New-York Tribune.

Vol. LXIII....No. 20,885. To-day, snow or rain, with rising temperature. To-morrow, clearing; colder; northwest winds. NEW-YORK, THURSDAY, JANUARY 21, 1904.—FOURTEEN PAGES.— Copyright, 1904, by The Tribune Association. PRICE THREE CENTS.

RUSSIAN REPLY DELAYED.

A DIVERGENCE OF VIEWS.

Alexieff and De Rosen Consulted—Manchurian Rights.

St. Petersburg, Jan. 20.—The first exchange of views between the Foreign Office and Viceroy Alexieff and Baron de Rosen, the Russian Minister to Japan, on the Japanese reply, has not resulted in a definite decision. Russia's answer probably will be delayed a little longer than anticipated.

At the Foreign Office it was explained in a general and unofficial way with reference to foreign settlements at the open Manchurian ports that no reservation was made in the recognition of acquired treaty rights, but inasmuch as the Russian military and civil authorities are now exercising joint control with China, Russia naturally must be consulted on questions rising out of consular representation, including settlements.

A high official said that the anti-American irritation in certain government quarters here was due to the conviction that Japan's aggressiveness was largely the result of the American attitude, which, he added, presumably was based on the fear that the Manchurian treaties would not be respected, although the United States was informed months ago that Russia would recognize them.

The attacks on Japan in the Russian press are ceasing. The newspapers print prominently reports to the effect that the acute phase is passing.

A confusion of Olongapo, in Subig Bay, with Yongampho, on the Yalu River, has led the Russian press into an attack on the United States. The statement that Rear Admiral Evans's squadron was to proceed to Olongapo was either garbled in transmission or misunderstood, for it was reported here that the destination of the American ships was Yongampho. This error was made the basis of an attack on the motives of the United States by the "Novoe Vremya," which saw in this move the entrance of the United States into the quarrel. The paper says: "At least America will be an open enemy, which is preferable to a secret one."

EXODUS FROM SEOUL.

Many Americans Leave City—Bad Element Armed.

Seoul, Jan. 20.—The Emperor of Corea has ordered that seven hundred revolvers and clubs be distributed to the "Pedlers," who are nominally secret police, and a dangerous element.

Many Americans are leaving Seoul, fearing trouble.

CONFERRING IN JAPAN.

Foreign Minister Reports Situation to Privy Council.

London, Jan. 20.—Reuter's correspondent at Tokio says that the Privy Council met to-day and received a long, detailed report from the Foreign Minister, M. Komura, on the negotiations with Russia. No statement of the proceedings will be given out at present.

Japanese newspapers publish a report from Continental sources, the correspondent continues, that Russia has decided to appeal to the powers to avert war. This is regarded here as proof of Russia's unreadiness to make satisfactory concessions.

RUSSIA LACKS AN ALLY.

Report That France Will Give No Aid in Case of War.

Berlin, Jan. 20.—The German government has become privy to the fact that France declines to give Russia any assurances of armed help in case of war, even if Great Britain should aid Japan. It is understood here that Russia asked France to define her position in the contingency of Great Britain taking part in a Japanese attack on Russia, and that the French government replied that France must remain neutral in a military sense, as the Russian-French alliance was separate from such a question as that now pending. This decision of France, it is believed here, affects not only the situation between Russia and Japan, but the Franco-Russian alliance.

PEACE DECLARED SURE.

Russia to Yield—Britain in an Awkward Position.

London, Jan. 20.—A dispatch to "The Pall Mall Gazette" from Berlin declares that the correspondent is in a position to announce positively that it has been decided at St. Petersburg that Japan's wishes shall be met in such a way as to maintain peace. The dispatch adds that the only question is whether Russia "shall declare her decision to Japan alone or to all the powers interested in the solution of the Far Eastern question."

Lord Lansdowne's reception at the Foreign Office to-day was attended by almost all the ambassadors and ministers in London, including the American, Russian, Japanese, German and French representatives. The Foreign Office has reason to believe that Russia is willing to concede practically all of Japan's demands, but she cannot see her way to make a treaty with Japan recognizing in black and white China's sovereignty over Manchuria.

