

SESSION AT ALGECIRAS.

Contraband Trade Discussed—Draft of Agreement.

Algeciras, Jan. 20.—The committee on contraband of the Moroccan conference met again today. The principal points discussed were the question of the right of seizure by the Sultan or by authorized police, and of the authority of vessels carrying contraband to enter Moroccan harbors. The conference probably will accept the committee's report provisionally and lay it aside for final action.

The reform of the finances of Morocco will next be considered. Thus the conference for some time will dodge the question of the organization of the Moroccan police, which involves the vital issue between France and Germany.

The committee completed to-night the draft of an agreement which will be submitted to the conference Monday. The agreement, while temporarily solving this question, appears to be framed so as to defer the main issues between France and Germany.

The draft provides that the various powers pass laws prohibiting their citizens from exporting arms to Morocco and the coast patrol against contraband is restricted to Morocco's territorial waters, thus avoiding the search or seizure of vessels on the high seas.

It is apparent that the theory of the agreement is that Morocco will administer the coast patrol, but the draft does not state to whom this duty will be given, and therefore the delicate Franco-German controversy concerning whether France alone or all the powers will exercise surveillance is deferred until the question of police has been examined. Copies of the agreement are being printed for distribution to the delegates to-morrow preparatory to discussion on Monday. As Germany and France are both represented on the committee, the agreement of France to the draft seems to insure the acceptance of the plan by the conference. Both sides express outward satisfaction, the Germans appearing to consider this another step in deferring France's exercise of any special surveillance or authority in Morocco.

The earnestness of the Moroccan delegates on the need of foreign prevention of the contraband trade in arms amuses some members of the conference, as the son of Mohammed el Torres, head of the Moroccan mission, is said to have become rich by means of illicit traffic in arms, and several other persons of the Sultan's court are said to be engaged in this business. Smuggled cartridges are said to be sold regularly along the coast, and castiron rifles are specially made for the African trade at \$6 apiece.

FRENCH WAR BUDGET SHOWS KNOTS.

Paris, Jan. 20.—According to M. Klotz, reporter of the war budget in the Chamber of Deputies, the estimates for 1906 show an increase in the war expenditure of nearly \$6,800,000 over 1905.

GERMANY'S FOREIGN SECRETARY.

Berlin, Jan. 20.—Herr von Tschirschky, Prussian Minister to Hamburg, has been appointed German Secretary for Foreign Affairs, to succeed the late Baron von Richthofen.

Mr. Tower, the American Ambassador, has offered his condolences to the German government on the death of Baron von Richthofen.

A RUMOR AT MELLILA.

Malaga, Jan. 20.—The report is current at Mellila, the Spanish settlement on the north coast of Morocco, that the Moroccan gunboat Sid el Turki is preparing to bombard the Marchica factory, where the Belgian flag is floating.

ORDER FOR A RECOUNT.

Justice Acts in Up-State Case After Promise of Quo Warranto.

An order that is regarded as having an important bearing on all elections where the count has been disputed was handed down yesterday by Justice Kelly, in Brooklyn. The case before the court was the application of C. F. Beverford, of Pearl River, N. Y., who declares that he was elected a commissioner of highways, but that the vote was not properly canvassed, and that a recount would show this. Justice Kelly issued a writ of mandamus, requiring the board of canvassers to reconvene and recount the vote.

In his opinion, Justice Kelly declares that where, as in the present case, the applicant makes oath that he is the candidate of one of the political parties, alleges that the count was illegal, that this illegality deprived him of the certificate of election, and positively avers that he intends to institute quo warranto proceedings, he makes out a case entitling him to an inspection of the ballots under Section 111 of the Election Law.

PROMISE SUPPORT TO GOVERNOR.

The Queens County Republican organization met yesterday and adopted resolutions strongly praising the administration of Governor Higgins and promising him support.

"LINCOLN" TO BE PRODUCED SOON.

