THE BIRMINGHAM ECCENTRIC

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BIRMINGHAM, FRIDAY, MAY 22.

LATEST NEWS OF MICHIGAN

To Cut Down World's Fuel Bill.

"Less than 25 years from now railroad locomotives will carry no fuel. Trains all over the country will be run by power conveyed by wire from a dozen great central plants located in the neighborhood of coal mines. There will be no smoke, no cinders, to make a journey by rail disagreeable." Thus Prof. Robert H. Fernald, expert in charge of the government fuel inquiry is quoted by Robert Franklin in the Technical World Magazine. It has been proved practicable, he says, by the help of gas-producers and gas engines, to convert the energy of coal into electricity and transmit it by wire over distances exceeding 250 miles. This means that trains could be run from a single central plant over 200,000 square miles—an area nearly four times that of the state of Illinois—and that ten or twelve such plants, located at or near mining centers, could furnish motive power for all the railroads in the United States. "Now that it is commercially possible to transmit electric power 250 miles or more," says Prof. Fernald, "the location of immense gas-producer plants at the mines, or within easy reach of them, must speedily follow. But it should not be supposed that this power will be utilized only by the railroads of the country. It will be supplied to factories, and employed for all sorts of industrial purposes in cities and towns, whose populations will be thus enabled to enjoy cleanliness and freedom from the tyranny of smoky chimneys." This is the introduction to a remarkable article in this magazine.

Several plans have been made to establish a national American university. The idea, recently expressed in a bill introduced into the house of representatives, is as old as the country. Washington, in his address to congress in 1890, urged the promotion of art and science, and recommended that congress consider whether this desirable object will be best promoted by affording aids to seminaries of learning already established, by the institution of a national university, or by any other expedients." The question suggested by Washington has not been finally settled, although it has been answered in part by the growth of many colleges and universities throughout the land. In a country like ours of wide area there should be many great centers of education. It sometimes seems better to strengthen the colleges we have than to found new ones, but there is room for others. A national university might have special functions such as present institutions are not in position to discharge, and its official nature would make it a powerful influence in American higher education, which is now disorganized and uncertain in standard.

There have been from time to time many reported inventions of bullet-proof coats or undershirts; but somehow none ever seemed to meet a really adequate test. Now comes the story that a Russian colonel has devised a garment of this kind which is actually what is claimed. While the formula for construction is not given out, the announcement is made that the materials are three and a half times as hard as steel and are warranted to ward off a Mauser bullet fired from a high-power rifle. Still, it is not going to be easy to obtain or wear the bullet-proof coat. The garment is very costly and weighs five pounds, and a man trotting around in it must feel something like the armor-incased knights of old. But, asks the Troy Times, what are cost and weight compared to value as a life preserver? If the cost is truly bullet proof no doubt there are a good many rich and titled persons in Russia who would think the garment cheap at ten times the cost in money and discomfort.

Small boys who are afraid to go out into the streets to play lest they should get run over may be fired by the great hope that some day they will be president of the United States, but the rough-and-tumble kid has his eye fixed on a position as pitcher in the championship team of one of the big leagues. That appears to him to be a higher position than president or even floorwalker in a department store. As he pitches the tattered ball in the vacant lot his mind's eye wanders forward to the time when admiring multitudes will rise up to applaud his curves, meanwhile saving enough of their strength to throw pop bottles at his adversary of the rival team.

A dispatch says that Prince Vladimir Sergejevitch Kutuzoff and his wife, Warwara Tranovskaja Kutusuff, of Russia, have gone to Donkhobortsky. Note to printer: Please put the letters back in the alphabet after using.

Some men are bachelors and some are bigamists. Between the two is a class about which executive messages are never written, or against whom warrants are rarely issued. It must be a colorless life.

French courts have sent a meat contractor to jail for a year for supplying bad meat to the army, and assessed an automobilist $25,000 for causing an accident. Some of these things they appear to do better in France.

A new baboon in the New York zoo will not be happy unless he is provided with his rations of chewing tobacco. There is a monkey who might feel able to submit evidence to prove that he was descended from man.

MRS. METSKER ACQUITTED OF MURDER, AND RETURNS HOME.

FINAL SCENE IN COURT

Goes Back to Live With Her Husband While the Murdered Man's Wife Goes Back to Mourn.

