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SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 24, 1900.
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JANUARY CIRCULATION.

W. B. Carr, Business Manager of The St. Louis Republic, being duly sworn, says that the actual number of full and complete copies of the daily and Sunday Republic printed during the month of January, 1900, all in regular editions, was as per schedule below:

Date.	Copies.	Date.	Copies.
1	79,300	17	75,490
2	75,850	18	76,190
3	74,340	19	76,960
4	76,070	20	78,340
5	74,910	21 Sunday	82,320
6	77,310	22	76,040
7 Sunday	80,980	23	76,910
8	74,840	24	76,700
9	74,770	25	76,890
10	75,830	26	77,970
11	75,230	27	79,670
12	75,740	28 Sunday	83,310
13	77,855	29	78,000
14 Sunday	82,900	30	76,830
15	75,660	31	79,660
16	75,750		
Total for the month			2,348,625
Less all copies spoiled in printing, left over or filed			57,673
Net number distributed			2,340,952
Average daily distribution			75,514

And said W. B. Carr further says that the number of copies returned or reported unsold during the month of January was 9.13 per cent.

W. B. CARR.

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 31st day of January, 1900.

J. F. FARISH,
Notary Public, City of St. Louis, Mo. My term expires April 26, 1901.

IT IS GOOD TRAINING.

In the interesting details of the great oratorical conflict to take place in the classic halls of the University of Missouri on March 2, in which will figure the most redoubtable champions of the Intercollegiate Oratorical Association, there is a sure promise of the continued eminence of Missouri as the mother of spellbinders.

It is a good thing to see the young collegians of the State thus being trained and tested in the Demosthenic art. A man too prone to "orate" on any and all occasions is a bore. We shun him as we would the plague. But he who, on just provocation, can get up and make a rattling speech, clear, forceful, to the point, is a valuable man to have around in case of sudden emergencies. Thrice is he armed that hath his quarrel just and possesses the tongue-wit to convince others of its justice.

Wherefore is the Intercollegiate Oratorical Association to be commended for the good work it is doing in its chosen field. Its approaching tournament at Columbia should be an interesting and exceptionally picturesque function.

PAARDEBERG DRIFT.

It is apparent that the little Boer army under the grim and indomitable Cronje is making a very splendid page of Boer history by its stand against odds of three to one in the bloody battle of Paardeberg Drift.

There is no finer deed possible to free men than that of rendering up their lives in defense of freedom. This is what Cronje's men are doing. "Give us a day's armistice to bury our dead," signaled Cronje to Kitchener. "Not a minute," was the stern response. "The whole force must surrender or fight to a finish." And Cronje replied: "We will fight to a finish."

So for five days these Boer farmers have been fighting to their finish. The position they occupy, surrounded by British cannon, is described as resembling the crater of a volcano. Lyddite and shrapnel shells are bursting in their ranks almost without cessation. They are at bay in a zone of fire. Their antagonist, Kitchener, is an implacable soul—the slaughter of 17,000 Dervishes in one day at the battle of Omdurman is to his credit in recent history. This record will not be equaled at Paardeberg Drift—there are only 8000 Boers under Cronje.

It may be that some high-souled historian or poet shall duly tell the story of Paardeberg Drift for future generations. Whether they do or not, the story will live in the world's memory, unless the inborn love of freedom dies out of men's hearts. For let it not be forgotten that the Dutchmen at Paardeberg Drift are fighting and dying for freedom if ever men have so fought and died since creation's dawn.

TIMELINESS THE THING.

One suggestion, made by the Reverend Mr. Sheldon, who is to edit a paper for one week "as Christ would have edited it," will not be voted an improvement on the practice which papers of the first class pursue at present.

"Two or three times a week," says Mr. Sheldon in one of the interviews to which he has been subjected since his project gained publicity, "I would have an entire page devoted to the happenings in the religious world in all lands."

If Mr. Sheldon pursued this plan he would find his competitors leading him in the very field in which supremacy would be expected of him. Papers of the first class print the news of religious happenings as they take place, devoting to them instantly the full amount of space their importance demands. They do not wait to mass the happenings in a page two or three times a week. There is reason to believe that the readers of newspapers prefer this plan—that they want to read of religious happenings as they read of other happenings, at the earliest possible moment.

For instance, if The Republic waited with its newsy, attractive page of Sunday sermons until Tuesday in order to include with them the ministers' sermons of Monday, the page would lose half its interest to readers. Timeliness is the great consideration in a newspaper.

DAY WELL CHOSEN.

