

Partly cloudy tonight and tomorrow; showers; light, variable winds.

The Washington Times.

GOOD HELP CAN BE HAD. Try a Times Want Ad.

NUMBER 3429.

WASHINGTON, SATURDAY, OCTOBER 31, 1903.

PRICE ONE CENT.

AUDITOR CASTLE URGED CHANGES IN HIS OFFICE

His Annual Report Sent to the Secretary of the Treasury and to the Postmaster General.

IMMEDIATE INCREASE OF ASSISTANTS ASKED

Plan of Avoiding Future Grafting in Connection With Patented Schemes Given Consideration.

The annual report of Capt. Henry A. Castle as Auditor for the Postoffice Department has been submitted to the Secretary of the Treasury and to the Postmaster General. A synopsis of the financial statements of the report showing the Postoffice Department handled more than a billion dollars last year, has already appeared in The Times.

Captain Castle points out clearly and specifically a number of cases in which he has to audit and be responsible for immense sums of money without knowing any of the details of its receipt or expenditure. The most glaring instance is in the enormous transactions between the Postoffice Department and the railroads. These accounts are handled in the office of the Second Assistant Postmaster General, but the particulars of how the \$50,000,000 annually expended for the service is disposed of do not come to the auditor, and he has to accept the bare statement of other officials of the department.

Haphazard Methods Alleged. Lack of proper accounting systems in the payments for stamps, the impossibility under present conditions of properly auditing the money orders accounts, the imperfect method of accounting for money received for second class postage and numerous other matters in which the Government is exposed to the possibility of enormous swindles are dwelt upon by the auditor. He pleads for a reform in the Washington postoffice regulations, in order that the dangers of the situation may be reduced.

Captain Castle has already resigned, and is only awaiting the appointment of his successor before going out of office, so that his recommendations have the merit of disinterestedness. It is probable they will attract wide attention. The report shows that in six years the increase in postal business has been 88 per cent, and the actual increase of work devolving on the auditor's staff 60 per cent. To meet this remarkable growth in business and responsibility the increase in the force of the auditor in the six years has been only 23 per cent. Captain Castle points out it is impossible with the present facilities to properly safeguard public interests. For that reason he urgently suggests the force of his office be increased by 120 clerks to handle work now thrown upon his employees. Should these suggestions be adopted by Congress and the auditor be given greater power to inquire into transactions involving millions, the force will have to be increased still further.

City Postoffice Work. The present system under which city postmasters are requisitioned to pay expenses not connected with their offices is all wrong, and should be stopped, the Auditor says. Abuse of this custom figured largely in the charge of Seymour W. Tulloch that the Washington postoffice had been made a bureau of the Postoffice Department, and had been tampered with by those politicians who did so much to bring the postal service into disrepute, leading to the investigations which have assumed such national importance.

He also suggests that greater latitude be given the Postmaster General in disposing of certain appropriations, in order that when necessity arises that official may make absolutely necessary expenditures without having to adopt subterfuges at which the Auditor has to wink in order to promote the public welfare.

A new idea advanced by Captain Castle is that the patent laws be amended so that when a patented article is needed by the Government the price to be paid for it shall be determined by a committee of experts who shall make allowances for profits and royalties, and if the inventor does not accept that price his monopoly arising from the patent shall be broken. This innovation is put forward because of the observation that the greater part of the scandals revealed by the investigations into the Postoffice Department have been shown to be due to the purchase of patented articles for which the manufacturers obtained excessive prices.

WEATHER REPORT.

Cloud areas cover the middle West and Southwest, and the interior of the middle and South Atlantic States. Heavy rain is reported from Kansas southward over the interior of Texas, and rain has fallen in the interior of the Atlantic States as far north as Virginia. Rain is also reported in the northern lake region, and the upper Mississippi Valley.

Generally cloudy weather with scattered rains is indicated for the Ohio valley, and the middle and South Atlantic and east Gulf States. No decided changes in temperature will occur in the middle Eastern and Southern districts during the next thirty-six hours.

THE TEMPERATURE.
9 a. m. 47
12 noon 47
1 p. m. 47

THE SUN.
Sun sets tomorrow, 5:02 p. m.
Sun rises tomorrow, 5:20 a. m.

