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ARMY CHIEF OF STAFF HURT IN AUTO ACCIDENT

MRS. HERBERT SLOCUM, WIFE OF ARMY OFFICER, WHO WAS HIS COMPANION, KILLED IN COLLISION WITH CAR.

Washington, D. C., March 23.—In an automobile accident near Fort Meyer, Va., today, Major General L. Franklin Bell, chief of staff of the army, was injured and Mrs. Herbert J. Slocum, wife of Major Slocum of the Seventh Cavalry, was killed.

The accident occurred between Fort Meyer and this city at the foot of a long hill a quarter of a mile from Fort Meyer at 9:30 this morning. At the point where the road crosses the tracks of the Washington, Arlington and Falls Church railway the automobile was struck by a fast moving trolley car.

Mrs. Slocum was so badly injured that she lived only fifteen minutes after the accident. According to an official report Bell received a bad scalp wound and other injuries, the extent of which were for a time in doubt. He was taken to the post hospital at Fort Meyer where it was announced his injuries were not dangerous.

At the hospital an investigation showed that Bell had one rib broken, a bad scalp wound and severe bruises. The chauffeur was uninjured. A call was removed first to the post hospital at Fort Meyer and afterwards to his residence at the fort. Mrs. Slocum lived only a few moments. Her husband is attached to the headquarters of the department of the east at Governors Island, New York. She was visiting relatives in this city and had passed the night with General and Mrs. Bell. General Bell absolved the trolley car motorman from blame.

The automobile was completely demolished. Mrs. Slocum struck on her head and as soon as picked up was placed aboard the trolley car and later transferred to an automobile and rushed to the hospital. She was dead when she arrived there. Bell, whose condition at first appeared desperate, was hurried to the hospital where the surgeons found a slight scalp wound and a broken rib. He was later removed to his home. The chauffeur and motorman and conductor of the trolley were arrested.

ARBOR DAY DATE SET

Governor Carroll Fixed the Time as April 29 and Will Issue Proclamation.

Des Moines March 23.—(Special)—April 29 has been fixed as Arbor day and Governor Carroll will issue a proclamation urging the planting of trees in the near future.

Cornwall Has No Criticism.

Des Moines March 23.—(Special)—John Cornwall made his farewell address to state institution superintendents today in conference held here. He made no criticism of the state institutions.

DEMOCRAT WINS IN BAY STATE.

Foss Defeats Buchanan in Congressional Race in Massachusetts District.

Brockton, Mass., March 23.—The political weathercock turned Democratward in Massachusetts yesterday, when the old colony section, one of the Republican strongholds of the state, placed Eugene N. Foss of Boston, one of the country's leading exponents of reciprocity with Canada, in the congressional seat of the late William C. Lovering.

The vote yesterday was: Eugene N. Foss of Boston, Democrat, 14,980; William R. Buchanan of Brockton, Republican, 9,340.

DAVENPORT LADS ARRESTED.

Waterloo, March 23.—(Special)—Two 19 year old Davenport boys, Henry Elliston and S. W. West were removed here early this morning by a brakeman from the Rock Island passenger No. 19 northbound. When they saw an officer they ran a block before overtaken. On the way a new revolver, search light and box of crabs were found on their pockets. They were locked up but no charges were filed this morning and they were allowed to go free. They said they carried the weapons for protection.

NEW GRAFT DISCOVERED.

Frank Keppell, Professional Maniac Wanted to Go to Mt. Pleasant Hospital.

Des Moines, March 23.—(Special)—A new graft that of a professional maniac developed before the insanity commissioners today when Frank Keppell was examined and pronounced sane. He confessed he had served two terms in the insane hospital at Topeka, Kansas, and came to Des Moines to try and be sent to the state hospital at Mt. Pleasant.

Jack Johnson is Behind Bars; His Bondsmen Busy

New York, March 23.—Jack Johnson, the heavy weight champion, was in court today to answer Norman Pinders' assault charge. Pinders, the complainant, did not appear and Judge McGuire declared his court was being trifled with. He increased Johnson's bond from \$1,500 to \$5,000 and committed him to the Tombs, pending his raising of the bail. The court issued a bench warrant for Pinders' arrest.

