

DIXON STARTS A SPIRITED DEBATE

MONTANA SENATOR PRECIPITATES SHARP DISCUSSION OF NAVAL METHODS.

QUOTES SOME CRITICISMS

His Reference to an Article Charging That Ten or Twelve Members of Committee Have Navy Yards in Their States Calls Forth Fiery Remarks on the Part of Other Senators.

Washington, Feb. 15.—Senator Dixon of Montana provoked sharp criticism of naval methods in the senate today when he referred to magazine articles making special strictures upon construction at navy yards.

Mr. Clapp said if the senate continued to protest against these appropriations without cutting them down, the aggregate would continue to increase.

Mr. Hale defended the appropriations for navy yards, saying that, while in 14 years the United States had spent \$51,015,064 on such works, Great Britain spent \$126,987,550 on its navy yards.

"The whole country," he continued, "is in a fever and under the circumnavigation of the globe by our navy," and he added that, under such conditions, it was difficult to check the appropriations.

Mr. Newlands advocated the placing of much of the executive work of the nation in the hands of such men as J. J. Hill and Judge Gary of the United States Steel corporation.

Mr. Tillman declared that for the complete realization of the plan proposed by Mr. Newlands, "there should be an emperor and the legislature of California should not be allowed to meet while congress is considering a naval appropriation bill."

General Discussion. Senator Lodge, Senator McEnery, Senator Flier, Senator La Follette, Senator Gallinger, Senator Hale and others joined in a general discussion of the relative merits of the several navy yards.

Mr. McEnery insisted that a plan existed in the navy department for building two great navy yards, one at New York and the other at Norfolk, and he said that he would like to see the navy yard at New Orleans by a great naval station at Guantanamo, Cuba.

In closing the debate, Mr. Hale said if the naval bill were not passed tomorrow, he would ask that the senate hold a night session.

Washington, Feb. 15.—Responsible officials connected with the detection of crime in four different branches of the government have just testified in substance that the limitation on the use of the civil service operators of the treasury department had not been injurious to their respective branches.

C. W. Trowbridge, chief of revenue agents; Assistant Secretary James B. Reynolds, of the treasury department in charge of the customs service, and others were among those called before the hearings.

Their testimony taken during the hearings on the sundry civil appropriation bill was made public today by the house committee on appropriations. With the testimony of Secretary Garfield of the interior department, and Attorney General Bonaparte it is relied upon by the committee to refute the claim that the limitation placed last year on the secret service of the treasury department has worked to the benefit of the criminal classes.

All the Chinamen have their queues cut off and wore American clothes. They are charged with unlawfully entering the United States.

Leaders Arrive. Indianapolis, Ind., Feb. 15.—Leaders in the movement for a permanent tariff commission arrived today for the national tariff convention, which begins tomorrow. J. W. VanCleave of St. Louis will probably be permanent chairman of the gathering.

THEATER FIRE COSTS MANY LIVES

THREE HUNDRED PERSONS PERISH IN FLAMES THAT DESTROY MEXICAN HOUSE.

DISASTER AT ACAPULCO

Hundreds Packed Into Building to Attend Reception to Governor of Guerrero Are Trapped and Die Miserably—Conflagration Started by Burning of Moving Picture Film.

Mexico City, Feb. 15.—Between 250 and 300 persons were burned to death and many were injured in a fire which destroyed the Flores theater in the city of Acapulco last night. The news of the disaster reached here this afternoon, telegraphic communication with Acapulco having been destroyed last night and today owing to the fact that the telegraph office, adjoining the theater, was burned and all wires put out of commission.

The Flores theater was a wooden structure and last night over 1,000 people crowded into it to witness a special performance given in honor of Governor Damian Flores of the state of Guerrero, who was visiting the host at the time. One of the numbers on the program consisted of a series of moving pictures. While the operator was exhibiting these a film caught fire and a blaze was quickly communicated to some bunting which had been used for decorative purposes. In an incredibly short time the flames spread to all parts of the structure. There were but three narrow exits and the panic stricken audience rushed to them, many persons falling, to be crushed to death, their bodies choking the way to escape for others.

Rescue Impossible. The screams of those imprisoned were terrifying. Owing to the rapidity with which the fire spread and its intense heat it was impossible to attempt rescue work and those imprisoned were literally roasted alive, as the fire burned with little smoke, and few were suffocated.