Russia has approached Great Britain to urge Japan to forego this stipulation and to accept in lieu thereof the assurances to the same end already given to the other powers. It is pointed out at the Foreign Office that Great Britain, being such an interested party, is in a difficult position, and can scarcely recommend such a course to her ally.

Whether or not Japan will insist to the bitter end on a treaty recognizing Chinese sovereignty over Manchuria the Foreign Office does not yet know. It thinks the Japanese themselves will not decide until after the delivery of the Russian reply, which is scarcely expected till next week.

Great Britain has not yet taken steps to appoint consuls at Moukden and An-Tung.

AMERICA'S PART IN GAME.

Importance of Chinese Treaty—France Advising Russia.

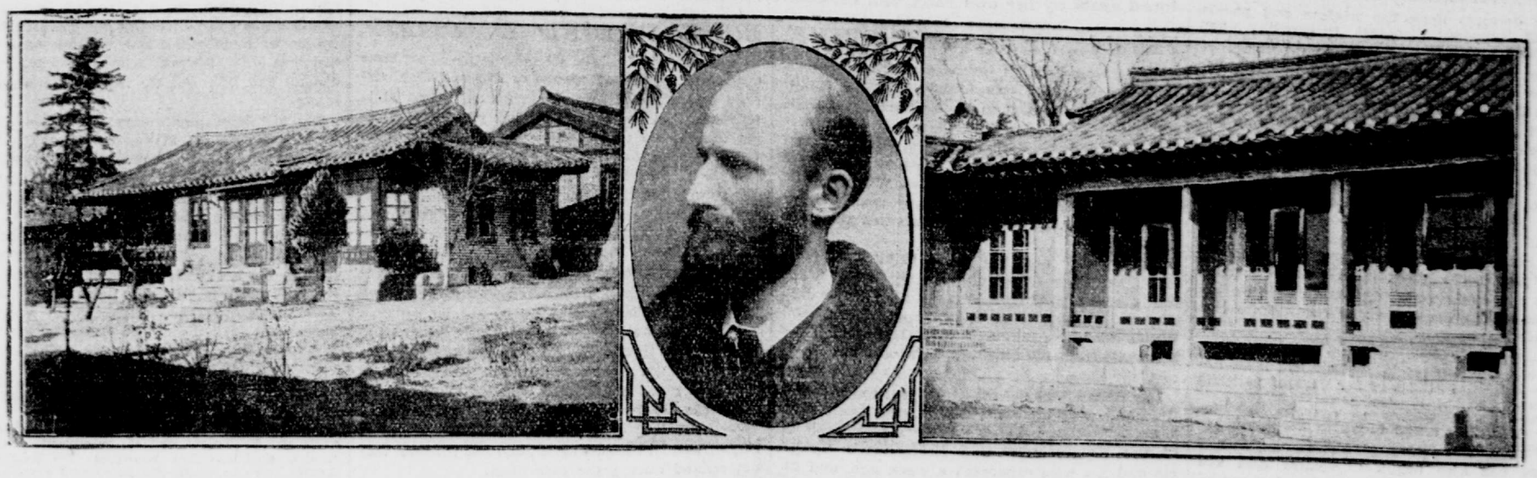
Paris, Jan. 20.—The "Temps" this evening published a leading article on the increasing importance of the role of the United States in the Japanese-Russian situation. It reflects the

Continued on second page.

FAMOUS TRAINS TO FLORIDA.
"N. Y. & Fla. Special," 2:10 P. M. "Fla. & West Indian Ltd.," 9:25 A. M. Unexcelled service via Penn. & Atlantic Coast Line, 1161 B'way.—Advt.

THE STORM CENTRE, SEOUL, COREA.

Minister Allen and the American Legation, which are threatened by the anti-foreign element.



RESIDENCE OF UNITED STATES MINISTER ALLEN, SEOUL. DR. HORACE N. ALLEN, Minister resident and consul general of the United States in Corea. ENTRANCE TO OFFICE OF UNITED STATES LEGATION, SEOUL.

REFER CARNEGIE OFFER.

CIVIL ENGINEERS BALK.

To Vote by Letter on Acceptance of Gift for Union Building.

