

ANSWER FOR DEBS.

ATTORNEYS OUTLINE THE DEFENSE OF THE A. R. U.

It is Denied That the Officers and Director Ordered the Strike or That They Counseled Any But Peaceful Measures.

Chicago, July 24.—What is considered by labor leaders and their counsel to be one of the most important legal battles in the nation's history was begun in the United States circuit court yesterday when President Debs, Vice President Howard, Secretary Kelher and Director Rogers, of the American Railway union, by their attorneys, W. W. Erwin, S. S. Gregory and C. S. Darrow, filed their answer to the contempt order issued by the court against them last week, and came themselves into court to answer. The policy of the defense will be to question the right and power of the court to issue injunctions like that obtained by the railway companies against Debs and his associates and then imprison those enjoined if the injunction is violated. It will be contended that what the court has done amounts to a usurpation of power not given to the federal judiciary by the constitution. The defense will follow closely the lines of the report of the Boston committee of congress which investigated the injunction and contempt proceedings by Judge Jenkins. Labor organizations throughout the country will contribute money to defray the expense of this legal struggle. The American Federation of Labor has given \$1,000. Other associations will follow and the contest will be carried to the bitter end. If the supreme court declares the injunction and contempt method to be good law congress will be asked, local labor leaders say, to amend the statutes and curb the power of the courts, and every candidate for congress will be asked to pledge himself for such reform.

The defendants admit that the American Railway union is a voluntary association of which many thousand employees were at the time of filing said bill, and still are, members; that the defendant, Eugene V. Debs, is president of said association, and George R. Howard, vice president; Sylvester Kelher, secretary and treasurer, and L. W. Rogers, one of the directors, and that all of said defendants were and are directors of said association.

They deny that it was at any time the purpose and object of said American Railway union, or of its officers or directors thereof, or of these defendants or either or any of them, to concentrate the power and jurisdiction of said American Railway union under one official management and direction with a power to order strikes or a discontinuance of the service of such employees at any time that the board of directors or the American Railway union should elect to do so, as alleged in said information or otherwise, and they allege that by the organization of the said American Railway union strikes could only be declared or discontinued by the vote of the majority of the members of such American Railway union employed in the service affected by any such strike, and that the only authority of office of the said officers or directors of said American Railway union or of these defendants or either of them in respect to said matter, was to notify the members of said American Railway union in the service concerned in such strike of the action taken by such majority. They deny that they ordered the strike, as they had not that power.

The defendants admit that upon some of said lines of railway there was exercised upon the part of some persons to the defendants unknown, violence against persons and property. They deny that they or any of them have any knowledge sufficient to form a belief as to the commission of the specific acts of violence in said information set forth, or any thereof, and upon information and belief they deny that any member of the American Railway union in any manner participated in said act of violence or any of them.

Further in the answer the defendants plead not guilty, and allege that as soon as the injunction was served upon them they consulted attorneys and learned from them what they could rightfully do without violating the order of the court. Also that nothing was done contrary to the advice of attorneys, and that there was no intention to violate the injunction or act in defiance of its authority.

After the reading of the information against the prisoners by the district attorney and the hearing of the answer as read by the defendants' lawyer, Attorney Erwin moved formally that the defendants be dismissed. He also asked that the government elect whether it would try the prisoners on the original indictment or on the injunction. Judge Woods replied that the government would elect by going on and Attorney Gregory began his argument in support of the motion to dismiss the bill.

Couldn't Give Bail.

Chicago, July 21.—Only two of the men indicted by the federal grand jury gave bail in the United States court today. Most of the day was consumed in making out bench warrants against the indicted. The men who gave bail were J. G. Hanahan, vice grand master of the Brotherhood firemen, and Augustus Hodges, one of the Brighton Park strikers. Bench warrants for all the men indicted were handed to the marshal to be served. They numbered twenty-three. Hanahan is charged with intimidating and endeavoring to induce a fireman to leave his cab.

Debs, Howard, Kelher and Rogers figure in five of the indictments. In one of them they are charged with conspiring with Hanahan. In another they are charged with conspiring to obstruct interstate commerce, and in the other they are joined as conspirators with others who committed lawless acts. Debs and the other officers are already under \$10,000 bail each under the original indictment returned against them. Their bail under the five new indictments has been fixed at \$3,000 on each charge, making in all \$25,000 bail which each will be required to give.

