WEATHER.
Rain tonight and Saturday; cooler Saturday; light to moderate variable winds.
FULL REPORT ON PAGE EIGHTEEN.

The Evening Star.

About every one in Washington who reads at all reads The Star.

CLOSING NEW YORK STOCK QUOTATIONS PAGE 18

No. 19,539. WASHINGTON, D. C., FRIDAY, MARCH 27, 1914.—TWENTY-TWO PAGES. ONE CENT.

AWAIT THE REPLY OF ARMY CHIEFS

Britain's Request for Withdrawal of Officers' Resignations Still Discussed.

STATEMENT MADE TODAY TO HOUSE OF COMMONS

Field Marshal French and Gen. Ewart Confer With Cabinet—New Army Order Issued.

LONDON, March 27.—The resignation of Field Marshal Sir John French and Lieut. Gen. Sir John S. Ewart had not yet been withdrawn and Premier Asquith, after deferring his statement twice, was able to announce in the house of commons this afternoon only that the government still was awaiting the reply of the army officers to the cabinet's request that they remain in their posts.

Premier Asquith reached the house of commons straight from the second of the two cabinet meetings held today, both of which were attended by the chief of the general staff, Field Marshal Sir John French. The premier said matters in the question involved great complexity and great difficulty and seemed to the government to require very full consideration. A partial or provisional statement would be unsatisfactory.

Sir John French and Lieut. Gen. Sir John S. Ewart, the adjutant general of the forces, had intimated a wish to be relieved of their offices, Mr. Asquith said, not because of any differences between their views and those of the government as to the conditions under which the army should serve or should be employed in the aid of civil power, but having issued the memorandum to Brig. Gen. Gough they thought this course incumbent upon them.

Government Conveys Its Wishes.

Premier Asquith then added:

"The government has conveyed to them its wish that as there is no difference of opinion on any ground or policy they should not persist in their request, the carrying out of which the government would regard as a serious misfortune to both the army and the state. We still are awaiting their final reply.

"These two gallant officers believe that in the circumstances they were justified in believing their action was in accordance with the instructions of the cabinet and that they were transmitting those directions to the officers concerned.

"It is clear to us and to them that there has been a misconception—a genuine misconception—in regard to the intention and purport of the proceedings in Ireland, out of which these difficulties have arisen.

"In view of these misconceptions and to obviate the possibility of their recurrence in the future the army council has today—Field Marshal Sir John French and Lieut. Gen. Sir John Ewart being present—unanimously determined to issue a new army order."

Text of the New Order.

The premier continued:

"The new order to the army is headed 'discipline.' It has three articles, which are as follows:

"'I. No officer or soldier shall in future be questioned by his superior officers as to what attitude he will adopt or as to his action in the event of his being required to obey orders dependent on future or hypothetical contingencies.

"'II. An officer or soldier is forbidden in future to ask for assurances as to orders which he may be required to fulfill.

"'III. It is the duty of every officer and soldier to obey all lawful commands given them through the proper channels, either for safeguarding public property or to support the civil power in the ordinary execution of its duty or for the protection of the lives and property of the inhabitants in case of a disturbance of the peace.

"That is an order issued by the army council today which has now been approved and which regulates the conduct and discipline of the army in future."

Proceeding with his speech, the premier remarked that he must repeat what ministers in both houses of parliament had said several times this week, but in view of the wild legends current it needed to be repeated. He said:

"It is altogether untrue that the government or any member of the government ever contemplated active operations of an aggressive character in Ulster or any operations which now or in the future would impose on the army any duty or service which was not amply covered by the terms of this order. To that I have only to add that the government adheres to all the declarations it has made."

Officers Urged to Reconsider.

Negotiations and conferences between Buckingham Palace, the war office and Downing street were carried on throughout yesterday and it was known that the strongest efforts were being adopted to induce Field Marshal French and Gen. Ewart to reconsider. The prime minister called a hurried meeting of the cabinet at his residence after it was decided to postpone the statement to parliament.