Beharals of "Lincoln," a character drama by Benjamin Chapin, are now in progress. The play is a development of an impersonation of Lincoln that Mr. Chapin has been presenting in lyceum churches, etc., for the last six years. He has devoted, he says, fourteen years to a continuous study of Lincoln, his mannerisms, habits, traits of character and career. His photographs in character certainly resemble Lincoln. The play, in four acts, takes place in the White House, excepting one scene in the War Office. The time is from 1851 to 1855, ending with Lincoln's last departure from the White House for Ford's Theatre. It will be presented for two weeks in New-England, and then brought to a Broadway theatre, New-York, early in March for a metropolitan verdict.

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BELLIGERENT CASTRO.

THE PORTS GARRISONED.

People Apparently Indifferent to Rupture with France.

Willemstad, Curacao, Jan. 20.—The Venezuelan government is actively engaged in garrisoning the ports of the republic and in furnishing supplies to the troops.

According to the advices received here, the public in Venezuela displayed the news of the rupture of diplomatic relations between Venezuela and France with the utmost indifference, but diplomatic circles at Caracas are indignant at the action of the Venezuelan government in not allowing M. Talguy, the retiring French chargé d'affaires, to return to the shore after he had gone aboard the French Line steamer Martinique at La Guayra on January 14 in order to obtain his correspondence.

The Venezuelan government is considering a plan to lay a cable between La Guayra and Porto Rico.

FRANCE SLOW TO ACT.

Blockade of Ports Not Approved by the Officials.

Paris, Jan. 20.—The apparent hesitation in France's decision relative to Venezuela appears to be prompted by the desire not to begin active measures without first taking the advice of the authorities at Washington. For this purpose Ambassador Jusserand has been fully instructed regarding his government's point of view, which he is laying before the American government. The officials here agree that France's action is somewhat hampered, owing to Venezuela's peculiar situation, the foreign claims on the customs being regarded as placing a blockade almost out of the question. It is feared that if France stopped commerce with the exterior President Castro would immediately seize this as a pretext for refusing to comply with Venezuela's obligations to other nations. It is admitted that preparations are being made to reinforce the French squadron, but the object of this step is still undefined. France's next move, it is believed, will depend on the result of M. Jusserand's conferences at Washington.

Ministerial circles this evening have no further information regarding the Venezuelan situation. M. Jusserand's report of the conference at Washington has not yet arrived here.

The semi-official "Temps" says it considers that the solution of the Venezuelan difficulty lies at Washington. France's best method of meeting President Castro's insults, according to the paper, would be to follow Great Britain's example toward Bolivia thirty years ago, in not noticing her affronts, "and simply regarding Venezuela as a land of savages, whose proceedings placed it outside of civilization." The "Temps" adds:

The material damage, however, remains to be repaired and considerable interests must be safeguarded. Owing to the difficulties which would be aroused with other powers by a blockade, the best means to adopt would be for the United States to assume financial control of Venezuela, thus assuring to America and other nations the reparation and satisfaction due them.

The French Cable Company has not had communication with Venezuela for two days, and does not know whether the rest of its agents have been expelled.

WARSHIPS HELD BACK.

State Department Will Not Add to Venezuelan Trouble.

Washington, Jan. 20.—If Ambassador Jusserand has disclosed to the State Department the plans of the French government respecting the treatment of the Venezuelan situation the department officials feel that they have no right to make these plans public, as they directly concern only France and Venezuela. There is reason to believe, however, that while M. Jusserand has talked freely with Secretary Root about the situation, they exchanging such information as each had, he has not yet been able to impart the French plans, and that for the good reason that the French government itself has not finally determined upon a line of action.

The State Department has found that it could reach Mr. Russell, the Minister at Caracas, from either Willemstad or Port-of-Spain, through a boat service maintained by the cable companies with La Guayra. Though this means of communication is cumbersome and exposed to great delay, it is thought better to follow it than to resort to the plan of sending one or more naval vessels to Venezuelan waters, which would add to the agitation and precipitate trouble.

Though promised for the early part of the present week, the report of Special Commissioner Catron upon the issues between Venezuela and this country has not reached the State Department.

MICHIGAN SOCIETY DINES.

Chicagoans Applaud Congressman Townsend's Remarks on Rates.

