

**ALL READY FOR AFRICA.**

**MR. ROOSEVELT'S OUTFIT IS COMPLETE AND IN SHIPSHAPE.**

All the Members of the Party Dead Shots—Reported That Andrew Carnegie Will Finance Expedition.

Washington, Feb. 22.—The first full and complete statement of the plans for President Roosevelt's trip to Africa were given to the public this evening. This covers the president's inspiration, expectations, route, purposes, outfit, caravan, weapons, and a sketch of a goodly portion of Africa, which appears to be quite a continent.

It begins by the statement that "Theodore Roosevelt, 50 years of age, having on March 4, with his retirement as twenty-sixth president of the United States, completed over 25 years of public service, has decided to take rest and recreation in a two years' trip abroad, half of which will be spent in Africa under the British flag as a faunal naturalist, and the other half in Europe, visiting at least three of the big capitals."

The official party will consist of Mr. Roosevelt, his son Kermit, and three American naturalists, who are probably not "faunal"—Major Edgar A. Mearns, United States army officer (retired); J. Loring Alden and Edmund Heller. The object of the hunt is not to hunt, but to make a collection of mammals, birds, reptiles, insects and botanical specimens to be deposited in the National Museum at Washington, a superb marble palace which probably will be completed in time to house the unprecedented and unparalleled collection.

The party will leave New York the middle of March, going by the Mediterranean route to Gibraltar and Naples. At Naples they will board a steamer for Kilindini harbor, Mombasa Island, Africa, where they will arrive toward the end of April. They will proceed by the Uganda railway to Nairobi, spend six months there, then go by rail to Port Florence, Lake Victoria Nyanza. The party will cross Uganda by caravan, and finally pass down the whole length of the Nile, arriving at Khartoum about April, 1910. At Khartoum Mrs. Roosevelt will join the party and accompany the president on his trip to Europe.

It is stated that the funds for the trip were secured by the Smithsonian Institution from a source which has not been revealed, but that it will not be paid for out of the funds of the Smithsonian or of the government. It is reported that the amount necessary has been donated by Mr. Andrew Carnegie. Mr. Roosevelt has stated that he himself will pay his own personal expenses and those of his son.

Major Mearns is a great ornithologist, Mr. J. Loring Alden is a great field naturalist, Mr. Edmund Heller is a great zoologist and Mr. R. J. Cunningham, an Englishman, who will accompany the party, is a great shot.

The smaller mammals will be caught in traps, of which many of the latest models have been provided. The larger mammals will be shot with express rifles, and the most powerful rifles in the world have been secured. For Mr. Roosevelt six guns have been expressly manufactured. The first is a rifle of .405-caliber, carrying a 300-grain bullet, with which to shoot elephants and rhinoceros. The bullet at the time of impact has an energy of 2,500 pounds. The second rifle is a new United States government rimless cartridge type, carrying a 220-grain bullet, to kill very large game at 500 to 1,000 yards. This is the Hon. gun. The third rifle is an extra light gun, .45.70 cartridge, with its most effective range at five yards. The fourth is a 400-calibre gun for moderate size game; it is of high power type. The other members of the party will be armed with somewhat similar guns and will also carry revolvers.

Every member of the party is said to be a dead shot, and all the large party of natives have been selected for their shooting ability. The country is reassured by the statement that if Mr. Roosevelt should happen to miss a lion or a rhinoceros the beast would be brought down by a fusillade of bullets before he could possibly reach the president.

While in Africa Mr. Roosevelt will write a number of articles on hunting for Scribner's Magazine, which is said to have contracted to pay him for these at the rate of \$1 a word, and will also write editorials for The Outlook.

After the African hunt, on his visit of Europe, Mr. Roosevelt will lecture in German at the University of Berlin, in French at Sorbonne in Paris, and in English at Oxford University, England.

It must have given the prospective leanees a momentary shock when his eye first fell on the headline announcing that Taft will lean on Knox.—Ohio State Journal.

