

TILLMAN-McLAURIN CASE.

REPUBLICANS DETERMINED TO PUNISH THE FIGHTERS.

MR. FRYE ORDERS THEIR NAMES RESTORED TO THE ROLL—NOT PURGED OF CONTEMPT, HOWEVER.

[BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.] Washington, Feb. 25.—While not yielding any part of their contention, the Republican leaders of the Senate to-day sprang a surprise on the Democrats by taking a new tack in the Tillman-McLaurin case. The first move was to shut the Democrats out from further discussion at this time by adjourning the Senate immediately after the journal of yesterday's proceedings had been read, the ostensible excuse for this action being to show the usual mark of respect for a member of the House who died in the recess of Congress. The next move was made by Senator Frye, the President pro tem., on whose ruling the secretary of the Senate yesterday erased the names of the South Carolina Senators from the roll, thereby depriving them of the privilege of voting or otherwise taking part in the proceedings.

By order of Senator Frye the names of Tillman and McLaurin were restored to the roll by the secretary after adjournment. On the face of this action it would appear that the South Carolina Senators have been restored to their full rights and privileges, but when the Senate meets to-morrow it will be made apparent that this is neither the purpose nor the wish of a majority of the Senate. Emphatic expression will be given to this in one of two ways. Either the Committee on Privileges and Elections will make a report recommending the temporary suspension of Senators Tillman and McLaurin, or when their names are reached on the first roll call some one on the Republican side will rise and object to their right to vote. A BITTER FIGHT EXPECTED.

In either case it is expected that an acrimonious and prolonged struggle will be precipitated. The Democrats under the leadership of Messrs. Turner, of Washington; Bailey, of Texas; Dubois, of Idaho, and Patterson, of Colorado, have decided to filibuster if possible to the close of the session, in order to give emphasis to their contention that the whole proceeding was unconstitutional. If they do this it is thought that the Republican leaders, by a series of collateral motions and majority votes will fasten closure on the Senate, and thus end for all time, or at least, as long as their party controls the Senate, the possibility of obstruction by the minority of the will of the majority.

Senator Burrows, of Michigan, chairman of the Committee on Privileges and Elections, and other Republican members of that committee held an extended conference to-day with Messrs. Spooner, Aldrich, Platt, of Connecticut; Hoar and other recognized authorities on constitutional law, and at the close of this conference it was announced that at a full meeting of the committee, to be held at 10.30 o'clock to-morrow morning behind closed doors, an investigation of the Tillman-McLaurin imbroglio would be begun. It is mainly on this announcement that the assertion is based that the committee will report at the opening of the Senate a resolution suspending both South Carolina Senators. The term of the suspension, it is generally believed, will be fixed at five days. There is no certainty, however, that the committee will be able to reach an agreement to-morrow, and so it is possible that the other process to prevent the restoration of Tillman and McLaurin to their right to vote in the Senate will be resorted to. The Democratic programme of obstruction is clearly marked out, whereas the Republicans have not announced, and in the nature of things, cannot yet announce, a definite policy, further than the firm determination to prevent the South Carolina members from taking part in the proceedings of the Senate until they have completely purged themselves of the contempt of which the Senate unanimously found them guilty a few minutes after the completion of their unprecedented offence last Saturday afternoon.

The Democratic contention still is that the only constitutional way for the infliction of the punishment of such a violation of the Senate's dignity and decorum as that which the South Carolinians have been found guilty by expulsion. This, of course, is impossible, in view of the fact that the constitution provides that expulsion can be inflicted only by a two-thirds vote, and the Republicans have not that number of votes. The Democrats hold that suspension for an hour or such a period as a State of "equal suffrage" in the Senate, which would be a violation of the constitution. They also argue that the mere act of declaring the members in contempt is the infliction of all the punishment contemplated by the constitution, and that the constitution empowers each house of Congress to punish its members for violating its rules. The Republicans, on the other hand, contend and assert the constitutional power of suspension as a remedy for disorder as well as that of expulsion. Thus the issue is joined between the two parties, the Republicans holding firmly to the principle that the Senate has the right to prescribe and enforce its own police rules, and that in this assertion the sovereignty of the State to the government is not involved, and that the act a State is temporarily deprived of representation.

