

WORLD EVENTS TOLD BRIEFLY

Current News Of Interest In Paragraph By Telegraph And Cable

NEW YORK, Dec. 5.—A dividend of 50 cents a share was declared today on the Great Northern Ore certificates. This is the first distribution since March 15, 1911, previous to which dividends of 50 cents a share had been paid quarterly.

STUEBENVILLE, Ohio, Dec. 5.—The grand jury which has been investigating charges of election corruption in Jefferson County today made its report. There are eight secret indictments charging perjury against witnesses before the grand jury.

NASHVILLE, Tenn., Dec. 5.—At the annual meeting last night at Sewanee, McCallum, guard, was elected captain of the University of the South (Sewanee) eleven for 1913. Gillem, this year's captain, leaves Sewanee today preparatory to taking examinations to enter the army.

BOSTON, Dec. 5.—Valuable plant and animal collections, curios and over five thousand photographs of the islands in the Philippines have been given to Harvard University by W. Cameron Forbes, Governor General of the islands, according to an announcement by the University. Mr. Forbes was graduated from Harvard in 1892.

ARDMORE, Okla., Dec. 5.—Ethel Harris, 16, of Chickasha, died in a lonely house near here last night of gunshot wounds received while on a recent motor car trip. G. N. Vaughn, a mail carrier, Lafayette Carruthers, a farmer, and a woman said to have been the companion of Miss Harris on the motor trip, are under arrest. They say the shooting was accidental.

ATLANTA, Ga., Dec. 5.—For the first time since its organization three years ago, the Practical Refrigerating Engineers' Association, which began a three days' session here today, is holding its annual convention east of the Mississippi River. Technical papers on refrigeration will be read and discussed. The association has about 150 members. The president is F. H. Ladd, Tampa, Fla.

PUT-IN-BAY, O., Dec. 5.—The first spadeful of earth on the site of the Perry monument, which is to be erected here by the Government at a cost of \$250,000, was taken out yesterday by Mrs. Margaret Vrooman, aged 86, the oldest woman on the island. Mrs. Vrooman's husband, Horace, who died Thanksgiving Day, heard the story of the battle of Lake Erie from eye witnesses.

BOSTON, Dec. 5.—New England today became the center of the Federal investigation into operations of book agents who are alleged to have fraudulently obtained \$5,000,000 from book lovers of the United States. Letters which the postal authorities declare passed between salesmen and their New York headquarters were examined by Federal Attorney French and his assistants, seeking for evidence to support charges of conspiracy to defraud.

MARTIN ADDRESSES THE RIVERS AND HARBORS CONVENTION

WASHINGTON, Dec. 5.—With Senator Martin of Virginia, as the first speaker, the National Rivers and Harbors Congress began the second day of its ninth annual meeting this morning. On the program with Senator Martin were Secretary of War Stimson; Representative Sparkman of Florida; Harold F. McCormick of Chicago; Mayor W. W. Donnelly of Trenton, N. J.; and George Clinton of Buffalo, N. Y.

R. J. MacLean of the chamber of commerce of Spokane, Wash., had prepared a resolution which he said had been framed with the knowledge and endorsement of the Governors of all the Western States and all the leading commercial organizations of that section. It is proposed to do away with the National Capital as a meeting place and to have the organization's annual conventions held successively west of the Mississippi River, then east of that stream and then in the Mississippi valley.

At afternoon session among those to speak were George Norris of Philadelphia; Senator Poindexter, Washington; and Representative Small of North Carolina.

The woman's national rivers and harbors congress met at the same hour as the convention and was prepared for a lengthy session.

WICKERSHAM MAKES REPORT

Attorney General Reviews Work Of Department Of Justice For Year

THINKS SHERMAN LAW MEETS DEMANDS UPON IT

Cabinet Official Asks for Further Power for Commerce Court and Defends Its Course in the Past—Tells of Trust Litigation Accomplished and Pending—Asks for Authority to Employ More Attorneys for the Government.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 5.—The Sherman anti-trust law is proving its adequacy as a civil statute and there is no necessity for the much discussed proposed amendment particularizing unlawful practices in restraint of trade, according to George W. Wickersham, Attorney General of the United States, in his annual report submitted to Congress today.

