

THE REUNION OPENS

Confederate Veterans Gather At Birmingham, Alabama

WITH VERY LARGE ATTENDANCE

Eighteenth Annual Reunion of Confederate Veterans Opens in Birmingham With the Largest Crowd in the History of the Organization.

Birmingham, Ala., Special.—The eighteenth annual reunion of the United Confederate Veterans was opened in this city Tuesday at the Hippodrome, Birmingham's largest convention hall, with a record breaking attendance. The day's sessions were devoted to organization and welcome addresses, the real business of the meeting coming up later, when a commander-in-chief to succeed the late General Stephen D. Lee, and the place for holding the next reunion will be chosen. In addition to the first session of the veterans' convention there were meetings of the Sons of Veterans, the Confederate Sargeants' Association, the Confederate Memorial Association and other organizations allied with the veterans.

When the convention was called to order by Major General George P. Harrison, the Hippodrome, which seats 5,000 persons, was crowded to overflowing and many failed to gain admission. The weather was extremely warm and many of the old veterans suffered much discomfort. A gloom was cast over the reunion by the recent death of the commander-in-chief, the late General Stephen D. Lee, who was to have presided over the meetings of the veterans, and whose annual address had already been prepared. This address was printed and distributed to the veterans, but the reading of it was postponed on account of the extreme heat.

The convention proper was opened with a prayer by the chaplain general, Rev. Dr. J. William Jones, which was followed by a children chorus of 200 voices.

Mayor Ward, of Birmingham, then welcomed the veterans in behalf of the city and Governor Comer for the State. Other welcoming addresses were made by Representatives of the local veterans association.

General E. L. Russell, who was invited by General Lee, to deliver an oration to the veterans, was the next speaker. He paid a high tribute to General Lee, describing him as he appeared in battle and discussed the conditions leading up to the war.

When the business session of the veterans had been concluded, many of the veterans went to Capital Park, where band concerts were given and many old acquaintances were renewed.

At the State fair grounds where the Hotel John B. Gordon which was opened for the free accommodation of veterans, is located, the visitors assembled to witness a grand fireworks display.

Among those whose names are mentioned for commander-in-chief are General Clement A. Evans, of the Department of Tennessee; General Cabell, of Texas, and General Gordon, of Memphis.

Chattanooga, Atlanta and Houston, are the contestants for the next convention and all are making hard fights to secure the honor.

The streets of the city are crowded with the veterans and their friends, it being estimated that no less than 25,000 strangers are in the city, about 8,000 of whom are old soldiers.

Price of Steel to Be Out.

Pittsburg, Pa., Special.—The steel men have gone to a conference of steel and pig-iron men at the office of the United States Steel Corporation, New York, at which, according to Judge Gary, chairman of the executive committee, prices of all steel save rails will be cut.

King and Emperor Meet.

Reval, B. Cable.—The meeting between King Edward and Emperor Nicholas occurred Tuesday with due formality. It was the first time that an English monarch has ever made an official visit in Russian waters. The British squadron escorting the royal yacht Victoria and Albert with King Edward on board, entered the bay of Reval shortly after 10 o'clock Tuesday morning. The customary salutes were fired, and after an exchange of formal visits the King and the Emperor lunched on board the Russian Polar Star as the guests of the Dowager Empress.

THE 1907 COTTON CROP

Bulletin Prepared Under the Direction of the Chief Statistician of the Department at Washington Shows the Production of the Staple During the Past Year.

Washington, Special.—Bulletin 95, which has just been issued by the bureau of the census, consists of a report on the production of cotton in 1907, prepared under the supervision of Mr. William M. Stewart, chief statistician for manufactures, by Mr. Daniel C. Roper, expert chief of division. The report is presented in four divisions: (1) Annual cotton production in the United States, as returned by ginners and delinters, distributed by States from 1899 to 1907 and by counties from 1903 to 1907, with statistics as to annual production compiled from trustworthy sources for previous years, beginning with 1790; (2) world's cotton production in 1907, by countries; (3) the growing, harvesting, and handling of cotton, with illustrations; and (4) statistics as to the manufacture of cottoned products.