Tasmania has two stock exchanges, Western Australia one, and New Zealand one.

**PUBLICITY BILL PASSED.**

Measure Requiring Corporations to Furnish Stockholders with Statements Showing Standing.

Columbia, Feb. 19.—One of the most important measures that has been enacted at this session is the bill of K. P. Smith, Esq., of Anderson. The bill has been passed by both branches and is of general importance. It provides:

Section 1. That the president or such other officer who shall have the custody of the funds of any corporation organized and doing business under the laws of this State, shall annually, on or before the 13th day of December of each and every year, make and submit to each stockholder of any such corporation a general itemized statement, under oath, showing the actual assets and liabilities of such corporation, and upon request of any stockholder shall deliver a copy of such statement to such stockholder of said corporation, as herein provided for, either in person or by mail, and the proof of the mailing of any such notice, as required by the terms of this Act, shall be a sufficient compliance therewith.

Sec. 2. That any president or other officer of a corporation organized under the laws of this State who shall willfully make any false statement, under oath, when making and submitting the report required by Sec. 1 of this Act, shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor, and shall be punished in the discretion of the court.

Sec. 3. That any president or other officer having the care and custody of the funds of any such corporation as is required to make report under Sec. 1 of this Act, shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor, and shall be punished in the discretion of the court.

Sec. 4. This Act shall not apply to any banking institution which is now required by law to make an annual report to stockholders; and provided, further, it shall not apply to building and loan associations.

Sec. 5. That all Acts and parts of Acts inconsistent with this Act, be, and the same are hereby, repealed.

**Wheat That Will Not Rust.**

The most important and the most fascinating of all Professor Biffen's experiments in the laboratories of Cambridge University, England, concern production of varieties of wheat immune to prevalent pests.

In all countries the most serious enemy of the wheat farmer is rust. In the bad rust year of 1891 the loss due to this cause in Prussia alone was calculated at over \$20,000,000, while a well-known authority estimates that the average loss from rust to the wheat crops of the world would not be covered by \$100,000,000.

No prophylactic against the disease has been discovered, says Harper's Magazine, and it is recognized that the only way to avoid it is to make use of varieties which are naturally immune. Unfortunately the few such varieties that exist are in other respects poor and unprofitable to grow.

Professor Biffen began his experiments by crossing a variety peculiarly subject to the attacks of yellow rust with an immune variety. The hybrids produced were all severely attacked by rust.

In the following year such seed as could be collected from these plants was sown. The greater number of the resulting plants were much rusted, but some were entirely free from the disease, the growing up in the closest contact with their rusty brethren. It was found on counting that the immune plants formed almost exactly a quarter of the total number.

In other words, the experiment proved susceptibility and immunity to be a pair of Mendelian characters, and consequently within the control of the breeder to combine with other characters according as he pleased. The fact that resistance to yellow rust is a unit character exhibiting Mendelian inheritance makes it a simple matter to transfer it to wheats which are in every way desirable except for their susceptibility to rust.

From the knowledge gained through his experiments Professor Biffen has been able to build up wheats combining the large yield and excellent straw of the best English varieties with the strength of the foreign grain and at the same time quite immune to yellow rust. During the present year several acres of such wheat coming true to type were grown on the Cambridge University experimental farm, and when the quantity is sufficient to be put upon the market there is no reason to doubt its exerting a considerable influence on the agricultural outlook.

The elusiveness to chart-makers of some dangers to navigation in familiar waters is illustrated in a new work by G. R. Putnam. In the much traversed Blue Hill Bay, Maine, was lately discovered a pinnacle rock that rises from a depth of seventy-eight feet to within seven feet of the surface with almost perpendicular sides and a top only six feet in diameter.

**THE ARMADA RETURNS.**

MAGNIFICENT SCENE AT HAMPTON ROADS YESTERDAY.

