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New York News Letter

NEW YORK, Aug. 12.—Never in its history has this city seen more preliminary presidential stir than that which is to-day setting the heads of every politician awhirl. Early August has usually found Gotham dead and dry of politics even in the years of hardest national campaigning. Yet to-day the tall Metropolitan tower is crammed with a hustling headquarters crew of Republicans and every square foot of the Hoffman House hums with the activities of the Democratic managers. Even in the palmy days when Mark Hanna and the Bryan leaders lined up their forces across Madison Square for a finish fight, no such early action took place as New Yorkers are seeing today. Every day "Marse Henry" is flinging out a telling broadside of words from the Democratic stronghold while big guns are being trained for return fire down at Oyster Bay. If this opening skirmish in the metropolis is any indication, the nation is entering one of the liveliest campaigns that veteran politicians can remember.

CHAOS OF CARS.
 With thousands of dollars worth of transfers being refused and its whole street car system cropping out with new names and colors, the New York public is to-day just facing its most aggravating traction situation in recent years. As a last straw the severing of the 59th street cross-town line from every main artery of travel on the island is to-day bearing down to the breaking point the camel's back of the people's patience. To hundreds of thousands of New Yorkers the extra daily nickels wrung out by this process make real home hardship, while to everyone else the change is proving a constant source of annoyance. As if to increase the confusion the trolley kings have decreed the strange signs and colors cover the cars of the hashed-up system and new routes be essayed on many familiar lines. In any other town in the land such changes would not be tolerated a week. In Gotham, however, the crowd is too intent on reaching the places of gain and pleasure to care how it is trampled as it goes.

AQUATIC ACTION.
 Now that bold bands of swimmers have raced through the deadly rapids of Hell Gate and pushed from Brooklyn Bridge clean down to sea, miles out beyond Coney Island, the sport is attracting new thousands at each succeeding match. Next Saturday and Sunday a score of dangerous routes are scheduled to be compassed by hundreds of the fleetest and staunchest swimmers about this island. These human fish are bred by the thousands on the wharves and piers at all the waterfront, where the youth of the tenements plunge long and hard in the rivers almost from the time they can walk. Many a future champion at long distance and whirlpool swimming is to-day known only to the wharf gangs that match their heroes in constant heart-breaking contests. The new interest that the swimmer has aroused here in town bids fair to bring out an even harder crew of men turbiners.

PIONEER PASSING.
 Preparations to lay low the first steel-frame skyscraper that ever rose on Manhattan are being rapidly pushed today. Almost everyone remembers the day when the "Tower Building" reared aloft above every roof and flagpole on the lower island. To-day it is hard to pick out the doomed pioneer in sky building, for its once-commanding shaft is completely engulfed on every side by buildings hundreds of feet above its crest. On the site of the original skyscraper a mammoth structure thirty-eight stories aloft will be run up almost before the deep snows come. No surer sign that a new day has dawned in the metropolitan building can be held forth than this passing of New York's first sample of the upward drift.

MURDER AND MERCURY.
 That murder rose almost to record height in the annals of the police force during the last month is not denied by the busy sleuths of this city to-day. While half a dozen sensational mysteries held the attention of the reading public during the deadly hot days of July, scores of killings throughout the town required all their attention, the bluecoats declare. Though the man-slaying mania seems to have abated somewhat in every precinct, the detectives are still on the trail of many an unwritten murder case. No one can assign the real cause of this curious spasm of deadly crime, though the general belief is that the hot weather played its part. Cooler days and better times are looked to by the authorities for an easing in the temper of the murderously inclined.

ESTATE OF 26 CENTS.
 New York Suicide's Affairs Go Into Litigation.

NEW YORK, Aug. 12.—Twenty six cents, representing the total estate of Simon Siegenthaler, who committed suicide in October of last year is in litigation, and B. G. Hammond, the dead man's son-in-law, has applied to Surrogate Noble of Queen's county for letters of administration on his father-in-law's estate. When the body of the suicide was picked up 24 cents, a penknife, a bag of tobacco and a purse were the only articles found in the clothing. These articles passed through the hands of the coroner's office into those of Public Administrator John T. Robinson of Newton, and then into the hands of City Chamberlain Marin, who sold the purse and knife, realizing two cents which increased the original amount to 26 cents, which was duly turned over to the city chamberlain's fund, and the records of the transaction properly set forth in the archives of the city. It was at this stage that Mr. Hammond who is a native of South Carolina appeared and demanded his father-in-law's effects. He declined to believe that all his father-in-law left was 26 cents, so in order to compel an accounting and division of the estate he has applied to Surrogate Noble. Siegenthaler left three children, so that if the estate of 26 cents is divided among them they will each receive 2-3 cents.