The efforts of the fire department were confined to attempting to save the adjoining buildings and the firemen succeeded so well that the property loss was small. The telegraph office, custom house and other buildings were damaged, but all of the government records and registered mail were saved.

Today pitiful scenes of grief were witnessed on the streets of the city. Men, women and children wandered about hunting for relatives or friends. Many of the dead are from the first families of the state, the affair of the theater being a social event of considerable importance and calling out the wealthiest and oldest families for several miles around.

Families Destroyed. In some instances whole families were wiped out. The municipal authorities today caused large trenches to be dug and into these the bodies were laid. Identification has been impossible, most of the bodies having been burned to a crisp. Telegrams sent to the American consul at Acapulco by the Associated Press, asking for the names of the American dead, have not been answered.

Acapulco, on the west coast of the state of Guerrero, is one of the three important ports of the Pacific coast of Mexico. Nearly all of the steamer lines make it a port of call and the harbor is accounted the best in Mexico.

MESSAGE IS RECEIVED. New York, Feb. 15.—A wireless dispatch was received here tonight from the flagship Connecticut of the American battleship fleet, now returning from its world's voyage, stating that the Connecticut at 8 o'clock tonight was in the position 34.17 latitude north and longitude 48.03 west and making a north course by 63.0 degrees west.

A BOMB IS DROPPED FROM THE ELEVATED

New York, Feb. 15.—The neighborhood of Second avenue and One Hundred and Sixth streets, which is largely inhabited by Italians, was thrown into confusion late tonight by the explosion of a bomb dropped to the street by a passing Second avenue elevated train.

The explosion wrecked the windows of a number of stores on Second avenue, and caused slight injuries to passersby.

The bomb is believed by the police to have been for Joseph Arana, who has apartments along the elevated railway structure, and to whom a number of "Black Hand" letters have been sent recently.

SAVED FROM KNOCKOUT. Schenectady, N. Y., Feb. 15.—Bob Wilson of Utica was saved by the bell from a knockout in the tenth and last round of his bout with Young Corbett before the American Athletic association here tonight. Corbett did nearly all the leading except in the sixth round, when Wilson had him going. Wilson was in better physical condition than his opponent, but the latter proved his ability to take plenty of punishment.



PRESIDENT-ELECT W. H. TAFT AND FAMILY.

CONSTITUTIONAL BAR EFFECTIVELY REMOVED

LOWER HOUSE PASSES MEASURE ENABLING KNOX TO BECOME CABINET OFFICER.

Washington, Feb. 15.—By a vote of 173 to 117 the house today passed the bill removing the bar to Senator Knox's eligibility for the office of secretary of state. This was the second vote of the day on this measure, and the two were separated only by about two hours' time. The first vote was taken on the bill under general order for the suspension of the rules, and under that order, according to the standing rules of the house, a bill must receive a two-thirds majority to insure its passage.

The first vote failed considerably to get the two-thirds required. Immediately after the result was announced the house committee on rules met. This resulted in Mr. Dalzell's bringing in a rule making it in order for the house to take up the bill and act upon it under conditions that would require only a majority vote to pass it.

The opponents of the measure did not cease their antagonism which on the previous occasion had brought out a number of sharp criticisms, but demanded a roll call on the previous question on the adoption of the rule.

Mr. Olmstead (Tenn.) contended that the bill does not accomplish an evasion of the constitution. Among several other precedents Mr. Olmstead cited the case of Senator Morrill of Vermont, who was appointed secretary of the treasury.

In the opinion of Mr. Williams (Mass.), who opposed the bill, "that was the only reputable authority alluded to, Senator Morrill, he said, had been confirmed through senatorial courtesy, which, he said, 'overrides all bars, constitutional and otherwise.'"

The bill, he declared, was "a clear, plain, palpable, obvious and manifest case on a direct and expressed constitutional inhibition."

CARPENTER IS STABBED. Denver, Feb. 15.—The body of Allen Starkweather, a carpenter, was found tonight on the tracks of the Denver, Lakewood & Golden electric road, near the outskirts of the city. Starkweather had been stabbed in five places and is not expected to live. The body had evidently been placed on the tracks, that it might be mangled by a passing car, but the motorman of the first car approaching saw the body in time to avoid running over it. An effort is being made to secure an ante-mortem statement from the dying man as to the identity of his assailants.

