

The Times-Dispatch

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SATURDAY, JULY 18, 1903.

Persons leaving the city for the summer should order The Times-Dispatch mailed to them. Price, 50 cents per month.

ROOSEVELT AND THE CURRENCY.

It is semi-officially announced through Senator Lodge that the President favors early action on the part of Congress with reference to amending the national banking laws, and that he hopes this good work may be done at the extra session to be held in November. The President does not offer any plan, but refers to the views he has outlined in his messages and addresses.

That this is a matter in which he takes profound interest we cannot question. He looks to the Finance Committees of the two houses of Congress to frame a bill which will meet the just expectations of the public and prove a blessing to our financial system.

We repeat that we have no doubt of the sincerity of Mr. Roosevelt's position in this matter. Next year he is to be a presidential candidate and he wants to be elected, of course. Naturally he would like to have his path made as plain and smooth as possible, and he would be handicapped by the prevalence of a financial condition such as that we are now tussling with. For these reasons, and because the President does not desire to see the prosperity of the country imperiled, we are confident that he will do all in his power to help through Congress measures which will give elasticity to our currency and greater confidence to the business world.

So we expect to find Mr. Roosevelt very much in earnest and very strenuous about this matter. And there is important work for him to do forthwith. The fact that Mr. Cannon is an open and avowed opponent to any currency legislation carries with it no little influence in some quarters. This influence the President will have to labor to counteract. He could assign to himself no more urgent and important duty than to bring Mr. Cannon into line. As we have said, we doubt not that he is thoroughly sincere in his expression of opinion in favor of currency reform. Yes, patriotism, personal and political reasons, all combine to make him a firm friend of currency legislation.

We can get an inkling of the President's views as to the currency reform by reading the following paragraphs from the message that he sent to Congress last December: "Interest rates are a potent factor in business activity, and in order that these rates may be equalized to meet the varying needs of the seasons and of widely separated communities, and to prevent the recurrence of financial stringencies which injuriously affect legitimate business, it is necessary that there should be an element of elasticity in our monetary system."

"Bank are the natural servants of commerce, and upon them should be placed as far as practicable the burden of furnishing and maintaining a circulation adequate to supply the needs of our diversified industries, and of our domestic and foreign commerce; and the issue of this should be so regulated that a sufficient supply should be always available for the business interests of the country."

"It would be both unwise and unnecessary at this time to attempt to reconstruct our financial system, which has been the growth of a century; but some additional legislation is, I think, desirable. The mere outline of a plan sufficient to supply the needs of the requirements would transgress the appropriate limits of this communication. It is suggested, however, that all future legislation on the subject should be with the view of encouraging the use of such instrumentalities as will automatically supply every legitimate demand of productive industries and of commerce, not only in the amount but in the character of circulation; and of making all kinds of money interchangeable, and at the will of the holder convertible into the established gold standard."

OURSELVES AND NEIGHBORS.

The Common Council of the city has voted to give the police commissioners the \$5,000 they asked for, and the Board of Aldermen will concur in that action, we have no doubt. Likewise it may be assumed that the Mayor will approve the appropriation.

How the commissioners will expend this fund, we do not know, but we suppose additional special officers will have to be employed.

The police force should be so strengthened and reinforced as to give it self-confidence and make strike sympathizers fear it. The military are being gradually withdrawn, and soon the whole responsibility for managing and controlling the strike situation will fall upon us; we would better say, upon Richmond, Henrico, Chesterfield and Manchester. Our neighbors ought to be preparing. Richmond is doing, for the withdrawal

of the military. There is reason to believe that the stone-throwers and track-constructors will go to Henrico or Chesterfield or Manchester to do their vile work if Richmond is made too hot for them.

Recent occurrences in Fulton and on Barton Heights go to show that there are men hereabout who will not hesitate to wreck or fire into a street car, unmindful of consequences, if even half an opportunity be given them to do so.

In fine, there are some desperate men in and about Richmond who have to be reckoned with. That that is a fact none can deny, and so we might as well make ready to deal with them as the law requires. Meantime let special care be exercised in the appointment of extra policemen.

MRS. JAMES G. BLAINE.

