

STEAMERS TO BE USED FOR HOTELS

Rare and Interesting Feature of World's Fair

THIS ACTION WILL RELIEVE CONGESTION

World's Largest Organ Ready For Shipment

TESTS ALREADY MADE OF THIS GREAT INSTRUMENT PROVE IT TO BE MUSICAL TRIUMPH.

Washington, D. C., Feb. 13.—Clubs and individuals residing along the Mississippi river and its tributaries are making contracts with the steamboat companies to furnish sleeping and eating accommodations during their visit to the World's Fair. All the available passenger steamers of the upper and lower river will be put into the St. Louis trade, and they will bring thousands of visitors to the city. Many of the boats will do a regular packet business, while others will be in the excursion trade, taking passengers and remaining at the St. Louis docks for several days, while they visit the Fair. It is the plan of many of the owners of the excursion steamers to allow their patrons to use the boats for living quarters while they are in port. A rate will be made covering the round trip and the cost of living while in St. Louis. Organizations and parties will frequently charter steamboats to carry them to the World's Fair city. Persons owning pleasure craft on the Mississippi river from New Orleans to St. Paul will make cruises in them to St. Louis during the Exposition period. Word has been received from yacht and launch owners in Chicago and other cities on the Great Lakes that they intend going there this year by way of the Chicago canal, the Illinois and Mississippi rivers.

By taking advantage of the waterways leading to St. Louis it will be possible to avoid a rush on the railroads, besides enjoying the pleasures of a river voyage.

Big Organ Ready for Shipment. The great organ, on which the most famous organists of the United States and Europe will give recitals in Festival Hall at the World's Fair, has been completed, tested and packed, ready for shipment.

Sections of the huge instrument are now in cases in the shops of the buildings, the Murray H. Harris Organ Co., Los Angeles, Cal. E. T. Howe, representing the company, is in St. Louis to arrange for installation and look after the organ case, which is being built.

Recently the organ was put together in the shops and thoroughly tested. The trial was satisfactory in every detail. It developed the fact that the instrument possesses a rich tone, and every portion of its complicated mechanism moves with the precision of clock-work. While the tests were being made more than 15,000 persons visited the shops and heard the performance. Among these were many musicians and organ experts, all of whom were more than pleased with the results obtained.

The organ is the largest in the world being as big as an office building. It is 50 feet long, 30 feet high and has a depth of 25 feet. It has 10,500 pipes, 140 speaking stops, 5 manuals, or tiers of keyboards, and 2 consoles. It will require fifteen large furniture cars to transport it from California to the World's Fair grounds. While being used for concerts the organ will be a regular exhibit of the Department of Liberal Arts.

Anxious to Receive Contributions. A section of history is to be established in the Department of Anthropology at the World's Fair, in charge of Miss Florence Hayes, who was the only woman to represent the Ex-

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CAUSE OF RUSSO-JAPANESE WAR

Defined in Interesting Manner by London Times

BIRTH OF THE MANCHURIAN QUESTION

Dates Back to the Autumn of 1869

WHEN ALLIED FORCES OF GREAT BRITAIN AND FRANCE WERE IN OCCUPATION OF PEKIN.

London Times. The birth of the Manchurian question dates back to the autumn of 1869, when the allied forces of Great Britain and France were in occupation of Peking. By a brilliant stroke of diplomacy the Russian minister, General Ignatieff, who knew that the occupation was only temporary, persuaded Prince Kung, who dreaded its immediate prolongation, that it was in the power of Russia to bring such pressure to bear upon the allies as would secure the speedy evacuation of the Chinese capital. Would China be willing to make her gratitude for such a service by a slight rectification of frontier? The terrified Prince Kung jumped at the proposal. The Anglo-French forces withdrew, and, though Ignatieff had no more to do with their withdrawal than the man in the moon, he obtained his "rectification of frontier" in the shape of the cession by China to the Russian empire of the whole maritime province of Manchuria, now called Primorsk, with 600 miles of coast and the fine harbor of Vladivostok, down to the mouth of the Fumen.

