

GENERAL NEWS NOTES.

W. J. Bryan intends to publish a national convention for prayer began its international meeting at Baltimore Friday, and will continue in session until January 25.

The London Daily Mail's Brussels correspondent says that King Leopold is one of the principal promoters of a strong Belgian syndicate, with a capital of \$25,000,000, formed to establish an arms factory in Japan.

As a result of drinking ginger ale flavored with lemon extract, three men are dead from poisoning at Alexander, Ark., and two more are not expected to live. The dead are: Charles Benke, Albert Lewis, William Prudence.

The navy department has reached the conclusion that the beaching of submarine torpedo boat Moccasin at Currituck inlet was due entirely to the elements, and therefore will not appoint a court of inquiry to place the responsibility.

Oscar Whitlaw, whose home is believed to be at Atlantic, Ia., was taken from the Union passenger station at St. Joseph while insane. He was making frantic efforts to climb the walls of the building. He had a large sum of money and much jewelry.

Dr. W. J. Holland, director of the Carnegie museums at Pittsburg, is making extensive preparations to send out an expedition next spring, composed of prominent ethnologists, for the purpose of making a collection of the work of the early Indians of the plains.

Word has been received from Roby, Tex., that Colonel Millsop, one of the most prominent cattlemen of Western Texas, was assassinated by some unknown man, who fired through a window of the Lucy hotel and riddled his body with buckshot. The assassin escaped.

Miss Helen Ethel Cassidy, of Pittsburg, and Warren C. Fairbanks, son of Senator Fairbanks, of Indiana, were married Thursday, in St. Peter's Episcopal church, Pittsburg, Pa. The wedding was brilliant, and a reception was given after the ceremony. Presents were numerous and handsome. Mr. and Mrs. Fairbanks have started for California, where they will stay for some time.

While several Mormons were wending their way across the prairies near Garland, Wyoming, one of them noticed a strong odor of gas. Scraping the snow aside, he found a steady current of gas issuing with a hissing sound from a cleft in the rocks. Lighting a match to test the substance, the Mormons ignited the gas, causing an explosion which scorched their faces and sent a column of flame many feet high.

Representative Cowherd favors empowering the rural letter carriers to act as express agents along their routes, delivering packages to patrons. This by way of enabling the carriers to be of more service to the people. The fourth assistant postmaster general has issued an order requiring publications to furnish single wrappers to all subscribers and not deliver in bulk to each carrier with list of subscribers.

Because a Baltimore newspaper had adversely criticized his writings, Professor Lyman Elliott Smith, of Mays Lick, Ky., shot and killed himself at Glenwood Ina, Kenova, W. Va. He recently returned from a trip to Europe. He had letters of recommendations from Richard G. Moulton, of the University of Chicago, and from the University of Cincinnati. He said he had devoted his life to the study of literature, and that he could not endure criticism which he thought cruel and unfair.

Arrangements are almost completed for establishing a Boer colony in Montana Land, either along the Shields river or Milk river valley, will be selected, and it is expected that the immigration of the Boers will begin early this spring. The preliminary arrangement regarding the establishment of Boers in America is in charge of General G. D. Joubert and Captain W. S. O'Donnell. The idea of establishing a colony in Mexico was given up several weeks ago on account of the prevalence of yellow fever. James J. Hill is largely responsible for the selection of Montana for the colony.

KANSAS SCHOOL TEACHERS.

They Will Ask for a Number of Changes in Existing School Laws. Topeka.—The school teachers of the state will ask for considerable school legislation at the next session of the legislature.

The time for holding annual meetings in rural school districts is wrong," said T. J. Perry, superintendent of schools in Wabausee county. It should be changed to the third Thursday in June. That date will suit everybody. School district clerks should be given some compensation. They have to work several days a year and all superintendents should be relieved of the work of changing districts boundaries. That work usually creates a row and destroys the usefulness of the superintendent among the teachers and patrons. The county board should be clothed with that power.

Plans and specifications for all new school buildings should be furnished by a state architect. This would give uniformity to school houses. Teachers should be required to visit other schools at least two days a year. They are sure to pick up some new ideas in that way. An entirely new school tax law should be enacted. The present law is a relic of the last century. These are a few of the matters that the teachers will ask legislation on. Of course there will be some others."