TIDE TABLE.
High tide today, 4:09 p. m.
High tide tomorrow, 4:31 a. m., 5:05 p. m.
Low tide tomorrow, 11:15 a. m., 11:45 p. m.

KISHNEF PETITION PUT IN HAY'S HANDS

Simon Wolf Takes It to State Department.

PRESIDENT THEN INFORMED

Secretary to Make Public an Acknowledgment to Officers of B'Nai B'Rith Order.

Simon Wolf, representing the executive council of the Independent Order of B'Nai B'Rith, called on Secretary Hay this morning and formally presented the Kishnef petition bearing the signatures of 50,000 Americans of all creeds. This petition was presented to the President shortly after the terrible massacre of Jews in Russia, and asks that the United States do all in its power to check the cruelty of the Russians. Although the Emperor of Russia signified his unwillingness to accept the petition from President Roosevelt, it is to be filed away in the archives of the State Department and was prepared for filing by Mr. Wolf.

In Permanent Form. The petition is printed in handsome form, with the signatures of the persons bound in a handsome volume and inclosed with the petition in a handsome mahogany case with silver trimmings. It is accompanied by a letter signed by President Leo N. Levy, of the B'Nai B'Rith, in which he expresses the gratitude of that organization for the interest President Roosevelt, Secretary Hay and other prominent Americans have taken in the welfare of the persecuted Jews.

Box Contained Petition. The box containing the petition bore the following inscription: "Petition to the Emperor of Russia, by citizens of the United States of America, in relation to massacre of Jews in Kishnef, Bessarabia, 1903. Deposited for transmission by the Independent Order of B'Nai B'Rith."

Hay to Make Reply. Secretary Hay took the letter to President Roosevelt shortly after Mr. Wolf's call. An answer will be made public by Secretary Hay.

The members of the committee, which Mr. Wolf represented are: Leo N. Levy, president of the B'Nai B'Rith, New York; Simon Wolf, Washington; Jacob Furth, Cleveland; Adolph Moses, Chicago; Joseph D. Coons, Wilkesbarre; Sol Sulzberger, New York; Julius Bien, New York.

PRESIDENT PARDONS REFORMED MURDERER

Action Due to Respectable Life Since Commission of Crime Over Forty Years Ago.

The War Department this week performed an unusual act of mercy. Through its intercession and recommendation, the President has pardoned a military prisoner who committed murder more than forty years ago. He was imprisoned for life, but escaped, and has since led a respectable life in Tennessee, raised a family, and is held in esteem by the community wherein he resides, despite the fact that his past history seemed by its well known.

A short time ago the attention of the department was directed to the case, and action had to be taken. The department withholds the name of the man, on account of his present good standing.

AMBASSADOR CHOATE OFFENDS FREE-TRADERS

Englishmen Resent "Interference" in Tariff Discussion and Recall Sackville-West Incident.

LONDON, Oct. 31.—Many of the adherents of former Colonial Secretary Chamberlain's preferential tariff scheme are greatly annoyed by American Ambassador Choate's recent address, in which he quoted Benjamin Franklin as saying that "any policy which sought the aid of either the mother country or the colonies at each other's expense, was partial, unjust, and mischievous." It seems that the free-traders are using this quotation most effectively in their campaign against Chamberlain's scheme, the saying having additional weight as coming from Ambassador Choate. The Chamberlainites, on the other hand, think it is doubtful propriety on Choate's part to refer in any way to the English tariff discussion, and recall the Sackville-West incident. As the quotation used by Ambassador Choate was from a letter written in 1774 it is impossible to complain formally of his statement.

PAYMASTER DIES IN HONOLULU. Paymaster Stewart Rhodes, U. S. N., died yesterday in the naval hospital at Honolulu from the effects of an operation for appendicitis. The operation was performed October 25. Paymaster Rhodes was appointed to the navy from Ohio in 1894.

SEVEN STUDENTS KILLED IN WRECK ON THE BIG FOUR

Purdue University Football Special Crashes Into Freight.

MEMBERS OF TEAM DEAD

For Several Blocks Injured Lie Along Tracks, Screaming With Pain.

INDIANAPOLIS, Oct. 31.—In a wreck on the Big Four Railroad in this city this morning seven Purdue students, who were coming to this city to play football this afternoon, are known to have been killed and ten were injured.