CAUCUS TONIGHT ON THE RULES

MANY CANDIDATES IN FIELD FOR PLACES; SMITH IS FAVORED.

Washington, D. C., March 23.—Distinct progress was made yesterday toward the organization of the new rules committee of the house of representatives and the launching of legislative business under the new order.

A call for a republican caucus to be held tonight was started by Chairman Currier early in the day, and before 2 p. m. nearly ninety names had been attached, including both regulars and insurgents. This was more than enough to authorize the holding of a caucus, and no further effort was made to get the signatures of other insurgents.

Before the house assembled John Dwight, the republican "whip," gave instructions to his assistants to ascertain the wishes of the various state delegations as to the makeup of the new committee. Up to 6 p. m. these assistants "whipped" had reported to their chief nearly fifty available candidates whose selection would be agreeable to the sections from which they come. The names included Congressman I. Mann, Boutell, McKinley, and nearly all the members of the Michigan delegation.

Says There Will Be No Slate. The regulars declare there is to be no slate fixed up previous to the holding of the caucus, but the multiplicity of candidates for the six republican places probably will result in an informal agreement upon a small list of names tomorrow morning.

John Daise of Pennsylvania and Walter I. Smith of Iowa, members of the present committee on rules, apparently are the choice of a majority of republicans for places on the new committee.

The insurgents, who are demanding representation on the committee on rules, have not been pacified by the action of Congressman Murdock, Madison, Norris, and some others who are counseling that no demand be made for a place. Mr. Tawney has been acting as the go-between in the effort to bring about an understanding with this dissatisfied element of the insurgents, but matters had not been smoothed out last night.

The radical insurgents, headed by Mr. Hayes of California, were to have had a formal conference with Mr. Tawney late yesterday, but the latter was called away, and the insurgents waited some time without a chance to see him.

Insurgents Are Dissatisfied. The wait did not improve the temper of the insurgents and they expressed dissatisfaction with affairs last night. Their leaders, including Victor Murdock, stated, however, that, having won their fight for principle, they would not now countenance a "fight for spoils."

Mr. Lindbergh of Minnesota and Mr. Leavort of Wisconsin refused to sign the call for the caucus today, although they did not say they would refuse to attend the meeting.

Congressman Hayes of California also withheld his signature. It is understood that he is particularly desirous of having an understanding as to the member of the committee who is to represent the Pacific coast.

Mr. Dwight vouchsafed the information that Speaker Cannon would not countenance any effort on the part of the regulars to prepare a slate for the caucus.

He said it was the purpose of the speaker and of the house leaders to let the caucus act on its own initiative.

Does Not Believe in Hoodoo. Waterloo, March 23.—(Special)—Deputy Clerk Fred S. Pettit today determined to put the thirteen and twenty-three hoodoo to a practical test. This morning he set a hen on thirteen eggs, this being the twenty-third and the period of incubation expires on April 13. He is wondering what the outcome will be.

TWO MORE DEAD IN IOWA WRECK; TOTAL NOW 49

WATERLOO AND MINNESOTA MEN DIE OF INJURIES AT MARSHALLTOWN; TWO OTHER DEAD ARE IDENTIFIED.

Marshalltown, March 23.—Two victims of the wreck of the Rock Island train, A. H. Nagel of Waterloo, wire chief of the Iowa Telephone company, and Charles B. Davis of Minneapolis, died today, increasing the list of fatalities to forty-nine. Among the additional identified dead are Mrs. Mary E. Parrish of Sedalia, Mo. Milton Parrish, her husband, first identified as G. W. Blair of Sedalia, also is among the dead. Mrs. Anna Houstan of Minneapolis, is the third. Partial identification has been made of Mrs. Arthur Nolte of Muscatine.

L. M. Wallin of Washington, D. C., is at the point of death. Nearly all of the dead have been shipped to their homes. Railroad Commissioner Ketchum is here, still investigating the cause of the accident with the railway officials, but it is still a mystery.

