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SATURDAY, JUNE 17, 1911.

HOME NEWS WHILE AWAY

To keep in touch with home news Washingtonians leaving the city should not fail to have The Washington Herald mailed to them. It will be sent promptly, and addresses may be changed as often as desired without interruption of service.
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The Maine.

It is no exaggeration to say that the interest of the entire country is centered upon the elliptical cofferdam which surrounds the wreck of the Maine in Havana Harbor. Within this inclosure a tangled mass of steel and iron is being exposed to view—a scene of destruction even beyond the imagination of men whose experience in havoc of similar character is by no means small.

For thirteen years the question whether the Maine received its death blow externally or internally has remained unanswered. The probability now is that the destruction of the forepart of the vessel was so complete as to make it impossible to tell the point from which the explosion occurred. There would be something in keeping with the entire tragedy if the secret of so many years should remain a mystery to the end.

It is by no means certain that the cofferdam will withstand the enormous pressure which will be exerted against it when it has been emptied to a depth of forty feet or more. The engineers are, however, confident of its strength and predict the success of their undertaking. The engineering problems involved, however, lack the romantic interest which attaches to the possible disclosure of the real cause of a disaster which was an important factor in the war with Spain.

Tight-fisted John Bull will long rue the day he paid for the seven-day circus of the coronation.

The Answer in the Stars.

It is now all settled. Nothing remains but to buckle on our armor and sound the loud alarm. We are to have a war with Japan. The stars in their course tell the awful tale.

"A mathematical analysis of the astronomical evidences of war with Japan" is the title of a gray-covered pamphlet issued by L. Edward Johndro, of Rochester. It is sown with mysterious signs and symbols as thickly as a lawn with grass seed in the spring time. Charts of the heavens and mathematical diagrams of Washington and Tokyo, William Howard Taft and Mitsui Hito, the Mikado, with Col. Theodore Roosevelt thrown in for good measure, are presented to our wondering gaze. The sum and substance of it all is that somewhere between 1911 and 1915 there is to be war, spelled with a capital W, and printed in the redder of red ink. If everything else were lacking, is it not true that when California was admitted to the Union, Uranus was in Aries, and that when Washington was admitted, Saturn and Neptune were coveting together in an unholy alliance? What does this prove? Be patient, gentle reader, and learn "Thus, both these States," triumphantly asserts the astrologer, "show themselves to be a sometime battlefield of the nation." Throw aside all doubts and hesitate to indulge in idle scoffing. Accept the answer written in the stars.

Nor is the book of the heavens inscribed alone with prophecies of war. It holds the record of the political future. "The evidence," we are told, "suggests that President Taft will certainly get the nomination." This having already been accepted as a foregone conclusion, the evidence is given for what it is worth. Much more of interesting news is, however, placed at our disposal. If Harmon be nominated, it is to be a walkover for Taft. More than this, if the Democrats rest upon Harmon or Bryan, they are doomed to disappointment, and are warned that they must indeed find a strong pillar for their party if they hope to count.

dictions would only go a little further we might save the trouble and expense of holding a national convention and allow Mr. Johndro to cast the unanimous ballot for all the people.

The disclosures by the trust investigators of money juggling will inspire many plotters to enter the realm of high finance with the money saved up for a week at Atlantic City.

Shall the Women Vote?

So far as this question concerns the District of Columbia, it is not of great importance. Inasmuch as the men do not vote, the appeal of the District Woman Suffrage Association, formally addressed to Congress, to be allowed the ballot is more the expression of an opinion than an indication of hope. At the same time, the woman suffrage movement elsewhere is attracting attention.

A writer in Hampton's Magazine regards the question as already settled. "If you are unalterably opposed to woman suffrage," he says, "you may do well to arrange to live elsewhere than in the United States of America, because here we are likely to have woman suffrage with a rush." The evidence for this emphatic assertion is found in the fact that already five States have adopted woman suffrage. Washington has lately come into line. California is arranging to follow, and several other States are to vote upon it in the near future. "One may learn with profit," says this advocate of the movement, "that Australia and New Zealand, where women have voted for many years, look with amazement upon the contest now being waged in this country. What seems most to puzzle our friends in the antipodes is that any one should listen to arguments against woman suffrage long refuted by practical experience."