The train, bearing 1,300 students and their friends, crashed into a freight engine drawing a gravel train at Holton Place. These were killed outright:

George Shaw, Indiana Harbor, freshman; W. D. Hamilton, Illinois, member of team; Jay Hamilton, Huntington, Ind., member of team; A. R. Powell, Texas, member of team; E. E. Robertson, Indianapolis, died soon afterward; two unknown dead.

Others May Be Dead. It is believed there are four others dead under the engine, or under the first car.

The injured: H. J. Wright, Pendleton, seriously injured; George Baldy, New Richmond, may die; Clark Myers, L. K. Rasch, Dennis Long, seriously; Joe Knatt, Will Sprague, seriously; Charles Langman, severely; Dr. Barting, seriously; W. F. McLannan, both legs broken.

For two blocks each way the injured were lying along the tracks, screaming with pain. The train was due here at 10:30 this morning. The accident happened at a point where the Big Four turns a sharp curve. A gravel train, that did not know of the special train's orders, was hurrying north. Both trains were going at a twenty-mile rate when the collision came.

SURPLUS ALMOST GONE INSTEAD OF PILING UP

Treasury Report Shows How Conditions Have Changed.

18 MILLIONS LAST YEAR

Sugar and Steel Linked With Articles of Luxury Which Have Been Imported Less.

Today's Treasury statement, which will show conditions at the close of the first four months of the fiscal year, will exhibit almost a startling contrast to the statement issued a year ago. Then there was a surplus, in round numbers, of \$18,500,000. Now this surplus is almost eliminated.

The statement of October last year showed \$12,000,000, together with \$5,000,000 of anticipated interest, making the total surplus about one-third of that for the entire fiscal year, which was \$54,000,000. The surplus shown today is \$388,582.

Customs Fall Off. The wiping out of the surplus is explained by decreased receipts and increased expenditures. Customs receipts have declined about \$3,000,000, while there have been increases in expenses of about \$5,000,000 for the navy, the same sum for civil and miscellaneous, and a million for the army. Indian expenditures fell off about a million. This shows roughly why the difference in the amount of the surplus exists.

The falling off of customs receipts in September and October was largely in the sugar and steel schedules. There is also a falling off in the importation of articles of luxury. It is predicted the showing now made will result in Congress insisting on greater economy.

SUGGESTS ELECTRIC MOTOR FOR WATER DEPARTMENT

W. A. McFarland, Superintendent of the Water Department, has transmitted to the Commissioners an offer from Gould & Eberhardt to furnish an electric motor and connections for driving the twenty-inch shaping machine bought by the District for the Engineer Department. Mr. McFarland recommends that the offer be accepted, the cost being \$270.

SECOND TRIAL FOR KNUDSON.

Lieut. Knud Knudson, Seventh Infantry, is to be brought before another court-martial on charges received at the War Department since the first court sentenced him to dismissal and imprisonment for irregularities in accounts. As the court-martial case has not been acted upon it is not too late to bring him before another court.

Best Blinds, Any Size, \$1.00 at Libbey & Co.'s, 6th and N. Y. ave. ad.-adv.

SANFORD B. DOLE TO BE SUCCEEDED BY G. R. CARTER

Hawaiian Governor to Become United States District Judge.

PRESIDENT'S CLASSMATE

Newly Appointed Executive Identified With Business Interests of Islands.

President Roosevelt today announced the appointment of Gov. Sanford B. Dole to be United States district judge for Hawaii, to succeed Judge M. M. Estee, who died recently. The appointment of George R. Carter to be governor of Hawaii, to succeed Governor Dole, was also announced.

Immediately after the announcement of the death of Judge Estee, it became known that Governor Dole's friends were earnestly supporting him for the appointment. He has been identified with the progress of the islands for years, and was the head of the provisional government that existed prior to the acquisition of Hawaii by the United States.

Mr. Carter is secretary of the Territory. He was born in Honolulu, and was a classmate of President Roosevelt at Harvard. He has recently been in this country for the purpose of negotiating the sale of the Hawaiian bonds. Mr. Carter is identified with large business interests in the islands, and is a young man of marked ability. The term for which he is appointed, the unexpired one of Governor Dole, will end May 9, 1904.

It is expected that the appointments will be confirmed by the Senate at the extra session.

HOLIDAY AND PAY DAY MAKES TEACHERS HAPPY

New System Proves to Be a Big Success.