ACCEPTANCE IS FILED. Jefferson City, Mo., Feb. 15.—Henry S. Priest of St. Louis and H. Clay Pierce, chairman of the board of the Waters-Pierce Oil company, today filed in the supreme court of Missouri an acceptance of the terms imposed upon the company by the recent order of the court. The fine of \$50,000 was paid. The order decree provided that the company must show to the court that it had severed all connection with the Standard Oil company, and a statement to this effect may yet be required by the court.

Special to The Daily Missoulian. Butte, Feb. 15.—Father an unusual request was made of Judge Donlan this morning, when two men, able to give \$1,000 bonds each, appeared in department three and asserted they were not able to pay attorney's fees. Judge Donlan was somewhat astounded at the request and he denied it in most positive terms. "The matter is a misdemeanor," he said. "Any man who has got enough money to gamble should have enough money to hire an attorney, and if he has not got it he must get it from his friends or else defend himself. The gamblers have cost the county of Silver Bow too much money already, and I will put a stop to it."

PLEAD INABILITY TO PAY ATTORNEYS

TEN-ROUND BOUT. New York, Feb. 15.—Agreement was finally reached today for a 10-round bout between Abe Attell, champion featherweight of the world, and Jim Driscoll, featherweight champion of England, next Friday night, at the National Athletic club. A match had previously been arranged, but the fighters balked on the weight and the bout was declared off. Today it was agreed to weigh in at 125 pounds at 6 o'clock on Friday, each fighter posting a forfeit of \$500 in case he fails to make the weight.

A JILTED ADMIRER TRIES TO KILL HIMSELF

Special to The Daily Missoulian. Hamilton, Feb. 15.—Jealous because a pretty school girl jilted him for another, Grover Cleveland Russell, son of this city, attempted to commit suicide last night by firing a bullet at his heart. But for the fact that the leaden missile struck a bone and was deflected, the young man would probably have accomplished his purpose, but the bullet lodged back of his shoulder, whence it was removed. The patient is now recovering.

According to such information as can be secured, young Russell, who is 21 years of age, has been desperately infatuated with a beautiful school girl a few years younger than himself. Recently, it is said, the young lady rejected the attentions of her ardent admirer and smiled favorably upon a rival, Young Russell became madly jealous and his jealousy degenerated into suicidal despondency.

Sunday night, it is said, the young man, while in a particularly "blue" condition, got a .32-caliber revolver, and, placing the muzzle over his heart, pulled the trigger. The bullet struck a rib and followed it around the heart, then lodged under the skin at the back of the shoulder. From this place it was easily removed by a surgeon.

While the wound is painful and will keep the young man confined to his room for some time, the physician says it is not dangerous. It is claimed that the intended victim of his own hand had made two previous unsuccessful attempts to end his own life.

MEMORIAL SERVICE FOR SAILORS IS FITTINGLY HONORED

ELEVENTH ANNIVERSARY OF SINKING OF THE MAINE IN HAVANA HARBOR.

Washington, Feb. 15.—Memories of the men who were plunged to sudden death when the battleship Maine went down in the waters of Havana harbor 11 years ago were honored in song and story today by the military, religious and patriotic bodies.

Beautiful and impressive were the ceremonies at St. Patrick's cathedral, where mass was celebrated for the dead heroes by Rev. Thomas McGulgan. Rev. Dr. William E. Purcell, pastor of St. Patrick's, delivered the eulogy. A pilgrimage was made to Arlington where at the granite shaft which towers above 185 of the Maine's victims, services unusual in their solemnity, were conducted in the presence of a throng of people. Rear Admiral Sigbee, retired, commander of the ill-fated battleship, was the chief speaker and in stirring words he depicted the story of the catastrophe which led the nation to war.

"On that dark, overcast and ominously quiet night, 11 years ago," he said, "I took on a new meaning to the survivors of the Maine. They were sounded that night with extreme solemnity. The echoes rolled back from the hills with such distinctness that all must have listened and heard. Taps, the nightly signal for silence and sleep, was therefore the last distinctive sound heard by the men in life, for in one half hour they were dead—for the greater part died in their sleep. And the bugler himself was dead. He had sounded a requiem for himself and his shipmates."

Several officers delivered brief addresses. Two troops of mounted men from Fort Myer fired the salutes. A large floral tribute was sent by President Roosevelt, many wreaths were sent by individuals and patriotic organizations.

HARRIMAN TO BUILD. Portland, Ore., Feb. 15.—It was announced here today that the Harriman system to construct a line into central Oregon from the mouth of the Deschutes river. This road will be 130 miles long and will cost \$4,773,000, and will reach into what is known as the Bend irrigation district. Construction will begin as soon as some obstacles of minor importance are overcome and the plans are approved by the government.

