

CAPITAL FACTS.

Interesting News Gathered in the District of Columbia.

THE AMERICAN CONGRESS.

Personal Incidents and Important Happenings of National Import Published for the Pleasure and Information of Newspaper Readers.

Probably True at Other Places.

Col. W. C. Haskell, Superintendent of Weights and Measures, declared that practically all the 300,000 barrels of flour sold in Washington were short four pounds each of the advertised weight and that Washingtonians were paying annually \$42,000 for flour which they never received. Other items were in proportion, he said. Nearly every package sold in grocery stores was short four ounces, according to the investigations of his officers, Colonel Haskell said, and bottled goods were short in quantity too.

Diet Won't Do for a Ploughboy.

Speaker Cannon has solved the problem of the high cost of living. He explained his system to 100 visiting school boys of New York and Philadelphia. He says he spends only 10 cents a day for breakfast, taking but a cup of coffee and an egg sandwich. He declared that when he is recklessly extravagant he spends a nickel more for an orange. "When a boy, I learned to keep within my income," he said. "Now I am able to do it and thus can save a little for a rainy day."

Not In It For Money.

Preachers are the poorest paid class of men in the country, according to statistics compiled by the Census Bureau. The average pay of the clergymen is computed at \$663. City preachers get much higher wages than those in charge of rural flocks, except in Catholic churches. The remunerations are fixed by diocesan authorities. The highest average paid by any denomination is to the Unitarians, \$1,653 per year.

Homing Pigeon in Fast Company.

A homing pigeon with repertorial instincts flew into one of the windows of the Senate press gallery Monday. It seemed quite exhausted, and had evidently found an unexpected harbor of refuge when it darted under the Capitol portico after a long flight. Some of the correspondents revived the bird with a little lemonade, and dispatched it on its way. The pigeon had on its leg a band marked: "P. B. 11-190—J. X."

Soldiers to Establish Clubs.

At several military posts the enlisted men are being induced to establish soldiers' clubs outside of the reservation and beyond the government control where in addition to the useful facilities of the garrison hall within the post they may obtain beer, light wines and other beverages under such regulations as will prevent intoxication or excess.

One in Washington Zoo.

Senator Gallinger introduced in the Senate the joint resolution which has already been introduced by Representative Moore in the House, for an exposition in Washington to celebrate the completion of the Panama canal. The resolution was referred to the Committee on Industrial Art and Expositions.

No Canteens At Soldiers Homes.

The House, after vigorous debate voted to refuse authority to national homes for disabled volunteers to maintain canteens where the homes are within five miles of towns where liquor is legally sold.

Needs a Light Job.

Upon his own application to be relieved of the duties of secretary to the President, which, it is said, have been so heavy as to threaten his health, Fred W. Carpenter has been appointed by President Taft to be United States minister to Morocco to succeed H. Perceval Dodge, a post which Mr. Taft believes will benefit Mr. Carpenter's health.

Red Cross Sign for Ads.

"The cross is the emblem of the Christian religion. I do not believe in giving any one organization a monopoly of its use. Therefore, I object to the consideration of the bill."

Representative Crumpacker, of Indiana, with the above objection struck from the unanimous consent calendar of the House a bill to prohibit the use of the Red Cross sign by any save the American National Red Cross Society, the measure being particularly directed toward those who use the insignia for advertising purposes.

Stamp Book Contract Renewed.

Postmaster-General Hitchcock has approved a contract with the Bureau of Engraving and Printing for a period of four years, beginning January 31, 1911, for the manufacture and printing of postage stamps. A private corporation submitted a bid \$17,000 lower; but, as the bureau expects to adopt methods which will save the Government \$180,000 a year in the expenditure of \$225,000 on the manufacture of stamps, the contract was awarded to the bureau.

THE NEWS MINUTELY TOLD

The Heart of Happenings Carved From the Whole Country.

The month of May contributed a ghastly record of 30 suicides in Pennsylvania.

Ninety-five per cent of the moving picture places in New York are dens of iniquity.