Amid cheers of hundreds of sympathizers, Mrs. Christine Metsker left Cassopolis Friday evening for South Bend acquitted of the murder of Carlton Morgan. She carried in her arms a bunch of lilacs. On the same train bound for the same destination, but in another section of the same car, were Mrs. Morgan and her farm near Niles went Mrs. Morgan. She carried the blood-stained clothes of her husband to be preserved in memory of the man in whose faithfulness she still believes.

The jury was out just an hour. Mrs. Metsked half fainted when the verdict was announced. Then she rushed excited to the jury and shook the hand of each hysterically. Mrs. Morgan froze like a statue. She had confidently expected a verdict of guilty. She stooped over and picked up the clothes of her dead husband.

"It's all right," she said, in broken tones. "I didn't want revenge, but I am taking Carlton's clothes home with me. I couldn't bear to have them left for souvenirs."

Attorney Howell, in closing for the defense, before Prosecutor Bresnahan's request for "at least a fine of $1,000." He also made a spectacular attack on the "Merry Widows" and called Maud Harper, whom he "strumpet who came to court in garments purchased by Metsker and other men."

"The scenes Mrs. Metsker made were not in the introduction to. We have not exhibited our ankles or our tears to the jury. This little woman has wept and prayed in her cell. Let them punish Metsker, but not her whom he left for the embraces of a painted woman."

From the remarks of the attorneys the jury took the inference that Mrs. Metsker would not again live with her husband. Later she herself decided this and the couple will again take up life in South Bend. Morgan left for South Bend early in the day.

"I am so glad—so glad," was all Mrs. Metsker could say when the verdict was announced. Then she hurried to her hotel and 50 minutes later was at the depot. Cheers followed as the train drew out and she waved her bunch of lilacs from a window.

The Republican Convention.

The Republican state convention for the election of delegates at large to the national convention was held in the Grand Rapids Tuesday. There were no contests and both delegates and alternates were unanimously chosen. The delegates at large are: E. D. Stair, Detroit; Aaron W. Bridgeman, Grand Rapids; F. W. Gilchrist, Alpena, and James McNaughton, Calumet. The selection of Charles B. Warren, of Detroit; W. J. Hunsaker, of Saginaw; Col. H. A. Frazhardt, of Cheboygan and John W. Pfeiffer, of Edmore, as alternates, quickly followed. For presidential electors at large Capt. Fred M. Alger, of Detroit, and George Clapperton, of Grand Rapids, were chosen. Congressman Diekema was re-elected chairman of the state committee. The platform indorsed Republican principles of the day, including Secretary Taft's candidacy and instructed the Michigan delegation to vote for him for president, commending the Michigan congressional delegation and indorsed the revision of the constitution.

The M. N. G. Kick.

The call for the Michigan National Guard troops to go into encampment at Fort Benjamin Harrison, near Indianapolis, Sept. 21 to 26, has caused considerable talk in Detroit, the regiment of the militia owing to the fact that the dates for the primary election are Sept. 22, 23 and 23. "Last year," said an officer of Company B, Friday morning, "the military board made the same mistake of fixing the camp dates for the primary week, but the board quickly saw its mistake and changed the time. This year there seems to be no disposition on the part of the board to rectify the mistake."

Was He a Gunness Victim?

Mrs. Mary Newman, of West Saginaw, communicated with the La Porte, Ind., authorities, fearing that her husband may have been lured to the Gunness house of death. She says he was about 65 years of age, and when he was last heard from he was in this section of the country with a horse and buggy. In view of the many strange men who arrived in rigs at the Gunness place, the story of the Saginaw woman may solve the fate of her husband.

Student Drowned.

Edward F. Stevison, a U. of M. freshman engineering student, Webb City, Mo., was struck by the boom while sailing on Whitmore lake Tuesday and thrown into the water. Norton Jr., Thierwachter, his companion, jumped into the water, but Stevison went down before he could reach him. The body was recovered and brought to Ann Arbor. Stevison's father is a wealthy mine owner.

Thomas Draper, manager of the Draper Manufacturing Co., has reported to the Port Huron police that he found a stick of dynamite with his car factory. He believes that an attempt was made to burn the factory because of his connection with the Law and Order league.

Ward Copeland, former hotel clerk, who was tarred and feathered in Charlotte a few years ago because of alleged misconduct with a waitress, was taken into custody at Lansing to be examined as to his sanity. Brooding over the trouble is believed to have deranged him.

