

ONE DOLLAR PER YEAR.

EDUCATION

GOOD ROADS

GOOD HEALTH

PROGRESS

FIVE CENTS PER COPY.

OATH OF OFFICE TAKEN BY WHITE

Chief Justice is Sworn In By Justice Harlan

USES THE HISTORIC BIBLE

Edward Douglass White Sworn As Supreme Court Head. Ceremony is Witnessed by Distinguished Gathering.

In the presence of a distinguished gathering, that filled the little courtroom at the Capitol, yesterday Edward Douglass White, of Louisiana, was elevated from associate justice of the United States Supreme Court to the chief justiceship.

The climax of the ceremonies occurred when Associate Justice Harlan, as senior member of the court, administered to the new chief justice the judicial oath. It was subscribed to on the bench itself instead of at the clerk's desk, as is ordinarily the case. Chief Justice White while taking the oath held in his hand the Bible which has been used by nearly every chief justice an associate justice on similar occasions during the last century, but, unlike most of them, he kissed the book at the conclusion of the oath.

The dignity resting in the customs founded on the swearing into office of John Jay, John Rutledge, Oliver Ellsworth and John Marshall, and perfected in the days of Roger B. Taney, Salmon P. Chase, Morrison R. Waite and Melville W. Fuller, was not materially disturbed to-day by radical innovations.

Through this ceremony he became the ninth chief justice of the nation, after having served sixteen years as an associate justice.—Washington Post, 20th.

BRITISH ELECTIONS ARE OVER

THE FINAL POLLINGS WILL NOT CHANGE PARLIAMENT.

Labor Men are Stronger. Coalition Forces May Have Increased Majority of One in New House of Commons.

London, Dec. 19.—The general election reached the last stage of its career with a Unionist attack on the Liberal seat of Wick Burghs, in Scotland, and a struggle between the Redmonites and the O'Brienites for West Cork and South Kilkenny.

Wick Burghs may be won by the Unionists, in which event the coalition majority will be 124—exactly what it was after the election in January.

James Gilhooly, who has represented West Cork for the last quarter of a century, will probably hold that seat for the O'Brienites, while the Redmonites are most unlikely to lose South Kilkenny.

Assuming that the Liberals retain Wick Burghs and the Irish seats remain unchanged, there will be 272 Unionists in the new Parliament, 272 Liberals, 42 Labor Members, 76 Nationalists and 8 O'Brienites, giving the coalition forces a majority of 126.

The Labor members have added two to their number, compared with their strength in the old House of Commons, while Redmond and the official Nationalist party have scored heavily off O'Brien, and the independent movement of Unionists in Ireland has done badly. They have a bare majority of one in Ulster, and the only seat which they hold in the rest of the country is Dublin University.

Negro, Who Expires in New York, Reputed to Have Been 101 Years Old.

New York, Dec. 18.—George Washington Hall, colored, reputed to be in his 101st year, died to-day in the old Finley mansion, at Codrington avenue and Fort Schwyler road, the Bronx.

He was born in Savannah, Ga. His daughter, Frances, who came to this city with him a few years ago, says he told her he was Gen. Zachary Taylor's body servant in Mexican war days.

BIG PLANT DESTROYED

THOMASVILLE'S LARGEST FURNITURE FACTORY IS WIPED OUT.

Loss May Reach \$200,000. Finished Product, Lumber and Buildings Of Cramer Company Are Swept By Fire.

Thomasville, Dec. 20.—This afternoon at 6:30 fire was discovered in the machine room of the Cramer Furniture Company. The alarm was quickly given and every possible effort was used to save the plant but the wind was blowing a gale and the flames soon engulfed the entire building, destroying the machine department, boiler room two, dry kilns also filled with lumber, nearly 200,000 feet of lumber in rough and in course of manufacture on the yards and in the plant. From the main building the finishing room, a building nearly 300 feet long caught fire.

The building was half brick and half wood and every part was filled with finished chairs ready for shipment; the wooden part with contents was destroyed but the brick part was saved. The flames spread so fast and surrounded and burned the hydrant houses thus cutting off completely the water supply and everything was left at the mercy of the flames and everything was reduced to ashes in less than two hours. Nearly \$200,000 worth of property is destroyed and 300 employes are thrown out of employment. The origin of the fire is unknown. The plant had only closed down for the day less than one hour before flames were discovered.

The property was not half covered by insurance, making a total loss of approximately \$100,000. The plant is owned by Stuart W. Cramer, Charlotte; J. T. Cramer, John R. Myers, Thomasville and the Whiting Company, Winton, Mass. It was the most disastrous fire in the history of Thomasville and will take years to regain the loss.

