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VOL. XX.—NO. 42. PORTLAND, OREGON, SUNDAY MORNING, OCTOBER 20, 1901. PRICE FIVE CENTS.

CAMPAIGN IN OHIO

First Gun Fired Yesterday at Delaware.

ADDRESS BY SENATOR FORAKER

Hanna Declared That He Is Not Going to Quit Politics—Mayor Johnson, of Cleveland, Was There.

DELAWARE, O., Oct. 19.—The opening of the Ohio campaign here today by the Republicans was the most largely attended for years. The features of the occasion, from the opening prayer of Rev. Mr. Bashford to the closing speech of Senator Hanna, were the remembrance of McKinley and the appeal for the support of President Roosevelt. Governor Nash and Senators Foraker and Hanna made addresses. When Senator Foraker referred to President Roosevelt entertaining Booker T. Washington "as a representative of the colored race," there were demonstrations of approval by the many colored people present.

The greatest demonstration of the day was when Senator Hanna declared he did not intend to quit politics or resign as Senator or chairman of the Republican National committee. The crowd assumed that Senator Hanna was referring to his fellow townsman, Mayor Tom L. Johnson. Mayor Johnson today mingled freely with his political opponents and was accorded a seat on the platform during the speaking. Other speakers were Congressman Warnock, of Urbana, who presided, and Carl N. Nippert, candidate for the office of Lieutenant-Governor.

The forenoon was devoted to the reception of the speakers and other prominent Republicans. There were 40 bands in the parade starting at 1 P. M. In addition to the special trains of visiting clubs, excursions were run from all parts of the state, and the attendance was very large. The weather was fine and the city was profusely decorated. Pictures of McKinley, as well as of Nash, Foraker and Hanna, were displayed everywhere, and some of the banners had quotations from McKinley's speeches.

Mayor Johnson came with the Tippecanoe Club, of Cleveland, and was well received everywhere as he mingled in the crowds.

Senator Foraker's Speech.

Senator Foraker's speech was devoted to National and statte issues. On the subject of new markets he said:

"The greatest business problem with which American statesmanship now has to deal is that of finding markets for our rapidly increasing surplus products, and the greatest field for the development of new markets is in the Orient. Our trade there is growing by leaps and bounds. If we are wise, we can increase it almost indefinitely; but as it grows the necessity increases to maintain the prestige of our position and all the advantages upon which it depends.

"The value of the Philippines does not depend on their resources, or on the amount of their trade, any more than the value of an isthmian canal will depend upon the amount of tolls that can be collected.

"Great national and international enterprises and movements are not to be measured by dollars and cents. We do not except to ever collect one dollar of profit in money from either Porto Rico or Hawaii; and yet, their value to us is beyond calculation. The one is essential to the command of the Caribbean Sea,—and the other is the outpost that protects our Pacific Coast.

"What these islands are to us here on this side of the globe, the Philippines are to us yonder on the other side. That is not all. Whether we like it or not, we have become a world power and must help do the work of the world. We cannot confine ourselves to this continent and we should not if we could. We are destined to come and go, to and fro throughout the earth. Let us realize and appreciate what we are, and are to be.

"This is the golden age of the Republic. Our exceptional blessings of strength and wealth and honor have not been given to us for luxurious enjoyment, but for conscientious use in the great fields of opportunity that lie about us.

"The world is growing better, but millions yet await in darkness the light and liberty we only can give. Our good name, our honor, our self-respect, or self-interest, and also our duty, all alike command us not to turn back but to go forward. The way to go forward is to re-elect."

"I have attended Republican campaign openings in Ohio for 20 years. This is the greatest of them all. Everybody is here. Even sinners stricken with repentance; even Zaccheus is in the tree (pointing to those in the trees), and he sees something that is coming our way. Although this is the first demonstration of the campaign, the enthusiasm is so noticeable as to show that the Republicans of Ohio are determined that their verdict of November 5 shall be heard all over this country, for William McKinley and his policy, and his successor, Roosevelt. And he is a successor of whom we may be proud. If our Democratic friends had only waited until today to hold their Ohio convention and write their platform, they would have an issue; for day before yesterday President Roosevelt entertained at dinner Booker T. Washington, a representative of the colored race, and all over the country there are manifestations of Democratic displeasure and even a threat—we hear it given in their papers—that they will resign all the offices they hold. What a calamity that would be in Ohio, for they do not hold any here. And in all human probability they never will."