The Manchurian question was then allowed to slumber for 30 years whilst the new province was being developed and Vladivostok converted into a powerful fortress, until the Russian government decided in 1891 to construct a great transcontinental railway across Siberia. Then the Russians began to urge that an ice-bound port like Vladivostok was a singularly inadequate terminus for so great an undertaking. It was in 1895, after the treaty of treaty of Shimoneski had brought the war between China and Japan to an end, that the Manchurian question reached its majority. By that treaty China had ceded Port Arthur and the Liau-tung peninsula, which forms the southern extremity of Manchuria, to Russia. Russia, in that far east, the three allies compelled Japan, under forcible pressure which she was not in a position to resist, to restore Port Arthur and the Liau-tung peninsula to China. The Japanese ministers, rightly interpreting the drift of Russian policy, sought at least to obtain from China a pledge that the territories thus retroceded to her should never pass into the hands of a third power; but they had to waive the point, as they were assured that Russia not only had no designs upon Manchuria, but would resent such an imputation upon her disinterestedness. The next step openly taken by Russia was the conclusion of an agreement dated August 27 (September 5), 1895, between the Chinese government and the Russo-Chinese bank, an institution then recently founded in the far east, as a branch of the Russian ministry of finance, for the formation of a company to be called the "Eastern Chinese Railway company," limited,

POSTMASTER GENERAL PAYNE AND CARRIAGE.



This photo of Postmaster General Payne ready to enter his carriage conveys an excellent idea of the class of vehicles which are maintained at Uncle Sam's expense for the use of cabinet members and other officials and against which a bitter fight is now being made in the house of representatives on the score of extravagance. In a speech in congress a few days ago a member made the assertion that if all these carriages for which the government pays the bills and also hires the coachmen were lined up they would extend from the White House to the Capitol.

in considerable force at Port Arthur and Ta-lien-wan, and in March the Russian government demanded and obtained from China a formal lease of the two harbors on the same terms as the lease already granted to Germany of the port of Kiao-chau, together with formal authority to carry the Manchurian railway down to Port Arthur. The occupation of these two ports was accompanied by assurances on the part of the Russian government that it had "no intention of infringing on the rights and privileges guaranteed by existing treaties between China and foreign countries" and that no interference with Chinese sovereignty was contemplated. Lord Salisbury stated that "Her Majesty's government would not regard with any dissatisfaction the lease by Russia of an ice-free commercial harbor, connected by rail with the Trans-Siberian railway now under construction," but added that questions of an entirely different kind were raised by the cession of Port Arthur a position useless for commercial purposes, but of great military strength and strategic importance. The Russian government, however, maintained that Ta-lien-wan was worthless without Port Arthur, as Russia "must have a safe harbor for her fleet, which could not be at the mercy of the elements at Vladivostok dependent upon the good will of Japan." This policy Russia undertook that Ta-lien-wan should be thrown open to foreign trade, but declined to alter the status of Port Arthur as a closed and principally military port. Public opinion in Japan was much excited by these events, which placed Russia in possession of the very positions from which she had compelled the Japanese diplomacy to take no prominent part in the controversy, and was content to give a substantial proof of the genuineness of interest which the nation of the Japanese exhibited towards Great Britain and Japan, by following an Anglo-Chinese agreement under which Great Britain, in order to address the balance of power in far eastern waters, obtained from China a lease of Wei-hai-wei on the coast of pechili, facing Port Arthur. The new evidence afforded by Russia of the spirit in which she interpreted a fresh extension of her influence in Manchuria was a proposal submitted to her at Peking in July, 1898, against the concession to British capitalists of an extension of the Northern railway of China to Nanchow, an important, and at that time the only treaty port in Manchuria. In this case the Russian opposition was ultimately withdrawn, but only after important modifications had been made to meet Russia's views, and negotiations had been limited, which ended in the Russo-British railway agreement of April 28, 1899. Under this

agreement Great Britain undertook not to seek for her own account, on behalf of British subjects or of other railway concessions to the north of the Great Wall of China, and not to obstruct, directly or indirectly, applications for railway concessions in that region supported by the Russian government, and Russia entered into a reciprocal undertaking with regard to railway concessions in the basin of the Yang-tze. Special provision was made for the Shan-hai-kwan-Niu-hwang railway. In August, 1899, the port of Ta-lien-wan, or Dalny as the Russians called it, was declared "open" by Imperial ukase, and in the following December the Russian government signified a somewhat guarded acquiescence in the "open door" doctrine propounded by the United States government. It vexatious regulations with respect to passports and claims to a practical monopoly of mining rights tended to diminish public confidence in the consular professions of the Russian government, and from evidence which subsequently came to light there can be no doubt that the Russian legation at Peking obtained during this period secret agreements enlarging the privileged position of Russian in Manchuria. Her military hold upon the country was at the same time being continually strengthened. By the end of 1898 Russia already had 20,000 men at Port Arthur and Ta-lien-wan, and Cossack guards patrolled the railway line under construction, "the peninsula on their lances showing a combination of the Russian colors and the Chinese Dragon," while the erection and arming of new fortifications was carried on with feverish energy. But, beyond a continuous increase of military activity out of all proportion to the alleged necessity of securing the safety of her new railway line, and the growth of her ascendancy over the Chinese civil administration, which was the natural consequence of her military activity, Russia took no further active steps to modify the status quo in Manchuria until the great outbreak of 1900 furnished her with a reasonable excuse for armed intervention. Before deciding, however, with this new phase of the Manchurian question, it may be useful to recall certain developments in China and in Korea which were calculated to have an important, if not direct, bearing upon it, in spite of the ostensible indifference of public opinion in Japan, the Japanese government possessed, even in the presence of the Russian occupation of Port Arthur, in 1898, the attitude of massive acquiescence which it had adopted ever since the action of Russia and her allies had imposed upon Japan the painful sacrifice of the mainland she had claimed on the mainland

