

Names Noted In the News

The New Commandant at West Point. The Special Chinese Commissioner, Tang Shao Yi, and Prince Tsai Fu.

Two Eminent Divines Who Figured Conspicuously in the Council of the Churches of Christ in America.



MAJOR SIBLEY.

MAJOR FRED ERICK W. SIBLEY, who has just been appointed commandant of the United States Military Academy at West Point, relieves Colonel Robert L. Howe, who is detailed as lieutenant colonel of the Porto Rico regiment of infantry. He is one of the best disciplinarians in the regular army and is considered an authority in matters respecting military training generally. The head of the academy is the superintendent, but the post of commandant is one of much responsibility, and it is considered especially important at an institution of this kind that it be held by an officer of discretion.

Tang Shao Yi, high commissioner of the Chinese empire to the United States, who was recently received by President Roosevelt, is a Chinaman who is pretty well Americanized. It was because of his familiarity with American institutions that he was charged by the Chinese government with bearing to the head of the United States government the message of gratitude from China at the remission of the sum which the oriental power had expected to pay by way of indemnity for injuries to American interests in the course of the Boxer insurrection of 1900. In the suit of the high commissioner are several interesting personages, among them Prince Tsai Fu and Chung Mun Yew. Commissioner Tang Shao Yi is at present director general of railways of the Chinese empire, high commissioner of customs and a member of the grand council, the body which really governs the great nation known as the Chinese people. He was educated chiefly in the United States, having been sent to this country by his government in 1874 as a boy of twelve. He attended school in Hartford, Conn., and later studied at Columbia university, where he was in attendance when recalled by his government. He has served as ambassador to Tibet, minister to England and mandarin of a Manchurian province. Chung Mun Yew was once a member of the Yale class of '83 and coxswain of its crew. The Yale Alumni Weekly says he was a very competent coxswain. The graduate coach of the crew, it seems, had a theory that for oarsmen, as for mules, forcible exhortation was indispensable. "Munny," he said, "you'll have to swear at those men." The Alumni Weekly tells the rest.

Now, Chung Mun Yew abjured profanity. After further commands from the coach, however, he did get out a formula like this: "One, give way—tam! Two, head up, pull—tam! No crew could hear that and not roll over."



PRINCE TSAI FU AND TANG SHAO YI.

board with laughter, so "Munny" was left to his own way, because he was otherwise the most promising coxswain that ever had held the ropes for Yale. And his own way was a revelation. He made a scientific study of steering a shell, and it was said that he could demonstrate mathematically the effect of every extra pound pull on either larboard or starboard side of the boat.

The observance of a recent Sunday as a day in the interest of Christian unity by the Federal Council of the Churches of Christ in America, in session in Philadelphia, directs attention to the progress made toward unity, or at least friendly co-operation, between the churches. Co-operation and combination and substantial unity in the work of uplifting humanity are gradually taking the place of the old time rivalry between the denominations. The executive committee of the Federal council issued a call to the several Christian bodies affiliated in the movement in behalf of the observance of the day in the interest of unity among Christians, and the appeal was widely heeded. One of the features of the observance of the day in Philadelphia was an interdenominational meeting in the interest of labor and the church, which indicated a marked increase in the sympathy between the church and the workingman.

There are thirty-two religious bodies in affiliation with the Federal Council of the Churches of Christ in America, all of national extent. Together they represent nearly 18,000,000 adherents. The council results from the inter-



REV. DR. WILLIAM H. ROBERTS AND RIGHT REV. DR. O. W. WHITAKER.

church conference held in New York in 1905. In the three years which have elapsed since then thirty-two religious bodies have formally ratified and adopted the plan of federation devised by the conference and appointed delegates to the council. The president of the council during these important years at the beginning of the movement has been the Rev. William H. Roberts, D. D., LL. D., of the Presbyterian church. He presided at the opening sessions of the council. Dr. Roberts was formerly moderator of the general assembly of the Presbyterian church. Prominent in the proceedings at Philadelphia was the venerable bishop of the Episcopal diocese of Pennsylvania, the Right Rev. O. W. Whitaker, D. D., LL. D.

