ANOTHER APPEAL FROM CUBA.

RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED AT A MEETING IN HAVANA.

They Say Ruin and Desolation Will Result If Something Is Not Done Toward Tariff Concessions—Gen. Wood Says Situation Is Critical—Hearing Before the Ways and Means Committee.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 24.—Secretary Root to-day received a cable despatch from Gen. Wood at Havana, transmitting resolutions adopted at a meeting of the people of Havana, urging concessions to Cuba. Gen. Wood himself declares the situation to be critical and earnestly requests early and favorable action. The resolutions follow:

The people of Havana, represented in this act by all elements, consisting of delegates from the municipality, economic corporations, political parties, representatives of the press without difference of opinion or influence of party politics, are persuaded that ruin and desolation in the strongest sense of the words will be the result of the economic crisis which threatens the extinction of our sources of wealth, and that if something is not done to prevent its effects poverty will extend over the whole island and render useless all the efforts of the Government of the United States and the inhabitants of the island in the three years just passed to establish and maintain prosperity by assiduous labor.

Resolved—(1) That the representatives of the economic corporations at present in Washington do solicit of the President and Congress of the United States reciprocity based on ample concession.

(2) That this people feels itself threatened by the crisis brought on by the impossibility of selling at remunerative prices their principal products—sugar and tobacco—the exportation of which furnishes all available means to meet necessities.

(3) That the Government of the United States has the absolute control of this island, governs it and cannot, therefore, be indifferent to the destruction of its wealth; that the United States ought to protect Cuba and encourage its people in order to enable them to form of the future republic a stable government, promised to the world by the American nation.

(4) That on the Government of the United States depends in absolute the salvation of the wealth of Cuba, for, her production will be sure of a market if such reductions in tariffs are granted as are urged by the representatives of the economic corporations.

(5) That in just reciprocity there ought to be conceded to the United States a differential duty on their importations such as will guarantee that country absolute control of the Cuban market, sharing thereby the development of the island.

(6) That to the commissions of the corporations now in Washington is extended the most energetic and continued support.

In another cable despatch this resolution is indorsed by the merchants and manufacturers of Cienfuegos, who add that if concessions are delayed it will mean misery and entire ruin of the only sources of Cuban income.

James A. Post of New York, President of the National Refining Company, representing the independent sugar companies, appeared at the afternoon session of the Ways and Means committee in favor of a lower duty on sugar.

Mr. Post said Cuba could handle its sugar industry without importing any labor and would doubtless be glad to accept the immigration laws of the United States. Free sugar would mean refined sugar at three cents a pound to the consumer and the destruction of the Louisiana and the beet sugar industries. This statement was a surprise to the committee and he was requested to repeat it, which he did.

Former Representative Hawley of Texas made an eloquent appeal for the Cuban planters and the Americans who had invested their money in Cuban plantations. He advocated reciprocity from a political standpoint, saying that justice, sentiment and expediency demanded a reduction of the duty.

William Haywood, formerly United States Consul-General at Honolulu, presented to the Ways and Means Committee the protests of Hawaiian sugar planters against a reduction of the tariff on sugar from Cuba. A greater reduction than 10 per cent., he said, would destroy the sugar industry of Hawaii.

If Cuba needed charity, he said, Congress should give it to her, but not in the form of concessions to absentee landlords. If there was no other way than reducing the tariff, provision should be made for limiting the amount of Cuban sugar to come in under it at the amount of the present crop—850,000 tons. This would prevent the flooding of the American market.

N. H. Bradley, representing the sugar beet growers of Michigan, said the industry had enabled the farmers to pay off mortgages where they otherwise could not have done so. In the little town from which he came the farmers recently received $400,000 for their beet sugar. Mr. Bradley read a telegram he had received from J. D. Dumont, chairman of the Detroit Chamber of Commerce, which reads:

"Oscar Stillman has left for Cuba; sent by Havemeyer with orders to buy or get under option all lands available for cane-raising. Gentlemen can testify positively to that effect."