The selection of the Fourth of July for the opening of the Democratic National Convention is apt. July 4, 1776, saw the birth of the American Republic, the signing of the Declaration of Independence. July 4, 1900, will see the opening of a contest to maintain the principles embodied in that document.

In the campaign of 1900 the Republic of the United States will meet the Empire of the United States. The platform of principles promulgated at the Democratic National Convention will be a new Declaration of Independence, a Declaration of Independence for the peoples that have come under the jurisdiction of the United States, a reiteration of the foundation principles in the great declaration that "Government derives its just powers from the consent of the governed."

The development in the Republican policy during the last two months has made such a declaration imperative. When the official consular mail of the United States is plastered over with Victoria Regina stickers and no protest comes from the American authorities; when American Consuls stop at London for instructions; when the plain provision of the United States Constitution, "All duties, imposts and excises shall be uniform throughout the United States," is violated and one section of the United States is enslaved with a discriminatory tariff duty; when the principal doctrine of the Declaration of Independence is ignored and new peoples are forced to accept American jurisdiction at the point of the bayonet; when the good of the people is neglected and tariff laws are framed so that a favored few may form monopolies and raise prices on the products the people must consume; when the Monroe Doctrine is cast to the winds and the intermeddling of Great Britain with a purely American enterprise, like the Nicaragua Canal, is welcomed and glorified, when these things come to pass it is time that the people take steps to maintain the great traditions under which their great Government has flourished for more than a century. The Fourth of July is a day of good omen for opening such a crusade.

MUST SUFFER IF GUILTY.

Secretary of State Hay, having been called upon by Congress for an official statement of fact in reply to the charges preferred by former Consul Macrum, has seen fit to submit to that body a report which is intentionally evasive and for that reason contemptuous of the National House of Representatives.

The Secretary of State must be led to see the error of his ways. The complaint made by Consul Macrum was to the distinct effect that, as American Consul at Pretoria, he was humiliated by British domination of the affairs of his Consulate. His official mail, bearing the seal of the American Government, was opened and read by the British censor. An official rebuke to the State Department was held for two weeks by the British censor. He was not permitted to adequately look after American interests at a most critical period of danger and demoralization.

The American people will rejoice to hear that Congress, fully awake to the significance of Secretary Hay's rebuke, has seen fit to answer the Macrum charges, will itself investigate the truth or falsity of those charges. It will gratify them to know that their Representatives are very sternly in earnest in a matter so vital to American dignity. They will undoubtedly agree in that view of the final result which holds that, in the event of Mr. Macrum's charges being sustained, Secretary of State Hay must resign to escape impeachment proceedings begun in both houses of Congress.

This is the plain situation as at present existing. It would be less painful and less humiliating to the people of this country if Mr. Macrum's charges were disproved by the congressional investigation. Better an untruthful Consul than an unamerican American Premier. But, if the Consul has spoken the simple truth, and it is the Premier who has been false and unworthy, then must the latter suffer to the full extent of ignominy possible to a shamed and indignant people.

FOR DEMOCRACY.

Congressman Cowherd of Missouri, in urging before the Democratic National Committee the claims of Kansas City as the scene of the next Democratic National Convention, dwelt fittingly upon the standing of Missouri in the ranks of Democracy.

Mr. Cowherd was justified in describing the Democracy of his State as "the most loyal, the most aggressive and the most earnest Democracy that lives upon the continent." He fitly indicated Missouri's faithfulness in calling attention to a Democratic sentiment that has existed for eighty years and that is stronger now than ever. He spoke truly in declaring that this steadfastness was due not to fear of negro domination, not to love of spoils, but to a devotion to the flag for the principles that the flag of democracy represents.

It is in this atmosphere of unswerving Democratic loyalty that the next Democratic National Convention will be held on July 4—Independence Day. The Democratic candidate for President of the United States will be nominated in the spirit of freedom and devotion to the people's cause that prevails on the anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence. The immortal truths contained in that truest of democratic utterances, the safeguards thrown about a free and self-governing people by the American Constitution, the consistent American policy found in the Monroe Doctrine, will constitute the platform upon which this candidate shall stand.

The Democratic National Convention of 1900, held in the leading Democratic stronghold of the leading Democratic State of the Union, its delegates coming together for the opening session on the Fourth of July, will appeal with especial earnestness and forcefulness to the American people. Its candidate and its platform will stand for the people at a moment of singularly vital import to the Republic. They will demand popular support if the Republic is to be upheld against the Empire.

DOES IT GOVERN?