Union between Christian denominations has not usually been attended with a great deal of success except in the foreign mission fields. There union is more easily accomplished because denominational differences, so far as the native churches are concerned, are neither old nor deep. In China, Japan, India and Korea practical unions have been accomplished between churches of similar fundamental faiths. In the establishment of educational and other institutions on the foreign fields many denominations have joined, one university in China, for example, being supported by Baptist, Methodist, Congregational, Quaker and Anglican missions.

Most of the movements which begin with organic union of denominations as their object end in the establishment of federations, of which the Federal council is the largest in the world. Federation organizations are advisory only, whereas a body resulting from organic union would have legislative functions.

In Canada a union between Presbyterians, Methodists and Congregationalists seemed likely for a time to be effected, but leaders now believe that federation alone can be accomplished. In this Canadian Baptist and Episcopalian will probably join. A similar movement in Australia promises a similar result. The proposed union in this country between Congregationalists, United Brethren and Methodist Protestants has been found to be impossible of accomplishment, and a new movement whereby Methodists, Methodist Protestants and United Brethren seek union is under consideration.

WASHINGTON LETTER

[Special Correspondence.] Washington has an innovation in the weather service line. Pedestrians along Pennsylvania avenue have noticed a boothlike structure at the intersection of Pennsylvania avenue and E street, almost opposite the new District building. They have wondered what manner of building it is and for what purpose it was placed there.

Officially the little cast iron building is known as a "meteorological kiosk," but in plainer English it is a downtown automatic weather station. The station was erected by Professor Charles F. Marvin under the direction of Professor Willis L. Moore, chief of the United States weather bureau, and is outfitted with meteorological instruments of up to date pattern and ready to convey weather information to the general public.

A Meteorological Kiosk. The instruments in the shelter comprise a thermograph to automatically record the street temperature, thermometers to give the maximum and minimum temperatures in a given period of time, a hygrometer, which shows the amount of humidity in the air; a standard thermometer and an automatic rain gauge, which registers on a dial the amount of rain that has fallen in a certain period.

By means of the outdoor weather station every man who wishes may be his own weather observer. The public is not permitted to enter the kiosk, but may through the four windows read the instruments, the weather map and the forecast cards.

It is said similar automatic weather kiosks will be established in other cities should the one here prove to be successful, as it is believed it will.

National Art Federation.

Tentative plans are being made to form in this city a national art federation to include within its fold about 300 societies composed of painters, sculptors, architects, artisans and others having artistic aims who have been invited to send delegates to the proposed convention. The exact date has not yet been fixed, but it is believed the convention will be called some time in January.

During the convention there will be on exhibition in the Corcoran Gallery of Art a very complete collection of the works of Augustus St. Gaudens and a national exhibition of American paintings.

For a National University.

That Washington, as the seat of the federal government, also should be the seat of a great national university, at which all the states should be represented on an advisory council, was advocated here at the closing session of the thirteenth annual meeting of the National Association of State Universities.

President Edward J. James of the University of Illinois, as spokesman for a bill now pending in congress to provide for such a university, won over many of his fellow college presidents in support of the movement. The purpose of the proposed university is to provide for the higher instruction and training of men and women for posts of importance and responsibility in the public service of the federal government or of states and for such professions as may require a higher training. The bill provides for the appropriation of \$500,000 with which to establish the initial equipment of the university.

Boxed With the President.

J. J. Parker, an amateur athlete of St. Paul, who boxed with Roosevelt on a ranch twenty-seven years ago, called on the president a few days ago. Mr. Parker brought a letter from Frank B. Kellogg, the antitrust lawyer, but it was unnecessary, for the president recognized his caller as soon as he espied him as the man with whom he boxed several times on a western ranch. "I called merely to pay respects and was cordially received," said Mr. Parker. "I don't want a thing in the world in politics, but the president gave me a picture of each of the three younger children, and I prize them more than any office."

Dogs Go Unmuzzled.

On Dec. 16 next the dog muzzling order of the commissioners will expire, and then the several thousand canine pets in this city will have an opportunity to run at large without any strapping or wiring about their jaws and without fear of molestation on the part of the dog catchers.

This will not only be a welcome day to the many owners of dogs, but to the dog catchers as well. During the term of the official edict the latter have spent busy days and nights corralling dogs without muzzles. Since the order went into effect more than 500 dogs were impounded for not having muzzles. Many of these were licensed dogs and wore the official dog tags about their necks.

Firecrackers Tabooed.