MR. FRYE'S EXPLANATION.

The order of Senator Frye for the restoration of the names to the roll was issued almost immediately after the Senate convened to-day. When asked for an explanation of this order Senator Frye said:

In my rulings yesterday I believe that I was strictly within parliamentary law; that Senators in contempt are not entitled to recognition until they speak or to vote, and that their names should not be called. I still adhere to that opinion, but, desirous of shifting the responsibility from the Chair to the Senate, I adjourned the Senate to to-day on the names of the two Senators from South Carolina. When asked if the result of this action would be the recognition of either of the Senators to vote or speak, Senator Frye replied that it would not, and that was a question which must be decided by the Senate. He declined, however, to say how the question would be brought to the attention of the Senate.

DEBATE CUT OFF BY STRATEGY.

Quite unexpectedly the Senate adjourned to-day within fifteen minutes after it convened. An hour before the time for meeting the galleries began to fill with spectators, all expecting a sequel to the debate of yesterday on the rights of the Senators from South Carolina to cast their votes while under the ban of contempt of the Senate. Several Democratic Senators had books on their desks, and it looked as though they were preparing to continue the contest of yesterday. This was made more evident immediately after the Senate convened. When the clerk began the reading of the journal of yesterday's proceedings the usual request that the reading be suspended was made by Mr. Stewart, of Nevada.

Mr. Stewart interrupted Mr. Turner, of Washington, and Mr. Dubois, of Idaho, in unison, and the reading was continued. At its conclusion the Senate adjourned without comment.

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ING BEFORE THE SENATE.—This resolution may not be pressed, owing to the action of the majority.

The adjournment of the Senate for the day was decided upon at the forenoon conference of the Republican leaders. The announcement of Representative Crump's death reached the Senate yesterday, but was withheld until today. When the Republican Senators were informed of this fact they were only too willing to give the announcement to secure an adjournment, and their Democratic colleagues were first to show their sympathy by their presence. The Senators recognized the fact that the Senate is under a somewhat serious tension, and all felt that both time and temper might be saved by stopping for a few days the regular annual session, a conference and exchange of views over the situation.

The Republican members of the Committee on Privileges and Elections were in consultation in the afternoon over the resolution which it was proposed to bring to the attention of the Senate to-morrow through the committee, providing for the suspension of the two South Carolina Senators. None of the members present at the conference would consent to disclose the details of their proceedings, but it was learned in a general way that considerable doubt was expressed by some of the members as to the regularity of the suggested proceeding, holding that the suspension of Senators, even by the Senate itself, would be subject to criticism. The feeling was general that the problem is a difficult and intricate one, and the opinion was expressed that it would be impossible to formulate a line of action that could be put into execution so early as a date as to-morrow. Senators Burrows and Fowler were appointed a sub-committee to consult authorities and suggest a form of proceeding, either in the way proposed or on other lines.

MR. HITCHCOCK NOT TO RESIGN.

REPORTS DENIED ON THE SECRETARY'S AUTHORITY.

Washington, Feb. 25.—W. Scott Smith, secretary to Mr. Hitchcock, the Secretary of the Interior, to-day denied the reports that Mr. Hitchcock contemplates retiring from the Cabinet. The denial is by authority of Secretary Hitchcock.

BUSINESS IN THE HOUSE.

THE DIPLOMATIC AND CONSULAR APPROPRIATION BILL PASSED.

Washington, Feb. 25.—The House to-day passed the Diplomatic and Consular Appropriation bill, the fifth of the regular annual supply measures to be sent to the Senate at this session. No amendments of importance were adopted. The feature of the day was the speech of Mr. Richardson of Alabama, in reply to Mr. Corliss's speech a few days ago, in favor of the construction of a canal through the Isthmus of Panama. The question of reforming the consular service was debated at some length, but no amendments on that subject were offered.