Brown Funeral at Fairfield. Fairfield, March 23.—The funeral of A. R. Brown, his wife and two daughters, who were killed in the Gladbrook wreck of the Rock Island Monday was held from the Christian church here today. The home of the Browns was in Waterloo but they were brought here for burial.

Cedar Rapids Woman Identified. Cedar Rapids, March 23.—(Special)—The body of Miss Anna Houseman, one of the Marshalltown wreck victims was identified in the morgue at that city today. Her parents live here and she was on her way to her home in Wadena, Minn., when killed.

Reported Strike is Averted. Eldon, March 23.—(Special)—An official dispatch received at the Rock Island office here says the trouble between the firemen and this railroad has been settled and that the danger of a strike has passed.

BAD FIRE AT BURLINGTON Dairy Farm of J. W. Smith Destroyed and Thirty-two Cows and Five Horses Cremated.

Burlington, March 23.—(Special)—The dairy farm of J. W. Smith, located on the outskirts of the city, was destroyed by fire last night and Mr. Smith was practically put out of business. Cow sheds and barns containing thirty-two cows and five horses burned and the animals were cremated. In addition, vehicles and farming implements were destroyed, but he managed to save his residence.

There were two other fires in the city last night, both destructive, one destroying a small house when the family was absent, the other burning a barn. They were partly covered by insurance.

SUPERVISOR IS SUED W. R. Henderson of Creston is Made Defendant in \$5,000 Breach of Promise Suit.

Creston, March 23.—(Special)—Miss Stella Kestley has caused a sensation here by filing a \$5,000 breach of promise suit against W. R. Henderson, a member of the board of supervisors and one of the best known men in southern Iowa. She says he put off the marriage from time to time and finally refused to marry her at all.

Couple Wed Sunday. Douds-Leando, March 23.—(Special)—The wedding of Miss Worthy Roush to Frank Elshonson, both of this city, took place at the home of the former Sunday at noon. The ceremony was performed by the Rev. Mr. Jones of South Ottumwa. The bride is a daughter of Samuel Roush and the groom is the son of Joseph Elshonson. The couple have left for Stockport where they will make their home on a farm near that place.

WANTS LOWER RATE Boone Firm Appeal to Railroad Commissioners to Compel Northwest-ern to Give Lower Rate.

Des Moines, March 23.—(Special)—The hearing of the Boone Brick & Tile company application to compel the Northwestern railroad company to establish a \$3 switching charge between there and the city of Boone Milwaukee tracks and inter-urban tracks was held before the railroad commission today. The Boone people said the railroad compelled the maximum tariff rate for switching service, after having once charged \$5 for the switching service. They ask that the service be declared a switching service and not a haul.

WILL TEDDY DO IT?



The old proverb says: "When in Rome do as the Romans do."

FRENCH TO HAVE OLD AGE PENSION

SENATE ACTS FAVORABLY ON BILL TO BENEFIT WORKERS OF THE NATION.

Paris, March 23.—The senate last night by a vote of 280 to 3, passed the workmen's pension bill. This marks the end of legislative struggle extending over four years and of political agitation in France reaching back to 1882.

The bill as it passed the senate embodies the final recommendations of the government and is modified in many respects from the measure as it passed the chamber of deputies.

The general belief is that the chamber will accept it, and thus avoid further struggle, in order that the deputies can go to their constituents in the coming election with the old age pension scheme an accomplished fact.

Details of the Plan. The plan involves contributions from three sources for the creation of the pension fund.

1. Obligatory yearly contributions from the wage earner amounting to \$1.80 for men, 1.20 for women, and 90 cents for minors.

2. The contribution of the employer which equals that of the wage earner.

3. The contribution of the state. Even the experts differ as to what the state's contribution will be, but the generally accepted figure is \$36,000,000 for the first year, the amount decreasing until the scheme works normally, when it will be about \$25,000,000.

The beneficiaries are to draw their pensions at the age of 65 or after thirty years of service, with certain diminutions for advanced enjoyment. The full pension at the lowest unit of contribution will be \$80.80 per annum, except for farm laborers, whose contribution and pension is slightly less.

Millions Are Interested. The benefit of the law, which has been modified to include in its scheme the previous old age relief law, will be enjoyed by about 17,000,000 persons, including every category of workers except railroad employees, miners, and seamen, who already enjoy pensions.