There was a considerable demonstration when Senator Foraker concluded.

Senator Hanna's Address.

Senator Hanna was next introduced and spoke as follows:

"I feel the inspiration of this hour. It is a Republican day. This is Republican weather. The bright sunshine has pierced through the gloom which has held us like a pall for 30 days and more, and in that time we have waited with bowed heads and aching hearts. Every prayer and every tear came from the Nation's heart. And now that the time has passed when the flag is to remain at half-mast and can be again raised at the mast-head, we are reminded of our duty. We are called into another line of duty and under these influences we feel the responsibility of that duty. We are compelled to think solemnly and seriously of the situation and, although this may be but a state campaign, it is fraught with much importance and its effect will be as generally felt as any campaign ever held in this or any other state.

"I will repeat my text of 1900, 'Let well enough alone.' We must acknowledge that the foundation of the prosperity which has come to us is the confidence that the people have in those who are controlling the destinies of this Nation. And when you knock a single prop from under that structure, you make a beginning which will end in destruction of that confidence and bring us back again to the conditions of six years ago. Those are serious questions to every man; serious questions to our state and Nation; it is within your power to continue it as it is or go back to the conditions which Senator Foraker was so vividly described.

"Following that terrible tragedy, from which this country will not recover in months or years, there came an awfully solemn moment to every thinking man in the United States and when President Roosevelt uttered those words to the American people, which have been repeated here today, he did it with the most serious intent to serve the best interests of his country and to secure and guarantee a continuation of this confidence among the people; and he meant every word of it.

"Let no yellow journals or blatant demagogues shake your faith in the conditions of this country today, as affecting those who have the responsibility. I am not going to retire from politics or public duty. I have no intention or resigning my chairmanship of the National Committee."

After repeated demonstrations, the Senator continued:

"I am going to stay there and see Nash and Foraker and others through, if it takes 10 years.

"This is no time to bring into this contest any side issues of state affairs such as taxation, 3-cent fares, Henry George theories or anything else of that kind. (Voices: 'He's gone; he's left the stage,' referring to Mayor Johnson.) I am not addressing myself to any personalities, but I say it is belittling this cause, so full of importance to the people, to drag into this contest the vaporings of a demagogue.

"In 1900, when I found the conditions in National affairs much the same, I feared the effect and result of being overconfident. The duty you owe to your families, as well as to the state, should be a command to drop everything. My farmer friends, leave the corn unhusked in the field, if need be, and you men that work in the shops and on the roadside, I say, your time cannot be better spent for your own interests than to give the necessary time to the polls and cast your votes for 'Let well enough alone.'

"What do we want in men to represent us at the capital at Washington. Proper qualifications. Has the State of Ohio ever had an abler, more efficient Senator than Foraker? I say no, with you; and I have a right to say it, because I know him. We are all agreed on that proposition.

"If Ohio goes as she ought to go, 100,000 plurality for Governor Nash, you will be creating a condition of things in the public mind, among financial circles, among the great commercial and industrial interests, that will add strength to the foundations of your prosperity which will make it lasting, not one year nor two years, but 50 years.

"I say, without fear of contradiction, that on all the great economic questions of today the Republican party is right and has proved itself right. Every promise made at the St. Louis convention has been kept and every prophecy has been fulfilled to the letter."

Nomination Declared Invalid.

HARRISBURG, Pa., Oct. 19.—The nomination of E. A. Coray, Jr., of Pittstown, for State Treasurer by the Democratic State Committee was declared invalid by the Dauphin County Court. An opinion giving the reason for the court's action will probably be handed down Monday. A meeting of the Democratic State Committee has been set for Tuesday in this city, and it is expected Mr. Coray will again be nominated. The decision does not affect the validity of his nomination by the Municipal League and Union party state conventions. The objection to the Democratic nomination was filed by John M. Garman, ex-chairman of the Democratic State Committee, and Patrick Donahue, one of the six members of the committee from Philadelphia, who were expelled for alleged party disloyalty. They contended that the nomination was illegal because the seats of these members were declared vacant and their places filled by others without giving them a chance to be heard.

