

THREE TIMES A WEEK.

Ottumwa Weekly Courier.

EVERY OTHER DAY.

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WEST AND EAST CLASH

QUESTION OF PLACE FOR HOLDING CONVENTION WORRIES DEMOCRATS.

M. J. WADE FOR CHICAGO

Charles A. Walsh Will Not Declare Himself But As He is a Hearst Man He is Generally Classed as Favoring New York.

[BY H. J. MAHIN.]

Washington Bureau of the Courier.

Washington, D. C., Dec. 30, 1903.

In anticipation of the meeting of the democratic national committee here next month a lively contest has been precipitated regarding the meeting place of the national convention next summer.

Chicago May Lose.

It had been practically taken for granted that Chicago would be chosen until a strong movement favoring New York as the convention city was started recently. The result is a contest between the eastern and the west and furthermore between the Bryan and anti-Bryan factions of the democratic party.

Most of the eastern and "reorganizing" element favor New York because here the business interests of the country which it is declared the democratic party wants to affiliate with this year since the "business interests" like the democratic party, are out to beat Roosevelt—"business interests" meaning Wall street. The Bryan faction does not want New York.

Wade for Chicago.

Judge Wade, Iowa's democrat in the house, when asked by the Courier representative about the convention struggle the other day stated that he did not think Iowa would favor New York.

Walsh Not Talkative.

Judge Wade is classed with the other western democrats who do not want to see their national convention held in New York because they fear the result of the influence which will be there exerted by the money interests which are centered in the great eastern city. Charles Walsh of Ottumwa, the secretary of the national committee, has so far refused to state his opinion of where the convention should be held. As he is an out and out Hearst man and is in line for New York as the convention city, Mr. Walsh may disagree with Judge Wade as to what Iowa may want.

Easterners Wrathful.

The eastern democrats are combating this sentiment with a strong demand that the national convention shall be held in the east. There is a faction of the democratic party in the east and southeast which is tired of giving up everything to the western branch of the party.

"It is about time we were given a chance to show that we can do," said one irate easterner the other day. "We have given in to the west and allowed it to have its own way in everything for eight years now and as a result the party has met one failure after another, each one more unreasonable and humiliating than the former. The eastern democrats ought to have a chance to take hold and see if they can not gain for the party some of its former successes. If we are not balked at every turn by that same unreasonable western sentiment, we will be able to put some ginger and common sense into the party next year and win."

May Cause Trouble.

This warning of feeling is lying just under cover in regard to many differences between the two factions of the democratic party and it is beginning to show its head over the convention matter. Conservative leaders are trying their best to keep down this hostile sentiment but there is sufficient evidence that it will be hard to control and will be one of the hardest features the democrats will have to fight in their party deliberations up to and throughout the next campaign.

TO PROVE ADVANTAGES.

Westinghouse Company to Equip Road Electrically.

New York, Dec. 30.—The Westinghouse Electric & Manufacturing Co. has purchased the controlling interest in the Lackawanna & Wyoming Valley Rapid Transit Co., paying therefor about \$5,000,000. The Westinghouse company intends to equip the road electrically with a view to demonstrating the advantages of electricity as a motive power for freight and passenger service.

"A. J. K." STILL UNIDENTIFIED.

Only One Victim of Michigan Wreck Now Unknown.

Grand Rapids, Mich., Dec. 30.—There were no further deaths at the hospitals last night among the injured in Saturday night's wreck upon the Pere Marquette railroad near East Paris, and it was said today that there was no immediate prospect of any of the injured succumbing. Only one of the twenty-two dead still remains to be identified, a man with the initials A. J. K. on his cuffs, but with no other mark by which to identify him.

BURGLARS GET RICH

PAWN BROKER IN DES MOINES LOSES THOUSANDS FROM HIS SAFE.

Des Moines, Dec. 30.—Burglars dynamited the safe of O. Cohen, a jewelry pawn broker, last night and secured \$5,000 cash, besides diamonds, watches and jewelry. One man has been arrested on suspicion.

