

PRESIDENT'S PLACIDITY RUFFLED BY TOLLS QUARREL

"Villa is Using Guns and Hand-Grenades--Not Typewriters"

OUR SENATORS ARE APART IN VOTE

FORECAST IS MADE THAT WALSH AND MYERS DO NOT AGREE ON TOLLS REPEAL.

WALSH IS IN DILEMMA

As a Member of the Baltimore Platform Committee, the Junior Senator Helped Prepare the Tolls-Exemption Plank and He Does Not Like to Repudiate It--Myers Is for Repeal.

Washington, March 30.—(Special.)—It is expected that the two Montana senators will not be in accord when the final action is taken on the repeal of the Panama tolls.

Senator Walsh is placed in somewhat of a dilemma in regard to the tolls question. The senator was a member of the committee of the democratic national convention which drafted the platform containing the endorsement of the free-tolls provision of the Panama canal act, and up to the present time has been a supporter of the free-tolls policy.

Last week the president had a conference with Senator Walsh and others at which, it is said, the subject of the free-tolls repeal was discussed. At the conclusion of the conference, Senator Walsh said he was still unconvinced to the proposed repeal.

It is believed, however, that the president, who has a very persuasive way in matters he wishes to get through congress, will succeed in converting Senator Walsh to his way of thinking before the time comes to take a vote on the repeal bill in the senate.

MYERS GETS HIS BILL BACK TO LIFE AGAIN

Washington, March 30.—(Special.)—Senator Myers today secured the reconsideration of the vote by which his Republic Coal company bill was defeated in the senate and had the bill restored to its former place on the calendar.

THE REASONS

Philadelphia, March 30.—Higher wages, higher taxes and recently enacted legislation are given by Samuel Rea, president of the Pennsylvania Railroad company, as the principal causes of decreases in net operating revenue.

STRICKEN

LaGrande, Ore., March 30.—Just as he was going to step into the pulpit to deliver his Sunday sermon, Dr. A. G. Lane, pastor of the First Presbyterian church of this city, collapsed and died of heart failure before a physician arrived.

MYERS IS CERTAIN THAT WOMEN WILL WIN

Washington, March 30.—(Special.)—In an interview on the subject of woman suffrage, Senator Myers said: "I have not been in Montana for more than a year, but I believe that woman suffrage is going to carry in that state in the coming election.

"THE CROWNING INSULT"



VILLA WRESTS HIS VICTORY OUT OF ABSOLUTE DEFEATS

El Paso, March 30.—A tale of rebel reverses and rebel luck was brought here tonight from the front by John Reed, correspondent of the New York World, and Robert Dorman, a photographer. Their stories are the first unbiased accounts of eye witnesses since the attack on Gomez Palacio, Lerdo and Torreon began.

"Our attack on Gomez Palacio was centered on the hill known as Cerro de La Pajar. It is precipitous, and we made seven assaults before taking it. The result of each of the six assaults which were unsuccessful could be discerned after the battle by the rings of dead rebels. Their bodies distinctly marked the line where they were repulsed.

not only forbidden to send out news after the attack on Torreon began, but they themselves were forbidden to leave. According to Reed, they bribed a section hand to allow them to use a gasoline-propelled rail vehicle, which carried them to Bermejillo. There they caught a hospital train, which carried them to Chihuahua.

ASQUITH SPRINGS SURPRISE ON NATION

London, March 30.—After all the many solutions of the government crisis which had been proposed and discussed, Premier Asquith announced a decision to the house of commons today which none of the prophets had expected or even suggested.

The prime minister himself will assume the burden of the war office, in addition to his other and almost crushing duties. He will resign from the house at this critical stage when the second reading of the home rule bill is about to be taken up and will appeal for re-election to his constituents in East Fife, Scotland, within a few days.

an unofficial seat, while Reginald H. McKenna, the home secretary, and Winston Spencer Churchill, first lord of the admiralty, will understudy him as house leader. "Oh, I'll be handy if I'm wanted," Mr. Asquith remarked to Andrew Bonar Law, the opposition leader, who thought that the home rule bill could not be proceeded with in the absence of the premier.