A crowd of strikers overturned two loaded stock cars in the stock yards today, and a striker threw a switch in front of a Northwestern freight train, derailing the engine. The strikers continued their threats against workmen, and several small outbreaks occurred, but all were quickly suppressed by the police.

The first regiment, I. N. G., was called to arms at the Pullman works by the rumor that a riot was in progress. Investigation showed that the report was caused

by a crowd of women and children who had hurled rocks, mud and insulting epithets at the Pullman laundry girls, who went to work to-day. One of the non-union girls attempted to escape, and was finally rescued by the crowd. She was restored quiet. The Pullman laundry was started with a force of forty girls, most of whom are at work in the shops cleaning up, oiling machinery and making a careful inspection. In addition to these 250 applications have been received from old workmen.

The members of the general executive board of the K. of L. are in Chicago and this morning began a several days' session. Routine business is said to be the cause of the meeting, though the strike adopted to push forward an impeachment of Attorney General Olney.

A mass meeting of 1,500 men was held last night and Eugene V. Debs was nominated for president of the United States amid great enthusiasm. The speakers were local labor men, and their remarks were all of one tenor. They eulogized Debs and denounced President Cleveland. The meeting declared itself as bitterly opposed to the Democratic and Republican parties, and predicted a sweeping success of the Populists in the next election.

Trouble at Pullman.

Chicago, July 21.—More trouble occurred at Pullman when the laundry girls quit work. When the girls left the works they were surrounded by a demonstrative mob of from 800 to 2,000 women and children. A portion of the crowd followed Minnie Kaufman through the streets of Pullman to her home. Near Market hall they stopped her progress and began calling her names, and one woman, it is said, struck the girl in the face. Several policemen stepped in at this juncture and gave Miss Kaufman protection as far as her home. No arrests were made. In the meantime an escort of ten policemen, led by Sergeant Riley, was having an interesting time protecting seventeen of the laundry girls who live in Roseland. A mob of nearly 500 women and children and a few men followed them from the works down Florence avenue and on One Hundred and Eleventh street, across the Illinois Central tracks. The police were not accustomed to dealing with a crowd of the feminine gender and did little more than to keep the most turbulent women from seizing hold of the frightened girls. The entire march was enlivened with cries of scab and other epithets. At Roseland, where the girls separated, each was followed home by a small group of women whose object seemed to be to see where each girl lived.

Shortly after fifty Hollanders, who have been employed about the works as lumber shovers, track graders and repairers, left the southwestern gate of the works for their homes in Roseland. They had a guard of sixteen policemen, commanded by Lieut. Bassett. Scarcely had they come from the works when 100 strikers, gesticulating wildly, making threats, shouting "scab" and other names surrounded them. They took the same course toward Roseland as had the laundry girls. Before Roseland was reached the crowd following them had increased largely and it had become necessary for the police to charge it several times with a liberal use of the club before it was dispersed. Each of the men was followed to his home by several strikers, but was not molested.

Troops Leave Chicago

Chicago, July 19.—At 8 o'clock last night Gen. Miles appended his signature to the general order removing the federal troops from Chicago. The infantry will take a train for their respective posts, while the cavalry and artillery will march to Fort Sheridan and remain there until such time as Gen. Miles thinks it best that they be sent to their posts. The order for breaking camp came from the war department last evening after Gen. Miles had informed the department that he thought the situation had so far improved that it was perfectly safe to withdraw them from the city. Camp will be broken some time to-day.

Men Return to Work at Pullman.

Chicago, July 19.—The first break in the ranks of the Pullman strikers has occurred, 150 Hollanders having been put back to work on the tracks back of the Pullman foundry. The men quit work when the strike was declared and staid out until now. No effort was made by the other strikers to prevent the men from going to work.

An attempt was made to induce Debs and the other A. R. U. men to secure bail, but they refused, preferring to remain in jail.