Illinois Merchants Lose.

Bloomington, Ill., Dec. 30.—A gang of safe blowers which have been operating through central Illinois lately was rewarded at San Jose last night. After dynamiting the safe in the post-office the robbers secured the entire contents of the safes in the business houses of Nicholas Weise and John Ulmer. The complete haul was about \$1,600.

WANT BALFOUR'S SCALP.

Tories Demand a Declaration of His Policy.

Liverpool, Dec. 30.—The Post hears that free trade Tories are determined to make Premier Balfour declare himself either for or against the policy of Joseph Chamberlain. As soon as parliament meets the Tories will propose a resolution condemning preferential duties and taxation on food. If Balfour opposes the resolution or declines to endorse it, the Tories will resign and contest their seats against the free traders.

FLORIDA FOR CANAL.

Jacksonville Business Men Ask Senators to Support the Treaty.

Jacksonville, Fla., Dec. 30.—The Jacksonville Board of Trade met yesterday afternoon for the purpose of calling upon Senators Talliferro and Mallory to vote for the ratification of the canal treaty with the new Panama republic. Business interests of the state are demanding the construction of the canal. The board discussed the issue. Other boards were requested to take up the matter.

TO OPEN DOOR

ARRANGEMENTS BEING MADE TO PUT TREATY INTO EFFECT.

Peking, Dec. 30.—The Chinese government has promised United States Minister Conger to soon forward the Chinese copy of the treaty to Washington for exchange of ratifications. It is necessary first to obtain the emperor's seal. After the treaty is ratified the opening of Mukden and Antung to the commerce of the world can be pressed.

Marquis of Sligo Dead.

Dublin, Dec. 30.—The Marquis of Sligo died here today.

QUIET AT KISHENEV.

An Official States That It Was Never More Peaceful.

St. Petersburg, Dec. 30.—An official announces in view of the reports current abroad of renewed attacks on the Jews, that Kishenev was never quieter than at the present time.

GAS PLANT EXPLODES.

Generator in Barber Shop at Lone Tree Blows Up.

Lone Tree, Dec. 30.—A gas light generating plant in Smith's barber shop exploded last night. No one was injured, and the damage was slight.

IMPORTANT HOLDING

RAILROAD IS RESPONSIBLE FOR VALUE OF GOODS HANDLED.

Pittsburg, Dec. 30.—In federal court today Judge Acheson handed down an opinion in the case of Doyle vs. the Baltimore & Ohio railroad, which virtually says that under the present methods of doing business a railroad company is responsible for the full value of goods lost in transit, notwithstanding the printing or stamping of the clause on the face of a bill of lading calling for a maximum allowance for release, unless an agreement as to value shall be made between the railroad and the shipper and the signature of the shipper secured to such an agreement.

ACTOR JEROME SYKES IS DEAD.

Star of "The Billionaire" Company is a Victim of Pneumonia.

Chicago, Dec. 30.—Jerome Sykes, the operatic comedian and star of the "Billionaire" company, which has been playing a two weeks' engagement at the Illinois theatre, died yesterday afternoon at the Stratford hotel of pneumonia after an illness of four days. Mr. Sykes was taken ill Christmas day, having been barely able to finish the matinee performance.

A MOST MYSTERIOUS DEATH

Strange Facts Surround The Disappearance Of An Albia Man.

Albia, December 30.—(Special)—Bleaching under a pitiless western sun, washed by the infrequent rains of the Idaho prairies, food for the hungry animals which haunt the lonely stretches of that state, the bones of J. D. Mock of Albia laid all summer, through the autumn, and until they were found a few days ago by a settler who had taken a short cut across the railroad right-of-way to reach his ranch, all trace had been lost of the unfortunate old man since last April. The story of his disappearance is unusual in the extreme and admits of but two solutions, either of which carries a query.

Disappeared in April.

