



WEAVER WINS HIS FIGHT MACHINE IN UTTER ROUT.

Gas People Withdraw Offer—No Talk of Reprisals.

[BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.] Philadelphia, May 27.—Surrender, complete and unconditional, such as Grant demanded from Buckner at Fort Donelson, brings to a close one of the most momentous battles ever waged between citizenship and an arrogant political organization in any municipality in this country. The gas officials have withdrawn the proposed lease and the organization has abandoned the plan to force it through. The ring has abandoned every standard. With colors lowered, defeated and also disgraced, the machine of this city to-night is a broken and inert thing. Whether there is any resiliency, whether there is any latent recuperative power, remains to be seen. To-night it is inanimate. Gone is all talk of passing the gas lease over the Mayor's veto. Gone is the talk of punishing those who broke away from the organization. Gone is the talk of retaliation on the Mayor. The organization leaders have forsaken every stand that they took so gaily when the Mayor threw down the gauntlet of battle. A courageous and militant citizenship is triumphant. The city has won a victory worthy of its traditions. The fight all went out of the organization leaders to-day. The mass meeting to endorse the stand of Mayor Weaver had much to do with it. The ringing resolutions adopted struck terror to the hearts of the machine managers. The revolt of the people was not theoretical, but practical. Meetings addressed by business men of standing were held on many street corners. Councilmen who talked of supporting the lease were waited on by delegations who demanded that they recant. If they failed to give such assurances they were shunned socially, boycotted in a business sense and made pariahs among their fellows. The newspapers poured round after round of hot shot into the ranks of the enemy. For the last forty hours the lines have been wavering, and this afternoon the battle turned into an absolute rout. One of the most remarkable suggestions of the struggle came from organization headquarters. This was that Mayor Weaver should be impeached. When he removed Costello and Smyth the organization leaders were loud in denunciation and said that Weaver should be impeached. The lawyers tried to the ring gathered around a table in Senator Penrose's office and discussed plans for impeaching Weaver. They had, however, to finally subscribe to the sentiment expressed by Edmund Burke when he said: "I do not know the method of drawing up an indictment against a whole people." The first absolute sign of disintegration among the organization's forces came this morning. The leaders had been declaring confidently that there would be a "snag" meeting of the Council on Monday and that the lease would be passed over the Mayor's veto. They had talked of impeaching the Mayor and of disciplining those who had been weak enough to break away from the ring's mandates. A hurried meeting was called in the office of Senator Penrose this morning. At this meeting, aside from Senator Penrose, were Commissioner Durham, Senator McNichol, David Martin, President Dolan of the United Gas Improvement Company, Commissioner Potter, Dounellman Seger and others. At 2 o'clock President Dolan issued a statement. It was a formal notice of complete surrender on the part of the gas officials and the machine leaders. This statement was in the nature of a letter to the president of the Select Council and the president of the Common Council. In it Mr. Dolan said: "The manner in which the whole subject has been treated induces the United Gas Improvement Company to believe that the community is opposed to any extension of the gas lease upon the terms of the gas works to the United Gas Improvement Company. This being so, this company is unwilling to accept the ordinance which has been passed or to enter into any contract whatever with the city looking to any variation of the terms of the present lease. The United Gas Improvement Company, therefore, begs respectfully to advise Councils that for the reasons stated above, should the pending ordinance become a law, it will not be accepted by it. On May 18, 1905, Councils passed an ordinance extending by fifty-three years the term of the lease of the gas works to the United Gas Improvement Company, which fixed the price of gas at \$1 for five years, 95 cents for ten years, 85 cents for fifteen years, 80 cents for twenty years and 80 cents thereafter, and provided for the payment to the city of Philadelphia of an advance, without interest, for the sum of \$25,000,000. Though this ordinance was not in full accord with the letter of this company of the 20th of April, 1905, addressed to the chairman of the sub-committee of the Finance Committee, the modification would have been accepted by this company. This proposition was a plain business one. In the opinion of this company it was one the city could and should accept. Among the reasons in support of this being so, are the following: According to the reports filed with the City Controller each year, and audited by this department, the amounts expended by the United Gas Improvement Company in additions, extensions, improvements, etc., under the lease have averaged \$1,498,000 per annum. Assume that the average for the future will be \$900,000 per annum, the total for the period of the whole term as extended would be \$90,000,000, plus the amount now due this company of \$14,863,881.48, making a total of \$74,863,881.48. Mr. Dolan presents other figures to show that, including the company's payment of \$25,000,000 and interest thereon, free gas to public buildings and street lamps, etc., the city would net \$437,281,227.48 in the ensuing seventy-five years. Continuing, he says: "While, of course, the city would not be a gainer by any decrease in the cost of production of gas, on the other hand it would be relieved of all risk of advance in the price of materials entering into the manufacture of gas, such as coal, oil, etc., all of which are increasing in cost, and of all other risks incident to the conduct of the gas business, such as competition from electricity and possible future discoveries in the art of illumination. It would also be relieved of the present necessity of borrowing money for the city improvements now under way and contemplated, and the consequent increase in tax rate to meet the interest and sinking fund requirements. This proposition, as with all business propositions in which the public are involved, was, of course, a proper subject for public consideration and discussion. Instead of the proposition being discussed as a business one from the standpoint of facts open to those who cared to investigate and discuss the subject, there has been little but bitter denunciation. BATTLE NOT OVER YET. The withdrawal of the United Gas Improvement Company's offer is undoubtedly a signal victory for Mayor Weaver in his fight with the "organization," though it does not mean the end of the battle. The injunction proceedings brought by David Smyth, former Director of Public Safety, and Peter E. Costello, former Director of Public Works, against Mayor Weaver and his successors, Colonel Sheldon Potter and A. Lincoln Acker, to restrain the Mayor's appointees from conducting the affairs of the two