Committee in a Quandary.

St. Paul.—The Pioneer Press of Monday prints an interview with ex-Congressman Joel Heatwole, in which he points out that the Minnesota Republicans are in something of a quandary regarding the method to be pursued in the selection of delegates from congressional districts to the national Republican convention.

The call for the convention, issued Saturday by Chairman Hanna, provides that delegates from congressional districts shall be chosen in district conventions. In the same manner that nominations for congressmen are made. In Minnesota congressmen are nominated at primary elections, and there is no provision under this law for the holding of party conventions.

Mr. Heatwole suggests that the national committeeman from this state and the chairman of the state central committee might call congressional district conventions for the election of delegates.

Gold Near Tishomingo.

Ardmore, I. T.—A report from Tishomingo says that town is much interested over a gold find on the banks of Pennington creek. The vein is twenty-one inches thick and runs through the granite rock near the stream. The vein was found on the property of the Tishomingo Steam Laundry company. Those who found it thought it possessed considerable value and quietly secured samples, which were sent to an assayer at Kansas City. The result of an assay was returned and shows that the ore has \$480 in gold and \$57 in silver and copper to the ton, which makes it a very valuable find.

Governor Davis Fined.

Hope, Ark.—In the mayor's court Saturday a conclusion was reached in the trial of Governor Jeff Davis and Associate Justice Carroll D. Wood, of the supreme court, the two candidates for the Democratic nomination for governor. The trial grew out of the personal encounter the two men had in the joint discussion here December 18 last. After hearing the testimony, Mayor Black fined each defendant \$10 for breach of the peace and in addition assessed a fine of \$50 against Governor Davis for aggravated assault. Both filed notices that they would appeal to the circuit court.

Served With Dewey.

Mexico, Mo.—Joseph Flannery, alias Joseph Thomas, a deserter from the United States navy, was captured here Saturday and is now in jail. He was a fireman on Dewey's flagship Olympia at the battle of Manila. Flannery says his home was in St. Louis and that his whereabouts became known, he thinks, through a letter which he wrote to his stepmother in St. Louis. He says he deserted from the monitor Wyoming at Mare Island, near San Francisco, a year ago.

Marconi is stated to be working at a notable wireless telephone.

The population of London has increased 11 per cent in fourteen years.

DATA ON THE FLOOD.

Interesting Facts on the Kaw's Mouth High Water in June.

Topeka.—In his observations on the conditions were modified largely by Haworth, of the State university, publishes a map of the Kaw river from Argentine to its mouth, showing what the flood did to the valley. "Argentine," says he, "is situated on the south side of a broad southerly curve. The river cut across on the north side, where sand deposits and cuttings are frequent. On the south side, in the vicinity of Argentine, the slow velocity of the river allowed mud to be collected, covering the surface from six to eighteen inches. Here, doubtless, the conditions were modified largely by proximity to the Missouri river. Colonel C. L. McClung, assistant city engineer of Kansas City, Kas., furnished a map of the river valley from the mouth of the river upstream to beyond Argentine.

"It seems that after the flood became high enough to let the water out of the river banks it traveled almost in a straight course from the southwest part of Argentine to the mouth of the river. Large quantities of sand and silt were deposited all over Argentine and in the valley below, in some places reaching four or five feet in depth. Numerous washouts were made, trending northeast and southwest, some nearly north and south, which show the direction of the current here. In addition to all this the drift of the debris tells the same story.

"It so happened that the Kansas river was at its highest about a day before the Missouri river reached its highest point. During this time the water of the Kansas river rushed almost straight across the Missouri as shown by Colonel McClung's map, and as is also shown even to the present time by the large amount of debris which drifted along the east bank of the Missouri river. After the flood it was a noticeable and interesting fact that this part of the Missouri river bank was strewn with debris of all kinds, while the same bank further down stream had almost none."

Couldn't Stand the Pain

Colorado Springs, Col.—Colonel John H. Bacon, a pioneer of this city who came here in 1875, committed suicide by shooting Sunday morning. He left a letter to the public stating that he owed no man a dollar, had no enemies that he knew of, had no family troubles, but had suffered so much pain from rheumatism and insomnia that it more than offset the pleasure of this world. He was 75 years of age. Colonel Bacon was mayor of Colorado Springs in 1880, and was prominent as a business man in the early days. He was well off financially and leaves an estate valued at about \$250,000.

