

TAIL OF COMET NOT YET PASSED

Prof. Russell '1 Says Earth Will Likely Hit It Sometime Tonight-- Tail Seen from Persia.

PRINCETON, May 19.—The earth did not plunge through the tail of the comet at time scheduled by astronomers, according to Prof. Henry Norris Russell and Zaccueo Daniel, discoverer of three comets. Prof Russell at 2:45 this morning noticed a distinct streak of light in the east, resembling the Milky Way. He concluded the earth had not passed through the comet's tail, because the tail was curved away from us, and the sun would be well above the horizon when the passage was made.

Professor Henry Norris Russell of the astronomical department of Princeton University, in a signed statement to the Associated Press today declared that basing his calculations on the width of the comet's tail early today as compared with previous mornings, the earth was not near enough to pass through the tail of the comet this morning, but very likely it will do so sometime tonight.

HARVARD UNIVERSITY IS 'UNABLE TO STATE DEFINITELY.'

Boston, May 19.—Harvard University officials did not obtain a single glimpse of Halley's comet last night or early today and were unable to state definitely whether the earth passed through the comet's tail. It was admitted that the bright moonlight might have shut out the view of the illumination from the comet's tail. Some observers said the earth probably passed through the tail without it becoming apparent.

PROBABLY DID NOT TRAVERSE COMET'S TAIL.

Johannesburg, May 19.—According to observations made at Transvaal observatory the earth had not traversed the tail of Halley's comet at dawn today; the tail was still north of the ecliptic and at the observatory it was thought probable the earth would pass considerably to the south of it.

Arden Arabia, May 19.—At 4:30 this morning the tail of Halley's comet appeared as the rays of a gigantic searchlight.

SOUTHERN PRESBYTERIAN ASSEMBLY IN SESSION

More Than 200 Commissioners at the Opening Session in Louisville, W. Va.

Louisville, W. Va., May 19.—The fifth general assembly of the Presbyterian church in the United States (south) met this morning. More than 200 commissioners were present when Dr. W. E. Boggs of Atlanta, moderator of the last assembly, called the organization to order.

The committee on amendments to the confession of faith will recommend to the assembly it is said that the "elect infant" clause be changed so as to express, without doubt, the attitude of the church as to infant salvation. Another report will be designed to have the assembly give counsel to ministers as to re-marriages.

With the advance guard came gossip as to the selection of the moderator. Last night the name of Dr. B. W. Buchanan of Chattanooga was mentioned most generally for that office, although now and then a commissioner suggested the name of Governor Mann of Virginia. Several commissioners brought reports of various questions which have agitated previous assemblies.

Dr. Boggs' Long Sermon. Dr. Boggs' annual sermon occupied such a lot of the assembly's time that it was necessary to postpone the election of a moderator until after 4 o'clock this afternoon. Rev. Dr. J. W. Backman of Chattanooga probably will be elected moderator.

FATHER AND SON DIED TOGETHER IN HOSPITAL

Later as Result of Injuries in Explosion, Former from Anxiety Over His Son.

Philadelphia, May 19.—Lying side by side in Cooper hospital, Camden, N. J., Edward C. Evans, 51 years old, and his son, Marvin, 21, of Harborton, Va., died yesterday.

The younger Evans was the victim of an explosion aboard the tugboat Cape Charles Saturday. His father collapsed as the result of constant vigil over his dying son.

Commodore Nickles Dead.

Richmond, May 19.—John Augustus Nickles, 51 years old, commodore of the United States navy, and a native of Boston, died today. He married Miss Cornelia Parker of Richmond.

ANTI-PATTERSONITES NAME JUDICIAL TICKET

The Mass Meeting at Nashville Yesterday Perhaps the Largest Ever Held in the State.

Nashville, May 19.—Governor M. R. Patterson and the state democratic committee were bitterly denounced in speeches and resolutions by perhaps the largest mass meeting of voters ever held in the state of Tennessee, called for the purpose of protesting against the action of the governor and executive committee in attempting to submit their candidacy in the general primary of June 4. This action of the committee was contrary to precedent and resulted in several of the candidates for the Supreme court and the Court of Civil Appeals announcing themselves as independent candidates. The convention of more than 5,000 voters from all over the state, nominated a full judicial ticket, and appealed to the voters of the state to refuse to participate in the primary on June 4.