Field Marshal Sir John French, chief of the imperial general staff, and General Sir John Ewart, adjutant general, declined to withdraw their resignations, in spite of the army order issued on Friday which Viscount Haldane cleverly framed as a platform on which the generals might stand with consistency and honor.

These were the events in today's chapter of the continued story which is keeping the country at the highest pitch of excitement. The present situation is remarkable in that the government nominally will be without a prime minister and without a leader in the house of commons until the bye-election is held in East Fife. The writ for the election must give eight days' notice and it probably will be issued tomorrow.

Gladsstone took two offices under similar circumstances, accepting the salary of one and half the salary of the other amounting to \$27,500, and did not consider a re-election necessary. The political seers gather that Mr. Asquith is in a fighting mood. They have been saying recently that he had shown the effects, in his physical appearance, of the heavy strain of his long labor in office and would gladly see the government defeated. But it looks at the present moment as if he proposes to make the reorganization of the army a fighting issue.

SENATOR LEWIS BREAKS OUT OFFERING HIS EXPLANATION OF THE PRESIDENT'S RIDDLE

Washington, March 30.—On the eve of the vote in the house on the repeal of American toll exemption in the Panama canal, congress today was completely absorbed in the controversy. While opposing forces were clashing in oratorical flights at the capitol, President Wilson took occasion to discuss the situation with callers, expressing keen regret that what had promised to be a dignified contest over principles had degenerated into a fight upon the administration.



JIM-HAM LEWIS.

With the final vote on the Sims repeal bill in the house scheduled for late tomorrow, interest in the controversy revived increasingly with the approach of the end, and the closing speech of Speaker Clark in opposition to the repeal serving as the chief objective point of anticipation.

Little doubt as to the result of the vote on the bill is entertained by anyone, the majority for the repeal being estimated at from 30 to 75 votes.

All ears will be strained for the speaker tomorrow. There is much speculation as to the course his attack on the bill will take. His friends do not expect him to attack the president. Some democrats believe that he will not refrain, however, from allusions to political entanglements.

Discussion of the issue in the senate today was enlivened by Senator James Hamilton Lewis of Illinois, who pleaded for the president's cause, urging, however, a compromise giving the president authority to suspend tolls. Thus he proposed to find "some intermediate channel between what appears to be Scylla upon the one side and Charybdis upon the other, and to prevent the party craft from striking upon either promontory, either to be wounded or disrupted."

Senator Lewis aroused mingled astonishment and curiosity among his colleagues by discussing foreign relations in the United States and explaining what he thought the president might have referred to on the canal tolls issue asking congress to grant the repeal. He drew a vivid picture of dire things that would happen should the United States intervene in Mexico.

Jim-Ham Explains.

Referring to the president's failure to specify what foreign relations prompted him to appeal for toll exemption repeal, Senator Lewis did not hesitate to give "what I feel may have been his reasons." He then entered upon a recital of acts of aggression on the part of the United States beginning with the taking of the Philippines.

"You entered, in the Philippines, into a system of colonial government," the senator said, "and gentlemen who cry 'England' from the honorable other side of this chamber will not overlook that it was the influence of those conduct passes from Villa and managed to get through, as the verbal orders against their departure had not been properly promulgated. In Juarez they were stopped twice, but their passes carried them through.

"What happened? Hardly had you come into office until you met the problem. The cry was, 'You have now come into our country; you have broken the bars that heretofore limited you; you have come into the Orient and brought your people and we desire that our people shall now come into yours.' We cannot consent to that.

"Paralysis has set upon us as to the negotiations of the treaty with Japan respecting the exclusion and hesitant.

Indeed, is the movement respecting the matter of immigration."

Taking up the Mexican situation and reviewing the operations of the United States in other lands and the interests in Mexico of England, France, Japan and other nations, Senator Lewis dramatically asserted: "The very first moment we move down into Mexico with a view to executing the Monroe doctrine against those foreign nations, who have now stationed themselves there on the theory that we no longer had a right to execute the doctrine because of our past folly, Japan would seize the Philippine islands. She would then seize Hawaii and then in such condition—our navy in Mexico, the canal not finished, no way to have a leader of our navy—what condition would our country be?"

