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REBELS FEAR SHREWD TRICK

Do Not Take Kindly to Premier's Suggestions For Popular Convention

ARE TOO IMPATIENT

Premier Wants to Decide the Form of Government By a Convention of Delegates From All Over the Empire—Plan Regarded as a Shrewd Move, But Opinion Divided as to Whether It Can Be Successfully Done—Revolutionists Too Impatient—Prof. Bateman Says Republic is Impossible.

Tokio, Dec. 27.—Yuan Shi Kai's proposal to decide the form of government which shall prevail under China's new regime, by a convention of delegates from all over the empire, is regarded as a shrewd move, but opinion is divided whether it can be successfully done. Well-informed men here believe the revolutionists are too impatient to await the outcome of the convention and being aware of the Peking government's helplessness, may insist upon the refusal of Yuan's proposal.

Unit For Republic.

Palo Alto, Calif., Dec. 27.—A republican form of government in China would be an absolute failure, and would be a calamity to the Chinese nation, according to Prof. W. G. Bateman, of the Imperial University at Tien Tsin, who arrived yesterday at his home here, after being driven out of China as a result of the revolution. "People in China are more ignorant than we Americans realize," said Bateman. "Their condition is awful. They are in no condition to govern themselves."

Will Agree to Abdicate.

Peking, Dec. 26.—Representative members of the imperial court, signified to Premier Yuan-Shi-Kai their willingness to agree to abdication. The court realizes there is no hope for it in the detention of three or four detached sections of the country and semi-loyal provinces, and hopes to obtain better terms by agreeing to the proposed referendum on the question of form of government.

Yuan realizes the republican spokesmen gathered at the peace conference at Shanghai are not likely to accept his proposition for an annually elected assembly representing the entire empire. Yuan probably will resign his office after making the best terms possible for the throne.

COLD WAVE COMING

Zero Temperature and Below in the Northwest.

Chicago, Dec. 27.—The cold wave sweeping down from the northwest has reached the lake region. Since yesterday noon, the temperature fell from forty-one to twenty-two degrees above zero. The weather bureau said mercury would fall ten more degrees before tomorrow. There are heavy snows in Wisconsin and Michigan. In the Canadian northwest, the temperature ranges from two to twenty-six degrees below zero. Reports from the northwestern states in this country show a range six above to fourteen degrees below zero.

LAFOLLETTE STARTS BATTLE AGAINST TAFT

Youngstown, O., Dec. 27.—The real battle of the so-called progressive wing of the republican party against Taft's renomination started today, with speeches by Senator Robert M. LaFollette in Youngstown and Cleveland.

EIGHTEEN DIE IN HOME

Berlin Home For the Homeless Scene of Many Deaths From Poison.

Berlin, Dec. 27.—Eighteen inmates of Berlin Municipal Shelter for the homeless died during the night from poisoning. Others are dying from the same cause. Over four thousand men took refuge in the institution last night. Some brought scraps of extra food, consisting in many cases of spoiled smoked herring. This is assigned as the reason for the fatalities.

FAIR WEATHER IS WELCOMED

After Days and Days of Rain and Mud Relief Looms On Horizon

Now is the time, as the copy-books would say, for all good men to consider the streets and roads.

The unusually cloudy and wet weather for the past fourteen days has caused the streets and roads to be in a fearful condition, especially those highways which have not been favored with some form of hard paving. Back streets in Raleigh look like country roads did twenty years ago, and in some places are almost impassable. Complaints from every section of the city are heard on the condition of the streets, but with the sun shining for several days, as is hoped, a wonderful transformation will take place. A warm sun and a gentle breeze will work wonders.

The rainfall since December 11, when the first hard rain fell, has not been very great, however, the cloudy weather being largely responsible for the soggy condition of the ground. The total precipitation for the month has been 4.76 inches, which is 1.26 inches above the normal for the month.

The total precipitation for the year has been 11.31 inches below the normal, but this was due to the long droughts in the summer and fall, when Raleigh people began to think they would soon be without drinking water. The normal rainfall for twelve months is 49.69 inches, and the precipitation this year was just about three-fourths of a normal.

Since the wet spells seemed to be continued, as was the case with the droughts, it might have appeared to most people that the deficiency in the rainfall was more than made up in the past fourteen days. But Mr. L. A. Denson, the local weather observer, has the figures, and these point to the fact that this section has not had near the rain it usually gets in the course of a year.

COMPLAINT AGAINST RATES

Augusta Chamber of Commerce Complains Against Rates.

Washington, Dec. 27.—The Augusta chamber of commerce petitioned the interstate commerce commission claiming that the railways and steamship lines operating along the South Atlantic coast make rate discriminations against Augusta in favor of Atlanta. The petition cites the shoe rates from New York to Atlanta are less than to Augusta, although the distance is greater.