Ships Pass in Review of Roosevelt—All Bands Crash in "Star Spangled Banner" When Mayflower Draws Near—America Sets New Standard For Naval Cruises—President Makes Stirring Address.

Old Point Comfort, Feb. 22.—With homeward bound pennants streaming far behind them, twenty-eight bands, playing "The Star Spangled Banner," and saluting cannon roaring a tribute to the president of the United States, the battleship fleet of the American navy ended its world's cruise here today.

After steaming in review of the president whose eagle crested flag of blue was at the main of the cruiser yacht Mayflower, the sixteen white battleships finally cast anchor in the same fair bay of Hampton Roads, whence they started fourteen months ago on their notable journey of 45,000 miles. The joy of home-coming was written upon every face of the blue jackets, and every officer on board the sixteen ships.

The long cruise visits to many of the most famous ports of the world, the homage that has been paid to the fleet by every nation favored on the calling list, have been sources of intense interest to every one aboard the famous vessels, but unquestionably there was no scene in all the world to compare in beauty with the familiar landmarks picked up by the fleet, as it steamed a triumphant, self-reliant and efficient force through the Virginia Capes today and entered the hospitable waters of Chesapeake Bay and Hampton Roads.

The American navy has set a new cruising standard for the other navies of the world to strive for.

As she led the beautiful column of battleships ready for any emergency and bidding defiance to the storms or tortuous channels of the strange waters of the hemispheres out Hampton Roads fourteen months ago, and as she piloted the fleet through all the seas and into all the ports of the long cruise the flagship Connecticut steamed again today at the head of the returning squadrons.

The day of home-coming dawned with the prospects of weather as fair as the day in December, 1907, on which the fleet set sail. Foreign naval attaches, immense parties of government officials, high officers of the army and navy were aboard the fleet of welcome which steamed out to greet the incoming vessels and to witness the review by the president in the tall of the Horseshoe.

The Mayflower which came down from Washington last right with a distinguished party on board, cast her anchors in the same waters today, where she took up her position at the sailing of the fleet. After the ceremonial greeting of the battleships and their escort, the Mayflower steamed herself at the end of the long column into Hampton Roads, and, when the home-coming vessels had anchored, took her position, in the centre of the fleet.

Admiral Sperry and other flag officers together with the captain commanding, were received on board and to them President Roosevelt extended a cordial thanks, which he afterwards expressed anew to the officers and crews of the four divisional flagships which were visited here in the afternoon.

In the battleship and cruiser squadrons that filed by the Mayflower today and saluted the president's flag at the main of the graceful little cruiser yacht, there were represented 320,490 tons of water displacement. Every battleship in commission in the navy had a place in the long line. There were twenty of the heavily belted vessels, fifteen being among the original sixteen that sailed away fourteen months ago. The Maine served today as the flagship of the squadron of vessels sent to meet the incoming fleet, and as the wireless dispatches already have told, she was greeted at sea with all the enthusiasm of an old friend.

The battleship fleet and its escorting squadron of four battleships and five cruisers, arrived at the Southern Ocean drill grounds, fifty miles off the Virginia Capes, yesterday, and while there made ready for today's review and inspection.

**TAKEN TO COLUMBIA.**

Clarendon Sheriff Takes Murderer of Mims to Penitentiary to Prevent Lynching.

Columbia, Feb. 23.—Sheriff Gamble of Clarendon has prevented a probable lynching there of William Bethune, the negro murderer of Ben Mims, a white man, whom Bethune shot through the head while Mims had him under arrest for using his buggy, by bringing the negro to the penitentiary this morning. Gamble got wind of a lynching party being organized by Mims' relatives.

Cold treatment will generally kindle a flame of resentment.

**THE CULTUS' ENTERTAINMENT.**

"Up to Freddie" and "The Geisha" Charm a Capacity House.