The plant's weekly pay roll was about \$2,000. The machine room was two stories, four hundred by sixty feet in size, and was by far the largest plant here.—Charlotte Observer.

TELEGRAPH AMALGAMATION.

Western Union and Anglo-American Cable Combine.

London, Dec. 18.—It is announced that negotiations have been completed for the amalgamation of the Western Union Telegraph Company and the Anglo-American Cable Company.

With the companies combined the Western Union would control seven out of the sixteen cables which now span the Atlantic. Such a combination would also suggest that the Western Union company has succeeded in obtaining, not only the working, but the financial control of the Anglo-American concern. The report that the Western Union was contemplating purchasing the Anglo-American became current more than a year ago, but it was vigorously denied. The Western Union has contracts at present with the Anglo-American Telegraph Company, Limited, which have ten years to run.

PRICE OF BIGGEST WARSHIP.

Newport News Co. to Build 27,000-Ton Texas for \$5,830,000.

Washington, D. C., Dec. 20.—The contract for building the 27,000-ton battleship Texas was to-day awarded to the Newport News Shipbuilding Co., the lowest bidder, at \$5,830,000.

The award provides for reciprocating engines instead of the giant turbines, which are now being installed on nearly all other modern warships. The Government could have saved \$5,000 by installing Curtiss turbines, or \$40,000 if the British design, Parsons turbines, had been selected. The decision to revert to the old reciprocating engines was based upon the recommendation of the engineer in chief and other members of the construction board, the reason assigned being the superior economy of the reciprocating engines at "cruising" or middle rate speeds.

JNO. D. HANDS OUT TEN MILLION MORE

Says It's His Last Gift to University of Chicago

MAKES THE TOTAL \$35,000,000

Gives Notice That He Now Believes the University Should Be Supported and Enlarged by Gifts of Many Others Rather Than by One, While John D., Jr., and Fred T. Gates Resign From the Board of Trustees.

Chicago, Ill., Dec. 20.—John D. Rockefeller has completed the task he set out for himself in the founding of the University of Chicago. Today public announcement was made of a "single and final gift," of \$10,000,000, which includes all the contributions that Mr. Rockefeller had planned to make to the University. This sum, which is to be paid in ten annual installments beginning January 1, will make a total of approximately \$35,000,000 that Mr. Rockefeller has donated to the University.

Mr. Rockefeller says he now believes the school should be supported and enlarged by the gifts of many rather than by those of a single donor. This he believes will be better accomplished if the public understands the limit of his contemplated assistance. The founding of new departments he leaves to the trustees as he says funds may be furnished by other friends of the University.

Up to the present time the sum of nearly \$7,000,000 has been donated to the University, in addition to Mr. Rockefeller's gifts.

With the announcement of Mr. Rockefeller's final donation came the resignation of John D. Rockefeller, Jr., and Fred T. Gates, Mr. Rockefeller's personal representatives from the University board of trustees.

In enclosing the resignation, Mr. Rockefeller explained that he was only carrying out a conviction that the institution should be "controlled, conducted and supported by the people," with whom up to this date he had been simply co-operating.

Mr. Rockefeller's ideas, it is understood, are that he is turning over the institution and its endowment to Chicago and the West, and in so doing withdraws from any further representation in its control.

The official announcement of the benefaction was made at the quarterly convocation at the University this afternoon. President Martin A. Ryerson, of the board of trustees, read a letter from Mr. Rockefeller, in New York, which bore date of December 13th and was addressed to the president and trustees of the University of Chicago.

EVERY DAY A PAYDAY.

Pittsburg Employers to Disburse \$3,000,000 for Christmas.

Pittsburg, Dec. 18.—Every day this week will be payday for the men in the mills, mines and manufactories in the Pittsburg industrial district, and it is estimated that about \$3,000,000 will be distributed to the workers in time for them to do their Christmas shopping.

The Christmas pay will be much in excess of the amount handed out in previous seasons. Approximately the following amounts will be distributed by paymasters in the various crafts: Iron and steel industries \$1,250,000. Coal and coke industries, \$800,000. Other industries, \$950,000.

The iron and steel companies affiliated with the United States Steel Corporation will pay out the greater part of the \$1,250,000. The largest sum to be paid by any individual company is \$500,000, which will be the payroll of one coal company.

Is 104 Years Old.

Montgomery, Ala., Dec. 21.—Mrs. Esther Deas, of Montgomery, will celebrate her 104th birthday on Christmas day. She was born in North Carolina on Big Coldwater creek, December 25, 1806. She has been a resident of Montgomery for 42 years and has a daughter living who is 85 years old.