Individual members of the American Society of Civil Engineers at the annual meeting yesterday expressed strong disapproval of the conditions attached to Andrew Carnegie's offer of $1,000,000 for a union engineering building for it with three other engineering societies. It was finally resolved that a letter ballot should be taken, to be canvassed at the society's meeting on March 2.

A member of the club who has been in close touch with the course of the discussion said last night that he believed the vote would be two to one against accepting the offer.

The meeting was called to order at Carnegie Lyceum with an attendance of nearly one thousand members. The scheme met with bitter opposition from many of the members, being variously branded as a "Mormon marriage," a "morganatic alliance" and a "shipbuilding trust." After an exhaustive report on the proposed gift had been read by the secretary, it was learned that the finances of the American Society of Civil Engineers, the American Society of Mechanical Engineers, the American Institute of Mining Engineers, the American Institute of Electrical Engineers and the Engineers' Club must be segregated for the support of the building.

Robert Cartwright, of Rochester, said that the suggestion that the civil engineers affiliate with the other societies named in the matter of a union building savored of a Mormon marriage, a morganatic alliance, or a shipbuilding trust. E. C. Olcott said that, while all scientific institutions recognized the benefits of co-operation, he thought some features of the proposal were wrong. John F. O'Rourke and George W. Sterne suggested the sending out of a letter ballot, and the resolution was adopted.

Mr. Carnegie made his offer to the societies on February 14, 1903. The proposition was that they should purchase a lot on Thirty-ninth-st., between Fifth and Sixth aves., and adjoining in the rear a lot on Fortieth-st., owned by the American Society of Civil Engineers. It is on this lot that it is proposed to erect the building. The subject was referred to a conference committee of the members of the organizations, which recommended the acceptance of the proposition. The title to the property, it was recommended, should rest in an executive corporation created by special act of the legislature, to be composed of twelve persons, selected from the constituent organizations. The purchase money for the lot was to be obtained by sale of the bonds of the executive corporation, each society to have the right to purchase them at par.

An adequate building is to be erected by Mr. Carnegie on the adjoining lots which front on Fortieth-st., and will be similarly conveyed to the Engineers' Club.

It is said that representatives of the societies, as well as the Engineers' Club, favor the complete physical separation of the two buildings. While Mr. Carnegie has never formally acceded to this, there is little doubt of his acquiescence.

The following officers of the society were elected: President, Charles Hermany, of Louisville, Ky.; vice-presidents, F. S. Curtis, of Boston, and S. L. F. Deyo, of New-York; treasurer, James M. Knap, of New-York; directors, Charles F. Gowen, of Ossining, N. Y.; N. P. Lewis, of New-York; James W. Ellis, of Poughkeepsie, N. Y.; George S. Webster, of Philadelphia; Ralph Modjeski, of Chicago, and Charles D. Marx, of Stamford University, California. In the evening a reception was held at the clubhouse, No. 220 West Fifty-seventh-st.

TO ADD TO MEMBERSHIP.

Partridge May Succeed Sheldon—C. Vanderbilt Talked of, Too.

The Republican Executive Committee at its meeting yesterday afternoon decided to recommend to the County Committee, which will meet to-night at the Charities Building, the reorganization scheme under discussion by the leaders. Briefly it is that the General Committee be increased from 217 to 500, and that the dues be reduced from $25 to $10.

Frank H. Partridge, former treasurer of the Plaza Republican Club, was under discussion for the office of treasurer of the County Committee, to succeed George R. Sheldon. The name of Cornelius Vanderbilt was not discussed in connection with the office, although there were many stories afloat about Mr. Vanderbilt taking the place.

It is understood that the primary call for the XIIth Congress District election will be authorized by the General Committee at its meeting to-night.

ANOTHER FREE TRADE VICTORY.

Lord Morpeth, Tariff Reform Candidate, Defeated at Gateshead.

London, Jan. 20.—The bye-election at Gateshead to fill the seat in the House of Commons, made vacant by the recent death of Sir William Allan, Advanced Radical, has resulted in victory for John Johnson, Liberal Free Trader, by a majority of 1,205 votes over Lord Morpeth, Unionist and Tariff Reformer.

