



PLAN FUTURE GATHERINGS

First Conference of Governors Ended

THE STATES AND NATION

That the Immediate Results Are More Than Ample Is the Expression of President

A PERMANENT ORGANIZATION

A Printed Record of the Conference Which Later Will be Available in Every Home Will be a Compilation of Startling Facts.

WASHINGTON, May 15.—The first conferences of the governors of the states of the American Union ended today. The accomplishments of the conference in a session of three days will be revealed by time, but that the immediate results are more than ample, is the expression of Roosevelt, who brought it about and of governors who participated.

A printed record of the conference which later will be available in every home will be a compilation of facts startling in their meaning, and convincing in their universal conclusion that the states and the nation must co-operate to the end that the whole people of the nation may accrue the lasting benefits of its natural resources. The conference leaves as its permanent thousand words of the "Declaration of co-operation."

Perhaps greater in importance than all else was the determination of the governors to perfect a permanent organization for the discussion of a wide range of topics.

President Roosevelt boldly swept aside the "Academic question," of where the line of authority should be drawn between the states and the nation. He wanted action and said he was trying to find out where the state or the nation can act "So that there shall always be some sovereign power that on behalf of the people can hold every big corporation, every big individual to an accountability so that its or his acts shall be beneficial to people as a whole."

The President continued: "In matters that relate only to the people within a state of course the state is to be the sovereign and it should have power to act. If the matter is such that the state itself cannot act then I wish on behalf of all the states that the national government should act."

The "Declaration" was presented to the conference by Governor Blanchard of Louisiana and was built on broad lines and avoided making specific endorsements of desired projects or legislation. The declaration was adopted without serious discussion and the president introduced Bryan who spoke at length on the benefits of conservation. Mr. Bryan's address provoked lengthy applause. He touched the keynote of harmony and co-operation aptly and was followed by the various governors in a short discussion including Meade of Washington, Hock of Kansas and others.

BY EMORY R. JOHNSON.

The waterways in our country, rivers, canals, lakes and coastal channels have an aggregate length of between 55,000 and 60,000 miles, and only about half of the entire mileage is now used for navigation.

Considering the great length and

(Continued on page 4)

INDEPENDENT LEAGUE.

Party State Convention Will Meet at San Francisco.

SAN FRANCISCO, May 15.—Delegates to the Independent League party state convention, will meet today at 10 o'clock. James F. Peck of Berkeley, chairman of the state central committee, will call the convention to order. John L. Polito of the thirty-fourth assembly district of San Francisco, is a candidate for temporary chairman of the convention, and will probably be its choice.

The convention will elect four delegates and alternates at large to the national convention, to be held in Chicago July 28 and 29.

Sixteen delegates from the eight congressional districts of California will be chosen, each district being entitled to two delegates and two alternates.

A new state central committee will be formed, based upon the election of one member from each of the eighty assembly districts.

DEBS SOCIALIST CHOICE.

CHICAGO, May 15.—The Socialist party in convention today nominated Eugene V. Debs of Indiana for their presidential candidate and Benjamin Hanford of New York for vice-president. The ticket will be ratified at a mass meeting which is called for tomorrow.

EXPERT TESTIMONY

Examination of Medical Witnesses in the Thaw Case

TWO DOCTORS SAY HE'S SANE

Two Witnesses For District Attorney Jerome Insist That Thaw is Suffering From Paranoia and His Release Would be Dangerous to the Public.

POUGHKEEPSIE, May 15.—The examination of the expert medical witness in the proceedings instituted to secure the release from the Matteawan Asylum of Harry Thaw proceeded today. Dr. George G. Jacoby said he had examined Thaw twice during his stay in Matteawan and found him possessed of a good memory and capable of following an argument. He gave it as his unqualified opinion that Thaw was sane at present. Dr. Graeme Hammond declared his belief that Thaw was sane. Two witnesses for district Attorney Jerome insisted that Thaw was suffering from paranoia and incurable and that his release was dangerous to the public. Thaw himself will probably take the stand.

SINGER MUCH BETTER.

NEW YORK, May 15.—Berta Morena, one of the German sopranos of the Metropolitan opera house, has been ill since the close of the road tour of the opera company. For a week she has been recuperating at the country house of Otto H. Kahn, at Morristown, N. J., and now she is well enough to sail on the Vaderland on Saturday. Madame Morena's illnesses have caused her to postpone her first visit to this country for three successive years and when she did arrive in New York last February she was unable to sing for several weeks. She is engaged for next season.

W. J. ARKELL, BANKRUPT.

RENO, Nev., May 15.—W. J. Arkell, a well known Nevada stockbroker, is bankrupt. His liabilities are \$279,040. The assets are worthless mining stocks and about \$200 in money. The principal creditors are New York and San Francisco brokers, and one or two London firms are mentioned.

SPERRY IN COMMAND

Long Career of Admiral Thomas Ended

HAS SERVED 47 YEARS

His Retirement Does Not Take Place Until October, But His Activities Cease

RELIEVED AT HIS REQUEST

Another Change in the Command of the Atlantic Fleet of World-Touring Battleships Took Place Today—Admiral Sperry Succeeds Thomas.

