

THE LOWER HOUSE ENGAGED IN HISTORIC STRUGGLE

THE FIERCEST CONTEST OF CONGRESS IS WAGED

Efforts to Strip Speaker Cannon of His Power Precipitate Remarkable Contest.

SERGEANT AT ARMS SENT AFTER MISSING MEMBERS

Democrats Combined With Insurgent Republicans Wage Furious Strife to Force the Issue to a Crucial Test and Backers of "Uncle Joe" Are Hanging on With Grim Determination to the End

Washington, March 18.—It was generally understood at 2:30 a. m. that the regulars had broken the quorum deliberately and were gone for the night. At that hour the prospect was that nothing further could be done before morning. The roll call showed only 154 present—less than a quorum—and Mr. Underwood (dem. Alabama) moved that the sergeant-at-arms find and arrest the absentees and bring them before the bar of the house. The motion was carried and the search begun.

Washington, March 18.—With Speaker Cannon's power in the house hanging in the balance, his supporters fencing for time and no one in position to say what the outcome would be, the fiercest battle probably that ever has been waged against the house rules, obliterated party lines in the historic chamber tonight. It had been raining for nine hours at 2 o'clock tonight, the hour when the regulars believed they could rally their strongest force for the final clash that was to determine whether the insurgent republican and democratic coalition was powerful enough to unhorse the regular organization.

At that hour the Cannon forces were plainly in the minority and were filibustering to prevent the crucial test. The issue was as real as that. The whip John Dwight of New York that reinforcements were coming from Philadelphia and New York and that the Cannon men were hanging on like grim death, hoping the handful of men supposed to be on the New York express would be sufficient to turn the tide. A new committee on rules with the speaker ineligible for membership, the issue was as real as that. The pending question for hours was a resolution by Representative Norris of Nebraska.

Trivial Matter. Over a matter comparatively trivial in itself, the insurgents found their opportunity for a test of strength with

the "organization." It occurred over an attempt by Representative Crumpacker of Indiana to obtain consideration for a resolution amending the census act. Practically no members of the house opposed the resolution, but it was contended that the methods used in bringing it up transcended the rules of the house. Speaker Cannon yesterday ruled against that view and was defeated.

The question came up again today and the regulars believed they had mustered sufficient strength on the democratic side to reverse yesterday's action. The vote developed that they had been mistaken or deceived, and the Cannon forces again were beaten. The second vote took place late in the afternoon. The effect was startling. The "last of blood" seemed to infuriate those who long had fretted under the restraint of organization rules. Insurgent republicans and democrats swarmed to the common battlegrounds and made concerted movement against the rules.

Reposing in Mr. Norris' desk had been the resolution, prepared at the beginning of the present session, handy against the time when it would be useful. He seized the opportunity and flung the gauntlet of open battle into the arena. The previous disorders had made the Cannon forces wary and immediately they began sparring for time. It was

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THE MODERN SAINT



ST. PATRICK REMEMBERED IN A MOST NOTABLE WAY

President Taft Is Principal Speaker at Six Events in the City of Chicago.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OF UNITED STATES KEPT BUSY

In One Address Executive Deals With the Policy of Conservation and Declares That Many Representatives of the West Have a Wrong Conception of the Matter--A Very Tired Man.

Chicago, March 17.—St. Patrick was notably remembered in Chicago today, the brunt of the celebration falling upon President Taft, who was a thoroughly tired man when his train left tonight for Rochester, N. Y. During the day he spoke to members of the Chicago Newspaper club, to the Traffic club, to a mass meeting, to members and guests of the Hamilton club, and twice at functions provided by the Irish Fellowship club, his host for the day. In these speeches the president, whose increased ease in oratory was quite generally remarked, touched upon "statesmen correspondents," who colored facts to suit their views and to railway men of the traffic club, he expressed his trust in the sense of justice of the American People. He averred that he had learned more in the first year of his administration than he could hope to assimilate in the next three.

In an informal talk at the first of the two entertainments provided by his hosts—a luncheon at noonday—his weariness unconsciously crept into his speech. "When I arrived here yesterday," he said, but the slip caused nothing more than a smile of which the president seemed unconscious. It probably seemed that he had been here two days, for the forenoon had been crowded with oratory and handshaking enough for 48 hours.

Speaking of the prosperity of the country the president referred to advances made in the south. "Little Chance." "I like to dwell upon that," said the speaker, "because down in the south there was a time when she was hindered and had seemingly little chance of any real progress. But now she is making more progress than any of us, east, west or north. And I know that you, northerners that you are, welcome that fact because you realize there was a time when she did not have quite a fair showing."

The president's brother, Charles P. Taft, unobtrusively edged into the crowd during the reception given by the newspaper club, and was also present at the luncheon. A harp of shamrocks sent from Ireland by John Redmond, the Irish nationalist leader, was presented to the guest of honor. At the conclusion of this luncheon, although it was time for him to start for the mass meeting at the Auditorium, the president sought his room for half an hour of quiet. Crowds made the hotel corridors noisy, but policemen stationed at the door of the presidential suite warned all who chanced to pass to cease talking. When the president reappeared he seemed much refreshed and there was nothing of weariness apparent in his manner when he began his address to the thousands who had gathered at the Auditorium. At the stage door a man attempted to follow the president into the building but was seized by two secret service men. When questioned he declared he was a newspaper man, but inquiry at the paper for which he said he was working resulted in a denial of his statement. He was locked up after a struggle. He gave the name of "Dick" Short. At the station it was said he seemed to be under the influence of liquor.