There is no doubt that the sentiment in favor of woman suffrage is growing in the United States, and it may eventually be universally adopted. There is, however, no likelihood that it will sweep over the country with sudden and tremendous power. The American people are, after all, conservative, and the traditions and customs of a century are not easily overturned.

With our coronation tugs at the laundry and our only timepiece with an uncle around the corner, the visit to King George has been postponed.

Southern Maryland Development.

The recent journey of Gov. Crothers, of Maryland, with many State and railroad officials, through the southern counties of the State has raised the hopes of the people of that section in the matter of future development.

An examination of the map of Maryland shows that Calvert, Charles, and St. Mary counties are almost destitute of railroad connection with the rest of the State. Charles County is pierced by a single line running to Popes Creek, while the other two counties are penetrated only upon the extreme northern edge. This being the case, the prophecy that work will be commenced upon the Drum Point Railroad by the 1st of July is welcomed with great enthusiasm. It is also stated that the Washington, Potomac and Chesapeake road, which begins at the boundary line of the District of Columbia, and which now extends as far as Mechanicsville, in St. Mary County, is graded to Esperanza, a point opposite Solomons Island, where the Patuxent enters Chesapeake Bay.

It is somewhat remarkable that this large extent of territory in Southern Maryland has been ignored in the past. It is a productive country, and its property owners are seriously handicapped by lack of transportation in getting their produce to the markets. There is no reason why a railroad which brought Southern Maryland into connection with the rest of the world would not be a paying investment. The work of construction presents no serious topographical difficulties, and when once in operation the railroad would not lack freight and passenger traffic.

In the development of Southern Maryland the District of Columbia has a practical interest. Any movement which aids that section is certain to have a beneficial effect upon Washington's trade.

Despite Policarpo Bonilla's denial of an attempt to regain the presidency of Nicaragua in a revolution, it must be remembered that revolutions are Central American pastimes.

The Height of Buildings.

While there may be some objection upon aesthetic grounds to the erection of high buildings, the question is one that ought not to be decided in Congress, so far as the District of Columbia is concerned, without a full and impartial inquiry into all of its phases.

No one desires to see in Washington a duplicate of the new Woolworth Building, now under construction in New York, and which is destined to reach an altitude of 750 feet. It must be remembered, however, that in this city a building can be tall without converting the wide and well-lighted streets into narrow alleyways, as is the case in New York. It must also be remembered that to prohibit property owners from building themselves of a reasonable height—and in these days of steel and concrete construction even ten or eleven stories is an everyday affair—the value of property in the business districts will be lowered to the extent of office rents will be decreased.

buildings which have been erected in Washington are monuments of progress and development. Any law which prevents further investment should not be passed without due consideration, nor should Congress hastily exercise an arbitrary power at the expense of the property owners in the District.

It is hard enough to believe the stories of the Texas crops, but when the Houston Post tries to picture that city as the ideal abode for Adam and Eve it is time to ring for the wagon.

Instead of hiring a poorly paid clerk to handle great sums of money for the large corporations, why do they not leave the safe doors open and avoid the anxiety?

A LITTLE NONSENSE.

GENEROUS HUSBY.

He doesn't make a "holer" Concerning wife's jaunt. But coughs up his last dollar And leaves himself in want.

He coughs without a quiver When wife goes away. The more he has to give her The longer she can stay.

Where They Come From.

"You'll like life on this farm!" "How about milk and butter?" "Fresh every day. We have excellent express facilities from the city."

Quite in His Idea.

"Who was that man I had for a partner at bridge last night?" "He's a comic dramatist." "I might have known it." "Why?" "He made some mighty funny plays."

A Crafty Approach.

Some speak you nice and ask advice. You give the same. And then they strive to borrow five. A scurvy game.

A Sad Blow.

"More bad news?" "How now?" "My agent cables that the telephone pole I had rented for the coronation parade has blown down."

Recovered Later.