On the other hand, however, the Attorney General does not pass judgment upon the efficiency of the anti-trust act as a criminal statute. He merely says: "The expence of the last year in endeavoring to enforce criminal liability under the Sherman law has not been encouraging." The Attorney General defends the Commerce Court, the abolition of which was attempted at the last session of Congress. A return to the old methods of distributing litigation arising from the orders of the Interstate Commerce Commission to the district courts would be injurious to the interests of the public and delay the administration of justice, says Mr. Wickersham.

Drawing conclusions from the decrees of dissolution and injunction which have already been entered under the Sherman law, Mr. Wickersham maintains that the Federal courts are exercising in equity suits a power to restrain which is co-extensive with the evils against which the Sherman law was enacted. The courts have found no difficulty, he adds, in applying the terms of the law to meet and enjoin the continuance of any form of unfair competition which has resulted in imposing an undue restraint upon interstate commerce or which makes for monopoly.

These decrees, the Attorney General continues, demonstrate that no amendment of the law in the direction of declaring the illegality of particular practices is necessary to clothe the courts with full power to prevent any and all acts which may be employed to accomplish the legal purposes denounced by the statute.

Doubts as to Origin. "I am strongly of the opinion," says Mr. Wickersham, "that the advocacy of amendments of the law which shall particularize different acts as constituting unlawful restraints or attempts at monopoly has its origin, not so much with those who desire the enforcement of the law, as with those who are anxious to secure a safe means of its evasion. An enumeration by statute of the different practices which, in, and of themselves, without regard to the circumstances of particular cases, should be declared illegal will either go too far or not far enough."

The Attorney General takes issue with the decision of the Judges Colt, Putnam and Brown at Boston, authorizing the hearing in private before an examiner of the civil anti-trust suit against the United Shoe Machinery Company and asks for legislation admitting the public and representatives of the press to such hearings. "The decision, it appears to me," continues Mr. Wickersham, "is based upon a manifest misconception of the nature of the proceedings and the character of the parties. When the government of the United States is a party to a suit, and particularly to a suit brought under the Sherman anti-trust law, to prevent unlawful restraints upon interstate commerce or foreign commerce—essentially a matter affecting the public—all the people have a legitimate interest in the proceedings and are entitled to know just what evidence is being given and when it is given. The public are the real parties to the suit."

As to the Coffee Trust. The suit against the "coffee trust" or the Brazilian valorization scheme, the operation of which the Attorney General says has resulted in more than doubling the retail price of coffee to the American consumer and thereby laying a heavy tax upon him, has developed what the Attorney General regards as a defect in the still operative section of the Wilson tariff.

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INCOME TAX HINDERS RIGHTS OF STATES

Declares Former Governor Wilson Of Kentucky In Address Before Convention In Richmond

RICHMOND, Va., Dec. 5.—With Governor Dix in the chair the conference of Governors was resumed today with a discussion on a State income tax led by Governor McGovern of Wisconsin, who read a paper. Former Governor Wilson of Kentucky also read a paper on the same subject.

Criticism of the proposed income tax amendment to the Federal Constitution as an encroachment upon States' rights and a positive impairment of the vitality of the several States was the theme of an address here today by ex-Gov. Augustus E. Willson of Kentucky, honorary member of the conference. At the same time Mr. Willson had nothing but commendation to speak for the State income tax which he declared "is the best, fairest and oldest of all the taxes if collected for home use in the locality where other contributors know something of each other's circumstances."

He said that the ratification of the income tax amendment to the Federal Constitution would "hinder, if not exclude, all State Governments from raising any revenue by income tax, and add to the Federal Government taxing power this new and vast, revenue-producing tax which is now an unquestionable right of the States."

Mr. Willson read a message prepared for the Kentucky Legislature during its consideration of the income tax amendment in his administration in which he emphasized his belief that the amendment "subordinates to Federal control that great attribute of the sovereignty of the State, the unimpairable power to borrow money."

