

THE LACLEDE BLADE.

A. J. CAYWOOD, Publisher.

LACLEDE, MISSOURI.

Mr. Rockefeller says he has a heavy weight on his mind. He should buy a lighter wig.

Arctic explorers should be careful about taking any bad men along lest they shoot out the northern lights.

"This country is the instrument of the Lord," says Admiral Dewey. Divinity uses the big stick, it seems, by proxy.

So Brazil is going to have a warship of the Dreadnought type, eh? Why, the thing is getting to be a mere fad.

The czar of Russia says he is satisfied with the new douma, but, remarks the Omaha Bee, the douma is far from satisfied with the czar.

If any more warships are sent to Central America, the crowd of spectators will number more than the combined armies of the belligerents.

A committee of the reichstag has voted to raise the salary of the German ambassador at Washington to \$30,000, but even if this is done "Specky" will still be \$20,000 behind "Jimmy."

Mme. Liza Lehman, the composer, is a granddaughter of the late Robert Chambers of Edinburgh, the originator and publisher of that standard work, Chambers' Encyclopedia. Her father, Randolph Lehman, was a well-known portrait painter.

Count Boni de Castellane may find a gleam of comfort in the fact that his ex-wife has discovered her divorce was entirely too expensive, the bills being regarded as excessive. But then, as a luxury, Boni himself was even more expensive than the divorce.

Greek fire, which had several other names—wild fire, liquid fire, wet fire and fire rain—descriptive of its destructiveness, is said to have been the most destructive engine of war previous to gunpowder. Discovered by Callinicus, a Syrian, it was first used in the siege of Constantinople, 673-678, and at Mecca, 690.

At last poor, suffering man has found a defender. An Iowa legislator has introduced a bill making it desertion, with appropriate penalties, if a wife who is able fails to provide for her husband who is destitute. Count Boni should have moved to Iowa instead of going back to France, where husbands are supposed to look out for themselves.

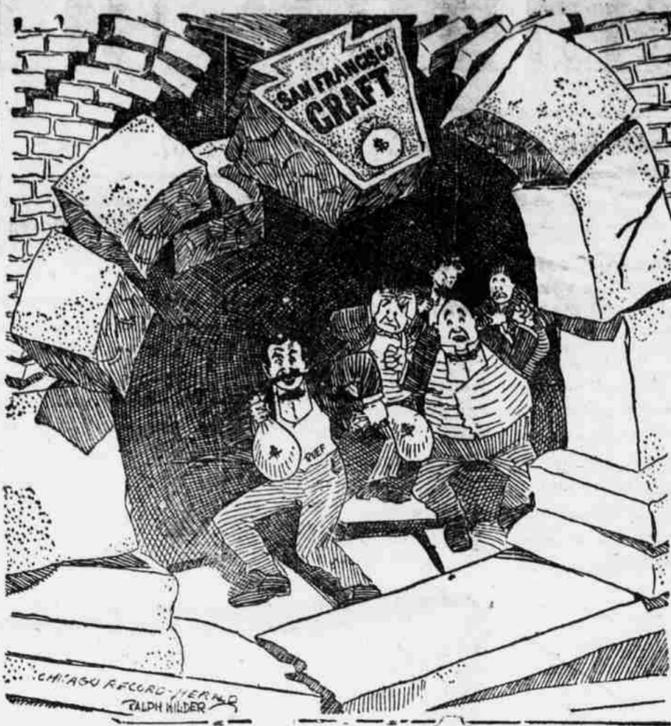
Three important American cities, Boston, Buffalo and Milwaukee, are now committed to the plan of providing penny lunches for poor school children. The idea, says Utica Press, is opposed by many on the ground that it will encourage pauperism, but these cities seem to think it just as profitable to run the risk of burying old people as to run the risk of caring for hundreds of diseased children.

A plan is suggested for rescuing the passengers and crews of wrecked vessels that is so simple that one wonders why it has not been suggested before. It is to maintain strong seagoing vessels at life-saving stations, and take the people off on the sea where it is not practicable to reach them from the land, as is often the case. There have been several cases this winter where a number of lives were lost by exposure, and by being washed overboard before help could reach them, that might easily have been saved in this way.