NEBRASKA CONVENTION MAY 8.

Committee Declares for Roosevelt and Webster.

Lincoln, Neb., Jan. 20.—The Republican State Central Committee to-day decided on Wednesday, May 8, at Lincoln, as the date and place for holding the State Convention to select delegates at large to the National Convention at Chicago and nominate State officers.

Resolutions were adopted favoring the nomination of President Roosevelt and of John L. Webster, of Nebraska, for Vice-President. It was also recommended that the State Convention nominate a candidate for United States Senator.

SMITHSON'S BODY HERE.

Came on the Prinzess Irene, and Will Be Taken to Washington.

The body of James Smithson, founder of the Smithsonian Institution, arrived late last night on the Prinzess Irene. The steamer did not get into Quarantine until long after dark. She was met soon after 8 o'clock in Sandy Hook Bay by the United States dispatch boat Dolphin. Because of the darkness, it was decided not to take off the body of Mr. Smithson until early this morning. It will then be transferred to the Dolphin, and taken at once to Washington, where it will be met by Professor Alexander Graham Bell and a committee of well known people, and buried after a simple ceremony. Over the grave there is to be erected a handsome monument, to stand near those of those of James Henry, the first director of the institution; Dr. Samuel Cross and L. J. M. Daguerre, the inventor of photography.

Professor Alexander Graham Bell was the first to suggest that Mr. Smithson's body be brought from Genoa, where it was buried, and placed near the institution he founded. Dr. Bell, who brought the body from abroad, was taken on the Dolphin at Quarantine.

James Smithson was an English scientist, and a natural son of the Duke of Northumberland. His mother was Elizabeth Keate Macie, and in his early life he was known as James Lewis Macie. After his mother's death he took the name of Smithson. His life was devoted to science, and when he died in Genoa in 1829, he bequeathed over $500,000 to the government of the United States "to found at Washington, under the name of the Smithsonian Institution, an establishment for the increase and diffusion of knowledge among men." Smithson's legacy was brought to this country sixty-five years ago by Richard Rush, in 105 bags, each containing 1,000 sovereigns.

Mr. Smithson was buried in the English cemetery of San Benigno, in a tomb which bore no reference to his being the founder of the Smithsonian Institution, an omission which was remedied several years later. Professor Bell learned a couple of years ago that the cemetery of San Benigno was about to be destroyed, to be used as a quarry, and then began the agitation to remove the body. He went abroad about a month ago to superintend its removal.

FOR HIGH SPEED TESTS.

Effort to Rival German Record To Be Made in Mohawk Valley.

[BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.]

Schenectady, N. Y., Jan. 20.—Officials of the New-York Central and Hudson River Railroad Company, together with electrical experts in the employ of that company, were in this city to-day in a special car, for the purpose of holding a conference with officials and experts of the General Electric Company, to which concern recently was awarded the contract for furnishing the electrical apparatus for the New-York City terminal of the company.

The party, headed by J. P. Bradfield, general superintendent; A. H. Smith, general manager; C. F. Smith, assistant general manager; F. A. Harrington, superintendent of the division, and G. Dager, train master, was in charge of W. P. Potter, the electrical engineer in charge of the railway construction department of the General Electric Company, and he escorted the men through the works of that company. The work which already has been done in connection with the contract in question was inspected and reported upon favorably, after which the members of the party returned to the special car and went over the section of the tracks between Schenectady and Hoffman's.

This portion of the railroad, comprising about nine miles, has been decided upon for the series of tests which are to be held shortly, with a view to securing the highest possible speed for the electric engines which are to be used by the Central management at the New-York terminal. While the tests are being made freight trains will use the detour between Athens Junction and Rotterdam Junction, where the tracks cross over the Mohawk River to Hoffman's. The roadbed is to be improved materially, so that it will be possible, according to the experts of the General Electric Company, to equal, and even beat, the speed record made at Zossen, Germany, some months ago, when 120 miles an hour was made.