LONGER TERM FOR MAYOR. ALDERMEN'S POWER GONE

Important City Measures Signed—Bronx Sewer Assured.

[BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.] Albany, May 27.—The next Mayor, Controller and Borough Presidents of New-York City will serve for four years, and the next Board of Aldermen will find little chance for franchise hold-ups, for Governor Higgins to-day signed the bill increasing to four years the term of the above named city officials and that placing in the hands of the Board of Estimate and Apportionment control over public franchises in New-York City. The former of these two measures has been approved by a number of independent civic bodies. It restores the term to the length fixed by the original charter, under which Van Wyck was the first Mayor. The latter bill will instantly meet the situation existing in relation to the New-York and Port Chester Railroad, which has possessed the necessary qualification, except that of the permission of the aldermen to cross city streets for building its line. The signing of the bill to-day will go far toward counteracting the effect of the victory scored by the New-York and West Chester Railroad in the refusal of the Attorney General to permit an attack on the charter of this road as non-existent, as under the new law this question can be promptly put up to the Board of Estimate and Apportionment. The opposition of the aldermen and the merits of the measure were discussed at a public hearing before the Governor on Thursday, when ex-Secretary Elihu Root and Edward M. Shepard spoke in favor of the bill. The Governor also signed Assemblyman Rieby's bill creating a commission of one member each from Yonkers, Mount Vernon and White Plains to provide for the construction of a \$2,000,000 trunk sewer through the Bronx Valley, emptying into the Hudson, to prevent the pollution of the streams of Westchester County; and Senator Sax's bill, increasing the penalties for violating the Election laws, and, especially, making it a felony to enroll with two parties at the same time. The Bronx Valley sewer is to be seventeen miles long, and will be the largest public improvement ever attempted in Westchester County. It will drain the entire territory from White Plains to Mount Vernon, including the Seventh Ward of Yonkers, and then, passing under the city of Yonkers by means of a tunnel, have its outlet in the Hudson River at the lower boundary line of the city of Yonkers. The board of commissioners is composed of John E. Andrus, Mayor of Yonkers; William Archer of Mount Vernon, and John J. Brown, president of the village of White Plains. The bill stipulates that the sewer must be completed in three years. Otherwise its management will revert to the Board of Supervisors of Westchester County. ALDERMEN THREATEN. Angry at Pennsylvania—Murphy To Be Reckoned With. Alderman Reginald S. Doull, one of the Tammany "Big Three" in the board, says that the aldermen will fight the law curtailing their powers signed by Governor Higgins yesterday. Alderman "Little Tim" Sullivan is not in favor of obstructing the building of further subways, and if the Rapid Transit Commission, in order to be on the safe side, sends the next route or contract to the board it is altogether likely that the aldermen will board it, and in this way relieve the interested parties from testing the legality of the Eisberg law. But the aldermen are angry at the Pennsylvania company and are ready to declare war on it at every turn. "If the Pennsylvania," said Alderman Doull yesterday, "was seeking to hold up every railroad franchise now pending it could not have proceeded with any more certainty of accomplishing its desire than the Board of Aldermen in their title to a four-year occupancy of the City Hall. Mr. Murphy has been treated with great consideration by the Pennsylvania Railroad. The Board of Aldermen made it perfectly plain to the business interests of the city that it was not going to do any business unless properly "recognized" by the company. Mr. Murphy was "recognized" by the aldermen started in with almost precisely similar tactics when the tunnel franchise reached them. Public sentiment compelled action on that franchise. If the aldermen go out of their way to perform the highwayman role, it is going to provoke a lot of questions with reference to motive. Messrs. Sullivan, McCall and Doull are vociferous as to their fighting plans, but the Tammany judges who think things over more carefully have not "tipped off" Mr. Murphy on the right course to pursue, and until they do the prediction of the aldermen as to what will happen is of little consequence. It is understood that ex-Judge John F. Dillon and L. Laflin Kellogg will at the first opportunity raise the point of constitutionality. But it costs money to hire distinguished counsel, and the aldermen are not likely to keep up that kind of a campaign for any considerable length of time. LAW DELAYED FOR CROPS. Whitecap Cases in Mississippi Put Off Till Cotton Is Gathered. [BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.] New-Orleans, May 27.—Judge Wilkinson, of the Federal Circuit Court, to-day announced that he would postpone the cases of the four hundred alleged whitecap cases until the cotton crop was in. In making the announcement he said that nearly all the men indicted are planters, and that to require their presence in Jackson at this time would mean that the cotton in that part of the State would be made a complete failure. The impression is strong throughout Mississippi that the whitecap cases will never be brought to trial, as the members of the various bands of the State seem to be thoroughly frightened. No outrages have been reported since the federal grand jury brought in the indictments. REBELLION IN CRETE. Three French Warships Held in Readiness to Sail. Toulon, May 27.—The destroyers Tourmente and Chevalier and the cruiser Kléber have been ordered to prepare to start for Crete because of the troubles arising from an attempt to form a union of Crete with Greece.



