

## CONFERENCE IS NEARLY THROUGH

### Appointments Expected Monday Morning--Delegates Elected to the General Conference

Raleigh, N. C., Dec. 7.—Special.—The morning devotional exercises were held at 10 o'clock in the assembly hall, when the conference was assembled by Rev. L. E. Thompson. Secretary W. L. Cunningham read the journal of yesterday's session, which was read in detail.

Rev. H. E. Dixon was announced by Bishop Hargrove as a transfer from the conference.

On motion of Dr. J. T. Gibbs the bishop was requested to draw for \$80 on Rev. W. H. Moore, conference trustee, the draft being payable to the joint fund of finance to be distributed to the conference.

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## EXPERT TESTIMONY

### All Day Argument on a Disputed Point in the Bonine Trial

Washington, Dec. 7.—Counsel for the defense in the trial of Mrs. Bonine for the murder of James Seymour Ayres, Jr., presented a lengthy argument today over the right to ask an expert witness to testify on the question of the height of the muzzle of the pistol from the floor if he knew the height of the person receiving the wound. The government objected to the question on the ground that a difference of an inch would make a decided difference in the angle of the wound.

When court met for the afternoon session the jury was questioned for the day and counsel continued their argument as to the legality of the disputed question. The court will render its decision Monday.

## A DISCORDANT NOTE

### Gov. McSweeney Springs an Unpleasant Surprise

Washington, Dec. 7.—The second executive session of the trustees of the McKinley National Memorial Association (the Canton organization) was held here this morning, Judge William R. Day presiding.

## MRS. CROPSEY CERTAIN IT WAS NOT NELLIE

### Mother of the Missing Girl Interviewed in Regard to Norfolk Story—Wilcox Is Mum

Norfolk, Va., Dec. 7.—Four out of five persons seen in Elizabeth City today did not believe the report that Miss Cropsey had been traced to Norfolk and bought a ticket on a Baltimore steamer, though many persons have faith in the theory of the Norfolk police. Mrs. Cropsey, mother of the missing girl, when interviewed at her home in Elizabeth City this afternoon, said there were three discrepancies in the description of the girl's dress as told her by Edward F. Kelly, who visited her yesterday as an agent of the Norfolk police, but who in Elizabeth City represented himself as connected with the patent business.

Kelly said the girl whom he saw in Norfolk wore a red waist with brass buttons, new shoes and a light jacket. Mrs. Cropsey and the Misses Cropsey said Nellie did not wear any coat at all, wore no brass buttons, and a red waist with brass buttons on it, but said the one Nellie wore had different buttons. "And how could Nellie have changed her shoes or a jacket, or have changed her buttons?" put in one of Nellie's sisters, three of whom and their cousin, Carrie Cropsey, of New York, were in the room. "Nellie only had five cents in her pocket; I am sure of that."

"We moved here four years ago," continued Mrs. Cropsey. "And Jim Wilcox was one of the first young men Nellie met. I don't fancy Jim so much, but the girls had a good time with him and did not object to his coming. He was changeable. Sometimes he would hardly speak to me for three or four days, and then he would come back and bring flowers. Nellie and Jim had been going together about three years, but I know they were not engaged," said Miss O'Leary. "She said she did not love him, and I think she liked another better. On the night of Nellie's

## REFUSED TO TELL

### Secretary Hay Declined to Divulge Secrets of State

Washington, Dec. 7.—There was an unusual proceeding in the State Department today, when attorneys representing parties to a New York law suit sought to compel Secretary Hay to give testimony. The case was an action for libel brought against a New York newspaper by Carl Fischer Hansen, a Danish banker resident in New York, and in it is involved Captain Dirckx, a Christian. These persons were said to be interested as agents in the attempt to sell the Danish West Indies to the United States government, and the publication which forms the basis of the libel suit is said to have reflected upon their competency.

Some days ago Secretary Hay noticed that his testimony had been called for by the defense before the New York court, and this morning Mr. Clarence J. Shearn, counsel for the newspaper in question, applied at the State Department with United States Commissioner Frank Blackstone of this city and a stenographer. The parties were received by Secretary Hay, the secretary being accompanied by Judge Penfield, solicitor of the State Department.

## Baptist Convention Hears Good Tidings

### Next Session to Be Held in Durham—Committee Appointed to Visit Baptist Schools

Winston Salem, N. C., Dec. 7.—Special.—The next session of the Baptist State Convention will be held with the first church in Durham. The opening sermon will be preached by Rev. Dr. Blackwell of Wilmington.

Soon after opening this morning's session the convention was delighted over the receipt of a telegram from Dr. Sykes announcing that Wake Forest had won the cup in the debate with Trinity College last night. A telegram was also read from the faculty of the Baptist University, Raleigh, expressing joy over the convention last night raising the big debt hanging over the institution.

