FOR AND AGAINST EXCHANGES

REPUBLICAN CLUB'S LAST DISCUSSION OF THE SEASON.

Congressman Scott Says the Exchanges Are Distrusted, but Should Reform Themselves—Prof. Clark Agrees on the Latter Point—The Other Speakers.

Congressman Charles F. Scott of Kansas, chairman of the Committee on Agriculture, which has been investigating exchanges all over the country, said yesterday at the Republican Club's last luncheon discussion that it was up to members of the various exchanges against which accusations were being brought to get their houses in order. The subject under discussion was "How Can the Economic Features of the Speculative Exchanges Be Preserved and the Ethical Evils Eliminated?" The New Orleans Cotton Exchange, the Chicago Board of Trade and the New York Cotton and Produce Exchanges were represented among the speakers.

Congressman Scott opened the discussion by presenting figures to show that the maintenance of the exchanges costs the public annually. He figured the total cost at $180,000,000 yearly, of which only a small part would have to be expended apart from the speculative phase of their function.

He said that the ethical questions of manipulation had changed. David Harum had gone out of date and the old doctrine of "caveat emptor" with him. The public had a right to demand to-day, "Let the seller be honest," rather than abide by, "Let the buyer beware!"

"The Government spends large sums of money to see to it that the buyer of meat, groceries or drugs is not deceived. A child can go into your department stores and buy any commodity that he desires for exactly the same price that the shrewdest buyer could procure, but supposing your child went into your exchanges?"

Congressman Scott had his solution ready. "Gentlemen," he said, "it's up to you. If I were talking to all the members of the speculative exchanges in this country I would say to them, 'Set your house in order yourselves. You are the ones who can do it best.'"

President W. B. Thompson of the New Orleans Cotton Exchange declared that there were economic reasons necessitating speculative exchanges. While Mr. Thompson's remarks concerned cotton exchanges chiefly he thought that the fundamental principles were the same for all. He said that the increase in the cotton trade required a system embodying more than the so-called "spot trading" and led to future contracts. He thought that the "hedging facility" was the most important benefit from the future market. "Hedging," he said, "bears the same relation to the cotton trade that general insurance bears to general business. If future trading was abolished the protection afforded by the hedging process would be withdrawn, and if this protection was denied the cotton trader, the cotton trade and the product itself would suffer the same in essence, differing only in extent and degree, that the general business man would suffer if suddenly all underwriters were prohibited from issuing policies of insurance."

He admitted that excessive trading in futures depressed the actual value of a commodity. He believed that public opinion through the law could do much good, but he said, "the actual interference by the Government with the operations of powerfully organized interests which in Chicago enjoyed immunity from competition involves consequences worth serious consideration."

Vice-President J. C. F. Merrill of the Chicago Board of Trade defended his institution. He said that the root of the speculative evil lay back of the exchange. The prosperity of the farmers in recent years had led them to extravagance, extravagance manifests itself in increased speculation and the exchanges had only reflected this speculation; they had not been the authors of it. He said that speculators were bold prophets who anticipated human events and that the business of prophesying was one of the finest manifestations of the human intellect. "Of course manipulation is different," he said, "but on the Chicago Board of Trade it is impossible to make a single trade which is not actually performed with the commodities." He said that his institution had spent $100,000 in prosecuting bucketshops and generally cleaning things up.

Prof. John B. Clark of Columbia, a member of Gov. Hughes's commission, pointed out the difficulty of discriminating between the good and evil in speculation. He thought that the best result attained by the Government was in the nature of a threat which scared the exchanges into doing a little doctoring on their own initiative rather than be tampered with by outsiders.

Prof. Clark thought that the evils could best be remedied and the advantages retained from within the exchanges. He thought that corporations perhaps were to blame more than the exchanges for the evils existing. He said that most of the manipulation of the market was started in directors' meetings.

Vice-President A. R. Marsh spoke for the New York Cotton Exchange. "It is safe to say," he declared, "that 75 per cent. of all the trading done in our exchange has to do with the distribution of actual cotton. The sales are of actual existing goods.

"It was declared in Washington before Congressman Scott's commission that 16,000,000 bales of cotton were traded in on our exchange in a year when the total crop of the country for that year was only 13,800,000 bales. How could this be? they asked. The statement is true, but they misunderstand it on account of their mechanical idea of the situation. It is necessary and legitimate for merchants to hedge repeatedly on a given future purchase; it is safe to say that for every 1,000 bales the transactions amount to 10,000 bales because those same bales are repeatedly sold and resold. When one understands this fact the obsession based on arithmetic disappears. A danger arises in these matters from the fact that the first impulse of politicians and statesmen is to make a moral issue out of everything with which they have to deal. I for one do not object to this; it is one of the finest heritages of the English speaking people; but something must be known about the facts before moral accusations can be brought."