Colonel Bacon formerly lived in Iowa, where he was trustee of the Iowa Agricultural college and for thirty years was an active member of the Iowa State Agricultural society. He and one son, the latter an attorney of this city. His wife was Miss Mary Weaver, of Princeton, Ill. The deceased lived in Michigan during the years of his young manhood. During the civil war he was provost marshal of the First district of Iowa.

For Attempted Blackmail.

Chicago.—A plot involving threats to kill and publication of certain letters and photographs unless \$15,000 in cash was forthcoming was frustrated by Mrs. Hollis Thurston, daughter of the late Charles T. Nash, a board of trade commission broker, her brother, William Nash, J. E. Ingram, their attorney, and several detectives. Under arrest, charged with the plot, is James Tilbery, of London, a coachman in the employ of the Nash family.

Tilbery was arrested at the Nash home at the moment Mrs. Thurston placed twelve \$1,000 bills and one \$500 bill in his hands. On his person were found a dagger and two revolvers with which, it is charged, he had threatened to kill Mrs. Thurston unless she gave him the money he demanded for the return of certain letters he said he had received from Mrs. Thurston.

Most of the letters are forgeries, according to Mrs. Thurston. They were addressed to the coachman, who, with a trained nurse, had charge of Mr. Nash during his illness.

Over 500 miles of railway, mostly single line, are owned and worked by the Natal government.

DEATH CLAIMS JAMES L. BLAIR

THE END CAME SATURDAY AT EUSTIS, FLA.

Was Under Indictment at Time of Death for Fraud Perpetrated in Business Matters in St. Louis—Life Heavily Insured.

Eustis, Fla.—James L. Blair of St. Louis died here Saturday. Mr. Blair came here about five weeks ago in search of health. It was thought that he was improved until last week, when his condition changed alarmingly for the worse and the physicians advised that his wife be telegraphed. She and her son, Percy Blair, arrived Saturday a short time before Mr. Blair's death.

Mr. Blair had not made much progress toward regained strength when the fatal chill came. He had eaten little and his general health had fallen away until he was left without the power of resistance. Nor did he appear to have great interest in his condition or the outcome of his illness. He constantly spoke of his misfortune and his worry hastened the end. It has been announced here that there will be no delay in reaching St. Louis and that the interment will be Wednesday. Mr. Blair died at 12:03 o'clock Saturday afternoon.

Mr. Blair just before coming to Eustis held the position of general counsel for the St. Louis exposition and Mrs. Blair that of president of the board of woman managers. These positions were resigned owing to charges of misconduct against Mr. Blair. Mr. Blair had received a severe injury to his ankle before he came here and his, with his mental condition, is believed to have hastened his death. The cause of death in the physician's certificate is cerebral congestion. The body was embalmed Sunday and was sent to St. Louis Sunday night, accompanied by Mrs. Blair and son.

St. Louis.—James L. Blair, who died Saturday in Eustis, Fla., leaves life insurance policies amounting to nearly 1 million dollars. Most of them, it is stated, have been assigned to his creditors and those who aided him in his financial troubles, but it is believed that a sufficient sum has been reserved for the family to insure comfort.

Connellia Taken to Prison.

Guthrie, O. T.—Rufus R. Connella, the ex-banker and county school house building promoter, who operated in the new country, was taken to the penitentiary at Lansing, Kas., Saturday to await a hearing in the Oklahoma supreme court on appeal from the district court of Logan county.

Connellia was convicted on a charge of forgery about ten days ago and sentenced to the penitentiary for ten years. He operated four banks in the new country and built county school houses for counties having no funds, getting school land warrants for security. It is charged that he forged duplicates of these warrants in an enormous amount. He was convicted on two counts out of nineteen indictments that were returned against him, and after filing an appeal went to the penitentiary in default of \$10,000 bond rather than be re-arrested and tried on the other indictments.