Rev. F. M. Jordan, who is old and quite feeble, made a touching address in which he referred to the organization of the First Baptist church in Winston in 1871. He said this was the last convention he ever expected to attend unless it came beyond the Blue Ridge.

On motion of Prof. Hubbard of Oxford, Dr. W. C. Pyra of Durham and Rev. W. C. Newton of Greensboro were appointed a committee to visit Baptist

schools not directly connected with the convention.

Rev. C. A. G. Thomas made an encouraging report on the Thomasville orphanage and its work. Nearly \$700 was raised for the institution.

W. N. Jones, N. B. Broughton, C. J. Hunter, J. H. Pullen and R. N. Simms were appointed to constitute the central committee on the Twentieth Century movement.

At the afternoon session the committee on monument to the late Columbus Durham reported that for various reasons it had not the secretary sent forty-six of its members to the convention.

The report on obituaries included sketches of the late Chief Justice Faircloth and Mrs. Virginia Swenson, who left large bequests to Baptist institutions.

Tonight's session was devoted to "woman's work." Fine addresses were made by Rev. J. W. Jones of Chapel Hill and Dr. McConnell of Atlanta. The report made on this department showed that during the past year the women had contributed \$9,766.36 for home, foreign and state missions. During the year the secretary sent forty-six of its members to the convention.

Pulpits of city churches will be filled tomorrow by members of the convention. President Marsh announced tonight that the closing exercises of the convention will be held in this church Sunday night, conducted by Dr. Skinner of Raleigh.

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## POSSIBLE TO FLY

### Hiram Maxim on Navigating the Air

London, Dec. 7.—Mr. Hiram Maxim, the inventor of guns, etc., in a paper which he read before the Aeronautical Society, said that so far as balloons were concerned he did not think it possible to improve on what the Brazilian M. Santos Dumont had accomplished. On the other hand, those seeking to navigate the air with machines heavier than the air had not even started. All kinds of flying machines heavier than the air depended entirely upon the development of a new kind of energy. Petroleum motors had already been developed sufficiently light to propel machines which flew in the manner of a bird. He thought people should be able to fly whenever it was ascertained how this power might be advantageously employed. The only question now was of time and money in the matter of actual flight. In time flying machines were not only possible, but practicable. Mr. Maxim pointed out the necessity of practice in the art of managing machines, and compared this work to that of learning how to ride a bicycle or to skate.

## YUAN SHIH KAI

### The New Viceroy Wants Allies to Evacuate Tientsin

Peking, Dec. 7.—Yuan Shih Kai, the new viceroy of Chihli province, has finished his formal calls at the various legations. The arguments he has presented in favor of the evacuation of the native city of Tientsin by the troops under the provisional government is a very strong one. Yuan Shih Kai has made a more favorable impression here than any Chinaman who has come in contact with the foreigners since the siege of the legation.

Several foreign ministers, including Mr. Conger, the American representative, are in favor of the evacuation of Tientsin. The final decision is in the hands of the military commanders. It is believed now that a meeting of the ministers and commanders will be held to consider the matter. It is recognized that Yuan Shih Kai is a man who can keep the peace, which he promises to do if the city is evacuated.

## Blew Out the Gas

New York, Dec. 7.—Two Italian laborers were killed and two nearly asphyxiated by gas in the Star hotel in Harlem this morning. The Italians were sleeping in one room, and it is supposed that they either blew out the gas or failed to completely turn the gas cock when extinguishing the light.

## Gov. Yates at the White House

Washington, Dec. 7.—Governor Yates of Illinois, whose pro-Boer proclamation attracted much attention, was a guest of the President at luncheon today. Governor Yates remained afterward for some time in conference with the President.

## Trains Across Isthmus Under Stars and Stripes

Washington, Dec. 7.—Detailed information of the operations of the United States marines and blue jackets on the isthmus of Panama in carrying out the treaty obligations of the United States to prevent the interruption of trans-isthmian traffic, has been received at the Navy Department from Captain Thomas Perry, commanding the battleship Iowa, the senior American officer in that vicinity. In one report, dated November 25, Captain Perry tells of landing 150 men at Panama that morning on an armored car. This went ahead of a train which flew the United States flag, and succeeded in getting through to Colon. "By the time we reached Colon," says Captain Perry, "it was completely understood from one end of the line to the other that in the future and while this disturbance continues, the property of the Dutch Red Cross ambulance corps in South Africa as being contrary to the Geneva convention. Dr. Vonderlinden, the minister of justice, explained that the Geneva convention only guaranteed the inviolability of ambulances of belligerents and did not refer to those of neutrals. The ambulance staff of either belligerent could be imprisoned if they violated neutrality. The government had several times demanded the liberation of the Dutch staff on parole. They would repeat the request if they thought a more favorable result could be anticipated."