The Wright brothers made two more successful flights with their aeroplane at Manteo, N. C.

Mail advices say the recent tidal bore in the Yangtse-Kiang resulted in nearly 10,000 deaths at Hankow.

A court in Paris granted the Hart, McKee divorce, hearing both parties and giving Mrs. McKee custody of the child except for one month yearly.

Earley B. Palmore and Miss Lois M. Palmore of Virginia were wedded in the rotunda of the capitol at Washington.

STATE NEWS BRIEFS.

"Yeggs" blew the Sherman post-office safe. They got $26 in cash and a few stamps.

Park Commissioner Barlow denied the use of a Grand Rapids public park for a Socialist meeting.

Because of the high price of corn the Michigan Starch Co.'s factory at Traverse City will shut down.

Burglars stole silverware, firearms and cutlery worth $200 from the Chambers Bros.' store in Wixom.

The heavy rainfall is preventing the planting of sugar beet seed and may have a serious effect on the crop.

The 6-year-old son of James Wagner, of Lee township, was made deaf by lightning, which struck the dwelling.

Since April 1 60 families have settled in Crawford and Roscommon counties, right in the heart of the pine barrens.

By pushing a calf from his pathway James Lawrence, a Burr Oak township farmer, angered the mother and was gored to death.

Kalamazoo board of health will ask the council to pass an ordinance requiring screens to keep out the germ spreading house fly.

The thirty-fourth annual meeting of the Lenawee Pioneer and Historical society will be held in the senate chamber June 3 and 4.

President Fitch of the Duluth, South Shore & Atlantic railroad, denies the report that the road will acquire the Detroit & Mackinac line.

The title of the old Mansfield & Coldwater roadbed has been obtained by the Coldwater-Battle Creek line, which it is declared is now financed.

Mrs. David Nichols, of Grand Rapids, sat for hours in a hole dug by workmen in her yard and prevented them from setting a street railway pole.

Instead of going to Benton Harbor to visit a daughter, James H. Bean, a wealthy Keeler farmer, took carbolic acid in a barn and the body was found several days later.

Farmer Johnson, aged 60, reported to Sheriff Davidson, of Port Huron, that he was lured into a resort by two women and robbed of his bank book containing a deposit of $100.

While in an absent-minded mood, John Warnock, a Battle Creek grocer, walked against a fast moving trolley car and was probably fatally injured. His wife died not long ago.

A party of 21 persons, all natives of England, will leave Ishpeming for the old country. The foreign steamship business has been better there this spring than in years before.

Fifty sheep raisers of Vernon and Venice townships formed a pool in agreement not to sell their wool until there is an advance in price. They are holding about 250,000 pounds.

Conductor George Meade, who has been in the Homeopathic hospital at Ann Arbor since the Grand Trunk wreck, April 28, will be able to leave soon and will probably be arrested.

Norman W. Greene, of Grand Rapids, who was six feet two inches in height and for years the "living skeleton" of Barnum & Bailey's sideshow, is dead. He weighed only 90 pounds.

Supt. F. D. Clarke, of the Michigan School for Deaf, has been given the degree of Doctor of Humane Letters by Gallaudet college of Washington, D. C. He has also been re-elected superintendent.

Probate Judge Fracklieton sustained the petition of Eugene Witham, Burton township farmer, who left practically all of his $8,000 estate to Masonic bodies in Flint and Davidson for hospital purposes.

The new Rickman hotel in Kalamazoo was almost stripped of towels, doilies, sheets and pillow cases by souvenir seekers at the formal opening Thursday. It is estimated that 20,000 people visited the place.

Arthur Burg, of Bay City, believed from newspaper dispatches that his son Frank had been murdered in San Francisco and the family was stricken dumb when he walked into the house. He had been gone a year.

Mrs. Peter Timmer, aged 20, of Muskegon, but recently a bride, took carbolic acid because her husband scolded her for putting a pan of ashes where they would blow on a neighbor's clothes. The doctors saved her.

Released from the charge of abandoning his wife and ten children on condition that he furnish $5 a week, Newton Lesse, aged 70, of Lake City, was unable to meet it. He took acid in a havloft and was found dying.

May Malone, proprietress of the Grand Central and William Dryer, of the Northern hotel, in Lake City, are under arrest charged with selling liquor. They are the first arrested in the counties recently voted "dry."