Congressman Morrall of Massachusetts struck the keystone of the Puerto Rican tariff bill discussion when he said in Congress last Thursday: "The question is not 'Does the Constitution govern Puerto Rico?' but 'Does it govern us?' Can Congress, which is the creature of the Constitution, do those things which the Constitution prohibits?"

The American people must not blind themselves to this simple and self-evident truth. It may seem a matter of little consequence whether or not the tariff syndicates are allowed to tax the Puerto Ricans as they see fit. The Puerto Ricans will suffer and the tariff trusts will profit, and there—some think so—the matter ends. Why bother about it?

But before this tax can be imposed before the profit of the tariff trusts and the tribute-paying of the Puerto Ricans begins, an American Congress must declare its authority superior to that of the American Constitution. It must do a thing which the Constitution distinctly prohibits. Having thus violated the Constitution, its act of violence must receive the official approval of the President of the United States, who will approve it despite the fact that in his message to Congress he took a stand against it.

This repudiation of the Constitution at the dictation of the trust times will be cautious indeed to the people of this country. What has been controlled once may be compelled again. A wrong done to one element of the American people furnishes a precedent for wrongs to other elements of the same people. And the Gargantuan greed of the tariff syndicates, sure of their grip on the American Government and people, is not likely to be satisfied with the Puerto Rican tribute as the full profit accruing from such power.

Does the American Constitution or the trust system govern the American people these days? This is the question to be answered by the action of Congress on the Puerto Rico tariff bill.

The question discussed by the Butter-makers' Convention at Lincoln: "What are nettles and are they the fault of the butter-maker?" seems to offer as open a field as the speech of the little girl: "I'm glad I don't like oysters, because if I liked 'em I'd eat 'em, and I hate 'em!"

It is well to remember that the victory of Kansas City in the fight for the National Democratic Convention is also a victory for St. Louis over Chicago. The Illinois city favored Milwaukee and threw all its strength to that candidate.

The British Consul in Chicago whose house was stoned by boys because he celebrated Washington's Birthday by displaying a British flag has doubtless been led to ponder a trifle on the eternal fitness of things.

Having seen how nicely the system worked in the case of American Consul Macrum, the British Government now announces that it will censor all cablegrams sent to international representatives at Pretoria.

Puerto Rico celebrated Washington's Birthday enthusiastically. The islanders seem to know that George Washington plants on their side of the tariff question with all the strength of his sayings and deeds.

Our new War College in Washington is to teach plans of campaign for war with European Powers—a very necessary instruction now that we are about to begin land-grabbing in the Old World.

It ought to comfort all wissers of the nuse to notice that even a Secretary of the Treasury couldn't make a speech on such a topic as national development without quoting poetry.

Secretary Hay's only way out seems to be to prove that Consul Macrum forged the "Victoria Regina" stickers. A number of impregnable hoppes stand in the way even there.

This is a mighty appropriate year for true American Democracy to signalize its unshaken loyalty to American faith by assembling in national convention on the Fourth of July.

Thanks to Kansas City's successful efforts, the next President of these United States now seems likely to be nominated on the Democratic soil of Old Missouri.

The Missouri Postmasters' Convention unanimously indorsed the Louisiana World's Fair in spite of the increased work which that event will throw upon them.

In celebrating the election of a President of the Anacias Club it is likely that the members of the Cotton Exchange will appropriately strike the lyre.

As between the power of the Constitution and that of the tariff trusts the Republican majority in Congress seems to give the latter supremacy.

In the immediate present the Vice Presidential hoe of Lieutenant Governor Woodruff of New York seems to have the apiary to itself.

Cronje isn't as pretty a name as Leonidas or Marco Bozzaris, but it promises to shine with equal glory in freedom's firmament.

When it comes to an alignment on the side of the Republic or the Empire, which side do you propose to take?

The Two Souls.

Which is the wiser soul—
The cynic, that flows not,
Because so often on life's pool
Falls disappointment's lint?
Or that which hopes despite
Its dead hopes unfulfilled,
With constant gaze turned ever to the light
Through trust distilled?

Measure the joys they know—
Those two souls of their kind.
Their happier moments as they go
Each to his way inclined.
O weary soul of doubt,
How foolish is thy part!
O childlike soul whose trust will not die out,
How wise thou art!

RIPLEY D. SAUNDERS.

GREAT CALAMITY TO HIS PARTY.

Littlefield Warns Republicans Against Passing the Puerto Rican Bill.

MAINE MAN'S ABLE EFFORT.

Bartholdt Arouses the Anger of Wheeler of Kentucky by Referring to the "Gadflies of Missouri."