Heyward G. Leavitt, a sugar beet manufacturer of Nebraska, charged the Sugar Trust with corruption and fraud. "They are making misleading statements through a subsidized press," he declared bitterly, "and their argument is that every man has his price and that a man who cannot be bought is a fool. They have a corruption fund of $15,000,000. They are the most odious and infernal monopoly that ever cursed this or any other country." He also charged the trust with buying the Cuban sugar crop in advance, asserting that nearly all of this year's crop had been bought by their speculators.

Representatives of the Western and Northwestern States whose citizens are engaged in the development of the beet sugar industry had an informal meeting to-day and decided, in case the Committee on Ways and Means reported a reduction of the tariff on sugar from Cuba, to move an amendment in the House reducing to the same ratio the duty on refined sugar.

"We are determined on this course," said Representative Kahn of California. "It is a just rule that won't work both ways. And if the committee feels it incumbent to do something for the people of Cuba, we think the people of our own country should not be neglected. The sugar refinery representatives say that if a reduction is made in the duty on raw sugar, no benefit will place to the consumer. That is not a fair deal."

Some of the Senators and Representatives from Western beet sugar States are sneering upon those who are advocating tariff concessions to Cuba by threatening to urge favorable action on the Babcock tariff bill and the pending upon the free list of articles in which certain Eastern States are interested. More than one Senator also has suggested the plan of voting a specific sum of money out of the public treasury for the aid of the suffering Cubans if it is necessary, instead of benefiting them at the expense of the beet sugar producers. A prominent and influential Republican Senator, a member of the Finance Committee, was asked today by THE SUN correspondent if he would vote for a direct gift to Cuba as preferable to a reduction of duties as urged upon the United States. He replied:

"I should go gladly anywhere and vote for the money. Legislating as for the first time I don't expect to be called upon to vote for either."

Rear Admiral Sumner's Flag Secretary.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 24.—Lieut. Commdr. H. Barnes, now on duty in the Bureau of Navigation, has been selected by Rear Admiral Sumner to be his flag secretary on the South Atlantic naval station, in the capacity of which Admiral Sumner was recently assigned.

Movement of Naval Vessels.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 24.—The flagship Kearsarge (Rear Admiral Kempff) has arrived at Bahia, Japan, and the training ship Alert at Port Lyautey. The despatch boat Dolphin has sailed from San Juan to do surveying work, and the collier Hannibal, from Lambert's Point, Va., for Port Royal, S.C.

HOUSE DEMOCRATIC CAUCUS

Rejects Resolution Declaring Allegiance to Kansas City Platform.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 24.—The House Democrats at their caucus to-night adopted a compromise report from the Special Committee on Resolutions, to the effect that House Democrats had no business to draft platforms. The report was very conservative and conciliatory in its tone and was adopted by a vote of 120 to 5. Representative Henry of Texas went down with colors flying. He had presented a substitute resolution to the committee declaring lasting allegiance to the principles of the Kansas City platform, which was rejected by the committee. He presented to the caucus to-night a minority report containing his resolutions and made a stirring speech in their support.

Representative Richardson replied, counselling cautious and united action. A number of members sought to be heard, but the gag rule was applied after Mr. Wheeler of Kentucky had spoken, and the report of the committee was adopted as follows:

We are of opinion that, as the representatives of our various constituencies and as members of the caucus made up of such representatives, we have no power or authority to construct or promulgate a platform of principles for our party; that we cannot increase or minimize the binding effect of platforms of the party heretofore regularly made and adopted by the people in convention assembled for that purpose; that in the House of which we are members we should vigorously and aggressively battle for Democratic principles, and with equal vigor and aggressiveness we should oppose everything contrary, in substance or method, to those principles, and should meet each question as it arises with a full confidence and a solid and undivided front.

DEMOCRATS PUT ON RECORD.