Strong pressure evidently was brought to bear on Sir John French to retain his post. He was summoned to an interview with Premier Asquith after the prime minister had seen King George. Subsequently the field marshal proceeded to Buckingham Palace to confer with the king.

According to the best information, the war office conference of all the principal commanding generals of the army was called to enable Gens. French and Ewart to explain that their resignation was a personal matter arising solely from the fact that they signed the Gough memorandum, which the government since had repudiated, and they urged that all the other officers remain at their posts.

Objections to Col. Seely.

Then followed interviews with the ministers and an audience with the king, with a view to inducing them to reconsider their action. But both Gen. French and Gen. Ewart remained firm in their decision that it would be impossible for them to retain their posts while Col. Seely remained secretary for war. They were willing, however, to withdraw their resignations if Col. Seely was removed.

Faced by this ultimatum and the knowledge that there was a strong feeling against Col. Seely among the radicals, the prime minister seemed to have arrived at the conclusion that he must abandon Col. Seely. There has been talk of appointing John Burns, president of the local government board, as secretary for war, and a report also has been current of an exchange of portfolios between Lewis Harcourt and Col. Seely.

Views of the Press.

Many rumors appeared in the morning papers of the resignation of officers at Aldershot and Curragh, but none has yet been confirmed.

The Chronicle, a government organ, insists that any such resignations must be dealt with by instant dismissal. The Chronicle also admits that it is no longer

(Continued on Second Page.)

APPEALS SENT HERE TO AID THE CAPITAL

Representative Morin and the Pennsylvania Senators Hear From Home.

FIRST REPORTED RESULT OF COMMITTEE'S WORK

Pittsburgh Chapter, American Institute of Architects, Opposes "Half-and-Half" Change.

Representative John M. Morin of Pennsylvania, in whose district the city of Pittsburgh is located, today made public resolutions adopted by the Pittsburgh Chapter, American Institute of Architects, which oppose any attempt by Congress to alter the present "half-and-half" bargain between the District of Columbia and the federal government for the support of the Capital city

So far as has been publicly reported, these resolutions are the first result of the work of the committee of one hundred recently formed to educate the American people as to legislation pending in Congress which imperils the District, and they were passed in answer to the appeal of the committee of one hundred to national organizations throughout the United States, which urged such organizations to familiarize themselves with the situation in Congress and to write to senators and representatives asking them to protect the capital.

Is Strong Organization.

"The Pittsburgh Chapter, American Institute of Architects, is a strong organization in my District," Mr. Morin said today, "and these resolutions are of such importance that I thought The Star might like to publish them. Copies were sent to me and I understand also to the Pennsylvania senators. Other national organizations have also adopted and sent me similar resolutions."

The resolutions declare:

"It has come to our knowledge that four measures have been sent by the House of Representatives to the Senate and that others are pending, the adoption of which would practically destroy the essential principle of the 'half-and-half' arrangement of what has been called the 'organic act' (135, U. S., 240), and hence place the whole burden of the development and maintenance of the National Capital upon the taxpayers of the District of Columbia; and

"Such action would inevitably retard, if not entirely stop, the development of the city of Washington in a manner worthy of the seat of the national government; and

"It is our belief that the capital of the nation should be developed and maintained by the whole body of the American people as a symbol of the republic and a matter of national civic pride, to say nothing of the injustice of placing this burden upon a comparatively small number of its citizens.

"Now, therefore, be it resolved, That the Pittsburgh Chapter, American Institute of Architects, through its board of directors, respectfully urges the senators from Pennsylvania and the congressman from the district within its territory to use such means as they consistently can to prevent these measures being enacted into law."

Many Other Appeals Expected.

