

THE WEATHER TODAY:
For North Carolina:
Swarms, cooler.
For Raleigh:
Swarms, cooler.

TEMPERATURE:
Temperature for the
past 24 Hours:
Maximum, 86.
Minimum, 65.

EMPIRE STATE DEMOCRATS UNITED AND HARMONIOUS Convention Without a Contest--Chairman Horn- blower Makes a Captivating Speech--Cheers Given for Parker and Cleveland--Re- publican Assumptions Exposed

Empire State Hall, Saratoga, N. Y., Sept. 20.—The Democratic state convention opened preliminary organization at 10 o'clock. William Hornblower, of New York, who was temporary chairman, addressed the convention. The temporary roll was called and referred to the committee on credentials.

The speakers were the leaders seated on the platform. Great pictures of the candidates were spread, flanked on either side by the portraits of American statesmen. The hall was liberally draped with flags and the bands played the national anthem and fairly roared.

Charles F. Murphy, of New York, was introduced by Bourke Corcoran, of New York. States Senator Charles A. McCall, of New York, and States Senator Victor Dowling, of New York, were introduced by the chairman of the committee on resolutions which will prepare the platform.

A motion picture was made by the committee on resolutions, withdrawing in the name of harmony from the contest in the Eleventh district of New York. Hornblower charged that his faction had been defeated at the point of the bayonet and otherwise by outrageous means. The withdrawal from the contest was received with cheers, especially upon Mr. Fitzgerald's declaration that this was the first Democratic convention in twenty years without a contest.

Mr. Hornblower's address was frequently interrupted by applause. When he praised the administration of Governor Cleveland, there was a perfect storm of cheers, and at the mention of the name of the present standard bearer, Alton Brooks Parker, the crowd shouted and yelled and stamped their feet for nearly five minutes.

There were cheers when Mr. Hornblower attacked the present administration, and more cheers when he compared what he called its high-handed regime with that of Democratic administration.

The situation tonight with regard to the selection of a gubernatorial candidate is as much up in the air as ever. After Tammany Leader Murphy had an exhaustive talk with Mr. Sheehan this evening Mr. Sheehan said if the situation continues to drift as it has he would be nominated for governor, but Mr. Sheehan feels that if Groat is to be nominated he had better be nominated with the consent of Tammany Leader Murphy, rather than in spite of it.

The opinion of some was that in the process of elimination Stanchfield, Sheppard, Palmer, Herrick, Gaynor and Supreme Court Justice Keogh and several others who had been nominated as candidates for governor were out of the running and that many country delegates have believed that Groat would make the strongest campaigner. On the other hand, there are Democrats here who believe that Judge Herrick should be nominated for governor.

Wm. F. Sheehan had a talk over the long distance telephone with Judge Parker at Esopus tonight. Mr. Sheehan told Judge Parker of the great strength of the Groat boom and asked if Groat would be acceptable to him. Judge Parker replied that he did not desire to become a factor in the situation here, but that any good Democrat who was the choice of the delegates ought to be nominated.

MILL OPERATORS AND THE STRIKERS

Fall River, Mass., Sept. 20.—The strike leaders say that if the talk about starting October 3 is kept up they will call the union together and pass votes similar to that passed by the weavers last week, the purpose of which was not to return, but to hold a mass meeting October 3. Another possibility is the advent of Samuel Gompers, who is being appealed to on the ground that the present strike means the life or death of textile union affiliation with the American Federation of Labor. Should Gompers be induced to come here and address the strikers it would interject an element of agitation which has been kept out so far. Should Gompers come on the day the mills open the chances of success for the mill men would not be good. Some manufacturers realize this danger. One of them has said: "We are sitting on a powder magazine and we should not be the ones to touch it off

by trying to start until the operatives show that they are ready."
Others minimize the possibility of trouble while there is a growing feeling among manufacturers that there is some danger in delaying the start too long.

If the market begins to revive and a start is made the leaders can appeal to the strikers to hold out for a time, in the hope that the notice will be taken down. If some of the mills can run in full their managers will not stop them to aid other mills not so fortunate, and if it is possible the whole plan of wage reduction may be thus endangered.