CHECKS AHEAD OF TIME

Expected Delay Did Not Materialize and Officers Are Being Praised.

The school teachers in the District of Columbia are happier today than for many weeks, and felicitations in abundance are being heaped upon the head of Disbursing Officer Rogers. The reason for this universal joy is because today is a school holiday, Halloween, and incidentally the first pay day of the school year.

It is admitted, however, that this last named consideration, involving the transfer of title to a goodly number of the District's hard earned dollars, is most potent in effecting this much to be desired condition.

Change in Method. The fact is that although today is the first pay day, 1,578 out of a total of 1,596 public school teachers were paid yesterday, as a matter of special courtesy on the part of Mr. Rogers, who is the fountain source of monthly remuneration.

Two weeks ago the Commissioners announced a change in the method of issuing pay to teachers, and much adverse comment was heard, a fear being expressed that under the new system the welcome warrants would not be forthcoming until a week after the end of the month.

Worked Like a Charm. Just to show the teachers and the public what the Disbursing Office is capable of doing, Mr. Rogers put the new system into working order October 29, and on October 30 all but eighteen of the teachers received their checks.

In operation, the custom previously in force, the pay would not have been due until today, and as it is Saturday, there would have been "nothing doing" until Monday. Thus, the new method is declared to be working "like a charm," and everybody, including the Disbursing Officer, is contented.

NO GENERAL ELECTION IN CANADA THIS YEAR

TORONTO, Ont., Oct. 31.—There will be no general election in Canada this year. It was intended to hold a general election this fall, but owing to the late date of the prorogation of the Dominion parliament, it has been decided to postpone it until next summer.

Then, it is understood, the Federal government will take action to procure larger powers in the negotiation of treaties with the mother country, and this, together with an increase in the duties on imported goods and the Grand Trunk Pacific Railway scheme, is expected to sweep the country.

ORDERED IN COMMISSION.

The commandant at the New York Navy Yard has been directed to place the Columbia in commission. It will be assigned to the Atlantic Training Squadron. The commandant at the Portsmouth (N. H.) Navy Yard has been directed to place the Cleveland in commission.

See Page 10, Bargains in Houses. For sale by Stone & Fairfax.

POLITICAL FATE OF MANY INVOLVED IN THE BATTLE OF BALLOTS ON TUESDAY

POLITICAL PARTIES READY FOR FRAY

Elections for Governor will be held on Tuesday in the following States:

IOWA. MASSACHUSETTS.
KENTUCKY. MISSISSIPPI.
MARYLAND. OHIO.
RHODE ISLAND.

Greater New York elects a Mayor. New York State elects a judge of the Court of Appeals. Elections for minor State officials in Colorado, Nebraska, and Pennsylvania. Congressional Elections in Ohio, Pennsylvania, Kentucky, and Texas.

MRS. BOOTH-TUCKER'S REMAINS EN ROUTE

Salvation Army Leaders Gather in New York.

SCENES IN PRINCESS RINK

Before Departure of Funeral Train Chicago Women Paid Last Tribute to Her Memory.

CHICAGO, Oct. 31.—Thousands of mourners gathered about the bier of Consul Emma Booth-Tucker in Princess Rink last night. Impressive services of a simple and touching nature were held by the Salvation Army, who had planned a few days before to assist Mrs. Booth-Tucker in a series of meetings.

Flowers of all kinds were heaped on and about the casket by co-workers of the dead woman. Humble residents of the slums and society women stood side by side at the bier. Commander Booth-Tucker was overcome by grief and swooned. A dispatch from Gen. William Booth was received from London extolling his daughter and condoling with her husband. Shortly before midnight the body was removed to the Michigan Central Depot and put on a train for New York.

Funeral Services Today. In a coach behind the car containing the remains were the grief stricken husband and officers of the army from the Chicago headquarters. The train departed at 3 a. m. Upon its arrival in New York the body will be conveyed to Carnegie Hall, where more formal services are to be held tomorrow afternoon.

Commander Booth-Tucker expects a communication from Gen. Booth selecting the place of burial. The wishes of Mrs. Booth-Tucker's father will determine whether she will be finally interred in New York or London.