Fifteen Vote for the Item for the Shelter of Troops in the Philippines.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 24.—The Urgent Deficiency Appropriation bill, which carried a total of $17,120,192, was passed by the House to-day without division, after Mr. Cannon (Rep., Ill.) in charge of the measure, had put the Democrats on record against the item of $500,000 for the shelter and protection of the troops in the Philippines. On this vote, however, Mr. Cummings of New York and Mr. Taylor of Alabama, who voted for the appropriation in Committee of the Whole, were joined by thirteen other Democrats, Messrs. Crowley of Illinois, Foster of Illinois, Fox of Mississippi, Gordon of Ohio, Kern of Illinois, Lindsay of New York, McCulloch of Arkansas, McRae of Arkansas, Mahoney of Illinois, Miers of Indiana, Norton of Ohio, Snook of Ohio, Williams of Illinois and Zenor of Indiana.

Mr. Richardson (Dem., Tenn.), the minority leader, sought to anticipate this by a motion to recommit the bill with instructions, and a motion to amend the amendment by requiring the President to make a detailed report of the manner in which the appropriation was expended, but was unsuccessful, these not being in order.

Mr. Richardson then moved to recommit the bill with instructions to the Committee on Appropriations to report it with the direction to the President inserted. This was defeated—yeas, 124; nays, 159. Mr. Cummings was the only Democrat voting no on this motion. The bill was then passed without division.

The House then passed seventy-three private pension bills and adjourned until Monday.

HOBSON NOT TO BE RETIRED

Naval Board Reports That He Is Physically Capable of Active Service.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 24.—Naval Constructor Richmond Pearson Hobson recently applied to the Navy Department for retirement from active service on account of the condition of his eyes, and he was examined yesterday by the Naval Retiring Board in this city. The board reported to the Department to-day that Mr. Hobson was physically capable of performing active service and recommended that he be assigned to duty. The Secretary of the Navy is without authority to overrule this report. Mr. Hobson is nominally on duty at Charleston, S. C., as the officer in charge of the naval exhibit at the Cotton States Exposition, and he will probably be directed to return there.

Mr. Hobson came to Washington from Charleston last week to file his application for retirement. To THE SUN reporter who saw him at that time he declined to say anything about a report that he intended to retire or resign from the service in order to enter politics, and another report that he would apply for a long leave of absence. He spoke then of the condition of his eyes, saying that he had suffered severely from them. The trouble started, he said, when he was a t Santiago engaged in the attempt to raise the sunken ships of Cervera's squadron, and it had grown worse from the glare of the water at Manila and Hong Kong, while he was raising and superintending the oevrhauling of the Spanish vessels sunk by Admiral Dewey.

DECIDES AGAINST THE HOUSE.

Sub-Committee Says Senate's Ratification of Commercial Treaties Is Sufficient.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 24.—A sub-committee of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee to which was referred the question whether or not the concurrence of the House in the pending reciprocity treaties be necessary to validate them, to-day agreed upon a report to the full committee in which it takes the ground that under the law ratification by the Senate alone is necessary.

The treaties in question are with France, the British West Indies, &c., and have been pending for nearly two years. The time within which they were to be ratified has twice been extended. Senator Cullom is in favor of ratification, but the majority of the Senate is not, and there is no likelihood that the treaties will be revived.

But the question before the Foreign Relations Committee is especially interesting in view of the eagerness of some of the Senators to have the recommendations of the President and the Secretary of War for tariff concessions for Cuba enacted whether the Ways and Means Committee, which now has the subject under investigation, shall report a bill or not. Some Senators go so far as to say that if the House does not act the Senate will settle the matter by negotiating a treaty with the new Cuban Government when it is inaugurated, thereby shutting the House out from any participation in the controversy.

Bills for Public Buildings.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 24.—The Senate Committee on Public Buildings and Grounds to-day authorized favorable reports on bills for the erection of public buildings as follows:

Batesburg, Mo., to cost $15,000; Atlanta (additional), Georgia; Tacoma, Wash., $100,000; Spokane, Wash., $100,000; Grand Forks, N. D., $100,000; Springfield, Ill. (additional), $150,000; San Francisco, Cal., to complete, $1,500,000.

The cost of each of the buildings at Aberdeen, S. D., was increased from $100,000 to $150,000; at Butte, Mont., from $100,000 to $150,000, and at Newport News, Va., from $100,000 to $150,000.