Mr. Marsh pointed out the supreme difficulty which obstructed the board of governors of the Cotton Exchange in disciplining their members, "for," said he, "the moment we attempt to restrain them in any way we subject ourselves to the anti-trust legislation, for the moment we try to discipline them we are restraining trade. A moral influence is the most that we can exert."

Assemblyman Frederick E. Doombs and Welding Ring, president of the New York Produce Exchange, also spoke.

Well to Do Italian Threatened

ASBURY PARK, N. J., March 26.—Henry Benvango, who owns many houses here and is believed to be worth more than $100,000, has received a number of threatening letters which he has put in the hands of his lawyers. He received the first letter early in January, demanding $1,000 on pain of death. Benvango suspects certain Italians in the vicinity. He has New York detectives on their track. He has slept under guard for the last few months and made his persecution public for the first time to-day.

PERMANENT RECEIVER.

For the Jucaro and Moron Sugar and Land Company.

Vice-Chancellor Howell in Newark yesterday made permanent the appointment of Chauncey G. Parker as receiver of the Jucaro and Moron Sugar and Land Company, operating sugar plantations in the Province of Moron, Cuba. Disclosure was made at the hearing of alleged stock juggling on the part of some of the directors and officers of the Trust Company of Cuba, a Havana concern, to swindle the Pratt Engineering and Machine Company of Atlanta, Ga., as it is alleged, out of $200,000 worth of bonds.

The sugar and land company was organized in New Jersey, and it issued bonds for $2,000,000. It bought three plantations and a railroad with the funds realized.

In his opinion the Vice-Chancellor said that the company had stripped itself of all its property, has ceased to transact the business for which it was organized and is practically without funds. He said that he had not entered sufficiently into the merits of the case in the present proceedings to make any finding with respect to the charge against the officers and directors of malfeasance in office, but agrees that the standing of the Pratt company is sufficient to entitle it to an adjudication of insolvency.

When the bond issue of the sugar and land company was made the firm to protect the bondholders took a mortgage on the property of the concern, which was given to the Colonial Trust Company of Philadelphia. By the agreement this company later resigned in favor of the Trust Company of Cuba, which has offices in Havana. The Pratt company later took $200,000 worth of bonds as part of its pay for building a large mill, and when the interest on these bonds was not paid an investigation of the company was started.

By this investigation it was disclosed, it was alleged, that members of the Cuba Trust Company interested in the Jucaro company organized the Jagueyal Sugar Company of Cuba and obtained a twenty-five year lease from the Jucaro company on all the property. One of the agreements was that the moneys accruing from such lease should be devoted to the payment of the Jucaro company's debts to the Cuba Trust Company.

The Pratt company threatened to foreclose the mortgage, but it was learned that the Cuban financiers had obtained enough of the bonds to prevent this. Proceedings were then started in Newark in which it was asked for the appointment of a temporary receiver for the purpose of seizing all the property of the concern in New Jersey. Bonds worth $30,000 were found, but they had been transferred before the action was begun.

A denial was entered by the defendants of the Cuba company of the allegations of the Pratt company. They claim that the whole affair originated out of their refusal to allow the company to build the mill spoken of.

It is not known what action the receiver will take to recover the assets, as there are none in this country. It is said that the Cuba company will start suit to force the Pratt concern to return the 200 bonds they hold.

HAD THE LOOT WITH THEM.

Two Men With Plunder From New Jersey Picked Up in Brooklyn.

Detectives Murphy, Ruddy and Van Wagner of the Central Office in Brooklyn yesterday morning stopped two shabbily dressed men on Court street near State who had two big suit cases and two bundles in their possession and took them to Police Headquarters. The suit cases and bundles contained a big assortment of silverware, ornamental clocks and bric-a-brac, valued at about $1,000.

The prisoners said they were Oliver Lake, 25 years old, of 184 Handy street, New Brunswick, N. J., and Thomas Reilly, 41 years old, of 331 East Ninety-first street, Manhattan. Lake admitted that all the stuff in his possession was the proceeds of a robbery at Maywood, N. J. He said that while in that town on Thursday night last he went to sleep in a big vacant house and on the following morning departed for Manhattan, carrying off some of the plunder in his pockets. He returned, he said, with the two suit cases, and packing them with silverware, returned to Manhattan. He said that Reilly took no part in the robbery and that he merely got him to help bring the stuff over to Brooklyn, where he expected to sell it. Lake said that he did not know the name of the owner of the looted house at Maywood, but thought it might be Price, as he saw that name on letters in the house.

The prisoners will be handed over to the New Jersey authorities. Most of the silverware bore the initials E. P. P.

CABLE MATCH IN MODEL FLYING

British and American Boys to Compete in Aeroplane Contest.

