

TO-DAY'S NEWS IN BRIEF.

THE DAY IN CONGRESS. The House met yesterday and adjourned until today. The proceedings were marked by a debate on the subject of aluminum ore...

DESIRES TO SERVE AS UNCLE SAM.

Postmaster of Gila, Mo., Makes Strange Request of World's Fair Management.

LOOKS LIKE THE PICTURE.

Exposition Officials Receive Some Curious Suggestions for Exhibits, Concessions and Features for Show.

Some curious suggestions for exhibits, concessions and features for the World's Fair have recently been received by the Exposition management from all over the United States.

Among these is a letter from J. L. Burnett, Postmaster of Gila, Mont. County, Mo., who wishes to serve as Uncle Sam at the World's Fair.

Colonel R. C. Markes of Quincy, Ill., issues a challenge to any family band on earth for a contest at the World's Fair, and offers to deposit \$5,000 to prove good faith.

"We claim the most interesting family band in America," he says. "The family band is the father and eleven sons. Each plays one or more instruments. We are known as the Markes Band and orchestra, and we have been playing at picnics, excursions, parades and camp meetings for seven seasons."

R. Early Smith of Carbon, Tex., writes to the fair a check book. "This check book," he writes, "was blown in the presence of Jackson, Carroll and other prominent men of the fair. It is a check book of New Orleans, as a signal to proceed to form a line of battle by order of the United States troops on that occasion."

H. C. Halcom of Miami, Ky., desires to exhibit a rock in the natural shape of a diamond. "The rock," he says, "is 1 1/2 inches long and 5/8 inches wide. It weighs 100 grains and is the largest one. All who have seen it say it is a great curiosity."

A feather bed, which once belonged to George Washington, is offered as an exhibit by Lee Larmer of Osawatomie, Kan. He says he can give a complete history of the bed, and that it came into his possession from that of General Washington.

J. Murphy of Peesles, O., wishes to exhibit at the Exposition a cat 7 1/2 months old, which was born without a tail. "It is a curiosity to every one who sees it, and would doubtless attract much of the World's Fair," he writes.

S. J. Baker of Jeannette, Tenn., wishes to show an extra large tooth. "I was taken by three inches," he says, "and measures 4 1/2 inches in length. I don't know what kind of animal it belonged to."

J. D. Jensen of Union, Miss., wishes to exhibit a cat named "Dick Whittington," a relative of Dick Whittington, the London cat. "Dick Whittington," he says, "is famous by his cat. He has also a white breed named in 1841 by Amelia Whittington, another relative of Dick Whittington."

ADOLPHUS BUSCH SURPRISED BY PROGRESS OF FAIR.

Brewer Inspects Exposition Grounds After European Trip and Is Much Pleased.

For the first time since his departure for Europe, in the early summer, Adolphus Busch found opportunity, on Thanksgiving day, to make a tour of inspection of the Exposition grounds.

"I had made so many promises concerning the Exposition while abroad," said Mr. Busch yesterday, "and found such widespread interest in Germany and on the Continent generally, regarding the progress made since I left the grounds that I was astonished to find that there was so much to be done here."

The interest manifested in the fair abroad, he said, was such that he had been surprised to find that the fair was so far advanced. "I had heard that the fair was not so far advanced, but I find that it is so far advanced that I am much pleased."

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FOREIGN REPRESENTATIVES VISIT FAIR SITE.

REGISTRATION IS IN A TANGLE.

Passage of New Law Leaves St. Louis Without Primary Poll Books.

BOARD PROBABLY WILL ACT.

Election Commissioners Confronted With a Condition That Requires Legislation to Straighten Out.

Politicians who have studied the provisions of the new election law are discussing the tangle into which the passage of the new election law has thrown St. Louis primaries.

As the situation now is, there is absolutely no law on the book which will permit the holding of a primary prior to the election in the primary must not only be qualified to vote in the general election, but must also be registered in a separate book to be used for primary purposes alone.

"By the provision of the Drabell law, which was passed in 1891, any man who wished to vote in the primary must not only be qualified to vote in the general election, but must also be registered in a separate book to be used for primary purposes alone.

"So far the Board of Election Commissioners in the matter, though there has been much thinking about the difficulty, there are several impediments in the way. If the board decided that it had the power to use the old registration books, which could only be done under the emergency that exists, all of the names in the old books would have to be copied in new books."