RUSSIA IS MAD ABOUT IT

More Prohibitive Legislation Aimed At the United States In Duma

St. Petersburg, Dec. 27.—A supplementary legislative proposal of prohibitive character was introduced by the nationalists into the Duma. It is aimed directly at the United States. According to the proposed enactment's terms, American citizens of Jewish religion will be totally excluded from Russia and customs duties will be raised by one hundred per cent, unless Russia's normal schedule is lower than America's. In that case a duty equaling the American duty will be collected.

THE PACKING CASE

Prosecution Expects to Conclude the Examination of Witnesses.

Chicago, Dec. 27.—Albert H. Veeder, attorney for Swift & Co., continued his story of the operations of the packers prior to 1905, when the Chicago meat packers trial was resumed this morning. Prosecutor Butler expected to conclude the examination of witness before the day closes.

James Martin Dead.

Philadelphia, Pa., Dec. 27.—James Martin, superintendent of the Pullman Company, headquarters in Philadelphia, died, age sixty-five, of paralysis. He was with the Pullman company forty years.



The Crown Princess Cecilia has been the recipient of hundreds of congratulatory telegrams from all parts of the world on the birth of another son, the fourth son to be born to the Crown Princess and her consort, Crown Prince Frederick Wilhelm. The stock fell the addition to the royal family on December 19th. Before her marriage the Crown Princess was the Duchess Cecilia of Mecklenburg-Schwerin.

FEW FIRES HAVE BEEN REPORTED

Report Shows Fewer Fires In Any Like Period--Christmas Drunks Few

(Special to The Times.)

Greensboro, Dec. 27.—Deputy State Fire Insurance Commissioner W. A. Scott, who is in Greensboro spending the holidays, with his family, says that during the past three months fewer fires have been reported throughout North Carolina to the department during any like period since the department was established twelve years ago. Mr. Scott, together with other officials of the department are devoting considerable time to inspecting buildings in various cities and towns in the state with a view to educating the people to the importance of giving closer attention to rubbish, etc., to prevent fires, and this work is having splendid success as the reports of fewer fires demonstrate.

That prohibition works well in Greensboro was evidenced by a few "Christmas drunks" this year. The Greensboro police arrested six drunks from Saturday night until yesterday morning while a little investigation showed that during a shorter period of time the police of Danville, Va., a "wet" town with a smaller population, had arrested 59 drunks and the report then was "that business was picking up."

NEGRO ROBERTSON IN CARTHAGE JAIL

Carthage, N. C., Dec. 27.—Huston Robertson, the negro who murdered young Francis Ruggles, at Southern Pines, Monday night was arrested at Hoffman yesterday and brought here to jail last night. It seems that young Ruggles and a few of his friends were celebrating Christmas and presumed to have some fun at the expense of some negro boys when Robertson, an older negro, resented the action of Ruggles and cursed him. Ruggles cursed back and followed the negro some steps when the negro shot him through the heart. Young Ruggles was well connected and well thought of and great indignation prevails about the Pines and the officers very wisely avoided bringing their prisoner through that place.

Better one foot in the grave than two.

J. M. MILLIKAN FEDERAL CLERK

Appointment Authorized By Judge James E. Boyd at Salary of \$3500

(Special to The Times.)

Greensboro, Dec. 27.—The appointment of James M. Millikan as clerk of the United States court for the Western District of North Carolina was yesterday authorized by Judge James E. Boyd, the provisions having been entered and filed in the judicial act of the last congress. Under the re-organization plan of the circuit and district courts the circuit court is abolished January 1st and the district court judges will be only on the bench of the circuit court of appeals. The act also provided for a district clerk, with a number of points where clerks had usually been maintained. Immediately following his appointment, Mr. Millikan named the following as assistants: W. R. Henson, Asheville, N. C.; H. C. Cowles, Statesville; Milton McNeill, Wilkesboro, all being formerly served as clerks. The salary of the clerk is named at \$3,500 a year, while the deputies, who have formerly made from \$4,000 to \$6,000, will receive about \$2,000.

Jane Hammer, of Kansas has announced a gift of \$20,000 to the endowment fund of Sylvan Academy, in Alamogordo county, and yesterday a deed to probate was filed with the clerk of the court here. The gift is in the shape of transfer of a tract of land in Kansas, which contains 640 acres and valued at \$20,000. The only condition attached to the gift, which is intended as a memorial to his wife, is that a new building be erected within three months by the academy, there being no condition as to the kind of building. Mrs. Hammer was a native of Alamogordo and started to school at Shaw Hill.