Governor Patterson and the executive committee were unqualifiedly denounced "for their efforts to overcome and coerce the Supreme court of the state in the decision of the case pending before it," the reference being made to the Cooper case.

The following ticket was nominated: Supreme court, W. D. Beard of Memphis; M. M. Nail of Trenton, L. K. Shields of Chattanooga, D. L. Laussen of Carthage and Grafton Green of Nashville.

Court of Appeals: D. S. Wilson of Nashville, J. C. Higgins of Shelbyville, J. M. Taylor of Lexington, F. P. Hall of Dresden and H. Y. Hughes of Tazewell.

GLAVIS IS UNTRUTHFUL SAYS LAWLER, ON STAND

Also Glavis Reflected on Lawler's Competency, Three Years Ago.

Washington, May 19.—Assistant Attorney General Oscar Lawler, before the Ballinger-Pinohet investigation committee today testified that L. B. Glavis three years ago cast reflection upon his competency to conduct the prosecution of certain land fraud cases. Lawler said it was then demonstrated that Glavis was untruthful.

Land Commissioner Danet followed Lawler on the witness stand.

Interred in Arlington.

Washington, May 19.—The ashes of Rear Admiral Bowman H. McCall, who died in California, were today interred in Arlington cemetery.

DECLINE TO GRANT 'WOMEN'S RIGHTS'

Vote on Memorial 188 to 74---Lay Representation in Annual Conference Unchanged.

THE general conference of the Methodist Episcopal church, South, today by a vote of 188 to 74 refused to accede to the memorials from the Woman's Home Mission society asking that the women be given equal rights of the laity. The vote came at the conclusion of one of the most sensational debates of the conference. Yielding the floor of the house to Miss Belle H. Bennett, president of the Woman's Home Mission society, the conference heard an earnest and eloquent plea from her that the request be granted, but "the fullness of the time" had evidently "not come"—to use the words of the majority report—when the women should be placed upon an equal footing with the men. Although defeated at this general conference by a large majority it is safe to predict that the next general conference will be brought face to face with exactly the same request. The women take hope in the fact that no great movement has ever been brought about without its setbacks and they will arise four years from now with increased strength.

The action of the conference in regarding its action of yesterday regarding lay representation in the annual conferences means that no change will likely be made for at least the next four years. The present basis is four laymen from every presiding elder's district.

The conference is pushing rapidly ahead with the business and it is believed that by the adjournment Monday practically all of the business will be disposed of. There may be some propositions that will die on the calendar, but not many.

The fourteenth day's session was opened with devotional exercises. Bishop Wilson yielded the chair to Bishop Hendrix.

A motion to reconsider the action of yesterday fixing noon Monday as the time for adjournment caused considerable discussion. Some of the delegates wanted to close Friday at 5 p. m. The motion to reconsider was lost.

Lay Representation.

The matter of increased lay representation in the annual conference, which was acted upon yesterday by passage of a resolution providing that there shall be one lay representative for each 1500 members of a presiding elder's district provided further there shall be not less than four from each district, was attacked this morning upon the ground that since lay representation was introduced by a constitutional amendment, it could not be changed without a two-thirds vote of this general conference and three-fourths vote of the members of the annual conferences.

A motion to reconsider yesterday's action carried, and the original resolution was lost by a large majority. This leaves the lay representation as it was before this general conference.

In an appropriate speech presented, upon behalf of the Texas delegation, a beautiful loving cup, "full and overflowing, not with cold water, but with warm love, and if Texas cannot fill it, the rest of us can," said Bishop Key is a native Georgian—he has lived in Texas for many years. Bishop Key responded in a few words of appreciation.

'Woman Suffrage.'

"Woman's suffrage" question, the proposition to grant the women equal rights of laymen in quarterly and annual conferences, was begun and Dr. Frank Richardson, the chaplain of the general conference, made an enthusiastic speech in favor of the women's request. He declared it was all right for the women to work if they wanted to, let them be superintendents of Sunday schools, etc. They have to bear much of the work of the church, he said, and they should not be forbidden entrance into the sanctuary-sanctuary, the quarterly conference. He refuted the idea that this would make women unwomanly. Dr. Richardson's speech was enthusiastically received and he was greeted with many hand shakes as he went back to his seat.