In Louisiana, under the present statutes, the appearance of any child under 16 years of age in theatres at night is prohibited.

Cuba willingly authorizes the raising of the wreck of the battle ship Maine, and will give every assistance to the Americans in the work.

The supreme court of the United States set the corporation tax cases for reargument at the beginning of the next term before a full bench.

The directors of American Snuff company, New York, have declared a quarterly dividend of 5 per cent, and an extra dividend of 2 per cent.

The South Atlantic States Corn exposition which is to be held in Columbia, S. C., from December 5 to 8 is attracting attention all over the South.

Five thousand bales of Southern cotton are on their way back to Southern spinners after a journey from the South to Liverpool and from Liverpool to New York.

Lack of faith in banks and the use of an old vest as a depository cost Dominick Rosato his life 'savings of \$747, at Chicago. His wife threw the vest in the fire.

The output of the government's smokeless powder factory at Picatinny, N. J., arsenal is to be trebled soon. The factory will be able to turn out 3,000 pounds daily.

In an opinion handed down Wednesday, the Interstate Commerce Commission declined to issue an order which might disturb the system of rice rates in the South.

Police records of Gary, Ind., for May show that one person in every 40 in the city was arrested during the month. The saloons, which reopened May 1, number 135.

Ex-Governor Robert B. Glenn has been making a series of lectures in Newark, N. J., in behalf of the National Religious Training School and Chautauqua for the Colored Race.

"I'd rather be known as a boodler than a liar," said State Senator Daniel Holstlaw in an interview at Loka, Ill., speaking of his confession to accepting a bribe of \$2,500 as a legislator.

Although the New York market reports show that butter receipts in May were larger than usual, the prices of the best grades are higher now than they have been before at this time since the civil war.

By a vote of 31 to 25 the senate refused to challenge the supreme court of the United States to another decision regarding the right of common carriers to transport commodities produced by themselves.

The supreme court of the United States Wednesday advanced the so-called government Panama canal libel suit against the Press Publishing company of New York for hearing the first Tuesday of next October.

Gov. Hadley and John H. Curran, commissioner of immigration of Missouri, have started a fund which is expected to reach \$10,000, to be given to the aviator who in 24 hours shall fly from St. Louis to Kansas City, a distance of 288 miles.

In a far-reaching decision in the case of Monroe Hampton, a negro boy of 12, sent up for two years in Lauderdale county, for burglary, the Alabama supreme court held that no confession of a child under 14 years of age, could be used toward conviction. As a result a new trial was ordered.

Eighty-five employees of the Treasury Department received "vacation notices" Wednesday, which means that they were permanently relieved from duty.

King Victor, Emmanuel, of Italy, thinks highly of the American Cross of Honor Society, and has sent Thomas Herndon, at Washington, the president, an autographed photograph of himself as a token of his friendliness to the organization.

A collar which a couple of years ago became soiled in one day can now be worn for two days in Chicago, so great have been the strides in abating the smoke nuisance, according to City Smoke Inspector Bird.

Miss Sarah E. Peek, a member of the faculty of Union College, Lincoln, Neb., was fined by United States District Judge Mungler \$10, after she had entered her voluntary appearance. Miss Peek was indicted by a Federal grand jury on the charge that she wilfully refused to give her age to the census enumerator or to answer questions as to whether she had been married or divorced. Her age has not yet been made public.

Aerial navigation has made such rapid progress that Secretary of State Knox and the government of Mexico are negotiating an aviation treaty governing the passage of air ships across the border line between these two countries.

Memorial Day was observed at Paris by all Americans. The embassy and consulate was closed and Ambassador Bacon and Consul General Mason made a trip to the Cemetery of Piques to lay flowers on the grave of Lafayette.

Not one cent of the Rockefeller million dollar fund for the investigation of the hookworm disease will be spent in Texas. The State Board of health refuses to contribute an equal share of the fund.

Kissing as a perfectly safe pastime has just received the O. K. of Dr. A. M. Worthington, a professor in the Harvard medical school, Boston. Persons who refrain because of fear of the interchange of bacteria are martyring themselves uselessly, the educator told his audience at a lecture on "Man and His Bacteria."

