

MANCHU GRIP ON CHINESE HAS SLIPPED

RULING PRINCES GIVE IN AND ORDER REPUBLIC

DRAFT LAWS TO GET DELEGATES TO CONVENTION

Dowager Empress and Other Members of Royal Family Will Abide by Decision of the Convention When It Meets—Said That Boy Emperor and Friends Are Fleeing for Their Safety.

Shanghai, Dec. 28.—An imperial edict was issued today at Peking by the Manchu princes virtually assenting to abdication of the emperor and the establishment of a Chinese republic. The edict came after a heated conference of the royalty and assents to the proposal that the national convention be called to decide between a limited monarchy and a republic. It also orders the cabinet to decide immediately on the election laws by which delegates to the convention will be chosen.

The edict specifically directs that Tang Shao Yi and Wu Ting Fank consult regarding a permanent suspension of hostilities and says that it hopes the convention's decision may finally decide whatever is best for the country. The edict came after Yuan had told them the case was hopeless. The publication of the edict here is taken to mean that finding further resistance hopeless the Manchus finally decided to yield and adopted this course to save a portion at least, of the properties as well as to delay the day of final reckoning. The edict, as soon as issued, was telegraphed to Shanghai and Wu went into conference with rebel chiefs preparing the answer.

While he would make no definite statement Wu Ting Fang, it is understood, is not very enthusiastic over the convention scheme as outlined in the imperial edict. Wu apparently fears the apparent surrender is merely an expedient to gain delay to permit the country to drift into anarchy and thus cause foreign intervention.

Royal Family to Flee. London, Dec. 28.—Tien Tsin dispatches say that the Manchu royal family is preparing to flee from Peking. Peking dispatches say further that the empress dowager and the Manchu princes have notified Yuan they will abide by any decision the proposed national convention may reach.

HARVEY CAMPBELL HURT. Struck Over Head With Bucket in Hands of a Greek.

Harvey Campbell is suffering this afternoon from a deep scalp wound inflicted by a Greek in the Greek pool room on Depot street. The details leading up to the fracas are rather hazy although Campbell stoutly denies he figured in any trouble with the man. He was struck over the head with a bucket. The Greek made a hasty getaway and is probably in hiding somewhere as he cannot be found as yet.

NEW PLAGUE IN BERLIN ALARMS

STRANGE PLAGUE PROVES DANGEROUS.

Patients Die Quickly With Convulsions—Nature Not Explained.

Berlin, Dec. 28.—With 50 indigents already dead in the Berlin municipal night shelter and other asylums and 100 more cases reported the whole city is terrified lest it has been stricken with an unknown plague. It was first thought the patients had ptomaine poisoning from eating tainted herring but later the physicians say it is some disease. Patients die quickly, in convulsions.

COLD SNAP HITS CHICAGO.

Chicago, Dec. 28.—With the mercury five above zero the coldest wave of the winter has struck Chicago and the lake region today. Two deaths are already reported and thousands are suffering. At Minneapolis it was eight below, at Milwaukee zero, and La Crosse, Wis., seven below.

Passenger Agents in Florida.

Jacksonville, Fla., Dec. 28.—Several hundred representatives of the lead-railroads of the United States, Canada and Mexico assembled in Jacksonville today for the opening of the annual convention of the American Association of Passenger Agents. Following a two-day session in this city the passenger agents will make a tour of Florida and Cuba.

Battle in Morocco.

Molilla, Morocco, Dec. 28.—More than 400 natives were killed and 30 Spaniards perished and wounded in a six hour machine gun battle here today. The tribesmen removed their wounded but left the dead on the battlefield.

FIRST NIGHT A POPULAR ONE

ELKS RECEIVED WITH LOUD PRAISES.

Second Performance Tonight Will Doubtlessly Be as Clever as First.

MINSTREL SONG HITS IN PART ONE.