DEFEATS IN LAW. "Not only that, but they would have to be rearranged to conform to the new statute, which the board must define, as the new law provides. Under the old, or so-called Nesbit law, the precincts were supposed to have about 400 voters, and each precinct was supposed to have about 30 voters. There is one precinct in the Twenty-eighth Ward which has over 1,000 voters, and the one in the one poll book for the next primary, there must be three. The work of copying the names would be a very large task that the clerks in the board have never undertaken."

The Drabell law was framed principally to take away the old mass-meeting system. The statute which was passed in 1891, and that the State Election Commissioners to refer the knotty question to the city or State committees having been abolished, and let the law of general consent govern.

"Something must be done, for the law now in effect will have to be changed, and it is probable that the State conventions will be held in July or August of next year, as this is the custom. All of the delegates to the State convention must be chosen prior to the application of the new law, which cannot antedate the present law, and no primary can be held until the new law is in effect."

On the surface, nothing can alter the result of the election, and the determining what sort of a primary a direct of convention will be held. Republicans of all parties will have to be satisfied with the result. They have no more direct primaries. All that they have had have been followed by defeat.

RADIUM LIKELY TO REVEAL HIDDEN TRUTHS OF NATURE.

Sir William Ramsay Hopeful That the Simpler Elements May Be Combined to Form the Higher Discovery Seems to Forecast the Transmutation of Metals Known as the "Dream of Alchemy."

SPECIAL BY CABLE TO THE NEW YORK HERALD AND THE ST. LOUIS REPUBLIC. London, Nov. 27.—(Copyright, 1903.)—Sir William Ramsay gave a few minutes of a busy day at University College to your correspondent, who called upon him with the object of discussing something more of the wonderful results he has obtained from the study of that latest found and most marvelous element—radium.

Time will show, Sir William had said in his lecture before the London Institution, whether we are on the threshold of discoveries transcending all that our wisest men have ever made.

"We know very little yet," he replied, "of what are the possibilities of radium. The whole tendency, however, among the higher elements is to break away into the simpler elements and we have seen the process in the case of radium, which, as mentioned in my lecture, changed into helium."

"I shall attempt to reverse the order, if possible, and build up the simpler elements, so as to form the higher. "I don't mean, of course, that we shall be able to change lead into gold, but it is possible we may be successful in other directions."

"By you mean," Sir William was asked, "that it may be possible to employ the simpler elements in the building up of radium?"

"I may, I don't know where we are to get radium otherwise. We have had samples from all parts of the world, but so far, notwithstanding its high price, it does not seem to be worth any one's while to work it."

"Speaking of the price of radium, it may be mentioned that it is now about five times as much as it did six months ago. It has been found in some of the waste products of the Joachimsthal mines, which were the property of the Austrian Government, but that Government will not allow the export of radium, and it is now being extracted in a most costly process. The present price of radium is about £200 for about the fifteenth part of an ounce."

AMERICAN CHEMIST QUITE CONSERVATIVE ABOUT RADIUM.

NEW YORK, Nov. 27.—Chemists in this city were surprised at the announcement from London that Sir William Ramsay had demonstrated that radium could be changed into helium was interpreted as meaning that the alchemist's dream of turning lead into gold might at last be realized.

Sir William Ramsay is Professor of Chemistry at University College, London, and his experiments with radium and helium have made him famous the world over. He has shown that the emanations from it contained traces of helium.

Professor Ramsay, head of the Department of Chemistry in Columbia University, said today that he did not consider the radium change as reported by Sir William Ramsay, as furnishing sufficient basis for the assumption that one element could be transmuted into another.

"In the first place," said Professor Ramsay, "it is radium an element. We know little about helium and less about radium. There is a serious question if any one has yet secured pure radium. Radium may be mixed with helium, and that makes it difficult to determine the amount of helium in a constituent part of radium do not look like the transmutation of one element into another."

"The discoverers of radium have only said for it that it was chloride of barium with radioactive properties. It has not been established as an element and neither for that matter has helium. If it had been found in any quantity, it would have been known long ago. It is a question if the eyes that looked upon a lump of radium and announced that it contained helium have been deceived. It is a question if the elements have been pretty well defined."

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THIRTEEN MEMBERS PRESENT.

Republican Committee Unable to Meet—Quorum Was Lacking.

Thirteen members of the Republican Central Committee met last night at No. 417 Pine street, but owing to lack of a quorum. Some of the committee members are out of the city, others failed to receive their notices and some had engagements.

One of the events which it was proposed to take place was the vacating of the seat by Powers of the Twenty-eighth Ward, which has moved out of the city. A petition has received last night asking that William F. Parker be appointed in his stead.