Prolonged cheering interrupted the speaker when he mentioned the name of Theodore Roosevelt. "The conservation movement," said Mr. Taft, "owes its beginning to Theodore Roosevelt. (Prolonged applause.) Go it again. You don't enjoy that any more than I do. Who was it inspired Gifford Pinchot with his wonderful activity of mind and body in forwarding the conservation movement (Applause.) I am in favor of giving credit where credit belongs (applause) and of withholding it where it does not belong. There are people in the house and in the senate, conscientious, hard-working, prominent statesmen, who look at the question of conservation as it might have been looked at 20 or 30 years ago. They still favor letting out the land and getting the settlers on it instead of a careful method of conservation and preservation. I am not criticizing them. They say that I don't understand and that we in the east don't understand the situation because we don't breathe the atmosphere in the west. Well, I think we are convincing a good many of them that we are in the right and they are in

the wrong, but there are some who are perfect Ajaxes in debate that say they will continue to debate the question and stand against the conservation program as long as their shoe leather lasts. "What I want is an act of congress validating all the withdrawals of land that have been made and giving me power to make such further withdrawals as ought to be made until congress has determined the proper disposition of those lands."

Meets Opposition. The president said he was meeting opposition from those who wish an immediate disposal of the land and those who question the constitutional power of the president to make withdrawals. President Taft's address at the banquet of the Irish Fellowship club was as follows: "Mr. Chairman and gentlemen of the Irish Fellowship club: It is two years since I tasted the fine flavor of your hospitality at a luncheon where my stay was only too short for my pleasure. When your honorable committee visited me, therefore, I yielded to the temptation and agreed to again become your guest when you should meet to celebrate the day that awakens the heart of every thorough son of Ireland. "St. Patrick's day in the morning," I never quite understood the significance of the last words of the phrase unless they meant the brightness of the morning did not wear away until long in the night of that day in the spirit of those who are loyal to the anniversary. "On such an occasion as this one's mind turns naturally to the history of that beautiful island—with her back toward England, her face to the west—and the part that St. Patrick played in her civilization and development. "St. Patrick was born probably on the banks of the Severn at a town that he called Bennaventa, 389 years after the birth of Christ. He was the son of a British-Celt and Roman citizen named Calpurnius and his wife, Concessa. They were of the same race as those for whom he lived and died.

Is Captured. "When during the mutation of the Roman empire, protection was withdrawn from Britain, young Patrick at the age of 16 was captured by an Irish marauding force and taken to Ireland and there, for six years, in the far western part of Connaught, served in bondage as a herdsman. "Escaping from the island on a ship from Wicklow harbor after the six years, he landed in France somewhere near Bordeaux and wandering across the then desolated face of Gaul, he reached province southern France and in a monastery but recently founded on the island of Lariaus, found refuge in the cloister of St. Honoratus, and there became a monk. "After a few years of monastic life he returned to Britain to visit his home and friends and while there he definitely formed the purpose of redeeming the island of his captivity from paganism and bringing it within the Christian church. Firm Union. "St. Patrick introduced into Ireland the Latin language. It became the language of the church all over the island and it made a union with Rome that has never since been broken. He laid the foundation of the culture and the spread of education and the development of the liberal arts which put Ireland in the forefront of civilization for 1,000 years. Her history thereafter is a sad one. Had the Romans conquered her as they did Britain, had the Saxons followed and then the Normans, so as to make a homogeneous people covering the three islands with the same history and the same interests and the same race, we should not have the tale of sorrow, of injustice, of outrage, of poverty, suffering and neglect that fill the pages of Irish history from soon after the Norman conquest of England to the early days of the last century. "Certainly not until the 19th and 20th century have governmental measures been adopted in Ireland to better conditions of the Irish people. During the centuries preceding the 19th and clear back to the time of Tudor, they have been subject to legislation, the whole purpose of which was selfish exploitation, not of the Irish people, but of the dominant country. The re-

Much Applause. "The conservation movement," said Mr. Taft, "owes its beginning to Theodore Roosevelt. (Prolonged applause.) Go it again. You don't enjoy that any more than I do. Who was it inspired Gifford Pinchot with his wonderful activity of mind and body in forwarding the conservation movement (Applause.) I am in favor of giving credit where credit belongs (applause) and of withholding it where it does not belong. There are people in the house and in the senate, conscientious, hard-working, prominent statesmen, who look at the question of conservation as it might have been looked at 20 or 30 years ago. They still favor letting out the land and getting the settlers on it instead of a careful method of conservation and preservation. I am not criticizing them. They say that I don't understand and that we in the east don't understand the situation because we don't breathe the atmosphere in the west. Well, I think we are convincing a good many of them that we are in the right and they are in

Wireless Bill Reported. Washington, March 17.—A measure requiring ocean-going steamers carrying 50 or more persons to be equipped with the efficient apparatus for radio communication which shall be capable of transmitting and receiving messages over a distance of at least 100 miles, was favorably reported to the senate today from the committee on commerce.