WEARY SEARCH FOR WORK.
 But There Must Be Something The Matter With Porter.

CHICAGO, Aug. 12.—A dispatch to the Record-Herald from Pontiac, Ill., says: If there is any virtue in experience, John Henry Porter of Red Bank, Pa., is qualified to hold the office of grand master of the army of the unemployed. Lured onward and onward in never dying hope, John Henry, accompanied by his wife, a ten year old son and a baby fifteen months old, has trudged every inch of the weary way from Red Bank to this place, a distance of over 1000 miles, on the trail of the fitting job, but ever it has eluded him and he is still on the trail. The baby rides in the little buggy which had been purchased in more prosperous times and all the earthly belongings of the family are carried in a toy express wagon, which the father and his young son alternately haul along the dusty roads.

SOLDIERS WILL SHOOT.
 Competition Will Open At Fort Sheridan On Friday.

CHICAGO, Aug. 12.—Soldiers representing the six divisions of the United States army will compete in the competition which will open at Fort Sheridan on Friday, when preliminary practice will be disposed of.

REFORM IS BEATEN

Southern Pacific Machine Wins in California Primaries

A MAJORITY OF DELEGATES

United States Senator Perkins Will Probably be Returned to Washington, and Congressmen Kahn and Hayes Also Likely to be Re-elected

SAN FRANCISCO, Aug. 12.—Out of 629 delegates to the state convention, the indications from present advices are that the regular Republican forces will control 400 as a result of the primary elections held yesterday. In this city thirteen of the eighteen assembly districts went to the regulars while in Alameda county where opposition was strongest four out of the seven districts were captured by the regulars. Oakland and Berkeley were taken by the opposition but Alameda went to the regulars. The regular ticket carried San Diego and San Joaquin county, Santa Clara County, Sonoma County and Contra Costa county. In Fresno there was no contest and in Humboldt county the opposition will name the senator while the congressmen will be regulars. The regulars made great gains in Sacramento.

The result of the primaries is taken as an indication that in the event of a Republican victory at the polls Senator George Perkins will be returned to Washington and also practically determines the re-nomination of Congressmen Kahn and Hayes.

The shoot will last two days and 74 men and officers will take part. The 12 men holding the highest scores will be chosen as a team to represent the army at the national shoot which will be held in a short time. Twelve medals, four of them gold, and eight silver, will be presented to the men who shoot well enough to qualify for the team. The list of crack shots includes 43 enlisted men and 15 officers and five officers and eleven enlisted men are to compete as distinguished pistol shots. Many of the officers are to shoot for medals offered, but will not take part in the time competition.

ROOSEVELT FAVORS HUGHES.

Says Raines, But Adds That President is Taking no Part.

OYSTER BAY, Aug. 12.—State Senator Raines, John Mitchell and Ralph M. Fasley were among the guests at Sagamore Hill today. Raines came on private matters but later he expressed an entirely personal opinion, that the president looked with favor upon the political status of Governor Hughes. Raines was quick to add, however, that the president is taking no part in the republican gubernatorial nomination in New York. Mitchell said he and Fasley came to invite the president to address the National Civic Federation in New York on December 14. The president, he said, did not accept, because he is in doubt whether he will be able to keep the engagement if made. Mitchell declared that politics were not mentioned.

TAFT REMAINS MUM.

Has Nothing to Say After All-Day Conference With Leaders.

HOT SPRINGS, Aug. 12.—Every thing is harmonious and no one was laid across my knee and spanked," remarked Taft tonight, concluding the detailed account of his all-day conference with Hitchcock, the republican national chairman and Arthur I. Vorhies, his chief of staff. Hitchcock announced today that Taft could make no speeches outside of the city of Cincinnati during the campaign. It is also announced that Taft will continue his policy of not mixing local contentions in any state or taking part to behold for any candidate for state office.

Announcement is intended to answer the demand that Taft decide the merits of contestants in the West Virginia split, and also that he express a preference for or against Hughes in New York in the state gubernatorial situation.

Subscribe to the Morning Astorian, 60 cents per month by carrier.

NORTH SIDE NEWS

Miss I. M. Williamson, of Ilwaco, is the accredited representative of The Astorian and will take care of all items of news, orders for subscriptions and all kinds of printing.