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WORK OF STATE TEMPERANCE FOLK

Chairman of the Organization Talks of Plans

POLITICAL CANDIDATES NOT WANTED

For Speakers on Commencement Occasions

PLACE OF ENCAMPMENT FOR STATE GUARD TO BE DECIDED BY UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT.

Raleigh, N. C., Feb. 12.—F. B. Barnard, who graduated in 1891 at the Agricultural & Mechanical college here, has secured an excellent position. He is a civil engineer in charge of bridge construction in the employment of the great Phoenix Bridge company of Pennsylvania. Samuel L. Rogers of the corporation, who came in from his home in the mountains today expressed his surprise at seeing so much snow, and remarked that there was some in his part of the state, and that there had been very little during the winter.

Forming a Campaign. Elder J. W. Bailey, the chairman of the State Anti-Saloon League, was interviewed today and said he was preparing for a great personal campaign in the spring; that he will circulate what he terms the old-time temperance pledges from one end of the state to the other. He has given to the printers a very large order for these pledges.

Elder Bailey is considerably wrought up by the fact that the Baptist Tabernacle here invited Capt. B. Glenn, one of the candidates for the nomination for governor, to address the Barbecue Class. Elder Bailey says: "I am surprised that Captain Glenn, a candidate for governor, accepted an invitation to speak in a Baptist church during his campaign. Contrast this with the very admirable attitude taken by President Venable of the State University in refusing to invite any political candidate to speak there during a campaign year. I do not know whether other candidates will address the Tabernacle Barbecue Class or not. I hope other Baptist churches in North Carolina will not fall in with this precedent."

Muster Rolls. There is naturally much interest in publication of the muster rolls of North Carolina's troops in the Confederate service by the United States war department. Dr. Dixon is in charge of his matter so far as North Carolina is concerned. The secretary of war says as to this publication: "As I view the law it is the intent of congress to publish all historical data contained in the original rolls and other similar official records of the war in possession of the war department or found elsewhere.

As yet it is not decided where the encampment of the National Guard of this state will be held, but it is generally understood that it will be for the entire brigade. Last year the encampment was by regiment. There are plenty of funds, the United States of course meeting all the expenses. The government allowed for North Carolina is now about \$35,000 a year. Out of this of course needed stores are purchased and the equipment and other expenses are met. The only stores needed are tents, which will be brought in the spring or early summer. There are not enough tents now for the whole brigade.

It appears to be the opinion that the United States may select a place in the state where encampments will be permanently held. A gentleman who has arrived here from Washington says he is much pleased at the progress which is being made by the movement for the Appalachian Forest Reserve, and considers that the prospects are excellent for success.

ANNIVERSARY OF THE Y. M. C. A.

Student Organization Will Celebrate Next Sunday

DELEGATES PRESENT FROM ALL NATIONS

An Army of 41,000 Young Men Enrolled

THREE HUNDRED BOOKS AND PERIODICALS SETTING FORTH METHODS OF FEDERATION HAVE BEEN PREPARED.

The greatest student organization in the world will hold its anniversary next Sunday. For many years this day in over 1,600 colleges and universities in all civilized countries has been observed as a day of prayer on behalf of students. The World's Student Federation embraces eleven national and international student movements, including the North American continent, Great Britain, the continent of Europe, South Africa, India, China, Japan, Australia and South America. The activities of this Federation are wholly centered upon philanthropic work in connection with the colleges, such as boys' clubs, reading rooms, and city mission work, as well as the technical study of the Bible, various religious meetings and the conduct of information bureaus for new students and the cultivation of an interest in the work of the church abroad.