LOCATION OF TSU ISLANDS, WHERE GREAT NAVAL BATTLE MAY HAVE BEEN FOUGHT. The star indicates the reported position of Rojestvensky's fleet yesterday noon.

BATTLE FOR CONTROL OF SEA. WORLD AWAITING NEWS OF A DECISIVE STRUGGLE IN THE COREAN STRAITS.

"Historic Events" Reported from Tokio, but Details of Action Withheld—Russian Fleet in Two Columns.

Tokio, May 27, 9 p. m.—Transmissible information concerning to-day's historic events in the neighborhood of the Tsu Islands is limited to the bare fact that Admiral Rojestvensky's main fleet, steaming in two columns, with the battleships on the starboard and the cruisers and monitors on the port side, appeared in the Straits of Corea. All other information is withheld by the Japanese authorities, and cable transmission of any other reference to the movements of the Russian fleet or the movements of the Japanese is refused. ARMIES AWAIT RESULT. MAIN FLEET IN STRAITS. Hostilities Almost Suspended Pending Outcome on Sea. The Russians Sighted—News Promised "in Good Time." Tokio, May 27, 4:30 p. m.—All Tokio is eagerly awaiting advices of an engagement between the naval forces of Admiral Togo and Rear Admiral Rojestvensky. It is believed that the fleet of Russian vessels seen on May 24 at Saddle Islands comprised the main fighting strength of Admiral Rojestvensky's forces. The Russians bravely headed for the Tsu Islands, and were sighted in the Straits to-day. The fact that Rear Admiral Rojestvensky appears to have used the Formosan Channel has created surprise. It was generally expected that he would pursue a course eastward of Formosa. This increases the belief that the Russians are anxious to give battle. The Navy Department refrains from confirming or denying any of the score of reports circulated through the capital to-day, and has promised to advise the public in good time of any developments. The people have received the news of the prospective fight with elation, so great is their confidence in the prowess of Admiral Togo. While it is thought a portion of the Russian fleet is certain to reach Vladivostok it is believed that Admiral Togo is bound to cripple seriously the main fighting ships of his adversary. SANK AMERICAN VESSEL. Russian Sailed to Have Destroyed Steamer Off Formosa. Tokio, May 28, 9 a. m.—News has been received that Admiral Rojestvensky's fleet sank an American steamer off Formosa about May 21. The name of the steamer is unknown. Her crew was saved. AID FROM VLADIVOSTOK. Cruisers Acting with Rojestvensky—Rejoicing in Russia. St. Petersburg, May 28.—The Russian Foreign Office and the Admiralty thus far have been entirely dependent on dispatches from Tokio for news concerning the movements of the warships in the Korean Straits, and up to midnight were in receipt of no telegrams from the Russian fleet. The Associated Press is able to announce that the Vladivostok cruisers have left that port, and are now acting in general co-operation with Vice-Admiral Rojestvensky under plans prepared for the present emergency. Captain Broussikoff, who is well known in the United States, commands the armored cruiser Grozny. Vice-Admiral Rojestvensky's success in reaching the Korean Straits, the gateway to Vladivostok, has aroused something like genuine enthusiasm. The showy Russian capital on the banks of the Neva, arrayed in gala attire and illuminated in honor of the anniversary of the coronation of Emperor Nicholas, seemed decorated for the occasion. For once St. Petersburg was not pessimistic. Everywhere the report current that Rojestvensky had defeated Togo was accepted as true, and in the streets the Russian Admiral's name was on every lip. In the cafes and gardens he was toasted as the hero of the hour. Yet St. Petersburg had only the advices from Tokio. The authorities, however, while elated over the news, indulged in no unwarranted rejoicing, but instead awaited almost breathlessly further news. The lights in the Admiralty Office burned far into the night, and the fact that no further dispatches had arrived from Tokio, where alone the secret of the situation is known, was considered reassuring. Admiral Wierinius, chief of the general staff of the navy, said: "If Rojestvensky has cleared the Korean Strait—God bless him!—he has open water ahead. If he has succeeded in mystifying the enemy and entered the Japan Sea with his force unpaired, he has earned the title of master of naval strategy. At Tsarkoe Selo, where it is realized the whole fortune of the war and possibly the fate of the dynasty is staked on the issue, the greatest anxiety prevailed. Emperor Nicholas received the news with satisfaction, but without elation, as an indication that Rojestvensky had outwitted his adversary and had cleared the difficult entrance to the Japan Sea. Throughout his majesty has displayed the greatest confidence in Rojestvensky's ability, but with the arrival of the decisive moment he showed nervousness and repeatedly had officials at court inquire of the Admiralty and the Foreign Office for dispatches. Captain von Essen believes that Rojestvensky's arrival in the Korean Strait is not an affair of mystification, but is due to the relative strength of the fleets. He expressed yesterday Bohn's Homeopathic Laxatives keep your liver and intestines active and insure perfect health."