Mrs. Harriet Stanwood Blaine, the widow of Hon. James G. Blaine, died in Augusta, Me., on Wednesday. The funeral took place in the same town yesterday, after which the body was taken to Washington, where to-day it will be laid to rest by the side of that of Mr. Blaine.

Mrs. Blaine was a woman of forceful character and of very strong mind. She was as ambitious as any woman in American history whose husband arose to eminence. It has been said of her that she and her cousin, Gail Hamilton, took more pride in Mr. Blaine's ability and achievements than he did, and suffered vastly more than he from his reverses. She was at one time a power in politics, as many women in official circles in Washington have been, but she was lacking in tact, and what she won for her distinguished husband in a political way was by force of character and unflinching determination. She made many men and not a few women about Washington fear her power. Men and women in official circles who feared Mrs. Blaine were numerous indeed, while those who loved her were few and far between. She had her strong likes and dislikes, and possessed no tact to handle them to advantage.

It has long been an open secret that Mrs. Blaine was directly responsible for the break between her husband and President Harrison, and for Mr. Blaine appearing as a candidate before the Minneapolis convention in 1852, and it never was a secret that she was at all times the controlling factor in her husband's public and official life.

AMERICA AT THE VATICAN.

Cardinal Gibbons has reached Paris, and will stay in France until summoned to attend the conclave. The New York Herald quotes a Monsignor, "who is a friend of the United States," who says Cardinal Gibbons will have great influence in the conclave. It will be the first time that an American cardinal takes part in the election of a Pope. Cardinal McCloskey arrived too late to participate in the last election. He heard of the election of Leo XIII. on his arrival at Queenstown.

The same Monsignor states that Cardinal Gibbons will prove to the conclave that "the United States has a right to be considered no longer a simple colony, with one single cardinal, but is entitled to have proportionately as many cardinals as Spain." If this right were admitted, he says, there would be twelve American cardinals. And he adds that the conclave, in view of the authority which Cardinal Gibbons will exercise, will probably pave the way for a more just representation of the United States in the Sacred College, which action will bear its fruits in the next conclave.

According to Case and Comment, a periodical published in the interest of the legal fraternity, the United States Courts refused to go back on the precedent that when a person whose life is insured is executed for capital crime, the policy becomes void—even after the innocence of the insured has been established. The facts of the suit are summarized by the journal quoted, as follows:

The innocence of an insured who was executed after conviction of a capital crime does not change the rule that insurance cannot be recovered upon the life of a person who was executed for crime, even if the policy makes no provision for forfeiture on that account. It would certainly seem that the law, when forced to recognize that an innocent man has been put to death by its fallibility and tied by precedent to deny to his family the provision which he had made by his life insurance, is bound by the natural conclusion to provide some recompense for those bereaved and injured by its fault.

The Warrenton Virginian says that Tom Page's last novel is one of his best books, and it relates that some years ago Mr. Isham Keith, Jr., of Fauquier, named a horse "Marse Chan," after one of Mr. Page's greatest characters. "The horse, in the opinion of many, was the best half-bred steppeler ever raised in this State." And the Virginian thinks this incident may have suggested the name that Tom Page has given his novel.

Judge George Savage, of the Orphans' Court of Baltimore, formerly of Richmond, who is now at Laurens, S. C., recuperating, writes to the Baltimore Sun that it is not true he will not seek re-election. He says he is now in robust health of mind and body, and will resume his duties on the bench next week.

The Newport News Press of yesterday was audacious enough to offer the following suggestion, which it thrown out at all: "For the sake of the fair name of the fraternity, it is to be hoped that none of the up-country members of the convention at Ocean View will attempt to use a corker on a champagne bottle."

The Council investigation committee meeting nightly, the grand jury with its hands full of exciting business, the military still with the ward boundaries galling west, and yet there are people in this good old town who are complaining of a dull time this summer.

The ways of Providence are sometimes past finding out. Not a single politician or campaign spellbinder monkeyed with a lockjaw-producing pistol on the glorious Fourth.

Ninety miles in nine hours and ten minutes is pretty lively going for a man of

General Miles' years. Wonders what he is trying to rough ride into, anyhow? There does not seem to be any vacant Presidential office or nomination lying around loose.