CANTEEN AND CUPID Views of General Corbin in His Annual Report

Washington, Sept. 20.—Major General Henry C. Corbin, commanding the Atlantic division, sets forth the following views on the army canteen in his annual report, which has just been made public:

"I am firmly of the opinion that it would be in the interest of discipline to re-establish the canteen feature of the post exchange, believing that in this way the evil of the use of drink can be minimized. I say this, realizing that there are many objections to the selling of beer and light wines at military posts, both on ethical grounds and from actual experience in the past. But as the almost universal testimony of post and company commanders is that many more men will leave the post to get drink when none can be obtained thereon than if there were beer and light wines at the post exchange, I can but advocate the re-establishment of their sale at the military posts."

General Corbin advises that officers shall not marry without authority from the war department. He has this to say on that subject:

"I am firmly of the opinion that no officer should enter the marriage relation without first getting the authority of the war department and that as a necessary condition thereto he should make it clear that his income after marriage will be sufficient to support himself and family, and, above all, if he is to live on his pay he should state that he is free from debt. Starting in even, he has a fighting chance; but starting in debt, he undertakes a well-nigh hopeless task. Particularly will this prove true if he has frequent change of station, when all the expenses of travel of his family have to be met by the officer himself."

Bloodshed in Mississippi

Mobile, Ala., Sept. 20.—It is reported on reliable authority that more than two killings per day have taken place in Mississippi during the past week, a majority of the victims being negroes; but several were white, each slayer claiming self-defense.

Fatal Mine Accident

Morrison, N. J., Sept. 20.—A fall of an iron ore slab in the old Anderson mines at Hibernia this morning resulted in the death of four miners and the injury of three others, one of whom will die. The men were Slavs and had been in this country but a month. The accident occurred at half past six, a half hour before the day shift. The men were eighteen hundred feet under ground.

Consul Under Fire

Geneva, Sept. 20.—H. L. Washington, American consul at Geneva, suffered rough treatment by a crowd of workmen near Coppet today. The consul with his wife and party of friends was automobiling. Near Coppet the car collided with a cow. The consul stopped to examine the damage, when the Italian workman attacked the party with stones.

Payment on Friar Lands

Washington, Sept. 20.—The first payment of \$2,000,000 on account of the purchase of the friar lands in the Philippines was today authorized by the war department. There has been on deposit in New York since last December the fund of \$7,236,000 realized from the sale of bonds authorized to be issued in purchase of the friar lands. A draft for this first payment will be made on the Bank of England, which will pay over the money to the Sociedad Agrícola Del Ultramar.

Convention in New Hampshire

Concord, N. H., Sept. 20.—John McLane of Milford was nominated for governor by the Republican state convention here today, and candidates for presidential elector were chosen. There were no other nominations as all state officers except governor are appointed. There was no contest for any office and the proceedings were concluded at a session of less than two hours duration. The platform adopted praised the record and achievements of the national party.

Hamlin Favors Douglass

Boston, Sept. 20.—Charles S. Hamlin has announced today that he would not be a candidate for the Democratic gubernatorial nomination and that he would work for the nomination and of Wm. L. Douglass, the shoe manufacturer of Brockton. The withdrawal of Mr. Hamlin and his endorsement of the Brockton manufacturer's candidacy assure Mr. Douglass a practically unanimous nomination.

OUTING IN A BOAT The President's Engagements Upon His Return to Washington

Oyster Bay, N. Y., Sept. 20.—President Roosevelt and Mrs. Roosevelt probably enjoyed their last outing of the summer today. They left Sagamore Hill early this morning and spent nearly the entire day on the bay in a row-boat. The president had no visitors today.

It was said here today that the president would not visit Rear Admiral Barker's fleet Thursday. The naval yacht Sylph, which will convey the president and his family to Jersey City that day, will make no stops. It is barely possible the Sylph may pass in sight of the war ships, and in that event there will, of course, be a lot of saluting.

The president has some important engagements for the two days immediately following his return to Washington. Friday afternoon M. Jusserand, the French ambassador to this country, will present to the president M. Picard, president of the French commission to the St. Louis Exposition. Saturday afternoon the president will meet the delegates to the inter-parliamentary arbitration conference, which has been in session in St. Louis, and Saturday night he will give a dinner at the White House in honor of the archbishop of Canterbury. Many distinguished men have been invited to the dinner.

