

TAFT IS BELIEVER IN MECKLENBURG

First Declaration of Independence.

HIS POLICY TOWARDS SOUTH

Seek to Create Tolerance, Appoint Best Men.

CLODBURST CAUSES PANIC

But Taft Stands Calmly Smiling Throughout Downpour and Reviews Parade—History of Famous Convention.

CHARLOTTE, N. C., May 20.—President Taft came to Charlotte today, the home of the Mecklenburg declaration of independence, signed in May, 1776, and placed himself squarely on the side of those who look upon the declaration as one of the first significant steps which led ultimately to American independence. In his address today the President clearly explained his policy toward the South.

His Policy Towards South.

"I do not believe we are on the point of a political revolution in the South," he said. "I never have had such a dream. What I do desire and believe we are on the eve of is a complete tolerance of opinion and that there shall grow into respect and power all intelligent, fighting opposition party in each state." As to his appointment of a Democrat to the bench, the President declared that through the South he intended to pursue the policy of appointing to office only those men who, Republican or Democrat, could command the highest confidence and commend themselves to the community in which they lived.

Clodburst Causes Stampede.

A clodburst during the afternoon just as the splendid parade was passing in review before the President, threatened serious consequences. It threw the throng in front of the reviewing stand into a panic and there was a wild rush for shelter. The President's box was a goal for many men and women, and the Chief Executive had to be surrounded to save him from the sudden crush.

A passing industrial float became entangled in a live electric wire and tore it from its support, the slender thread of copper sagging almost to the heads of the crowd below.

To add to the tense situation, there was a blinding flash of flame and a loud report not 50 yards from where the President stood. It developed later that some black powder intended for saluting purposes had been prematurely ignited. No one was injured.

Harmonizer of Hearts.

The President received quite a drizzling and for a time it seemed that the frail canopy covering the reviewing stand would tumble about the heads of those beneath.

Among these was Mrs. Stonewall Jackson. When she had met Mr. Taft earlier in the day she had earnestly exclaimed: "An indeed delighted to know the harmonizer of all our hearts."

Citizens of Charlotte gave a public reception to the President tonight and he left on a late train for Washington.

Mr. Taft was quite hoarse as a result of his encounter with the dust of the Petersburg battlefield and the Charlotte rain.

Vast Crowd Welcomes Him.

Mr. Taft and party arrived here at 10:15 A. M. from Petersburg, Va. Mr. Taft was greeted by an immense throng which had gathered at the Southern Railway station. It required the services of several companies of militia to keep the cheering crowds at the depot in check as the President alighted and made his way to a waiting carriage. Mr. Taft, accompanied by Captain Archibald Butt, his military aide, was escorted to Charlotte by a local committee, and upon his arrival here by an imposing committee of citizens and escorted to the Selwyn Hotel. Arriving at the hotel, the President held a reception. Then, with scores of Union and Confederate veterans for his escort, the President, accompanied by Mrs. "Stonewall" Jackson, proceeded to a reviewing stand, from which he witnessed the passing of probably the most noted parade ever held in this city. Large detachments of the National Guard of both North and South Carolina were in the line. The industrial, colonial and forest divisions were made up of handsomely decorated floats. More than 200 farmers were in line on horseback. Many were accompanied by their wives and children and appeared in colonial costume.

Mecklenburg Spoke First.

Mr. Taft takes the position that, regardless of the exact language of the declarations made in May, 1775, a full year before the signing of the Jefferson Declaration at Philadelphia, July, 1776, the fact remains that there was a declaration of independence on the part of the citizens of North Carolina. "It is not so material as to the exact language used," said the President today. "The measure of a declaration for the principles of civil liberty and

SOLDIER'S WIDOW FIGHTS BURGLAR

MRS. LONGSTREET TAKES SIX SHOTS AND HITS.

Opens Fire as Marauder Flees and Empties Pistol—Burglar Staggers in Flight.

GAINESVILLE, Ga., May 20.—Mrs. Helen G. Longstreet, widow of the Confederate General and postmistress of this place, fought a duel with a man whom she discovered in her home about 2 o'clock this morning. Mrs. Longstreet was awakened by a noise in the house, and getting out of bed, secured a pistol and went to investigate. When she entered the dining-room, she saw a man trying to open the closet in which the table silver was kept. She called to him and the man turned and ran for a window. Mrs. Longstreet opened fire and the man drew a pistol and fired once. Mrs. Longstreet continued firing at the fleeing man until her pistol was empty. She then shot at the man, as after one shot was fired he staggered and nearly fell. Mrs. Longstreet sleeps with a pistol under her pillow, and is an expert in the use of the weapon.