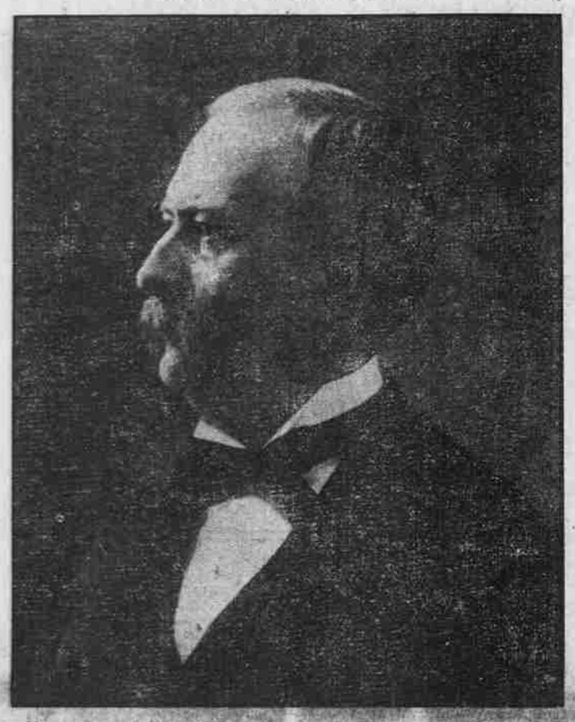
Registration at New York.

NEW YORK, Oct. 19.—The four days' registration in the boroughs comprising Greater New York closed tonight, with a total result of 614,812. The registration one year ago was 640,777.

Universalists' General Convention.

BUFFALO, Oct. 19.—The board of trustees made an encouraging report at today's session of the Universalist General Convention. The canvass of the 20th-century fund has been a great success, already being beyond the $200,000 mark. By a unanimous vote of the convention, Rev. Dr. Eliot, president of the American Unitarian Association, was given a hearing. Dr. Eliot extended greetings to the Universalists, whom he said the Unitarians regarded as colaborers.

SENATOR J. B. FORAKER.



ONE OF THE LEADING SPEAKERS AT THE OPENING OF THE REPUBLICAN CAMPAIGN AT DELAWARE, O.

ROUNDED THE TOWER

Feat Accomplished by Santos-Dumont in His Airship.

BUT HE DOES NOT WIN THE PRIZE

He Lost Forty Seconds' Time by Not Descending at Once When He Returned to the Starting Place.

PARIS, Oct. 19.—Santos-Dumont's airship ascended at St. Cloud at 2:42 o'clock this afternoon, and five minutes afterward began to round the Eiffel tower. He completed his trip successfully, but a question has arisen as to whether it was done within the time limit, 30 minutes. M. Deutsch says the aeronaut won the prize. The committee, however, declares that Santos-Dumont took 30 minutes and 40 4-7 seconds to make the trip.

Santos-Dumont started for the first time at 2:29, but, on leaving the park, his guide rope caught in a tree and he was obliged to descend. He started again at 2:42, rose 250 yards, and then pointed for the Eiffel tower, the balloon going in a straight line. It was seen through the field glasses to arrive at the tower and round it. The time up to that point, with the wind in the balloon's favor, was eight minutes and 45 seconds. It returned against the wind and made slower headway, but still kept in the right direction for St. Cloud, which it reached in the total time of 29 minutes, 15 seconds. But instead of descending immediately, Santos-Dumont made a broad sweep over the Aero Club grounds, with the result that another minute and 25 seconds were consumed before the workmen seized the guide rope. Thus, technically, Santos-Dumont exceeded the time limit by 40 seconds.

The enormous crowd that had gathered inside and outside the grounds gave the aeronaut a tremendous ovation. As his basket came within speaking distance, Santos-Dumont leaned over the side and asked: "Have I won the prize?" Hundreds of spectators shouted: "Yes, yes," but the Count de Dion, a member of the committee, appeared and threw a damper on the enthusiasm by saying: "My friend, you have lost the prize by 40 seconds."

Numbers of the onlookers protested against this announcement in lively terms, but the Count de Dion said: "That is the decision of the committee, in accordance with the rules of the contest."

The crowd, however, refused to accept this view, and a warm discussion ensued, the majority of the spectators taking the ground that Santos-Dumont was entitled to the prize because he had reached the grounds within the 30 minutes, although he had not descended immediately.