TIBBLES ACCEPTS Populist Candidate Takes a Hopeful View

Lincoln, Neb., Sept. 20.—Mr. Thomas Tibbles, nominee of the People's party for vice president, mailed his letter of acceptance today to Mr. S. W. Williams, chairman of the notification committee. The letter was in parts as follows:

"We look forward with confidence to the coming of the time, not far in the distance, when the principles of the People's party shall guide the rulers of this nation. The adherents of the People's party come from all classes whenever a man is found who loves mankind and believes that governments are instituted among men not for the purpose of enabling a few to gather gold and pile it up mountain high, but for the purpose of advancing the human race, bringing gladness to the hearts of all the people, enabling them to enjoy the delights of an intelligent world and lay up treasures that all the cycles of time can not take away. To this work more than a million men have consecrated themselves."

GENERAL ATTACK ON PORT ARTHUR

Shanghai, Sept. 20.—The general attack on Port Arthur, which began yesterday and in which the Japanese fleet is co-operating, was resumed this morning. The Japanese captured two important forts on either side of Suezeying, north of Port Arthur, and were killed by hold-up men. The Meridocia Swamp is twenty-eight miles southwest of this city and is the most dismal place in the state. It is believed the dead men were working-men.

Crazy Man Had a Message for Roosevelt

Oyster Bay, Sept. 20.—A man who is regarded by the secret service officers and by the authorities at Oyster Bay as a dangerous crank was apprehended here shortly before noon today. He is J. E. Reeves, a medium-sized, roughly attired man, about forty years old. He was making his way to Sagamore Hill when he was arrested. He told Officer Tyree, who apprehended him, that he wanted to see the president on important business. Believing from the man's manner that he was insane, Officer Tyree took him before Justice Franklin for examination.

MONOPOLY BROKEN UP San Francisco to Be Done With Prize Fights

San Francisco, Sept. 20.—The city's claim to be the only prize fight town in the country will soon be ended. After the Gans-Walcott fight on the last day of the month no more ring contests will be held here.

The city supervisors today decided on this and refused to grant any fight permits for next month. This action has grown out of the monopoly possessed by the prize fight trust, which is controlled by Jim Cofroth, secretary of the superior court. He leased the Mechanics Pavilion, which is the only place in the city for holding fights. There he formed two athletic clubs, the Shasta and the Yosemite, of which he is the owner. The board of directors of the two clubs are merely dummies. Then he made a combine with Morris Levy, who runs the Hay's Valley Club. This froze out L. C. Greggains, who controls the San Francisco athletic club, a genuine club, where many good fighters have been trained. Cofroth's plan has been to get one permit for one month and let Levy have the next month. Then in the following month Cofroth would get the first permit and perhaps Greggains would secure the other. In this way Cofroth controlled the game and dictated what fights should be pulled off. Cofroth has made a fortune out of prize fighting.

TEXAS FLOODS The Rio Grande River Out of Banks and Bounds

Hidalgo, Tex., Sept. 20.—The Rio Grande is seventeen miles wide at this place. A sudden rise of twenty feet in the San Juan river, which empties into the Rio Grande on the Mexican side several miles above here has increased the flood and caused great destruction of property. The channel of the Rio Grande has been changed in many places by the floods. A short distance below here a slice of Mexico embracing several hundred acres of ground and occupied by several thousand sand sheep and goats, was cut off and conveyed to the United States side of that stream. The situation arising out of these changes of boundary will have to be settled by the international water boundary commission.

San Antonio, Tex., Sept. 20.—A letter has reached this city from T. L. Kleiman, a merchant of the flood devastated town, Presidio, Tex., calling for help. It says that six hundred persons are homeless and every vestige of crops destroyed for one hundred miles below Presidio.

Dead in a Swamp

Sterling, Ill., Sept. 20.—The finding in the Meridocia Swamp today of three dead men who evidently had been murdered and thrown in the swamp after they had been killed, has added to the excitement following the recent fatal shooting in this part of the state and the death of Mayor Bennett of Thompson and George Gaynor of Stewart, who were killed by hold-up men. The Meridocia Swamp is twenty-eight miles southwest of this city and is the most dismal place in the state. It is believed the dead men were working-men.

Political Contest in West Virginia

Republicans Organize a Campaign of Oratory—Babcock Fears the Democrats Will Control the House of Representatives

BY THOMAS J. PENCE
Washington, Sept. 20.—Special.—That West Virginia, the home state of Henry G. Davis, is to be the field of a battle royal is evidenced by a statement made today by Elliott Notcutt, chairman of the Republican state committee, who said:

"We shall keep approximately fifty orators in the field, and we intend to have fifty speeches made each day from now until the election. There are fifty-five counties in West Virginia and we shall try to assign these speakers so that there will be one speech daily in nearly every county."