On April 22 Mr. Mock, who was a retired farmer living at Albia, started for his home from Grant's Pass, Oregon, where he had been visiting relatives. Although 76 years of age he was a hardy old man and had always enjoyed the best of health; hence his relatives had no fear that he would have any difficulty in making the long journey alone and in safety.

Mr. Mock's trunk reached Albia on April 26, four days after he had left Grant's Pass, but the owner did not arrive. No anxiety was felt by his relatives here, however, even when three or four days had elapsed and he had not put in an appearance.

Search is Commenced.

A week passed and no word came from the traveler and finally his son at Grant's Pass wrote to learn if he had reached home in safety. Receiving a negative reply he wrote to his brother, A. H. Mock at Milan, Kan., thinking perhaps their aged parent had decided while on the road home to visit there. He had not been seen there however, and the brothers began a search for him.

No Trace to be Found.

It was found that Mr. Mock's ticket had been collected on the train and that he had been seen by trainmen as

far east as Granger, Wyoming, but after that no trace could be found. Detectives were put to work upon the case and a reward of \$500 was offered for the recovery of the remains, all hope of finding Mr. Mock alive having been given up. Finally, after scouring the country without finding the slightest fact upon which a theory could be hung, the detectives gave up the search. Weeks rolled by and the disappearance was forgotten by many, only the relatives of the dead man being still haunted with the thought that somewhere in the vast stretch of country between Oregon and Iowa their aged kinsman, dead, or in awful misery, was a prey to the pitiless weather.

Remains Discovered.

Finally word was sent to Grant's Pass a few days ago that the scarcely recognizable remains of a man had been found one mile from Yale Siding, a little way station in Blair county near Pocastello, Idaho. A. H. Mock at once hastened to Pocastello, and identified the corpse as that of his father. Although the flesh had gone from the bones in many places, the clothing could be recognized. A search of the coat resulted in the discovery of \$32 sewed in the lining. Mr. Mock's watch and the remainder of the \$200 he carried when he started home were not to be found.

An Unreasonable Verdict.

The coroner's jury at an inquest held at Pocastello solemnly declared that the deceased had come to his death as the result of an attack of "cramps," entirely neglecting the indications of robbery and murder. The remains were shipped to Albia, and have been interred with private services in the Oak View cemetery here.

His Death a Mystery.

The manner of Mr. Mock's death will doubtless always remain a mystery. Two theories arise. The first and more probable is that Mr. Mock alighted from the train at some station, and was attacked or led away to an out-of-the-way place where he

was later killed and robbed. The second is that he may have become suddenly deranged, and wandered from the train at a station and finally starved to death or committed suicide. Both theories carry a query. In the first case the question might arise, as to whether, at such a public place as a railway station, a man could be murdered or kidnapped without the affair creating considerable excitement. This one is easier to circumvent, however, than that which demands the whereabouts of the man's watch and money, which he is known to have had on his departure for his home, and which were not found with or near his remains.

The Mock case brings to the minds of many Ottumwas and those residing in the vicinity of this city, a similar affair which took place about two years ago near the scene of the discovery of Mr. Mock's body, and the similarity between the circumstances surrounding the two deaths cannot help but lead to a suspicion that both were committed by the same people, or at least after the same systematic plan.

The first case was that of Benjamin Hardy, whose bones were found in a lonely spot not far from Pocastello, some two years ago after a search of nearly a year. Mr. Harkins was the brother of James Harkins, of Fremont, and, though a resident of the state of Kansas, he was well known to several people in Wapello and Mahaska counties. He started from his Kansas home for a trip in the northwest, and when at a small town in Idaho he got off the train while it stopped, and was left. He secured a room at a local hotel, having learned that he must wait twenty-four hours before resuming his journey, and after supper he left the hotel for a walk about town. From that time until his skeleton was found no trace could be discovered. He had considerable money on his person when he left his home, but when his remains were discovered there was not a cent to be found. The strange parallel between the two cases is very unusual.

SUSPECT FOUL PLAY

FRIENDS OF CENTERVILLE GIRL WHO HAS DISAPPEARED ARE ANXIOUS.