- "Listen to the Jungle Band"—Clint Draper.
- "When the Sands of the Desert Grow Cold"—Frank Bramwell.
- "Lord Have Mercy on a Married Man"—Fred Henning.
- "Honey Girl"—George Birnie.
- "Below the Mason-Dixon Line"—C. R. Harding.
- "You'll Do the Same Thing Over Again"—Elmer Iddings.
- "In the Garden of My Heart"—C. P. Ferrin.
- Grand Finale—"The Navajo Rag"—Chas. Hackman.
- Grand First Part—"The Temple of Mirth," introducing Mr. M. B. Donohue as Interlocutor; comedians—Dick Jones, F. G. Henning, C. R. Harding, Chas. Hackman, J. M. Richey, Norman Desilet, Elmer Iddings, H. A. Zurbrick, Clint Draper.
- Soloists—Frank Bramwell, Geo. L. Birnie, C. P. Ferrin.
- Chorus—R. B. Doane, Walter Francis, Harry Patterson, Geo. Cochran, Chas. Cochran, A. Van Fleet, Dr. Biggers, Leo Herring, Clint Van Fleet, Lynn Bohnen-kamp, Jas. Bell, Ben Bassett, J. T. Ridenaur, M. Batley, Clare Scriber, Geo. Abegg, O. J. Couch, J. H. Pearce and W. Allinson.

Program Part II.

- "The Gay Deceivers"—Presented by Miss Retta Bramwell, Ad-na Rogers, H. E. Coolidge, Wm. B. Sargent and Master Jack Rogers.
- "On the Old Plantation"—Introduced by Mr. Nate Ardrey... Banjo Solist.
- Mr. Ed Donohue, Cyclone Dancer.
- "My Old Kentucky Home"—Geo. Abegg.
- "By the Mississippi Shore"—Clint Draper.
- "Climb Up, Ye Children, Climb"—M. Batley.

Effervescent with shafts of wit and prongy "gags" that struck deep in the victim's craws, scintillating from overture to the curtain with catchy musical numbers exceptionally well rendered and sparkling with crispness and newness throughout. La Grande Lodge No. 433, B. P. O. E. kowtowed to the public last night in minstrelsy. They show again tonight and it is a safe investment to wager there will not be a vacant seat in the Steward. Messrs. Miller and Draper who have staged the production, choose

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650 MILLIONS IN WATER STOCK

WALL STREET AID WAS AIM IN FLOATING BEEF TRUST

MANY SCHEMES DISCUSSED HERE ONE WAS SELECTED

Veeder Throws More Light on Enormity of the Beef Trust in His Continued Testimony Before Packer's Trial—Twenty-five Times Individual Earnings Used as the Basis of Scheme.

Chicago, Dec. 28.—Arthur Veeder, former counsel for the beef trust and one of its organizers again resumed the stand today in the trust-busting case. Through him the government attempted to show the schemes of packers tried to induce Wall street to help float the billion dollar concern in 1902. "They finally decided to use 25 times their individual annual earnings as the basis for capitalization," said Veeder. He said they thus added \$650,000,000 of water to the stock of the new concern, the National Packing company.

"Before reaching the final decision," continued Veeder, "the packers discussed many schemes. Finally the plan of turning over their properties to the new concern at two for one was offered. The packers saw the humor of that time-honored plan and decided to devise other means."

Veeder said Louis Swift got the idea of combining from Lord Gordon in London. Gordon said they should combine for economic reasons. Swift brought the idea back with him and broached it to others.

To Oil the Wheels of Justice.

Lincoln, Neb., Dec. 28.—Members of the Nebraska Bar association gathered here today and began what promises to be one of the most important annual meetings in the history of the association. In addition to listening to addresses by several noted jurists the convention will receive and discuss the report from the committee appointed by the association a year ago to recommend a revision of the codes of procedure with a view to eliminating technicalities and removing obstacles which at present hinder the course of speedy justice. The report, among other things, suggests a revival of the office of district attorney for the judicial districts of the state and recommends that a verdict in a criminal case shall not be reversed or affected for errors in the proceedings which do not affect the interests of the defendant. A reduction in the number of pre-emptory challenges allowed the side of the defense in all criminal proceedings is recommended also an amendment providing that in all civil jury cases a verdict from ten members in district court and five in justice court shall be binding.

Occupy New Residence.

San Mateo, Calif., Dec. 28.—Ambassador and Mrs. Whitehead Reid are en route from London to take up their residence in Mill's mansion here which has been remodeled at a cost of \$100,000.

BRIDGES WILL KEEP SECRETS

CHANGES MIND AND WILL NOT CONFESS CRIME.

Admits Confederates Had Given Him Dynamite—'I'll Save Neck.