An event in juvenile aeronautics is to be an international meet between the boys of this country and Great Britain. By a series of elimination contests five boys will be selected as an all-American team to compete with five boys selected from Great Britain. A. E. Horn, teacher of physics of Public School 77, who introduced aeronautics in the schools of New York, will conduct the flights in this country, and Lady O'Hagan, director of the Aeronautical League of Great Britain, will be in charge of the flights on the other side. On the day of the tournament the results will be cabled back and forth.

Twenty-two boys with model aeroplanes competed at the Twenty-second Regiment Armory yesterday afternoon for a leg on the Edward Durant trophy. Frederick Watkins got first place with a flight of 169 feet. Watkins now holds two legs on the cup, which must be won three times. David Greer with a monoplane that turned all kinds of curves and circles came in for second honors by sending his aero 139 feet. C. G. Vogell was third with 132 feet and 6 inches. These three boys were selected as a team to give an exhibition in Brooklyn on Saturday, April 2, at the athletic games of the Fourteenth Regiment and the Central Y. M. C. A.

W. Morrell Sage made the best record for a biplane in a flight of 107 feet and 7 inches.

PEACEFUL NEWS FROM MAINE.

Ex-Gov. Hill Says the State Is Sticking to Farming—Politics Don't Bother.

John Fremont Hill, ex-Governor of Maine, who is a publisher, banker, railway and steamship director, was at the Waldorf yesterday. He said that down East things were going along in a quiet sort of way.

"The future of Maine is an agricultural one," continued Governor Hill, "and farming is coming more to the front. You see, Maine raises a lot of men for other parts of the country. We turn out a fine article in that line in the State. They go through the high schools or colleges and the next you hear of them they are taking the lead in other States. But we've got fine air in Maine. You don't get the ozone here that we do.

"Business is good, but things are quite and as for politics there is no talk along that line. We are going to have an election next fall, but elections don't unsettle conditions with us."

By Marconi Wireless.

SS Nieuw Amsterdam, for New York, was 140 miles east of Sandy Hook at 7:30 A. M. yesterday.

SS Columbia, for New York, was 373 miles east of Sandy Hook at 11 A. M.

SS Martha Washington, for New York, was 170 miles southwest of Sable Island at 7:00 P. M.

BATTERY DAN FINN BURIED

GREAT THRONGS AT THE HOUSE AND AT THE CHURCH.

Many Nationalities Represented in the Marching Line—Chinese Send a Delegation—Well Known Men as Pallbearers—Tribute to His Catholic Faith.

All creeds, races and colors were represented at the funeral of Magistrate Daniel E. Finn, which took place yesterday from his home at 569 Broome street.

Among those at the funeral were Chinamen, negroes, Turks, Armenians, Syrians, Greeks and Italians. So many men and women gathered about the house that the police had much trouble making room for the funeral procession. Capt. O'Connor of the Macdougal street station had fifty patrolmen and twelve mounted policemen on hand, and they were needed.

It was 10 o'clock when the procession started for old St. Peter's Roman Catholic Church in Barclay street. Mrs. Finn and her seven children followed the coffin from the room where it had been reposing in a mass of flowers.

The pallbearers were Big Tim Sullivan, Supreme Court Justices Giegerich and Dowling, Justice Waughope Lynn and O'Dwyer of the City Court, Judge Foster of General Sessions, Justice Zeller of Special Sessions, President John Fox of the Democratic Club, Asa Bird Gardner and Abraham Gruber.

In the procession that started for the church were most of the City Magistrates of the First and Second divisions, the court clerks, Justices from the Municipal Courts and other men prominent in the political life of the city. Among those that walked were Fire Commissioner Waldo, Fire Chief Croker, Deputy Police Commissioner Reynolds of Brooklyn and ex-Borough President Ahearn.

The Huron Club, the Tammany district organization, turned out in force. There were also delegations from the Tammany executive committee and from the On Leong Tong of Chinatown, with Tom Lee, the titular Mayor of Chinatown, at its head.

The Chinese delegation was a large one. Then came the United Colored Democracy, several hundred strong. The Peter F. Sherry Association sent a delegation, and so did the Catholic Club. The Catholic Historical Society was represented, as was the Royal Arcanum. The Benevolent Order of Eagles turned out a large body.

When the procession started down town the line of carriages and the walking mourners and the crowds on the sidewalks were so great that traffic had to be stopped at several points along the route for nearly two hours. The procession passed the rooms of the Huron Club at Hudson and Spring streets. The clubhouse was draped in mourning.

When the procession got to St. Peter's there was another crowd waiting for it. Again the police had their hands full in making a lane through the mass for the funeral party. The mounted policemen and 100 patrolmen had marched at the head of the parade and after a time they cleared a way for the mourners to enter the church.

Mgr. McGean, the pastor, officiated at the last services, assisted by the Rev. Fathers Noonan, Leonard and Dineen.