The dramatic and musical entertainment under the auspices of the Cultus Musical Club at the Academy of Music on last Tuesday evening was a decided success. One of the largest audiences that ever witnessed an amateur performance in Sumter filled the house to its utmost capacity, and gave evidence of high appreciation of its pleasure and delight.

The entertainment opened with a two act comedy drama, "Up to Freddie," a play presenting a series of ridiculous situations in a rapid-fire and laugh-provoking manner. Messrs. O. H. Folley and George Warren, in their respective parts of Greenville Lodge and John Stanhope, interpreted their lines exceedingly well.

The title role, Freddie Thatcham, was presented in a highly amusing manner by Mr. E. W. Ware, as a typical dude and, also, as a comedian, Mr. Ware made good.

The work of Mrs. A. D. Harby, as Miss Prince, a dignified and gracious chaperone, added much needed life to the play. Being thoroughly at ease, and reading her lines in a most acceptable manner, gained for her the very high commendation of the audience.

Miss Corrine Barfield made a very attractive "Marguerite Burnett," a lady who accepted, then rejected and finally grabbed with both hands. She was very clever.

Four fair and shifty maidens were well represented by Misses Mabel Bowman, Mary Wilson, Jessie La Motte and Mrs. Abe Ryttenberg. They portrayed admirably that flirting is an awful, awful crime, and were the four reasons why Freddie left home.

"The Geisha," a story of a Japanese tea garden told in song, was the concluding portion of the program. This clever little opera of catchy songs and tuneful melodies was presented by Miss Rosa Sharfsin and Mr. Alva Lumpkin, assisted by a well-trained chorus of strong and well-trained voices.

Miss Sharfsin, petite and graceful, and of most charming and captivating stage presence, was ideal in the leading role as the Queen of the Geisha, a most beautiful daughter of fair Japan. Her rich soprano voice, splendidly cultivated and always under perfect control, had a most wonderful range, filling every portion of the large auditorium. She completely captivated her audience in the song hits of the opera "Amorous Goldfish," "Jewel of Oshia," and "Love, Love." The numerous encores and a deluge of flowers bespoke the unbounded delight that her work produced.

Playing opposite Miss Sharfsin was Mr. Alva Lumpkin, of Columbia, a baritone singer of State-wide reputation. His wonderfully powerful voice showed to its best advantage in the beautiful love ballad "Star of My Soul," which met with a most complimentary reception. His rendition of "Jappy" was, also, highly commended.

Little Reb Bradford received nothing short of an ovation at the conclusion of his cleverly rendered song "Chin-Chin-Chinaman." His dancing was a decided feature, and the audience demanded his response to not less than three encores.

Much of the success of the opera was due to a most excellent orchestra composed of Mrs. Hearon, piano, Mrs. H. M. Stuckey, violin, Mrs. Robt. Sheller, violin, Miss Lucile Iseman, violin, Mr. Bagwell, cornet, Dr. Vaughn, flute, Mr. Wm. Moran, bass violin.

**MISS SYLVIA GREEN MARRIES.**

Daughter of America's Richest Woman Weds Man of Sixty-five Years.

Morristown, N. J., Feb. 23.—Miss Sylvia Green, daughter of Mrs. Hetty Green of New York, one of the wealthiest women in America, was married at noon today to Matthew Astor Wilks, who is about 65 years old, and is the great-grandson of John Jacob Astor. Mrs. Green and her daughter have been living in a modest apartment in Hoboken, but this morning came to this city with a wedding party of about 30 persons in a special car. In St. Peter's Episcopal church the marriage ceremony was performed by Rev. Philamon Sturgess, the rector.

Mrs. Green appeared to be in the best of spirits at the ceremony. When asked if she approved of the marriage she said: "I am happy because my daughter is happy."

She would not state definitely whether she had given the bride any wedding presents. "I gave my love," she said, "and when I die she will have a great deal more from me."