CESSION OF DANISH WEST INDIES.

THE ARMY TO RAISE THE FLAG OVER THE ISLANDS.

Washington, Feb. 25.—It has been practically decided that the formal ceremonies incident to the taking over of the Danish West Indies by the United States shall be performed by the army, and it is probable that a detachment of troops from Porto Rico will be sent to the islands soon after the exchange of ratifications of the treaty to raise the flag and formally take possession of the new territory. While not subject to the president, it is probable that the islands will be placed, with Porto Rico, under the control of Governor Hunt.

FOR PEACE IN CENTRAL AMERICA.

ARBITRATION TREATY SIGNED BY THE PRESIDENTS OF ALL THE STATES.

Washington, Feb. 25.—The Costa Rican Legation in this city has received a copy of the treaty for the preservation of peace among the Central American States, lately signed at the meeting at Corinto, Nicaragua, of the Presidents of Costa Rica, Honduras, Nicaragua and Salvador. Guatemala has signed since the meeting. The treaty is the first of the kind ever signed, and establishes the principle of arbitration for the adjustment of every difficulty or disagreement arising between the contracting parties, each agreeing to submit such questions to a court of Central American arbiters, provision for which is made.

SHOT IN AN ARMORY; MAY DIE.

TWENTY-SECOND REGIMENT MAN ACCIDENTALLY DISCHARGES HIS RIFLE.

Harold A. Green, a clerk, of No. 58 West Sixty-fifth-st., member of Company K, of the 22d Regiment, was accidentally shot last night in the armory of the regiment. The bullet passed through the fleshy part of the body underneath the left armpit, and lodged just in front of and very near the spinal column. Dr. Brown, of the Roosevelt Hospital, to which Green was taken, said that the wounded man would probably die. If he lived, he would almost certainly be paralyzed for life.

MR. TAWNEY'S SUBSTITUTE.

Mr. Tawney spoke in support of his substitute. It was now after 11 p. m., and as it was clear that no final results could be secured, an adjournment was taken until 3 p. m. next Monday.

CHARGES FOR STEAMBOAT INSPECTION.

RECIPROCAL ARRANGEMENT WITH CANADIAN GOVERNMENT.

In accordance with the recommendation of the Supervising Inspector General of the steamboat inspection service, which has been passed by Congress amending Section 449 of the Revised Statutes relating to the inspection of foreign vessels, which authorizes the collection of charges for the performance of such service by United States officials equal to the sum required by the country to which the vessel is sailing, the United States will be sailing in retaliation for the charges now levied by Canadian authorities on American shipowners, trading to Dominion ports. In the spring and summer of last year numerous complaints were received by the Secretary of the Treasury concerning the charge of eight cents a ton in addition to the inspector's fee of \$5 for the inspection of every American vessel landing at a Canadian port. Since officials of this government proposed to receive free of cost to foreign shipowners, as a matter of international courtesy, a letter, substantially setting forth these facts, was sent to the officials of the Dominion Government at Ottawa. It was thought here at that time that the requirement of the United States would be met by the Canadian Government, but the Canadian Government, through the State Department, however, developed the fact that the tonnage and inspection fees levied by Canadian inspectors were a legal requirement. Failing to see justice in this state of affairs the officials of this government took active steps to secure a strictly reciprocal law in regard to the steamboat inspection service, which has been passed by Congress.

FRESH DISORDERS AT BARCELONA.

THE MILITARY AT WORK AGAIN—PRINTERS THREATEN ANOTHER STRIKE.

Madrid, Feb. 25.—Reports have been received here of slight disturbances at Barcelona, arising from the demands of the workmen for the release of prisoners, during which some persons were wounded in collisions with the military.

A HORSECAR CONDUCTOR HAS BEEN FOUND MURDERED IN THE SUBURBS OF BARCELONA.

The printers threaten again to strike. Further troops have been drafted to Barcelona, ostensibly for fear of a Carlist movement. A general strike has been declared at Murcia, and the publication of newspapers has been suspended.