Proposed Age Limit for Officers in the Executive Service.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 24.—Representative Gillett of Massachusetts to-day introduced a bill providing that any office in the executive service of the United States being held by a person over 70 years of age shall thereupon vacate in those years, and that in the future no officer under the classified service shall become vacant when the person holding it becomes 70 years of age. No person more than 60 years of age is to be eligible to appointment.

Special Code for the Philippines.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 24.—Director of the Mint Roberts before the House Committee on Insular Affairs to-day recommended the coinage of a special coin for the Philippines, to be called a peso and to have a value of 50 cents in American money.

FIXING DATE OF ADJOURNMENT

SPEAKER NIXON THINKS IT WILL OCCUR BEFORE MARCH 20.

The Amended Bill Centralizing Control of State Hospitals in Albany Was Reported in the Assembly Yesterday—Some Doubt Exists as to Its Passage.

ALBANY, Jan. 24.—The fourth week of the session of the Legislature ended to-day without anything of importance having been done. To-day's session was the usual Friday morning affair, and in the Senate the attendance was so small that no one wanted to raise his voice for fear the echo would frighten him. From present appearance, the Legislators will get away earlier this year than in some years past, and beat the record for adjournment made in 1898, which was March 29. Speaker Nixon thinks the Legislature will adjourn on some day between March 15 and 20, and can see no reason why it should be otherwise. All of the measures which are known as the Governor's bills, with the exception of the bill abolishing the local boards of managers of the State charitable and reformatory institutions and centralizing the control of these institutions in the State Board of Charities, have been introduced. Hearings have been given on the bills taxing mortgages and foreign corporations and these measures are now being perfected and amendments considered, and the bills may be reported to the Senate some day next week.

In the Assembly to-day the amended bill abolishing the local boards of managers of the State hospitals was reported. The bill will be reprinted and will have to lie on the members' desk three days before it can come up for passage, which will be Thursday of next week. Despite the fact that the Republican majority is so great in the lower house, the bill is destined to have rough sledding in that branch of the Legislature and, as it has not been made a caucus measure, there will be a number of defections from the Republican ranks when the roll on final passage is called. The minority leaders think the bill, if passed, will be amended further, but this the Republican leaders deny, and say that the bill as now amended will be passed, and that they have met the opponents of the bill more than half way in their objections.

The canal situation is somewhat peculiar, owing to the fact that some of the members from the canal counties are opposed to the bill in its present form. The tributaries to the Erie Canal are not to be improved and the representatives from these counties do not support the bill in its present form. But the anti-canal members do not claim that the canal project can be defeated, but say that the canal men, if they get together, have a sufficient number of votes to pass the bill if they want to.

Assemblyman Dooling (Tam., N. Y.) introduced a bill which seeks to give the Tammany officeholders in New York city a chance to get back in their easy jobs in the event of Tammany securing control of New York city two years hence. Since the recent election the Tammany men who had to get out have been diligently studying the Charter passed by the last Legislature, and section 1543, which relates to removals from office, is known by heart by every Tammany officeholder. No hope from it is to be had as it reads at present. Although the section provides that if an officeholder is removed his name is to be placed on the civil service list and remain there for a year, that was no consolation to the disappointed grafters, for a new list is made up every year, and if they want to be on it they must pass another civil service examination. But to help them out Mr. Dooling amends the section by providing that the eligible list shall remain in effect three years instead of one, so that if Tammany gets back in power the men can step right into office. This is another bill that will not be heard of again this year.

Assemblyman Doughty (Rep., Nassau) introduced a bill which, while intended only for Long Island Sound and Hempstead Bay, will have a sweeping effect and will in a sense carry out recommendations made by Gov. Odell in his message. It prohibits the emptying of sludge or acids into any stream in which there is fish. Gov. Odell in treating of the Adirondack forest preserve called attention to the wisdom of a law prohibiting the operation of acid factories in the North Woods, and Mr. Doughty's bill carries out that recommendation. It would put the factories in the Adirondacks which manufacture wood alcohol out of business and would close up the American Sugar Company's cooperage works in the North Woods.