JURY ACQUITS M'COLLEY

Prisoner Acted in Self-Defense in Killing Cornelius Finnucane.

LAKEVIEW, Or., May 20.—(Special.)—The trial of Robert McColley, one of the prominent young shepherds of Lake County, for killing Cornelius Finnucane, ended in a verdict of not guilty last night.

Much money was spent in the trial, four lawyers appearing for the prosecution and two for the defense. A week was consumed in the trial, the last day being devoted to arguments to the jury. The evidence showed that Finnucane attacked McColley on the public range and the latter committed the homicide in self-defense. The trial attracted much attention, and the verdict is a popular one.

WATCH IS HELD ON CLERKS

Councilman Finds Employees Too Slow in Waiting on Customers.

SEATTLE, Wash., May 20.—(Special.)—Councilman Arnold Zebendin held his watch on the clerks in the light and water department today and found that, though there was a long line waiting before each window, it was 15 minutes before any clerk attended the wants of the waiting taxpayers. He became wroth and announced in a loud tone who and what he was and had the clerks jumping lively. "Such discourtesy to the taxpayers of Seattle is a rank outrage," said the Councilman, "and there has got to be a decided improvement in the system."

LORD EATS HUMBLE PIE

Makes Public Apology for Insult to American Countess.

LONDON, May 20.—Lord Ronaldshay, at a public meeting today, made an abject apology for an attack which he made at a recent political meeting upon the Countess of Granard, formerly Miss Beatrice Mills, of New York. He had alluded to the Countess as a "dumpy American heiress, who had been fortunate enough to secure a title." In his address tonight Lord Ronaldshay said he wished to apologize for what he admitted, on thinking it over, was a "singularly ill-thought joke."

WESTON IS STUCK IN MUD

Pedestrian Has Hard Time When Nearing Colorado Line.

DENVER, May 20.—Edward Payson Weston, the veteran pedestrian, who is walking from coast to coast, was all but stuck in the mud yesterday and was compelled by heavy rain to stop last night at Wekan, Kan., a little station 12 miles from Sharon Springs, near the Colorado state line. It is still raining heavily and Weston, who resumed his westward journey this morning, is not expected at Cheyenne Wells until late today.

FIRST TRAIN AT KLAMATH

Fifteen Hundred People Shout for Joy at Sight of Iron Horse.

KLAMATH FALLS, Or., May 20.—(Special.)—The initial passenger train of the California Eastern Railroad to reach Klamath Falls on the newly completed road was welcomed by about 1500 people at the depot at 1 P. M. today. It was a spontaneous gathering of a long-isolated people to welcome the beginning of a new era. A band discoursed appropriate music and the people shouted and congratulated each other on the happy event.

PIONEER PRESS IS SOLD

Details of Change of Control Completed—Dispatch Now Owner.

ST. PAUL, Minn., May 20.—The Pioneer Press will announce tomorrow morning that negotiations which have been pending for several days between the Pioneer Press Company and the St. Paul Dispatch have been completed, and that the owners of the latter paper have purchased the controlling interest in the Pioneer Press.

DR. HILL BEATEN FOR MODERATOR

Eastern Members Unite for Barkley.

SECTIONAL ISSUE IS RAISED

Three Ballots Decide Issue in Presbyterian Body.

FULLERTON FOR UNITY

Retiring Moderator Warns His Church to Heal Protestant Divisions—Electing Committees Under New System.

DENVER, May 20.—Dr. J. M. Barkley, of Detroit, Mich., was elected moderator of the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church today, receiving 562 votes as against 292 votes for Dr. Edgar P. Hill, of Chicago. It was a battle of East against the West and the East won.

Three ballots were taken to decide the moderatorship, and had it not been for the withdrawal of W. L. McEwan, of Pittsburg, after the second ballot, there is no doubt that a long-drawn-out contest would have ensued.

McEwan Breaks Deadlock.

The first ballot resulted in a deadlock, Barkley receiving 292 votes, Hill 274, McEwan 237. On the second ballot Dr. McEwan's strength fell away to 153, Barkley's grew to 360 and Hill got 282 votes. Dr. McEwan took the floor and said that in the interest of harmony he would withdraw. On the third ballot Dr. McEwan's strength went to Dr. Barkley.