Members of the executive committee of the committee of one hundred were greatly pleased today to learn of the action of the Pittsburgh Chapter, American Institute of Architects, and expressed themselves as having no doubt but that Congress will soon be made acquainted with the sentiment of the American people toward the maintenance of the "half-and-half" principle by means of other resolutions adopted by a great number of large and powerful organizations all over the country to whom the committee has appealed for assistance in its work of protecting the capital.

At the Chamber of Commerce today clerks are sending out appeals similar to that sent the American Institute of Architects to 200 national organizations on a list furnished by the American Civic Association. This work is being done for the committee of one hundred, and it is expected that the names and addresses of 400 more national organizations will soon be added to this list, which is made up of organizations not having headquarters in Washington.

Dr. Wiley's Letter.

The letter being sent out, which is signed by Dr. Harvey W. Wiley, chairman of the committee, is as follows:

"Permit me to ask that you bring before your organization, in view of the interest we assume it takes in the development of the National Capital, the inclosed copy of the report on the legislation which now threatens the capital's progress. (If you have a journal or other organ, please publish it.)

"We desire the co-operation of your organization in preventing any legislation that will hamper that progress.

"We, therefore, ask that you communicate with your senator and representative and ask your membership to do the same, requesting the senators and representatives to examine the facts and to preserve the progress of the capital. Prompt action is desired."

Special Committees to Meet.

The special committees of the Board of Trade and the Chamber of Commerce which are to decide whether these two Washington trade bodies shall unite in a joint appeal for assistance to all chambers of commerce and boards of trade throughout the United States will meet at the rooms of the Chamber of Commerce at noon Tuesday to decide on a plan of action, and adopt a joint letter of appeal, if it be decided to get one out, in furtherance of the work of the committee of one hundred.

Venezuelans on Way Here.

WILLEMSTAD, Curacao, March 27.—Gen. Francisco Linares Alcantara, formerly Venezuelan minister of the interior, and Dr. Meano Rojas, another Venezuelan fugitive, sailed from here today for New York.

THE DAY IN CONGRESS.

Senate:

Met at noon.

Senator Gallinger introduced a resolution reaffirming the right of the United States to grant a tolls exemption in the Panama canal.

House:

Met at noon.

The entire time of the session was devoted to the fight over the Panama tolls repeal.

COOPER INDICTED FOR CRIMINAL LIBEL

Action in Case of Banker Who Brought Charges Against Judge Wright.

JUSTICE GOULD ORDERS BENCH WARRANT ISSUED

Indictment Alleges Felonious, Unlawful and Malicious Intent to Vilify.

Criminal libel is the charge contained in an indictment returned today by the grand jury against Wade H. Cooper, president of the United States Savings Bank and the Union Savings Bank. The indictment is the result of charges made by Mr. Cooper against Justice Daniel Thew Wright of the District Supreme Court.

On motion of Assistant United States Attorney Harvey Given, Justice Gould, presiding in Criminal Court No. 1, ordered a bench warrant for the arrest of the banker.

Mr. Cooper Arrested.

Deputy Marshal W. J. Roberts appeared at Mr. Cooper's office, in the United States Savings Bank building, shortly after 2 o'clock this afternoon, with a bench warrant for Mr. Cooper, and escorted him to Justice Barnard's office, in the city hall, with his counsel, Raymond M. Hudson.

Discussing the indictment with a representative of The Star this afternoon, Mr. Cooper said:

"I have not seen the indictment, and do not know specifically what the charges are, but I think the public understands the situation well enough to pass judgment on it without any comment from me."

Allegations in Indictment.