The members of the Michigan Society, of New-York held their annual dinner at the Waldorf-Astoria last night, more than three hundred guests being present. Josiah P. Newcomb, president of the society, acted as the toastmaster, the principal speakers being Congressman Charles E. Townsend, who talked on "Railroad Rate Legislation"; William McAndrew, who, in the absence of Congressman William Alden Smith, responded to the toast "Michigan"; John S. Wise, whose remarks were on "Vignin's Part in Michigan"; William A. Boland, who spoke about "The Future of Our Society"; and Alexander S. Bacon, whose subject was "Hurons in Political Reform." Will Carleton, the poet, read an original poem, written for the dinner. Congressman Townsend in his address said in part:

At Washington complaints innumerable are being received as to the heavy freight charges. It has come to be a great extent that the railroads say how the country shall develop, what cities shall grow and what cities shall stand still. Shall we, the Congressmen, obey the people? Shall we furnish them a jolt tribunal, to which complaints can be made and which shall execute justice and, after a full hearing, determine what is right? The railroad people tell us that the reduction of rates reduces the earnings of their railroads and thus robs the widows and orphans who own railroad stocks. This is not true. By giving fair and reasonable freight rates the business of the railroads would increase and their earnings multiply to an extent that would more than offset any losses through the reduction in rates.

Among Congressman Townsend's hearers were more than a hundred agents of big Chicago firms who are heavy shippers, and his remarks were vigorously applauded. Telegrams of regret were received from Governor Warner of Michigan and Governor Higgins of New-York.

DR. WILLIAM R. NEFFEL DIED.

Dr. William R. Netfel died yesterday at his home, No. 16 East 65th-st. Dr. Netfel was born in Riga, Russia, on September 22, 1830. He received his early education in his native city, and later studied medicine at the University of St. Petersburg. He married Nadine Princess of Georgia, and grand-daughter of the late King George III. He was appointed surgeon in the military hospital in St. Petersburg, and instructor in surgery in the Imperial Guards in the Crimean campaign. He was promoted to the rank of Major, and sent by the government, in 1860, for further research, to France, Germany and England.

Dr. Netfel came to the United States in 1855. He was a member of many medical and scientific societies, and added much to the knowledge and literature of pathology.

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THE NEW PARLIAMENT.

HOME RULE PREDICTED.

Labor Likely to Play a Leading Part in Legislation.

London, Jan. 20.—Within the last eight days the political map of the United Kingdom has been completely changed by the tide of Liberalism which now is higher than the most sanguine radical dared to predict or hope. The new Parliament will be overwhelmingly Liberal.

Up to this time the total number of members elected is 480, of whom 247 are Liberals, 114 Unionists, 40 Laborites, 78 Nationalists and 1 Socialist. This leaves 190 seats still vacant.

The Liberals thus far have gained no fewer than 177 seats, counting Labor gains as Liberal, and if the same proportion is kept up for the remaining 190 seats, the Liberals will have 407 votes in the next Parliament, to which may be added those of 42 Laborites, 1 Socialist and 83 Nationalists, which would give the Prime Minister, Sir Henry Campbell-Bannerman, 533 votes against 137 for the Conservatives. While this estimate is entirely speculative, it is not by any means impossible of realization, nor could it be more extraordinary or startling than the results of the last few days.

Ireland remains practically unchanged. The Nationalists have plucked one seat from the solid northeast corner. The Liberals have broken into the Tory stronghold of Scotland, with prospects of other remarkable successes, while, as already noted, the great fortresses of the Unionists during the last ten years have been razed before a storm of undreamed-of Liberal sentiment or of opposition to the Unionist policy.

With the exception of Birmingham, which is completely controlled by Joseph Chamberlain, all the great centres have shown a determination to change from the old order. Mr. Balfour will probably remain an outsider until he receives a chance in a bye-election, though possibly some safe Unionist seat may be relinquished in his favor before the end of next week. It is understood that several efforts in this direction have been made, but without success. Such reports as these, it is believed, are materially weakening the prestige of the accredited leader of the Unionist party. In the absence of Mr. Balfour, Joseph Chamberlain probably will take command in the next Parliament; at any rate he is now acknowledged to be the strong man and will have the greatest support of any man on the opposition benches.

