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WRANGLE OVER RENT

The Venezuelan War Scare Is Reduced to a Small Item.

A DEBATE IN THE SENATE

Gorman is Amazed at This Condition of Affairs—Peffer's Bond Resolution Goes Over—The Harbors.

Washington, April 24.—Sherman sought to take up the bill proposing the repeal of the law giving a rebate of tax on alcohol used in the arts, but, owing to the opposition from Chandler and Platt, the measure went over. The sundry civil appropriation bill was then taken up.

At 2 o'clock the bond resolution was laid before the senate, and Peffer, its author, proposed modifications to meet the criticisms in the recent speech of Hill. Modified, the resolution strikes out the direction that the special committee of five senators shall inquire whether any officer of the government made any contract or agreement in connection with the bond issues with the intent to receive commission or personal reward, and also the provision that not more than two of the senators on the committee of inquiry shall be members of the same political party. The resolution then went over by agreement.

A Venezuelan debate came up when the item of the summary civil bill was reached authorizing the Venezuelan commission to pay rent for its quarters out of the \$100,000 appropriated for its expenses. Gorman suggested that an explanation was in order. In great haste and in great emergency congress had appropriated \$100,000 at the suggestion of the president, for the purpose, as we supposed, of preventing a war.

But now it appears that the legislation was not effective in giving quarters for the Venezuelan commission. Allison explained that the comptroller of the treasury had ruled that the Venezuelan appropriation could not be used for renting buildings within the District of Columbia. Allison added that the comptroller was very rigid in his rulings, as was well known.

Gorman expressed amazement at this condition of affairs. Amid great excitement, on the advice of the president, congress had made an appropriation for the Venezuelan committee. It is designed to settle a conflict between the two greatest nations on earth. And yet, here steps in a comptroller of the treasury and says this momentous commission is without power to pay its rent.

Allison interrupted to say that the condition was really ridiculous, and yet it existed and had to be met. "There is a feeling prevalent through the country," said Gorman, "that the emergency in this Venezuelan question is past, if indeed it ever existed. At all events, it is gratifying to know that this grave question has dwindled down to a question of rent of quarters for the Venezuelan commission."

Allen said it was singular that the Venezuelan commission had not taken quarters in the state department instead of renting private quarters. Gorman insisted on having the Venezuelan item go over until he could communicate with the treasury department. The sectarian question came up in a new form when the items were reported appropriating for the Providence and Garfield hospitals at Washington for the care of destitute invalids.

Gallinger proposed an amendment requiring a contract to be made by the Providence hospital. This brought forward in some general statements on the sectarian question. He said he confessed his amazement that the congress of the United States, or any party in control of congress, should be so far swept from the plain dictates of justice as to raise the sectarian question against hospitals. If it were for political purposes, Gorman declared, it would react on its authors. Gorman moved to lay the amendment on the table, and the motion prevailed without dissent.

Chandler endeavored to have restrictions placed on the expenditures of the attorney general, in order to avoid deficiencies, and falling in this, remarked: "Then, if we cannot have the reform, I hope we will have a new president of the United States, who will give us new district attorneys and marshals to keep down the expenditures." Gorman withdrew opposition to the Venezuelan item, and it was adopted. The joint resolution giving to Senator Mantle of Montana and Senator Clark of Wyoming salary from March 4, 1894, instead of from the date of election, was adopted. At 5:40 p. m. the senate adjourned until to-morrow.

In the House. Washington, April 24.—By unanimous consent bills were passed empowering the city of Tucson, Arizona, to issue bonds of \$100,000 for the construction of a water and sewer system and to authorize the return free of duty articles exported for exhibition purposes. Pension bills favorably acted upon Friday night were passed. Among them was one to pension the widow of the late Brigadier General Ferdinand Vandervoer at the rate of \$50 a month. The house proceeded with the debate on the pension bill. Dayton, democrat, Ohio, criticized some features of the measure. He especially criticized the section of the bill which gives pensions to deserters. Tracey of Missouri endorsed the bill.

Connolly, republican, Illinois, supported the bill in the main, but criticized the provision which would grant pensions to deserters from the confederate ranks. "I declare," said he, "that a man who casts his fortunes with the confederacy and remained there until he found the cause failing and then deserted to join the union army was at least a coward." (Applause.) Proceeding, he said he had no criticism to offer against the thousands of men, especially in Tennessee and Kentucky, who were in sympathy with the union but who were conscripted and forced into the confederate service. They took the first opportunity to escape to the union lines.

committee at \$100 per month, but Plickler, chairman of the committee, moved to amend by making the rate \$75. He explained that there had been considerable comment upon the tendency to give large pensions to officers and officers' wives. He thought the complaint without just foundation, and he advocated moderation in fixing the amount in such cases.