"If employers could give the waiters, say five per cent. of the amount of the bills of guests that they serve, it should be a satisfactory arrangement all around," suggests a Baltimore man. "The waiter would have just as much object as ever in having the customer give him a big order and would, therefore, try to please him. The customer would not have to forsake his natural principles against tipping in order to get good service, and the employers who followed the plan and didn't allow tips could easily afford the five per cent. commission."

The development of the Canadian northwest makes an increasing use of the Hudson Bay route very probable. There is nothing to prevent railroads being run to the harbors on the bay. The only doubtful question is how far the routes can be profitably employed for trade. The navigation of Hudson Bay itself is comparatively safe and easy. Some of its harbors are not icebound, even in winter. The serious problem is the entrance to the bay through the Hudson strait. The experience of the Hudson Bay company's navigators with that of the whalers who frequent these seas seems on the whole to confirm the opinion that no more than three months could be counted on with any certainty.

ANOTHER EARTHQUAKE.



HARRIMAN MAKES CHARGES

The Railroad Financier Publishes a Letter Attacking the President.

Mr. Roosevelt Denounces the Statements as Deliberate Untruths—Then Harriman Comes Back Again.

New York, — A sensation was created Tuesday by the publication of a letter written in December, 1905, and addressed to Mr. Sidney Webster of New York and signed "E. H. Harriman."

In the letter Mr. Harriman accused the president of requesting his aid in raising funds to carry the election in New York in 1904, and in double dealing regarding the appointment of Senator Depew as ambassador to France.

Washington, D. C. — President Roosevelt Tuesday emphatically denied the statement contained in a letter published Tuesday morning purporting to have been written by E. H. Harriman to Sidney Webster of New York, in the latter part of December, 1905. In Mr. Harriman's letter the statement is made that at the request of President Roosevelt, he, Harriman, assisted in raising a fund of \$250,000 to be used in carrying New York for the republican party at the election which was then approaching. This statement the president characterizes as "a deliberate and willful untruth—by right it should be characterized by an even shorter and more ugly word. I never requested Mr. Harriman to raise a dollar for the presidential campaign of 1904."

New York.—E. H. Harriman gave out a statement Tuesday night in response to the statement made public by President Roosevelt in which he says the letter published in the New York papers was furnished the press by a discharged stenographer and while deploring its publication under such circumstances he can not deny its authenticity. He says the president did ask him to raise campaign funds in 1904 and that he complied with the request and contributed \$50,000 himself to the New York committee.

Galusha A. Grow is Dead.

Binghamton, N. Y. — Former Congressman Galusha A. Grow, died at his home in Glenwood, Pa., Sunday afternoon as a result of a general breakdown attributed to old age. Mr. Grow was elected to congress from the Wilnot district of Pennsylvania as the youngest member of that body in 1851, and after retirement from public life for nearly 40 years, he re-entered the house of representatives as congressman at large from Pennsylvania 14 years ago. When he retired four years ago, his public service in the house extended over the longest period although not continuous service, of any man who ever sat in that body.

Attempted to Wreck Fast Train.

Youngstown, Ohio. — It was learned Sunday night that an attempt made Saturday to wreck the Pittsburg flyer, one of the Pennsylvania railroad's fastest trains between Cleveland and Pittsburg, was frustrated by the crew of a shifting engine near Lowellville. The men removed a telephone pole which had been placed across the rails with the ends secured with heavy stakes driven into the ground. Seventeen minutes later the fast train, running at the rate of 50 miles an hour, rushed by.

INCREASED POSTAL RATE.

The Postal Convention With Canada is Amended.

Washington, D. C.—At a conference between Postmaster-General Lemieux of Canada and Postmaster-General Meyer of the United States, in this city, Monday, an agreement was reached to amend the postal convention existing between the two countries insofar as it affects the transmission of newspapers and periodicals, known as second class matter, between the two countries. Canada accepts the tentative proposal of this country that second class matter mailed in one country and addressed to the other might be subject to a rate of one cent for each four ounces or fraction thereof, on each bulk package, prepaid by stamps affixed.

The Canadian postal administration last November gave notice that after May 7 next the paragraph of the existing convention relating to the admission of newspapers and periodicals from the United States to the Canadian mails on payment of the one-cent per pound rate at the office of origin would be abrogated, but later offered compromises.