The aeronaut, after protesting against the decision of the committee, finally shrugged his shoulders and remarked: "Anyway, I do not care personally for the 100,000 francs. I intended to give it to the poor."

The crowd persisted in declaring that Santos-Dumont had won. A number of ladies who were present threw flowers over the aeronaut. Others offered him bouquets, and one admirer, to the amusement of the onlookers, even presented him with a little white rabbit.

At this moment, M. Deutsch himself arrived at the club grounds, having only shortly before that moment reached Paris from Biarritz. He advanced, embraced Santos-Dumont, shook hands with him, and said: "For my part I consider that you have won the prize." The crowd then gave the two men a great ovation, cheering heartily.

Santos-Dumont claims that he won the prize because he reached the park within the time and that original rules governing the contest made no mention of having to touch the ground within the 30 minutes. The dispute is due to the action of the committee, which some time ago modified the terms of the contest by inserting the latter stipulation. Santos-Dumont at the time protested and refused to be bound by the fresh regulations, and strenuously upheld this view with the Count de Dion and other members of the committee on descending today, finally declaring that he considered that he had won the prize and would not try again. If the money was withheld it was not his fault. M. Deutsch said he would give 25,000 francs to the poor, notwithstanding the decision of the committee, but Santos-Dumont declined to accept the offer as a solution of the difficulty.

There was a large assemblage of people at the Eiffel tower. Considerable interest was manifested in the achievement in other parts of Paris, groups of people gathering in the streets to watch the progress of the elongated yellow balloon with long guide ropes hanging and white canvas propellors whirling around, while those below distinctly distinguished the loud buzzing of the motor. Santos-Dumont rounded the Eiffel tower between the second and topmost platforms at about 75 yards away from the tower. The balloon pitched somewhat when going against the wind, and Santos-Dumont, when he descended, said the motor suddenly stopped while the balloon was a little distance from the tower. He thought he might have to descend, but luckily he succeeded in getting the machine started again. From that time on the motor worked satisfactorily.

Santos-Dumont's Plans.

NEW YORK, Oct. 19.—A London Times special from Paris, cabled to the New York Times, says that if the weather is not calm enough this month for M. Santos-Dumont to attempt to round the Eiffel tower with his airship, he proposes to voyage from Nice to Corsica, using a guide rope on the sea.

YALE'S BICENTENNIAL.

The Celebration Proper Will End Today.

NEW HAVEN, Conn., Oct. 19.—The city today gave itself over to the proud university which tomorrow will begin the celebration of its 200th anniversary. The streets everywhere are flying the blue of Yale, intermingled with festoons of evergreen, and in the center of the city scarcely a building is to be seen which is not decorated. Very many distinguished guests have arrived and every incoming train bears its quota of returning graduates and other visitors.

The celebration proper will open tomorrow with exercises, religious and musical. Monday there will come dedication of memorials, addresses on law and medicine and the pronouncement of welcome by President Hadley. Monday night the spectacular procession will take place. Tuesday morning will be devoted to addresses; Tuesday afternoon the University football and the presentation of Professor Parker's oratorio, "Honora Novissima," conducted by the author, and a concert by the Boston Symphony Orchestra. Tuesday evening the college campus will be illuminated by 8000 electric lights and the students will present an Elizabethan drama. That day's festivities will conclude with the singing of Yale songs, old and new, by graduates and students, 3000 voices, led by a band of huge proportions. On Wednesday, commemoration day, will occur the illustrious features of the bicentennial. President Roosevelt will be present to don the gown and hood of the doctorate of laws. The state's Governor will be present and honorary degrees to the number of 60 will be conferred on men of letters and science of international reputation. A musical programme, dedication of new buildings and the farewell reception by Mr. and Mrs. Hadley will conclude the season of Yale's greatest celebration.

Baron De Reuter's Dinner.

LONDON, Oct. 19.—Baron de Reuter gave a dinner tonight in celebration of the jubilee of the establishment of Reuter's Agency, which his father founded in 1851. Sir John Hay, chairman of Reuter's Telegram Company, Ltd.; Baron George de Reuter and Mark Napier, representatives of the Associated Press and the Havas and Wolff Bureaus, the great agencies with which Reuter's company is allied, and many others, were present. Telegrams of congratulations from all parts of the world were received during the dinner.

