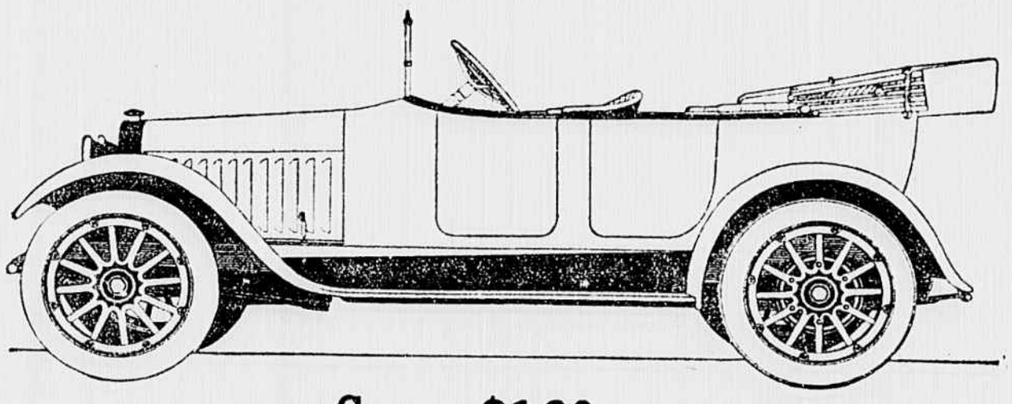

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