SAN FRANCISCO, May 15.—Rear Admiral Charles Stillman Sperry assumed command today of the strongest force of first-class fighting ships ever assembled in the history of the nation. Rear Admiral Thomas who succeeded Admiral Evans as commander in chief of the Atlantic fleet, hauled down his flag this morning and ten minutes later Admiral Sperry was received on board the Connecticut with the salutes and other naval honors belonging to his position. When Sperry took the command the organization of the fleet immediately was carried into effect and throughout the noon hour the waters of the bay echoed with the call of bugles, ruffles of drums, and strains of martial music from half a dozen quarter decks. Rear Admiral W. H. Emery transferred his flag from the Georgia to the Louisiana, the new flagship of the second squadron of the third division. Captain Richard Wainwright gave up the command of the Louisiana and hoisted his triangular flag of senior division officer on the Georgia. He commands the second division.

Captain Seaton Schroeder commanding the Virginia assumed command of the fourth division and took up his quarters on the new flagship Wisconsin. Both Schroeder and Wainwright will be made Rear-Admirals in July. As Rear-Admiral Dayton, the commander-in-chief of the Pacific fleet outranks Admiral Sperry and is for the time being in command of the combined Pacific and Atlantic fleets.

SAN FRANCISCO, May 15.—Another change in the command of the Atlantic fleet of world-touring battleships occurs today when the flag of Rear Admiral Charles M. Thomas is lowered from the truck of the Connecticut where it has floated for six days as the emblem of the commander in chief, but where it also flew for many weeks as a signal of "senior officer present" when Admiral Thomas was acting for Admiral Evans during the latter's enforced absence from the fleet soon after its arrival at Magdalena Bay. The customary salute of 13 guns will be fired as the double-starred of blue bunting is lowered to the bridge of the flagship and the long naval career of Admiral Thomas covering a period of nearly 47 years, will be ended. Admiral Thomas does not retire until October next, but he will go on leave and have no further active connection with the naval establishment. With his family, Admiral Thomas will remain for two months in California resting from the fatigue of the arduous work that has been his during the past half year, and then will tour the Yellowstone before returning to Washington. After he

(Continued on page 8.)

COL. SAM PARKER ARRIVES.

SAN FRANCISCO, May 15.—Col. Sam Parker, his son-in-law, Prince David of Hawaii and John Baker were passengers on the Siberia which arrived yesterday from Honolulu. The distinguished visitors have come to the states for the purpose of hunting bear in Washington and Oregon and have been brought with them enough guns and ammunition to wipe out every bruin in both states. In the party, attended by two maids, is the little Princess Kapiolani, five years of age. She will not participate in the bear hunts.

LARGE PURCHASE.

PITTSBURG, May 15.—The extensive property of the Federal Coal and Coke Company near Fairmount Park, Va., has been bought from the New England Gas & Coke Company of Boston for a spot cash consideration of \$1,250,000. The purchaser which is one of the largest concerns of its kind in the county and which controls the coke and gas business of Boston and surrounding towns, will immediately expend \$750,000 in the further development of the property.

MISSING OFFICER SAFE.

MANILA, May 15.—Second Lieutenant Arthur E. Erhnbeck, who was reported on May 12 to be missing from his station in Mindanao is safe at Malabang. The authorities missed him because of interrupted telegrams.

CONTEST NOTICES

Republican National Committee Will Hear the Evidence

W. H. TAFT AGAINST THE FIELD

All But One of the 22 Contests Come From Southern States the Exception Being the Sixth District of Ohio.

CHICAGO, May 15.—Notices of 22 contests have been received by the Republican national committee in advance of the meeting of the sub-committee on arrangements. The contestants have until May 26 to file their papers and they are expected to number nearly 200 when all are in. All but one of the 22 contests come from Southern states, the exception being the sixth district of Ohio where an anti-Taft delegation is seeking seats in the convention. Two of the contests are over delegates at large, they being from Alabama and Mississippi. The others are from congressional districts. The lists are prepared by Secretary Dover as follows:

- Alabama—Fourth and Sixth Districts.
- Arkansas—Fifth District.
- Florida—Third District.
- Georgia—Second, Third, Fifth and Eighth Districts.
- Mississippi—Fifth, Sixth, Seventh and Eighth Districts.
- Missouri—Fifth, Eleventh and Twelfth District.
- Ohio—Sixth District.
- South Carolina—First and Fifth Districts.
- Tennessee—Third and Seventh Districts.

In these contests 48 delegates are involved, it being a case of Taft against the field in all of them. The full national committee will hear evidence in each case.

Chairman Harry S. New will issue a call May 20 for a meeting of the national committee in Chicago, June 1 or 2.

From then until the convention opens the contests will be heard.

The sub-committee on arrangements, in addition to selecting a temporary chairman when it meets here tomorrow, will decide the order in which contests shall be taken up. It is likely to be alphabetically.