The most remarkable feature of the elections thus far is the Labor members elected. The last Parliament had only seven Laborite members, while up to the present no fewer than forty of them have won seats, and it is not at all improbable that labor will have a representation of fifty members in the new Parliament. This undoubtedly will have a tremendous effect on future legislation in England, as the Laborites are almost certain to get the support of the Home Rulers on any reasonable measure introduced by them.

One of the most prominent politicians in England said to-day:

It is useless to minimize the present revolution, and we might as well begin to take a new view of the situation. In my opinion a Parliament sitting at Dublin may be looked for within the next two years. Assuredly, John Redmond, leader of the Nationalist party, and the Prime Minister have reached a working agreement, and it is inconceivable that Mr. Redmond would be content with anything less than an Irish Parliament. I have no idea that such a Parliament would mean separation and have good reasons to believe that a plan is now under consideration by which the religious question can be eliminated from the deliberations of such a Parliament, which would act under the imperial Parliament, and the experiment of administering Irish affairs can be tried, at least, under conditions which have changed in the last century.

The elections will be over before the end of next week, the last contest being set for January 26. But as far as the Liberal government is concerned, its life may now be measured not, as was predicted prior to the elections, by months or a few years, but by the limitations of the Septennial act.

Out of forty-one returns this morning, the Liberals took twenty-one seats, of which twelve were captured from the Unionists, including Woodstock, where the Marlborough influence did not suffice to stem the anti-Conservative flood. Among the Unionists who lost their seats is Sir William Hart-Dyke, Conservative, former member for the Dartford Division of Kent, who was President of the Council from 1887 to 1892.

Lieutenant Colonel Arthur H. Lee, Conservative, former Civil Lord of the Admiralty, who was British military attaché at Washington and later attaché with the American army in the Spanish-American War, was re-elected for the South, or Fareham Division of Hampshire, by a greatly reduced majority.

The former Secretary of State for the Home Department, Aretas Akers-Douglas, Conservative, was re-elected for the East, or St. Augustine's, Division of Kent.

Four additional returns, two Nationalists, a Unionist and a Liberal, were made this afternoon. The Nationalists won a seat at North Tyrone by the election of W. H. Dodd, K. C., against the Unionist candidate, Denis Henry, K. C. The seat formerly was held by a Liberal, the former Solicitor General for Ireland, Charles Hare Hemphill, who was elevated to the peerage.

M. O. SUPPORT FOR REFORM BILLS.

Independence League Approves Measures Introduced in Assembly by William Young.

The executive committee of the Independence League announced last night that at a meeting held at the Gilsey House it had approved the three reform bills introduced in the legislature by Assemblyman William Young, of the 21st District. The meeting was attended by Judge Seabury, J. G. Phelps Stokes, John Ford, Thomas Gilligan, Justice Palmeri, Melvin G. Falliser and Max F. Ihmsen. The first of the three seek to amend the greater New-York charter by establishing in the Bureau of Finance a bureau of municipal accounts and statistics. The measure is designed to furnish full city of New-York, whether performed by public or private agency. The bill confers on the Controller full authority for obtaining this information for the use of the public.

The second of the bills is also intended to amend the charter by providing for the condemnation of lands within the city, the acquisition of which is desirable for public health, convenience and economy. The third bill is to amend the constitution by allowing a city to own and operate its public utilities and restricting legislation as to public service in cities.

Legitimate Enterprises

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The Orchestrelle advertisement featuring an illustration of the instrument and text describing its benefits for home entertainment. It includes a testimonial from a music lover and contact information for The Aeolian Co., Aeolian Hall, 362 Fifth Avenue, New York.

HONOR TO MR. GROUT.

He Tells of Injustice to Public Men at Montauk Dinner.