## A DUTCH PROTEST

### Ambulance Staff and Property Seized by the British

The Hague, Dec. 7.—In the chamber today Janhker Devissier, protested against the action of the British in imprisoning the staff and confiscating the property of the Dutch Red Cross ambulance corps in South Africa as being contrary to the Geneva convention. Dr. Vonderlinden, the minister of justice, explained that the Geneva convention only guaranteed the inviolability of ambulances of belligerents and did not refer to those of neutrals. The ambulance staff of either belligerent could be imprisoned if they violated neutrality. The government had several times demanded the liberation of the Dutch staff on parole. They would repeat the request if they thought a more favorable result could be anticipated."

## Governor Taft Improving

Washington, Dec. 7.—A cablegram was received by Secretary Root today from Vice-Governor Wright at Manila, reporting that Governor Taft will leave for the United States December 20 on the transport Grant, and will reach Washington as soon as possible after the arrival of the steamer at San Francisco. As to Judge Taft's health, the dispatch says his condition was improved by the second operation. "His recovery is fully expected by the time San Francisco is reached."

## Children Burned to Death

London, Dec. 7.—D. Westcott of Hackney, a suburb of London, who holds the position of coroner, has drawn public attention to the terrible yearly record of six hundred children burned to death in London. As a result of representations on this subject made by the coroner's secretary to the home secretary, the government is considering the advisability of legislation which would enable the coroners to fine and imprison persons who leave children alone with fire or with material for making a fire if the child is thereby burned to death.

## SIMMONS SEES THE PRESIDENT

### GARRISON AT MANILA

### Action to Be Taken on General Chaffee's Recommendation

Washington, Dec. 7.—Secretary Root took up the consideration today of the question of constructing a permanent garrison at Manila in conformity with the recommendations made on that subject by General Chaffee in his annual report. General Chaffee has called the War Department asking that the quartermaster general send to Manila as soon as possible an expert to prepare plans for the garrison and estimate its cost. In his report he states that the cost will approximate \$500,000, but this is provided that lumber, roof material, nails, iron and pipe are brought from the United States. He has urged in his report that the subject be taken up at once in order to take advantage of the dry season. As to the need of permanent quarters for troops he says: "And that during the next year partial concentration of the troops may be safely undertaken. In a few provinces provision for quarters then must be made, as an concentration whatever will necessitate construction of barracks for men and quarters for officers."

All the available space for sheltering troops in any town is now occupied. General Chaffee recommends that the expense of construction to be borne by the insular government instead of the War Department. He explains that the estimated expense of quartering a company of our troops in houses of bamboo frame thatched with nipa leaf or grass, is about \$1.00 in gold, to which should be added as a temporary expense also, payment of rent for the ground whereon buildings are located.

It is the intention of the War Department to defer action on the general plan of providing permanent garrisons until the Philippine Commission has settled the land question in the islands; but Secretary Root has directed that work begin on the preparation of plans for a permanent garrison at Manila, which will be constructed to accommodate two squadrons of cavalry, two batteries of artillery and two full regiments of infantry.

## SMOOTH SWINDLER

### Brief, but Brilliant Career of a Bogus Baron

New York, Dec. 7.—The Hamburg American liner Galatia, that brought over Johann Beck in a packing box, carried as a second cabin passenger a young man who is thought by the police to be the smoothest swindler that has reached this town in many a day. What name this young man traveled under on ship board the police do not know as yet, but they do know that he has been living in lavish style at the Waldorf Astoria since his arrival under the name of Baron M. De Oly. That the man has not any right to the title the police are certain; that he did not get away with several thousand dollars worth of jewelry from Tiffany & Co. was not due to his lack of nerve.

His alleged baron registered at the hotel as having from Paris. He hired a \$3 a day room and immediately got to work to let every one in the hotel know he was the real thing in the nobleman line. Just as soon as his baggage was stored in his room he called on Joseph Seich, proprietor of the livery stables 48 east 32d street. Mr. Seich has the carriage privilege at the Waldorf Astoria, the livery stable keeper, with several others, was easily taken by his visitor. Further efforts at swindling were frustrated and the young man was arrested.

In a second report of the same date, Captain Perry says that he went with United States Consul General Gudgeon to see the acting governor of Panama, and notified him of his obligation to protect transit in accordance with the American-Columbian treaty. He also sent instructions to Lieutenant Commander McCrae, of the Machias at Colon, to be prepared to land a force and take possession of Getun, but not to act until further orders. The officer has instructions to see the Liberal commander at Colon, and notify him that interference with transit must cease immediately.