It was declared this afternoon that if a suitable roadbed is provided it will be possible to make a similar showing in this country, and that the Central probably would endeavor to maintain an exceedingly high rate of speed on its lines in the vicinity of New-York City. At the tests made some months ago on the private tracks of the General Electric Company, near here, it was found to be easy to make a speed of sixty-five miles an hour. A hard roadbed will make it possible to bring this up to double that figure, it is stated by electrical experts.

NEGRO DIES FROM FRIGHT.

Expires in Cell After Denying Charge of Murder.

Salem, N. J., Jan. 20.—Lerius Baylor, a negro, was brought into court this afternoon to plead to an indictment for murder in the first degree. A plea of not guilty was entered for him. He was then taken back into the jail.

While in court he was trembling and apparently badly frightened. After being placed in his cell he collapsed and died within a few minutes. It is believed fright killed him.

The negro died just as he had completed a confession to Justice Hendrickson, of the Supreme Court. The confession was not made public, but it is believed to vertify all the facts in the case gathered by the public prosecutor.

Baylor is said to have shot and killed Oscar Hendrickson, another colored man, near Woodstown, in this county, in December, 1901. He escaped and was captured about six weeks ago near Rappahannock, Va. He was brought to this city a few days ago. The county authorities paid a reward of $300 for his arrest.

TRAINS STALLED IN SNOW

Men on Snowshoes Bring Food to the Passengers.

[BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.]

Utica, Jan. 20.—Four passenger trains, with two hundred and fifty passengers on board, seven freight trains and six snow ploughs, manned in all by thirty engines, were stalled to-day on twelve miles of the Rome, Watertown and Ogdensburg Railroad tracks between Lacona and Mannsville, sixty miles north of this city. The trains are about thirty miles north of Camden. The railroad company has tried to care for the imprisoned passengers. Food has been taken to the trains by residents of the villages along the road, travelling on snowshoes, and the Lacona Fire Department is trying to dig out the trains near that village. More than four hundred men are at work, and the railroad company has raised the price of labor from thirteen cents to thirty cents an hour.

Five snow ploughs bound north passed through Camden to-night, and another was sent out from Camden this afternoon. They are practically useless. One rotary snow plough struck a snow pile twenty-eight feet deep yesterday, and with two engines behind it, was compelled to give up the fight. Both the divisions to Rome and Syracuse and the northern line from Richland Junction are tied up completely. All mails for Canada are tied up in the blockade.

The temperature in this section yesterday ranged from 54 degrees below at Camden to 62 degrees below at Meeker Hill, near Camden.

NANTUCKET AGAIN ISOLATED.

Nantucket, Mass., Jan. 20.—Again cut off from the mainland by ice, the residents of this island have exhausted their supply of corn and wheat, and only a small amount of wheat and oats is left. Other supplies, however, are abundant. The steamer from Woods Hole made no attempt to reach Nantucket to-day. An immense field of ice lies to the northward of the island, and to-day's moderate weather has failed to break it up.

FIRE NEAR MORTON HOUSE

Some of the Guests in Small Panic—Two Cars in Collision.

Firemen were called last night to extinguish a small blaze in the unoccupied building at No. 48 East Fourteenth-st., near the Morton House. Many of the guests of the hotel were awakened, and among a number there was at first a small panic; but the proprietor sent hallboys through the building, telling them that the fire was not near. A majority returned to their rooms.

The building was formerly occupied by the Dairy Kitchen restaurant. Defective insulation in wires caused the blaze. It was quickly put out. While it was in progress a northbound Broadway car struck an eastbound Fourteenth-st. car at the corner. No one was injured, and there was not much excitement.

WOMEN AND CHILDREN IN PANIC.

Fire Drives Them in Nightclothes from Apartment House—Little Damage Done.

Women, scantily clad, some in men's overcoats, some without shoes, carrying pet dogs, children and valuable, rushed out of the apartment house at No. 24 East Ninety-ninth-st., known as Hoffman Court, at midnight last night to escape fire and smoke.

The court is a large building containing forty-seven families, and there were about two hundred people sleeping in it when the fire started. The women rushed out of their rooms clad as they went to bed. The firemen put out the blaze in about half an hour, and the excited women returned to those rooms not foul with smoke. The firemen could not ascertain the cause of the fire.

COGHLAN'S COFFIN FOUND.