At the county jail to-day Vice President Howard, of the A. R. U., made the following remarkable statement:

"This thing is going to be a test case. We don't consider ourselves better than the law, and incidentally we think the railroads are not. We are getting some evidence for the coming legal battle, and we consider it a pretty fair grade. Here is a letter we received telling of evidence that most of the freight car burning done in Chicago was done by two men in the employ of the general managers' association. One of the secret agents of a certain committee saw two men on the night of the big fire going through the yards with a hand car loaded with inflammable waste, which they lighted and systematically set among the cars. This agent overheard a conversation between the men from which he gleaned that they were paid \$200 down and were to receive \$300 more when the job was done. This, understand, was before the troops were called out. An effort is now being made to arrest these two men. We further have pretty positive evidence that the big man who led the mob of 5,000 at Blue Island was a Pinkerton man employed by the railroads, and it is significant that although he could be easily identified, yet he has not been arrested. It is said that this case will not be entirely one-sided."

Work of the Federal Grand Jury.

Chicago, July 20.—The federal grand jury returned twenty-three indictments in Judge Seaman's court this afternoon and was discharged. In the twenty-three indictments were included the names of about seventy-five individuals who are charged with violating the federal statutes during the railroad troubles of the last three weeks.

District Attorney Mitchell refused to give the names of any of the indicted persons beyond admitting that there were several new indictments against Debs, Howard and Kelher and Rogers, the chief officers of the A. R. U. Included in some of the indictments, also, are other officers of the organization who have

not been so prominent as the four now in jail. The others who go to make up the seventy-five are strikers against whom are charged specific acts of interference with trains or any property of the companies.

Debs and the other officers are in nearly all the twenty-three indictments. Whoever the grand jury concluded to indict a batch of rioters who committed specific acts, such as the derailing of trains, Debs and his companions were named with them as conspirators. In addition to that there is an indictment against Debs, Rogers, Kelher and Howard charging them with conspiracy to deprive a citizen of the United States of one of his constitutional rights—that is, the right to ship goods from one state to another.

Mr. Mitchell said the question as to whether Debs and the other officers will be compelled to give bail on each separate indictment has not been settled, but will be after the bench warrants are issued and served to-morrow. No indictments were returned against railroad officials because no information was given against them.

The federal troops moved out of the city to-day. At noon the Ninth regiment, from Madison barracks, Sackett Harbor, N. Y., left on a special train over the Lake Shore road. All the other troops marched to Fort Sheridan and will reach there to-morrow. The troops going to Fort Sheridan include the Fifteenth regiment and the details from Forts Riley, Brady, Leavenworth and Niobrara.

At the Pullman works to-day Manager Middleton was busily engaged registering men willing to work. The announcement that the shop will open as soon as a sufficient force is secured has developed considerable weakness among the strikers, and it is claimed in two hours to-day the manager claimed to have registered 325 men. A force of about 1,000 will be necessary before the works will resume.

Boycott The Cars.

Chicago, July 23.—Messrs. Debs, Howard, Kelher and Rogers, the American Railway union officials, to-day issued an address to the public, the substance of which is as follows:

"Headquarters American Railway Union, Cook County Jail, Chicago, July 22.—To the Great American Public: It is almost universally conceded that the Pullman company through out repeated reductions of wages, excessive rents and many other causes, has grievously wronged its employes, and whatever may be said about the great railway strike which resulted in consequence of such grievances, the arbitrary refusal of the Pullman company to submit to arbitration if there was anything to arbitrate is proof positive that said company had no faith in the justice of its cause, and fears the disclosures that are certain to result from an honest investigation, and in view of heavy losses entailed upon the country, such obstinacy on the part of the Pullman company is deserving of the severest condemnation. We propose that the Pullman company shall be brought to justice, and this in a way that will not necessitate a strike with its attendant ills. We have faith in the American people; they uphold justice; they love fair play. And now in the name of justice and fair play we appeal to the great American public, to every good man and every good woman not to ride in a Pullman car until the Pullman company does justice to its employes. Let the cars run absolutely empty. No friend of labor, no friend of humanity will occupy a seat or a berth in a Pullman car. Let this policy be inaugurated and we will see how long the railway companies will be bound by their contracts as they have induced the public to believe to haul Pullman cars.

"We propose to continue this fight against the Pullman company through good and evil report till justice shall be done. There will be no surrender. We will use every available and lawful means to push the contest. It is requested that all papers throughout the land, favorable to labor, to justice, to humanity, copy this statement in full and keep it standing as long as possible."