"AUTO" RUNS OVER BOY. Lad, Playing in Front of His Home, Has Thigh Broken. Early last evening an automobile, operated by Charles Campbell, the sixteen-year-old son of Charles H. Campbell, a banker, living at 58th-st. and Broadway, ran over August Thode, ten years old, of No. 310 West 97th-st., as he was playing in front of his home. In the automobile were in front of his mother and Jean Stone, of No. 277 West 72d-st., the driver, who was teaching the boy how to operate the machine. The automobile swung east into 97th-st. from Riverside Drive at a good pace as the Thode boy ran across the street. It could not be stopped in time, and the heavy car passed over his thigh, breaking the bone. The injured boy was carried to his home, where Dr. Bred, of the J. Hood Wright Hospital, assured him that he would recover and that he would not be compelled to use crutches. Charles Campbell was placed under arrest, charged with assault.

MANY TORNADOES. Extensive Damage in Indian Territory—Communication Cut. Denison Tex., May 27.—The towns of Platt, Woodville, Call, Robert and Roberts, on the Frisco Railroad, in Indian Territory, were visited by a tornado early to-day. Only meagre advices are procurable, communication being cut off. A section foreman walked to Red River bridge and gave the first news of the storm. It is reported that nearly every house in Platt was blown down. One man was so badly hurt that he is not expected to live, and others were injured. The station was badly damaged. The storm cut a swath through the timber two hundred yards wide. The other towns named suffered injuries, but the force of the storm was spent when they were reached. From Anardarko, Okla., it is reported that a terrific storm struck Caddo County, wrecking many houses. Rock Island tracks were washed out and the large steel bridge recently built by the government near Mountain View is in danger. It is anchored by ropes. A section foreman near Kandit is spending the night in a tree, caught between washouts. Many houses and barns were struck by lightning and the Bonebrake Railroad Hardware store at Mountain View was damaged to the extent of \$10,000. Hundreds of acres of crops have been destroyed. A tornado struck three miles west of Cement, Okla., causing great loss, but no lives were reported lost. A cyclone was reported on Hog Creek which tore up timber, but did no other damage. FLOOD LOSS \$1,000,000. Boll Weevil Follows High Water in Southern Texas. [BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.] Galveston, Tex., May 27.—The first estimates of the river flood damages place the losses at slightly over \$1,000,000, and this is not the full extent of the damage. Corn and cotton are the principal sufferers along the Brazos and Trinity rivers. Direct losses to the corn crop so far reported will aggregate over \$300,000, and cotton has suffered \$700,000. These figures do not include farm property damaged nor losses suffered by the railroads. The cotton region south and east of Dallas was inundated for a mile from the river, and twenty-five thousand acres of cotton were destroyed. The corn crop was the finest for many years before the floods swept the fields. In the inundated districts boll weevils have appeared in vast swarms after the water receded, and in four counties the weevil made its first appearance this year after the flood. CITY SWEEP AWAY. Flood Destroys Historic Town of Tome, New-Mexico. [BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.] Denver, May 27.