Dr. Henry argued that Christianity had done so much for woman that she should be granted everything asked in the memorial and a whole lot more.

"Woman was made free by the gospel," he declared, "and will be free as long as the gospel prevails. She has raised large sums for mission work, for church extension and other church work."

Dr. Barcus said the discussion had drifted away from the point. He thought women had mislabeled their petition when they said "rights." He did not believe the question of "rights" had place in the church. It was simply a matter of division of work. He argued that the women had enough work and if they had any surplus energy they should exercise it in getting the large number of women, not now engaged in church work, interested in such. He declared if women were given the places of the church then the men would sit around and sing "let the women do the work."

He thought this would be an encouragement upon what the laymen's movement aimed at—greater activity and interest of laymen in church work.

A resolution was passed by a good majority that Miss Belle Bennett, president of the Woman's Home Mission society, be invited to address the conference. Amid applause Miss Bennett took the rostrum. She declared that the church needed the council of the women in church affairs. She used almost unanswerable argument to refute the proposition granting this request would make women coarse and unwomanly. She recited the work in the various fields and asked if any woman was worse off for this. She asked that women be either prohibited from doing the church work they are now doing or else be encouraged to carry it on. She predicted that the laymen movement, which had grown so greatly, would soon be as disorganized from the church as the present Woman's Home Mission society. They would soon demand more voice in the affairs as they would become tired of raising such large funds. She said she spoke for 700,000 women. Standing upon the stage handsomely gowned in black and carrying a bouquet of white carnations, Miss Bennett, in refuting the argument that women could not be heard, because their voices were too weak, she said: "It is not the loudest voice, nor the greatest eloquence, but the speaker upon the stand who is heard." This brought forth loud and continued applause. She declared that the objection to this was a mere matter of sentiment, "burning incense to ancestral tablets."

Rev. George R. Stuart made a rather sensational address against the movement. "The general rule is husband and wife and father and mother," he declared, "but there are some exceptions. These are out of place." The audience applauded greatly, and correcting himself he paid a tribute to Miss Bennett's work. He intimated that the home was the place where a woman could do the most good to the church and nation.

Church Federation.

The conference adopted the report of the committee on church federation recommending a supreme council composed of 18 members, nine from the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, and nine from the Methodist Episcopal church, to be entrusted with advisory powers in regard to world-wide missions, Christian education, and the evangelization of the un-churches masses, and also shall have full power to hear and finally determine, without appeal from its decisions, all cases of conflict or misunderstanding between the two churches of Methodism.

The membership of the council shall be as follows: Six bishops, six traveling preachers, and six laymen. The nine members from the Methodist Episcopal church, south, shall be elected quadrennially by the general conference upon nomination by the committee on church relations. Vacancies occurring during the quadrennium shall be filled by the commissioners.

Annual conferences shall have authority to appoint local commissions on federation to meet with similar commissions from a conference of the Methodist Episcopal church, to hear and determine cases of local irritation and complaint. Said local commissions shall have advisory power. All cases which fail of settlement shall be carried to the federal council for final adjudication.

The following men, nominated by the committee on church relations, were elected: Bishops A. W. Wilson, E. E. Hoss and Collins Denny, Rev. W. J. Young, Rev. F. M. Thomas, Rev. C. M. Bishop, N. L. Watson, R. S. Hyer, W. B. Stubbs.

Lay Representation. The question of increasing lay representation in the annual conferences provoked considerable discussion.

The committee on revisals had submitted a report that representation of laymen to put upon the basis of one from every 1500 members of a presiding elder's district, provided no presiding elder's district shall have less than four laymen.

A substitute was offered that members of the annual conference boards be made ex-officio members of the annual conference; while the laymen's committee wanted a representative from every pastoral charge.

Dr. Christian objected to this last proposition upon the ground that it would make the annual conferences too large a body.