Another installment of the seventy-three men indicted by the federal grand jury for participation in the railroad strikes gave bail to-day. In the course of the day five of the directors of the American Railway union were brought in. They were William E. Burns, J. J. Doyle, Martin Elliott, Roy M. Goodwin and James Hogan. Doyle was arrested at his home and the others were found at the headquarters of the union. When Burns was informed that he and the whole board of directors were indicted he called his brother directors and informed them that they were wanted. They all at once proceeded to the court room, where Burns was bailed out by Mike McDonald, the well known politician. The others were bailed out shortly after.

Sacramento, July 23.—The mediation committee of the A. R. U. held a meeting and unanimously voted to declare the strike off unconditionally. They sent a short notice to that effect to Supt. Fillmore. The military will probably remain two or three days yet to look after the few hoodlums who have been intimidating workmen.

Seven Out Eight Children Die.

Sioux Falls, S. D., July 24.—Seven of the eight children of Mr. and Mrs. William Kruse of Humbolt have died within the past month of diphtheria. The eighth child was dangerously ill, but is now recovering. It is said that the epidemic which has prevailed there for some time has been broken, and that the Kruse case is the last.

The Turners Turned Down.

New Ulm, Minn., July 24.—The New Ulm school election resulted in a complete victory for the anti-Turner party. Three candidates, Siverson, Hornburg and Weyhe, received a majority of 170. A total of 2,061 votes were cast. This settles the school question for two years and insures the retention of Supt. Critchett and the present staff of teachers, and indorses the action of the present board.

Murder and Suicide.

Joliet, Ill., July 24.—Saturday night at Coal City, twenty miles south of here, John Brown killed his wife and committed suicide because she had deserted him for another man.

Cannon Nominated.

Chicago, July 24.—The Twelfth district Republican convention nominated Hon. J. G. Cannon of Danville for congress by acclamation.

MR. GORMAN ANGRY.

THE DEMOCRATIC LEADER ARRIGNS THE PRESIDENT.

He Denounces Mr. Cleveland's Letter to Chairman Wilson and Asserts That the President Had Approved the Bill.

Washington, July 24.—Mr. Gorman arose soon after the senate opened and began a speech on the tariff question. He devoted himself principally to President Cleveland's recent letter.

In patriotism the Democrats of the senate had gone to work to save the country and keep their party in power, when suddenly in the midst of the struggle came the president's letter.

"It is the most uncalled for, the most extraordinary, most unwise communication," said Senator Gorman in bitter tones, "that ever came from a president of the United States. It places this body in a position where its members must see to it that the dignity and honor of this chamber must be preserved. It places me in a position where I must tell the story as it occurred. The limit of endurance has been reached."

Mr. Gorman then proceeded to detail the history of the tariff bill after it reached the senate, and the manner in which, to meet the objections and secure the support of certain disaffected Democrats, the changes had been agreed upon. With dramatic emphasis Mr. Gorman called upon Vest and Jones to bear testimony as to whether his statements had varied a hair's breadth from the truth.

Mr. Vest arose. He began by saying that he had not himself seen the president since the repeal of the Sherman law last summer, but with the secretary of the treasury he had frequent conversations. Mr. Carlisle had repeatedly and distinctly stated to him that the greatest possible calamity that could happen would be the failure of any new bill. He had distinctly stated to him that no difference in rates should be allowed to stand in the way of the consummation of some change in the direction of tariff reform.

When Mr. Vest sat down Mr. Jones of Arkansas, who was in charge of the bill in the senate, took the floor. He was as pale as death. He realized, he said, when the bill came to the senate that it could not be passed in its form then, and he had gone to work, with infinite labor and pains, to interview every Democratic senator. He ascertained every objection they held, and had carefully noted them. He had talked with Mr. Carlisle about his plan, and the president indorsed it as wise. Then he prepared the amendments in consultation with Mr. Carlisle. The secretary was thoroughly informed as to the situation, and he (Jones) said to him: "I will not go one step further if the administration is not behind me."

"I requested him to explain everything to the president," Mr. Jones said. "I saw the president. He told me Mr. Carlisle had explained all and he (Cleveland) said he thought we were doing the wise and proper thing. Among the amendments thus prepared were those placing coal and iron on the dutiable list. Until I read Mr. Cleveland's letter to Mr. Wilson," said Mr. Jones, emphatically, "I believed he cordially approved of our action. I had expressed to him the opinion that it must either be a modified bill or none at all, and he replied that in the alternative he favored the modified measure."