ILWACO

George L. Colwell, of Astoria, was in town Tuesday, looking after his many interests here.

A. G. Kennedy, assistant engineer of the Ilwaco Railroad Co., spent Tuesday in Ilwaco.

Mr. and Mrs. W. A. Graham went to Astoria Tuesday where they will spend a day or two.

Mrs. J. B. Nye, who has been residing at Long Beach for some time returned Tuesday to Ilwaco.

David Hood, traveling salesman for Mason, Ehrman & Co., of Portland, was in town Monday, soliciting orders among the Ilwaco merchants.

Joe Edwards, of the North Beach Life-Saving Station, was in town Monday.

Mrs. William Gregory has been confined to her bed for some time with rheumatism, but is slowly recovering.

Mr. Wirt, of Oysterville, returned home Monday after a pleasant visit of a day or two with his daughter, Mrs. W. A. Graham and family.

John Williamson returned to Ilwaco Wednesday from Mosher's logging camp on Bear river, where he has been working for the past few months.

H. W. Nutt, the jeweler, made a short business trip to Chinook Wednesday, returning the same day.

WALKED 1100 MILES

Endurance Competition to Test Dietic Theories

TWENTY-FOUR MEN COMPETE

Robert Harriman, Yale Student, in the Lead—Some Are on Vegetarian Diet, Some on Meat, and Others on a Combination Diet.

CHICAGO, Aug. 12.—Leading 23 companions by over 100 miles, Robert Harriman, a Yale student, whose home is in New York City, finished a long walk of 1,100 miles from Montreal, Canada, last night, at the central Y. M. C. A., Chicago. Harriman, according to the story credited by the Y. M. C. A., of this city, left Montreal on July 16, on a walk of 2500 miles to prove the qualities of certain diets and their effects on an athlete in an endurance test. The 24 men were divided into sections, of eight each, the first to go through the entire trip on a vegetarian diet, the second on a meat diet, and the third given to a combination diet. Harriman was one of the third division.

The officials of McGill University at Montreal are working in co-operation with several American Universities on the plan. The trip was from Montreal to Chicago and thence to New York.

GUN EXPLOSION KILLS SIX.

Eighteen Other Recruits Are Injured While Receiving Instructions.

TOULON, Aug. 12.—Six were killed and 18 were injured by a gun explosion aboard the gunnery school ship Coronnet today. The accident occurred while a number of the recruits were receiving instructions in handling a 164 millimetre gun, the breech of which blew out. Three of the wounded are in a desperate condition.

WILL GET WARM WELCOME.

MELBOURNE, Aug. 12.—Both houses in the Victorian parliament today voted unanimously resolutions cordially welcoming the American battleship fleet in Australian waters.

MACK DENIES REPORT.

OMAHA, Aug. 12.—Chairman Mack of the democratic national committee authorized a denial of the report that the democratic national committee received the fund of \$300,000 left over from the last democratic national campaign. The report is without foundation, Mack said.

His Corporations.

Weary Walker—Wot do yonse t'ink uv me corporations, Tatters? Tired Tatters—Wot corporations? Weary Walker—Me shoos I call them corporations because dey ain't got no souls.—Pathfinder.

Hope Still.

"I can safely say that no man ever attempted to bribe me, gentlemen." Voice in the Crowd—Don't be down-hearted, old chap; your luck may change.—London Telegraph.

Morning Astorian, 60 cents per month

Lace Made From Hair.

The most curious lace is called point tresse. It is very rare and was made of human hair. French collectors say that it exists in the present day only in their cabinets. It was confined to the early part of the sixteenth century. Margaret, countess of Lennox, the mother of the wretched Darnley, sent from the tower, where she was imprisoned when her son, Lord Charles Lennox, married the daughter of Bess of Hardwicke, a bit of this kind of lace to Mary, queen of Scots. This is a very strong proof of her belief in the queen's innocence of the guilt that had been imputed to her. The little square of point tresse was worked by the old countess' own hands from her own gray hair. It was, in fact, hair mixed with fine flax.—London Express.

Knew He Was Dead.

Some time after the occupation of Manila by the American forces one of the army officers was shown through the old Spanish prison in that city. He noticed a small opening through a brick wall. Upon asking its use he was told that prisoners were placed in a cell behind it and walked up alive. "You see, senator," said the guide, "as long as the prisoner lived his food was handed in on a plate, and he handed the empty plate back, but when he handed the plate back with the food on it untouched, then the jailer knew he was dead and didn't give him any more."

Not Listening.