A voluntary petition in bankruptcy was filed in United States court yesterday by E. Robinson, a merchant of Winston and in compliance with the order of adjudication Judge J. M. Alexander referred the matter to Max J. Alexander. The liabilities are placed at \$10,000 with assets of about \$9,000.

The local chamber of commerce has adopted strong resolutions urging federal aid in the building and improvement of public highways and a committee has been named to place same in the hands of the North Carolina representatives in congress.

MAN HURT BY A TRAIN

John Johnson of Ridgeway In Hospital Here With Many Injuries

With his shoulder-blade and bone fractured, his jawbone shattered and five ribs broken, Mr. John Johnson of Ridgeway, a station about 70 miles north of Raleigh by the Seaboard, was picked up by Seaboard passenger train No. 31 at Manson, between Henderson and Ridgeway, and brought to Raleigh today for treatment in Rex Hospital. So many and serious were the injuries that it was impossible to say this afternoon whether the man could recover.

It is not known how the accident occurred. Mr. Johnson, who is a painter and married, must have been hit by a train sometime during the night, for he was found between 2 and 3 o'clock this morning. He was brought to Raleigh and carried to the hospital, where his injuries were dressed. Mr. Johnson was in a semi-delirious condition when found, but his condition was somewhat improved. It was thought, later in the afternoon.

Richeison's Progress Satisfactory.

Rev. Clarence Richeison, charged with the murder of Avis Linnell, is encouraging, according to the report by Dr. Lothrop. Lothrop said: "Richeison's wounds are healing. He is able to sit up when he so desires. I am entirely satisfied with the progress he is making toward complete recovery."



Mrs. John B. Henderson, safety advocate and author of the "Safety Society of North Carolina" is giving a series of lectures and addresses throughout the state. Her lecture in the State College is made up of safety or vegetable, and there is usually a large attendance.

TO COMPLETE BIG RAILROAD

Directors of Transcontinental to Meet in New York Tomorrow

Mr. E. C. Duggan left today for New York where tomorrow he will attend a meeting of the directors of the North Carolina Transcontinental Construction Company, which owns the South Atlantic Transcontinental Railroad Company and its branches. The directors of this company are endeavoring to organize a railroad from Knoxville, Tenn., to Rutherfordton, N. C., and other points in the state.

When seen by a reporter Mr. Duggan would not say how much money he believed that the missing tomorrow will mean further railroad building in North Carolina. The fact that much railroad expansion and building is being done or contemplated leads to the conclusion that the directors of the Transcontinental are in earnest about completing the projected line.

The directors, all of whom are well known in the financial world, are Mr. E. C. Duggan, Raleigh; Gen. T. C. DuPont, Wilmington; Del. V. L. Mason, W. H. Stryker and Harry Conant, New York. Mr. Mason is president, Mr. Stryker, vice-president, Edward F. Cloran, treasurer and Arthur H. Frost is secretary.

INVESTIGATION AT LOS ANGELES RESUMED

Los Angeles, Dec. 27.—With labor union leaders ready to testify the federal grand jury members resumed their investigation of the alleged nationwide dynamite conspiracy. The preliminary hearing of Bert H. Franklin, a detective employed by the McNamara defense, charged with bribing jurors in McNamara trial, was resumed.

DOING SETTLEMENT WORK

Miss Violet Edmunds Goes to New York City. Boston, Dec. 27.—Miss Violet Edmunds, the widow who was engaged to marry Rev. C. V. T. Richeison, has left home to become a settlement worker in New York City. Announcement that she is doing settlement work comes from a close friend of the family.

HORSE STRUCK HEAVY WAGON

Walter Tedlow, the Rider, In Hospital as Result of Cuts and Bruises

Striking a hill, city wagon loaded with 2,000 pounds of rock with the force of a catapult, a horse ridden by Walter Tedlow, a colored man in the employ of Plummer's Stables, was that probably to the hard pavement at the corner of Edenton and Blount streets today and both horse and rider sustained painful injuries. The wagon's lip was badly cut, his leg was bruised and his body badly injured by the force of the fall. The shoulder of the horse, where it struck the right hind wheel of the wagon, was split open. Walter Tedlow was carried to St. Agnes' Hospital.

As in the case of most accidents, there are two versions of this affair. Greasy Williams, driver of the city wagon and Jim Adams were on the spot at the time. Williams says he had just reached the street corner on Blount street when he hit a jar and saw the horse and rider sprawl to the ground. The wagon was going west and was loaded with 2,000 pounds of rock. Williams says the horse was without saddle or bridle and came down Blount street in a lurch.

Walter Tedlow, the colored rider, was not seen, as he was in such a painful condition that he was removed to the hospital. It was told Mr. Edmonson, however, that his horse was being ridden in a reckless manner down Blount street and that the city wagon stopped suddenly, causing his horse to strike the curb. He did not know whether the animal wore a bridle or not, but thought it did. Some of those who saw the accident say the horse only had on a halter.