The rate now agreed upon is substantially the transient second rate which the individual citizen of the United States now enjoys, the exception being that publishers of the United States have an additional privilege of mailing in bulk packages, at the rate named, separately addressed newspapers and periodicals intended for delivery to subscribers at one postoffice, and the cost to publishers of the United States will be at least 50 per cent less than if the postal union rate should be applied.

Rose Meets Defeat.

Kansas City, Kansas. — General D. E. Cornell, republican candidate, was elected mayor of Kansas City, Kan, Tuesday by a majority of 1,172 over W. W. Rose, democratic nominee. The election was one of the most animated contests of personal and political popularity held in the city for years. Gen. Cornell's victory was a disappointment to the friends of Rose, who had never considered the latter's election in doubt, but figured it only a matter of majority. Roseism and anti-law enforcement has been denounced by the people of the Kansas metropolis. The entire republican ticket was elected with the exception of three councilmen.

The First Woman Judge.

Chicago, Ill. — For the first time in the history of Illinois, a woman was elected as a justice of the peace at Tuesday's election. Aristocratic Evanston, one of the suburbs on the North shore of Chicago, where many of Chicago's most influential and wealthy business men reside has the distinction of being the first city in the state to have a woman judge.

President Bonilla Surrounded.

Washington. — Instructions have been cabled to the American warships on the west side of the isthmus to proceed at once to Amapala, where President Bonilla of Honduras, is reported to be surrounded on the island on which that place is located by vessels of the Nicaraguan navy.

A Cold Easter There.

Pittsburg, Pa. — This city experienced the coldest Easter day in many years. After hovering around 25 degrees all the day, the mercury was rapidly falling Sunday night.

GETTING DOWN TO WORK.

Under New Arrangements the Canal Commission Will Reside on the Isthmus and Actually Do Things.

Panama. — According to a new arrangement, the isthmian canal commission hereafter will have power to solve all questions relating to the canal without referring to Washington. The commissioners will reside on the isthmus and hold weekly meetings.

The work is to be distributed so that each commissioner has charge of a certain department for which he will be responsible. Lieut. Colonel Goethals, who succeeds John F. Stevens, as chief engineer, will be chairman of the commission; Rear Admiral H. H. Rousseau will be in charge of the mechanical department, including the electrical plants and municipal engineering; Colonel William C. Gorgas will have charge of sanitary affairs; Major David Du B. Gaillard will be at the head of excavations and dredging; Major William L. Sibert will have charge of locks, locks and dams, and Jackson Smith will be head of the labor department. Ex-Senator J. C. S. Blackburn will be governor of the canal zone.

Sailors Again in Trouble.

Czernowitz, Austria.—It is reported here that Gen. Hargon who commands the troops in the petroleum district of Roumania, has ordered the imprisonment of 97 Russians who were at one time sailors on board the Russian battleship Kniaz Potemkine and who, after a mutiny on board that vessel in the summer of 1905 landed in Roumania and remained there. These former sailors took an active part in the recent peasant insurrections, and probably they will be expelled from Roumania. It is not certain, however, whether they will be delivered to the Russian authorities or not.

Peary to Try Again.

New York. — Commander Robert E. Peary, it was stated Tuesday night, now has the \$200,000 necessary for his coming expedition to the far North, and expects to set out about the last of June. Definite arrangements are under way. The Roosevelt, his ship, is receiving necessary repairs. The commander says he firmly believes he will attain his goal this time, if the summer of 1908 is a normal Arctic summer.

The Second Peace Conference.

St. Petersburg, Russia.—The negotiations regarding the programme for the Hague peace conference have been practically finished. Prof. De Martens who was received in audience by Emperor Nicholas Tuesday informed the Associated Press Wednesday that a Russian explanatory note will be made public in a few days and the formal issuance of the invitations by Holland is expected next week.

Dismissed 350 Counts.

Chicago, Ill. — As the result of 19 motions for dismissal of counts in the indictments against the Standard Oil company of Indiana, charged with accepting illegal rates on shipments of oil, Judge Landis, Wednesday in the United States district court, ordered that 350 of the counts should be stricken out.

No Trans-Siberian Tunnel.

St. Petersburg, Russia.—The cabinet Wednesday rejected a proposal made on behalf of an American syndicate for the construction of a railroad tunnel under Behring straits by which it was hoped to ultimately connect the Trans-Siberian with the Canadian Pacific railroad.

A Santa Fe Dividend.