PLANS ONLY TENTATIVE. Ottawa, Ont., Feb. 15.—It was stated today that the plans for the Canadian Northern extension to the Pacific are still tentative. While surveys are being carried on via Yellowhead pass and other lines, the route to be taken and the time when actual work will be begun is purely speculative, depending upon results of surveys and the capacity of the company to float its bonds in London.

TAKES HIS SISTER. Pau, France, Feb. 15.—Taking advantage of the return of fine weather, Wilbur Wright had his sister as a passenger in his airplane today. This was her first flight, and they remained in the air for eight minutes.

BUTTE COOK ACCUSED OF PERJURING HIMSELF

Special to The Daily Missoulian. Butte, Feb. 15.—Major Junius G. Sanders placed Henry Mitchell, a cook at the Grand house, under arrest upon a warrant accusing him of perjury. Mitchell is alleged to have been a witness in a land case for a man named Partella, who made a desert land entry in the Great Falls district. Partella is a resident of northern Montana and the land is located in Teton. Special Agent Good was the complaining witness, and according to his story one other man was arrested in Great Falls on Saturday accused of the same offense. Mitchell will be taken before a United States commissioner tomorrow.

HENEY SOUNDS AN OMINOUS WARNING

PROSECUTOR DECLARES THERE'S A LINE THAT NO MAN LIVING MAY CROSS.

HAS TAKEN ENOUGH ABUSE

Assistant District Attorney Declares He Has Silently Stood for Villification Until Patience Has Ceased to Be a Virtue and Any More Shooting Will Be Face to Face.

San Francisco, Feb. 15.—Patrick Callahan's trial upon an indictment for bribery, now entering upon its fifth week, has produced no session approaching in interest the proceedings completed after days of wearisome effort, was broken by the discharge of one juror, and when Assistant District Attorney Francis J. Heney, resenting the demeanor of a witness on the stand, declared that he had fixed a line over which no living man could, in future, step. Two alleged cases of jury tampering were made public during the afternoon, and while there was no substantiation in either instance before adjournment, it is likely that the proceedings tomorrow will be devoted to examination of witnesses summoned in connection with other affairs of the same character.

Sam Leake, a former newspaper manager and politician, who was summoned to the stand because of an allegation that he had endeavored to purchase an interest in the haberdashery business conducted by a brother of one of the jurors, precipitated the most sensational incident of the day. Mr. Leake had warned Mr. Heney that he could make certain revelations concerning the prosecutor's past. Mr. Leake, who had been questioned as to his visits to a saloon, said:

He Might Tell. "I think it very improper for you to refer to those things, Mr. Heney. I could tell of places I saw you—"

"I want you to stop right now," interrupted Mr. Heney. "I don't propose that you shall make any more threats. You are here to answer questions."

"There is one conversation you don't dare refer to," retorted the witness. "This was once when you went up the back way into the Call office and tried to go back on Phelan and Spreckles—"

"That's all there will be to that," said Mr. Heney, at this juncture. "I took this sort of thing from Henry Ach for months, until it led to an attempt at assassination and after this I want it understood that I won't take it from any man living. If I am going to be shot again I'll be shot in front, not from behind nor from the side."

Takes Exception. Lewis F. Byington of the defense, took exception at this point and said: "We believe that the district attorney should recognize the limits of his duty in examining a witness."

It was at this point that Mr. Heney, arising to his feet with some difficulty, pitched his voice so that it penetrated beyond the confines of the courtroom and said:

"The district attorney is doing his duty as such, but before I am a district attorney I am an American citizen and in that capacity I want to say that right here and now I draw the line over which no living man may step. For months I took all the vilification that could be heaped on me merely because I dared to do my duty, which someone had to do, but I am through with it now, and I want this thoroughly understood."

FIGHT ARRANGED. Pueblo, Colo., Feb. 15.—Mike Malone of Colorado and Muggsy Shoels of Cheyenne will meet here tomorrow night in a 25-round battle at 125 pounds.

CONCLUDES ITS WORK ON EMERGENCY BILL

Washington, Feb. 15.—The house committee on rivers and harbors has practically concluded its consideration of the emergency and maintenance bill, carrying nearly \$10,000,000, which it is proposed to report to the house on Wednesday. By the committee's action the bill will provide for the purchase, by condemnation proceedings, of the power plants operating along the St. Mary's rapids, and also for the leasing power privileges by the war department after the requirements of navigation are fulfilled.