North Carolinian Dies in N. Y.

New York, Special.—William Sydney Porter, known best under his pen name of "O. Henry," as the writer of short stories, died Monday at Polytechnic hospital. He underwent an operation last Friday and never rallied. The nature of his ailment was not made known.

Mr. Porter was born in Greensboro, N. C., 46 years ago and began his career on the Houston Post.

Cotton Tare Case Decided.

Columbia, S. C., Special.—Judge DeVore has rendered a decision affirming the magistrate's court in the famous cotton case involving more than \$1,800,000 to the cotton men of the State. The case will be taken on appeal to the State Supreme Court.

The case was a test case touching the constitutionality of the act passed at the 1910 session of the General Assembly making reduction for cotton rate six per cent instead of 10 pounds as formerly and as in other Southern States.

Taft Honors Memory of Custer.

Monroe, Mich., Special.—President Taft Saturday joined with the people of Michigan in paying tribute to the memory of Major General George Armstrong Custer. He stood beside Mrs. Elizabeth B. Custer, the widow of the Civil war soldier, and martyr of the "Little Big Horn," as she tugged at the long streamer of cavalry yellow ribbon which released the flags and unveiled the splendid bronze equestrian statue of Custer.

Important Action of Mayors.

Winston-Salem, Special.—The State Municipal association, the closing session of the second annual convention, unanimously adopted a resolution introduced by Walter Clarke, Jr., of Raleigh, indorsing the commission form of city government.

It is also to ask the legislature to enact a general law allowing cities by popular vote to adopt the commission form of government. Mayor F. N. Tate of High Point was elected president of the association and it was decided to hold the next annual session in Raleigh.

Bride in Agony Ten Years.

New York, Special.—When Mr. and Mrs. Asa Cummings, of Binghamton, N. Y., were married 10 years ago their friends showered them with rice.

One kernel lodged in the bride's ear. For 10 years it defied the efforts of physicians and surgeons to dislodge it. Three fruitless operations were performed, and a short time ago she entered the Post Graduate Hospital here for treatment. Brain fever developed and she died Saturday.

Very Late About Important Matter.

Washington, Special.—Authorization for the compilation of the military and naval records of the Revolutionary War, with a view to their publication, is contained in a bill reported to the Senate Saturday from the Committee on Military Affairs. These records are greatly scattered and it would be a gigantic task to find and assemble them in satisfactory manner. For this purpose it is proposed that an appropriation of \$50,000 shall be made.

Convict's Heroism Rewarded.

Montgomery, Ala., Special.—As a result of heroism during the fire which cremated 26 negro convicts, at Lucile mines on May 15th, last, Nathan Page, a life convict, will be paroled. Page dashed into the fire and saved J. O. Thompson, one of the guards who had been overcome by the fumes of the burning oil while trying to unlock the cell in which the loss of life took place. Suggestion of the coroner's jury that this be done has the approval of the convict board.

Terrific Tornado in Augusta.

Augusta, Ga., Special.—A tornado here Thursday night, reaching a velocity of 62 miles an hour and lasting for 16 minutes did more damage than any in the history of the city, with the exception of the great tornado in 1878.

Death From Unusual Fall.

Cleveland, Special.—Plunging head-first down a flight of stairs, and through the window of a door, William Raddatz, 36 years old, had his head almost severed from his body by the broken glass.

Foreigners in Danger in China.

Washington, D. C., Special.—The city of Nanking, China, has been posted with placards inciting the people to the destruction of foreign life and property.

President's New Private Secretary.

Washington, Special.—Charles D. Norton, of Chicago, assistant secretary of the treasury, was appointed secretary to the President Wednesday.

ALL OBSTACLES REMOVED

Officials Grant Permit For Big Pugilistic Battle July 4

San Francisco, Cal., Special.—With but two dissenting votes and without preliminary discussion the permit for the 45-round battle on July 4, between Jeffries and Johnson was granted Tuesday by the Board of Supervisors.