A bill introduced by Majority Leader Allds in the Assembly places the Capitol Commission in control of all furniture and personal property in the Capitol and which cannot be disposed of by the Superintendent of Public Buildings, except with the consent of the trustees. The bill was introduced at the instance of Supt. Bender, who had detected a department employee selling some furniture. The bill recalled instances of the past when prominent politicians secured handsome and costly carpets and furniture from the State at ridiculously small figures and also brings to mind a Speaker of the Assembly who some years ago boxed up his desk and the table used by him as Speaker. A member of the Assembly, also, several years ago was detected in boxing up the desk used by him to be shipped to his home.

A bill aimed at the New York, New Haven and Hartford Railroad was introduced to-day by Assemblyman Colby, at the request, he says, of several committees of citizens of New Rochelle. His bill prohibits the use of oil lamps in steam railroad cars and prohibits the use of furnaces or stoves in steam railroad cars for heating purposes. Under the Railroad law of to-day an exception is made in respect to foreign railroads operating not more than thirty miles of railroad in this State, and permits them to use stoves or furnaces in heating their cars. This exception, Mr. Colby says, is for the benefit of the New York, New Haven and Hartford Railroad, which uses stoves.

Assemblyman Adams introduced a bill designed to do away with the loop of the Brooklyn Heights Railroad in East New York, Brooklyn. The bill compels the railroad to carry passengers to the end of the road for a five-cent fare.

"Big Tim" Sullivan to-day put in in the Senate his pet measure of the past two sessions. It fixes the price of illuminating gas in New York city at 70 cents.

Assemblyman Fitzgerald (Tam., New York) caused some amusement to-day by introducing a bill abolishing the State Railroad Commission. Mr. Fitzgerald was so imbued with the absurdity of such a measure that he did not care to take the full responsibility of it, and therefore put on the bill "by request."

Assemblyman Morgan introduced a bill authorizing the Swedish Mutual Aid Society "Scandia" of New York city to do business as a coöperative or assessment insurance concern.

Assemblyman Prince introduced a bill compelling all street and elevated railroads in the State to issue half-fare tickets to school children, to be used going to and from school.

Woman Pays $100 to State Conscience Fund.

ALBANY, Jan. 24.—State Comptroller Miller to-day received a contribution to the State's "Conscience Fund." It came in a letter postmarked New York city and was in the form of an order for $100. The money was accompanied by a note saying that it rightfully belonged to the State. This signature was attached to the note: "An Honest Woman, per her husband."

DAIRYMAN ALMAN'S SECRET.

$100,000 Was Offered Him to Put Poison in President Lincoln's Cream.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 24.—Through the death in this city yesterday of James Alman, a wealthy and respected resident of Washington, the seal of silence has been removed from the lips of his friends and their disclosure of the dead man's well-guarded secret adds another and interesting chapter to the story of the plots which culminated in the assassination of Abraham Lincoln by John Wilkes Booth.

Thirty-six years ago Alman owned a dairy in Washington and President Lincoln was one of his customers. One morning in the early part of April, not quite two weeks before the President was assassinated, as Alman was going his rounds he was stopped by two men who asked if he didn't want to make $100,000. Alman thought at first that they were joking, but replied that he certainly did. Then one of the men asked Alman if he could keep a secret, and being answered in the affirmative drew close to Alman and said:

"Well, my man, here's $100,000 in good money. Every cent of it is yours if you will take this little box of powder and put it in the cream you serve to President Lincoln this morning. Pour out the cream in the measure and put this powder in it. Nobody will ever suspect anything, and the $100,000 is yours."

The man then displayed an immense roll of money, which he said amounted to $100,000, and offered it to the dairyman. But Alman refused to listen, and when the men tried to argue the matter with him he whipped up his horses and left them cursing in the middle of the street. Alman did not entirely lose the idea that the men had been trying to joke with him, despite their earnestness of manner, until he heard of the assassination of President Lincoln by Booth. Mr. Alman never had a doubt that the men who approached him were two of the fellow conspirators of Booth and Payne, and that only the failure of all plots to effect the death of Lincoln by hidden means had resulted in the tragedy in Ford's Theatre.