The bill will also recommend that negotiations be entered into with Canada for the purpose of reaching an international agreement for the establishment of controlling works for the great lakes.

Through these works it is proposed to hold back the waters and thus solve the various problems regarding the depths of channels.

PLEAD NOT GUILTY. New York, Feb. 15.—Counsel for the Star company, publishers of the New York American, today entered a plea of not guilty to the charge of criminal libel preferred against the company by John D. Rockefeller, Jr., because of an article published in the American about him. The trial was set for Feb. 23.

EXPERT TELLS OF ARSENIC PROBLEM

TAKING OF SUPPLEMENTAL TESTIMONY IN SMOKE CASE BEGINS AT HELENA.

FAULDING IS A WITNESS

Man Who Solved Fumes Problem in Tennessee and Has Been Engaged to Improve Washoe Plant Tells of Conditions at Smelter and What Has Been Done to Improve Them.

Special to The Daily Missoulian. Helena, Feb. 15.—The smoke case hearing to determine whether or not further steps can be taken which will reduce the quantities of arsenic now being discharged from the stack of the Washoe plant at Anaconda was begun today and was then adjourned until April 19, when it will be resumed at Butte, when the complainant, Harvey J. Billis, expects to call technical witnesses. The hearing is not strictly in the legal fashion but is designated in the words of the court, as "an aid to the chancellor."

It was in this spirit that Superintendent Mathewson of the Washoe plant and Expert F. H. Faulding testified. Mr. Faulding was brought to Montana three weeks ago by the company to solve the problem, and he is now engaged on it with an expert staff of scientists. He solved a similar problem in Tennessee, but here he finds the matter much more complicated. He said the company had taken all the steps it can to abate the nuisance. Mr. Mathewson declared that the system in use at the Washoe smelter today is the most perfect that has yet been devised, but he said it was not perfect, the company realized it and was working diligently to reach some solution and remove all causes of complaint.

"ALL WELL," IS FLASHED. Cadiz, Spain, Feb. 15.—The commander of the White Star steamer Arabis, which has arrived here from New York, reports having passed the American battleship fleet on the high seas on Thursday last. At the request of several hundred American passengers he sent a wireless message of greeting and congratulations in their name to Rear Admiral Sperry, who replied, thanking them and announcing "All well."

SUES FOR COMMISSION. New York, Feb. 15.—Suit was brought in the state supreme court today by Athelie B. Reader, husband of Ella Rawlins Reader, against James Haggin, the wealthy mine owner and racing man, to recover \$250,000, a 10 per cent commission claimed by Reader on the purchase price of several mines in the district of Cerro de Pasco, Peru, bought by the defendant for \$2,500,000.

BOARD CONSIDERING TUCKER CASE

MILITARY RETIREMENT BODY HEARING EVIDENCE REGARDING ARMY COLONEL.

Chicago, Feb. 15.—The army retirement board, with General F. D. Grant presiding, met in the federal building today to consider the retirement of Colonel W. F. Tucker. Colonel Tucker has been in ill health for over a year, and asks honorable discharge from the army on the usual half pay. He arrived from Hot Springs, Ark., yesterday and retired to his rooms. His wife, Mrs. Mary Logan Tucker, whose allegations placed against her husband with the secretary of war, created a sensation in Washington and Chicago society circles and the army generally, will, it is explained, testify before the board.

Mrs. Tucker's mother, Mrs. John A. Logan, will also be a witness. Colonel Tucker's nurse, Mrs. Myrtle B. Platt, is still at Hot Springs.

STEWARDS IN SESSION. Buffalo, N. Y., Feb. 15.—At a meeting of the stewards of the grand circuit here today, Robert N. Newton of Yorkville, Ill., was chosen presiding juror for the season of 1909.

Practically all the afternoon and evening was consumed in trying to fix up a uniform system for handicap events. It was found impossible to agree upon any plans, so each association will follow its own method for the coming season.

SHOOT TWO POLICEMEN. Ghent, Belgium, Feb. 15.—A Russian terrorist giving the name of Alexander Foukaroff today mortally wounded two police officials who had arrested him on a charge of attempting to extort money under threats of death from a Brussels merchant.

BODIES RECOVERED. Wellington, N. Z., Feb. 15.—It is not believed now that the death roll of the wrecked steamer Penguin will reach 75. Twenty-three bodies have been recovered.