Washed Away in Galveston Storm, It Is Thought To Be Discovered in Marsh.

[BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.]

Galveston, Tex., Jan. 20.—The metallic coffin containing the body of the actor, Charles F. Coghlan, which disappeared from Galveston in the storm of 1900, is believed to have been found at last. It will be remembered that Coghlan played here a little while before the sea practically destroyed the city. He fell ill and died here. Pending advices from his family he was buried here in a metallic coffin. In the storm his coffin, with many others, was washed away.

The coffin believed to be his was found to-day on the mainland across the bay, but, as it is in a large marsh and difficult of access, it will be the latter part of this week before it can be brought to the city. In the mean time advices are expetced from his relatives.

TOO MUCH LYNCHING FOR HEYWARD.

He Wants Special Laws to Stop It in South Carolina.

[BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.]

Columbia, S. C., Jan. 20.—The lynching of a negro near Reevesville, Dorchester County, about a week ago, resulted to-day in Governor Heyward sending a special message to the General Assembly urging the enactment of special legislation in reference to lynching. He recommends that the great responsibility of officials directly charged with enforcing the law be brought home to them, and that more effective measures be taken for the apprehension of persons who take the law into their own hands. In lieu of such legislation he suggests that the Governor be provided with an adequate fund to suppress lynching.

ALMOST INCONCEIVABLE.

In Fact, Quite So—Not McGonigle's Feat, He Is Well Known—Johnson May Be.

[BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.]

El Paso, Tex., Jan. 20.—Clay McGonigle, world's champion "roper," won the roping contest here today, roping and tying his steer in twenty-four seconds. His record is nineteen seconds.

A negro cowboy, Frank Johnson, from a ranch near San Angelo, leaped from a horse to the back of a steer, rode the animal a hundred yards, alighted, grasped the steer by the horns, and, setting his teeth in the steer's nose, lifted both hands and threw the steer to the earth with his front teeth alone, a deed almost inconceivable.

PARKER NOT INVITED.

MAY NOT MEET BRYAN.

Latter to Speak at Holland Society Dinner—War Over Nebraskan.

William J. Bryan is to be one of the principal speakers at the dinner of the Holland Society at the Waldorf-Astoria to-night. Chief Judge Parker, of the Court of Appeals, whose boom for the Democratic Presidential nomination makes him a figure of national interest, is not likely to be at the dinner. The Bryan men who are going thought that Judge Parker had been invited by the dinner committee. It now turns out that he has not been asked by the committee, and if he attends the dinner at all it will be as the guest of a friend who may belong to the society. But Mr. Bryan will be there, if nothing happens. President Banta yesterday received the following telegram from the Nebraskan:

Will attend dinner on 21st. Subject, "Peace." Mrs. Bryan will accompany me.
WILLIAM J. BRYAN.

"If Judge Parker has been invited to the dinner I do not know it," said Theodore M. Banta last night to a Tribune reporter. "When the directors talked over the list of guests Mr. Parker's name was not brought up. Mr. Parker may be present as the guest of a friend, however. I am going to take two friends along with me, and any guest, without the knowledge of the dinner committee, can take a friend along. When I saw the announcement several days ago that Judge Parker would be at the dinner I took it for granted that one of the guests had invited him."

Ex-Mayor Van Wyck and ex-Judge Augustus Van Wyck are among the directors of the society. It is understood that they are secretly opposed to the Parker Presidential boom, and that when it was suggested some time ago that Judge Parker be invited it did not receive indorsement from the Van Wycks. The Van Wycks are not on good terms with ex-Senator Hill, and it is understood that they look on the Parker boom as a boom for the former Senator as well. This feeling of indifference toward the Parker boom is shared by other prominent members of the Holland Society who are identified with Tammany Hall.

Two of Judge Parker's Kingston neighbors are members of the Holland Society, and are likely to be at the dinner to-night. The judge may accompany one of them. They are Samuel D. Coykendall and Judge Clearwater. Mr. Banta says that Mr. Bryan was invited to speak at the dinner when the Nebraskan was travelling in Europe.