Heavy rains Monday night and Tuesday caused widespread washout damage by forest fires north of Calumet. Tuesday morning the smoke from the fires on the eastern side of Keweenaw peninsula extended 50 miles out on Lake Superior.

George E. Brown, former Grand Trunk agent at Munith, stood mute when arraigned before Justice Wood, charged with carrying on a series of fashionable robberies for a railroad company. His examination was adjourned to May 26.

The proposed Wild Rose ditch, forty miles in length which will drain 15,000 acres of land in Three Lakes township, is meeting with considerable opposition. A number of farmers interviewed have retained Attorney James O'Hara to fight the proposition.

Two swindlers, claiming to represent the machinists' union, collected between $300 and $500 in Jackson by circulating subscriptions to help the national convention of machinists to Jackson during July. They gave the names of two innocent insurance men who were taken into custody but quickly released.

Taking into her house a party of Bohemian beet weeders, who had missed train connections, Mrs. Frank Seafred, aged 60, of Durand, made beds for them on the floor and gave them food. Over-exertion and a fierce cold brought an attack of pneumonia and Mrs. Seafred is near death.

Prosecuting Attorney Sawyer says that Harry Reynolds, manager of the wrecked Star theater in Ann Arbor, has asked him for warrants for 66 students, charging them with maliciously destruction of property and offering him 26 per cent of the amount if he would collect the $2,800 representing the total of the Star bill at the recent riot. The prosecutor refused to consider the proposition. It is rumored that Reynolds intends having the students arrested on civil warrants.

Yeggmen dynamited the Farwell postoffice safe during a storm, but got only 40 cents.

News Notes from Lansing

Interesting Happenings at the State Capital of Michigan.

Lansing.—Railroad Commissioners Glasgow, Dickinson and Scully decided, after examining into the causes of the Ypsilanti wreck on the D. U. R. interurban line, that a meeting of interurban traction companies in this state will be called for the purpose of devising a better dispatching system. "It seems to me that the train dispatching system should be applied to interurban lines," said Commissioner Dickinson. "Considerable use could be made of the block signal devices. But we shall give the interested parties a hearing. It may be that they can convince the commission that the system now used by the D. U. R. is better. With my many years of train experience, I feel satisfied that written orders are the only safe method. The man in charge of a car should have more than his memory to depend on. The Ypsilanti accident was due to a short train order that the road will accept the Detroit & Mackinac line.

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Complete List of Delegates.

The complete list of delegates received here from the state Republican convention at Grand Rapids is as follows:

At large—E. D. Stair, Detroit; John W. Blodgett, Grand Rapids; Frank W. Gilchrist, Alpena; James MacNaughton, Calumet.

District delegates—First, August Marxhausen and George F. Codd, Second, Robert H. Warren, Ann Arbor, and Frank Fellows, Hudson; Third, Dallas Boudeman, Kalamazoo, and W. R. Wooden, Battle Creek; Fourth, Frank Cummins, St. Joseph county, and Marshal L. Cook, Barry county; Fifth, Roy S. Barnhart, Grand Rapids, and William B. Heath, Ionia; Sixth, Ranson E. Olds, Lansing, and Wellington Brigham, Ingham; Seventh, William H. Wallace, Huron county, and James H. Foster, Sanilac county; Eighth, E. D. Dewey, Owosso, and Joseph W. Fordney, Saginaw; Ninth, Jeremiah Sullivan, Cedar, and Gardner T. Sands, Pentwater; Tenth, Edward B. Foss, Bay City, and Judge Nelson Sharp, West Branch; Eleventh, Judge Brown, Big Rapids, and Hugh Ewing, Alma; Twelfth, W. H. Johnson, Ishpeming, and Chase S. Osborn, Sault Ste. Marie.

Presidential electors—At large, Capt. Fred M. Alger, Detroit; George Clapperton, Grand Rapids.

District—First, John N. Bagley, Wayne; Second, Frank S. Neal, Wayne; Third, Clifford C. Ward, Hillsdale; Fourth, Solomon C. Merriman, Hartford, and George W. Bardeen, Allegan; Fifth, E. M. Barnard, Kent, and H. J. Horrigan, Ionia; Sixth, Orrett Cutler, Livingston, and Seth D. Doug-las, Gogebic, and Robert L. Shields, Houghton; Michigan Republican Press Association—Harry Powers, Cadillac, and Walter J. Hunsaker, Saginaw.