As Senator Jones sat down Mr. Gorman arose to resume, but Mr. Vilas interrupted with a series of questions to Mr. Jones.

"In your interviews with the president," asked Mr. Vilas, "were the subjects of coal and iron ever mentioned?"

"Yes," replied Mr. Jones, with explosive vehemence. "At every conversation between the president and myself coal and iron were specifically mentioned."

Mr. Gorman here resumed with one of the most sensational references of the day to President Cleveland. The senator spoke of the deep regret that he was compelled to ask public testimony of these senators. But the time had come to speak. The limit of endurance had been reached. An attempt had been made to "try and gibe it before the country." These charges had been "foully made from distinguished sources," and they must be met and refuted. The charges were echoed by men "who chirped when they talked." These senators who had been summoned had fought for tariff reform when "cowards in high places would not show their heads."

Mr. Gorman said he could conceive no reason for the remarkable action that had been taken unless, perhaps, the one responsible for it was "consumed by vanity" in having the country regard himself as the author of all that was right in tariff reform. As Mr. Gorman made each reference to the president there was a commotion in the galleries which compelled the presiding officer to interpose constant cautions against further demonstrations.

He urged that the house, if it had been consistent, would have placed all raw materials on the free list and denied that it was in accordance with Democratic platform declarations to place coal and iron on the free list, and declared that the Democratic platform did not demand free raw material. Mr. Gorman gave the history of the convention of '88 and reviewed the platform of '92 to prove his position. He quoted from Cleveland's letter after his nomination in '92 when he declared for "free" raw material.

The senate then went into executive session and soon adjourned.

The house adjourned at 12:30 for want of a quorum, leaving the railway mail clerks' reinstatement bill pending. A conference of leading Democrats was held after the senate adjourned, but no conclusion was reached. The question of calling a caucus was discussed, but no action was taken. The whole tariff matter is in as much confusion as ever, and no one will venture a prophecy as to how it will end.

Pullman Strikers Firm.

Chicago, July 24.—Contrary to expectation, the Allen Car Wheel works did not start up yesterday at Pullman. Out of the fifty men expected to go to work only three reported for duty. Police were thick in the town and the white-ribboned strikers were out in force. In several instances word was brought to the police that workmen were prisoners in their homes. Officers sent to relieve the men found lines of strikers guarding the front and back doors, but nothing more than an order was required to disperse them.

DEFENDED BY HILL.

Cleveland Finds a Champion in His Old Political Enemy.

Washington, July 25.—Every seat in the galleries was filled again to-day when the senate met. Reception of the heavy firing against the executive was anticipated.

When Mr. Harris called up the conference report almost every seat on the floor was occupied. Mr. Hill of New York was immediately recognized. He agreed, he said, at the outset with Mr. Gorman, that the Democratic party was in the midst of a great crisis. The Democratic party, after such a long struggle in the minority, had at last been entrusted with power. It had gone to work to redeem its pledges. The greatest was that to reform the tariff. The house had passed a tariff bill which, aside from its income tax feature, seemed to meet with general satisfaction. As it passed this senate, however, after long, weary months of debate, it was not satisfactory, and it violated the pledges of the party. It went to conference. The house conferees were confronted with the fact that the senate had made the bill worthy of Democratic support. They rejected the duty on coal and iron ore. They refused to yield, and there was no hope that they would yield. If they insisted upon their attitude and the senate was obstinate, all prospect of tariff legislation was at an end.

"Do you see any signs of yielding on the part of the house?" he asked, addressing his Democratic colleagues. "Backed by the public press of the country, by the Democratic masses, and the president of the United States, as it undoubtedly is, the house will never yield. Why not yield on coal and iron, and see whether it does not lead to an agreement?"

He was not, he said, talking about Mr. Vilas' motion to recede from the differential in favor of the sugar trust; but concessions must and should be made if the bill was to become a law.

He was in sympathy with the president's letter. Its sentiments were his sentiments. The president violated no clause of the constitution when he sent that letter. He had the right to do it.