Centerville, Dec. 30.—(Special)—Fearing that his daughter has met with foul play, or that she has committed suicide while in a fit of despondency, Lin Riggie, of Dean, a small town near here, is carrying on an exhaustive search for the young woman. No trace of her can be found, and it is thought she is dead.

Lost for Four Weeks.

Miss Callie Riggie, aged 24 years, a prepossessing young woman, has been lost for four weeks, having apparently dropped from the face of the earth. She was last seen on the streets of Centerville on Monday morning, November 28, having left her home that day to come to this city and accept a position in the home of Nathan Stanton. She stopped at the home of Mr. and Mrs. J. A. Wilson, on West Washington street for a short time, and after leaving there all trace of the young woman has been lost.

Her father fears she may have been foully dealt with in some manner, as no explanation is found for her voluntary disappearance.

May Have Suicided.

There is one report that the girl may have been melancholy following the announcement of the coming marriage of a young man in Caldwell township with whom she had kept company. But she is not known to have said anything rash. She is not known to have had any trouble at home. She is the oldest in the family and was considered a trustworthy girl.

Can Find No Trace.

Going on the theory that she might have been temporarily deranged and done violence to herself a search is being made of some sections near town on the north and west, but no trace can be found, nor does any one remember of seeing her at the depots. She was not very well known in town here as she had never gone out much here.

IOWAN'S AWFUL DEATH.

Keokuk Man Kills Wife and Self in St. Louis.

St. Louis, Mo., Dec. 30.—Frenzied by the sight of a gypsy peddler in his wife's room, Ed Smith cut her throat from ear to ear. He then used the dripping weapon to cut his own throat. Her two sons by a former marriage saw the ghastly spectacle as did the peddler who disappeared immediately after. Neither can survive the knife wounds.

Mrs. Smith married one Painter, 19 years ago at Bloomfield, and several years later married one Bishop in Keokuk. Both the sons who saw the deed say the desperate man had been reading dime novels, and may have found an incentive in the novel. The stepfather had relied on the young sons to support the family.

BOOM J. L. WEBSTER

NEBRASKA REPUBLICANS WANT HIM FOR VICE PRESIDENT.

Omaha, Dec. 30.—Several representative republicans of Nebraska held a meeting today to organize a movement for the advancement of the candidacy of John L. Webster for the vice presidential nomination in 1904. Resolutions endorsing Roosevelt and Webster were unanimously adopted.

BARR SUCCEEDS WILLIAMS.

Becomes President of the Seaboard Air Line.

New York, Dec. 30.—At a meeting of the directors of the Seaboard Air Line today, J. Skelton Williams resigned the office of President of the company, and vice-President Barr was elected president and general manager.

TAKES LIGHTHOUSES.

Hawaiian Beacon Service to be Managed by United States.

Washington, Dec. 30.—By a proclamation just made public, dated December 23, President Roosevelt directs that all property of the former government of Hawaii, ceded heretofore to the United States, consisting of lighthouses and all property, vessels and material pertaining thereto, be taken for use by the United States, and that the department of commerce and labor, through the lighthouse board, be charged with all the administrative duties relating to the Hawaiian lighthouse establishment.

MRS. SULLIVAN'S FUNERAL.

Well Known Writer's Remains Interred at Detroit.

Chicago, Dec. 30.—After solemn high mass at the cathedral of the Holy Name, the remains of Mrs. Alexander Sullivan were today conveyed to Detroit, where the burial will take place.

HOLDS TITLE

YOUNG CORBETT KNOCKS OUT EDDIE HANLON AT SAN FRANCISCO.

LOSER BADLY PUNISHED

California Lad Refused to be Knocked Out, and Referee Graney Finally Had to Stop the Fight in the Sixteenth Round—Corbett is Champion.