The board room was crowded with representatives of church and civic organizations who did not get a chance to voice their protests. The permit was advanced on the Board's calendar and was passed before the objectors knew it. When they learned that the permit had been granted, the protesters indignantly left the room in a body.

By their action the board of supervisors removed the last official preliminary obstacle in the way of promoters, who will now proceed with the erection of the arena. District Attorney Fickert and the chief of police have already announced that they will not seek to prevent the contest.

"A Woman's Scorn," Awful.

Alexandria, La., Special.—Samuel Ford announced Monday morning that he was to be married that night and that it would cost him his life. When Catherine Pritchard, whose name was not mentioned in the announcement, heard the news, she called on Ford and killed him with several shots from a revolver. Jealousy is alleged to have been the motive.

River Appropriations Trimmed.

Washington, Special.—The report of the conferees on the river and harbor bill was presented in Congress Tuesday and was approved. As finally agreed to it carries appropriations aggregating \$51,947,718, a net reduction of \$750,500 from the amount of the bill as it passed the Senate.

Had to be Shown, Anyway.

Washington, Special.—The statute of Missouri passed March 13, 1907, prohibiting foreign corporations from doing business within the state, if they seek litigation in the United States courts, is pronounced unconstitutional by the United States supreme court.

Grand Gift to Negro School.

Nashville, Tenn., Special.—A Huntsville, Ala. dispatch says the McCormick family of Chicago has made a gift of \$17,000 to the trustees of the Agricultural and Mechanical College for negroes at Normal, Ala., to be expended in a domestic science building and a new hospital.

Dismissed "Jim Crow" Regulation.

Washington, Special.—An attempt to have the Supreme Court of the United States pass on the authority of common carriers engaged in interstate commerce to make "Jim Crow" regulations, met with failure Tuesday, when the court dismissed the so-called Chiles (negro) appeal from its docket.

Veteran Killed in Fight.

Savannah, Ga., Special.—Wielding a pocket knife, Samuel S. Bessinger, aged 65, a Confederate Veteran, stabbed and killed James Payne, aged 29, in a quarrel over money. Mrs. Payne, in an effort to separate the men, was hurled to the ground by her husband, who a moment later received his death wound.

As David Did Goliath.

Augusta, Ga., Special.—While standing in his back yard, on the Savannah road, E. H. Hertz, a farmer, was mysteriously shot in the forehead with a small leather pellet. The leather ball buried itself deeply under the scalp, inflicting an ugly wound. No gun report was heard.

President Taft Sends Thanks.

Augusta, Ga., Special.—Through his military aide, Capt. A. W. Butt, who is a citizen of Augusta, President Taft most cordially thanks the trades bodies and citizens of Augusta for the action taken at the joint meeting of the commercial organization, Saturday, when the people of this city tendered to the nation \$5,000 to meet the deficit in the president's traveling expenses.

Solomon Sheppard Shot.

Raleigh, N. C., Special.—Solomon Sheppard, the notorious Durham county murderer, who escaped the gallows through commutation to life imprisonment and who has twice attempted daring escapes, being the last time at large doing sensational stunts several days, was dangerously shot Wednesday near Garysburg, where he was with a squad of convicts doing a track grade work.

He rolled down an embankment and attempted to dash off into the bush. Guards fired three shots, one taking effect in his foot and another in his body, a buckshot penetrating a lung. He will recover.

Dead Body in Coal Car.

Cordele, Ga., Special.—A dead body was concealed in the bottom of a loaded coal car received here Monday from Empire, Ala., and consigned to Albany, Ga. Negroes working for the railroad refused to unload the car. The theory of murder is advanced. The car was refused by another railroad, from that which brought it thus far, on account of the stench. The car was placed on a sidetrack, five miles from here.

GOV. CALLS LEGISLATURE

Extraordinary Session June 14, Take Action on Bond Issue.