After considerable discussion the conference accepted the proposition to give the laymen one representative in the annual conference for every 1500 or fraction thereof members of a presiding elder's district, provided, however, no district shall have less than four lay representatives. This means an increase of from 3 to 25 per cent. in the lay representatives, according to estimates.

Bishops' Plan for Year.

The college of bishops met last night and arranged the plan of episcopal visitation and place and time of holding annual conferences, as follows:

First district, Bishop A. W. Wilson—Virginia conference, Centenary church, Richmond, Nov. 9, 1910; North Georgia, Athens, Nov. 19; Alabama, Troy, Dec. 7.

Second district, Bishop E. R. Hendrix—Denver, Sept. 8; Western North Carolina, Winston-Salem, Nov. 16; North Carolina, Elizabeth City, Nov. 20; South Carolina, Charleston, Dec. 7.

Third district, Bishop Warren A. Candler—Holston, Chattanooga, Oct. 5; Tennessee, Clarksville, Oct. 12; Memphis, Paducah, Ky., Nov. 9; Cuban mission, Havana, Jan. 19, 1911.

Fourth district, Bishop H. C. Morrison—Western Virginia, New Martinsville, W. Va., Sept. 7; Illinois, Patoka, Ill., Sept. 22; South Georgia, Columbus, Nov. 30.

Fifth district, Bishop E. E. Hoss—Japan mission, Arima, Japan, Sept. 1, 1910; Korean mission, Songdo, Korea, Sept. 15; China mission, Soo Chow, China, Oct. 12; Baltimore, Clifton Forge, Va., March 29, 1911.

Sixth district, Bishop James Atkins—New Mexico Artesia, New Mexico, Oct. 6, 1910; West Texas, Austin, Oct. 26; Central Texas, Waxahatchis, Tex., Nov. 2; Northwest Texas, Clarendon, Tex., Nov. 9.

Seventh district, Bishop Collins Denny—Missouri, Plattsburg, Mo., Aug. 31; Southwest Missouri, Webb City, Mo., Sept. 14; St. Louis, Cape Girardeau, Mo., Sept. 28; Oklahoma, Ardmore, Okla., Nov. 9.

Eighth district, Bishop John C. Kilgo—Kentucky, Harrodsburg, Ky., Sept. 21; Louisville, Russellville, Ky., Sept. 28; North Alabama, Huntsville, Nov. 30; Florida, Springfield church, Jacksonville, Dec. 14.

Ninth district, Bishop W. B. Murrah—German mission, East Bernard, Tex., Oct. 27; North Texas, Wichita Falls, Tex., Nov. 23; Texas, Galveston, Nov. 30; Louisiana, Homer, La., Dec. 7.

Tenth district, Bishop W. R. Lambuth—Brazil mission, Sao Paulo, Brazil, July 23th; South Brazil mission, Santa Maria, Brazil, July 7.

Bishop Lambuth will go to Africa also in the interest of the mission which the board of mission proposes to open in that field.

Eleventh district, Bishop R. G. Waterhouse—Montana, Butte, Mont., Sept. 8; East Columbia, Walla Walla, Wash., Sept. 15; Columbia, Medford, Ore., Sept. 22; Pacific, Stockton, Cal., Oct. 5; Los Angeles, Oct. 12.

Twelfth district, Bishop E. D. Mison—Mississippi, Hattiesburg, Miss., Dec. 7; Mexico border mission, Montecito, Mexico, Feb. 2; Central Mexico mission, Mexico City, Feb. 9, 1911; Northwest Mexico mission, Mazatlan, Mex., Feb. 23, 1911.

Thirteenth district, Bishop J. H. McCoy—Arkansas, Fayetteville, Ark., Nov. 2; Little Rock, Prescott, Ark., Nov. 16; White River, Forest City, Ark., Nov. 23; North Mississippi, Sardis, Miss., Nov. 30.

The semi-annual meeting of the bishops will be held in New Orleans, October 29.

W. J. Stubbs made an enthusiastic speech in favor of the women's petition. The previous question was called, and a vote taken upon the substitute to the majority report of the committee on revisals, granting the women's request. The motion was lost by a vote of 188 to 74.

Former Hawaii Queen Again Loses in Court. Court of Claims Sustains Demurrer to Her Petition for Judgment of \$450,000.