The Harbor Committee. Washington, April 24.—The senate committee on commerce spent the greater part of the session to-day considering the problem of a deep water harbor for Southern California at either Santa Monica or San Pedro, with a view of harmonizing the committee and securing a substantial agreement. Several compromise propositions were discussed. While none of them was acted upon, there is a probability that the entire subject may be placed in the hands of a commission. It is as yet uncertain whether, if this solution is accepted, any appropriation will be provided, but some members of the committee advocate the policy of allowing the appropriation as made yesterday, to stand subject to favorable reports by the commission.

The proposition for the commission was made by Senator Nelson, who said he was acting as a disinterested senator entirely for the purpose of offering a solution of the difficulty. He suggested the proposed commission be composed entirely of men who have not acted upon any of the commissions heretofore appointed upon the subject, and it should be made up of an engineer of the army, a master of the coast and geodetic survey, and civil engineers. Senator White responded that he would be willing to accept the suggestion, but Frye and Jones, who are favorable to Santa Monica, said they would prefer to consider the question Monday.

It is understood to be White's intention to introduce a minority report in case no compromise is effected in the committee. A large number of telegrams have been received during the day by members of the committee from residents of Los Angeles, advising the appropriation, as decided upon by the committee yesterday, be accepted.

The committee also put the Oakland, Cal., harbor improvements under the continuing contract system, estimating \$741,000 for the completion of the work, \$75,000 to be expended next year. As the bill left the house it appropriated \$100,000 for the next year, but did not put the work under the continuing contract system.

Utah Is Attended To. Washington, April 24.—Bills were passed in the senate to-day appropriating \$500,000 for a public building in Salt Lake and \$188,000 for a public building at Ogden, Utah.

No Vote on the Canal. Washington, April 24.—The house committee on commerce to-day, after discussion, concluded to postpone the vote on the Nicaragua canal until a hearing could be given Colonel Ludlow, head of the canal commission, recently returned from London by the secretary of war, presumably to appear before the committee. Some members opposed delay on account of the expected early adjournment of congress.

Parliamentary excitement. Ottawa, Ont., April 24.—The excitement in parliament circles here to-day was intense. After prorogation last night came dissolution to-day. There is, therefore, no longer any parliament or representative of parliament. The ministry hold office and are responsible to the governor general.

WAR ON HOBO MEN

TRAMPS DRIVEN OUT OF WALLACE BY CITIZENS.

They Are Headed Towards Montana—More of the Same Class Will Be Sent Here.

Special Dispatch to the Standard.

Missoula, April 24.—A special to the Standard from Wallace to-night says: Wallace has been overrun with tramps and tough citizens for some time past. Families have been terrorized and the city generally overrun. Ten nights ago an attempt was made to burn the Carter hotel, full of guests. A bundle of shavings, saturated with coal oil, was set afire against the back porch but was discovered just in time to prevent a holocaust just in time to prevent a holocaust. Yesterday a number of the hoboes were ordered to leave town. They did not go and to-day the city marshal attempted to arrest them. He succeeded only after a knock-down struggle. They refused to work or do anything else, so at 4 o'clock this afternoon eight of them, seven men and a boy of about 16 years, were strung together by a rope and marched out of town towards Missoula by the marshal and the mayor and several hundred citizens. They were warned not to return, as only honest workmen and good citizens are wanted in this part of Idaho. Several more of the same brand will be started toward the Montana line to-morrow.

OLD FRIENDS.

The "Standard" Solicitors Meeting With Success in Wallace.

Special Dispatch to the Standard. Wallace, Idaho, April 24.—The Standard solicitors met many old friends of the paper on their arrival this afternoon. It was evening before the work was started, but the results are good. It will take several days to complete the canvass, which will be extended through Burke, Gem, Warden and West. A carrier will probably be introduced here. Butte and Anaconda old-time patrons of the paper are assisting in the work of the solicitors. At no time since the silver crash has there been in Eastern Idaho such a bright outlook for prosperity and permanence of the towns of this section. Every one is looking forward to a year of prosperity.

Incorporated.

