

SEEKING CENTRAL SITE FOR LIBRARY.

If Exposition Block Cannot Be Secured Library Board Will Utilize Its Own Property.

PLANS FOR THE BRANCHES.

Tour of Inspection of Institutions in Other Cities to Be Made—Additional Site Offers Expected.

LIBRARIAN CRUNDEN'S REPORT.

Following is an extract from Librarian Crunden's report on the present financial condition of the Public Library:

The revenue from the city tax was \$2,100, an increase of \$200 over that of the previous year. The total expenditures for the year was \$45,780, which was less than that of the preceding year by nearly \$10,000.

The number of delivery stations was increased to forty, and the number having daily deliveries to twenty, while the service was greatly improved.

Members of the St. Louis Public Library Board said Thursday that no time would be lost by that body in procuring a site for the erection of the new central library building.

The greatest interest is being taken by members of citizens in the new library. Librarian Frederick M. Crunden is in receipt of letters from persons living in every section of the city asking for information regarding the site.

W. W. Lehmann, president of the Library Board, said that the board anticipated no difficulty in securing free sites for all the branch libraries which it would erect.

This will allow in the neighborhood of \$34,000 for each building. With free sites magnificent buildings can be put up for that sum.

Members of the Library Board are anxious to proceed with the Exposition property as a site for the central building. All agree that it is the most desirable property in the city for that purpose.

GOTHAM POLICE NOW SCOUT THE KIDNAPING THEORY.

They Say Young McCormick Ran Away With Tramps and Is Now Beating His Way Back Home.

REPUBLIC SPECIAL.

New York, April 4.—Police Captain Garrison Wednesday evening made public a letter which he received from a lawyer in Albany, which indicates that Wm. McCormick, the missing 10-year-old boy of High Bridge, was either kidnaped by tramps or ran away with them.

The boy disappeared last Wednesday week, and letters signed "Kidnaped" were received by the family in which it was threatened that unless a ransom of \$200,000 were paid the boy's eyes would be destroyed.

"When the threatening letters were received," said the Captain, "I believed the boy had been kidnaped. I have since investigated and found the letters were 'fakes,' and I have returned to the opinion that the boy simply ran away from his home."

"To substantiate this I submit this letter from John S. Wolfe, a lawyer, No. 63 State street, Albany:

"On Sunday morning, March 30, four tramps and a boy about 10 years of age walked down from Troy to East Albany. One of the tramps walked into the shanty at Bath to obtain a match. The tramps asked him where he came from. He said: 'Harlem.' He said they got into a box car there to go to Yonkers, but the dog was fatigued, and they were brought to Troy before they could get out."

"The boy answers to the description in every respect of the McCormick. I am satisfied that he is the lost boy. The men and the boy said they had enough of tramping with nothing to eat, and intended to take the first freight going and try to get back to Harlem."

"Now, then," resumed the Captain, "I indicated that letter shows I was right from the start. The boy is coming to New York on that freight train with the tramps. He will be speaking up to his house before the first of the month."

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LATEST LETTER TO MR. MCCORMICK.

Dear Sir: I forgot in the letter I wrote to you at 3 Ave and E 135 St. The square is in the large boiler on north-east corner and do not come before 8 p. m. to-night. Yours truly, KID.

Child - 1901. Dear Sir, I forgot in the letter I wrote to you at 3 Ave and E 135 St. The square is in the large boiler on north-east corner and do not come before 8 p. m. to-night. Yours truly, KID.



WILLIE MCCORMICK AND HIS MOTHER.

It is now believed that the lad is a runaway, and has not been kidnaped. Captain Titus declares that the letters threatening to turn the boy's eye out are the work of a cruel joker, and explains why he believes so.

Patrolmen O'Keefe and Burke of the Central District had an exciting encounter with three men in a second-hand store, conducted by T. P. Byers, at No. 123 Market street, at 2 o'clock Friday morning, and after six shots had been fired at them, the officers were enabled to escape.

That the new seeker after the America's Cup will carry the second largest mainsail ever put on a racing yacht.

On the boom it will stretch 112 feet and the total length from bowsprit end to mainmast will be 134 feet 6 inches.

That is reported to be the amount of Manila Commissary Department Shortage.

SAYS SOME ONE MADE A HANDSOME PROFIT.

Charges of Irregularities in the Purchase of Thirteen Small Spanish Gunboats.

OTIS ORDERED BID DOUBLED.

Vessels Said to Have Been Once Refused and Then Bought for \$100,000 More Than First Offer.

REPUBLIC SPECIAL.

Washington, April 4.—Following close upon the revelations concerning frauds in the Commissary Department in Manila comes an allegation that there were irregularities in the purchase of thirteen small gunboats, which were transferred from the Spanish Government to the military authorities after the ratification of the treaty of Paris.

"At the time of the conclusion of the treaty of peace with the Philippines a dozen or more small gunboats of no value to her, but valuable to the United States, the United States finally acquired these boats, but the inside history of this deal has never been made known.

There is no record whatever in the War Department of the transaction, except what is contained in the official report of Major General Otis for the fiscal year of 1899, and this tells nothing of the matter.