"You were absent yesterday on account of sickness?" "I was." "Were you really sick?" "Will, I was pretty sick along about the sixth luning."

A Freshet Town.

"Where are you from?" "Plunkville." "And what sort of a place is Plunkville?" "Venice of America, sir. We have about four feet of water in the streets every spring."

Gambling with Food.

From the Baltimore Herald.

Nobody has much respect for a welcher, but we are all willing to waive the moral question, if we can get the Federal authority to interfere with this pernicious business in Chicago of gambling in the commodities which are essential to life, and create artificial scarcities which raise the cost of foodstuffs to the consumer. The public is heartily tired of being placed at the mercy of any man with money who has nerve enough to back it up by cornering the foodstuffs of the country. If nothing else will stop it, maybe a Federal ban on Chicago's gambling institution will.

Senator's Sincerity Questioned.

From the Indianapolis News.

When an amendment clothing the national government with control over the election of Senators is carried by a vote of Vice President Sherman, who certainly is not much interested in the proposed change in the method of election, it is natural to conclude that the resolution thus amended was adopted in the belief that it would be defeated. Among the sixty-four Senators who on the final roll yesterday voted for the resolution there must be many who are not honestly in favor of the change.

HOUSES RESTRICTED TO FIFTY-FIVE FEET

Bill Is Passed Yesterday by the Senate.

LOCAL MATTERS CONSIDERED

Bill Authorizing Extension of Lamont Street Also Passed—District Committee Orders Advance Report on Kite Flying Measure—Favorable to Moving Picture Censorship.

The District of Columbia played a prominent part in the early deliberations of the Senate yesterday. Two bills were passed on requests of unanimous consent by Senator Gallinger, one regulating the height of buildings for residential or apartment purposes and another authorizing the extension of Lamont street west of Nineteenth street.

The bill regulating the height of residential buildings prohibits the erection of a combustible or nonfireproof building intended for residential or apartment purposes to a greater height than fifty-five feet, or four stories. When this bill came up for consideration, Senator Heyburn threatened delay by remarking that he believed the law should not discriminate against business or fireproof buildings, but that this class should be subjected to a like regulation. Senator Gallinger assured Mr. Heyburn that he would take up the latter's suggestion later and the bill was passed.

Kid with Kite Safe.

The kid with the kite is safe from the encroachments of man-made laws as far as the District Senate Committee is concerned. A bill recently introduced by Senator Gallinger and referred to his committee and the subcommittee on judiciary, prohibiting the flying of kites in the District, was adversely reported by Senator Jones. The bill also prohibited the use of fire balloons or parachutes.

Other bills favorably reported were: Placing all pictures or films intended for moving picture shows under the censorship of the Commissioners; providing for the punishment of jarency of public property from the workhouse or reformatory; prohibiting the dropping of refuse into the Potomac River or its tributaries in the District under penalty of building a wharf, and authorizing the Commissioners to prepare a new highway plan for that section lying west of Fourteenth street, south of Taylor street, east of Rock Creek Park and north of Newton street. At the meeting of the District Committee yesterday morning the Works bill providing for universal transfer in the District was referred to the subcommittee on public utilities. The Bristow bill providing for a primary election law for the District was referred to the subcommittee on judiciary.

LIGHTHOUSE WORK SHOWN.

Senators and Representatives Attend La Varre Lecture.

W. J. La Varre, superintendent of construction, United States Lighthouse Service, delivered a lecture on "Lighthouses and Light Vessels of the United States," illustrated with 200 views, at the fourth annual entertainment last night by the Phi Mu Sigma Fraternity, connected with the Sunday school class of Dr. Clifton B. Clark at Mount Vernon Place M. E. church. Members of the House Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce and the Senate Committee on Commerce attended as guests of Mr. La Varre. The speaker gave a brief history of the United States Lighthouse Service from its infancy to the present time. Selections were given in a recitation composed of Earl C. Baugh, Thomas Meary, Herbert Aldridge, and Fred Leonard.

TOLD TO KEEP QUIET.

Morrison Prohibited from Discussing Finding of Day Voucher.