Capt. Perry arranged to have a guard of fifty soldiers on every passenger train. He needed no other force, he said.

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## MADE SURE OF IT

### A Man Kneels Before an Elevated Passenger Train

New York, Dec. 7.—A man about 50 years old, well dressed and apparently well to do, committed suicide late this afternoon by deliberately kneeling in front of a south bound Sixth avenue elevated train just above the 60th Street station. He was instantly killed. The police found on the body papers which they said might lead to an identification of the suicide, but at a late hour tonight they declined to make the name he is supposed to have been public, because they said the identification was not yet complete. The man was six feet two inches tall. In his pockets were found a gold watch and \$19.40.

## Government by Commission

Washington, Dec. 7.—Commissions are still favorites with Congressmen. Bills have been introduced authorizing the appointment of commissions to investigate the relations of the United States in the Orient, to study and make full report upon the commercial and industrial conditions of China and Japan, to investigate the chemical composition and economic uses of cotton seed and its products, to investigate the monopoly manufacture of articles threatened by tariff duties, to investigate and test American timber.

### The President Promises to Appoint Pearson Consul to Genoa.

### Trouble for Cheatham

Washington, Dec. 7.—Special.—Senator Simmons was a visitor at the White House today and had the pleasure of a hand-shake with the president. Mr. Roosevelt was so busy today, both houses of congress not being in session, in receiving senators and members, that he could give to each but a moment, so Senator Simmons shared the fate of hundreds of others. At times a quorum of either house could have been found at the White House.

Senator Pritchard did the graceful thing by accompanying Mr. Simmons and presenting him to the president. While there the president told Senator Pritchard that he would within a few days name Mr. Pearson for consul at Genoa, Italy, confirming the president's former statement to Mr. Pritchard that he would provide for Mr. Pearson.

With Mr. Pearson off his back Senator Pritchard will now wrestle with the problem of providing places for ex-Congressman Skinner, ex-Congressman White, ex-Congressman Linney and ex-Judge Adams.

Bishops Arnett and Derrick, colored, called on the president today. Bishop Arnett being accompanied by his son, H. Y. Arnett, until recently chief clerk of the office of recorder of deeds in this city. They did not have an opportunity to talk with the president, but it is the intention of Bishop Arnett to present the case of his son to the president. By reason of differences with Recorder Cheatham the resignation of H. L. Arnett as chief clerk of the recorder's office was asked.

This resignation grew out of charges made against Cheatham's conduct of that office, which his friends alleged young Arnett had something to do with. These charges are of such a nature that the president has so far refused to reappoint Cheatham, although letting him hang on. He had previously promised Senator Pritchard that he would again name Cheatham, but the president would not hesitate to break his promise if the charges made are of such character as he considered unfitted Cheatham to hold the office again. Attorney General Knox will look into the matter for the president.

Pension granted—Winslow Nixon, Rocky Point, \$6.

## LABOR MEN IN COUNCIL

### An Orator Among the Fraternal Delegates

Scranton, Pa., Dec. 7.—The addresses of the fraternal delegates were the features of this afternoon's session of the American Federation of Labor. Frank Chandler, a carpenter from Manchester, England, and Ben Tillett, a London dockerman, are the representatives of the British Trades Union Congress, and P. H. Dwyer, a printer from Ottawa, Ont., in the delegates from the Canadian Trades and Labor Congress. Tillett is a wonderful orator and his speech created considerable enthusiasm.

The morning session was given up to the adoption of resolutions and to an address by Miss Marietta A. Keyser, secretary and organizer of the church association for the advancement of the interests of labor. The resolutions received during the day numbered 100. Many of them were socialistic in character and some have made their appearance at every convention of the Federation for years past, only to be smothered in committee.

One of these warned all workmen not to join military companies. This afternoon the address of several resolutions introduced opposing the ship-subsidy bill. The one that attracted the most attention expressed sympathy for the Boers and condemned Great Britain for the South African war.

## IN A BAD WAY

### Pan-American Company Cannot Pay for Diplomas.

Buffalo, Dec. 7.—The Pan-American Exposition Company is so deeply embarrassed financially that it is unable to even provide diplomas for exhibitors who won them. This announcement was made when it was stated that diplomas costing \$2 cents each would be too expensive, and the best the company could do would be to furnish two kinds—one costing 23 cents and another 25 cents. About ten thousand in all will be issued, and the total expense would be \$300,000, which the company is unable to meet. An effort will be made to get the New York State commission to use some of its money for this purpose. The commission has a large surplus.

## Signed the First Act

Washington, Dec. 7.—The President today for the first time affixed his signature to an act of Congress. It was a joint resolution passed by the Senate and House providing that tariff duties be remitted on all exhibits for the Charleston Exposition imported from foreign countries.