Mr. Willson said the wording of the amendment proposed made no exception of income derived from State bonds and that its ratification would grant the Federal Government the power to tax these bonds unless the Supreme Court should hold that the amendment does not mean all it says, which he declared too remote a contingency upon which to risk its ratification.

MAY DISMISS OIL SUIT ON ACCOUNT OF LACK OF EVIDENCE

WASHINGTON, Dec. 5.—Whether the government should dismiss for lack of evidence, indictments returned at Dallas, Texas, last August against John D. Archbold, H. C. Folger, Jr., W. C. Teagle, of the Standard Oil Company and others in connection with the case of the Magnolia Petroleum Company for the alleged violation of the Sherman anti-trust law was considered today at the Department of Justice.

Charles G. Morrison, in charge of the government's investigation to determine whether the Standard Oil has violated the decree of dissolution, and William H. Atwell, United States attorney at Dallas, discussed the subject with James A. Fowler, assistant to the Attorney General. They will later confer with Attorney General Wickersham, who has held up the service of warrants on Messrs. Archbold, Folger and Teagle, because, Mr. Wickersham said, the evidence in the possession of the government at the time did not seem to justify the indictment at Dallas and was not sufficient to warrant proceedings for removal from New York to Texas. The conferences beginning today probably will determine the Attorney General's final attitude.

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BAPTISTS TALK ON MISSIONS

State Convention Hears Plea For Greater Activity From The Board

AGED MINISTERS FUND IS ON THE DECREASE

Convention Adopts Resolution to Allow an Amendment to Constitution of Body When Two-Thirds of Delegates Present So Agree—Last Night's Session Is One of Interest.

GOLDSBORO, Dec. 5.—The chief feature of the morning sessions of the Baptist State Convention was the discussion of the need of the enlargement of the work of State missions. Rev. Livingston Johnson was leader in the discussion of the report. Rev. J. M. Arnette of Durham read the report of the board of aged ministers' relief. During the year the receipts have fallen off and this creates need for more and larger contributions. At this time the board is maintaining 36 aged ministers and these men were given amounts ranging from \$25 to \$300. Dr. E. W. Sikes of Wake Forest College in a forcible address urged a larger offering to this work.

The convention adopted a resolution providing that the constitution can be amended by a vote of two-thirds of those delegates present when the amendment is presented. At last night's session with every available inch of space occupied, James Long of Dunn presented the report on women's work and E. M. Brinson presented the status of the Thomasville Orphanage.

President Durham appointed as a committee by Rev. W. N. Johnson and Cade resolutions as follows: Braxton Craig, W. C. Barrett, J. H. Weather, Spoon, James Long and W. J. Jones. Will meet in Shelby.

The special committee appointed a year ago, to which was referred the matter of increasing the attendance at the Convention, reported this afternoon and suggested the appointment of another committee consisting of three, who will further consider the question and report next year.

The committee on place of meeting and the preachers for the next annual meeting reported, and suggested Shelby as the meeting place. The report was adopted and the Convention meets with the First Church of Shelby in 1914.

For Next Year. The annual sermon will be preached by Rev. N. Johnson of Wake Forest, and Rev. W. A. Smith of Charlotte will be his alternate. The special committee appointed last year to consider the advisability of consolidating the student and Sunday school of the Board of Education, reported.

The report recited the need of the consolidation and so recommends, as follows: That this Convention set as a financial standard for this work next week \$30,000, this amount to be expended as follows: For the assistance of students at Wake Forest \$7,500, and for the student at the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary \$2,000.

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GASTON OFFICIALS INSPECT NEW BRIDGE

County Officers Go On Salary First Of Year—Signs Of Christmas Appear

Chronicle Bureau, Gazette Building, Gastonia, Dec. 5. Gaston County's board of commissioners are to meet in adjourned session today at Sloan's ferry bridge on the Catawba River near Belmont for the purpose of inspecting the recently completed concrete bridge connecting Gaston and Mecklenburg Counties and accepting the structure on behalf of this county, provided it is found to come up to specifications and contract agreements. The opening of this bridge marks an epoch with both of these counties. It connects the main macadam highways through both and will be used by thousands of people. Heretofore crossing here was done by means of a ferry boat.