Captain and Mrs. Roper, and Staff Captain and Mrs. Roper, the latter in charge of the local industrial Home of the Salvation Army, will go to New York today to attend the funeral services of Mrs. Booth-Tucker. All branches of the Salvation Army in New York will attend, and officers from all over the country are speeding to the metropolis to pay their last respects to the noted woman.

A dispatch was received in New York yesterday from Major Potter, of Kansas City, stating that he had received information that Colonel Holland had died in a hospital at Fort Madison, Iowa, and asking for instructions regarding the disposition of the body. Colonel Holland was injured in the wreck that cost Mrs. Booth-Tucker her life.

POLICE SEEK POWER TO CONTROL VEHICLES

Major Sylvester Makes an Appeal to the District Commissioners.

Major Sylvester has appealed to the Commissioners for the enactment of a law which will invest the department with authority to control the location of vehicles in public places and on public occasions.

The reason for the request is the opinion recently submitted to the Commissioners by Assistant Corporation Counsel Pugh to the effect that no prosecution could be had under the regulation regarding locations for licensed vehicles.

Mr. Pugh states the regulation gives to a police officer too much discretionary authority, and that when a regulation gives a policeman the right to say what portion of the streets shall be occupied by vehicles, it gives him the right to make regulations, which is unlawful.

CHRYSANTHEMUM SHOW. The chrysanthemum show which has been open at the Propagating Gardens all the week will be continued tomorrow from 9 a. m. to 4 p. m. Colonel Symons has extended an invitation to the public.

Watch for OGD AHT. There's money in it.—Adv.

SYMPATHY WITH FAMILY OF DEAD MILL GIRL

Allentown Believes Murder Was Not Premeditated.

BECHTEL'S FUNERAL TODAY

Counsel Will Ask Writ to Enable Imprisoned Suspects to Attend Obsequies.

ALLENTOWN, Pa., Oct. 31.—James L. Schaadt, counsel for the mother, brother and sister of Mabel Bechtel, the mill girl murdered at her home either Sunday or Monday night, said this morning that he would apply for a writ of habeas corpus to permit the brothers and Alois Eckstein, the girl's fiance, to attend the funeral of Thomas Bechtel, who committed suicide in jail Thursday night. The funeral will be held this afternoon.

The general opinion here today is that the coroner, at his inquest into the girl's death, indicated the true state of affairs when he charged the Bechtel family and Eckstein with being accessories after the fact. There is also no question now that Thomas Bechtel, the girl's brother, who committed suicide, was the guilty party.

Coroner's Jury Verdict. The verdict of the coroner's jury, arrived at last night, was as follows: "That Hannah Mabel Bechtel came to her death at 827 Cedar Street, between Sunday morning, October 26, and Tuesday morning, October 27, and that death was due to a fractured skull from a blow inflicted by some person in a house unknown to the jury. We believe that the inmates of the house—Mrs. Catharine Bechtel, Miss Myrtha Bechtel, John Bechtel, Charles Bechtel, and Alois Eckstein—are accessories after the fact to the crime."

Sympathy With Family. The feeling of the general public today toward the family has changed. Where formerly it was one of anger and antipathy, it is now one of deepest sympathy with them in what is believed to have been the terrible result of an accident. No one can be found who will accuse Thomas Bechtel of willfully murdering his sister.

The belief is that he did not even intend to injure the girl seriously, but that in the heat of an argument with her regarding her indiscretions, he struck her harder than he intended, and that the succeeding actions were but efforts on his part and that of his family to cover up the accidental crime and save him from punishment for the act.

ONE KILLED, TWO HURT, IN WRECK ON PENNSY

Traffic Blocked Over Westbound Track Near Neshamany Falls, Pa.

TRENTON, N. J., Oct. 31.—Joseph Gorman, assistant foreman of a track gang, was killed and two Italians were injured at Neshamany Falls, Pa., this morning by the breaking of a driving rod on an engine of the two-hour express between New York and Philadelphia.

The accident occurred a short distance west of Neshamany Falls Station. An axle of the engine parted, throwing the locomotive and two day coaches over the westbound track. The cars were not overturned, and the two Pullmans on the rear of the train remained on the track. Both tracks were blocked by the accident. Traffic over the eastbound track was resumed at 11:30 o'clock, and the westbound track will be cleared early this afternoon.

Gorman was almost instantly killed. With his gang he was waiting the passing of the train on the westbound track. The Italians were brought to Trenton.