Raleigh, N. C., Special.—Governor Kitchin issued Friday evening a proclamation calling the North Carolina General Assembly to meet in extraordinary session here June 14 to take action as to the impending \$3,430,000 refunding bond issue to take care of bonds falling due July 1, the necessity for the special session being the inability of the Council of State to market the refunding bonds at this time in sufficient quantities under the restrictions of the legislative act authorizing them to meet the July bond obligations.

Mr. Ballinger Will Resign.

Washington, Special.—Richard A. Ballinger will resign his post at the head of the interior department. His resignation will be accepted by President Taft, who is aware of the intention of Mr. Ballinger to surrender his portfolio.

The resignation will be submitted as soon as the investigating committee shall have filed its reports exonerating Mr. Ballinger of the charges brought against him. That this will be the nature of the report is not doubted, although one and possibly two minority reports will be submitted, neither of which will relieve Ballinger of blame.

Information of Secretary Ballinger's intention to resign comes from a source whose reliability is entirely beyond question.

Southern Spending Money.

Washington, Special.—Contracts for locomotives, rolling stock, steel rails and fittings, involving a total expenditure of \$7,290,000 have been let by the Southern Railway company according to announcement made Wednesday, thus carrying out the statements as to orders to be given, contained in President Finley's announcement of March 17.

By these contracts 75 locomotives, 3,620 all steel 50-ton coal and coke cars, and 10 combined passenger-baggage cars are to be added to the motive power and rolling stock equipment of the Southern. In addition to this, contracts have been let for 46,000 tons of 85-pound steel rail and for 190,000 improved joints for use with this rail.

Disaster in New York Subway.

New York, Special.—Two hundred hysterical women, screaming children and panic-stricken men fought, their way through a dense smoke in the Mott avenue subway station in the Bronx Thursday, striving to escape. Only one elevator was available to take them to the street, which is 65 feet above the subway level at this point, and the crush to reach this exit on the five flights of stairs which led to the surface increased the panic.

Fifteen persons were overcome by smoke and two men were injured seriously enough to require hospital treatment.

Fire in an automatic pumping station caused the smoke. The damage was nominal.

Ex-Gov. Folk in Democratic Race.

St. Louis, Mo., Special.—Missouri Democrats of all factions at a dinner Thursday night heard former Governor Joseph W. Folk announce the principles on which, it is said, he will seek the Presidential nomination in 1912. The dinner was in charge of men who have been promoting the boom of the former governor.

Identified by Teeth.

Charleston, W. Va., Special.—Ginseng diggers in the mountain of Fayette county found the body of Mrs. Rachel Carter Martin, who suddenly disappeared while on a visit to her brother in January, 1908.

The body was identified by peculiar filling of the teeth.

No Aid to Special Railroad.

Washington, Special.—President Taft says that during his administration he will not lend his approval to legislation designed to give government aid to specific railroad interests in Alaska. Instead, he favors a general law which will apply to all who comply with its provisions; a law modeled after the policy which for years has been in effect in the Philippine islands.

Would Combine Memorial Days.

Richmond, Virginia, Special.—The Rev. James Cannon, Jr., a prominent Virginia Methodist and delegate from the general Southern board to the World's Missionary Conference at Edinburgh, Scotland, advocates the combining of Decoration Day of the North with all Confederate memorial days in the South into one celebration.

A Murderer at 80.

Bluefield, W. Va., Special.—John Dent, 80 years of age, shot and killed Henry Watson at Clintwood, Va., Thursday.

Rural Carrier Remembered.

Washington, Pa., Special.—George White, a farmer and rural mail carrier at Rea, has delivered to himself a letter from a lawyer in a western state informing him that one Patrick Sullivan has left to him in his will \$10,000. White, who first took it as a joke, has remembered that 15 years ago he befriended a peddler whose name was Patrick Sullivan. He had often treated him to meals or lodging.

ELECTION WIT AND HUMOR.

Candidate and Heckler in English Political Campaigns.

More often than not the heckler has the best of it and Ian Malcolm hits the nail on the head when he says apropos of the "voice in the crowd," "You are powerless in face of it; the ill of your sentence is ruined. Your withering scorn is turned to laughter and after laughter no retort appears effective."