GAS EXPLOSION SHAKES MANHATTAN

Ten People Meet Death and 125 Injured

PROPERTY LOSS IS \$3,000,000

Without Warning, Roof of Grand Central Power House is Lifted Into Air Like Magic Carpet, Scattering Death and Destruction in Crowded Streets.

New York, December 19.—The terrific explosion of illuminating gas in the auxiliary power-house at the Grand Central Station, which tore at the heart and sent a tremor along the entire backbone of Manhattan this morning, caused the death of ten persons, two of them women, the injury of 125 others and property damage estimated tonight at from \$2,000,000 to \$3,000,000.

The fire broke out in the shattered ruins of the power-house again late to-night, but with a great corps of police, searchers and firemen on the scene, the blaze made little headway before checked.

It was a weird scene in and about the station as the night wore on. No additional bodies were found, but in a hospital Guthrie Johnston, an electrician, succumbed to terrible injuries received in the explosion, bringing the death list up to ten. Hurred estimates during the day placed the damage at not more than half a million dollars, but a canvass of the neighborhood showed that few structures had escaped. Windows were smashed literally by the thousands. Handsome resident fronts were decorated with blankets, sheets, newspapers, burlap or old rags as the quick substitute for window glass. Several institutions in the neighborhood have appealed for aid to effect repairs, and order will not be restored for weeks.

The Tiffany studios at Forty-fourth Street and Madison Avenue, fully half a mile from the scene of the catastrophe, suffered. Valuable stained glass windows, valued at \$10,000, were smashed.

Albert Seagreat, the engineer of the motor car which broke the pipe line, was released on parole to-night at the instance of District Attorney Whitman, who says there is no evidence to warrant his being held.

Traffic on the New York Central Railway ceased entirely for some hours and was disorganized for the remainder of the day, but the new station itself, now in process of construction, was not damaged.

\$30,000,000 OF TRADE.

This Year to Break All Records, Says Bureau of Statistics.

Washington, Dec. 18.—The calendar year 1910 is going to be the banner year for the world's international trade, according to the Bureau of statistics. The bureau has received reports from twenty-seven countries which cover from six to ten months of the calendar year 1910. In all of the twenty-seven countries the figures of imports and exports show an increase of about 9 per cent in the monthly averages as compared with the corresponding period of 1909.

It is believed that the world's international commerce for 1910 probably will show exports valued at between \$14,000,000,000 and \$15,000,000,000, while imports are expected to aggregate more than \$16,000,000,000.

RECOVERS VOICE AND DIES.

Dumb Many Weeks, Woman Suddenly Bids Her Family Farewell.

Columbus, Ind., Dec. 16.—Recovering her voice suddenly after having been dumb many weeks, Mrs. Albert Hook, aged 20, called her husband and other members of the family to her bedside to-day, bade them farewell in a firm tone, and died.

The woman had been ill for a year, and her voice, strangely ringing through the house to-day started the family to believing she had been miraculously restored to health, but when they reached her she was dying.

DISASTER IN ENGLAND

MORE THAN 300 VICTIMS IN ENGLISH MINE.

Miners Were Trapped by Fierce Fire Following a Fearful Explosion. Second Terrible Mine Disaster in England Within a Year—Several Rescued Alive.

Bolton, England, Dec. 21.—More than 300 colliers lost their lives to-day in an explosion in the little Hulton colliery of the Hulton Colliery Company, which is located a little distance outside this city.

The explosion occurred early in the morning, soon after the miners had entered the pit to begin work. Its force was terrific, and later investigation showed that the lower passages had been blocked. Heroic efforts were made by rescue parties all day long, but a fierce fire which followed the explosion prevented the rescuers from penetrating beyond 400 yards into the workings.

At 9:30 o'clock tonight all the rescuers were called out of the mine and a conference was held at which government Inspector Gerrard issued a report after making a descent into the pit in which he stated that it was impossible that any of the miners are still alive.

He added that nothing could be done except to bring up 20 bodies found lying near the shaft. This report was communicated to the anxious crowds around the pit mouth, after which the Bishop of Manchester conducted a touching service in the open and the people slowly dispersed.

No explanation is given as to the cause of the explosion which completely wrecked the mine.

This is the second great mine disaster in England this year, an explosion having occurred in the Wellington colliery at White Haven Cumberland, on May 12th, in which 136 miners were killed. The explosion to-day resulted in the temporary disablement of the machinery where by the cages are lowered and drawn to the surface, and it was considerable time before the first rescue party reached the bottom of the pit. In all they brought out eight men, still living, but the majority of these were in a serious condition from the noxious gases. Ten bodies also were removed, and 20 additional bodies were found partly covered by heavy falls of coal.