Washington, Feb. 23.—An attempt was made in the House today after the reading of the Puerto Rican tariff bill to take a recess at 5 p. m. Near Tuesday, a special desire to close on Monday. Formal announcement was made that a Republican conference would be held at 8 p. m. tomorrow.

The leaders continue to express the belief that the bill will pass, but the impression is growing that a motion to recommit will be made to the Committee on Ways and Means with commands affirmative, negative and amendatory. Mr. Underwood, the Democratic "whip," made some arrangements to-day whereby Democrats to be present on Monday.

The speech of Mr. Littlefield of Maine was the feature of the day. He added to his reputation as the Robert Toombs of the House by his speech against the bill, which, he said, he will vote against and hope, given the best effort of the recognized leaders of the House, to make a profound impression, and when he concluded it was several minutes before the demonstration that followed could be quelled.

Among the others who made telling speeches against the bill were Messrs. Jones of Virginia and Maddox of Georgia, against the bill, and Messrs. Russell of Connecticut, Bartholdt of Missouri, Grosvenor of Michigan and Lacey of Iowa, for it. The debate continued at a night session.

Jones in Opposition.

Mr. Jones of Virginia, a member of the Ways and Means Committee, was the first speaker to-day. He discussed the conditions which existed upon the Island of Puerto Rico when left to the President's recommendation of free trade for her goods, and quoted from the testimony before his committee to show that the conditions were far worse now than when the President made his recommendation. He pictured the distress that prevailed on the island and declared that unless immediate relief came process of the actual starvation of many of the inhabitants.

Speaking of the real motive behind the bill, he charged that it was disclosed by Mr. Moody of Massachusetts yesterday when he declared that it was unwilling that the Americans should enjoy the industries of citizenship in the United States, which had been his birthplace as an American citizen.

Mr. Maddox of Georgia followed in opposition to the bill. In the course of his remarks he had read a long letter from former Secretary Secretary Turner of Georgia, in which he set forth his views upon the Ways and Means Committee, denouncing the "new theory of the Constitution" upon which the pending bill was based.

Bartholdt Favors It.

Mr. Bartholdt, Republican of Missouri, concluded the bill. "The constitutional question," said he, "are busy proving that Porto Rico is outside possession by treaty and govern them by authority of congress, not regardless of the Constitution, but rather without stretching it to cover upon territory. I am inclined to agree with them.

"There is room in the United states for millions yet, expansion is the watchwords of the hour. We are a nation of 80,000,000 people. As lawmakers and politicians we must deal with it, and if existing laws and constitutions do not cover it they must be [illegible].

"The material welfare of the American people depends upon commerce and trade and in the international struggle as much as philanthropy and philanthropist may depend on it, political systems are questions to be considered. The Russian absolutist, the American democrat, the French Republican and the German monarchist are on an equality. He alone has the advantage who by right of sovereignty can control the great markets to the exclusion of the other. It is indeed a question of conditions laws the same as presented in this bill.

"To withdraw from the Philippines would be a crime against the Filipinos and a disgrace in the eyes of the world.

Gadflies of Missouri."

Bartholdt referred to the recent speech of Boston of Needle, and said he would not at present reply to it. He asserted that Boston had astonished his friends by defending "The Gadflies of Missouri" for enacting a law which was aimed to punish the tariff by which the Republican party in Congress had enriched the Republican. He would not answer Boston now, he said, but in the meantime Congress would have all the facts, and it could be determined whether the nation, as a whole, had any interest in the Missouri elections or not.

Bartholdt then began his remarks on Puerto Rico, but Wheeler of Kentucky, evidently crazy at the reference to "Gadflies," arose and said he would like to ask the gentleman what he meant by "The Gadflies of Missouri?" He said that if Bartholdt meant to insult the people of Kentucky he should have the manliness to say so, in order that a member from that State could resent the slander upon his people.

Bartholdt said he did not represent any district in Kentucky, but that his people had seen fit to form the Nesbit law a "Gadflies law," and that was what he meant by "Gadflies." Wheeler responded:

"I don't want you to attempt to cast aspersions upon my people, or to refer to my right to lay my hand on Kentucky, about which you know absolutely nothing."

Wheeler's anger had not subsided. He warned Bartholdt not to trifle in intercourse with the people of his State, and continued: "Don't be surprised about your reception in the House."

Littlefield's Masterful Effort.

Mr. Russell of Connecticut, a member of the Ways and Means Committee, defended the bill, saying that if he had to vote upon it he would be for it. If the bill it would be the same. It would give to the island a protection for the time being which would relieve against the calamity to the island. Congress, he thought, should be asked to do all that could be done to relieve the island. He was entirely in favor of the bill, which he thought was a great measure.