Russia.

"Russia, with her grievance, who sent aid to the Union at a time when it was threatened in disunion, feels that because of English influence the administration in power the last two years left its aid to Japan against her. Russia, remaining thus wrong, now in an offensive and defensive alliance of life and death with Japan, would not lose her opportunity now so great that she has no treaty with the United States of either companionship or amity, would promptly aid in seizing Alaska and the north pole and to the south against the Philippines islands. The army would be divided, part in Mexico and the other part moving to our possession to protect them.

With England feeling under these conditions no friendliness to us, we would not seek her alliance on the northern border without friendship and South America, already imbued with a feeling that when under the administration of President Roosevelt we performed a Caesarian operation upon Columbia and excised from her the government of Panama, only waits that it may duplicate the performance upon one equally defensible on the south near the canal, furnishing supplies to the enemy and supporting the assault. In what a splendid condition we would stand. Said, indeed, it is to contemplate."

Trust the President.

Senator Lewis appealed to congress to trust the president, "hoping that we may return to the doctrine of a true party."

Again today in the house a crowded floor and galleries thronged to a point which broke all records for attendance. Listened to the arguments on the issue, the president was attacked and defended by vigorous speakers. The foreign policy of the administration was derided and commended. The economic policy of granting American vessels free tolls was alternately supported and condemned.

Defense of Wilson.

Attacks on the president brought Representative Walsh of New Jersey to his feet with a ringing defense. The democrats cheered his tribute to President Wilson.

Throughout the day men and women sat for hours in the crowded galleries without intermission even for luncheon to hear the debate on the most important legislative question before the congress in a decade.

The importance of the occasion was impressed on the spectators when shortly after the house met, Representative L. Engle of Florida, an invalid, was wheeled into the house in a chair and made a speech opposing the repeal.

During the day Miss Eleanor Wilson, the president's daughter, and several guests took places in the gallery of the house and listened to the debate.

Platform Contradictions.

In the senate, Senator Owen read into the record a plank of the Ball-More platform denouncing ship subsidy. This, he said, was a flat contradiction of the plank favoring exemption in the Panama canal and was the expression of democratic doctrine.

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GENERAL FRENCH.



COLONEL SEELY.

Ulster covenanters with denials and counter-denials and heated personalities.

No member of the Irish nationalist party, of which John E. Redmond is the head, uttered a word in the house. The Irishmen are permitting the English to fight it out alone, Premier Asquith, Viscount Morley, Colonel Seely and Generals French and Ewart all visited the king during the day.

The debate following Premier Asquith's withdrawal was tame. Frederick E. Smith, unionist for the Walton division of Liverpool, renewed his accusations that the government had hatched a conspiracy against Ulster. "It was Napoleon, but there was no Napoleon," he said.

Winston Spencer Churchill, first lord of the admiralty, said the plotting had all been done by the opposition, who tried to seduce the army. He quoted from the unionist leaders' speeches in which they advised the army to refuse to serve against Ulster.

In the house of lords the Earl of Selborne spoke with a warmth seldom heard in that house. He termed Mr. Churchill's charges "foul falsehoods." Field Marshal Lord Roberts appealed to the country to dismiss the charge but dangerous and mischievous assertions that the army was implicated in a political conspiracy and the ridiculous fallacy that the officers are a wealthy and privileged class. The government's ultimatum, he said, was like springing a mine on the army. He wished to nail to the counter the lie that any officer had disobeyed orders.

LITTLE GIRL GOES ACROSS LAND ALONE

Helena, March 30.—(Special.)—Amelia Martha Van Dergift, a six-year-old Butte miss, who speaks both French and English, will be lugged and labeled tomorrow and sent east to her father and grandparents at Ocean Grove, N. J. At St. Paul, Chicago and Trenton, the company of the various children's home societies will meet the little girl's train and transfer her. Two weeks ago her mother, who lives in Butte, relinquished her claims in the child to the bureau of child and animal protection, whose attention had been directed to the matter by the New Jersey Children's Home society.