The indictment alleges that February 26 last Mr. Cooper "feloniously, unlawfully and maliciously contriving and intending to vilify and defame the said Daniel Thew Wright, and to bring him, the said Daniel Thew Wright, into public scandal, contempt, ridicule and disgrace, and to deprive him, the said Daniel Thew Wright, of his good name, fame, credit and reputation as such associate justice of the Supreme Court of the District of Columbia as aforesaid, and to injure, defame and aggrieve him, the said Daniel Thew Wright, of his great hatred and ill will towards the said Daniel Thew Wright, feloniously, unlawfully and maliciously did compose, write and publish, and cause and procure to be composed, written and published, a certain false, scandalous, malicious and defamatory libel of and concerning him, the said Daniel Thew Wright, and of and concerning him, the said Daniel Thew Wright, in his said office of associate justice of the Supreme Court of the District of Columbia, and of and concerning his conduct and behavior therein."

The publication of the charges, portions of which are set out in the indictment, are alleged to have been made by Mr. Cooper "to the great injury, scandal, ridicule and disgrace" of Justice Wright.

Witnesses Before Grand Jury.

The witnesses appearing before the grand jury were Justice Wright, Charles M. Maigne, Robert L. Montague, William W. Price and Robert Perkins.

The charges on which the indictment is based were filed by Mr. Cooper with Secretary Tumulty at the White House February 26, and were furnished to the press, it is alleged, February 28. Mr. Tumulty sent the papers to Attorney General McReynolds, who forwarded the charges to the House judiciary committee. The committee declined to consider the charges on the ground that they were unverified, and sent them back to the Department of Justice. Impeachment charges filed by a member of the House followed.

$50,000 FOR VIRGINIA EXHIBIT.

Mansion at Mount Vernon Is to Be Reproduced at San Francisco.

RICHMOND, Va., March 27.—A reproduction of the historic mansion house at Mount Vernon will be one of the features of the Virginia exhibit at the Pan-American exposition at San Francisco. The bill which recently passed the state legislature appropriating $50,000 for Virginia's exhibit at the exposition has just been signed by Gov. Stuart.

Within a short time the governor will name three commissioners who will be in charge of the construction of the Virginia building and the installation of exhibits therein.

Elisha Lee to Be Superintendent.

PHILADELPHIA, March 27.—The board of directors of the Philadelphia, Baltimore and Washington Railroad Company have approved the appointment of Elisha Lee as general superintendent of the road to succeed E. F. Brooks, who will retire April 1 under the pension rules of the company.

More Than All

Again yesterday The Star printed more advertising than the three other Washington newspapers combined.

Advertising Figures

The Star	113 columns
3 others combined	100 columns
Excess	13 columns
Advertising in other papers not acceptable to The Star	1⅔ columns
Total Star excess of acceptable advertising, Star's standard	14⅔ columns

SENATE COMMITTEE FOR PAYING AWARDS

Resolution to Relieve Plaza Property Owners Favorably Reported.

IMMEDIATE ACTION ASKED BY SHERMAN

Cotter T. Bride, as Member of Excise Board, Supported—Subcommittees Named.

The Sherman joint resolution, permitting the separation of awards in the plaza cases, so that the President and the Department of Justice may pay those awards which are not contested, was reported favorably to the Senate today from the Senate District committee by Senator Sherman of Illinois. The favorable report was authorized at a meeting of the District committee this morning.

Senator Sherman intends, he announced, to do all in his power to get early action upon his resolution. When he made the report to the Senate he asked unanimous consent for its immediate consideration. Senator Smoot of Utah, however, urged that it go to the calendar, saying that if such course was taken it probably would be reached during the day in regular order, or tomorrow. The resolution, therefore, went to the calendar.

The committee also ordered a favorable report to the Senate on the nomination of Cotter T. Bride as a member of the excise board of the District. It is expected that the nomination will be quickly confirmed by the Senate.

Text of the Resolution.

The Sherman joint resolution upon which the committee acted favorably reads as follows:

"Awards for the payment for property taken in the condemnation proceedings for what is commonly known as the plaza cases were made some time ago and have been subject to examination by the Department of Justice to be approved by it and other authority.

"The President has found it impracticable to separate the payments which are not in controversy from those which are, leaving those property owners whose claims are not attacked so that payments cannot be made to them, involving great consequent hardship.