Hobson at Monument Dedication.

KNOXVILLE, Tenn., Oct. 19.—Captain Richmond P. Hobson arrived in Knoxville today to attend the Daughters of the American Revolution dedication of a monument marking the site of the home of General James W. White, founder of Knoxville, who was Hobson's great-great-grandfather. The ceremony occurred this afternoon and was preceded by a street parade, headed by Hobson.

SUMMARY OF THE DAY'S NEWS.

Foreign.

Santos-Dumont made a successful voyage in his balloon around the Eiffel tower. Page 1.
Russia is assisting in the efforts to rescue Miss Stone. Page 1.
Sixty buildings were burned at Sydney, C. B. Page 1.
Boers report that General Dewet is dead. Page 2.
The growth of the American Navy does not excite distrust in Germany. Page 17.
Hall Caine suggests radical reforms in the Isle of Man. Page 17.

Domestic.

The Republican campaign in Ohio was opened at Delaware. Page 1.
Admiral Francis M. Bunce is dead. Page 1.
General Chaffee sends the names of the victims of the fight with Samar bolomen. Page 2.
Chicago strikers ignore the injunction against picketing. Page 2.

Sports.

Portland defeated Tacoma, 2 to 1, in exhibition series. Page 16.
Winning football teams were Cornell, Columbia, Michigan, Illinois, Yale, Pennsylvania and Stanford. Page 3.
Travis won the Westbrook golf cup. Page 16.

Pacific Coast.

Astoria decides to raise bonus for lumber and flouring mills. Page 6.
Steel trust will put up an immense plant in California. Page 6.
One million five hundred and eighty thousand bushels of wheat sold at Colfax during week just closed for 40 cents per bushel. Page 6.

Commercial and Marine.

The week's business in Wall street not very satisfactory. Page 23.
Heavy movement of wheat in Pacific Northwest. Page 13.
British uneasy over American trade encroachments. Page 23.
Two costly steamship disasters on Puget Sound. Page 7.
American wheat shipments since January 1. Page 7.

Portland and Vicinity.

J. Pierpont Morgan drove about Portland yesterday. Page 17.
President Mellen denies several reports about the Northern Pacific. Page 17.
Management of St. Louis Fair asks what Oregon proposes to do. Page 16.
Portland Carnival closed last night. Page 22.
Creditors of Commercial block ask for receiver. Page 24.

Features and Departments.

Social. Pages 18 and 19.
Drama and Music. Page 20.
Books. Page 22.
Illustrated article, "How Our Weather Is Made." Page 25.
Sports. Page 26.
Humor and Poetry. Page 27.
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Fashions. Page 29.
Carpenter's Java letter; "Matters of Interest to Women." Page 30.
Continuation of Crockett's serial story, "The Firebrand." Page 31.
Illustrated article on the lost race of San Nicholas Island; "Looting of Chinese Imperial Palace, in 1860." Page 32.

RUSSIA IS HELPING

Efforts in Behalf of Miss Stone, the Missionary.

STEPS TAKEN BY BULGARIA

Frontier Being Cleared of the Entire Population So the Brigands May Be Surrounded More Effectively.

ST. PETERSBURG, Oct. 19.—United States Ambassador Tower has returned here from Berlin, and is continuing his exertions in behalf of Miss Stone. The Russian Foreign Office is showing sympathy and will assist Mr. Tower. He has seen Dr. Stancioff, the Bulgarian representative here, and through him has informed the Bulgarian Government of the interest taken in the case in the United States. Mr. Tower learned through Dr. Stancioff that the Bulgarians have cleared the frontier region, where the brigands are supposed to be hiding, of the entire population, in order to surround the brigands more effectively.

According to the latest reports received at the Embassy, the brigands are inclined to surrender to Bulgaria, and it is still hoped, in view of Consul-General Dickinson's negotiations, that the life of Miss Stone will be saved.

SEARCHING FOR THE BRIGANDS.

Once They Were Located, but They Shifted Their Quarters.

CONSTANTINOPLE, Oct. 19.—Neither W. W. Peet, treasurer of the American Bible House, nor Spencer Eddy, secretary of the United States Legation, had received any news up to noon today from the missionaries who are searching for the brigands who kidnaped Miss Ellen Stone and her companion, Mme. Tsilka. Messrs. Peet and Eddy had a long conference today as to the advisability of reinforcing the searchers, but decided that the present arrangements sufficed.