As all state employees are retired upon pensions at a specified age, this law, therefore, practically extends the old pension system to all the laborers of France.

MAYOR IS AFTER OWNERS OF DOGS

T. J. PHILLIPS SEEKS TO HAVE CANINES TAGGED—MAY SAVE BRUTES.

Mayor T. J. Phillips today serves notice on all owners of dogs to purchase tags for the animals on or before April 15. All canines found without the necessary city license after the middle of next month will be liable to fall into the hands of the dog catcher.

The mayor's proclamation follows: "To the citizens of the city of Ottumwa, and all persons who own dogs within the city limits:

"Your attention is hereby called to the fact that in the future the city intends to collect dog tax and we now have the dog tags for 1910 in readiness at the city clerk's office.

"I sincerely hope that the citizens of the city of Ottumwa who own dogs will pay attention to this notice and respect the same, as I will give instructions, as mayor of the city of Ottumwa, to the dog catcher to take up all dogs within the city limits that have no license tags attached to their collars by April 15, 1910.

"T. J. Phillips, Mayor of the City of Ottumwa."

LORDS VOTE TO REFORM SELVES

HEREDITARY PRINCIPLE IS RENOUNCED AS PART OF ROSEBERRY PLAN.

London, March 23.—By a vote of 175 to 17 the house of lords last night renounced the hereditary right to legislate, which has been the cardinal element of the British upper house for centuries. The occasion of the fatal division was Rosebery's third resolution dealing with the reform of the house. Yesterday the house agreed without opposition that reform of the constitution was necessary. The complementary resolution which passed last night was:

"That the necessary preliminary to such reform is acceptance of the principle that possession of the peerage no longer itself gives the right to sit and vote in the house of lords."

Lord Rosebery announced that it was his intention to propose after Easter further resolutions laying down broad general principles on which the reform of the house of lords should proceed, but he would not frame a bill or a definite plan. That ought to emanate from the government of the day.

John Redmond, leader of the Irish Nationalists, says emphatically, notwithstanding his interview with Lloyd George, whom he visited at the latter's request, his position is absolutely unchanged. The Liberals, nevertheless, profess confidence in the negotiations, which are still on, that Redmond is supporting the government, or that anyway he will allow the 1909 budget to pass the house of commons without opposition.

CASUALTY FIRM NOW ATTACKED

FEDERAL AUTHORITIES INVESTIGATE ROBERT ARMSTRONG'S COMPANY.

Chicago, March 23.—Investigation by both federal and state authorities into alleged frauds in the business of the Consolidated Casualty company, a West Virginia insurance corporation with a capital of \$1,000,000, was disclosed yesterday.

Robert B. Armstrong, formerly an assistant secretary of the United States treasury, has been deposed as president, John R. Darst, ex-officio insurance commissioner for West Virginia, is in charge of the company's affairs in the state under whose laws the corporation was formed.

J. W. Scherr, deputy auditor and deputy insurance commissioner for West Virginia, is handling the disturbed affairs of the company in Chicago with the aid of a directors' committee. And with this going on, Gen. James E. Stuart, chief of the post office inspectors in Chicago, is at the head of a federal inquiry.

The company's financial affairs were declared to be in a serious tangle and Deputy Insurance Commissioner Scherr said a receivership appeared inevitable if the insurance departments of West Virginia and Illinois and the directors cannot solve the situation.

Armstrong was at the office of the company during the day, but denied himself to interviewers.

IOWA PIONEER DEAD

Col. P. Gad Bryan, Cousin of Commander, Veteran and Legislator Expires.

Des Moines, March 23.—Col. P. Gad Bryan, aged eighty-four years, one of the pioneer figures in Iowa politics, died from heart trouble yesterday afternoon at 2 o'clock at the residence of his daughter, Mrs. W. C. Jones, near the Iowa Portland Cement Company's plant, on South Park avenue.

Colonel Bryan was a cousin of William Jennings Bryan. Colonel Bryan had been in failing health for several months. Yesterday he seemed stronger than usual, sitting up and eating a hearty lunch at noon. Shortly afterward, he fainted and never regained consciousness.