Strike Is Sanctioned. Glenn Falls, N. Y., March 17.—Notice was received here today that the American Federation of Labor has sanctioned the present strike of the International Paper company employes and would support them in their demands. Representatives of the federation are expected here this week.

THAT "AULD SOD" MYSTERIOUSLY DISAPPEARS

IMPORTED SOIL FROM IRELAND IS MISSING AND NONE KNOWS THE WHYFORE.

Chicago, March 17.—What became of the piece of the "auld sod" on which President Taft was to have stood while addressing the St. Patrick's banquet tonight is something of a mystery. In some way the sod has disappeared. The sod was imported Irish-Americans from the real soil of the emerald isle. It was first reported missing from the ship on which it was being carried, but this rumor proved false. Upon its arrival in Chicago it was stored at the LaSalle hotel, where the banquet was held tonight. Ever since its arrival crowds of Irishmen and women have visited the hotel and cried at the sight of this tangible bit of their fatherland. These people in some cases undoubtedly carried away small pieces of the sod, but the heaviest inroad is said to have been made last night, just how, is not clearly explained by the souvenir hypothesis. When the disappearance was discovered the official explanation included a statement that the sod was altogether too bulky for a banquet room.

HURRY TO GET THERE.

Washington, March 17.—Warned that they might be fined a day's pay of \$20 if they did not appear promptly on the floor of the house when it convened, members attending committee meetings today exhibited great anxiety to get away from the committee rooms when the noon hour arrived. The bell signal which sounded in all the committee rooms immediately after the convening of the house notified the members that a roll call was in progress and they broke with great haste for the chamber.

MUST BE SHOWN.

Omaha, Neb., March 17.—The Missouri Valley Medical association persists in believing Frederick Cook discovered the north pole. The members in session here today, after a lively debate, refused emphatically to rescind resolutions congratulating the explorer, which had been adopted before Cook's claims were repudiated in Copenhagen. The association is composed of doctors from Missouri, Iowa, Nebraska and Kansas.

HOLDS HEARING.

Washington, March 17.—The senate committee on commerce had a hearing today on Senator Frye's bill to provide for the carrying of all supplies for Panama canal construction in government owned vessels or American vessels chartered by the government. The bill was opposed by numerous ship brokers who represented owners of foreign vessels.

ITALIAN MURDERED.

Chicago, March 17.—Carmelo Caprisi, an Italian storekeeper, was murdered this afternoon in his place of business by an unidentified man, who escaped after being pursued for several blocks. The murderer is said to have dragged Caprisi into a rear room of the store and stabbed him.

DEFENSE CONCLUDES CASE TRANSFERRED TO CAPITAL CITY

FORMER CHIEF OF POLICE TELLS HOW IT WAS FIXED FOR GAMBLING.

Helena, March 17.—(Special)—The defense in the Rattery criminal libel case rested this afternoon, after the defendant had testified. His evidence was to the effect that in his criticism of the Edwards administration it was not personal, but was to direct attention to the bad conditions that were allowed to obtain. He said he got his information in the regular course of his newspaper work. Thomas Travis, former chief of police under Edwards, called by the defense, told how Mayor Edwards, himself and eight gamblers met and fixed the amount the games should pay quarterly. Under the arrangement he was to hold the money paid for 60 days, and if in that time the sheriff's force did not molest the games, he was to turn the money over to the city. He said that all the money which was collected and turned over to the city he collected himself. There were 60 places in operation. The first witnesses put on by the state in rebuttal were two women from Butte who formerly lived here, who said Rattery told them he was going to get the scalp of Edwards but he was not going to harm the girls.

DATES ARE FIXED FOR FAIRS

COMMITTEE MEETS AT HELENA AND ARRANGES SCHEDULE FOR THE SHOWS.

Helena, March 17.—(Special)—Dates of 10 Montana fairs were fixed at the meeting of the committee which represented the associations. The program was arranged with the view of making the jumps from one fair to another as short as possible. At the minimum \$30,000 will be awarded in harness stakes and purses at the fairs, the dates of which will be as follows: Joliet, August 22 to August 24; Big Timber, August 25 to August 27; Bozeman, August 29 to September 3; Lewistown, September 5 to September 10; Glendive, September 12 to September 14; Miles City, September 15 to 17; Great Falls, September 19 to 24; Helena, September 26 to October 1; Chinook, October 3 to October 5; Kalispell, October 11 to October 15. These dates have all been ratified except that allotted to Big Timber. Besides these fairs, Anaconda holds a fair September 22 to September 24, but omits a racing program. The Butte race meeting opens early in July.

AHEAD OF SCHEDULE.

Newton, Kan., March 17.—Nine days ahead of his schedule, Edward Payson Weston, who is walking from Los Angeles to New York, arrived here at 9 o'clock tonight.