Mr. Littlefield of Maine followed, speaking in the sixteen minutes allotted to him by Mr. Richardson, the Democratic leader.

"I oppose this bill," he began. "Because it is unconstitutional, unprecedented, unwarranted and unconstitutional.

He occupied a painful position, he said. He was compelled to differ from the party leaders and honorable and distinguished men of his party whose long experience in legislation made them worthy leaders. He was a Republican and should support Republican doctrines. But when a great question of right and wrong of principle was presented, he should do right, as God gave him to see the right. Applause. Republicans, he submitted that there were reasons why the pending bill should not receive the approval of the Republican party. He was not aware, he said, that any section of the Republican party at any spot or place had justified it.

Puerto Ricans' Wants.

Proceeding, Mr. Littlefield argued that the regeneration of the Island of Puerto Rico could be brought about by a loan which the United States could authorize it to raise. In 1866 Puerto Rico had manumitted 30,000 slaves without tumult or bloodshed, the people paying $15,000,000 to free the bondmen. Could not these people be asked, he trusted, to pay a trifling loan to be used for the relief of the island?

All that the people of Puerto Rico asked was a stable government and "hands off." They could take care of themselves. Puerto Rico could repay a loan of $50,000,000 if operating under free trade in free markets.

"I assert," said Mr. Littlefield, "that this bill is drawn against the advice of General Davis, Governor General of the Island; against the protest of the people of Puerto Rico; against the counsel of Secretary Root; against the recommendations of the President, and against the original recommendations of the chairman of the Ways and Means Committee."

Mr. Littlefield chided Mr. Payne with not making public the reasons for his change of heart. He thought he knew the reason, but he would not suggest it. But the gentleman from New York and the gentleman from Connecticut (Russell), he said, had declared that the importation of sugar and tobacco from Porto Rico would not interfere with our industries. If that were true, it would be interesting to know who suggested the change of view. He pledged no man in his direction to his party, and is was better for his political friends to lose their offices at home than have on their skirts, where they would be judged in the enlightened conscience of the American people.

Calamity to the Party.

The greatest calamity which ever overshadowed the Republican party, he said, was the calamity involved in the pending bill. (Applause.)

Mr. Littlefield said he would waste no time in quoting Jefferson, Jackson or Benton. For him it was sufficient if William McKinley had followed in the footsteps of Washington and Lincoln. And President McKinley had said that it was "the plain duty" of Congress to give free trade to Puerto Rico.

Mr. Littlefield directed his sarcasm against the bill, taking as an illustration a case of shipping lumber from Maine to Puerto Rico. At San Juan the duty was collected by the United States. Therefore, it had as well been collected by the United States when it left Maine. He assailed as a pretext the theory that this tariff for Puerto Rico was framed to raise revenue, when a duty on sugar and tobacco was levied, while coffee, of which the production was greater than both the other articles together, was to be imported free. This was the cheap philanthropy which said nothing.

He argued that if the industries of the United States were to be protected against those of the Philippines, the industries of those islands could never prosper. American capital would never go to them for investment. Puerto Rico would remain an orange for us to squeeze, the people the drawers of wood and drawers of water for the 7,000,000 inhabitants of the United States.

Plea for Justice.

General Miles, when his army had invaded Puerto Rico, had promised the natives the "immunities and blessings" of our Government, and they had crowned him with garlands and had kissed the flag. He would never vote, he said, to violate the promise that great soldier had made to the people of Puerto Rico. Mr. Littlefield then took up the legal phases of the question and concluded as follows:

"May our flag float over the whole Republic, in the continent and in the Orient, over the Pearl of the Antilles and the lovely islands of tropical climes, long and long after we have ceased to be and that it be emblem of our integrity and good faith, of liberty and freedom, of the inestimable blessings of Christian civilization, of human rights guaranteed by the Constitution, not dependent upon the caprice of will of State or national legislation, but forever fortified in the Constitution, not floating as empty bubbles on the perpetual surface of eloquent generalities, rights that are eternal and world-wide, not ephemeral and circumscribed, of opportunity, not of oppression and of regeneration, not regeneration. Thus, and thus only, shall it live and be cherished in the hearts and favor of Almighty God, the unsullied and untarnished symbol of our honor and glory and splendor.

Caucus Called.

Mr. Payne of Iowa followed in support of the bill. He had visited Puerto Rico and he spoke with the new sense of personal observation. He stated that the people of the island were not for free trade, but were for the protection of American industries in the pending bill. (Applause.)