The warrants forged by Connella were sold in St. Louis, Kansas City, Wichita and Guthrie, and have caused no end of trouble. Bank Examiner Paul F. Cooper who detected and ran Connella to earth, succeeded in closing his four banks in Greer and Comanche counties. It is said that Connella threatened to kill Cooper if he persisted in prying into the affairs in his bank on several occasions. St. Louis financiers probably suffered more from Connella's meteoric career than any others. Connello's hearing in the supreme court will be during the July term.

Hobson's Mother Dead.

Boulder, Colo.—The mother of Captain Richmond P. Hobson, died at the home of Shirley Davis Sunday, after a long illness. Her son was with her when she died and will accompany the remains to Greensboro, Ala., where they will be interred.

Sarah Croon Pearson-Hobson was born at Richmond Hill, N. C., February 24, 1843, and for the past twenty years she had been a sufferer from dyspepsia. She came to Boulder last summer and had since remained here on account of the benefit to her health.

QUAY FOR CHAIRMAN.

Being Suggested He Be Given Charge for Results.

Washington.—The president is being urged to tender the chairmanship of the national committee to Senator Mathew Stanley Quay.

He has tendered it to Senator Hanna, who has refused to accept. Then it was announced he would give it to Crane, of Massachusetts, and there it rests.

There is surprise that Mr. Quay should be left out of the calculations. He dominated the platform-making in 1896 and 1899, and is very much alive right now. He has been roughly handled by Senator Hanna—fired out of the senate on a contest by one vote and Hanna voted against him. Went back to Pennsylvania, got elected some more, and reappearing in the senate was pounced upon and put on little committees. Availed himself of an opportunity on committee on territories to show his power. Has always been friendly to the president. Should there be opposition to Mr. Roosevelt's nomination, he is the man who can do more to aid the president than half a dozen others, so it is believed. This is why it is being suggested to place him in charge of the campaign. However, that he is known to be a success in politics and vulgarly familiar with the exact way to do things, some people over the country are expected to oppose him.

A Woman Bandit.

St. Louis, Ia.—Hattie Plucher, the young woman school teacher who claimed to have been shot, bound and gagged last Tuesday night in a hotel at Miller, S. D., was Sunday arrested on a warrant sworn out by half a dozen prominent business men of Miller. She is charged with assault with intentions to commit felony and administering ether to Wilber Quirk for the purpose of robbery.

Quirk was a clerk in the Miller drug store. On Tuesday night he was held up by two masked persons bound, gagged and, after having been made unconscious by the use of ether, was tied to an iron bed, where he was found next morning, in a very serious condition. He could not give descriptions of his assailants, and the affair remained a mystery.

Miss Plucher at first claimed she was shot accidentally at a place on the railway east of Miller. She took the sheriff to the place and pointed out the revolver with which was inflicted the wound but would not say who shot her.

Drops of blood were found leading from the drug store, where Quirk was assaulted, to the Henshaw hotel. Other arrests are promised.

Chicago Police Form a Union.

Chicago.—Members of Chicago's police force numbering 300, and including patrolmen and officers of rank in the force, met Sunday and launched an organization to be known as the Policemen's Progressive association. Its principal object, it is stated, will be the protection of its members against charges made by criminals and thieves, evidence having been given by the latter to a local "graft" investigation committee which has resulted in the discharge of policemen. The policemen assert the dismissal of policemen on the testimony of criminals was unjust, and after denouncing the "graft" committee the policemen elected officers.

Thrown From His Horse.

Abilene, Kas.—Paul Hurd, a prominent young attorney of this city, was thrown from his horse Sunday, and is in a serious condition. He was riding with several of his friends when his horse slipped and threw him violently to the ground. He struck on his head, and it is feared it caused concussion of the brain. He was carried into a nearby farm house and medical assistance immediately procured. He is unconscious, and the full extent of his injuries cannot yet be learned.

Is a Garibaldi

Caracas.—Giuseppe Garibaldi, a grandson of the Italian patriot, was discovered among the revolutionists who were captured last August at Ciudad Bolivar. When President Castro learned of the fact after Garibaldi had been authorized by officials of the Italian legation, he ordered his immediate release.

In Cuba sixteen tons of cane yield one ton of syrup; in Peru it requires only twelve and a half.