Washington, May 19.—Lillokalanai, the former queen of Hawaii, again has met defeat in her efforts to have restored to her something of her lost finances.

The Court of Claims of the United States has just rendered an opinion in the case of the former queen against the United States in which the demurrer of the government to her petition is sustained. In this petition Lillokalanai asked the court of claims to render judgment in her favor for \$450,000, or in lieu thereof the rentals and profits derived from the so-called crown lands by the government of the United States under the opinion of the court says in effect that even admitting to be facts the statements made in the queen's petition, she has no claim on the government of the United States under the law. It is held also that the crown lands were resourceful methods of income to sustain, in part at least, the dignity of the offices to which they were inseparably attached. When the offices ceased to exist they became as other lands of the sovereign and passed to the public domain. The claimant is given leave to amend her petition within 90 days. It is said to be likely, however, that this decision of the court puts an end to the queen's efforts in this direction.

Yie Cham Yong Sentenced to Death. Seoul, Korea, May 19.—Yie Cham Yong, the Korean who stabbed Premier Yi in attempted assassination December 22 last, was today sentenced to death.

GREAT SLAUGHTER OF RURAL GUARDS

Fifty or More Killed and 100 Wounded—Barracks Blown up by Dynamite.

SEVERAL ENTIRE FAMILIES WERE KILLED, IT IS THOUGHT

Barracks at Pinar Del Rio Completely Demolished—Explosion Probably Due to Accident.

Havana, May 19.—Until the ruins have been thoroughly examined it will not be positively known how many lives were lost when the rural guards' barracks in the city of Pinar Del Rio was demolished by an explosion of dynamite yesterday. The fatalities probably will not exceed 50. The wounded number more than 100. It is believed.

Two almost simultaneous explosions of dynamite, supposed to consist of 2000 pounds, completely demolished the barracks. Most of the dead were rural guards, but the entire families of several officers of the rural guard, it is rumored, were killed also, as well as several employees of the public works in the town and residents of the city, on which fell a deluge of masonry and debris from the blown up building.

It is not known yet whether the explosion was the result of an accident or due to an act of conspirators, but the former hypothesis is considered the most probable. Several relief trains, carrying surgeons, officers and men of the rural guard and supplies started from Havana to the scene of the accident which is 128 miles distant.

The names of the dead have not yet been received with the exception of Captain Alfredo Ravera and Captain Gaspar Betancourt of the garrison, and their families, who are reported to be buried in the ruins of the officers' quarters adjacent to the barracks. In consequence of the alarm over race disturbances the government ordered all deposits of dynamite in the vicinity in the possession of contractors for road construction and other public works, to be removed to the barracks for safe keeping.

Yesterday afternoon the work of removing the dynamite from the barracks for shipment to the government magazines in Havana was begun by employees of the public works department, assisted by rural guards.

They were engaged in loading cases of dynamite on wagons when a terrific explosion occurred instantly followed by another, strewn the central court in which the work was going on with dead and wounded. The whole massive barracks building was destroyed, the adjacent row of officers' quarters was demolished and the whole northern section of the city was deluged with a torrent of fragments of masonry.

The explosions occurred at 5 o'clock a few seconds before then men could have quit work, and it is generally believed that the first resulted from the accidental fall of a box of dynamite which was being lifted on a wagon. It is impossible, however, to determine accurately the cause for the reason that all the immediate vicinity was blown to fragments. It is believed that the majority of the wounded are residents of the town as practically all within the barracks were either killed or buried in the ruins. The work of exhuming the dead and searching for those who still may be alive is greatly retarded by the destruction of the electric light wires and the fear that a quantity of unexploded dynamite remains in the ruins.

According to reports received here the mangled remains of victims were found in the streets of the city a mile from the scene of the explosion.

OVER \$32,000 STOLEN FROM OIL CITY DEPOT

Three Packages Were Taken While the Station Agent Was Loading Baggage on a Train.

Oil City, Pa., May 19.—Three packages of money, containing over \$32,000, were stolen from the Pennsylvania depot this morning while Station Agent Truby was loading baggage onto the Buffalo train.

The money was being shipped by the Adams Express company to Philadelphia.