The long-lost voucher in the Day portrait case was the subject of further interesting testimony yesterday before the House Committee on Expenditures in the State Department, Thomas Morrison, disbursing officer of the State Department, being the witness.

"Have you made any further inquiries about the long-lost voucher, to discover who returned it?" Mr. Hamlin asked. Mr. Morrison answered in the negative.

"Why not?" Mr. Hamlin demanded. "Well," the witness answered, some what hesitatingly, "I was told not to say much about it." The committee became interested at once. At first the disbursing officer could not remember who had told him to keep quiet, but finally he recollected that it was Wilbur J. Carr, director of the consular service.

TO PROBE ARMY CHANGES.

Senate Resolution Seeks to Settle Root Question of Administration.

An investigation of the army changes ordered by the War Department concentrating most of the staff officers now distributed over the country in departmental headquarters in three divisions headquarters at New York, Chicago, and San Francisco, will be made by the Senate Committee on Military Affairs.

In a resolution directing the committee to make such an investigation and report its findings and recommendations, Senator Hitchcock, of Nebraska, said the subject of departmental versus divisional organization of the army had been the subject of controversy for years.

This brought a rejoinder from Senator Root, who objected to such language being included in the resolution. He said that between 1899 and 1904 there was no such controversy.

"We should not approve the statements of facts such as are contained in this resolution, about which we have no knowledge," he said. Chairman Warren of the committee reported it without necessary formality to direct the committee to make the investigation, saying it would be done. "This looks like throwing dirty water on the army," he said.

Finally, after the words objected to by Senator Root were stricken out, with the consent of the author, the Senate passed the resolution. The changes ordered by the War Department are to become effective July 1.

BONILLA OPPOSES LOAN.

Says Objection is Due to Patriotic Reasons.

Senator Policarpo Bonilla, former President of Honduras, arrived in Washington yesterday with the avowed purpose of opposing the ratification of the Honduran loan agreement and convention, which are now pending in the Senate.

Senator Bonilla said his opposition to the loan was due to patriotic reasons, and that he has no political ambition. He denied he was in this country to purchase arms for starting a revolution in Nicaragua to restore to power his friend Zelaya. Senator Bonilla stated that he had no connection with the Cientifico party of Mexico.

Leave for Beverly July 1.

The President will accompany Mrs. Taft and members of his family to Beverly on July 1, and after seeing them established there will go to Marion, Ind. He will then proceed to Indianapolis, where he will review a "sane Fourth" parade and witness a head-on collision of passenger engines at the State fair grounds.

Reports for Extension.

An extension for two years, or until June 25, 1913, of the present regulations governing the diversion of water from Niagara River for commercial power, was recommended by the Senate Committee on Foreign Relations which yesterday reported favorably a resolution having this effect.

OUTLOOK FOR HANDSOME ENGRAVING BUILDING DARK

Mr. Fitzgerald, of Appropriations Committee, Will Oppose "Gentleman's Agreement."

Unless the present attitude of the chairman of the House Committee on Appropriations undergoes a marked change in the near future, the Treasury Department will be forced to begin work on a plain brick, factory type of building for the Bureau of Engraving and Printing. Mr. Fitzgerald said yesterday that his committee would not be a party to any "gentleman's agreement" with the Treasury officials or the subcommittee of the Committee on Public Buildings and Grounds, by which the builders could start work on the monumental type of building with the understanding that when more money is needed, in a year or eighteen months, the Appropriations Committee will sanction the deficiency appropriation.

MR. GALLINGER HEADS DISTRICT APPROPRIATIONS

Senator Jacob H. Gallinger, chairman of the District Committee, has been named chairman of the subcommittee on District Appropriations of the Appropriations Committee of the Senate. The other members of the subcommittee are Senators Curtis, Smoot, Foster, and Smith, of Maryland.

LA FOLLETTE NOW HAS A NEW PLAN

Will Offer Own Tariff Bill as Amendment.

The plans for a coalition between the Democrats and certain insurgent Republicans to defeat Canadian reciprocity and pass certain of the House tariff bills was practically abandoned yesterday. Senator La Follette had been busy trying to get some sort of an understanding with the Democratic Senators for concerted action. He told some of the Democrats that he believed he could deliver eleven votes from the insurgent band. But it was very evident before the movement had gone very far that there were enough Democrats to look with disfavor on it to prevent the success of the plan.