San Francisco, Cal., Dec. 30.—(Special)—Fighting with a ferocity that seemed impossible, and refusing absolutely to be knocked out, Eddie Hanlon, plucky little warrior that he is, finally had to be carried to his corner last night in the sixteenth round of his fight with Young Corbett, after the latter had devoted two rounds of fierce fighting in an attempt to stop the battle. The fight will go down in history as the most interesting and best contested fistic battle ever seen in this city, and Hanlon, though defeated is still recognized as one of the greatest light men who ever lived. Young Corbett himself testified to his rival's prowess after the fight, when he bestowed an affectionate kiss upon the battered Hanlon, saying: "You can whip the best of 'em."

Referee Stopped Fight.

Eddie Graney, the referee, stopped the fight in the sixteenth round when he saw that Hanlon could not hope for a victory. The little Californian had been getting the worst of the battle for two rounds but had ginger and strength enough to stand up although he could not defend himself. He was "game" clear through and though he received the worst drubbing ever given a light weight fighter in San Francisco, he is still the idol of thousands. Graney tried in the fourteenth and fifteenth rounds to induce Hanlon's seconds to stop the fight and take their man away, and Corbett also asked them to do so, but they refused and Hanlon, though he would take the count up to nine, would rise to his feet after receiving a stunning blow and go after his antagonist blindly.

Corbett Was Unmarked.

The fight last night, demonstrated that Corbett is any man's superior at his weight. At no time during the contest was he in any apparent danger and when it ended there was not a mark upon him. Hanlon's most peculiar and effective defense was all that saved him from a knockout early in the game.

Big Attendance.

The attendance was enormous for a featherweight fight. The receipts were between \$15,000 and \$20,000. Fifty per cent of the receipts were divided between the fighters, the winner taking 75 per cent of this amount and the loser 25 per cent.

In addition Corbett was given 5 per cent of the gross receipts in view of his drawing power.

NO DECISION MADE

ACTION OF REYES' NOTE HAS NOT YET BEEN TAKEN.

PAPERS TALK OF BREAK

A Russian Publication Takes a Most Pessimistic View of the Outlook—Japan Buys Warships and Talks of Russia's Attitude and of War.

St. Petersburg, Dec. 30.—Foreign dispatches received here yesterday are reflected today in more pessimistic editorials. "The Novoe Vremya" begins its leader with: "There is no war today; tomorrow there may be war."

Fatalistic Talk.

The paper rather fatalistically directs attention to the fact that wars marked the opening of the seventeenth century and the nineteenth century. "The Novoe Vremya" nevertheless still professes faith in a peaceful settlement.

Japan Talks of War.

Paris, Dec. 30.—It is learned in diplomatic circles that the Japanese government has informed foreign diplomats that the situation with respect to Russia is desperate, but not hopeless. It is believed this information was communicated to the French government for presentation at St. Petersburg.

Japan Buys Ships.

London, Dec. 30.—Japan this evening completed the purchase of the Argentine warships Moreno and Rivadavia, now buildings at Genoa, Italy, for which Russia also was negotiating.

The German View.

Berlin, Dec. 30.—The Lokal Anzeiger, without reserve, says: "The Japanese government has informed representatives and the powers at Tokyo that the situation at this moment is unbearable and that Japan must strike if Russia does not accept the propositions that Japan has submitted, as Japan cannot longer wait for a final decision."

PRaise for Judge Smith.

Washington Commends His Action in Staying the Mob.

Washington, D. C., Dec. 30.—Congress Smith's achievement in preventing lynching in Council Bluffs has been on everybody's tongue. President Roosevelt, officials and clerks have commended the action of Judge Smith in the strongest terms and expressed admiration for a man who possessed such influence over an infuriated mob.

ANOTHER VICTIM DIES.

Fatalities From Pere Marquette Wreck Number Twenty-two.

Grand Rapids, Mich., Dec. 30.—Conductor George Nell, the twenty-second victim of the Pere Marquette wreck which occurred near East Paris, on Saturday, died today. Nell lived at Ionia.

Local Weather.

Thursday, 9 p. m. 8
Wednesday, 7 a. m. 6
Wednesday, 2 p. m. 33