—The city of Tome, N. M., has been swept away by a flood. Tome was formerly capital of the Territory, and one of the oldest and most historic places in the Southwest. It was the scene of a terrible massacre of Spaniards by the Comanche Indians 100 years ago. Its annual fiesta, September 7, was celebrated by people who came from far and near to spend a week of merry-making with the natives. At one time there lived in Tome the flower of the Mexican aristocracy, the Baca, Castle, Otero, Chaves, Salazar, Luna, Romero, Jiminez, Waldona, Vallejo and Sanchez families, whose descendants are still leaders in Territorial business, society and politics. BROKEN NECK, WALKS. Painter Goes Mile and a Half After Fall. Chicago, May 27.—Benjamin Quiette, a painter, to-day fell from a building and broke his neck. He then walked a mile and a half to Lord Revelstoke, an English peer, who is the entire distance. His wife sent for the police ambulance and Quiette was taken to the county hospital. Physicians declared that his neck had been fractured at the fifth cervical vertebra. The man's injuries are expected to prove fatal. PEER TO WED AMERICAN. Lord Revelstoke Will Marry Mrs. C. D. Gibson's Sister. [BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.] Richmond, Va., May 27.—It is learned that Mrs. Annie Langhorne Shaw will be married soon to Lord Revelstoke, an English peer, who is connected with the London firm of Baring Brothers. The formal announcement has not been made as yet. Mrs. Shaw is a sister of Mrs. Charles Dana Gibson and a daughter of C. D. Langhorne. She was married to Robert G. Shaw, of Boston, and later secured a divorce.

LEG CRUSHED BY A CAR. Aged Musician Run Over While Dodging Automobiles. Levi B. Wilber, an aged violinist, of No. 69 West 168th-st., was seriously injured last night by being knocked down and run over by a northbound street car, at Central Park West and 168th-st. He was taken to the J. Hood Wright Hospital. When Wilber was crossing the street there were several automobiles and a southbound car approaching. He dodged between the machines and went around the car, but failed to see the northbound car, which struck him, and knocked him down. He fell so that the front wheels nearly amputated his right leg. When Wilber was excited he was unconscious. Patrick Heilhy, the motorman, was arrested.

YONKERS MENINGITIS PATIENT UNCONSCIOUS LONGER THAN PITTSBURG MAN. One of the most remarkable cases that has come before Yonkers physicians is that of Joseph Canepi, six years old, of No. 94 School-st. He was stricken with spinal meningitis on April 11, and since then has not been conscious. He has been fed through the nose. The case resembles that of Dr. Erwin Fischer, the Pittsburgh physician, who died a week ago after being unconscious nearly six weeks. He suffered from localized meningitis.

YOUNG ROEBLING FOUND. Searchers Discover Missing Lad in Knoxville, Tenn. Asheville, N. C., May 27.—John A. Roebling, father of Slegfried Roebling, who disappeared from his home here a week ago to-night, received a telegram dated Knoxville, Tenn., from Judge T. A. Jones, of this city, stating that the boy had been found by him there, and would be in Asheville Sunday. The boy was reported as being well. Mr. Roebling stated to-night that his son would not be required to go back to the Asheville school he left last Sunday.

ACCIDENT TO BROOKLYN FLORIST. Henry Wardorf, a florist, living in Knickerbocker-ave., Brooklyn, was taken to Bellevue early this morning with a fractured skull. Mr. Wardorf fell while entering the downtown subway station at 28th-st. and 4th-ave. He was found lying unconscious at the foot of the stairs by a passerby. DEWEY'S PURE WINES & GRAPE JUICE. Unequalled for the weak and overworked. H. T. Dewey & Sons Co., 128 Fulton St., New-York.—Adv't.

PAIN'S FIREWORKS FOR THE 4TH. Examine the stickless rockets and other novelties at Park Place, New-York.—Adv't.

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