During the ginning season of 1907-1908, as for the two previous seasons, ten preliminary statements of cotton ginned to specified dates were issued. The present report gives the aggregate figures for the whole cotton crop, and covers the ninth consecutive year for which statistics of cotton ginned have been collected and published by the bureau of the census.

Production 11,375,461 Bales.

The finally revised figures for the crop of 1907, expressed in equivalent 500-pound bales and including linters, show a total production of 11,375,461 bales. This represents a falling off from 1906 of 2,220,037 bales, or 15.3 per cent., and is 2,304,495 bales less than the crop of 1904, the largest on record; while it falls short of the average production of the last six years by 345,914 bales.

Of the total production in 1907, 4,769,609 bales, or 42 per cent, came from the territory west of the Mississippi river, while the States east of the Mississippi contributed 6,605,852 bales, of 58 per cent. This is in marked contrast with 1906, when 53.2 per cent of the crop came from west of the Mississippi and 46.8 per cent, from the States east of it; in 1905, however, the corresponding percentages were 41.6 and 58.4, respectively. These variations are caused very largely by the fluctuations in the size of the crop in the States west of the Mississippi, as the difference between the largest and the smallest crop in the Eastern States during the last three years was but 295,970 bales.

Texas Shows a Falling Off of 44.9 Per Cent.

The State reporting the largest cotton crop in 1907, as well as in every other year since the inauguration of the ginning reports, was Texas, with a total of 2,360,478 bales. This represents an enormous decrease from 1906, however, amounting to 1,921,346 bales, or 44.9 per cent. As a result of this decrease Texas produced only 20.8 per cent of the total for the country, as compared with 31.5 per cent in 1906 and with 24.9 per cent, which represents the proportion contributed by it to the aggregate production of the last six years.

Other States showing large decreases are Louisiana and Arkansas, which reported losses of about one-third and one-fifth, respectively, as compared with 1906. The new State of Oklahoma reported 882,984 bales, a loss of about 4 per cent, which, however, was so insignificant as compared with the losses shown by other States that Oklahoma actually advanced from seventh place to sixth in the quantity of cotton produced.

Telegraphic Briefs.

President Roosevelt told Governor Glenn that under no circumstances would he be again run for President.

Secretary of War Taft is a member of the Unitarian Church.

Lieut.-Col. Harry E. Hodges was appointed Panama Canal Commissioner to succeed Commissioner Jackson Smith.

A fortune teller, Zeno Miller, is said to have disappeared from Bristol with hundreds of dollars of jewelry entrusted to him by residents.

Fire, apparently stated to conceal a burglary, caused \$35,000 damage at Norfolk.

Lewis Wingate, of Grayson county, has been arrested charged with causing the death of his 12-year-old son.

Dr. Lyon G. Tyler, of Williamsburg, son of President John Tyler, is suggested for the Democratic nomination for Vice-President.

The Republican National Committee decided the contests involving the 24 votes of Alabama and Arkansas in favor of Taft.

REPUBLICAN BELIEFS

Principles Enunciated By the Republican Platform

THE ADMINISTRATION ENDORSED

Republican Platform Which Will Be Adopted by the National Convention Has Been Completed With the Exception of a Few Details.

Washington, Special.—That the platform which will be adopted at the Chicago convention and on which the Republican party will stand during the next campaign has been completed with the exception of a few details, which will be left for the committee on resolutions to insert, is the opinion of many who are in the confidence of the Republican leaders. The work has been done by Hon. Wade Ellis, Attorney General of Ohio, the draftsman of the recent Ohio State platform; Senator Hopkins, who will be the chairman of the committee on resolutions; Senator Long, of Kansas, and a few others, including the President and Secretary Taft, who have been freely consulted.

The policies of President Roosevelt will be endorsed unequivocally, and this endorsement will be the central idea of the document. These policies it will be declared, are quite in contrast with the policies of the Democratic party, which promises nothing good that can be assured of accomplishment. The Republican party's record as the party of protection and sound money, as the party of progress and good principles, as the party that gave freedom to Cuba and lifted the yoke from the necks of the people of the Philippines and Porto Rico, will be held up for admiration and made the subject of much praise, and the voting public will be asked to continue to patronize the political craft that has carried it across so many streams. Specifically speaking, more attention has been given by the platform makers to the tariff than to any other subject. There will be an unequivocal declaration for revision; but the disposition is to leave the working out of detail to the ingenuity of Congress. The action of the two houses of Congress instructing the committees which will deal with the tariff, the Senate committee on finance and the House committee on ways and means to make special investigation of the situation, will afford sufficient excuse for this course, as the results of these inquiries will be unavailable to the convention, while they will supposedly furnish Congress with a basis for action.