"Therefore the awards and payments thereon to be made in such proceedings be, and are hereby, declared to be severable, so that the Department of Justice and the President may order such awards as are not in question to be paid out of any appropriation made therefor, reserving the remainder for further consideration."

Chairman John Walter Smith of the District committee announced the appointment of the following subcommittees, to the various subcommittees of the measures now pending before the committee:

Judiciary, Mr. Pomerene, chairman; Mr. Hollis, Mrs. Saulsbury, Mr. Dillingham, Mr. Sherman.

Public utilities, Mr. Smith of Arizona, chairman; Mr. Kern, Mr. James, Mr. Kenyon, Mr. Fall.

Education and labor, Mr. Hollis, chairman; Mr. Martin, Mr. Smith of Maryland, Mr. Dillingham, Mr. Kenyon.

Excise and liquor legislation, Mr. Kern, chairman; Mr. Martin, Mr. Saulsbury, Mr. Jones, Mr. Works.

Insurance and banks, Mr. Smith of Maryland, chairman; Mr. Hollis, Mr. James, Mr. Jones, Mr. Sherman.

Public health, hospitals and charities, Mr. James, chairman; Mr. Pomerene, Mr. Smith of Arizona, Mr. Fall, Mr. Works.

Streets and avenues, Mr. Saulsbury, chairman; Mr. Kern, Mr. Pomerene, Mr. Kenyon, Mr. Sherman.

Incorporations, Mr. Martin, chairman; Mr. Smith of Maryland, Mr. Saulsbury, Mr. Jones, Mr. Fall.

Police and fire departments, Mr. Dillingham, chairman; Mr. Works, Mr. Kenyon, Mr. James, Mr. Smith of Arizona.

PROCLAMATION BY THE COMMISSIONERS.

March 27, 1914.

Realizing the beneficial results to be derived from concerted and co-operative effort upon the part of all civic organizations, individual citizens and the several departments of our local government to make Washington a more sanitary and beautiful city, and, in recognition of and to promote the work of the clean city committee, the Commissioners do hereby designate the week of April 13 to 18, 1914, as city cleaning week.

In order that the committee may have every possible aid in its laudable work the Commissioners call upon all citizens to clean up their premises, residential and business, and assure the committee of the active support of the several departments under their control. The boardroom of the District Building is placed at the committee's disposal for meetings incident to the campaign. After the work is completed the committee will report to the Commissioners the results obtained.

OLIVER P. NEWMAN,
FREDERICK L. SIDDONS,
CHESTER HARDING,
Commissioners of the District of Columbia.

SPLIT WITH PRESIDENT MAY UNSEAT SPEAKER

But Latter's Friends Recall Misfortune to Free Coinage Floppers in '94.

One of the possibilities of the split between the Speaker and the White House is that a fierce fight will be waged from now on to unseat Champ Clark from the helm of the House in the next Congress.

"The democratic party will never buck the administration to the extent of supporting one of its enemies as Speaker," said a democratic supporter of the President this morning.

"The democratic party as represented in the House will oppose any administration rather than exhibit treason toward a platform," was the reply of a Clark man.

Friends of Clark are now remembering what is said to be the first speech he ever made—twenty years ago in the Fifty-third Congress, when a situation peculiarly like the present crisis confronted President Cleveland. It was in the days of the Gorman-Wilson row and the tariff situation, which forced Cleveland to take up arms against the House and Senate.

"Men who were won over to President Cleveland at that time, as against the sentiments of the democratic platform never came back to Congress," said Lafe Pence of Colorado, today. Mr. Pence was a member of that Congress.

Large Majority Against Repeal.

The House had a large majority against the repeal of the free coinage clause of the Sherman act. The majority did not know its danger, but in two weeks Cleveland swung fifty-five men to him—all democrats. At that time it was thought to be impossible that the democratic majority in the House would change its convictions—but it did.