While most of these societies are conducted as purely voluntary bands of students, about fifty of them have holdings valued at a million and a half of dollars, which are used exclusively for student activities. Conspicuous among these are the building at Chalmers and Tokyo, and at Columbia, Yale, Harvard, Princeton and Cornell. An army of 41,000 students is enrolled in Bible classes under student leadership. In the Empire of China there are more of these students in Bible classes than there are Christians in the colleges.

This movement holds a convention every two years, the last one having met in Denmark. These student leaders have prepared over 300 books and periodicals setting forth the methods of the Federation. These are published in twelve languages. The general secretary of the movement is Mr. John R. Mott who is on the way back from a trip to the continent of Europe, which was taken on behalf of the Federation.

WILL ELKS' CLUB DUES BE REDUCED?

It is considered probable that the total dues of members of the Asheville lodge of Elks and the Elks' club will be reduced to \$12 per year.

A resolution to this effect has been prepared and will be presented at the next meeting of the lodge, with a strong endorsement from a committee and leading members of the order.

The effect of the adoption of this resolution which is intended to be effective April first, will be to reduce dues one half. Members of the order say that if the resolution is adopted there will be a large increase in membership and that as all the fine equipment of the club is fully paid, the lodge can offer its many advantages for the exceedingly moderate dues indicated in the resolution. The order here has a membership of high character and elegantly appointed quarters.

Sterling Silver Cost Sale

J. H. LAW, 35 PATTON AVENUE.

BEGINNING MONDAY MORNING

we will sell at cost for one week only some odd or extra pieces of sterling silver.

Every article is sterling, good weight, best make.

Make your selection early. These goods will hardly last over two days and we shall not repeat the offer.

TABLE SILVER

- 1 Coffee Spoons, souvenir, each, \$.51
1 dozen Tea Spoons, heavy weight, each, .47
1-2 doz. Tea Spoons, light weight, .42
1 doz. Table Spoons, very heavy, each, 1.33
1 doz. Forks, matching spoons, each, 1.46
1 doz. Oyster Forks, heavy, each, .77
3 Sugar Shells, gold bowls, each, .62
1 Fish Knife, large size, 2.75
2 Butter Knives, heavy weight, each, 1.61
1 Mustard Spoon, heavy, .75
1 Bon Bon Spoon, gold bowl, 1.26
1 Cold Meat Fork, extra weight, 1.48
4 Pickle Forks, very dainty, each, .75

TOILET SILVER

- 1 Mirror, French Grey Finish, heavy, \$3.25
1 Brush to match mirror, 5.70
1 Mirror, French and Grey finish, 5.96
1 Brush to match mirror, 5.78
1 Brush, bright finish, 3.68
3 Mirrors, bright finish, medium size, 3.68
1 Clothes Brush, extra weight, 5.50
1 Clothes Brush, heavy, 5.00
1 Clothes Brush, bright finish, large, 5.30
1 Clothes Brush, medium size, 3.00
1 Clothes Brush, light weight, 2.28
2 Velvet or Hat Brushes, each, .95
6 Combs, various sizes, each 60c, to 1.48
1 Tooth Brush, Silver Handle, .86
2 Cut Glass Puff Boxes, each, 1.68
3 Shoe Horns, very strong, \$7 to, 2.65

SILVER JEWELRY SOUVENIRS

- 1 Pair Cluff Buttons, gray finish, \$.78
2 Chain Tracellets, with lock, each, .68
1 Chain Purse, fine finish, 3.55
2 Match Safes (pocket), each, 1.57
4 Silver Handle Pocket Knives, 65c, to 1.04
3 Silver Photo Lockets, \$1.25 to, 1.38
3 Silver Pin Holders, each, .77
5 Clasp Tags, each 22c, to, 1.14
2 Sets of Baby Pins, with chain, per set, .78
5 Hat Pins, all unique designs, 45c, to 1.07
1 Silver Mounted Pencil, .90

DECORATED CHINA

A few pieces of handsomely decorated China will go at less than cost.

- 1 doz. decorated plates, delicate design, per dozen \$2.85.
2 Side dishes, very attractive shape, each \$1.15.
5 Celery Trays, each 60c.
2 Richly Colored Salad bowls, each \$1.25.
2 Salad or small punch bowls, each \$2.75.

These are really fine pieces, well worth twice the money, and cannot be duplicated.