The declaration will take the shape of a pledge to so equalize the duties as to give the consumer the benefit of the most favorable prices consistent with the protection of domestic industry and home labor. It will be emphatically stated that there must be no innovation that will permit American labor to come into competition with foreign labor, and accordingly it will be specified that in all cases the duty must be equal to the difference between the American and the European cost of production, including a reasonable profit to the American producer. The principle of protection will be endorsed in general terms, and there may be a declaration to a maximum and a minimum tariff as the one best calculated to insure the promotion of American interests under varying condition. A clause declaring against the utilization of the tariff for the promotion of monopoly is also among the probabilities.

Next to the tariff the financial plank has received most careful attention. Congress and the administration will be congratulated upon the passage of the Aldrich-Vreeland bill as in the interest of sound finance and as calculated to protect the business world against possible panics in the near future and at the same time provide for the permanent improvement of our currency system through the recommendations which it is anticipated will be made by the commission appointed under the new law. Reference will be made to the financial disturbance of last fall, and while the seriousness of that crisis will be recognized, the claim will be made that the Republican party was found able to meet the situation and the country will be informed that by its prompt action the business world was saved from long drawn out financial depression and industrial inactivity.

The administration will be commended for its railroad stand, also on labor, and the rights of all citizens, regardless of race or color.

HOKE SMITH BEATEN

Georgia Voters Fail to Endorse Present Governor

CLOSE OF A BITTER CAMPAIGN

The Primary Brings to an End One of the Hottest Political Campaigns in Georgia's History.

Atlanta, Ga., Special.—All returns up to midnight indicate the election of Joseph M. Brown as Governor of Georgia in the general Democratic primary held Thursday by a majority of about 15,000.

The Constitution estimates that Brown has won by from 15,000 to 25,000. The Brown managers claim the majority is larger.

Governor Smith's campaign managers decline to make a statement, and the Governor himself says that he cannot comment on the primary.

The campaign was the hottest in the history of Georgia. In all the eleven congressional districts indications are that the present Democratic Congressmen will be returned, the only doubt being in the fifth where James L. Mayson may contest the election with Congressman Livingstone. There was no contest over the United States senatorship, S. C. Clay being the popular choice. The primary results mean election in Georgia, the other parties in the State making no contest.

With both Governors Hoke Smith and Joseph M. Brown claiming victory in the Georgia State primary the count is coming in slowly.

The Brown managers claim the nomination which is equivalent to election by from 25,000 to 40,000 James R. Smith political manager for Brown, gave The Associated Press the following statement:

"We fought a clean fight and won. The reasons for the victory are so pronounced that they would hardly admit of discussion. The attitude of the administration toward invested capital is perhaps the paramount issue. It was not an issue between men but what they represented. The day's election shows that the prevailing opinion among the people is that Mr. Brown's election would go far toward restoring confidence. Governor Smith's managers, however, do not concede Brown's election and declare that a full vote will be necessary to determine the result.

A Heavy Vote Pooled.

One of the heaviest votes in the history of Georgia was cast, men standing in line for hours in the larger cities like Atlanta waiting for a chance to mark their ballots.

In the interest of the Governorship all others were practically lost sight of.

The congressional districts, the hottest fight was in the fifth, where Congressman L. F. Livingstone was opposed by James L. Mayson. Returns indicate Livingstone's re-election though Mayson's friends say they will insist on an official count.

In the first district indications point to the re-election of Congressman Edwards, in the second to the re-election of J. M. Griggs, in the third to the re-election of E. B. Lewis, the fourth to congressman Anderson, the fifth to L. F. Livingstone, the sixth to congressman C. L. Bartlett, the seventh to congressman Gordon Lee, the eighth to Congressman W. M. Howard, the ninth to Congressman E. M. Bell, the tenth to Congressman Hardwick, and the eleventh to Congressman William G. Brantly.

United States Senator Clay, who was also a candidate in the primary, had no opposition.