ESTATE LEFT TO WIFE. The will of Ewell A. Dick, dated May 21, 1891, was today offered for probate. He leaves his estate to his wife, Mildred McEwen Dick, who is named executrix.

Brochural troubles are often permanently cured by Pilo's Cure for Consumption. 25c per bottle. Adv.

Governors of Seven Commonwealths to Be Chosen, as Well as Minor Officials in Other States.

Tammany and the Fusion Forces in Throes of a Bitter Struggle for the Control of Greater New York.

Much Interest Centers in the Campaigns Going on in Ohio and Maryland. Gorman in a Hot Fight.

Seven governors, together with State officers, and minor officials in four other States will be chosen at the polls next Tuesday. Four members of Congress will also be elected to fill existing vacancies. National interest and perhaps national significance also attaches to the result on the same day in New York city, where the contest for mayor and city officials is between the Tammany Democracy and the Fusion forces, made up of Republicans and Independent Democrats. The fate of two United States Senators is also directly involved in the result of next week's elections.

Of the seven States which will elect governors this fall, four at present have Democratic executives—Maryland, Kentucky, Rhode Island, and Mississippi, and in three—Iowa, Massachusetts, and Ohio—the governors are Republicans. It is not unlikely that each will continue its present political complexion.

The State Campaigns. So far as the State campaigns are concerned interest centers in Ohio and Maryland, in the former because of the spectacular campaign made by Tom L. Johnson, mayor of Cleveland, and Democratic candidate for governor, and because the Legislature chosen will name Senator Hanna's successor, and in Maryland, because it is generally conceded that Democratic success there may mean the nomination by the Democrats next year of Senator Gorman for President.

Democratic defeat would practically eliminate him from the race. The Legislature chosen will determine whether Senator McComas, Republican, will succeed himself in the Senate.

In Ohio there seems to be no doubt of the defeat of Johnson and the election of Myron T. Herrick; the only question is as to the size of the majority. Republicans claim anywhere from 75,000 to 110,000, while 50,000 appears to be assured. Johnson has many enemies in his own party, particularly in Cincinnati and southern Ohio, where the influence of John R. McLean is strong. Johnson is making a light campaign, his home county of Cuyahoga, in which Cleveland is situated, and hopes to elect a Democratic Legislature, which will defeat Senator Hanna. Here, too, his chances of success are slim, although he will doubtless carry Cleveland.

McComas seems to have the prediction that the Republicans will have a majority of at least fifteen, on joint ballot in the Legislature, thus insuring the return of Senator Hanna.

Iowa and Massachusetts. In Iowa the Republicans are certain to re-elect Governor Cummins and their entire State ticket, although their majority of 33,000 in 1901 will doubtless be reduced to something between 20,000 and 30,000. The Democratic candidate, the Hon. Jerry B. Sullivan, is a free silver man, running on an anti-silver platform.

Massachusetts elects a governor every year, and this year there is some uncertainty among the Republicans as to the State over the party for Governor Bates, who is a candidate for re-election. Last November he had a plurality of 37,000, about one-half Governor Crane had the year before. Colonel Gaston, the Democratic nominee now, was Bates' opponent last year. He is a millionaire, and has been at work for nearly two years performing an organization which in this year doing effective work. The Republicans have been called upon to defend their administration, and recently Governor Bates has been obliged to make answer to the charge of receiving \$3,000 from a lobbyist while he (Bates) was lieutenant governor. He declares that the amount was a loan, and the Democrats are making insinuations, but no direct accusations.

The Republicans are somewhat alarmed and are making an effort to arouse the voters. They concede that Governor Bates may be re-elected, but they believe he will be re-elected. The chances are still much in his favor, although the election of a Democratic governor is a possibility, but only a possibility. Should a Democratic governor be chosen, Massachusetts would undoubtedly bring forth the Hon. Richard Olney as a candidate for the Presidency.

All Democratic in Mississippi. A Democratic certainty in the election in Mississippi. The Republicans have no ticket in the field, and the election on Tuesday will be merely the ratification of the result in the Democratic primaries of last August when three rival Democrats fought for the nomination for governor, and a second primary contest selected the Hon. J. K. Vardaman.

In Kentucky, where Governor Beckham is a candidate for re-election, the chances also seem to strongly favor Democratic success, although the Republicans are making a hard fight.