Special Dispatch to the Standard. Helena, April 24.—George Washington of Butte, J. H. Marong of St. Paul and others today incorporated the St. Paul & Butte Mining company with a capital stock of \$100,000.

IT'S A FLAT FAILURE

The British Repulsed in Their Attack on the Matabeles.

A SORTIE AT EARLY MORN

While the Troops Killed Nearly a Thousand Natives, they Are Defeated With a Heavy Loss—Worse for Buluwayo.

Cape Town, April 24.—Telegraphic communication with Buluwayo was restored for a time to-day. News from the beleaguered town is conflicting. It appears that the British forces, in a sortie, encountered the Matabeles and a large number of the latter were killed. The official version of the sortie says that the British force, shortly after midnight, was called to arms, and without apparently alarming the native part of the town, a force of about 200 men under Captains Napier and Duncan, with one Maxim gun and a Hotchkiss quick-firing gun, mustered outside the barbed wire defenses, were served with a ration of rum and saddled up with a dash at the enemy's lines. Swords and all existing accoutrements were denuded with cloth and the set of the horses composing the advance guard were "bagged" (hoofs covered with strong sacking.)

Owing to the precautions it was necessary to take there was considerable delay in getting off, and the first streaks of the horizon could be seen when the columns arrived within striking distance of the enemy. The latter were quietly camped behind their stone-topped earthworks about four miles from Buluwayo. But, contrary to expectations, the Matabeles had their own outposts, which, although surprised by the advance guard, raised the alarm. This was no sooner done than the troops in advance charged and shot down many of the natives. This was the signal for the advance of the main body of the troops and they galloped forward in fine style to the support of their comrades. Unfortunately for the plans of Captains Napier and Duncan, by this time it was getting quite light and the Matabeles had sprung to arms all along the Buluwayo front. The advance force were received by scattering rifle fire from behind the earthworks, but the advance guard charged right up the mounds and spurred their horses over them in several places. Then followed a set-back for the troops. The advance guard, being in force and drove the main body of the Buluwayo force by the main body of the Matabeles, who were camped at about 400 yards on the Matabeles position. This was kept up until broad daylight, when the advance was ordered in view of the fact that too much ammunition was being wasted. Up to this time the loss on either side had not been heavy, although the Matabeles had by far the best of it, especially when the Maxim and Hotchkiss guns were brought into play to cover the retreat of the advance guard.

Just previous to the advance on the Matabeles position the two rapid-fire guns were again set to work, and for about a quarter of an hour they were made to sweep the Matabeles position in front of the British force. When the right moment seemed to arrive the charge was ordered and there was a prolonged period of sharp fighting at close quarters. Pistols, rifles, shotguns, war clubs, spears and knives clashed prettily, the music of their being captured, having ceased.

Gradually the Matabeles pressed onward by sheer force of numbers almost surrounded the British, who, to avoid being encircled, retreated, fighting foot by foot, but being driven steadily backward. One squad for a time was quite cut off, and only extricated itself by a brilliant charge through the Matabeles cordon. Eventually the British were very hard pushed and gave ground fast, they again assumed the offensive and drove back the swarms of natives under a well-directed fire. Then it was the turn of the Matabeles to give ground, and a squad of troopers, charging with a ringing cheer, threw them into confusion and the British were apparently getting the upper hand and forcing the enemy backward, when suddenly the retreat was ordered and the British retreated toward Buluwayo, which place they reached considerably the worse for wear and tear.

Such heroism was displayed by individual British troopers and volunteers in retreating that their wounded comrades. One trooper, being unable to charge alone close up to a wounded friend, dragged him upon his saddle, and retreated after emptying the magazine of his rifle at the enemy. Another trooper stood over a fallen comrade, the natives until both he and his friend were rescued by a charge of their comrades. The loss of the enemy is said to have been very great. No correct estimate could be made, but the reports place the number of Matabeles killed at between 400 and 1,000. The loss of the British is not stated, but it is believed to be more severe than the commanders at Buluwayo are willing to admit.

The unofficial account of the sortie places matters in a somewhat different light. It says there was a good deal of unnecessary delay in getting the troops away from Buluwayo and that it was almost daylight when they started, consequently when they encountered the Matabeles they found the latter fully prepared to receive them. There was determined fighting on both sides at close range, and the British, when almost surrounded, retreated fighting stubbornly with the loss of many killed and wounded.