When the assembly began its sessions this morning Dr. H. P. Fullerton delivered his address as retiring moderator. There were more than 2000 persons in the auditorium of the Central Presbyterian Church. His address follows:

Growth of Religious Doubt.

Dr. Fullerton began his address by referring to spread of doubt regarding the fundamental doctrines of the church, saying:

"When accredited ministers of the church deliberately cast suspicion upon a truth so fundamental as the deity of Christ, at the time not ripe for the church to declare itself. Arianism is not so bold now as it was in the past. It would be less dangerous if it were. Its approach is subtle, now. It conceals itself behind scientific theories and in the uninitiated appears as well-established truth. The hurt, however, is the cause comes rather from a lack of positive conviction in the church upon this great doctrine, a lack of well-defined notions concerning it which do not hesitate to defend themselves."

He said the church needed a correct version of the nature of Christ and his relations to it. It needed to rediscover his deity, inadequate conceptions of which became the source of a multitude of evils. It needed to rediscover him as the redeemer and head. He went on to make a plea for some kind of organic federation of Protestant churches which should prove the existence of spiritual unity. He deprecated the idea of a "union of churches."

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STUDENTS STRIKE AND QUIT STUDIES

SILVERTON HIGH SCHOOL IS SCENE OF WALKOUT.

School Board Suspends Nine Pupils, Principal Sides With Boys and Trouble Follows.

SILVERTON, Or., May 20.—(Special.)—As the result of a fight here today between Principal W. L. Ray, of the local high school, and Messrs. W. Bowser, G. A. Bach and E. L. Smith, members of the school board, the scholars of the Silverton High School walked out in a body at the noon recess. An appeal was made to County Superintendent Smith, at Salem, and he reviewed the local situation, and so arranged matters that school will be resumed tomorrow.

The trouble started over the class rivalry between the sophomores and juniors. As a result of a class rush, in which there was considerable disorder, the school board ordered nine of the students suspended. Principal Ray took legal advice in the matter, came to the conclusion that the school board was exceeding its authority in such action. He advised the pupils to remain in school.

Hearing of this, the school board again ordered their suspension, and when the nine went forth at noon, all their classmates joined them. County Superintendent Smith decided that the school board was in the wrong, and school will be resumed as usual tomorrow.

MORE JAPS GO ON STRIKE

Trouble on Hawaiian Plantations Now Involves 6000 Men.

HONOLULU, May 20.—Over 2000 Japanese employed on the Kahuika plantation struck today, making the total number out on various estates more than 6000. They demanded the discharge of their Japanese foremen, declaring they were angry, and the management refused to comply.

The Oahu plantation is paying off today, distributing \$20,000 among its employees, and the strikers have agreed to leave peacefully. Eleven hundred strikers have been employed by the owners, and twice that number offered their services.

At the Waiwala plantation the Japanese have demanded \$1 a day, which seems to be the general demand of field workers in the islands, but pending a reply they are still at work.

CAN'T LAY BONES IN ABBEY

Dean of Westminster Firm in Decision About Meredith.

LONDON, May 21.—The Dean of Westminster's refusal to permit the ashes of George Meredith to be interred in the Abbey appears to be final, and he declines to give any reason. No effort has been spared to induce the dean and chapter to reconsider, but in vain.

ADLER GIVEN SIX YEARS

Sentence Passed on New Orleans Bank Wrecker.

NEW ORLEANS, May 20.—William Adler, recently convicted on the charge of misappropriating funds of the now defunct State National Bank of New Orleans, was sentenced today to serve six years.

DREADNOUGHT RACE CRAZY AND SINFUL

Allen Parker M. P. Is Opposed to War.

ASKS TAFT'S AID FOR PEACE

Mohonk Lake Peace Conference Addressed by Many.

COST OF NAVIES IS TOLD

Representatives of All Nations Unite in Arguing for Era of Peace and Look to America to Take Lead.

MOHONK, N. Y., May 20.—"Crazy," "mad," "emotional insanity," "sinful," were some of the terms used today by Allen Parker, M. P., in telling the Mohonk Lake Peace Conference about Great Britain's Dreadnought Parliament.

"I largely endorse," said Mr. Baker, "what President Butler has said as to the emotional insanity of the present mad race for battleships in Great Britain and Germany. Our House of Commons, of which I am a member, is the chief sinner in having started the crazy competition in building Dreadnoughts. But you must remember we have a yellow press in Great Britain, and you must not believe all that it says regarding the so-called German war emperor."

Seeks Taft's Aid.