MAJ. DREYFUS SHOT.

During the Canonization of Emile Zola in the Pantheon Louis Gregori, a Military Writer of Note, Draws a Pistol and Shoots Maj. Alfred Dreyfus in the Arm.

Paris, By Cable.—Just at the close of the ceremonies attending the canonization of Emile Zola in the Pantheon, when the President of France, the Premier and a host of ministers of State were taking their departure, Louis Antheus Gregori, a military writer of note, drew a revolver and fired two shots point blank at Maj. Alfred Dreyfus, for whose liberty Zola fought and won. Men distinguished in all walks of life filled the pantheon, and when the shots rang out there was intense excitement in fear that the President had been assassinated, but even the attempt upon the life of Major Dreyfus created a profound impression. Soldiers speedily surrounded Gregori and he was taken to jail, bruised and bleeding with his clothes almost torn from his back.

COMMISSION NAMED

President Appoints Boards On Conservation of Resources

AN ACTIVE CAMPAIGN PLANNED

President, Acting on a Suggestion Made by the Governors' Conference Appoints a National Conservation Commission.

Washington, Special.—In accordance with the suggestion made by the Governors at their conference at the White House in May, the President has appointed a national conservation commission to consider and advise him on questions relating to the conservation of the natural resources of the country, and to co-operate with similar bodies which may be designated by the several States. The personnel of the committee is as follows:

Waters—Theodore E. Burton, Ohio, chairman; Senators William D. Allison, Iowa; Francis G. Newlands, Nevada; William Warner, Missouri; and John H. Bankhead, Alabama; W. J. McGee, bureau of soils, secretary; F. H. Newell, reclamation service; Gifford Pinchot, forest service; Herbert Knox Smith, bureau of corporations; Representatives Joseph E. Ransdell, Louisiana; Prof. George F. Swain, Institute of Technology, Massachusetts; the chief engineers United States army.

Forests—Senators Reed Smoot, Utah, chairman; Albert J. Beveridge, Indiana, and Charles A. Culberson, of Texas; Representatives Charles F. Scott, of Kansas, and Champ Clark, Missouri; J. B. White, Missouri; Prof. Henry S. Graves, Yale Forest School, Connecticut; William Irvine, Wisconsin; ex-Governor Newton C. Blanchard, Louisiana; Charles L. Pack, New Jersey; Gustav Schawb, national council of commerce, New York; Overton W. Price, forest service, secretary.

Lands and Minerals.

Lands—Senators Knute Nelson, Minnesota, chairman, and Francis E. Warren, Wyoming; Representative John Sharp Williams, of Mississippi; Swager Sherry, Kentucky, and Herbert Parsons, New York; ex-Governor N. B. Broward, Florida; James J. Hill of Minnesota; ex-Governor George C. Pardee, California; Charles McDonald American Society of Civil Engineers, New York; Murdo MacKenzie, Colorado; Frank C. Gundy Colorado; George W. Woodruff, Interior Department, secretary.

Minerals—Representative John Dalzell, of Pennsylvania, chairman; Senators Joseph M. Dixon, Montana; Frank P. Flint, California, and Lee S. Overman, of North Carolina; Representatives Philo Hall, South Dakota, and James L. Slayden, of Texas; Andrew Carnegie, of New York; Prof. Charles R. Van Hise, Wisconsin; John Mitchell, of Illinois; John Hays Hammond, of Massachusetts; Dr. Irving Fisher, Yale University, Connecticut; Joseph A. Holmes, geological survey; secretary.

Executive Committee—Gifford Pinchot, chairman; Representative Theodore E. Burton, Senators Reed Smoot and Knute Nelson, Representative John Dalzell, W. J. Metcalf, Overton W. Price, G. W. Woodruff, Joseph A. Holmes.

Judge D. M. Furches Dead.

Statesville, N. C., Special.—Hon. David M. Furches died Sunday night at 12:25 at his home on Walnut St. The news of his death was a shock to the community, for while it was known that he was not strong, but few of his friends knew that he was ill. Judge Furches was a lawyer of ability and was chief-justice of the North Carolina Supreme Court under fusion rule. He was a native of Davie county.

New Battleships Will Be Named Florida and Utah.