Mgr. McGean in his oration spoke of the strong religious feeling that Magistrate Finn had displayed.

"I remember one of the occasions during his last sickness when I administered communion to him," said the clergyman. "He was feeble, but not withstanding that he jumped out of bed and got down on his knees in great humility to receive the communion."

The clergyman said that Finn was one of the old stock whose faith was strong and whose virtues shone out in a very active life.

The interment was in Holy Cross Cemetery in Flatbush.

MARINE INTELLIGENCE.

MINIATURE ALMANAC THIS DAY.
Sun rises...5:50 Sun sets...6:14 Moon rises...8:00
HIGH WATER THIS DAY.
Sandy H'k...8:26 Gov. Island...9:08 Hell Gate...11:01

Arrived—SATURDAY, March 26.

Ss La Savoie, Havre, March 19.
Ss Lorentic, Liverpool, March 19.
Ss Romburg, Naples, March 14.
Ss Kestva, Hull, March 11.
Ss Wormland, Santa Cruz, March 18.
Ss Korona, St. Thomas, March 20.
Ss Yucatan, Chenfuegos, March 19.
Ss Rabin, Nuevitas, March 19.
Ss El Dorado, Galveston, March 20.
Ss Apache, Jacksonville, March 25.
Ss Nickaujack, Boston, March 24.
Ss Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, March 25.
Ss Jamestown, Norfolk, March 27.

ARRIVED OUT.

Ss Prinz Friedrich Wilhelm, at Bremen from New York.
Ss St. Louis, at Plymouth from New York.

SAILED FROM FOREIGN PORTS.

Ss Kaiserin Auguste Victoria, for New York from Hamburg.
Ss Caledonia, for New York from Glasgow.
Ss Minnehaha, for New York from Southampton.
Ss Finland, for New York from Antwerp.
Ss Noordam, for New York from Rotterdam.
Ss La Lorraine, for New York from Havre.
Ss Noordam, for New York from Rotterdam.
Ss Campania, for New York from Liverpool.
Ss Niagara, for New York from Havre.
Ss Bermudian, for New York from Bermuda.
Ss Oropesa, for New York from Bermuda.

OUTGOING STEAMSHIPS.

Sail To-morrow.

	Mail Close.	Vessels Sail.
Suriname, Paramaribo	11:00 A M	1:00 P M
Corsican, Prince, Permambuco	1:00 P M	4:00 P M
Jamestown, Norfolk		6:00 P M
Sail Tuesday, March 29.		
Seminole, Santo Domingo	10:00 A M	1:00 P M
Hamburg, Naples		
Potsdam, Rotterdam		9:00 A M
Oceania, Naples		12:00 M
Atlanta, Savannah		3:00 P M
Apache, Jacksonville		1:00 P M
Princess Anne, Norfolk		3:00 P M
Sail Wednesday, March 30.		
Lusitania, Liverpool	8:30 A M	9:30 A M
Roverdi, Montevideo	3:00 A M	8:00 A M
Bermudian, Bermuda	9:00 A M	10:00 A M
Maracas, Grenada	10:00 A M	12:00 M
Todorer, Buenos Ayres	4:00 A M	7:00 A M
Orotava, Bermuda		10:00 A M
Argentina, Trieste		1:00 P M
Venezia, Naples		12:00 M
Comal, Tampico		12:00 M
Iroquois, Jacksonville		1:00 P M
Colorado, Galveston		12:00 M
Monroe, Norfolk		3:00 P M

INCOMING STEAMSHIPS.

Due To-day.		
Dora Hatton	Gibraltar	March 11
Lombardia	Palermo	March 11
Almeria	Patras	March 16
Albano	Hamburg	March 10
Columbia	Glasgow	March 19
Lituania	Libau	March 15
Prinz Sigismund	Jamaica	March 22
Comal	Key West	March [illegible]
City of Atlanta	Savannah	March 24
Iroquois	Jacksonville	March 24
Due To-morrow.		
Martha Washington	Algiers	March 18
Kroonland	Antwerp	March 19
Nieuw Amsterdam	Rotterdam	March 19
Duca degli Abruzzi	Naples	March 16
Coamo	San Juan	March 23
Colorado	Mobile	March 21
Proteus	New Orleans	March 23
El Valle	Galveston	March 22
Bermudian	Bermuda	March 26
Oropesa	Bermuda	March 26
Due Tuesday, March 29.		
Kaiser Wilhelm II	Bremen	March 22
Volturno	Rotterdam	March 15
St. Andrew	Antwerp	March 18
Cearense	Para	March 17
Maracaibo	Trinidad	March 22
City of Columbia	Savannah	March 26
Aransas	Jacksonville	March 26
Denver	Galveston	March 23
Monroe	Norfolk	March 28

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