According to committee gossip, this will be the satisfactory Parker probably will be named as "harmonic" program, which was made vacant by the resignation of Hutzfeldt. An attempt to hold another meeting will be made next week.

REPUBLICANS FAIL TO AGREE.

Plans to Merge Rival Clubs Not Yet Matured.

The committee appointed by the presidents of the St. Louis Republican Club and the Hamilton Club for the purpose of consolidating the rival organizations met last night at the Missouri Athletic Club, but were unable to come to a satisfactory agreement.

It was hoped by many members of the organizations that the leaders would settle the matter at the meeting, as they believe it would help to create harmony in the divided ranks of the party.

One of the objections brought forward to the immediate consolidation was the fact that the present status of the club's own property. The matter was discussed and it was decided to let the situation rest in its present state until the next meeting of the committee can be held.

HOSPITAL SATURDAY.

This is Hospital Saturday. Give what you can for the care of the sick poor. The amount realized by the Saturday and Sunday Hospital Association will be distributed equitably among all the hospitals in St. Louis that have charitably in hospital buildings, theaters and other public places to-day. Tomorrow's Hospital Saturday is the same party, and will be taken up in the city churches.

Great Statue of Vulcan.

The contract has been made between the Birmingham, Ala., Exhibition Committee and G. Morotti, the New York sculptor, for the colossal statue of Vulcan. It is to be cast in iron and will typify the great industrial resources of the Birmingham district. Fifty feet high, it will be the largest statue in the world, except Bartholdi's Statue of Liberty, which is 150 feet high.

Take Laxative Hromo Quinine Tablets. All druggists refund money if it fails to cure. E. W. Grove's signature is on each box.

LAXATIVE advertisement with image of a bottle and text: "You can have good 'DOMESTIC HELP' always on duty—always ready—every day and Sunday. References from 5,000 homes where previously employed."

BELLS advertisement: "CALL CONTRACT DEPARTMENT, MAIN 3525, BELL TELEPHONE CO., for rates. ROOM 22 TELEPHONE BLDG. 920 OLIVE ST."

BROMO advertisement with large image of a bottle and text: "BROMO".

Will Send French Cruiser. Horace Porter, United States Ambassador at Paris, has advised the State Department that at the request of the Governor of Louisiana, France would send a warship to New Orleans during the celebration of the centennial of the transfer of the Louisiana Purchase.

Georgia Commission Here. Colonel Dudley Hughes, Professor W. S. Yeates and Gloucester Barrett of Georgia's World's Fair Commission were in St. Louis yesterday and spent several hours at the Exposition grounds.

To Exhibit Burns Letters. The Burns Cottage Association announces that it will be able to exhibit in the Burns Cottage at the World's Fair several autograph letters of the great Scotch poet. These letters are almost priceless, and show many of the characteristics of his writer.

Meeting to Be Held To-Morrow for Purpose of Completing Plans. A mass meeting of local Swedish-Americans will be held to-morrow afternoon at 2 o'clock at Oriental Hall, Jefferson avenue and Adams street, for the purpose of finalizing arrangements for the dedication of the Swedish building site at the World's Fair.

ARREST PASSENGERS FOR CROWDING CARS. London, Nov. 27.—The North London authorities have adopted a novel method for suppressing the overcrowding on street cars. Finding that the arrest and fining of conductors were insufficient, they are now resorting to the arrest of passengers, including women, who are the magistrates fine for "aiding and abetting" conductors in crowding the overcrowded cars.

EX-JUDGE FAUNTLEROY ILL. Suffers Stroke of Apoplexy in Street Car. Former Judge Thomas T. Fauntleroy, father of Attorney Thomas T. Fauntleroy, the Reverend Philip W. Fauntleroy, Cornelius H. Fauntleroy and Miss Beulah Fauntleroy, suffered a serious stroke of apoplexy while a passenger in an Olive street car early last evening.

McGRATH GIVES TESTIMONY. Tells Police Board of Efforts to Suppress Gambling. Detective Tom McGrath, in charge of the "Gambling Squad," was a witness before the Board of Police Commissioners at their meeting yesterday, to testify regarding the success of the crusade against gambling. Charges that gambling had been flourishing were under investigation. It is believed, and Detective McGrath's testimony was heard in connection with the allegations.

Tourists From St. Louis. REPUBLIC SPECIAL. New York, Nov. 27.—Mr. B. F. McLean and Mrs. McLean of St. Louis are among the passengers booked to sail from this port to-morrow on board the American liner St. Paul.

QUININE advertisement with image of a bottle and text: "QUININE".