Beginning January 1, 1913, Gaston County's officers will go on a salary basis and the expectation is that the new scheme will prove of considerable benefit to the county financially. Heretofore the officers have always received their pay in fees and all of them have for several years past been getting more than good salaries under this arrangement. The salaries to be paid are as follows: Sheriff, \$1,000; clerk of the court, \$2,000, with \$500 per clerk hire; register of deeds, \$1,800, with \$600 for clerk hire; treasurer, \$1,200; jailor, \$50 per month. The office of treasurer, however, is already on the salary basis, the salary being the same as heretofore. Under the new act the sheriff is tax collector for each of the other five townships. It is believed that the county will save several thousands of dollars by the salary system. Another office is created by this new act, that of a county auditor with a salary of \$1,200. The board will elect an auditor at its meeting the first Monday in January.

Already there are some evidences of the near approach of the happy yuletide. Last night the local jewelry stores had their annual Christmas openings, these always being big social events. The Torrence-Morris Company gave handsome souvenirs and Van Slen served delicious refreshments. The threatening weather was not sufficient to keep the ladies away. An immense crowd was out to inspect the displays at these two stores and to see the other folks as well. Some of the other merchants are beginning to open up Christmas goods and Santa Claus talk is everywhere in the air.

A social event of more than usual importance will take place this evening between the hours of 7 and 9 at the residence of Dr. and Mrs. T. C. Quicke, on South street, and a reception will be given in honor of the new Lutheran pastor, Rev. M. A. Ashby, and wife. In the evening line will be the pastors of the other churches of the town and their wives and the presidents of the church societies. All of the church members of the town have been invited to attend this reception and meet Rev. and Mrs. Ashby.

Rev. C. W. McCully, pastor of Little Steel Creek Church, Mecklenburg County, was here yesterday on route to Bowling Green. He expects to return home today accompanied by his sister, Mrs. Susie Leslie, who will spend some time with him.

Mrs. Margaret Patrick, mother of Dr. L. Neal Patrick, Attorney Ralph Patrick and Mrs. Dr. J. W. Reid, is critically ill at her home on South Broad street and is not expected to live.

REPORT TO TAFT

Committee May Call President's Attention to Violations of Neutrality Laws in Dealings With Mexican Government.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 5.—President Taft's attention may be directly called to conditions which the Senate subcommittee found along the Mexican border in its investigation to learn whether American capital had been used to foment any of the revolutions there. The report of the committee, soon to be published and submitted to the Senate, will contain testimony virtually charging that President Madero was favored from this side of the boundary line when he had the revolution against Porfirio Diaz and that friendly acts to him have continued during the revolution against his government.

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WRANGLE OVER CHARTER FORM

Members Of Special Committee Absented Themselves From The Meeting

MINORITY REPORT TO BE TENDERED BOARD

Sharp Division Has Arisen Among Members Of Committee, With Probabilities That Aldermen Will Be Forced to Vote on Two Separate Reports Relative to New Form of City Government Which It Is Proposed to Prepare at Once.

There is a yawning chasm in the ranks of the charter revision committee, and it looks now as if the whole matter will have to be threshed out before the board of aldermen probably next Monday night, when the seating of the so-called Phifer members on this committee will be taken up. But at present this committee is hopelessly asunder and a minority report is looked for, unless the committee is reorganized, which will carry out the ideas of the opponents of the commission form of government.

While four members of the committee assembled last night with Alderman E. L. Mason as chairman, and decided practically to recommend the commission form of government, the remainder of the committee, holding opposite views from the men who attended last night's session, were absent. Colonel Phifer announced that he had to preside at the executive board meeting, and therefore could not come. Another member announced that he was "with the committee," but he is forever opposed to the commission form, it is known, while it was reported that another member was at home around a warm fire.

Thus out of eight members, four were in attendance, and while these gentlemen are forging ahead with commendable energy and doing what they can to give Charlotte what hundreds of level-headed business men believe she needs just now and ought to have, the charter revision committee appears to be a divided house which cannot be gotten together, and hence the declaration of one of the opposition members that there will be a minority report.