May the breezes of Hampton Roads and the big fish diet down there furnish Postmaster-General Payne with all the health, vigor and brain needed for the stupendous job that somebody ought to perform in his department of government.

Wonder what has become of that ponderous general by the name of Shafter, of whom we heard so much a few years ago.

Mrs. Carrie Nation ought to be able to get a good job in the Kansas harvest field. She is pretty good at cutting things down.

Newport News city officials need to read up on Marquis of Queensberry rules. Their bouts are lacking in grace and scientific precision.

Senator Matt. Quay's threat to withdraw from politics and let that Senatorial job go to somebody else has a mighty long and strong string tied to it.

Poor Russell Sage! He will have no vacation this year. He must make some more hay before the sun goes down on his grass lot.

The lynching malady is confined to no two-acre lot this year. It's all over the country.

After much correspondence over the matter, Mrs. Wiggs will be permitted to raise cabbages in a Warrenton patch.

The seances being held by the Council investigation committee are as good as a circus with red lemonade.

Anyhow, no Ohio man has been suggested as the possible successor of Pope Leo.

The professional calamity howlers ought to make good harvest hands for bleeding Kansas.

Admiral Cotton has been declared by the British a prince—prince of entertainers.

Half Hour With Virginia Editors.

There is a remarkable state of affairs down in Nansemond county. The Suffolk Herald says:

Before our next issue we hope some candidates will come out for the various offices to be elected this fall. We hate to see good fat offices go begging and no one to make a formal announcement that they will be candidates and desire the help and votes of the dear people. It is rumored that several good candidates are being considered for the various offices in Nansemond and why not come out flat footed and tell us so? The Barksdale is dangerous to gentlemen. Delays are dangerous.

The Harrisonburg News has only this to say:

It appears that John S. Wise and John G. Carlisle (white) and James Hays (colored) are to get \$10,000 apiece for fighting the new Virginia Constitution. We believe they would have done it for less money.

The Norfolk Ledger recollects this opinion:

Sam doesn't require a "secretary for the colonies" before long we don't know the reason why—it now develops that we also bought from the various offices in Nansemond and why not come out flat footed and tell us so? The Barksdale is dangerous to gentlemen. Delays are dangerous.

The Roanoke Evening World indulges in this speculation:

The Republican party is so overgrown from a long continuance in power that it may fall to pieces of its own weight, and Democracy is so divided that harmony is not yet in sight. To gather up the fragments that fall away from these great organizations and weld them into a symmetrical and that will sweep the country in 1904 is, no doubt, the chimerical dream of the leaders in the new "reform" movement.

The Farmville Herald asks a question and adds a comment thus:

Can it be possible that work on our public roads would be "waste of time?" That is what we are told by the critic of the Norfolk Virginian—Pilot on a suggestion of the Herald to the government to engage in road building rather than in a race to the sea. Wait till February mud comes again and then take a drive in the country and you will change your tune.

Personal and General.

Frederick G. Bourne, commander of the New York Yacht Club, has recovered from the effects of his sunstroke last week.

Shadrach M. Brush died at Stanwich, Conn., on Sunday on the farm he had occupied for a half century and which was purchased by his ancestors from the Indians.

Governor Lanham, of Texas, has issued a proclamation offering a reward of \$50,000 "to any person or persons who shall discover and furnish a practical remedy for the destruction of the cotton boll weevil."

By the death of Major Justus Schelbert, in Germany, recently, another of the few remaining Germans who achieved distinction as officers on the Confederate side in the American Civil War is gone.

Baron Reinhard Bachofen von Echt, an Austrian nobleman who is making his first visit to this country, says the inscription on his tombstone in the cemetery would not be equalled in any other city in the world.

The studio of the American artist, Mrs. Cadwallader Guild, in Berlin, is frequently visited by Emperor William. She is presently painting a bust of Princess Irene, wife of Prince Henry.

A Few Foreign Facts.

The famous Excelsior diamond, which was discovered by Captain Ed. Jorganen in South Africa, is now at Amsterdam, where it will be cut and polished. It weighs 97 karats, and is the largest in the world. Its value is \$5,000,000.