This statement is taken to mean that the Republicans think West Virginia a debatable ground. They think the strongest argument they can produce is along the lines of a high protective tariff and they have already flooded the state with protection literature. To offset this the Democratic congressional committee determined today to scatter throughout the state a leaflet giving in parallel columns President Roosevelt's denunciation of protection as vicious and his latter day praise of protection.

The cry of Chairman Babcock, of the Republican congressional committee, that the Democrats will surely win the House if the Republicans do not put more ginger in their campaign, is beginning to arouse a feeling of anxiety in Republican circles. Ordinarily when Babcock lets out this wail it is for the purpose of getting the money, but this year his warning cry has been repeated several times. One of Babcock's principal fears is that he will lose his own seat in congress.

A statement from Pittsburg, purporting to be authoritative, is to the effect that Representative Guffey, the Democratic leader of Pennsylvania, will soon send to the Democratic national committee a check for \$50,000.

When shown the Babcock statement tonight, Chairman Cowherd said:

"Ordinarily I do not endorse the political statements of Mr. Babcock, but in this instance I believe he is correct when he states 'as matters stand now the Democrats are likely to carry the House.' Further, I do not believe that this latest statement of Mr. Babcock is made for the purpose of getting more campaign money, but because he is really afraid the Republicans will lose the House."

Russian Reverses on Contraband Question

Firm Attitude Taken by the State Department—Decision of Vladivostok Prize Court Contrary to the Laws of Nations

Washington, Sept. 20.—In connection with the official advice received at the state department yesterday from United States Ambassador McCormick at St. Petersburg, stating that the Russian government had practically reversed its position with regard to contraband of war and had acknowledged the rights and privileges of the American merchant marine, it may be said that Secretary Hay, on August 30, sent the protest of the United States against the Russian decision in the case of the cargo of the seized steamer Arabia to Mr. McCormick at St. Petersburg, who communicated it to Count Lamsdorff, the Russian minister of foreign affairs. The protest was an emphatic and unqualified condemnation of Russia's attitude. After reciting the Vladivostok prize court's ruling in the Arabia case, Secretary Hay said that it was hardly necessary to say that the government of the United States was unable to admit the validity of a judgment which appeared to have been rendered in disregard of the settled law of nations respecting contraband.

Mr. Hay recited the clauses of the Russian order of February 29, placing certain articles in the category of contraband, and remarked upon the ambiguity of the language of the order, especially as to the word "enemy." Secretary Hay declared that the United States could not concede that the articles named in the order could be confiscated merely because they were consigned to the open ports of a belligerent. He proceeded to insist that when war exists between two powerful states it is vital to the legitimate commerce of neutrals that there be no relaxation of the rule determining what is contraband, and pointed out that articles ordinarily innocent, but capable of warlike use, are not liable to confiscation unless it is proved that they were destined for the forces of a belligerent.

Continuing, Secretary Hay said:

"If the principle declared by the Vladivostok prize court is acquiesced in it will mean, if carried to full execution, the complete destruction of all neutral commerce with the non-combatant population of Japan."

Mr. Hay concluded by directing Mr. McCormick to "express to Count Lamsdorff the deep regret and grave concern with which the government of the United States has received his communication of the decision of the prize court. You will make an earnest protest against it and say that the government of the United States regrets its inability to recognize the principle of that decision, still less to acquiesce in it."

STAKED LIFE AND LOST IT

Sedalia, Mo., Sept. 20.—Charles E. Bliss staked his life last night in a game of cards and lost. He paid the bet a few minutes later by committing suicide. Bliss, who was known here as Charles E. Barlow, was twenty-six years old. Shortly before midnight Bliss called on Ted Moore, with whom he had become infatuated, and she challenged him to play a game of pitch. They sat down to a table, when the woman asked "What will we play for?" Bliss replied: "I will stake my life against yours." She accepted the challenge and the cards were dealt. In a few minutes Bliss' pile of chips had disappeared and he lost in the desperate game. Bliss put on his hat and with a cheerful good-bye left the woman, going direct to a drug store, where he purchased a bottle of carbolic acid, which he swallowed, dying soon afterwards.

Fatal Theatre Excitement

Indianapolis, Sept. 20.—Mrs. Brutus Marshall, one of the leading women in Logansport society, attended the theatre last night where the melodrama "Why Girls Leave Home" was being presented. She seemed deeply interested in the performance from the first and to sympathize intensely with the heroine. She seemed to be under a