State Shoots Ordered.

Orders have been issued from the adjutant general's office for the holding of a state individual shoot on the various local ranges, continuing until Monday, June 1. A company team shoot is also scheduled, open to teams of six enlisted men of the M. N. G., for Saturday, June 6. Conditions and distances are as follows: Slow fire, double sights, ten shots for record, 200, 500, 600 yards; three, two strings, 500, 600 yards, no sighting. Prizes will be awarded the company qualifying the greatest number of marksmen, to the 11 men making the highest score and to the three officers making the best records. Commanders wishing to try for the prizes must notify Capt. Fred Alger, Lansing, of their intentions. The following trophy matches will be shot off on the Detroit range the first week in August: Wagner-Wimbledon long-distance vetteran for First infantry, Evening News for Second infantry, Fordney for Third infantry and Hills Middle range for teams of four from every company. Other shots are to be added, and the team selected to represent Michigan at the national match at Camp Perry.

Sponsor for the Michigan.

Miss Carol Barnes Newberry, daughter of Assistant Secretary of the Navy Newberry, has been designated by Gov. Warner of Michigan as sponsor for the battleship Michigan, whose launching took place on Tuesday, May 26, at the yards of the New York Shipbuilding Company at Camden, N. J., The governor of Michigan and his staff were invited to attend the launching and Mr. Newberry and a party of friends will go from Washington to witness the event.

M. N. G. Camp Dates Fixed.

Definite information regarding the date of the maneuvers at Fort Benjamin Harrison, Indianapolis, in which Michigan troops will participate, was given out by the state military authorities the other morning.

The Michigan troops will go into camp September 21 and remain until September 30.

The annual brigade will hold maneuvers at South Manitou island from August 11 to 18.

Warner Selects Inspectors.

Gov. Warner has appointed the following inspectors to visit the Michigan military academy: E. Orchard Lake; Charles W. Harrah, Detroit; Thomas E. Barkworth, Grand Rapids; Delos Fail, Albion; Ralph G. Morley, Saginaw; Ransom E. Olds, Lansing; Peter White, Marquette; James R. Wylie, Grand Rapids.

Say Move Is a Failure.

Michigan roads have concluded that doubling up with the Central Passenger association is not the most desirable thing in the world. The move was made last fall when the mileage books were changed with the Michigan Passenger association books, and transferred all this to the central mileage district. In January last it was decided that it would be well to dissolve the Michigan Passenger association, thus virtually throwing all the rate-making for state events in the hands of Chicago passenger interests.

National Officers Meet.

The annual state convention of the Knights of Columbus was held in Bay City with degree work on a class of candidates in the C. of C. hall. About 200 knights from all over the state were in the city. The major degrees were exemplified. The business session of the convention was held and in the afternoon the visitors were given an auto ride about the city. In the evening 300 plates were laid at a banquet in the Ridotto. The occasion was declared one of the most enjoyable in the history of the order.

Wayne Post Office Robbed.

Wayne.—When Postmaster Edward A. Smith reached his office he found the front door battered down, the office safe wrecked and other evidence that the office had been visited by yeggmen. About $10 in money and stamps in the money drawer was taken.

Crushed Beneath Train.

Flint.—In attempting to board a moving train Richard Smith was thrown so close to the track that the bell of his left foot was crushed

FORESTRY.

Osborn's Outline Caused Specific Attention.

"Michigan's lower peninsular forest reserve, according to the results of the conference in Washington between the state and federal officials, will amount to 210,000 acres," said President Snyder of the M. A. C. He would like to raise the amount to 700,000 acres and hopes the next legislature may do it.

"There are 40,000 acres of agricultural college lands," said Prof. Snyder. "At first it was planned to add 40,000 acres to these, but it is decided now also to add the government lands in the lower peninsula, about 170,000 acres. Besides these there are 500,000 acres of tax lands, abandoned and not desired; belonging to the state, all of which could be turned into forest reserves."

A commission was appointed under an act of the last legislature to look over these lands with view to reforestation. If 500,000 acres could be added to the lands already set aside, Michigan could begin one of the greatest works of reforestation and conservation in the country.

The conference of governors centered its attention largely on the forestry question as the central problem, exactly as outlined by Chase S. Osborn's letter to President Roosevelt. In this problem of reforestation Michigan seems to be taking a lead.