Late tonight the colliery fans were started again and the air was found to be fairly good. Arrangements were then made for relays of rescuers to go into the mine every three hours throughout the night. Towards midnight two more miners were found alive. They were terribly burned and are in a critical condition.

It was announced that 40 bodies had been collected at the bottom of the shaft that they will be brought up as soon as possible. A flicker of hope still animates the rescuers that more men may be found alive. Doctors, nurses and ambulances are still on the scene, and relatives, mostly women, are lingering in the vicinity.

Among the incidents was the death of a rescuer who, anxious to reach his two sons who were entombed, got in advance of his comrades and forfeited his life from after-damp.

The King has sent a touching message of sympathy.

GOOD ROADS CONTRACTS.

Bids for Work Aggregating \$3,000,000 To Be Asked for Next Month.

Albany, Dec. 20.—Contracts will be awarded by the State Highway Commission next month for the construction of 199 miles of county roads and 85 miles of state roads, including a portion of the new state road across the state. The proposed improved highways will be located in various sections of the state, and it is estimated will cost about \$3,000,000. Bids will be received on January 9, 11 and 13.

Since the State Highway Commission was created, 650 miles of state and county highways have been completed. The total cost of improving roads for the past two years, including the contracts awarded during the Skene administration, is about \$7,462,000.

THE BALES GINNED GO TO 10,698,482

Census Bureau's Report Shows Increase

SEA ISLAND ON THE DECREASE

The Percentage of the Last Three Crops Ginned to December 13th Were 92.9 for 1909, 91.0 for 1908 and 84.0 for 1907, and the Report Shows That in North Carolina the Bales Ginned to December 13th Were 664,434.

Washington, D. C., Dec. 20.—The Census Bureau's report of cotton ginning, issued this morning, shows 10,698,482 bales, counting round as half bales, were ginned from the growth of 1910 to December 13th, compared with 9,358,085 for 1909, 11,904,209 for 1908 and 9,284,070 for 1907.

The percentage of the last three crops ginned to December 13th was 92.9 for 1909, 91.0 for 1908 and 84.0 for 1907. Round bales included this year are 106,827, compared with 140,024 for 1909, 215,059 for 1908 and 167,204 for 1907. Sea Island for 1910 is 75,170, compared with 85,177 for 1909, 80,316 for 1908 and 65,268 for 1907.

By States, the number of bales ginned to December 13th was: Alabama, 1,129,173; Arkansas, 676,156; Florida, 59,488; Georgia, 1,707,310; Louisiana, 234,468; Mississippi, 1,066,946; North Carolina, 664,434; Oklahoma, 868,928; South Carolina, 1,108,967; Tennessee, 269,657; Texas, 2,849,911; all others, 62,944.

The distribution of Sea Island cotton for 1910, by States, was: Florida, 25,804; Georgia, 39,717; and South Carolina, 649.

The corrected statistics of cotton ginned to December 1st are 10,139,712 bales.

170 PERSONS LOSE THEIR LIVES

ISLAND, WITH ITS INHABITANTS, SINKS INTO SEA.

Twenty Families Wiped Out by Horrors of Costa Rica. Seismic Disturbance Which Brings Disaster Is Felt Throughout the Republic.

Port Limon, Costa Rica, Dec. 18.—At least twenty families, estimated to aggregate 170 men, women, and children, were drowned following the sinking of their island home Saturday. The island, in the center of the Hopango lagoon, off Salvador, disappeared after a series of earthquake shocks, and slid into the depths of the lagoon, carrying with it nearly all of the inhabitants.

The sinking of the island is said to have followed a series of earthquake shocks, which were felt throughout the republic. The shocks began early in the evening, and grew in frequency and violence as night progressed, until about midnight, when the watchers on shore heard sounds of guns from the people on the island.

Shortly after that a huge bonfire was lighted on the island, and at about 1 o'clock a boatload of frightened women and children reached the mainland. The survivors reported that other boats were coming as fast as they could be filled, as the island was slowly sinking under the feet of the inhabitants.

TWO KILLED BY WHISKEY.

Spirits Ordered by Mail Fatal to Birmingham Youths.

Birmingham, Ala., Dec. 20.—Immediately after taking a drink of whiskey out of a bottle, which one of them had ordered shipped by mail, Guy R. Coleman and Stephen Strickland, well-known young men of Birmingham, dropped dead this afternoon. Their deaths are being investigated.

Woman Dead at 105 Years.

Dubois, Pa., Dec. 17.—Mrs. Elizabeth Shoemaker died at her home near this town last night in her 105th year. She was born in Dauphin county, came to Clearfield county when 20 years old, and had been a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church for more than 85 years.