He declared that the peace of the world today lay in the hands of the United States, Germany and Great Britain, and that the United States could join with Germany and England and thus prevent possible warfare and stop the Dreadnought competition. He invited President Taft to take the lead in this direction.

Business men representing 55 chambers of commerce, from 18 states and Canada, who are attending the conference, adopted a resolution urging President Taft to take the initiative in leading the nations to a concurrent limitation or reduction in the armies and navies of the world.

Decry Big Armies.

"The rivalry among civilized nations for increased armaments is greatly to be deprecated. We believe the time has come in which the nations should depend on justice. Therefore, we advise that nations trust to arbitration, rather than force, to arbitrate rather than war."

Speaking tonight before the conference, Kokochi Midzuno, Japanese consul-general at New York, said:

"We are so confident of the sincerity of American friendship that during the last few years when so many bitter veils against Japan were heard in a certain section of this great Republic, the whole Japanese people remained quiet and fully convinced of the fact that the anti-Japanese movement did not represent the true sentiment of the American people at large."

Referring to the exchange of notes between

(Concluded on Page 4.)

CAPTIVE BALLOON SCORES "SINGLE"

PORTLAND-LOS ANGELES GAME HAS ODD INTERRUPTION.

Sightseeing Gasbag Falls to Earth, but None of Occupants Is Injured.

LOS ANGELES, May 20.—The big balloon "America," which is being used to take sightseers into the clouds while made captive with a long cable operated by an electric motor and winched, became unmanageable today and dove to the ground, striking near the first base of the Chutes Baseball Park, where the Portland and Los Angeles teams were in the seventh inning of a hotly-contested game.

The balloon was in charge of Captain A. E. Muller, and contained beside himself, two passengers. None of the occupants of the basket was injured, but the sudden coming to earth of the huge gas bag caused consternation for a time and stopped the game. The balloon was damaged considerably. A sudden gust of wind caused the bag to strike the ground.

WILL BRING GRAIN HERE

Hill Announces Branch Line Into Wheat Belt.

SEATTLE, May 20.—Great Northern Railroad officials announced today that a branch line of the road would be built from Wilson Creek south to Connell, the juncture of the Northern Pacific and the Oregon Railway & Navigation Company. The move is one that has been projected by the Hill lines for years, and is said by the local offices to mark the first step in the contest for Eastern Washington territory between the Hill and Milwaukee interests.

The branch line, as planned, will depart from the main line at Wilson Creek and will follow the Snake River valley until it swings off to the east of the Snake, traversing the low country east of the Baddle Mountains and connecting with the Northern Pacific main line at Connell.

The branch line, which affords a new outlet for the wheat farmers of Grant and Douglas Counties, Washington, will be continued ultimately from Connell to connect with the North Bank below Pasco, securing a water grade for wheat trains from the fields to Portland.

O. A. C. REFERENDUM FAILS

E. J. Kaiser Unable to Secure Sufficient Signatures to Petitions.

ASHLAND, Or., May 20.—(Special.)—Petitions calling for a referendum vote on the special appropriation bill of the recent Legislature granting the Oregon Agricultural College \$210,000 for the construction of new buildings, equipment and purchase of lands will not be filed.

E. J. Kaiser, editor of the Valley Record, placed the petitions in circulation throughout the state immediately after the adjournment of the Legislature, and was active at the same time in agitating an initiative measure to be voted on by the people placing the University of Oregon, the Agricultural College and the state normal, under one board of control. Mr. Kaiser gave out the following statement tonight:

"The petitions do not contain the number of names required. All the names secured were solicited voluntarily, there being no hired solicitors employed."

GARDENER FINDS "THINGS"

Uncerths Eyeless Frogs of Bygone Age in Sandstone Bluff.

DENVER, May 20.—Creatures resembling frogs, but unlike them, in that they are whitish in color and have no eyes, were discovered yesterday in a sandstone bluff three miles west of this city by a truck gardener.

While digging in the bluff he uncovered a number of cells, inside of which were soft, mush-appearing balls. When these were rolled out they proved to be living creatures, presumably of another age. Local geologists are of the opinion that muds buried at least ages ago where now stand the sandstone bluffs, and that a chemical process changing the mud gradually to stone, imprisoned the amphibians just discovered.

KERMIT HERO OF BEATERS

Shoots Leopard and Saves Native's Life After Beast Wounded Him.