Spent Life in Iowa. Practically Mr. Bryan's entire life had been spent in Iowa. For many years he lived at Des Moines and Indianola, later removing to Oskaloosa. He had been living with his daughter, Mrs. Jones, a year previous to his death.

When the call for volunteers came during the civil war, Mr. Bryan was one of the first to enlist. In 1862 he was made captain of Company A, First Iowa cavalry, and the year following was promoted to high command of the same regiment. He was in many of the main engagements of the war.

ROWSE MAY BE PRESENT AT FARMINGTNO

UNITED STATES ASSISTANT ENGINEER NOW WORKING ON THE RIVER WILL ENDEAVOR TO BE AT BIG CONVENTION.

INDICATIONS POINT TO GOOD CROWD

SECRETARY W. T. ARCHER IS BEING FLOODED WITH FAVORABLE REPLIES FROM BOOSTERS ALONG THE STREAM.

Assistant United States Engineer Albert O. Powse, who with a corps of men has already started on the task of surveying the Des Moines river, may be present at the meeting of the Des Moines River Improvement association next Tuesday in Farmington, Ia. a communication from A. C. Miller of Des Moines, this information is given to Secretary W. T. Archer. Mr. Miller also states that he has invited Engineer C. S. Richey of Rock Island to be present, but that the removal of the Rock Island official to Detroit may prevent his being present.

The mail pouring into the office of Secretary Archer is chock full with favorable replies from river enthusiasts along the banks of the stream, and the attendance at the Farmington meeting will no doubt be greater than that at the convention held here February 25. A delegation of fifteen enthusiasts is promised by Vice President W. S. Batten of Croton. Similar delegations are expected from Keosauqua, Eldon and Eddyville. Captain L. C. Liming will convey the Keosauqua river boosters to Farmington in his launch, "Keosauqua," and Jesse B. Hammond is expected to start at 8 o'clock on the morning of March 23 with a large party of Ottumwans for the convention city.

From Farmington come numerous letters from boosters who are completing the plans to royally entertain the delegates. J. M. Eddy writes that Farmington will be well prepared to welcome the delegates, and that all the people there will help for the advancement of the Des Moines river improvement. C. H. Kelly also sends an enthusiastic letter.

Miller to Be With Engineer. Secretary A. C. Miller of the Greater Des Moines Commercial association, and chairman of the state conservation committee, expects to be on the river with Engineer Rowse and his surveyors a good deal this summer, and he advises Secretary Archer that whenever he can be of any assistance, he will gladly lend a hand. His compliments to the secretary on his letter to the vice presidents and to the men who attended the Ottumwa meeting, and urge the officers of the Des Moines River Improvement association to keep things moving.

Rowse Starts Survey. In two motor boats, Engineer A. O. Rowse and his party of surveyors have already started work on the stream at Keokuk. He will not only survey the river, but will prepare plans for its improvement.

Without this survey it is impossible to tell which method of improvement would be the most advisable. Whether to regulate the stream, ripping its banks and removing all obstructions from the channel, or whether by means of movable dams to be let down at high water, is a determined thing. Still another project would be the establishing of fixed dams and locks.

Stop at St. Francisville. Mr. Rowse and his party will make St. Francisville their headquarters for a few days. After this they will continue their survey, stopping at Bentonport, Bonaparte, Farmington, Keosauqua, Eldon and Ottumwa. A few days will be spent at each place.

Their first work will be a rapid survey of the river clear through to Des Moines, after which they will return and study the individual localities in detail.

The work will probably last all summer and Engineer Rowse's corps of workers will be increased as they develop. At present he has ten men and they are taking neither tents nor houseboats, expecting to find shelter along the way.

Boats Return Home. Captain Keller and his steamboat, "The City of Eddyville," did not leave Ottumwa last night until after 6 o'clock, and the return trip to Eddyville was not completed until early this morning. The boat was without lights, and only slow speed was used. Captain Keller contemplates another trip to this city in the near future.

Captain Liming and his launch "Keosauqua," also returned to Keosauqua last night. The party arrived here between 5 and 6 o'clock.