Miss Ethel Dickens, a granddaughter of Charles Dickens, is at the head of a large typewriting bureau in London, and is described as a keen business woman.

There are now in the schools of New York city nearly 26,000 more pupils than there were one year ago.

**CITY COUNCIL MEETING.**

NO BUSINESS OF IMPORTANCE WAS TRANSACTED.

The Administration Building Proposition Was Not Mentioned—Electric Light Contract Discussed and Change Made in Terms of Advertisement—Bids for Hook and Ladder Truck Called For.

A regular meeting of City Council was held on Tuesday night at 8 o'clock with all members present except Aldermen Bultman and R. F. Haynsworth. After the minutes of meeting held Feb. 9th, had been read and confirmed the meeting got down to business.

Messrs. P. Moses, Sr., and E. H. Moses were present to ask information as to requirements of the new lighting contract. 1st. What is meant by incandescent arc lights? Whether the city will require all night service every night in the year? They asserted that 6.6 amperes as advertised will not give nominal 2,000 candle lights. The clerk was directed to change the advertisement by requiring all night service every night, 2,000 candle power without naming amperes. Enclosed are lights and require each bidder to send in good faith check certified for \$500. This advertisement to be published in Columbia State, News and Courier, Item and Manufacturers' Record, calling for bids at 12 o'clock of March 23rd.

Mr. A. G. Crouse, representing the Seagraves Co., appeared before council to offer terms and prices on a hook and ladder truck, with and without chemical tank or extinguishers. Mr. Stubbs suggested that the purchase should be made by competitive bids and on his motion it was ordered that advertisement be made in the Manufacturers' Record for hook and ladder truck of 3,500 pounds weight, equipped with 150 foot ladders in lengths as required, 35 gallon chemical tank or two each of three gallon and five gallon extinguishers, f. o. b. Sumter.

Mr. Barnett for the Finance Committee reported that all bills referred to them had been approved.

Mr. H. C. Haynsworth for Committee of Public Works presented report of street work for past two weeks.

A letter was read from Mr. J. F. Reid, cotton weigher, asking the recommendation of Council for his reappointment by the County Commissioners. Council postponed action until the first meeting in May, in order that other persons desiring to do so, may have an opportunity to present their applications.

Complaint was made by Mr. D. James Winn in a letter to the Mayor, of a sidewalk elevated above the level of his property, and threatening a suit for damages unless the walk be removed by March 1st. The Clerk was directed to request Mr. Winn to state definitely what damage is done his property, and to have him suggest a plan by which the difficulty may be overcome.

A deed was received from the County Commissioners, conveying to the City the Alley or Right of Way at the rear of the Farmers Bank, extending to Hampton Avenue. And also a deed from property owners on Law Range for a four foot Right of Way for sewerage purposes, the southern edge of their lots, extending from lots owned by T. B. Fraser and others on the West, to Harvin street on the East. Discussion arose as to the possible insufficiency of a four foot Right of Way, and as to whether or not it should not extend across the entire block, from Main to Harvin Street. These deeds were referred to Aldermen Wright, Stubbs and H. C. Haynsworth to consider and report at next meeting of Council.

Mr. Finn reported that request had been made for permission to repair an old wooden building on North Main Street, within the fire limits, belonging to the White Estate. The request was refused for the reason that other applicants for similar permits had been refused. And the law reserves no authority to grant such permits, except in the case of dwellings.

Mr. Finn asked that some work be done on Kendrick, Harvin and Magnolia Streets. Referred to Committee of Public Works with request that this work be done as soon as practicable.

Two Ordinances were read, adopted and ordered published under a resolution dispensing with the second reading, as follows: An Ordinance prescribing rules for driving Horses, Mules, and Cattle through the streets, and, an Ordinance to prevent Poultry from Running at Large. This latter ordinance had been written for the protection of grass and shubbery in public places, but was amended so as to prevent persons from allowing their fowls to run on other people's land without consent.