Even Bernal Osborne, the wit of the Victorian age, was nonplussed when after a glowing speech at Waterford upon patriotism and a soldier's duty there came a voice from the gallery: "Och, what's the world to a man if his wife's a widow?"

Another election story of the Emerald Isle which Mr. Malcolm tells is that concerning a leading member of the Irish bar who in an eloquent speech upon the woes and injustices of his native land sought to impress his audience still further by squeezing out a few tears which trickled over his expansive cheeks. But the sublime was turned to the ridiculous when the wit of the gallery shouted out: "Shure, boys, there's a fine field for hydraulics."

This was as disconcerting as the reply made to Sir Richard Temple, who returned posthaste from his duties in India to contest a seat. In the course of a speech he remarked that he "had traveled 8000 miles and surrendered £5000 for the privilege of representing this great constituency," and the audience were impressed until the remark in a loud voice came from the crowd: "Oh, what a fool!"

And the heckler silenced Lord George Hamilton on one occasion when the latter, describing the late Mr. Gladstone as "a political adventurer who always had his eye on the Treasury bench," was met with the shout: "Yes, and he'll have his body there soon if you don't watch it!"

During the last general election a speaker at one meeting was somewhat irritated by a member of the audience who continually repeated, "We won't have our food taxed; no taxes on food." But it was not long before he silenced the interrupter with the cutting remark, "Console yourself, my friend; Joe isn't going to tax thistles."

"The voice" at another meeting shouted out, "Talk to us in language we can understand," because a speaker had quoted some Latin phrases. Like a flash came the cry from the platform, "Hee-haw! Hee-haw!" And the heckler vanished.

The son of a certain lord was addressing a meeting and was interrupted every few seconds by "the voice" saying, "I'm good as you; what's the difference 'tween you 'n' me?" Suddenly the answer came, "One difference is that you drink and don't work, and I work but don't drink."

Lord Morley is one of the few political speakers who can silence a heckler with a smiling retort as effectively as the famous Campbell, of Monzie, who, when he asked an Edinburgh burgess to vote for him and received the angry answer, "Vote for you! I'd sooner vote for Saian himself," sweetly replied, "Yes; but if your friend doesn't stand, may I depend upon your support?"—a remark that earned him a stanch adherent.

The fact that a blind man, Mr. Walter King, is standing as Liberal candidate for one of the divisions of Somersetshire recalls a story of Prof. Fawcett, who as a candidate for Brighton was asked by an elector how he, a blind man, was going to "catch the Speaker's eye" and vote in the right lobby. Mr. Fawcett scored effectively by replying that he would depend on the kindness of his friends. But, as to mistaking the lobby, he said he might occasionally vote wrong, "but at all events that would not be so bad as your present M. P., who is always in the wrong lobby, and he does it on purpose!" The answer was cheered to the echo.—From Tit-Bits.

The Landlady's Philosophy.

By CHARLES R. BARNES.

The more folks needs money the less scruples they carries around with them.

Seems as if there's wimmin in the world that's trouble garages. Men will run to some wimmin with worries faster than a cop gettin' away from trouble.

Wouldn't you be nice and friendly with the butcher if he'd send good meat three times in succession?

It takes a nerve for a street sweeper to stop an automobile to ask what time it is.

Politics and Wall Street is real chummy.

Why do they rub it in on the lawyers for bein' crooks when there's so many doctors workin' both sides of the street?

Noo York is full of crooked doctors. There's all grades of 'em, from the man that takes a case of rheumatism and keeps it goin' for ten years, at so much a visit, to the feller that will kill anybody with slow poison for a thousand dollars.—Popular Magazine.

And That's Going Some!

A teacher in a New England grammar school found the subjoined facts in a composition on Longfellow, the poet, written by a fifteen-year-old girl:

"Henry W. Longfellow was born in Portland, Me., while his parents were traveling in Europe. He had many fast friends, among whom the fastest were Phoebe and Alice Carey."—Everybody's.