Eight Japanese sportsmen in British Columbia accomplished the feat of catching alive a full-grown bear without steel traps or firearms. One of the Japs jumped on the back of the bear when it was through the trees and his companions followed and plinked the bear to the ground.

RUSSIAN REFUSAL

Correspondence About Kishineff Petition Made Public.

BE NO FURTHER ACTION

Mr. Riddle, the American Charge in St. Petersburg, Cables that Under No Circumstances Would Russia Receive the Petition.

(By Associated Press.)

WASHINGTON, July 17.—It is stated by the Secretary of State that the incident created by the question of the presentation of the Jewish petition to Russia is closed. The Russian department today made public the correspondence that has taken place respecting the petition. Its substance has already been forecast in the press dispatches. The correspondence consisted of instructions to Mr. Riddle, United States charge d'affaires at St. Petersburg, reciting in detail the petition, and directing him to present the same to the Foreign Office, if it were willing to receive it.

It is stated by Mr. Riddle that the Foreign Office would not receive it under any circumstances, and Secretary Hay so informed the B'Nai B'Rith committee in a brief letter.

OFFICIAL STATEMENT.

The official statement of the facts is as follows: The Russian Government has declined to receive the petition of the Jews in Russia, signed by several thousand citizens, and directed to St. Petersburg by direction of the B'Nai B'Rith committee.

At the conference on Tuesday, the 14th of July, at Oyster Bay, the President of the B'Nai B'Rith committee, Mr. Oscar S. Straus, in regard to the presentation of the petition and decided to send the following dispatch to Mr. Riddle, the American charge d'affaires in St. Petersburg:

"Department of State, Washington, D. C., July 15.

"You are instructed to ask an audience of the Russian Government and to make to him the following communication: 'Excellency, the Secretary of State instructs me to inform you that the President has received from a large number of citizens of the United States of America a petition signed by several thousand of the highest positions both public and private life, a respectful petition addressed to His Majesty, the Emperor, relative to the condition of the Jews in Russia and running as follows: 'To His Imperial Majesty, the Emperor

"The cruel outrages perpetrated at Kishineff during Easter of 1903 have excited horror and reprobation throughout the world. Majorities of the local authorities failed to maintain order or suppress the rioting.

"The victims were Jews, and the assault was the result of race and religious prejudice.

"The rioters violated the laws of Russia.

"The local officials were derelict in the performance of their duty, and the Jews were the victims of indefensible lawlessness.

"These facts are made by the official reports and by the official acts following the riot.

"FEAR OF RECURRENCE.

"Under the existing conditions, the awful calamity would be repeated with undiminished force, but such is not the feeling of the officials. Neither special and personal directors the local authorities failed to maintain order or suppress the rioting.

"The westward migration of Russian Jews, which has proceeded for over twenty years, is being retarded by these fears, and already that movement has become so great as to overshadow in magnitude the exodus from Egypt to Palestine.

"No estimate is possible of the misery and suffering of the millions who feel driven to forsake their native land; to sever the most sacred ties and to wander forth to strange countries, unable to leave the land of their birth; who, in years, are unable to return; who emigrate; who remain in never-ending terror.

"Religious persecution is more sinful and more fatuous even than war. War is sometimes necessary, honorable and just; religious persecution is never defensible.

"The sinfulness and folly which give impulse to unnecessary war received their sanction from the Jews, which resulted in an international court of peace.

"With such an example before it, the civilized world renounces the hope that under the same initiative there shall be fixed in the early days of the twentieth century, the principle of religious liberty; that by a generous and convincing expression Your Majesty will proclaim, not only for the government, but for the people, the principle that no citizen shall be persecuted on account of his own conscience, and that government shall safeguard these rights and immunities by the exercise of all its powers.

"Far removed from Your Majesty's dominions, living under different conditions and owing allegiance to another government, your petitioners plead for religious liberty and tolerance; plead that he who led his people and all others to the shrine of peace should not be justly rebuffed by the same by initiating a new movement that shall put the whole world in opposition to religious persecutions.