Washington, Special.—Secretary Metcalf has announced that the two new battleships authorized at the last session of Congress would be named Florida and Utah, respectively. He said that the next battleship authorized would bear the name of Wyoming.

Spring Wheat Acreage.

Washington, Special.—The crop reporting board of the bureau of agriculture has issued a bulletin estimating the area sown in spring wheat to be 3.7 per cent more than the area sown last year, indicating a total area of about 17,710,000 acres, of 631,000 more than sown last year. The condition of spring wheat on June 1st was 95.0 per cent of a normal, as compared with 93.2, the June 1st average of the past 10 years. The condition of winter wheat on June 1st was 86.6 per cent of a normal, as compared with 81.0, the June 1st average

DEATH ON CRUISER

Explosion on the "Tennessee" Kills Several Persons

SEVERAL OTHERS ARE INJURED

Accident on the United States Cruiser Tennessee Results in the Death of Four and the Injury of Ten Others—The Cruiser Was Just Entering San Pedro Harbor.

Los Angeles, Special.—Four men were killed and 10 injured on board the armored cruiser Tennessee at sea at 11 o'clock Friday when a boiler tube broke, hurling fragments of iron about the engine room and filling it with scalding steam. The accident happened an hour after the cruiser left Santa Barbara on her way with six other vessels of the Pacific fleet, to Los Angeles ports. Only the most fragmentary news of the disaster had been received up to 7 o'clock in the evening as the cruiser had not arrived at San Pedro. What meagre details had been learned were gleaned from official wireless telegraph dispatches, transmitted from the squadron to the wireless station at San Francisco. The cruiser was steaming at full speed when the explosion occurred.

The force of the explosion was terrible and many of the injured were fatally hurt, it is believed. Orders were flashed to Dr. W. A. Weldon, local marine surgeon at San Pedro, directing him to prepare for the caring of the injured sailors. According to the wireless dispatches no officers were injured. The damage to the ship is not known at this time, but it is likely that the boiler rooms of the ship have suffered seriously.

The Tennessee is Admiral Sebro's flagship, commanding the second division of the Pacific fleet. The others accompanying the Tennessee are the California, Washington, West Virginia, Colorado, Pennsylvania and Maryland, comprising the first division commanded by Admiral Dayton.

The Tennessee arrived and anchored inside the breakwater about two miles from the water front shortly after 7 o'clock.

Los Angeles, Cal., Special.—A report has just reached this city from San Pedro of an explosion on the United States cruiser Tennessee. The Tennessee is coming into San Pedro harbor.

A boiler tube on the cruiser Tennessee blew up, killing four and injuring many others. The cruiser has just entered San Pedro harbor and the details are not yet available.

The Tennessee sailed from San Francisco on May 17th, and since then has been cruising in southern California waters, touching Santa Barbara, San Pedro and San Diego. The latest information is that four men were killed and ten injured. The injured will be brought to a hospital in this city. The Tennessee is still about 37 miles outside San Pedro. The cruiser left Santa Barbara for Los Angeles port Friday morning.

Dead and Injured.

Following is a list of dead and injured received by the local wireless station:

- Dead: George Wood, water tender.
- Earl Boggs, fireman, second class.
- Adolph Rheingold, machinist helper, second class.
- George Merk, fireman, first class.
- Probably fatally injured: F. S. Field, fireman, second class.
- E. N. Exantes, fireman, first class.
- E. J. Burns, coal passer.
- W. F. Furness, coal passer.
- J. J. Carroll, fireman, second class.
- T. P. Parsons, fireman, second class, slightly injured.

Killed in Baseball Game.

LaFayette, Ga., Special.—Willie Watson, aged 10, was instantly killed in a ball game here Friday. While engaged in a game with a number of his friends a bat slipped from the hands of one of the boys who was attempting to hit the ball and struck young Watson over the heart, causing instant death.

Texas Crops Badly Damaged.

Vernon, Tex., Special.—Damage to growing vegetation and to property in excess of half million dollars, it is estimated, has resulted from storms of wind, hail and rain which have been over this vicinity for the past several days and which culminated in a wind storm of great velocity early Thursday. Along the several roads entering this place washouts are numerous. In Vernon a number of the larger buildings were partially wrecked and some smaller structures demolished.