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N. Y. STATE CONVENTION.

The Bryan Democrats Will Name The Ticket.

CHAIRMAN PALMER SPEAKS

Words of Encouragement. All Signs Point To Democratic Victory in November. He Attacks Republicans on State Issues And Asserts That Countless Offices Have Been Created to Feed Republican Politicians.

Syracuse, N. Y., Sept. 28.—Democrats began to arrive early this morning for the convention. Up to the hour of meeting no choice for the nomination had been given out by the leaders. The Bryan Democrats will name the ticket. After temporary organization was formed the convention adjourned for dinner. There will be no balloting until tomorrow.

Syracuse, Sept. 28.—There was great confusion when the convention opened. The spectators seized the delegates' seats, and the hall was packed. Temporary Chairman Palmer says he voices the judgment of every reflecting man in the state that all signs point to a Democratic victory in November. He attacks the Republicans on state issues, and asserts that countless offices have been created to feed Republican politicians.

Syracuse, Sept. 28.—A delegate offered a silver resolution, which the chairman referred to the committee on resolutions. The delegate appealed but was compelled to take his seat by the sergeant at arms. The convention has adjourned till tomorrow.

SECRETARY ALGER RETURNS.

Quartermaster's Department Shifts Blame to Administrative Branch.

Washington, Sept. 28.—Secretary Alger returned to his desk today at the war department and received his bureau chiefs. A statement from him is expected later in the day. The quartermaster's department shifts the blame for not supplying troops with proper clothing and says it was due to lack of system in the adjutant general's office. This shifts the blame to the administrative branch, and an effort will be made to bring out this state of affairs before the inquiry commission.

EXPLOSION AT ST. LOUIS

Destroys McLean Building. Three Women Jump From Third Story and Are Fatally Injured.

St. Louis, Sept. 28.—An explosion of powder in the basement of the four-story building of McLean fishing tackle and sporting goods store fired the building.

Three women jumped from the third floor without waiting for assistance and were fatally injured. The fire communicated to the St. Louis Crockery Co.'s store. The McLean building was totally destroyed.

Shoe Lasters' Strike Ended.

Brocton, Mass., Sept. 28.—The lasters' strike ended today in all directions, as a result of the lasting machine companies putting agents in to operate the various machines in place of the strikers. Even the concerns which had settled on the price list are not exempt.

Bayard Nearing the End.

Dedham, Mass., Sept. 28.—Ex-Secretary Bayard is still living, but is in such a delicate state that it seems impossible that he can survive through the day.

Detectives Lost Track of the Bridgeport Murderer.

London, Sept. 28.—It is reported that the detectives lost track of Dr. Gullord, who arrived at Liverpool yesterday.

Joe Wheeler to Review Cadets.

New York, Sept. 28.—Gen. Joseph Wheeler went to West Point this morning to review the cadets.

"OLD NORTH STATE" NEWS.

Interesting North Carolina Items in Condensed Form.

In Transylvania county Wednesday week Chas. Robinson shot and killed his brother, Berry Robinson. The murderer was arrested and is in jail.

Rev. W. N. Loveless, rector of St. Stephen's Episcopal church, Goldsboro, died last Sunday evening. He was 25 years of age. His body was taken to Pensacola, Fla., for burial.

The cyclone that last week swept the course of the Yadkin river, in Wilkes county and the Piedmont section did damage to the extent of \$200,000. This is the finest corn section in the State and the farmers suffered severely.

Superintendent Mewborne, of the State penitentiary, declares that the crops on the State farms were never so good as this year. He asserts, however, that the penitentiary will not be able to make any money because of the low price at which cotton is selling.

Mt. Olive suffered another heavy loss by fire Sunday night. All the buildings on front street from and including the postoffice to the hotel were swept away in a short while. The origin of the fire is unknown. The fire was first discovered in the grocery store of Mr. A. S. Jackson. There was very little insurance on the total amount of property destroyed. This is the second big fire this town has suffered within the past few months.

HOW THE TERESA WAS RAISED.

Hobson Expects to Return to New York On the Colon.