Mr. Gardner of Michigan said the arguments for Indians as given in favor of this bill had been heard at every great forenoon meeting in the country. The people would be much relieved if the discussion would be cut short. Chief in sympathy, doubt and discontent among the people of Ohio.

Mr. Payne called attention to the fact that he had asked for a caucus on Monday, which would take the Republicans free on Tuesday, up to 2 p. m., when the final vote shall be taken.

Mr. Richardson, the Democratic leader, on the floor, responded to this and the opposition and [illegible] [illegible] a caucus of the Democrats that morning [illegible] the Republicans [illegible] Republican caucus would be held at 8 p. m. tomorrow.

The House then at 4:55 took a recess until 8 p. m.

At the night session Mr. Sulzer of New York vigorously opposed the bill as unwarranted and unconstitutional and against the rights of the Puerto Ricans and the policy and traditions of this country.

"The road to interstate," he said, "is a hard road to travel under the Constitution. We want no Puerto Rican stepdaughter in the Union, but one grand galaxy of great States, enjoying equal rights and equal prerogatives under the Constitution."

The others who spoke were White of North Carolina, for the bill, and Messrs. Lloyd of Missouri, Little of Arkansas, W. E. Williams of Illinois, Harrell of Alabama, Stark of Nebraska, Ryan and Green of Pennsylvania, Daly of New Jersey and Gilbert of Kentucky, against the bill.

At 9:25 the House adjourned.

MISSOURI DEMOCRATS.

COLONEL O. F. GUTHRIE OF ST. LOUIS.

Colonel Guthrie is a candidate for nomination as Railroad Commissioner. He was born fifty-eight years ago in Shelby County, Kentucky. In the Civil War he served in Gates's regiment, Cockrell's brigade. In the Spanish-American War he served in the Sixth Missouri Regiment as its Lieutenant Colonel. He was appointed Captain in the Forty-Fourth Regiment by the President for the Philippine service. On account of ill health, he was forced to retire from the service. He was appointed assistant general superintendent of railway mail service in Cleveland's first term; was appointed Street Commissioner for St. Louis by Mayor Noonan; was elected by the City Council a member of the Mullanphy Board.

PURE FOOD DELEGATES.

Governor Stephens Selects Missouri Representatives.

REPUBLIC SPECIAL.

Jefferson City, Mo., Feb. 23.—Governor Stephens to-day selected the following delegates from Missouri to the National Pure Food and Drug Congress, to be held in Washington, D. C., at Columbian University Lecture Hall, beginning at noon on Wednesday, March 7, 1900:

Charles H. Vandiver of Borland; Cyrus P. Clarke of Mexico, T. B. Carskadden of Dalton, W. M. Hamilton of Warrensburg, L. D. Blakesley, E. Musselman and C. F. G. Meyers of St. Louis, R. L. Gregory of Kansas City and M. R. Sinks of Jefferson City.

Also the following alternates:

Congressmen Dorsey W. Shackleford, James T. Lloyd, W. W. Rucker, John Dougherty, D. A. DeArmond, James Cooney, Champ Clark, Edward Robb, W. D. Vandiver and M. E. Benton, Washington, D. C.

PROGRAMME ARRANGED.

General M. E. Conference Will Meet in Chicago May 2.

Chicago, Feb. 23.—The committee having the matter in charge has arranged the following provisional programme for the General Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, which will begin its sessions in this city Wednesday, May 2.

The forenoons of each day will be devoted to the work of the general body, the afternoons to that of the standing committees, of which there are fourteen, and the evenings to anniversaries and lectures. The programme for the latter as far as agreed upon, is as follows:

May 2—Reception to the delegates and officials of the General Conference by the Chicago Methodist Social Union.

May 3—Lecture by the Honorable J. P. Dolliver of Iowa.

May 4—Anniversary of the Sunday School Union.

May 7—Reception to fraternal delegates.

May 8—Anniversary of the Missionary Society.

May 9—Anniversary of the Church Extension Society.

May 10—Lecture by Mrs. Maud Ballington Booth.

May 11—Presentation of the Twentieth Century movement.

May 12—Anniversary of the Women's Foreign Missionary Society.

May 14—Reception to fraternal delegates.

May 15—Anniversary of the Epworth League.

May 16—Mass meeting in the interest of city evangelization.

May 17—Anniversary of the Freedmen's Aid and Southern Education Society.

May 18—Lecture (Speaker to be announced.)

May 19—Anniversary of the Women's Home Missionary Society.

May 21—Reception to fraternal delegates.

May 22—Mass meeting in the interest of the colored work.