CAUCUS TAKES NO ACTION.

REPUBLICAN REPRESENTATIVES DISCUSS RECIPROCIITY WITH CUBA.

WAYS AND MEANS COMMITTEE BILL AND A SUBSTITUTE PRESENTED—ADJOURNMENT UNTIL MONDAY.

Washington, Feb. 25.—The Republican members of the House of Representatives met in conference at 8.15 o'clock to-night to consider the question of Cuban reciprocity, the Republican members of the Ways and Means Committee having reached an agreement to grant concessions of about 20 per cent. There was an unusually large attendance, about one hundred and twenty-five members being present. Representative Cannon, of Illinois, acted as chairman, and Mr. Loudenslager, of New-Jersey, as secretary.

Chairman Payne of the Ways and Means Committee presented a bill on the lines authorized by the Republican members of the committee, as follows:

That for the purpose of equalizing the trade of the United States with Cuba the President is hereby authorized, as a condition of the establishment of an independent government in Cuba and the enactment by said government of immigration and exclusion laws as fully restrictive of immigration as the laws of the United States, to negotiate with said government, with a view to the arrangement of a commercial agreement in which reciprocal and equivalent concessions shall be made in favor of the products and manufactures of the United States by rates of duty which shall be less by an amount equivalent to at least 20 per cent ad valorem than the rates imposed upon like articles when imported into Cuba from the most favored of other countries; and whenever the government of Cuba shall enact such immigration laws and shall enter into such commercial agreements with the United States, and shall make such concessions in favor of the products and manufactures thereof as aforesaid, and which agreement, in the judgment of the President, shall be reciprocal and imported, he shall be authorized to proclaim such facts, both as to the enactment of such immigration laws and the making of such agreement, and to suspend the tariff on articles imported by law on all articles from Cuba into the United States shall be suspended, and in lieu thereof shall be levied upon all articles imported from Cuba the full rate of duty provided by law upon articles imported from foreign countries.

The President shall have power, and it shall be his duty, whenever he shall be satisfied that either such immigration laws or such agreement mentioned in this act is not being fully executed by the government of Cuba, to notify such government thereof, and thereafter to suspend the full rate of duty provided by law upon articles imported from Cuba until such government shall have complied with the requirements of this act.

MR. PAYNE SPEAKS FOR RECIPROCIITY.

Mr. Payne spoke for more than an hour in support of this plan. He was frequently interrupted by questions from Representatives Willson, of Idaho; Smith, of Gardner, Weeks and Hamilton, of Michigan, and Lessor, of New-York. Mr. Smith's question, and the statement that, relying on the Republican assurance of protection, about \$10,000,000 has been invested in the beet sugar industry in Michigan, and this would be imperilled if the proposed concession was made.

Mr. Payne replied that in his judgment there would be ample protection to the American industry after the 20 per cent concession was allowed, as the remaining protection would amount to about 57 per cent ad valorem. He referred also to the President's recommendations of reciprocity.

MR. TAWNEY'S SUBSTITUTE.

Representative Tawney, of Minnesota, a member of the Ways and Means Committee, then proposed the following substitute:

Resolved, That the Ways and Means Committee be, and it is hereby directed to prepare and report to the House a bill for the ratification of a trade agreement between the United States and that island, which bill shall in substance be as follows: That the duties on the products of our securing on goods, wares and merchandise imported into the United States from Cuba, shall be reduced to 20 per cent ad valorem on all such goods, and that so much of said sum as shall be equivalent to 20 per cent of the duty collected on sugar imported from Cuba into the United States, shall be distributed by the government of Cuba, or through such other or additional agents or agencies as the President of the United States shall direct, under such rules and regulations as may be prescribed by the government of Cuba and approved by the President of the United States to actual bona fide resident sugar planters of the island of Cuba, in proportion to the quantity of sugar produced from cane grown by them during the year preceding the date of said reciprocal trade agreement, and every year thereafter during the term of the agreement; 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