Santiago, Sept. 26.—Details just received of the floating of the Spanish armored cruiser Maria Teresa show that with the help of dynamite, she was blown off the rocks into deep water, on September 23, and proceeded under her own steam some time afterward to Guantanamo, accompanied by one of the tugs of the Merritt Wrecking company. She will shortly leave for New York. Naval Constructor Hobson says he can raise the Spanish cruiser Cristobal Colon, with the use of bags, in a week, if given authority to do so. Commodore Watson thinks he cannot. The Colon, it appears, was not seriously damaged by shells, but her valves were opened, which caused her to sink.

The other two Spanish cruisers sunk in the battle of Santiago, the Almirante Oquendo and the Vizcaya, are useless wrecks of melted iron. Hobson says he expects to return to New York on the Colon.

Russia.

The lack of machinelike discipline in the Russian soldiery is truly Asiatic, and so are the stagnation, patience, suffering and squalor of the people. In Russia they are drunken, instead of being gamblers and opium smokers as in China. The absence of a middle class and the gulf that takes its place are Asiatic conditions. In Russia no man except a member of the cabinet or a diplomat dares to discuss politics.

In other Asiatic countries the people are not forbidden to discuss them, because they have never shown any inclination to do so. No more do the 119,000,000 muzhiks of Russia. Their intellectual activity never goes beyond the affairs of village, family, farm or employment. Their most active interest is in religion, but they make of that such a mere tissue of forms and mechanical or automatic practices that it is carried on without any more mental effort than the activity of a victim of St. Vitus' dance.

The leaven of progress is not in the muzhik any more than it is in the cooly. If Russia's system of government is to be threatened or altered, it must be by the 10,000,000 who reflect the European ideals in their dress and manners and who present fertile ground for the propagation of European reforms. Russia's danger is from the top; the bottom is soddan.—Julian Ralph in Harper's Magazine.

A Dumas Story.

Dumas the elder was rarely spiteful to or about his fellow men, but one day, when he happened to be in that mood, a friend called to tell him a piece of news. "They have just given M. X. the Legion of Honor," he said. Then he added, in a significant tone, "Now, can you imagine why they should have given it to him?"

"Yes," answered the great dramatist promptly. "They have given it to him because he was without it."

6,000 SICK SOLDIERS

In Havana and Impossible to Transport Them Immediately.

SEC.-GEN. CUBA IN NEW YORK

On His Way to Paris to Act as Attache to Spanish Peace Commission. Says Spain Has But Few Transports and the Embarkation of Soldiers From Havana Will Take Much Time. Says There Are No More Reconcentrados.

New York, Sept. 28.—Dr. Congosto, secretary-general of Cuba, arrived this morning on the Ward liner City of Washington, to act as attache to the Spanish peace commission. He was at one time Spanish consul to Philadelphia.

Congosto says there are 6,000 sick soldiers at Havana and that it is impossible to transport them immediately, as Spain has but few transports, and the embarkation is going to take much time. He said there were no more reconcentrados; they were no longer kept together; their condition is worse than formerly.

Corbett and McCoy Scrap in New York.

New York, Sept. 28.—Corbett and McCoy met at Gilesey House. Corbett called McCoy a monkey. McCoy retaliated by calling Corbett a "cur." McCoy said Corbett was afraid to meet him. Corbett answered: "Put up your hands and I'll fight you now." McCoy struck Corbett two heavy left hand blows on the face. Men pulled them apart.

Battleships About to Sail for Honolulu.

New York, Sept. 28.—The battleship Oregon left the navy yard this morning and anchored off Staten Island, ready to sail for Honolulu. The noble ship was given a grand reception as it passed down the bay. The Iowa is not quite ready but sails tomorrow if preparations can be completed. Both vessels leave together.

Fatal Railroad Accident.

Halifax, Nova Scotia, Sept. 28.—An excursion train from Pictora to the exhibition here this morning crashed into a working train near Stellerton, and killed engineers Sproull and O'Brien, firemen Henderson and McKenzie, and William Cameron, a passenger, of Pictora. John McMillan, and a number of others were injured.