Michigan has been long before regarded reforestation as a mighty problem, but academic and hard to solve in a practical manner. The solution of the problem and reforestation projects on a grand scale are Michigan results from the great conference and all other states are sure to follow. It is certain that the governors' Chautauqua will be productive of practical results of all kinds in many forms of endeavor.

AROUND THE STATE.

David Buckeloo, of Kalamazoo, owner of a confectionery store, is hovering between life and death as a result of John Mitchell, the labor leader, for a place on the Democratic presidential ticket this year. Mr. Bryan looks, it is said, very kindly on the suggestion that Mitchell be nominated for vice-president in the event that Mr. Bryan, should head the ticket. Some of the friends of Mitchell have been sounding the members of congress from Illinois as to the Democratic sides as to the availability of Mitchell for governor of Illinois. The suggestion that he be a candidate for governor is said to be made by no one to be in the confidence of the labor leader, not to be distasteful to him.

Guarded Mr. Bryan.

Unknown to himself, William J. Bryan during two days of his stay in Washington last week in attendance on the governors' conference, was the subject of watchful care by detectives. This was because of threats involving personal violence made against him by a white man who called at the office of Willis J. Abbot, a friend of Bryan. The latter did not see the man, who left his message with a clerk in the office. Abbot thinks the caller was simply a harmless crank, but he took every precaution communicated with the police with a suggestion that the man be watched during Bryan's stay. The police, however, centered their attention on Bryan.

A Taft Claim.

Frank H. Hitchcock issued the following statement from the Taft headquarters Saturday: "Of 960 delegates to be chosen to the national convention in Chicago, 584 are pledged to Taft. Of these, 517 are instructed, 36 pledged by resolutions of indorsement, and 31 by personal declaration. The number of unpledged delegates is 169, and of these more than 100 are known to be favorable to Taft."

The Thaw Case.

Harry K. Thaw's plea for liberty from Matteawan insane asylum, where he has been confined since his trial for killing Stanford White, will probably be decided by Judge Morschauser on Monday, May 25. Both sides will be prepared to argue the case, but each will present briefs on the question raised by Thaw's counsel at the beginning of the hearing, that the effect of Thaw's commitment to Matteawan was unconstitutional. Thaw will remain in the Dutchess county court house until the decision is rendered.

Dr. Evans compared Thaw's mind to a piece of linen that was dirty and has been washed clean."

Asked whether he did not think Thaw insane when he killed White, he answered: "That was two years ago, and I have discharged 500 patients cured since then."

Whichever way Judge Morschauser decides, the case will go to the appellate division in Brooklyn to argue the appeal at the June term of that court.

Burrows Temporary Chairman.

United States Senator Julius Caesar Burrows, of Michigan, was selected Saturday by the sub-committee of the Republican national committee to be temporary chairman of the national convention, which meets in Chicago June 16.

TELEGRAPHIC BRIEFS.

Rather than have two feet of waste space above the ice box in his new home at Pocantico Hills, John D. Rockefeller will put $2,000 for a larger ice box that will reach to the ceiling.

Akan Gard, governor of Lanao province, Philippine islands, did not die from bolo wounds, as reported in dispatches. In fact, he did not die at all, his family in New Haven, Conn., having just received a letter from him saying he is recovering.

Three clergymen have been selected to open the Republican national convention in Chicago daily. Bishop P. J. Muldoon, of the Roman Catholic diocese of Chicago; Rev. O. Waters, of Grace Episcopal church, Chicago, and Rev. John W. Hill, of the Metropolitan Temple, New York, will take turns.

Count Boni is not recovering from his fury at the thoughts of marriage between Prince Helie and Miss Anna Gould. He intends, if the marriage goes through, to demand a modification of divorce decree, which gave her the custody of the children, basing this demand on the ground that the prince would not be a suitable stepfather and that such close relationship with his children would be prejudicial to their interests.

Tasmania's invitation to have the battleship fleet call on its world cruise has been declined, with thanks, because it would interfere with the plans previously made.

WASHINGTON POLITICAL NOTES

LOOKING TO A REVISION OF THE TARIFF, THE HOUSE TAKES ACTION.

LATE POLITICAL GOSSIP

Things Said About the Presidential Candidates at the National Capital Briefly Told.