Ex-Controller Edward M. Grout declared last night at a dinner given in his honor by the Montauk Club, in Brooklyn, of which he is vice-president, that he was out of office and of political power, and that he intended to remain out. He silenced the stories that he was planning to become the Democratic leader of Brooklyn, and asserted that he had no further political ambition. It was a "family dinner," as ex-Lieutenant Governor Woodruff, the president of the club and the Republican leader of Kings County, who acted as toastmaster, called it. His political enemies, both in the Republican ranks and in the Democratic party, were there to do him honor on his retirement from public office. Among them were James Shevlin and Thomas F. Farrell, of the old Wiloughby Street guard, whom Controller Grout did everything in his power to rob of their political power when he was in the Controller's office. The speakers, in addition to Woodruff and Grout, were Justice Gaynor, Luke D. Stapleton, ex-Borough President J. Edward Swanstrom and Borough President Coler. Some two hundred members of the club and their friends were present.

Mr. Grout spoke in a confidential vein, evidently much moved by the warmth of the greeting accorded him. He spoke of what he said was the general tendency to criticize unjustly a man in public life, and referred to Chauncey M. Depew and David B. Hill as examples of men he thought had been unjustly criticized. He declared that he would never again go through such a trying experience as when he was reviled for taking the Tammany nomination for Mayor, two years ago, for all the public offices in the world. He continued:

I shall not forget so long as I live the situation in which I found myself, the bitterness of the bitterness of it, the disappointment, the inability to know who my friends were and who were my enemies. The experience, when on the outset I felt every party using terms of the utmost respect, and then turning on me—it was an experience I would not go through again for any office. Two years ago I went home feeling tired and time again as if I should like to throw myself down on the bed and cry like a boy. But I didn't cry; I fought, and I had the satisfaction after the election of the largest vote that was polled.

Justice Gaynor said that it was an honor indeed when a dinner was given to him as he laid down public office. "It is an honor seldom deserved, and, therefore, seldom bestowed," he added. "I said at a dinner when Mr. Grout went into office that what we needed was a man who was honest to the point of fanaticism. I knew from his record that he was absolutely honest. He says he is now going out of office and laying down his power. I go to remind him that the most powerful men in any community are not those in office, but in private life. "When we see our legislature in the hands of chairmen of committees that are paid by the various interests throughout the country, when we see the chairman of the insurance committee in our own State receiving probably \$25,000 a year from the insurance interests, and other chairmen getting money from other interests, I do take off my hat when a public servant, without regard to party—misérable, perhaps—does his duty in an honest manner. We often treat men in public life with injustice, but more often with as much justice as they deserve, because they don't deserve much."

Mr. Stapleton said that for one reason he was glad that Mr. Grout was no longer Controller, because since the first of January, his clients had had a much easier time in their dealings with the city. A place was reserved at the guests' table for Controller Metz, but he did not appear.

TO INVESTIGATE B. R. T. WRECK.

President Winter Says Company Did Not Burn Debris—Trackman Surrenders.

The Board of State Railroad Commissioners is to make a thorough investigation of Friday's wreck of the Lexington-ave. elevated train at Fulton and Chestnut sts., Brooklyn. The inquiry will begin to-morrow in the office of the railroad company, on Montague-st. Kenneth Baxter, the trackman, who it is charged caused the accident by withdrawing the spikes from the switch, surrendered yesterday morning to the police. He was held in \$5,000 bond for examination on February 12. George W. Duryea, the motorman of the train, was paroled for examination.

President Winter, of the Brooklyn Rapid Transit Company, disavowed yesterday all responsibility for the burning of the wreckage after the accident and also for the rough treatment of the newspaper reporters. He said the company had no desire to destroy evidence.

Advertisement for The New York Central Lines, highlighting the scenic beauty of Colorado, Utah, California, Oregon, and Washington, and the convenience of the Trans-Continental Routes.

Advertisement for The New York Central Lines, detailing office locations in New York City and Brooklyn, and providing information for passengers.

Advertisement for Bloodshed if Bill Had Passed, Says the Latter, featuring a testimonial from Governor Folk and Mayor Weaver regarding the proposed legislation.

Advertisement for Bohn's Laxatives, describing the benefits of the medicine for various ailments and providing contact information for the manufacturer.