Mr. Carey is quoted as having said that General Otis gave Mr. Carman valuable commissions, which yielded large sums, and that other Government contractors had their shares carried in Government vessels and landed free of duty, while certain contractors who were not in the list of the advance tips which would enable them to be the only persons in a position to furnish supplies within the limit fixed by the advertisements for proposals.

POLICEMEN FIRED ON.

Found Door Open and as They Entered Met a Fusillade.

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WOULD BAR WINE AT BANQUET.

Presidential Party May Not Get It in California.

Colombus, O., April 4.—Mrs. Annie W. Wright, city president of the Ohio Woman's Christian Temperance Union, has addressed a formal note to the women of the city, protesting against the serving of wine at the banquet which will be given at the launching of the battleship Ohio.

ARCHIBALD GLENN VERY ILL.

Former Illinois Man, Just Honored in Wichita, Taken Sick.

Washington, D. C., April 4.—Archibald Glenn, elected Tuesday as City Treasurer, is ill and not expected to live.

TO ESTABLISH BOUNDARIES.

Knox, Lewis, Shelby and Marion Counties to Be Surveyed.

MRS. WHITEHEAD, WITH TEARS, PROTESTS HER INNOCENCE.

Flatly Denies the Lexington Hotel and Central Park Stories.

DRAMATIC SCENE IN COURT.

Says a Necklace Worn by Her Husband's Main Witness Belongs to Her.

REPUBLIC SPECIAL.

New York, April 4.—In tones of deepest indignation, Mrs. Elizabeth Whitehead today denied she had been guilty of indiscretions with John Frederick Thomas. She was called as a witness in her own behalf in the suit for absolute divorce brought against her by her husband, Lydell Whitehead, on trial before Judge Beach and a jury in the Supreme Court, she had never violated her vows as a wife.

"Tears came to her eyes at times, and in her excitement the lawyers found great difficulty in continuing her to direct answers to their questions. She made no effort to hide her jealousy for Mrs. Elizabeth Thomas Morse, her former friend and sister of the co-respondent named by Mr. Whitehead.

"Did your husband give you any jewelry?" inquired her lawyer, Charles L. Hoffman. "Yes," she replied, "and I saw some of the jewelry another person might wear." "Says Mrs. Morse Wears Her Jewelry."

There was a murmur of surprise in the courtroom when Mr. Hoffman requested Mrs. Morse to stand. Every eye was turned toward her when Mrs. Whitehead said: "My husband purchased for me in Paris the necklace she is now wearing."

Mrs. Whitehead smiled at Mr. Hummel, who asked her to stand. As she stood, she said she was married to Mr. Whitehead on September 9, 1886. She declared she had never set foot in the Lexington Avenue hotel, and had never heard of it until her husband brought suit against her.

"I told her that her father had plenty of money," Mrs. Whitehead went on, "and he could get as many witnesses as he wanted to swear my name away. I said it was unfortunate for me that I had ever met Mr. Thomas when others were not around."

Mrs. Whitehead testified that she had never seen Mr. Thomas in the Lexington Avenue hotel, and had never heard of it until her husband brought suit against her.

Chicago, April 4.—Bonds having a paper value in excess of \$1,000,000 were found Thursday in the vault of the office of the City Comptroller.

KAISER HAS WARM REGARD FOR TURK.

Hears With 'Deep Emotion' of Sultan's Recent Peril During Earthquake.

Constantinople, April 4.—The Constantinople papers publish the text of a telegram sent by Emperor William to the Sultan immediately after the recent earthquake in this city.

PEANUT MARKET CORNERED.

Prices Have Been Advanced From 70c to 90c a Bushel.

New York, April 4.—It was announced today that a firm in Hoboken, N. Y., had cornered the peanut market, having purchased all the nuts in the Chicago, Boston and New York markets, as well as having secured the bulk of the crop from Norfolk, Va. There has been an advance in price from 70 cents to 90 cents a bushel lately.

GETTING READY TO EVACUATE.

Chaffee Cables That Powers Are Considering Disposition of Forts in China.

ASKS FOR INSTRUCTIONS.

Washington Officials Believe the Strongholds Should Be Demolished, Not Destroyed—Army Will Leave May 30.

MASSING TROOPS IN MANCHURIA.

London, April 5.—"By the end of May," says the Moscow correspondent of the Daily Graphic, "the Russian Army in Manchuria will number 300,000 men. It is understood that a Russian Minister of War (General Kouropatkin) reckons upon the possibility of having to dispatch an army corps southward into Korea."

Washington, April 4.—General Chaffee has called the War Department from Peking to the military commanders representing the foreign Powers there are now considering the question of disposing of the Chinese forts and of establishing fortified posts at proper intervals along the route from Peking to the sea.

Vienna, April 4.—M. Poldosnostoff, the Czar's Secretary of State and most intimate personal friend, at whom a Nihilist shot recently, is quoted by the Neue Wiener Zeitung as saying:

UNWILLING TO SIGN. Chinese Minister to Russia, Manchou, Wants to Retire.

RUSSIA'S MINISTER ABSENT. Avoided Embarrassing Questions by Staying in His Room.

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