"We recognize Mr. Bryan as an advocate of peace among nations," said Mr. Banta yesterday. "In connection with the Hague Tribunal it occurred to us that one of the toasts should be 'Peace,' and Mr. Bryan was decided on to respond to it. I communicated with him while he was in Europe, and got his assent. When he reached New-York I saw him, and he told me again that he would try to arrange his engagements so that he could be at the dinner."

It looks as if Mr. Bryan's brand of "peace" is the kind that prevails after one of the combatants in a two-handed fight is disposed of for good and all. All the local independent Democratic newspapers declared war on him yesterday on account of his Lincoln Dollar Dinner speech on Monday night, in which he said:

> The Kansas City platform was sound in every plank, and the first act of the next Democratic convention should be to reaffirm it in its entirety, and its next act should be the addition of new planks in harmony with it and covering such new questions as demand consideration.

"The Brooklyn Eagle," which is committed to the Parker boom, said last night that Bryan's speech was a declaration of war from the Bryan men. Among other things said was this:

> It must be war to the knife and the knife to the hilt if the nominations to be made at St. Louis are not to be a mere and sheer formality, an overture to the chorus of disaster at the polls.

Meanwhile the Bryan men are smiling, and the boom of William R. Hearst seems to have longer and sturdier legs than the Parker men are inclined to admit.

When Mayor McClellan was asked yesterday how he stood on the Kansas City platform speech of Mr. Bryan he said:

"I am not in politics. I am attending to the business of the city."

NEW STATEHOOD ISSUE.

Quay's Oklahoma Bill Provides Unrestricted Suffrage for Negroes.

[FROM THE TRIBUNE BUREAU.]

Washington, Jan. 20.—Senator Quay's Statehood bill, offered yesterday, proposing to make Oklahoma and Indian Territory one State, contains a paragraph which has set the Statehood advocates to thinking. It may have the making of a new Statehood issue in Congress; perhaps, also, before the country.

The fifth section of Mr. Quay's bill provides "that said State (of Oklahoma) shall never enact any law restricting or abridging the right of suffrage on account of race, color or previous condition of servitude, nor shall any educational qualification ever be imposed on the right of suffrage."

It happens that Indian Territory, which Mr. Quay proposes to join in Statehood with Oklahoma, has a large population of negroes. Should the two Territories become a State with any such provision in the Constitution, it would be the negroes' paradise, and the negro vote would in all probability prove a tremendous factor in the control of the new State. Furthermore, many of the people who have settled in Oklahoma and Indian Territory are of Southern extraction, and will fear negro domination.

Such suffrage provisions would preclude the enactment of such qualifications as many of the most enlightened States of the Union now enforce. Should a bill with these provisions be reported to the Senate, the attitude of the Democrats, all of whom are for Statehood, would be questionable.

ATTACK PANAMA TREATY.

DEMOCRATIC ATTITUDE.

Throwing Rocks at It, but Cannot Stop Its Ratification.

[FROM THE TRIBUNE BUREAU.]

Washington, Jan. 20.—"I shall make no set speech on the Panama treaty, but I shall sit in the Senate and throw rocks at it as it passes by," said Senator Tillman to-day, and that expression characterizes the attitude of the Democratic Senators toward the convention. Asked if he thought the treaty would be ratified, Mr. Tillman said: "That seems to be the general impression about here. There seems to be no way of stopping it." The Democratic opposition has degenerated from debate to systematic mud and rock throwing.

Senator Morgan, who has yet to learn that consideration of the Nicaragua route is a matter of ancient history, undertook a new line of attack to-day by introducing a bill providing for the annexation of Panama. It is needless to say that the measure is not introduced in good faith. It is merely intended to convey to certain ill informed persons the idea that the Senate is considering such a proposition, and may have that effect in some sections, as there are many people who do not realize how inconsequential a matter is the introduction of a bill in Congress. The bill will also give Mr. Morgan an opportunity to "submit a few remarks," he having given notice of his intention to do so to-morrow.

Senator Gorman and his fellow committeemen were unable to draft a sufficiently adroit set of resolutions this morning, and the caucus has been indefinitely postponed, pending the completion of the committee's arduous labors. It is hoped by the Democrats that this set of resolutions will prove a particularly ugly rock to hurl at the convention, but the Republicans refuse to become frightened at the prospect.