Council then adjourned.

Mother (reprovingly)—Don't you know that you should never let a man kiss you? Daughter—But, mamma, it seems so forward for a girl to do the kissing.—Boston Transcript.

**In View of Compulsory Education.**

One of the principal objections brought against a compulsory education law is that such a measure would force the negroes into the public school and thus negro children would outstrip white children in intelligence. Of course, if the white race is not the "superior" race, as is so often claimed and justly, then the negroes should have given them the advantage said to be lurking in a compulsory law. But the report of the State Superintendent of Education for last year indicates that this objection will not hold.

According to Mr. Martin's report to the legislature there were last year more than 26,000 negro children in the public schools in excess of the number of white children. Nor was this excess confined to the lower, or coast counties. There are more than three times as many negroes in the public schools of Fairfield county as there are whites, and twice as many negroes in Greenwood county. In the coast county of Georgetown there are only twice as many, as is also the case in the large county of Orangeburg.

The negroes are in the majority in the schools of 29 counties, while the white children are in the majority only twelve counties (there being no figures from Calhoun.) There are more negroes than whites in Abbeville, Aiken, Bamberg, Barnwell, Beaufort, Berkeley, Charleston, Chester, Clarendon, Darlington, Dorchester, Edgefield, Fairfield, Florence, Georgetown, Greenwood, Hampton, Kershaw, Laurens, Lee, Marlboro, Newberry, Orangeburg, Richland, Saluda, Sumter, Union, Williamsburg and York.

In the coast county of Horry, for instance, there are only 1,400 negroes in the public schools, while there are 5,100 whites. In the county of Lexington there are 1,000 more whites than negroes, and in the county of Colleton the white school children are in the majority. And in all the State the number of negroes in the public schools reaches a grand total of 172,967, while all the white children, number only 146,647.

From the State Superintendent's report it is seen that the colored people are taking advantage of the public schools to a far greater extent than the whites. This is manifest in the fact that so large a number attend school, though they do not have half the advantages which the whites enjoy. The average number of weeks per year of the negro schools is 14, while the average for the white schools is 23. Yet the average daily attendance of the colored people was nearly 17,000 above that of the whites.

It has been said that the great bulk of the negro pupils are in the towns. This is an error, in the country schools there are 100,390 whites and 135,321 negroes; and in the town schools 46,257 whites and only 37,646 negroes; so it is seen that the farm negroes are the ones furnishing the excess in number of pupils. For all this work, the average yearly salary paid the negro teachers is \$98 and that of the white teachers \$289. The county in which the highest average salary is paid is Anderson, where it is \$563 for whites, though the negro teachers in Anderson county fall below the average of Charleston and Richland counties.

Superintendent Martin's report is an unusually interesting volume, and his recommendations to the legislature should be very seriously considered by the members of that body. For six years he has studied school conditions in the State, and he knows whereof he speaks. The revision of the school code, electing county boards by the people, equalizing the State school system, and the like, are splendid things to aim at; and these he has recommended, along with others.

However, there is strong argument in favor of a compulsory school law which has not been emphasized, namely, the right to tax for school purposes involves the duty to compel attendance upon the schools run by such taxes. If the government has the right to tax for school purposes at all, then it seems clear the government is in duty bound to require the children for whose benefit the tax is levied, to take advantage of the education provided. This seems to us clear and conclusive reasoning.—The Baptist Courier.

**The Children.**

Two small girls were talking about their dreams for the future. "When I grow up," said Mary, "I'm going to be a school teacher." "Well, I'm going to be a mother with four children," said Stella. "Well, when they come to my school, I'm going to whip them, whip them, whip them!" "You mean thing," said Stella, as the tears came into her eyes, "what have my poor children ever done to you?"—Delineator.

In view of the high cost of living, this would be a good time to test the efficacy of getting up from the table hungry.—Toledo Blade.

The greatest gain in any life is the loss of greed.