However, friends of the Speaker now point to the fact that every man who went over to the President lost his seat in the House within a few months. Champ Clark, who made a speech—said to be his first, then upheld the platform as against the President's wishes, and has been climbing ever since.

Gen. King Recovers Health.

NEW YORK, March 27.—Friends of Gen. Horatio C. King, who had despaired of his recovery from a stroke of paralysis early this month, were surprised to find him out walking today apparently in good health. It was said at his residence in Brooklyn that the general's recovery was now complete and he would soon be taking up his regular duties.

LONG PATENT FIGHT ENDS

Money Settlement Closes the Goodwin Case With the Eastman Kodak Co.

NEW YORK, March 27.—Representatives of the Eastman Kodak Company and the Ansco company confirmed today that a money settlement, the amount of which they would not state, had been agreed upon in the matter of the Goodwin patent, over which the concerns fought for years until the federal court of appeals recently decided in favor of the Ansco company.

The suit involved the use of the Goodwin patent claimed by the Ansco company since 1898, and covers all cartridge films, film packs and cinematograph films made by the Eastman company.

Estimate Runs Into Millions.

It was said that the widow of the Rev. Hannibal Goodwin, who invented the process, will receive a large sum as her share of the settlement. Mrs. Goodwin is eighty-six years old and lives in Newark, N. J. By the terms of the settlement, it is understood, the Eastman company secures permission to manufacture the films under patent. Estimates of the amount paid in settlement run into the millions.

BUFFALO, N. Y., March 27.—The terms of settlement of the case brought against the Eastman Kodak Company by the Goodwin Film and Camera Company for infringement of patent rights were not stated in the final order of settlement, which was approved by Judge John R. Hazel of the United States circuit court here today.

REV. LUKE A. GRACE DEAD.

Widely Known as Missionary of Roman Catholic Church.

PHILADELPHIA, March 27.—Rev. Luke A. Grace, widely known as a missionary of the Roman Catholic Church, died today at the rectory of St. Vincent de Paul, Germantown, after a long illness. He was sixty years old and was born in Brooklyn, N. Y.

Father Grace was a graduate of St. John's Seminary, Brooklyn, and for twenty-eight years was a professor of English and theology at Niagara University. In recent years he conducted missions and retreats in different parts of the country. His ability as a preacher was recognized by Yale University, which invited him some years ago to deliver a special lecture.

Prince Francois Marie Dead.

MONTREUX, Switzerland, March 27.—Prince Francois Marie of Bourbon and the Two Sicilies died here today.

VILLA CAPTURES GOMEZ PALACIO

Big Railroad Suburb of Torreon Taken After Four Days' Fight.

REBELS CLAIM VICTORY IN FIGHT AT LERDO

Monoplane and Railroad Equipment Rushed From Juarez—Leader's Messages Optimistic.

CONSTITUTIONALIST HEADQUARTERS, above Torreon, March 26 (delayed by censor).—Gen. Villa and his rebel army, after four days of almost incessant fighting, during which victory seemed first with one side and then with the other, occupied Gomez Palacio today.

Losses on both sides have been heavy. The rebels delivered three assaults before permanent success was achieved, and at times the battle extended into the leading streets of Torreon proper. Villa predicts that he will have the latter city by Saturday or Sunday.

Federal Attack Fails.

JUAREZ, Mexico, March 27.—The federal soldiers at Torreon last night failed in a ten-hour fight to retake Lerdo, according to a telegram received here today signed by Gen. Villa. The telegram was dated "Gomez Palacio." Lerdo is a manufacturing town in the suburbs of Torreon.

Whether there was truth in a report that a federal flanking force was moving toward the town from the east and that Villa had sent a column to oppose it could not be learned.

To Welcome Carranza.

Venustiano Carranza, first chief of the revolution, is expected in Juarez tomorrow. Several triumphal arches have been erected, and stores and houses generally are decorated with flags and bunting.