Mayor Jim L. Johnson and Supervisor of Streets J. M. Tencher made an inspection of the ground where the accident occurred and it was their opinion that Greasy Williams, the city driver, was in no way responsible for the collision.

Steel Corporation Distributes Bonus

New York, Dec. 27.—The United States Steel Corporation made the annual distribution to employees under the bonus plan which has been in force nine years. The amount distributed is \$1,150,000.

NEGRO'S HEAD BADLY CRUSHED

Believed Train Struck Him As He Was Preparing to Beat a Ride

(Special to The Times.) Dunn, N. C., Dec. 27.—On yesterday morning a colored man named Alex McPherson was found dead near the cotton shed with his head crushed. It is supposed that he was killed by the train as he was lying near the tracks of the A. C. L., and had been heard to say by some of his friends the night before that he was going to beat his way to Fayetteville on the Shofby train which passes here about midnight.

Iron, H. S. Godwin is making his arrangements to move his family to Washington, D. C., about January 1st. He has rooms in the Burlington apartment house and will take his entire family with him for the spring and summer. He says he will be in Washington until congress adjourns. He will put his children in school for the spring term.

Mr. Edgar Fowler, one of Harrogate's old boys who has been living in Kentucky for several years, is spending some time with his brother, Mr. Arthur Fowler. Mr. Fowler is trying to sell out his interests here in Harrogate, which indicates that he intends leaving us for good. Mrs. Dr. J. P. Hicks who went to Richmond last week with an operation performed, is reported some better. Her friends have been very uneasy about her. (Continued on Page Seven.)

LOCK OUT IN COTTON MILLS

One Hundred and Sixty Thousand Weavers Will Be Locked Out Tonight

SPINNERS ALSO OUT

Notice Pasted at All Mills Belonging to Members of the Master Cotton Spinners' Association of Lookout Tonight—100,000 Weavers Affected, Also as Many Spinners Affected For Half Time—Trouble Over Non-Union Employees.

Manchester, England, Dec. 27.—Notices were posted at all mills belonging to members of the federation of master cotton spinners in north and northeast of Lancashire county that cloth mills will be closed tonight and not re-open until further notice.

Weavers, numbering one hundred and sixty thousand will be locked out. An equal number of spinners will be reduced to half time, with the prospects of complete stoppage of work if the trouble be prolonged. The federation of master cotton spinners decided it was impossible to continue turning out yarn while the looms are idle. They will curtail production by stopping work on three days in each week, beginning January 1st. A man named Riley and his wife, two non-unionists, whose employment originated in the strike of Helene mill at Acreington, December 29th, which led to lockout would not consent to join the union and thus obviate a lockout.

VOTE SELLERS MAY ESCAPE.

Legal Technicality May Prevent Convictions in Lee County, Va.

Pristol, Va., Dec. 27.—That through a legal technicality the persons in Lee county, Va., who have been indicted for having sold their votes may escape conviction and consequent fine and disfranchisement in the latest phase of the sensational investigation into the wholesale debauchery of the electorate in that county.

It is stated by one of the prominent lawyers in Lee county that it is his opinion, as well as the opinion of the best lawyers of the Jonesville bar, that the vote-buyers who have confessed before the grand jury under Judge Skeen's promise of immunity may be compelled to refuse to testify at the trial of the vote-sellers on the ground that it would incriminate them beyond the power of the court to grant the immunity. If this proves true, no convictions can be made, as there is only one witness against each vote-seller.

Championship Wrestling Match.

Kansas City, Dec. 27.—Frank Gotch, world's champion wrestler, meets Alexander Munro, British title-holder, tonight in a finish match. Ticket sales heavy. Gotch says it is his final appearance before the public, defending the title. Munro says he will return to England immediately after the match, regardless of the outcome.

New Rural Route.

Washington, Dec. 27.—Rural route one from Riversdale was established today.

NEW OIL COMPANIES FROM OLD STANDARD

New York, Dec. 27.—Thirty-five separate companies, formerly comprising the Standard Oil Company today began work as individual entities, and the gigantic task of organizing operating forces for separate units of the old oil trust, was undertaken. It will take some time to determine whether the dissolution plan will produce the competition that the government hopes for. According to independent oil men there has been no change institution thus far.

Misappropriated Estate Funds.

Sterling, Ill., Dec. 27.—Duncan Mackay, one of the largest real estate owners in Galveston, whose name is linked with the rebuilding of that city after the great storm there, was indicted by the grand jury on charges of misappropriation of funds left by his father as part of an estate valued at \$300,000.