Regarding the use of fireworks and other explosives in celebration of Independence day as a "barbaric fashion," the commissioners of the District have drafted a regulation to prohibit the practice. The commissioners think July 4 can be celebrated in a more fitting manner than by the use of fireworks, and the regulation is intended principally to prevent the large number of deaths and accidents occasioned by fireworks, as well as to do away with the racket and din occasioned by their explosion.

The regulation provides that no firecracker, squib or other fireworks of any kind shall be sold and delivered, discharged or set off in Washington or the fire limits. On occasions of public celebration and exhibition fireworks may be discharged through special permit of the commissioners. CARL SCHOFIELD.

Farm and Garden

STONE HITCHING POST.

A Device Which Will Last a Century if Well Made.

A country place must have a hitching post at the side or in front of the house, else thoughtless callers will hitch their horses to the shade trees or to the fence. From its very nature it is difficult to make a hitching post look attractive on a lawn, but something will be gained if it can be kept from looking in decidedly unattractive.

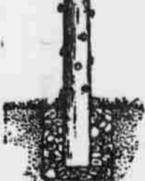


FIG. 1—SECTIONAL VIEW OF POST.

A wooden post is an invitation to a horse's teeth. Iron posts can be used, but these are more or less expensive and are not readily secured except in the large cities. A stone post is attractive, but expensive. A "made" stone post, however, is both inexpensive and easy to construct.

Dig a square hole in the ground at the desired point for locating the hitching post about one and a half feet square and deep enough to reach the "frost line." Fill the bottom with small stones and cement. On this set a stout cedar post with a strong iron ring in the top. Fill in about the post with the small stones and cement to the surface of the ground. Then cover the post to the top with a thick coating of cement—not less than two and a half inches at any point—building it up in the square shape shown in Fig. 2.

To give the cement a stronger hold upon the wooden post drive large nails into the wood and leave the heads projecting an inch or more, as is suggested in Fig. 1. The cement may be mixed one part Portland cement to two parts sharp sand. Do not use the post until it has had time to dry and harden thoroughly. The cement and small stones about the base should form a solid body that water cannot enter. The stones are used to save cement. The outside surface of the finished part should be smooth, with corner edges a little rounded to prevent chipping.

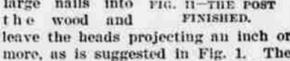


FIG. 2—THE POST FINISHED.

Briefs For the Farm Home. The second national corn exposition will be held at Omaha in December. As a special feature extensive educational exhibits by a number of agricultural colleges and experiment stations are contemplated, these to be of such a character as to give visitors an idea of the work carried on by these institutions.

A disease, seemingly a bacterial growth, has been noticed on chickens which produces lumps on the comb and at the base of the bill. Washing the heads of the fowls with a saturated solution of boracic acid gave relief. Results of experiments in making butter from sweet cream is an idea in a report to the Dairyman's association of Quebec. It is claimed that the process is just as advantageous as that with ripened cream and that the butter made from sweet cream is equally good when fresh and keeps good longer than butter from cream spontaneously fermented.

Corn to make a pound of pork is discussed by a writer in the Breeder's Gazette. A pen of eleven Duroc-Jerseys fed sixty-two days gained 800 pounds and required 6.71 pounds corn per pound of gain. A lot of fifteen Poland-Chinas fed thirty-five days gained 585 pounds and required 4.96 pounds of corn per pound of gain. A little skim milk was fed once a day in addition to the corn, and the pigs had the run of a pasture.

Sugar is said by a contributor in the Journal of Agriculture, Paris, to be good for fattening sheep. In a test covering eighty-four days the average daily gain per head on a ration containing sugar was 202 grams as compared with 127 grams per day on a ration without it. When slaughtered the flesh of the sugar fed sheep was found to be of most excellent quality.

A disease commonly known as swollen head of turkeys is described in the Journal of Agricultural Science. The most characteristic symptom is an extensive swelling about the head, which becomes so enlarged that the birds are unable to see. The swelling is due to an accumulation of gelatinous substance in the infraorbital cavity. This swelling may disappear in a short time or may persist for several months. The swellings contain a cheesy, foul smelling material, and death may take place without regard to the apparent severity of the disease. The lesions are confined to the head except for an occasional distension of the ceca. Bacilli related to the diphtheria bacillus are frequently found in the exudation, but no organism has been definitely shown to be the primary cause of the disease.

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