As the wind blows a straw, so did every message concerning the probable events at Gomez Palacio, where Gen. Villa is fighting his decisive battle with the Huerta government, sway rebel sympathizers in this town today.

Orders Monoplane.

An early message came from Villa himself, ordering the speedy shipment of the military monoplane from Juarez, and an order that all equipment for rebuilding railroad track be hurried south. The fact that the message was sent from Gomez Palacio gave rise to the belief that the rebel leader had captured that suburb of Torreon, and hope ran higher among constitutionalists here than it had for sixty-two hours of complete silence from the soldiers at the front.

That Villa had ordered the monoplane was construed by some to mean that he was to begin his attack on Torreon proper in the immediate future, and that he had unexpected conditions to surmount. The machine has been undergoing repairs here, and early today it was not known how soon it could be put in running order, but Manual Chao, military governor of Chihuahua, last night gave personal supervision to the work of expediting its shipment to the front. Track equipment demanded will be shipped both from Chihuahua City and Juarez.

The order for the equipment was thought to have meant that Gen. Villa had met far more stubborn resistance in his attack upon Torreon than he had expected and that he wished to have apparatus to repair his railway immediately at hand so that he might remain away from his base at Chihuahua for as long a time as possible.

Report of Gen. Villa's Rout Received in City Today Accepted at the Embassy

The complete rout of Gen. Villa's rebels attacking Torreon was claimed in a dispatch received today by Charge Algara of the Mexican embassy here from Senor Portillo y Rojas, minister of foreign affairs in Huerta's cabinet. The dispatch came from Mexico City.

The embassy officials were inclined to accept this word as direct and final and to take it to mean that there is no longer any doubt that Villa has been disastrously defeated before Torreon.

Earlier in the morning, the embassy received the following dispatch from the Mexican consul, Senor Diebold, at El Paso:

"Rebels have been severely defeated at Torreon. A column of 5,000 troops under Gen. Moure has left Saltillo in flanking movement to reinforce the garrison. The rebels last week also suffered severe repulses at Monclova, losing over 1,000 men, as well as at Arteaga, where the losses were over 100.

Discredited by Constitutionalists.

While the constitutionalist confidential agency here was without any word direct from Torreon, dispatches received by them from the border were to the effect that all word coming from Mexico City was false and that Villa was making rapid headway against the federals.

The constitutionalists said that there was no direct communication between Torreon and Mexico City, and that the word being given out in the latter city was several days old. They insisted that the defeat spoken of in the embassy dispatches occurred early in the week, and had since been turned into a victory.

Government officials here were entirely without authentic information from the front, but were deeply interested in all reports. It was believed that both sides are withholding detailed information for fear the word may be sent to the enemy.

LINER HITS ROCK AND SINKS.

Eighteen of French Steamer Saint Paul's Crew Drown.

LONDON, March 27.—Eighteen of the crew of the French steamer Saint Paul were drowned today. The steamer struck a rock and sank while entering the port of Brisbane, Australia, according to a Lloyds dispatch.

The Saint Paul was on the way from Noumea to Sydney. She was a new 220-foot vessel, built in 1912, commanded by Capt. Coree, and owned by the Oceanic Navigation Company of Bordeaux.

Eleven Workmen Drowned.

BRUNSBUETTEL, Germany, March 27.—Eleven workmen were drowned today when a suspended cable car fell into a lock of the Kiel canal while they were crossing from one side to the other.

WILSON WINS FIRST BATTLE TO REPEAL FREE CANAL TOLLS

House by 207 to 176 Refuses to Continue Discussion on Rule to Limit Debate.

PARTY LINES ELIMINATED IN PRESIDENT'S VICTORY

Balloting Preceded by an Hour of Impassioned Oratory.

ADOPTION OF RULE FOLLOWS

Confidence of Administration Supporters Justified by Its Passage. Repeal Advocates Sore at Speaker's Statement.