Plea for Pneumatic Tube Service.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 24.—A delegation representing the New York Merchants' Association, Produce Exchange, Maritime Exchange, Cotton Exchange, Board of Trade and Transportation, and the Brooklyn Manufacturers' Association of Brooklyn appeared before the Post Office committees of the House and Senate and presented arguments favoring the restoration of the pneumatic mail tube service in Greater New York. The service was suspended last July because Congress refused to continue the appropriation for its maintenance.

Naval Pay Clerk on Trial for Embezzlement.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 24.—The trial by court-martial of George F. Washburn, a pay-clerk of the United States Navy, began to-day at the Brooklyn navy yard. Washburn is charged with the embezzlement of $267 from the Government while serving at the New London naval station, and with attempting to cover up his alleged peculation by placing a roll of money in his safe while an inspecting officer was making an examination.

Army and Navy Orders.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 24.—These army orders have been issued:

Second Lieut. Rienaldo R. Wood, Seventeenth Infantry, detailed as an additional member of the General Court Martial at Madison Barracks.

A General Court Martial to meet at Fort Slocum, with the following detail: Major Zorah W. Torrey, Twenty-fourth Infantry, Capt. Charles C. Ballou, Twelfth Infantry, Capt. William E. Jones, Sixth Infantry, Capt. John S. Mallory, Fourth Infantry, Capt. Thomas M. Winston, Artillery Corps, Capt. C. P. Smith, Twentieth Infantry, First Lieut. Edward T. Dondero, Artillery Corps, Second Lieut. R. H. Jordan, Artillery Corps, and Capt. Samuel C. Vestal, Artillery Corps. Judge Advocate.

Second Lieut. Henry C. Jewett, Corps of Engineers, retired, as member and detailed as Judge Advocate of the General Court Martial at Washington Barracks, in place of First Lieut. Edmund M. Hoff, Corps of Engineers, relieved.

Leave for one month granted Capt. B. C. Clopton, Twenty-third Infantry, and Second Lieut. F. D. McIlhattan, Artillery Corps.

Second Lieut. James M. Petty, Twentieth Infantry, to Fort Myer for temporary duty and thence to Fort Slocum.

The resignation of Capt. Charles Mek Saltzman, Signal Corps, of his commission as First Lieutenant of cavalry, has been accepted.

The leave of absence granted Contract Surgeon Louis A. Thomas is extended two months.

Leave of absence granted Capt. William H. Abel, Twenty-third Infantry, is extended one month.

Leave for two months granted Capt. Jacob C. Johnson, Artillery Corps, and Second Lieut. Frederick Lucian Dodson, Twelfth Infantry, from duty in connection with the practice at Headquarters of the Army, has been granted.

The resignation of First Lieut. Dugald S. Lyon, Sixteenth Infantry, has been accepted.

The following assignments of officers of the Artillery Corps recently promoted are announced: Major Frank Taylor, Fifteenth Battery, to the Eighteenth Battery, vice Major Jacob A. Ochmann, promoted, to date from January 22, 1902; Capt. Charles Ulrich, Fifteenth Battery, to the Fifteenth Battery, vice Major Taylor, promoted, to date from January 22, 1902; Capt. Charles Ulrich, Fifteenth Battery, assigned to Seventh Battery, vice Capt. Charles Ulrich, Fifteenth Battery, promoted, to date from January 22, 1902; First Lieut. Frank Tompkins, Fifteenth Battery, assigned to Seventh Battery, vice Capt. Charles Ulrich, promoted, to date from January 22, 1902.

The following officers recently promoted are assigned to duty as follows: Major Frank Taylor, Fifteenth Battery, to the Fifteenth Battery, vice Major Jacob A. Ochmann, promoted, to date from January 22, 1902; Capt. Charles Ulrich, Fifteenth Battery, to the Fifteenth Battery, vice Major Taylor, promoted, to date from January 22, 1902; Capt. Charles Ulrich, Fifteenth Battery, to the Seventh Battery, vice Capt. Charles Ulrich, promoted, to date from January 22, 1902; First Lieut. Frank Tompkins, Fifteenth Battery, to the