NAIROBI, British East Africa, May 20.—Theodore Roosevelt and his son Kermit are having good hunting luck on the Juba ranch of George McMillan. Their bag includes a water buck, an impala and other varieties of antelope. The expedition has now a total of 80 specimens, representing 25 different species.

TOMATOES POISON NURSE

Marshfield Woman Falls Down Stairs in Faint and Is Injured.

MARSHFIELD, Or., May 20.—(Special.)—Mrs. J. Hart, a nurse, was stricken suddenly today with poison poisoning as a result of eating rotten tomatoes. She fainted and fell down stairs and was severely bruised. She is seriously ill.

FRANK AND HELEN GOULD DIVORCED

Court Finds Husband Is Proved Guilty.

NO PROVISION FOR ALIMONY

Each Party Takes Two Children Half Year.

WIFE HAS LARGE FORTUNE

Report of Referee Confirmed, but No Co-respondent Named in Decree—End of Seven Years of Married Life.

NEW YORK, May 20.—Mrs. Helen Kelly Gould was granted an interlocutory decree of divorce today from Frank J. Gould by Justice Gerard in the Supreme Court. The decision was rendered on the report of Edward W. Whitaker as referee, who decided that charges against Gould had been proven.

Each Has Children Half Year.

Mrs. Gould is allowed the sole custody of the two children, Helen Margaret and Dorothy Gould, from December in April, both inclusive, and the defendant may have them from May to November, subject to certain modifications. The decree is held responsible for the education of the two children and also for their medical attendance.

Gould Guilty as Charged.

No provision is made for alimony for Mrs. Gould, nor is the name of any co-respondent mentioned by her referred to. After setting forth that the referee has found that the material allegations in the complaint have been established, Justice Gerard says in his order:

"And it appearing to the satisfaction of this court that the defendant has been guilty as charged in the complaint, it is ordered and decreed that the said motion be granted and the report of the referee confirmed in all respects and the marriage dissolved."

The Goulds were married December 2, 1901. Mrs. Gould is daughter of the late Eugene Kelly and is wealthy in her own right.

GOULD BROKE MARRIAGE OATH

Judge Refuses to Keep Referee's Report Secret.

NEW YORK, May 20.—(Special.)—Mrs. Frank J. Gould was granted a decree of absolute divorce by Judge Gerard in the Supreme Court today, on the ground that Mr. Gould had violated his matrimonial oath. Judge Gerard struck out one provision of the referee's report, which disclosed the name of the co-respondent.

INDEX OF TODAY'S NEWS

The Weather.

YESTERDAY'S—Maximum temperature, 85.3 degrees; minimum, 41.0 degrees.

TODAY'S—Partly cloudy, with possible showers; westerly winds.

Foreign.

Paris strike causes riot and troops dispersed.

National.

Aldrich makes concession on tariff in Democratic Party.

Politics.

Taft declares belief in Mecklenburg declaration and defines his Southern policy.

Member of British Parliament denounces naval expenditure at Lake Mohonk Conference.

Domestic.

Father's speech in four men causes wheat to boom.

Barkley, of Detroit, defeats E. P. Hill for moderator of Presbyterian Assembly.

Thrilling scene when people jump from burning building to escape fire.

Mrs. Longstreet charges a burglar and puts him to flight.

Mrs. Frank Gould granted divorce, court decree held responsible for education of children.

Balloon breaks up Portland-Los Angeles ball game by descending on diamond.

Sports.

Cost League scores: Portland 2, Los Angeles 1.

Portland 2, Sacramento 1.

O'Brien got big share of receipts from fight with...

Northwestern League scores: Portland 5, Astoria 1.

Seattle 5, Vancouver 1.

Local Northwest.

Mrs. Nevada Donahoe, of Los Angeles, arrives at Seattle.

Daughter, slain by husband, Page 8.

Occidental convention at Albany adjourns.

Page 12.

Silverton High school class walk out when boys are ordered to clean rush equable.

Page 1.

U.S. denied right to file petition for extradition after courts have decided issue.

Commercial and Marine.

Over 12 feet of rain in Eastern Oregon, wood crop...

Portland wheat market very strong, Page 10.

Lake country stock market, Page 10.

Portland market, weekly market of Madison bridge bond in market, stock market in Seattle, Page 10.

Mrs. Brown takes stand in husband's behalf in embezzlement case, Page 10.

Heavy suggestions of European travel from Portland scheduled for this summer, Page 10.

Intending street improvements bring clash between Mayor and Lawyer Dunbar, Page 10.

Commercial Club representative held reception and discussed results of trip, Page 10.