Uneasiness About Overdue Transports.

San Francisco, Sept. 28.—Uneasiness is felt at the non-arrival of the transports Senator, Ohio and Indiana, which are overdue from Manila—the former thirty-five days out is seven days overdue. The Sealander, which left Manila two days later, passed through a typhoon.

Transport Massachusetts Took Fire.

New York, Sept. 28.—The transport Massachusetts arrived today from Santiago. Twice during the voyage her bunkers took fire and she was obliged to jettison a hundred tons of coal.

Condition Queen of Denmark Serious.

London, Sept. 28.—A dispatch from Copenhagen to the Exchange Telegraph Company says that the condition of the queen of Denmark has grown more serious. All the royal family has been summoned to the castle.

The Yellow Fever Situation.

New Orleans, Sept. 28.—Yellow fever continues to increase slightly in the infected cities, though the death rate is very low and the disease is being held well in check by the medical authorities.

Paying Interest on Bonds Before It Is Due.

Washington, Sept. 28.—About \$10,000,000 of interest on bonds, which interest is due November 10th, will be paid on October 10th.

Cancelling stamps, to cancel revenue stamps on checks, etc., ordered at low prices by THE FREE PRESS.

The Tallest Landmark in the World.

The most important island in the Canary group is Tenerife, whose famous mountain is known to navigators as one of the most imposing landmarks in the world. The mountain rises 12,182 feet above the sea, the peak having the form of a sugar loaf. Considering the fact that the island is itself a mountain, springing almost perpendicularly from the ocean, the bottom of which is six miles below, Tenerife is the loftiest peak in the world. Beside it Mont Blanc is a pygmy. Cotopaxi, Kinchinjunga and Mount Everest dwindle by comparison. While all the islands are volcanic and all contain evidences of very recent action, Tenerife is the only one which still continues in eruption.

The summit of the mountain is a circular wall, inclosing a crater a mile in diameter and over 100 feet in depth. From the offing, and even from the seashore, the sides of Tenerife seem as though carved by hand, but the immense size of the mountain is in proportion to this crater, although it seems incredible to the looker on that at the mountain top there should be one of the largest craters in the world. The great crater of Tenerife has been quiescent ever since the island was rediscovered by Europeans early in the fifteenth century, but in scores of places on the mountain side there are smaller craters which continually emit sulphurous steams and gases and occasionally throw out small quantities of lava.—St. Louis Globe-Democrat.

Peculiarities of the Potato.

The opinion has prevailed among housekeepers that it is the good potato which breaks open when it is boiled. A scientist who has made potatoes a study insists that the good potato is the one that remains quietly in its coating of brown during all of the processes of cooking. Instead of the swelling and bursting of the skin being caused by the presence of starch it has been ascertained that albumen is the substance that causes this breaking open. An ordinary potato is made up of three-fourths of its weight in water, two-tenths in starch and one-fiftieth of nitrogenous matter. If it cracks and falls to pieces during the process of boiling, it is deficient in albumen, and therefore lacking in the most important constituent.—New York Ledger.

Why, Certainly.

Customer—I wish I had as good a head of hair as you have. I have tried everything to remedy my baldness, but with no good results.

Watchmaker—Have you ever tried rubbing your head with steel?

Customer—Certainly not. That seems to me ridiculous.

Watchmaker—Why ridiculous? Isn't it a fact that steel makes the hair spring?—Boston Courier.

PEACE COMMISSION

Has Begun Its Work at the French Capital.

WILL SELL ZOLA'S PROPERTY.

Handwriting Experts Refuse to Accept Offer Regarding Payment of Damages Which Zola Was Sentenced to Pay Them.

Paris, Sept. 28.—The peace commission went in session at 11 o'clock this morning.

Will Sell Zola's Property.

Paris, Sept. 28.—Three handwriting experts who recently won libel suits against Zola have refused to accept the offer regarding the payment of the damages which Zola was sentenced to pay them and a judicial sale of the novelist's property in Paris, including his residence, is announced for October 11th.

Points to Consider.

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