CAMPAIGN OF DEATH

Atlin Miner Probably a Guinness Dupe

WENT EAST WITH COIN

The Advertisement He Answered Was Identical With Those Now Known to Be Mrs. Guinness'

THE COURTSHIP WAS BRIEF

A Few Months Later a Strange Woman Brought to Victoria a Body Which She Said Was Robson's and That She Was His Widow.

VICTORIA, B. C., May 15.—Lured to an untimely end by means of an attractive advertisement, couched in similar terms to those employed in her campaign of death by the female Bluebeard of La Porte, Ind., Charles Rabson, a wealthy Atlin miner, is believed to have fallen a victim either to Mrs. Guinness or some similar bloodthirsty adventuress of like character. It was about five years ago that Rabson answered an advertisement reputed to be that of a charming young woman of means, who desired a husband of good character, capable of protecting her from the wiles of a wicked world. The wording of this advertisement was identical with those of Mrs. Guinness. Similarly, too, the advertiser insisted that gentlemen answering must be prepared to show bona fides by the possession of a substantial sum of money and be prepared to come to her and conduct further negotiations in person.

The correspondence between Rabson and the young widow was a brief one, when the Atlinite packed his grip and left for Saginaw, Mich., for a personal interview. He wrote at the time a handsome gold watch and a unique chain constructed of Atlin nuggets of his own mining. He also took with him \$2000 in money and deeds and other papers certifying the bona fides of his interests in the North. That was the last his relatives saw of him in life.

A few months later a strange woman brought to Victoria a body which she said was that of Rabson and introduced herself as the mining man's widow. She told conflicting and contradictory stories as to the manner of his death, at first declaring that he had been the victim of footpads, who had robbed him and then thrown his body, weighed, into a convenient river. Later she declared that Rabson had committed suicide while insane. A sister, Mrs. Hood, of Alfred street, Victoria, was not permitted to examine the body and verify its identity by scars of which she was cognizant and which her brother had received in early youth. Indeed, there was always strong doubt as to whether the body was that of Rabson or not, but the mysterious woman succeeded in obtaining the necessary burial certificates and subsequently secured administration of the estate and possession of Rabson's property, after which she disappeared.

BASEBALL SCORES.

- At Tacoma—No game; rain.
- At Spokane—No game; rain.
- At Portland—No game; rain.
- At Tacoma—No game; rain.
- At Aberdeen—No game; rain.

MONTGOMERY'S STATEMENT.

PITTSBURG, May 15.—William Montgomery, former cashier of the Allegheny National Bank but now under arrest on a charge of embezzling \$469,000 of the bank's funds, made a complete statement yesterday to the bank's attorney, Clarence Burleigh and Franklin answered all questions. Burleigh said last night:

"Mr. Montgomery answered all questions put to him. He told me he had lost amounts of money during the past two years in the stock market. He made no effort to exculpate himself and none to implicate any other person. He insisted that he was responsible for the entire shortage and denied that anyone either in the bank or outside of it was associated with him in the affair.

"He has already, or will in the near future, turn over to the bank \$150,000 or \$200,000 in sureties and real estate. Montgomery will step into court and plead guilty and that will be all.

ACCIDENTS INCREASING.

NEW YORK, May 15.—According to reports compiled by the public service commission, there were in April 4707 accidents upon the street railways, subways and elevated roads within its jurisdiction. This shows a steady increase since the beginning of the year. In January there were 3921 accidents; in February 3951 and in March 4353. Altogether there are 2386 persons hurt. Of these 1671 were passengers, 662 persons not passengers and 503 employes.

PREPARED TO CLOSE

Only a Short Time Allowed for Debates

DEFICIENCY BILL IS THE LAST

A Bitter and Sensational Attack on Former Speaker Keifer of Ohio by His Colleague General Sherwood Was the Feature of the Day.

WASHINGTON, May 15.—The work of cleaning up in the house preparatory to adjournment on May 23 proceeded at a rapid pace today. With only a short time allowed for debate on the military academy appropriation bill and the omnibus public building bill passed, the leaving of the supply bills, only the general deficiency bill has to be considered. This will probably be taken up Monday. A bitter and sensational attack on former Speaker Keifer of Ohio by his colleague, General Sherwood, was the feature of the day's proceedings. By a strict party vote the Vreeland currency bill as amended by the senate today was after a lively debate sent to a conference. Yeas 150, nays 103. "Present" not voting. 6. In the opinion of Williams, the minority leader, the bill as amended is infinitely worse than the Vreeland bill. The democrats applauded Fowler when he read a letter contradicting a statement by Vreeland yesterday that the First National Bank of Atlanta, with a million capital and forty others banks supported his measure. Fowler said there was not such a bank in Atlanta or any bank in state with greater than half million capital. He challenged Vreeland to file his endorsement letters in the record.

MEMORIAL TO LINCOLN.

WASHINGTON, May 15.—The bill appropriating \$50,000 for a memorial to Lincoln on the site of Lincoln's birthplace in Kentucky was passed by the Senate.

PACKING PLANT BURNED.

OMAHA, May 15.—The old plant of the Omaha Packing Co., at South Omaha was destroyed by fire tonight with three million pounds of meat. The loss is half a million.