Abolish Executive Board

The anti-commission form members of this committee named by Mayor Charles A. Bland about eight weeks ago, are favorable, it is said, to a plan to cut out the executive board altogether and turn over to the board of aldermen all of the functions of that board as now exercised. Said one of the opposition members last night: "The charter as it now stands is something that we cannot interpret and the limits of authority of the two boards seem to be helplessly involved in darkness. We believe that the best thing to do is to make the board of aldermen the ruling and governing body, leaving off the executive board, but retaining probably the water board and the school board. It has seemed that the executive board has exercised authority which some members of the board do not think belongs to that board. We have thought that the executive board was provided to carry out instructions from the aldermanic board and to attend to the details of the city's business, but it seems that they have gone further and are exercising authority as if they were in that respect on equal footing with the aldermanic board," said the alderman quoted.

A Big Fight Is Coming

That there will be another battle on the already gory fields of municipal political striving is hardly doubted now, unless at the critical moment Colonel Phifer should step in and withdraw his resolution adding three new members to the charter revision committee of eight originally appointed by Mayor Bland, and thus leave the split committee alone to submit two reports, which seems a certainty now. But even this would have little effect, as the great fight will come in the aldermanic chamber on the adoption of the two reports expected, one favoring the commission form of government and the other favoring something entirely different, but not greatly different from the present line-up of boards, committees, etc., with which the city government is top-heavy.

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TODAY'S NEWS OF CHARLOTTE

Happenings Of The City Sketched In Brief As Seen By The Chronicle Reporters

The Young People's Guild of St. Mark's Lutheran Church will meet at the church tonight at 8 o'clock. Mr. Hugh W. Harris has been quite sick at his home, 901 North Pine street, for the past several days. He was taken suddenly ill Sunday.

Rathbone Lodge, Knights of Pythias, will hold an important ceremonial tonight for the conferring of the second degree on a number of candidates and the election of officers. Dr. Edwin French Tyson, a colored physician of Washington, and a graduate of Harvard and Howard universities, has moved to Charlotte to locate for the practice of his profession. He is understood to be ably qualified for this profession.

The store windows of the city have taken on the Christmas appearance in full array, the decorations as well as specimens of goods in the stock rooms indicating that the days of Santa Claus are on the way. Mr. Allen R. Partridge, representing the Partridge Furnace, with factories in Denver, Los Angeles and Knoxville, Tenn., is spending several days in the city on important business. He will be here until the first of next week.

On account of the illness of the baby of Dr. and Mrs. John Hill Tucker at their home in Elizabeth Heights the funeral of their son, who has been given Friday under the auspices of St. Martin's chapel has been postponed. Mr. A. Wilner, an aged tailor of the city, who died last night, was buried this afternoon. He was 82 years of age and had been in declining health for some time. He is survived by his wife and five stepchildren.

Funeral services over the remains of Capt. K. S. Finch were held this afternoon at 4 o'clock, attended by a large concourse of friends. The exercises were in charge of Rev. Harris Mallinckrodt, rector of St. Peter's Episcopal Church. The remains were laid to rest in Elmwood. The board of home missions of the Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church has elected its secretary, Rev. Ira S. Caldwell here, to take charge of the Chalmers Memorial Church until a pastor has been secured. Mr. Caldwell is expected in the city tomorrow.

The first cement for the concrete foundations of the new subway on East Trade street was poured today, the work beginning on the site of the improvement. The workmen have the situation so well in hand now that rapid progress will mark the remaining activities on the improvement.

A meeting of the directors of the Carolina League will be held next Tuesday or Wednesday in this city for the purpose of arranging a circuit for the next year. This is a meeting in which the baseball lovers of the Carolina will be immensely interested, as many matters of great importance are to receive consideration. Charlotte friends of Mr. W. A. G. Clark, a brother of Mr. David Clark of this city, will be interested to learn of his return to the service of the Government as commercial agent of the Eastern zone of which Commerce and Labor, a position he held for some time prior to his connection with the tariff board as textile expert.

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