President Wilson won the first battle of his fight to repeal the Panama tolls exemption today, when the House by a vote of 207 to 176 refused to continue discussion on the rule to limit to twenty hours the debate on the Sims bill.

Party lines were elminated in the vote, which was a round victory for the administration leaders. The balloting was preceded by an hour of impassioned speech-making, in which Speaker Clark, Representative Underwood, Representative Fitzgerald and other democratic leaders voted against the motion to cut off debate.

With the adoption of the resolution to stop debate on the rule, the next question was upon the adoption of the rule itself. Administration supporters were sure of its passage.

The rule was finally adopted by 200 to 172, with five members answering present.

Hurt by Speaker's Action.

For two hours before the fight started in the House the leaders of the repeal end of the fight sat in Representative Adamson's office behind closed doors and outlined a plan of battle against the Speaker and other members who want a free debate and a chance to amend the Sims bill. The men who framed the gag and those who supported it counted their strength. Representative Hardwick of Georgia, an attendant upon the conference, predicted victory for the rule.

The men who were there were hurt and sore, because the Speaker had chosen the dramatic eleventh hour for his statement last night; and the importance of the Speaker's view was said to be the most serious proposition that has confronted the democracy since it took possession. However, the Speaker, with unruffled face, sat in his office and prepared another statement, which will be released at the proper time.

Some congressmen professed the view that the fight had taken the aspect of a contest between the President and Speaker Clark. They expected the Speaker might take the floor to personally lead the fight on the rule, or might reserve his attack for the bill itself, unless forced to the floor to defend himself.

The galleries filled up early. Mrs. Clark had a seat in the Speaker's gallery.

Republicans Cheer Clark.

An unusual, violent demonstration, principally from the republicans, greeted Speaker Clark when he mounted the rostrum. The cheers were almost wild yelps of joy. He rapped for order, and the chaplain, in his prayer, referred to the "strength of men in great crises." The pro-gag rule faction gathered its clans together in a solid line—Hardwick, Henry, Adamson, Sims, Sherley—and held whispered conferences.

They were confident of passing the gag rule by eighteen or twenty votes. Representative Underwood lined up against the gag, took a front seat, scheduled to close the argument on his side of the contention, while Hardwick of Georgia, of bitter speech and clever tactics, prepared to assail the Speaker—a democrat against Champ Clark!

Before the fight a message from Representative Brumbaugh was read. He asked leave of absence on "account of important business." He missed the row today because of trouble in Columbus (Ohio) post office patronage matters.

Speaker Clark admonished the House to be orderly "in an exciting and acrimonious debate like this." When hostilities opened Representative Sherwood of Ohio started the debate by asking the privilege of neutralizing the canal by not fortifying it.

Mild Ovation for Adamson.

When Representative Adamson started to talk on the rule a mild cheer greeted him.

He has the repeal fight on his shoulders, having started the ball rolling in the committee on interstate and foreign commerce. He said he was not getting his ideas "from a seven-year railroad lobby." He said in general he is opposed to rules of this sort. He said the Speaker had thought a ten-hour debate would be sufficient when it had first been talked of.

"We are not willing to have the Sims bill amended, for no amendments are needed," he said. He spattered Georgia sarcasm on every one who had fought the rule, including Murdock and Lenroot.

He resolved the argument to a question of subsidy, and went into a discussion of "gag rules," which showed that the Clark statement had a sting for the repeal-and-gag men.

Representative Gardner of Massachusetts, a republican, who fought against the Cannon power, begged for the gag to be applied.

"I know if they shatter the ranks of the men who want this rule applied they will beat the bill. I therefore appeal to every man who wants to see the repeal bill passed to vote for the rule."

Hinebaugh Jabs at Gag Rule.

Representative Hinebaugh of Illinois (progressive) jabbed at the gag rule,