Consul-General Dickinson remains at Sofia, and will operate from there until the liberation of Miss Stone is accomplished. The difficult nature of the country handicaps the searchers, and heavy rains have increased the difficulty of traversing the paths which are the only means of access to the hiding-places of the bandits in the rugged mountain range. Thick mists generally envelop the region in Autumn, preventing even experienced mountaineers from traveling. Early in the week one of the missionary searchers actually located the bandits and was approaching their retreat, when the brigands, apparently fearing to approach the troops, shifted their quarters and track of them was again lost. Now, however, that the troops have been called off, the directors of the search are hopeful of making better progress, though they pointed out that, even after the brigands are found, the negotiations may be prolonged, especially in view of the lack of telegraph facilities.

Opinion of a Missionary.

NEW YORK, Oct. 19.—Concerning the case of Miss Ellen M. Stone, the missing missionary, Rev. George D. Marsh cables to the Journal and Advertiser from Samakov:

"After 29 years' experience in Bulgaria, during which I won the sobriquet 'Bulgarian Atrocity,' my knowledge of the brigands leads me to believe they are widely dispersed and Miss Stone is quietly sequestered in some mountain village, of which the villagers, partly in sympathy, partly in fear, would scorn to tell the authorities. Modern brigands are sorry successes. They are chivalrous cut-throats, who believe that if they touched a damsel they would die in a Turkish prison. A Turkish Minister is credited with the flippant though expressive saying: The kidnaping of another American woman would bankrupt the Ottoman Empire.'"

VAN WYCK'S ANSWER.

Dismissed Charges Filed Against Police Commissioner Murphy.

NEW YORK, Oct. 19.—D. Le Roy Dresser, president of the Merchants' Association, today received a letter signed by Alfred C. Downs, secretary to the Mayor. The letter was dated from the Mayor's office, and read:

"I am directed by the Mayor to inform you that the charges against Police Commissioner Murphy and the papers thereunto attached, filed by you, having been examined and considered, the said charges have this day been dismissed by the Mayor."

The letter grows out of the fact that the association filed charges with Police Commissioner Murphy against Deputy Devery, accusing Devery of "injustice, tyranny and oppression." Mr. Murphy did not entertain the accusation and the association then filed the charges with Mayor Van Wyck, and in addition charged Colonel Murphy with malfeasance in office for his action in the matter. This was October 2, and, not getting an answer from Mayor Van Wyck, another letter was sent October 17. The above is the answer.

AUTOMOBILE ACCIDENT.

Frederick H. Benedict Killed and Granville Kane Injured.

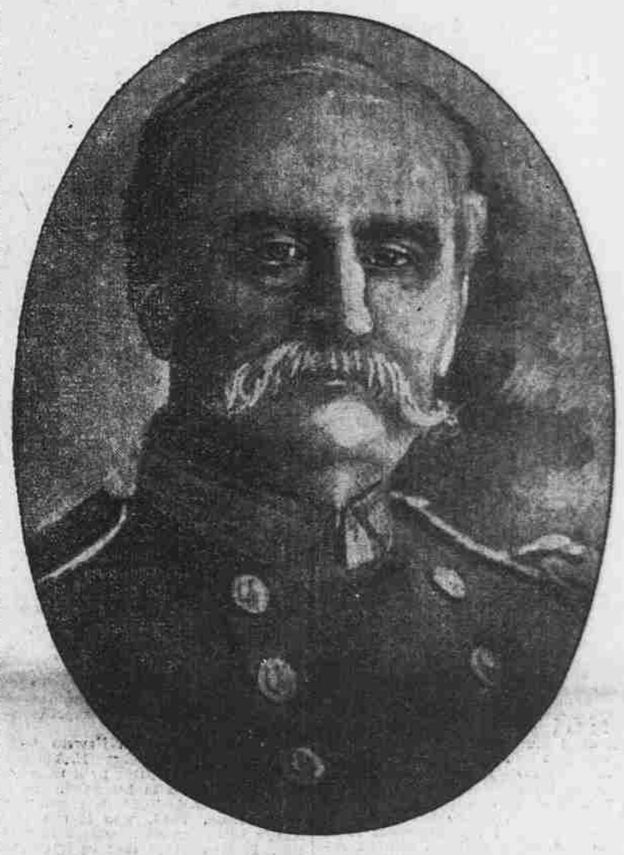
WEST POINT, N. Y., Oct. 19.—An accident near here this afternoon resulted in the almost instant death of Frederick H. Benedict, son of E. C. Benedict, and perhaps the fatal injuring of Granville Kane, guest of Mr. Benedict. Mr. Benedict and his friend, Mr. Kane, with a chauffeur, started from Tuxedo in an automobile for West Point to attend the football game. A rain storm made the roadway slippery and in descending a hill, the chauffeur lost control and ran into a breakwater with sufficient violence to upset the machine. Mr. Kane was thrown under the machine, which weighed 400 pounds. The automobile then toppled over and Mr. Benedict was crushed beneath its weight.