May 23—Anniversary of the Board of Education.

May 24—Lecture by Governor Theodore Roosevelt.

May 25—Grand temperance rally.

May 26—Reception to fraternal delegates.

There will be a service each Sunday afternoon at the Auditorium, the preacher to be selected from among the Bishops and distinguished visitors from beyond the sea.

HAGERTY AT McKENDREE.

Historical Souvenir Presented to the College.

REPUBLIC SPECIAL.

Lebanon, Ill., Feb. 23.—The Reverend T. H. Hagerty of St. Louis delivered an address to the students of McKendree College this morning, and at the conclusion presented to the college collection of historical relics a valuable souvenir of Missouri and national Methodism.

It is a case constructed of woods taken from historic churches, as follows: The lower from the old Union M. E. Church building, the oldest Methodist Episcopal church in St. Louis; the standard from the old McKendree Chapel, near Cape Girardeau, the first Methodist chapel built west of the Mississippi River, and the arm from the John Street Church, in New York, the first Methodist church built in America.

MAY BOYCOTT TOBACCO TRUST.

Wholesale Grocers Object to Recent Price Rating.

REPUBLIC SPECIAL.

Wichita, Kans., Feb. 23.—At the convention of the wholesale grocers in Kansas last night strong resolutions were passed that will express a fight against the tobacco trust. The trust recently cut down the wholesalers' profit on tobacco about 2 per cent and required each house to sell a certain quantity. This action is resented by the wholesalers, who threaten to quit handling the trust.

WILL INVITE DEWEY.

Bloomington Desires Him to Attend Its Celebration.

REPUBLIC SPECIAL.

Bloomington, Ill., Feb. 23.—The City Council to-night passed a resolution to extend to Admiral Dewey an invitation to attend the semi-centennial anniversary of the city's birth, which is to be held in May. The invitation is to be presented through Congressman Warner.

Switchman Fatally Injured.

Thomas R. Shank, a switchman for the Missouri Pacific Railroad was run down and killed in the Seventh Street Terminal yards Thursday night. While switching cars attached to engine No. 292, in charge of Engineer Thomas Hickman and Fireman Edward Kelly, he slipped and fell. The wheels passed over his left hand, severing it from the arm, and inflicting internal injuries. His companions found him in an unconscious condition, and called an ambulance to take him to the Missouri Pacific Hospital, but he died on the way. His body is still at the hospital. Shank, who was 37 years old, lived with his wife at No. 1622 Papin street.

John O. McMackin Dead.

REPUBLIC SPECIAL.

Salem, Ill., Feb. 23.—John O. McMackin, aged 19 years, son of James B. McMackin, who was injured in Sunday morning's fire at this place, died at 11 o'clock this morning.

CONFEREES AGREE ON CURRENCY BILL.

Bimetallic Amendment Modified Meaning Practically Nothing, It Is Declared.

PRESENTED TO THE SENATE.

"Clean-Cut Gold Standard Measure Throughout," Overstreet Terms It—Power of the Treasury Department.

Washington, Feb. 23.—An agreement on the gold-standard bill was reached by the conferees of the two houses of Congress today. The Republican members of the Conference Committee met in the morning with a draft of an agreement before them, of an agreement already substantially made and with the exception of rewriting a comma, soon.

The Democratic conferees—Senators Jones of Arkansas and Cox of Tennessee in the Senate and Messrs. Overstreet of Indiana and Fitzgerald of New York in the House—met in the afternoon and found that the Republican conferees had agreed among themselves. Mr. Overstreet was the member in charge of the House bill in the Republican caucus in the House last December, and, with the consent of Mr. Hooker, who is chairman of the House Committee on Banking, a motion was made to set aside all of those features of the bill.

Senator Aldrich of Rhode Island, although himself a good money speaker for the silver Senators, who had secured the insertion of the bimetallic amendment and was not willing to yield without consulting them. He had a talk with Senator Wolcott and others and found such hostility to reporting the bill without the bimetallic amendment that he returned to the Conference Committee, and declared that the amendment must be retained. The House conferees then yielded, and it was agreed to let the amendment remain in the bill.

Bimetallic Clause.

It remained only to send for the Democratic conferees—Senator Jones of Arkansas in the upper chamber and Judge Cox of Tennessee in the lower branch—and allow them to record their formal dissent from the action of the majority. Judge Cox could not be found, but Mr. Richardson of Tennessee, the Democratic leader of the House, was quickly substituted. It required but a few minutes for the Democratic members to declare that they could not support the conference report, but that they would place no obstacles in the way of its presentation to the Senate. Senator Aldrich took the corrected report into the Senate, where it was read and immediately taken up for consideration.