ALL FALSE, SAYS VARILLA.

Charges Against Panama Minister Echoes of Old Calumnies.

[FROM THE TRIBUNE BUREAU.]

Washington, Jan. 20.—Minister Bunau-Varilla of Panama, when asked to-night by a representative of The Tribune as to the truth or falsehood of the charges against him which have recently been published in this country, said:

> All the slanders actually published in Paris, and which have been echoed by some American newspapers, are themselves the echoes of some of the calumnies which have been during many years the missives with which Frenchmen unworthy of that name have attacked all those who serve Panama.
>
> Is it necessary to recall that even President Loubet has been attacked by these vile methods for having tried to protect the great French interests? The horde of calumniators who have tried to kill Panama are the same men who, in an outburst of hypocritical patrotism, are denouncing those who have saved the republic from the death expected and prepared for it. They are training their fire on the men who have consecrated their lives and energies to saving the great conception of De Lesseps from an ignoble death. Nothing can fill me with greater pride than to see myself exposed to their impotent wrath.
>
> I have been so much exposed to calumny in my long fight against ignorance and falsehood that I feel myself immune against their attacks. I only regret that reliable newspapers in the heat of the Panama fight should make themselves transmitters of such falsehoods. I shall not attempt to answer them, but leave them to the mercy of their own consciences to reconcile their course after the heat of a partisan fight has passed.
>
> With reference to my resignation, I have only to say that I have served the Republic of Panama in a diplomatic capacity because its interests were coincident with the Panama Canal, and when the salvation of the Panama Canal is assured by the ratification of the pending treaty there will be no reason for my further representing the Republic of Panama. This has been understood from the start. Once the treaty has been ratified my task will be completed, my end accomplished. I will have fulfilled the pledge I made to myself twenty-three years ago in the Ecole Polytechnique at the conclusion of a lecture delivered by De Lesseps himself. I shall have remained faithful to the motto of that great scientific school, "For the country, for science and for glory."

Minister Varilla positively declined to discuss the allegations against him in detail, merely replying to every question that they were a tissue of falsehoods.

TO DROP AMENDMENTS.

Assurances from Panama Render Treaty Changes Unnecessary.

Washington, Jan. 20.—It has been practically determined to drop all the amendments to the Panama treaty. Assurances have been received from Panama conceding that the treaty will be interpreted as the amendments provide in regard to the harbors, sanitation and the limitation of the cities of Panama and Colon.

President Roosevelt and Senator Aldrich had a long conference to-day on the status of the treaty. The President is taking occasion to discuss the treaty with Republican Senators, with a view to early ratification. It is understood that he talked on this subject with Senator Hanna, chairman of the Committee on Interoceanic Canals, at the dinner given last night to the President and the Cabinet by Postmaster General Payne. It is the earnest desire of the administration that the treaty be ratified without amendment.

DEBATE IN SENATE.

Democratic Opposition Due to Favor for Nicaragua, Says Mr. Platt.

Washington, Jan. 20.—In the Senate to-day Mr. Patterson, of Colorado, completed and Mr. Platt, of Connecticut, began a speech on the Panama Canal question. Mr. Patterson declared that the President was largely responsible for the revolt in Panama and announced his decided preference for the Nicaragua route.

Mr. Platt said the assaults on the President had been a mystery to him. Often these attacks had been in decent English, but some of them had been brutal. Mr. Patterson's speech, however, had relieved the attacks of their mystery, for he and Mr. Carmack had shown that the purpose was to force the construction of the canal by the Nicaragua rather than the Panama route, the former being the route of the Democratic party. For himself, he was glad that the mystery of the Democratic opposition had been cleared away.

Mr. Platt then argued in support of the course of the administration in Panama. He declared that the Democrats lost sight of the fact that Panama's independence was an established fact, recognized not only by the United States, but by all the great nations of the earth, and if the United States had violated international law, so had Great Britain, Germany and France.

He invited Mr. Patterson to introduce a resolution directing the President to withdraw United States ships from isthmian waters. He did not believe any Senator would raise such a question. He spoke of the United States as the trustee of the commercial nations of the world