Mr. Hill proposed to take issue with Mr. Gorman's argument yesterday that the president had only recently discovered the doctrine of free raw materials. He carefully quoted from the president's public utterances to demonstrate that Mr. Cleveland had been wedded to that doctrine since he sent his famous tariff message to congress in 1887. Neither did he believe that Cleveland could be held responsible for the unofficial utterances of Secretary Carlisle, but referring to the official utterances of the secretary of the treasury, he pointed out that until this present question arose both Mr. Cleveland and Mr. Carlisle were consistent in their harmony.

"When Mr. Cleveland saw that the senate bill placed a duty on coal and iron ore, the property of the rich," said Mr. Hill dramatically, "and removed the duty from wool, the product of the farmer, he would have been false to himself, false to his pledges and false to his party had he not called attention to the discrimination and inconsistency."

"I do not often defend the president," said Mr. Hill, raising his voice until it rang through the chamber, "but to-day it is my duty to do so. I hope I am broad-minded and liberal enough to defend him when he is unjustly criticized and attacked."

As he was saying this there were demonstrations of approval in the gallery that broke finally into applause which compelled Mr. Harris, who was in the chair, to caution the galleries to desist. A suggestion from Mr. Hawley that the galleries should be cleared upon a repetition of the offense was jeered and hissed.

Several times the presiding officer was unable to restrain the enthusiasm his remarks evoked, notably when Mr. Hill declared that personal considerations would not prevent him from defending the president when he was unjustly attacked. He defended Mr. Cleveland's letter, he said, and made a strong point against his adversaries who pointed out that they criticized the president for siding with the house when they admitted that they had used all their influence to induce him to interpose in behalf of the senate amendments to the tariff bill. He took up Mr. Gorman's argument and met it point by point in a manner satisfactory to himself at least, and concluded with a piece of satire that stung those on the floor and tickled the galleries unmercifully. Mr. Gorman yesterday compared Mr. Hill to Jago. To-day Mr. Hill likened those who joined in the assault on Mr. Cleveland to the conspirators who stabbed Caesar to death at the foot of Pompeii's statue in the roman senate. Mr. Gorman he characterized as the lean and hungry Cassius; Mr. Jones, Marcus Brutus, the honest Brutus of the senate; Mr. Vest, who struck the first blow on Friday, as Casca; Mr. Voorhees as Trebonius, "testy but earnest," and Mr. Harris as Metellus Cimber. They had struck down the president, Mr. Hill said, not that they loved Mr. Cleveland less, but that they loved the senate compromise more, "and yet," he concluded, and each word rang out like a hammer on an anvil, "I can say with Anthony, 'They are all honorable men.'"

Mr. Caffery of Louisiana, who followed Mr. Hill with a brief speech, also gave to the country his share of the secrets of the political prison house. He detailed at length the manner in which the sugar schedule had been prepared, insisting that it was made by and in the interests of the sugar trust. He then gave way in order to give the Democrats a chance to enunciate. Altogether it was a very exciting day and the indications are that others as interesting will follow.

Four Women Drowned.

Fresno, Cal., July 25.—Five women went bathing last evening in the San Joaquin river near Fort Washington. One got beyond her depth, and, in attempting to rescue her, three of the others were carried to an eddy and drowned.

They Must Be Tried.

Chicago, July 25.—Debs and the other officials of the A. R. U. met with a decided reverse to-day in their fight against the prosecution for contempt in the United States court. The court decided that the answer filed by the defendants is not a sufficient reply to the hearing of the contempt, and the motion of their attorneys that they be discharged was overruled. To-morrow morning the court will hear the evidence of the government to sustain the contempt charge, and the defendants will be given an opportunity to produce evidence in their defense.

THEY CANNOT AGREE

DEMOCRATIC SENATORS HOLD A TARIFF CONFERENCE.

Senator Vilas Refuses to Withdraw His Motion and the Conference Adjourns Without Action—Another Meeting Will Be Held.