"In view of the fact that the petition will be received by Your Excellency to be submitted to the gracious consideration of His Majesty, it is respectfully requested that it be forwarded to St. Petersburg, at once.

"I avail myself, etc.

"HAY."

POSITIVE DECLINATION.

This was sent on the 15th of July, or the same day Mr. Riddle was informed by the Russian minister for foreign affairs of his decision to receive the petition.

"I am, very respectfully yours, (signed) R. B. RIDDLE."

It is believed that this petition was al-

Judge a Shoe advertisement featuring a shoe illustration and text: "By the leather of which it's made, Judge the leather of the label (shown below) that identifies it as Wolff's Ideal Leather. This leather that keeps your feet cool in summer, warm in winter. Makes heavy shoes soft, light shoes strong. Make in kid, calf, goat, cow or cow hide. Write for booklet 'How to Buy Shoes.' WOLFF PROCESS LEATHER CO., Philadelphia. THIS SHOE IS MADE OF PATENTED LEATHER."

most unexampled in the weight and dignity of the signatures attached to it. Among them are: Congressman John Sharp Williams, of Mississippi; the Governor of Virginia, Georgia, Mississippi, North Carolina, Louisiana and Nebraska, the chief justices of all the States from which returns to the great number of Congressmen, publicists, bankers, Protestant and Catholic ministers, mayors of leading cities, prominent educators, lecturers, and authors, scholars, manufacturers, etc.

President Not Surprised.

(By Associated Press.) OYSTER BAY, N. Y., July 17.—President Roosevelt was not surprised that the Russian Government had declined to receive the B'Nai B'Rith petition regarding the Kishineff massacres. The action of Russia has been forecast unofficially. The information of Russia's declination was here late last night in a long telegram from Secretary Hay toward the President, sent to Secretary Hay an extended reply.

LAD TUMBLES INTO SWEEPING TIDE

Divers Rescue Him in Twenty Feet of Water and Revive the Spark of Life.

(Special to The Times-Dispatch.) WILMINGTON, N. C., July 17.—William, the young son of Mr. and Mrs. W. A. Erwin, of Durham, narrowly escaped drowning yesterday afternoon at Wrightsville Beach. He lost his balance and fell from a gangway into Banks Channel.

His aunt, Mrs. George W. Mountcastle, DeRosset, of New York, and Mr. C. W. Erwin, of Durham, were with him when he fell into the water. Several other ladies saw the little fellow when he fell in and disappeared in ten feet of water.

The tide was running swiftly out, and the channel and the little fellow was quickly swept from view. An alarm was given and several men plunged into the water in search of the lad.

Captain J. W. Willis, of Wilmington, found him about twenty yards from the place where he fell in.

The child had been under the water five minutes, and only a spark of life was left in his body. Mr. Thomas C. DeRosset, of New York, and Mr. C. W. Erwin, of Durham, were with him when he fell into the water. Several other ladies saw the little fellow when he fell in and disappeared in ten feet of water.

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MRS. THURMAN BADLY TREATED

Judge W. F. Rhea Tells of Her Incarceration at Staunton on False Testimony.

(Special to The Times-Dispatch.) BRISTOL, TENN., July 17.—A special from Winchester, Va., telling of a divorce suit having been instituted at Berryville, Va., by which Mrs. Olive Thurman hopes to be divorced from her husband, General Charles Thurman, and receive substantial alimony, has created great interest here, for the reason that the couple are well known in Bristol, having resided here in 1874, the year in which they were married. Mrs. Thurman is now in the State hospital at Staunton, Va., in this city, and from here and her chief counsel, ex-Congressman William F. Rhea, of the Ninth Virginia District, a story of alleged horrible outrage is learned.

Mrs. Thurman, who is a woman of rare attainments and exceptionally brilliant intellect, was released from the State hospital at Staunton, Va., on the 27th day of June, after she had been there for nearly two months. From Judge Rhea it is learned that Mrs. Thurman was placed in the asylum as the result of her husband's intrigue to get her out of the way, and to marry the daughter of a prominent family in this city, and from here and her chief counsel, ex-Congressman William F. Rhea, of the Ninth Virginia District, a story of alleged horrible outrage is learned.

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