Monessen, Pa., Dec. 28.—Admitting that confederates gave him a suit case full of dynamite which he carried when arrested, George Bridges definitely declared today he has changed his mind and would not confess. He said he is convinced the police have no case against him and will not be able to prove a conspiracy to dynamite the mills, if he keeps his mouth shut. He refused to say whether he was the employee of the unions or non-union mill forces.

PEACE BANQUET IS DISTORTED

WAR DINNER IS NOW DESIGNATION OF PEACE FEAST

COMMITTEE ON ARRANGEMENTS IS "UP IN THE AIR"

Situation Next Saturday Will Be Extremely Ticklish When Letter From Roosevelt Will Be Published Criticizing the Committee on Arrangements—Troubles Grow Out of Little or Nothing.

New York, Dec. 28.—The "peace banquet" here Saturday which Roosevelt flatly refused to attend, has threatened to merit the designation of a "war dinner." The committee on arrangements is divided today as a result of the complications that are threatening to destroy the purpose of the affair and Chairman Clews has had a direct issue with Roosevelt. He plainly states that Roosevelt "is mistaken in declaring that the original purpose of the banquet was changed from a specific endorsement of the peace treaties to anything that would aid in securing universal peace." It was announced Saturday that Roosevelt will publish a letter next Saturday addressed to the committee of arrangements in which he bitterly scores these plans and motive of those who arranged the dinner.

WILSON 55 TODAY.

Presidential Timber Showered With Congratulations.

Trenton, N. J., Dec. 28.—Woodrow Wilson, governor of New Jersey and active candidate for the democratic nomination for president of the United States, reached his 55th birthday anniversary today and was the recipient of congratulatory messages from many friends and admirers throughout the country.

Though ten years younger than Judson Harmon, who is regarded as his chief rival for the presidential nomination, and seven years the junior of Champ Clark, who also is looked upon as a possible democratic standard bearer next year, Governor Wilson's experience and activities have extended over a wide field.

Governor Wilson was born in Staunton, Va., and passed nearly the whole of his youth in the south. His father was a Presbyterian minister and during the boyhood of the future governor occupied pulpits in Augusta, Columbia, Wilmington and other cities in the south. The son began his academic studies at Davidson college. In 1875 he went to Princeton and was graduated with high honors from that institution. While he was an undergraduate at Princeton he began his career as a political writer with an essay on "Cabinet Government in the United States" that attracted attention.

From Princeton Governor Wilson went to the University of Virginia where he studied law for several years. Afterward he practiced for a time in Atlanta and then went to John Hopkins university, where he gained a fellowship by writing a book on

CENTENNIAL CELEBRATED

ONE HUNDRED YEARS AGO SINCE HUNTS REACHED BAKER.

Two Days Later Saw Same Party Reach the Grande Ronde Valley.

Baker, Ore., Dec. 28.—Baker is celebrating the centennial of the first arrival of white men in Eastern Oregon over the overland route. Numbers of prominent Eastern Oregon men took an active part in the ceremonies.

On Saturday it will be just 100 years ago since the Hunt party reached the Grande Ronde. Further facts relative to this historic date are obtainable in Irving's Astoria.

OREGON BANKS HEALTHY.

Salem, Ore., Dec. 28.—A healthy condition of the Oregon banks was shown in the statement Superintendent of Banks Wright just completed. The gain in most three million dollars in deposits in the year. In 1910 at the close of business on Dec. 5, deposits \$119,194,681; in Dec., 1911, \$82,533,22.

Rates Are Lowered.

Tacoma, Dec. 28.—The state public service commission announced a cut from 10 to 31 per cent in A. I. first class freight rates on all railways in the state effective March 1st. The order applies to all incoming and outgoing freight from Tacoma, Seattle, Spokane, Aberdeen, Walla Walla, Pasco, Wenatchee, and several other distributing centers.

GOVERNOR DIX VENTS SPLEEN

NEW YORK AND NATION'S HEALTH JEOPARDIZED.

Health Officer at New York Port Removed With Tongue Lashing.

New York, Dec. 28.—Declaring that only the interposition of providence "prevented cholera and other infectious diseases from gaining a foothold in New York," Governor Dix today demanded the immediate resignation of Dr. Alvah Doty, chief of quarantine since 1907. Dix charges that Doty failed to maintain an effective safeguard to the health of the city and state, and allowed lewd practices between orderlies, other employees and immigrant women and girls while they were in quarantine. Dix closed his letter by saying: "There has been the grossest failure under you to either establish or maintain such real quarantine laws as the welfare of the country demands at the port of New York."