Washington, July 25.—The Democrats of the senate to-day decided to retire behind closed doors for the purpose of settling their differences on the tariff and trying to reach an amicable understanding. Senators Hill, Murphy and Irbly were the only Democrats present at the capital who did not respond to the caucus call. Senator Hill was not notified of the intention to hold a caucus until the last minute and then declined to enter it because of his attitude on the bill. Senator Irbly left the capital without giving any explanation of his absence. Senator Murphy went away, pleading an engagement. The caucus continued for three hours, and, without reaching any conclusion or taking a vote on any proposition, adjourned until to-morrow at 3 o'clock, when another meeting will be held. The discussion of some points was very warm, and especially just before adjournment, when Senator Vilas was speaking. Several senators interrupted him with questions and criticized the course he was pursuing in the senate. This called forth equally tart replies from the Wisconsin senator, and there was a prospect that the debate would become general, when, upon the suggestion of Mr. Gorman, the adjournment took place.

The caucus merely served to emphasize the two facts that the Democratic senators are all anxious to pass tariff bill, and that there are still wide differences as to the kind of a bill they can pass. It was recognized from the beginning that Senator Vilas' motion to strike out the differential duty on sugar occupied a most important position in the present controversy, and several senators intimated that until there could be assurances of its withdrawal no conclusion could be reached in caucus.

Senators Blanchard and Caffery of Louisiana were both conspicuous in the caucus proceedings. Instead of showing any disposition to yield the senators differential they asked that the conference committee be asked to retain that feature and the 40 per cent ad valorem and to add the .1 of a cent additional on sugar imported from countries paying a bounty on sugar and also to continue for this year enough of the bounty paid under the McKinley law on sugar grown in this country to make the duty equal to 2 cents per pound. Senator Blanchard said that if the sugar schedule was made less protective than at present he would vote to postpone the bill indefinitely. Senator Vilas and those who stood with him, including Senators Mills and Palmer, expressed great concern over the passage of a bill of some character, and united in saying that while they considered the senate bill as preferable to the McKinley law, they thought the chances for the passage of a bill would be greatly improved by the elimination of the differential on account of the temper of the house. They indicated a willingness to withdraw the Vilas motion in case an agreement could be reached on a proposition for a straight ad valorem duty, and some of those present formed the impression that they would be willing to raise the rate from 40 to 45 per cent. Senator Palmer advised this proposition.

The only motion made was one by Senator Jarvis to send the bill back to conference without instructions, and while nothing like a vote was taken, the indications are now that this motion will prevail in the end.

Senator Smith's speech caused something of a sensation. He said he knew of four Democratic senators who would vote against the bill if the proposition of Mr. Vilas should prevail.

During the course of the debate Senator Jones, replying to an assertion that had been made that the senate was trying to cram its bill down the throats of the house, said that without saying what had taken place in conference upon the amendments agreed upon the senate conferees had made more concessions than the house conferees. The house had agreed to some amendments, but the senate had agreed to recede from more than these.

Senator Jones also made a statement about the sugar schedule. The Louisiana senators had said that the change in the date when the sugar schedule would go into effect from the original Jones amendment to the date when the bill would go into effect was a great injustice to the while the refining interests were not injured. Senator Jones said he thought this was true. The refiners had already purchased a sufficient quantity of raw sugar to operate the refineries for a long time to come, and it would make no difference to them now whether the sugar schedule went into effect at once or on Jan. 1. Having purchased such quantities of raw sugar abroad, they would be independent of the Louisiana planters and could purchase from them their product of this year at any price the trust might name, and at the same time the planters would be denied the bounty on the crop of this year and would practically have no benefit of the duty levied in the bill.

Congressman Harter of Ohio introduced a compromise tariff bill in the house to-day, but there is no prospect that it will ever be considered.

Second Visitation.

Chenoa, Ill., July 25.—A great conflagration wiped out the finest part of the business portion of this place, starting in Lallinger's livery stable. All of the business houses in two blocks on both sides of the street lying east of the Alton and south of the Toledo, Peoria & Western were destroyed. This is the same ground that was burned over four years ago and nearly all the buildings were new and contained valuable stocks. The total loss is not less than \$500,000, with about one-half insured.

Tired of Life.

St. Louis, July 25.—Augusta Koch, seventy-one years old, crazed by her nearly three-quarters of a century on earth, today wrapped herself in a coal oil saturated sheet as a shroud, and then set it on fire and perished. Her remains were horribly burned.

Fatal Flames.

Montreal, July 25.—Fire destroyed twenty-six tenement houses in St. Jean Baptiste village, in the northern part of this city, to-day. It is reported that a woman and child were burned to death.