NEW YORK, Oct. 19.—F. H. Benedict was the son of E. C. Benedict, the banker of this city. He was 33 years old. His first wife was the daughter of Henry M. Flagler, the oil magnate, and his second the daughter of Frederick R. Coudert, the well-known attorney. Mr. Benedict was one of the best-known whips in the country. Granville Kane is one of the best-known club men in this city. He is a brother of Delancy Kane and of Nicholas Kane, the yachting expert. Mr. Kane is the great-grandson of the original John Jacob Astor.

Carnegie's Offer to Nashville.

NASHVILLE, Tenn., Oct. 19.—Andrew Carnegie has offered a $100,000 library to Nashville on the usual terms.

ADMIRAL FRANCIS M. BUNCE DEAD.



HARTFORD, Conn., Oct. 19—Rear-Admiral Francis M. Bunce, U. S. N. (retired), died today at his home here. Admiral Bunce's death, while sudden, was not entirely unexpected, as his family had been warned to expect the worst. Last May cancer of the tongue developed and an operation in Boston resulted in the removal of the Admiral's togue. In September the disease attacked the throat, and the patient grew weaker from that time, fighting a hopeless battle with the courage which has always characterized the man. Two weeks ago he took to his bed and had been practically confined there ever since.

(Francis Marvin Bunce was born December 25, 1836, and was appointed to the Naval Academy May 28, 1852. He served with distinction in the Civil War, taking part in the blockade of Wilmington, N. C., and in the capture of Morris Island, S. C., July 10, 1863, he commanded the expedition which co-operated with General Gilmore in the reduction of the Confederate works on the island, and was in the attack on Fort Sumter, September 8, 1863. He served on the Monitor Patapsco in the siege of Charleston. In November, 1863, he was wounded by the premature explosion of a shell in the turret of the Patapsco. He was one of the staff of Admiral Dahlgren and received honorable mention time and again for gallant conduct. He received a Captain's commission in 1883, and was made a Commodore in 1893. In 1898 he was given the rank of Rear-Admiral. He was the predecessor of Admiral Sicard as Commander-in-Chief of the North Atlantic Squadron, and was more active than any Naval officer of his time in improving the Navy to meet modern requirements. He retired by age limit December 25, 1898.

ALMOST WIPED OUT

Greater Part of Sydney, C. B., Is in Ashes.

SIXTY BUILDINGS WERE BURNED

Fire Raged for Eight Hours—Firemen Were Handicapped by the Lack of Water—Loss From $400,000 to $500,000.

HALIFAX, N. S., Oct. 19.—The prosperous and thriving town of Sydney, Cape Breton, was almost swept out of existence today by a fierce conflagration, which started about 2 o'clock. The flames, which were fanned by a 45-mile gale, swept through the principal business portions of the town, causing ruin and devastation. Four blocks of the finest business buildings are in ashes. The only thing that saved the city from total destruction was a heavy rain storm, which set in after dark. The wind decreased in fury, and the firemen and hundreds of miners succeeded in getting the fire under control. Over 60 buildings are in ashes, and many more are badly scorched. The buildings were nearly all large wooden structures, and they burned so fiercely that it was impossible to save any of their contents.