Steamer Burned at Sea. San Francisco, May 19.—The steamer J. M. Arhoffer, San Francisco for Portland has been burned at sea. Sixteen persons from the burned steamer, including the captain and his wife, landed safely in their own boats.

Hardy's Sentence Commuted. Richmond, May 19.—Governor Mann today commuted to life imprisonment the death sentence inflicted upon Samuel Hardy, for murdering Thierus Gracibus Jones, near Suffolk.

THE WEATHER. For North Carolina: Fair tonight, warmer in extreme west portion; Friday fair, warmer in west portion. Light variable winds.

For Asheville and vicinity: Fair tonight and Friday, with rising temperature.

ALL CHRISTENDOM IS REPRESENTED

Sixth World's Sunday School Convention Begain in Washington This Afternoon.

MAY OVERSHADOW CONGRESS AS A CENTER OF INTEREST

President to Deliver Address of Welcome—Many Distinguished Speakers on Program.

Washington, May 19.—More than 3000 delegates from all parts of the United States and Canada, and 500 from other countries, are in Washington, attending the world's sixth Sunday school convention, which began this afternoon.

Bishop Cranston of the Methodist Episcopal church of Washington, delivered the invocation at 3 o'clock this afternoon. The first sermon of the convention was delivered by Rev. F. B. Meyer of England, president of the World's Sunday School convention. President Taft tonight will deliver the address of welcome to the delegates.

Center of Interest for a Week. For a week the convention will be the center of interest in the city, possibly overshadowing the congress of the United States. Official duties will be laid aside in honor of the occasion.

President Taft will deliver the principal address at the great welcome service; a member of the Supreme court, Justice Harlan, is at the head of a list of distinguished men assisting the local committee in arranging for the convention; while among his associates are Secretary Wilson, Secretary of the Cabinet, Senators Beveridge, Dooliver and Overman, and Representatives Payne, Foelker, Nelson, Lloyd, Candler, and Cassidy, from congress. Probably the most spectacular meeting of the week will be a praise service on the east steps of the capitol, on the spot where presidents receive the oath of office and where the hymns may be heard by the lawmakers and the law interpreters in the capitol.

The thousands of delegates and other Sunday school workers cannot be gathered in one building in Washington, and hence twin services will be held probably through the entire convention week. The object of the convention is rather inspirational than instructive in method. In line with this object, the most famous speakers obtainable have promised to address the various meetings. During the first two days of the convention there are scheduled to speak a number of missionary workers. Among these are Rev. Y. Tanja and Rev. N. Tamura of Japan, Rev. Vayyah Parakat of Syria, Rev. L. E. Marek of Bohemia, Hon. T. H. Yun of Korea, Rev. E. M. Seim of Mexico and "Ex-Hallel" Strachan, of Scotland.

Other speakers are equally prominent. Those who will respond to the address of welcome by President Taft for instance, are Dr. Monroe Gibson of England, Bishop Yetsu Honda of Japan, Bishop C. Hartzell of Africa, and Rev. J. A. McKennie of New Zealand, Ambassador Bryce of Great Britain, is on the program for the last day of the convention, May 24.

Thongs Still Passing Through Westminster Hall—Mass of Flowers for the Funeral Tomorrow.

London, May 19.—The last day of the lying in state of the body of King Edward brought a repetition of yesterday's scenes. Thousands of persons, mostly women, braved the storm throughout the night and this morning awaiting admission to Westminster Hall.

Like a Huge Flower Shop. Windsor, May 19.—The lawn adjoining St. George's Chapel, a few yards from the tomb where King Edward's body will be sepulchred tomorrow, presented today the appearance of a huge flower shop, so great was the wealth of flowers received from all parts of the world. President Taft's tribute was a wreath of palm leaves, and orchids entwined with a silk American flag.

Theodore Roosevelt sent a wreath of white orchids.

SUPERS BIPLANE FLIGHT. Scheuro Goes 30 Miles, Carrying a Passenger, at the Rate of 46 1/2 Miles an Hour.

Mourmelon-Le-Grand, France, May 19.—H. Scheuro flew in a biplane, with a passenger to Chalons-sur-Marne and returned, a distance of 30 miles, at a speed of 46 1/2 miles an hour today.