She was a very little girl, but not so small that she did not recognize swearing as something very wrong or that if other people used bad language it was her place to close her ears to it. She was on the street with her mother, and as they passed a group of men talking in loud tones the passerby heard the small girl exclaim in shocked tones, "Oh, isn't that awful?" And then, as if suddenly remembering, "But I'm not listening."—New York Times.

Unterrified.

The traveler was hurrying along the unfamiliar trail that led in the general direction of his destination, when suddenly a large abyss yawned before him. He was not in the least perturbed. He was a lecturer, between travels, and was accustomed to have things yawn before him.—Chicago News.

Cares Redoubled.

"My time," said Mr. Dustin Stax, "is very valuable."
 "That's what makes me doubt the benefit of vast wealth," replied the easy going acquaintance. "It's bad enough to be bothered by the wasting of a few dollars without being worried sick every time you lose five minutes."

COMING

THE BEST SHOW OF THE SEASON

The Claman Players

A COMPANY OF 18 PEOPLE WITH Band and Orchestra

Presenting the Big Scenic Revival of

"On the Frontier"

OPERA HOUSE

SUNDAY, Aug. 16

Special scenery, mechanical devices and electrical effects. High class vaudeville specialties between each act. Not a dull moment from start to finish.
 FREE DAILY BAND CONCERT, FRONT OF THEATRE, 7:15 TO 8:15 P. M.
 Prices 25c, 35c, 75c
 Seats on Sale Saturday, August 15th.

NOTES

Automatic Telephonic and Otherwise

The Value of a Telephone

The value of a telephone depends entirely upon the number of subscribers to be reached. In Portland the Pacific Telephone & Telegraph Company has over 21,000 telephones with 400 additional shortly to be installed. The Automatic Home Company is said to have about one-quarter of this number. Therefore, a party in Astoria calling for a party in Portland over an Automatic Home Telephone in ASTORIA would stand less than one chance in four of getting his party. So there are other considerations besides purely local conditions to think of.

We Do Not Favor Two Telephone

The Citizens' National Bank of Los Angeles. Paid up capital, \$200,000. Los Angeles, Cal., July 23, 1906.

Mr. T. G. Daniells, Proprietor Alameda Argus, Alameda, Cal.—Dear Sir: Answering your inquiry as to our opinion of the value of a competing telephone system:

Our experience is that one telephone company covering the field completely is much more desirable, both in the matter of cost and operation than two. No man can talk over two telephones at the same time, but in order to reach subscribers of both systems he must not only install and pay for both services, but provide sufficient help to answer two telephones in place of one.

We do not favor competition in the telephone business. Yours truly,
 A. J. WATERS, Cashier.

Not Equal to the Manual System in Any Way.

Wm. Wright (The Wright Grocery Co.), 3717 Westley, Los Angeles.

We do not like the Automatic system in any way and it gives us twice the trouble, being out of order constantly.

How Opposition Telephone Companies Have Generally Been Promoted.

The favorite plan of independent or opposition telephone promoters, after securing a franchise in a city is to incorporate with a very large capital and authorize the issuance of stock and bonds for the full amount. Contracts are then made in each instance with a construction company (of the same promoters) for a sum far in excess of the value of the plant. By the offer of large bonuses for the sale of bonds, some banks have heretofore been induced to handle their securities, and generally, with the sale of each bond, three-quarters or one-half of the value of the same in stock has been given to the purchaser without cost. After all of the stocks and bonds have been sold to the public and the plant constructed, the promoter, after having disposed of his bonds, steps out, and leaves the handling of the plant to the local purchasers. Through out California, or the East there is scarcely an instance where the promises of the promoters have been fulfilled, and in almost every case the exchanges have ultimately found themselves up against the real thing.

In My Opinion An Operator Is More Satisfactory.

Hermann W. Banker, Meats, 3512 McClintock, Los Angeles.

I would be glad to change from the Automatic to the Manual system, if possible to get the latter put in. In the past nine months my Automatic has been out of order frequently and I am not pleased with it. In my opinion an operator is more satisfactory.

Automatic a Perfect Nuisance.

Rosedale Livery and Feed Stable, 1870 Washington, Los Angeles.

I consider the Home Automatic a perfect nuisance. It is too complicated, gets out of order easily, and I much prefer asking an operator for a number to the tiresome job of counting up five numbers on a dial, knowing that if I make the slightest mistake I will get a wrong connection. I had my residence Automatic taken out and would take this out if it were not for a few customers who have the Home service.