Steps looking to a revision of the tariff were taken by the house Saturday when it passed a resolution authorizing the committee on ways and means to sit during the coming recess of congress. Mr. Payne, New York, who offered the resolution, said that in order not to disquiet the country before election the committee would make no general inquiry involving the question of rates in the schedule. After the election, he said, that subject would be gone into.

Mr. Fayne closed the debate by stating the Republican program for tariff revision. "It will be a maximum and minimum tariff, putting us on an equality with France, Germany and Russia in that respect, and we will go out with that tariff as we did with the Dingley tariff, in the firm belief that we will bring more prosperity to the people of the United States; we will broaden our markets with the nations of the earth, and by that we will bring blessings to all the people."

Mitchell for Vice-President.

Democratic leaders in Washington have been canvassing the situation in the various state delegations with respect to the possible candidacy of John Mitchell, the labor leader, for a place on the Democratic presidential ticket this year. Mr. Bryan looks, it is said, very kindly on the suggestion that Mitchell be nominated for vice-president in the event that Mr. Bryan, should head the ticket. Some of the friends of Mitchell have been sounding the members of congress from Illinois as to the Democratic sides as to the availability of Mitchell for governor of Illinois. The suggestion that he be a candidate for governor is said to be made by no one to be in the confidence of the labor leader, not to be distasteful to him.

Guarded Mr. Bryan.

Unknown to himself, William J. Bryan during two days of his stay in Washington last week in attendance on the governors' conference, was the subject of watchful care by detectives. This was because of threats involving personal violence made against him by a white man who called at the office of Willis J. Abbot, a friend of Bryan. The latter did not see the man, who left his message with a clerk in the office. Abbot thinks the caller was simply a harmless crank, but he took every precaution communicated with the police with a suggestion that the man be watched during Bryan's stay. The police, however, centered their attention on Bryan.

A Taft Claim.

Frank H. Hitchcock issued the following statement from the Taft headquarters Saturday: "Of 960 delegates to be chosen to the national convention in Chicago, 584 are pledged to Taft. Of these, 517 are instructed, 36 pledged by resolutions of indorsement, and 31 by personal declaration. The number of unpledged delegates is 169, and of these more than 100 are known to be favorable to Taft."

The Thaw Case.

Harry K. Thaw's plea for liberty from Matteawan insane asylum, where he has been confined since his trial for killing Stanford White, will probably be decided by Judge Morschauser on Monday, May 25. Both sides will be prepared to argue the case, but each will present briefs on the question raised by Thaw's counsel at the beginning of the hearing, that the effect of Thaw's commitment to Matteawan was unconstitutional. Thaw will remain in the Dutchess county court house until the decision is rendered.

Dr. Evans compared Thaw's mind to a piece of linen that was dirty and has been washed clean."

Asked whether he did not think Thaw insane when he killed White, he answered: "That was two years ago, and I have discharged 500 patients cured since then."

Whichever way Judge Morschauser decides, the case will go to the appellate division in Brooklyn to argue the appeal at the June term of that court.

Burrows Temporary Chairman.

United States Senator Julius Caesar Burrows, of Michigan, was selected Saturday by the sub-committee of the Republican national committee to be temporary chairman of the national convention, which meets in Chicago June 16.

TELEGRAPHIC BRIEFS.

Rather than have two feet of waste space above the ice box in his new home at Pocantico Hills, John D. Rockefeller will put $2,000 for a larger ice box that will reach to the ceiling.

Akan Gard, governor of Lanao province, Philippine islands, did not die from bolo wounds, as reported in dispatches. In fact, he did not die at all, his family in New Haven, Conn., having just received a letter from him saying he is recovering.

Three clergymen have been selected to open the Republican national convention in Chicago daily. Bishop P. J. Muldoon, of the Roman Catholic diocese of Chicago; Rev. O. Waters, of Grace Episcopal church, Chicago, and Rev. John W. Hill, of the Metropolitan Temple, New York, will take turns.

Count Boni is not recovering from his fury at the thoughts of marriage between Prince Helie and Mme. Anna Gould. He intends, if the marriage goes through, to demand a modification of divorced decree, which gave her the custody of the children, basing this demand on the ground that the prince would not be a suitable stepfather and that such close relationship with his children would be prejudicial to their interests.

Tasmania's invitation to have the battleship fleet call on its world cruise has been declined, with thanks, because it would interfere with the plans previously made.