The Senator from Wisconsin then took a new tack. He announced that he would prepare a bill making a general revision downward of many important tariff schedules, and he conferred with some of the Democratic Senators about getting support for it. There have always been a few Democratic Senators disposed to follow Senator La Follette, but it was plain that a majority of them were not of that mind. Finally some of the Democratic leaders in the Senate told Mr. La Follette that the Democratic party had a policy of its own for dealing with the tariff question, and that it was being worked out in the House along well-defined lines, with the approval of the Democrats in the Senate, and that they did not need the leadership of Mr. La Follette, preferring to follow their own leaders.

Undismayed by these discouraging words, the Senator from Wisconsin went about the work of preparing his tariff measure, which he will offer as an amendment at the proper time. He is preparing an exhaustive speech, which will probably be delivered in the Senate the latter part of next week or early in the week following.

WOMAN MAKES ARREST.

Banker's Wife Brings Alleged Thief to Police Station.

New York, June 16.—Mrs. Thomas L. James, wife of the ex-Postmaster General and president of the Lincoln National Bank, appeared at the West 125th street station in an automobile to-night with a prisoner whom she had taken to lock up on the charge of grand larceny. The prisoner was Jennie Jarvis, colored, 125 West 155th street.

Mrs. James said that she had gone to the home of Jennie Jarvis and brought her to the station to be locked up on the charge of having stolen \$75 in cash, and dresses, jewelry, and lingerie totaling \$150 in value from the James home. The girl was locked up.

THIRD VACATION GIVEN.

Chinese Allow Customs Director Year's Freedom.

Peking, June 16.—Robert Hart, the Imperial director of Chinese customs, has been granted a further leave of absence of one year. China found some objection to Sir Robert's work two years ago and gave him a year's leave. This expired in the spring of 1909, and he got another year off. Now his leave is extended until 1911.

CURIOUS BITS OF HISTORY

By A. W. MACT.

WILBERFORCE'S FIGHT ON SLAVERY.

A good example of what may be accomplished through the persistent efforts of one man or set of men is illustrated in the life of William Wilberforce. When a mere boy at school he became interested in the slavery question, and wrote an article for the local paper condemning the "Iniquitous institution," and throughout a long life he never lost sight of the subject. England passed an act abolishing slavery in the spring of 1807, but it was the object of Wilberforce's life to have it abolished in all English colonies. He labored incessantly, making speeches and writing articles looking to that end. Three days before his death, which occurred July 29, 1833, word was brought to him that a bill abolishing slavery in the colonies had passed to its second reading. Nine days after his death the bill was passed. Under its provisions 400,000 slaves in the various colonies were set free, the owners receiving \$20,000,000 as compensation.

For Parcel Post.

The Suburban bill providing for the establishment of a parcel post was advocated before the House Committee on Post-Office and Post Roads yesterday by Nathan B. Williams of Fayetteville, Ark. Mr. Williams told the committee that if the British postal authorities could make a contract with the American Express Company, such as he claimed they had made, and deliver an eleven-pound package from any part of Great Britain to any part of the United States for 25 cents, the Post-Office Department of this government could afford to operate a similar service.

Yemenites Go to New York.

Senator Emanuel Zachman, the retiring Mexican Ambassador, left yesterday afternoon for New York, to sail June 21 on the Lusitania for London to resume his former duties as the European financial agent of Mexico. He called at the White House and the State Department to take his leave of the President and Secretary of State.

Taft Made Life Member.

President Taft has accepted a life membership in the necessary vice-presidential of the American Flag Association of New York.

THE BIG STICK

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THE BUSIEST MAN IN TOWN.

THE HUMAN FLEA.

JOYCE AND REJOICE.

MINIATURE BROADWAY.

FISHING OUTFIT.

WHAT IS A HUSBANDRY?

A DAILY HART.

TRIPSICHOEAN RUMOR.

THE GENTLE RAIN.

WITH A LARGE FAMILY.