SOLONS GOVERN WAGES.

Massachusetts Legislature Face Important Measure.

Boston, Mass., Dec. 28.—One of the most important matters to be considered and acted upon by the Massachusetts legislature when it assembles next week will be the measure known as the minimum wages bill, which is designed to insure a living wage for women and child workers. The measure proposes the creation of a permanent state commission of three members with power to do the following things: Conduct a searching investigation of all industries where women and children are employed at a wage that does not permit living under healthful conditions. Form a joint wage board of six employers, six women at work in the establishments affected and three representatives of outside interests, who shall fix a minimum wage for the calling.

Make special provision for physically and mentally defective employees by permitting them to work for a special rate below the regularly established minimum. Punish violations of the law through the courts, by a fine ranging from \$10 to \$50 for every violation, or by imprisonment of from ten days to three months.

Kansas to Have New League.

Salina, Kas., Dec. 28.—At a meeting here today plans were discussed for the formation of a new baseball league, to be made up chiefly of towns in the Central Kansas league circuit last season, with others from the old Kansas State league. An eight-club organization is proposed. Among the cities proposed for membership are Newton, Hutchinson, Emporia, Salina, Great Bend, McPherson, Junction City, Manhattan and Clay Center.

PROGRESSIVE TOUR DOGGED THROUGH OHIO

TAFT WILL FOLLOW LA FOLLETTE IN OHIO

HURRIED CALL OF LIEUTENANT RESULTS IN ACTION

Cleveland, Akron and Other Ohio Towns to Hear President on Jan. 1 Through His Home State—Believed Ohio Republican Committeemen Deems Such Action Urgent—La Follette Active.

Washington, Dec. 28.—President Taft intends following La Follette in his tour of Ohio, was the announcement at the white house today. It was stated that the president expects to speak at Cleveland on January 29th, at Columbus January 30th, Akron on January 31st. He is considering one more date but is undecided where it shall be.

It is considered significant that Taft's proposition for a jaunt was announced after Warren Harding, the recent republican candidate for governor of Ohio, was called to Washington. It is understood that Harding told the president concerning La Follette's chances for securing Ohio's delegates and they considered a similar movement urgent.

Harding when asked concerning the Taft tour said: "There is really no sentiment favoring La Follette in Ohio. His invasion will ally in a rebellion to President Taft."

La Follette Optimist.

Norwalk, Ohio, Dec. 28.—Informed that Taft was expected a follow-up tour, La Follette said: "The progressives will sweep Ohio. I have watched the ground swell; I have met the breakers; I know."

Trusts and Taft Fayed.

Cleveland, Dec. 28.—R. M. La Follette left here today on the second day's invasion of Ohio. He talks to night in Ohio.

The address here was principally an attack on the trusts. He made no direct mention of his own candidacy for the presidency but devoted a large part of the time in a denunciation of President Taft and Gary's plans for federal licensing of corporations as a trust-controlling device. He denounced the Aldrich-Payne tariff law as "the most outrageous assault of private interests on people contained in the history of the tariff." He spoke at noon today to railway employees and residents of the rural community near Norwalk.

Torpedo Boat in Distress.

Washington, Dec. 28.—The wireless dispatches tell of imminent danger to the torpedo boat Warrington, in distress on the high seas fifteen miles northwest of Cape Hatteras. The revenue cutter Onondaga and scout cruiser Salem, are hurrying to the rescue. It is believed she will weather the storm.

GOTCH ANXIOUS TO END CAREER

THROWS ENGLISH CHAMP WITH EASE LAST NIGHT.

Registers Two Falls in Seventeen Minutes—Praises Mahmut.

Kansas City, Dec. 28.—"I want to quit while I am at my best, which is now," said Champion Frank Gotch today, following his victory last night over Alexander Munro, the English champion, whom he threw to the mat twice in 17 minutes. "I will begin to decline some of these days. I don't want to grow stale and let some foreign wrestler beat me." Gotch said he believed the best foreign wrestlers were Mahmut, the Turk, and then Pedersen, the Dane.