New York. — Directors of the Atchison, Topeka & Santa Fe Railway company Wednesday declared a semi-annual dividend of 3 per cent on the common stock. This is an increase of one-half of one per cent semi-annually over the rate paid for several years.

Railway Settlement Probable.

Chicago. — A settlement of the controversy between the western railroads and their conductors and trainmen seemed nearer Wednesday night than at any time since Commissioners Knapp and Neill have interceded in behalf of peace.

The Kaiser Disapproves.

Berlin. — It was announced Wednesday that Emperor William does not approve of the movement for holding a world's exposition in Berlin during 1913, the 25th year of his reign, therefore the project will doubtless be abandoned.

Politicians but No Speeches.

Lincoln, Neb. — Thirty fusion members of the legislature were the guests of Mr. and Mrs. William J. Bryan at a dinner and reception given Wednesday night at Fairview. It was an informal gathering with no set speeches.

REDUCE THEIR DEMANDS

Railway Employes Show Willingness to Compromise.

They Would Accept Managers' Offer if They Were Granted a Nine-Hour Day.

Chicago, Ill.—The railway employes in the train service of the Western railroads have reduced their demands to a nine-hour work day and the government officials who came to Chicago last week to bring about a peaceable adjustment of the threatened strike are working hard to overcome that obstacle. Commissioners Knapp and Neill held an almost continuous session Monday with the general managers and the representatives of the trainmen and conductors. The men Monday signified their willingness to accept the wage increase offered by the railroads if the managers would grant the demand for the nine-hour work day. The labor delegates declared that the wage increase asked for was a minor consideration, but that they would not face their constituents without securing improvements in the working conditions.

It was learned Monday night that the nine-hour demand of the firemen what has prevented a settlement of that end of the labor difficulties the western roads are experiencing. While acting separately entirely from the conductors and trainmen, the firemen are standing out for the same demands, and it is said in the event of a strike being ordered they too would walk out.

Capt. Macklin Testifies.

Washington, D. C. — The testimony of Captain Edgar A. Macklin, of Company C, 25th infantry, was taken by the senate committee on military affairs Monday in the Brownsville investigation. It proved interesting particularly for the reason that Macklin is to be tried by courtmartial after his return to Texas, and for the further reason that he was shot by an unidentified negro at Fort Reno after the negro soldiers were taken away from Fort Brown, Macklin does not believe the negroes were guilty of shooting up Brownsville, according to his story told on the stand Monday.

Burning Gas Well a Fake.

Muskogee, I. T. — The government officer sent to inspect the burning gas well and crater reported beyond control in the Sapulpa district, reported Friday. He says the sensational reports sent out about this well and "burning crater" are without foundation and that the well has never been on fire. The alleged crater, he says is three quarters of a mile away from the well and is a fissure in the rocks, where a little shale has been thrown up by the gas.

Mr. Dunne Lost.

Chicago, Ill. — The most intense municipal campaign Chicago has experienced in many years closed Tuesday night with the election of Frederick A. Busse, the republican candidate for mayor, over Edward F. Dunne, his democratic rival and a candidate for re-election by a plurality of about 13,000.

St. Louis Democratic.

St. Louis, Mo. — As the result of the city election Tuesday, the republicans concede to the democrats the entire city council ticket all the members of the school board and fifteen of the 28 members of the house of delegates. The democrats claim five additional. The returns were late in coming in and the official figures were not available Tuesday night.

Japanese Ordered Back.

El Paso, Texas. — The new immigration law went into effect Monday and as a result 500 Japanese laborers are in Juarez in straightened circumstances, it is said. Several are being detained in jail here pending deportation via San Francisco. The Japanese were not, as expected, turned back into Mexico, but ordered back to Japan direct.

Says He is a Good Democrat.

Washington. — "He's all right. He's about as good a democrat as there is." This reference was made by James Watson Gerard, the chairman of the Tammany Hall democratic campaign committee as he came from the White house offices Friday after a brief call on Mr. Roosevelt. Mr. Gerard's visit was a personal one.

Guilty As Charged.

Chicago, Ill. — F. A. Holbrook, recently indicted by the federal grand jury as the chief promoter of an unlawful combination in school and church furniture, said to be operating in restraint of trade, Monday entered a plea of guilty before Judge Landis in the United States court. Sentence was deferred.