The bill, as reported by the Conference Committee, was declared by Mr. Overstreet after adjournment, to be "a clean-cut gold standard bill throughout." The only limitation upon this description, is the bimetallic clause, but that is understood to mean nothing, as it requires that international bimetallism shall be sought only when it is "expedient and practicable."

The bill has been changed in nearly every section from either of the bills passed by the two houses, but is declared by advocates of gold-standard legislation to be a stronger and more efficient measure than that passed by either house. The declaration of the gold standard is now independent of former laws and cannot involve any quibble as to whether gold has been the standard in the past or not. The gold dollar is made the standard for the future and it is declared that all other money of the United States shall be maintained at a parity with this standard. One of the changes made in conference is the addition of the words that "it shall be the duty of the Secretary of the Treasury to maintain said parity."

This provision was inserted when the Senate refused to adopt the language of the House bill, directly giving the action to the Secretary of the Treasury to exchange gold for silver in order to maintain parity. Agreement was finally reached upon the clause and giving absolute power to the Secretary to maintain parity in the terms quoted. More than this, the Secretary is authorized to use the increase in the fund in the Treasury resulting from the sale of bonds to carry out the purpose except to cover deficiencies.

May Increase the Reserve.

This language would permit the Secretary, in case the parity of silver or paper money were threatened, to strengthen his gold resources beyond the reserve of $150,000,000 which is directly set aside for the redemption of greenbacks and Sherman treasury notes. This reserve can be used for no other purpose than the redemption of these two classes of legal tender notes, and the Secretary of the Treasury is required to replenish the reserve by buying gold and making exchanges and, finally, by issuing 3 per cent bonds whenever the gold fund drops below $100,000,000.

The provision that the proceeds of bonds shall not be used to cover deficiencies has been added by the conference. The Secretary of the Treasury is authorized to purchase or redeem United States bonds from time to time with this money, but is not required to make such purchases and redemptions at once, while the money in excess of the "redemption" gold fund is going abroad. The clause which prohibits the use of any of this money to cover deficiencies will compel a complete separation of the ordinary expenses of the Government from the maintenance of the redemption fund.

A deficit cannot be covered by dipping into the gold reserve nor into the proceeds of bonds issued to maintain the reserve. It must be met by taxation or by the issue of the short-term treasury certificates authorized by the war revenue act and the transaction kept distinct from the measures taken to strengthen the reserve.

The House version of the provisions for supervision of issues and redemption fund in the Treasury is in language much stronger than that of the Senate bill.

Every fund in the custody of these divisions is made a trust fund available only for specific purposes as provided by law.

The significant fact is that the gold standard is invoked in this law, not as a thing to be taken for granted, but as a well-established fact, which cannot be disregarded by any Secretary of the Treasury without rendering him liable to impeachment for violation of his oath to obey and enforce the laws.

EARLY ACTION IS ASSURED.

World's Fair Committee Soon to Be Appointed.

REPUBLIC SPECIAL.

Washington, Feb. 23.—Speaker Henderson today gave an assurance to Mr. Seth W. Cole that the committee of nineteen for consolidating the St. Louis World's Fair bill will be appointed without unnecessary delay.

"I am making up the list now," said the Speaker, "and it will be announced as soon as possible."

Colonel Kerens has been cooperating with Mr. Cole and has seen many of his Republican friends in the House and Senate in favor of the bill. Governor Stone and chairman Sam Cook also have taken a hand in the matter and have urged upon Democrats of both houses the importance of early action on the bill.

A. A. Selkirk & Co.'s

Regular Saturday sale takes place every Saturday morning at 10:30 o'clock at their salerooms, 916-18-12 Chouteau avenue. Immense quantities of furniture, carpets, stoves and other miscellaneous articles are sold at very nominal figures.

ENTERTAINED MISS BARBER.

Secretary and Mrs. Hitchcock Gave a Dinner in Her Honor.

REPUBLIC SPECIAL.

Washington, Feb. 23.—Secretary and Mrs. Hitchcock gave a dinner last night to meet Miss Barber. Their other guests included Miss Alice Hay, Miss Root, Miss Cassels, Miss Glover, Miss Nott, Miss Curry Connally, the Misses Hitchcock, Mr. De Strale, Marquis Romano, Mr. Humphrey-Owen, Commander Von Rebeur, Mr. Rogestvensky, Mr. Siebert, Mr. Huidekoper, Lieutenant Hicks and Mr. Edie.