The firemen were greatly handicapped at the outset by the poor supply of water. The fire started in a three-story frame building on Charlotte street, occupied by A. D. Gilles and Gordon & Keith. When the firemen arrived on the scene the building was burning fiercely, and the wind was blowing the flames over the tops of the adjoining buildings. In a very short time the fire spread to the buildings occupied by Carr, jeweler; Blanchard, Bentley & Co., and the Maritime Premium Company. Then it spread to some small buildings on the opposite side of the street and jumped to the large department store of Prowse Bros. & Crowell, which was soon doomed. The whole town was then threatened.

Assistance was sent for, and the fire departments of North Sydney and Glace Bay responded, and on arrival got quickly to work, but every effort to stay the flames was of no avail. The fire swept from Charlotte to Prince street, and as far south as George street, carrying everything before it. Half an hour after the fire started, one-quarter of the business portion of the town was in flames. The town's water supply now gave out, and the engines had to be sent to the harbor to pump water.

At 4:30 two of the business blocks were destroyed, and the fire spread to Bentick street, and half an hour later Bruce, George, Bentick and Charlotte streets were a mass of fire. The miners resorted to the use of dynamite, and several buildings were blown up, with but little effect, as the strong wind carried the burning embers to other buildings. The fine building belonging to the Union Bank of Halifax, and the Baptist and Presbyterian Churches were soon destroyed.

At 7 o'clock the fire had reached the east end of Charlotte street, and here its progress was stayed. The blocks on Wentworth, Prince and Pitts streets, and half a block on George street, were destroyed. The flames were under control at 10 o'clock.

The fire is supposed to have been started by the bursting of an oil stove. It is impossible to estimate the loss at present, but it is roughly placed at between $400,000 and $500,000, of which not more than half is covered by insurance.

(Sydney, C. B., is a town of probably 15,000 inhabitants, and is the scene of extensive iron and steel operations conducted by the Dominion Iron & Steel Company and the Dominion Coal Company, corporations in which Henry M. Whitney, of Boston, and other American capitalists are largely interested. Plans have been under way for some time to make Sydney the Pittsburg of Canada.

Houston Hotel Burned.

HOUSTON, Tex., Oct. 19.—The Hutchins House, a large four-story hotel, was burned at an early hour this morning, and it is believed the fire was caused by incendiarism. There were about 300 guests in the house, all of whom escaped in safety and without injury. Many of them lost heavily in property, however, as thieves raided the hotel while the fire was in progress. The loss is placed at $110,000 on the hotel and furnishings, with insurance of $55,000. Tenants occupying the ground floor suffered loss by water amounting to $15,000, partly covered by insurance. The house was built 40 years ago, and was one of the best-known hotels in the Southwest.

Fire in Omaha Wholesale Quarter.

OMAHA, Oct. 19.—Fire which originated in W. L. May & Co.'s wholesale grocery store, at Eleventh and Howard streets, did $100,000 damage to the concern and adjoining wholesale houses. The greatest loss was suffered by the Great Western Type Foundry, which, on building and stock, will aggregate $40,000. Other losers are W. L. May & Co., stock and building, $25,000; Carpenter Paper Company, $25,000; Mercer Chemical Company and Voegel & Dinning, wholesale confectioners, $5000 each.

Fire at Buffalo Exposition.

BUFFALO, Oct. 19.—New England's building at the Pan-American Exposition was destroyed by fire tonight. The valuable contents of the building, consisting of rich furnishings of historic value, costly oil paintings and other articles of great value, were also entirely destroyed. The building cost $30,000. The fire was discovered at 11:30, and an hour later the building was in ashes. The structure was one of the finest of the so-called state buildings on the exposition grounds.

Kentucky Courthouse Burned.

PARIS, Ky., Oct. 19.—The Courthouse at this place burned this afternoon. At one time the town was threatened, but the fire was confined to the courthouse. Loss, $120,000; insurance, $60,000.

New York Furniture Store Burned.

NEW YORK, Oct. 19.—Fire today badly damaged the furniture store of S. Baumann & Bros., at Sixth avenue and West Fifteenth street. Loss, $200,000, fully insured.

No Draining of the Zuyder Zee.

WASHINGTON, Oct. 19.—The State Department has been informed by United States Consul Hill, at Amsterdam, that the project of the drainage of the Zuyder Zee for the purpose of adding new and fertile lands to the Kingdom of the Netherlands has been withdrawn from the States General by the new Ministry. The matter thus has been disposed of, probably for a long period.