In brief, the sortie was a failure, a defeat for the British, and what is worse, under the circumstances, there was an expenditure of much of the small stock of ammunition remaining at Buluwayo. The Matabeles are believed to be flushed with victory. They have driven back into Buluwayo a strong force, about half the garrison of that place, and although they suffered severely, the loss in prestige and ammunition to the British is much more severe.

F. C. Selous, the explorer, with a squad of 60 troopers, was last reported on his way to Mangwe to complete the repairs of the telegraph line at Fig Tree and protect the line as far as possible from marauding bands of Matabeles. Further particulars received from Buluwayo, in regard to the sortie, show that when the Matabeles main body was first made out, about four miles west of Buluwayo, the enemy occupied the ridge on top of which were the earthworks and stone parapets and were prepared to receive the British force. Consequently a slight detour was made so as to bring the column slightly north of Buluwayo. The enemy were found to be covering four miles of well-selected positions on the north bank of the Umgungana river. After fierce fighting the natives drove the British back and down the bank. Crossing the river in the retreat, S. C. Selous had a narrow escape. His horse was killed in midstream and he became entangled in the stirrups. When he extricated himself he was half drowned and would have sunk had it not been for Lieutenant Windley, who swam his horse out into the middle of the stream in the face of the fire of the enemy, rescued Selous and reached the left bank without injury.

When the British rallied and drove back the Matabeles they were engaged with only a portion of the Matabeles force and as soon as the enemy swarmed over the ridge in large numbers, they almost surrounded the British and the latter were compelled to retreat. The squad of troopers previously said to have been for a time quite cut off and only able to extricate itself by a brilliant charge through the Matabeles cordon, was Captain Gray's scouts. They were to a certain degree ambushed and almost in the hands of the enemy, when by a desperate rush they extricated themselves. It is now said that both the Hotchkiss and the Maxim rapid fire guns worked badly and that they were only used for a comparatively short time.

No correct estimate of the killed and wounded has yet been received, the only statement made on the subject being that the British loss was very slight and that the Matabeles lost very heavy. The opinion is gaining ground that the British suffered a bad defeat and that the Matabeles loss was not so great as at first rumored.

The Metric Advocates.

Washington, April 24.—A delegation of scientific men headed by Professor Mendenhall, ex-superintendent of the coast and geodetic survey, was given a hearing by the sub-committee of the senate committee on finance to-day in advocacy of Senator Cannon's bill for the adoption of the metric system by this country. They based their advocacy of the change upon the theory that the system would be far more satisfactory than the present system and said the longer the change was postponed the more difficult it would be to make it. Senator Sherman, as chairman of the sub-committee, said it would probably be too late to give either measure consideration at the present session.

Forest Reservations.

Washington, April 24.—Senator Dubois to-day introduced a bill to establish new regulations for forest reservations. It provides that no forest reservations shall be established except to improve and protect the forests, for the purpose of securing favorable conditions of water flow and to insure a continuous supply of timber. Prospectors and miners are granted the privilege of prospecting and mining on forest reservations. The secretary of the interior is given authority to permit the cutting and removal of dead or mature timber from reservations. The secretary is also authorized to sell the timber on the public lands which are not fit for cultivation.

HOUSE IS HAUNTED

PEOPLE WHO BELIEVE IN SPIRITS FRIGHTENED.

Residents of Guthrie, O. T., Think the Spirit of a Young Girl Has Returned to Earth.

Guthrie, Ok., April 24.—There is much excitement over the alleged haunting of the house in which Ella Myers, the unfortunate girl from Pueblo, Col., was found dead two weeks ago. The inmates have all moved out because of fear and neighbors say that the girl's spirit appears every night and can be seen wandering about the house moaning and crying for help. Friday night six men watched to solve the mystery, but when the apparition appeared they were too frightened to act. Last night over a score of men and several policemen remained in the house and when the strange thing appeared made a rush for it, but could secure nothing, though every one saw a woman in white with blood-red hands moving about and distinctly heard the moans. There are rumors that the girl was not dead when found, but buried alive, and her brother arrived from Colorado to-day and will have the body exhumed and an examination made.

St. Louis to Be Succeeded.

St. Louis, April 24.—The apostolic delegate, Cardinal Satelli, will be succeeded in this country by Mgr. Averadi, the papal nuncio to Mexico. He will come to the United States immediately upon finishing his work in Mexico, where he has been engaged in making a thorough inspection of the Catholic church government in that republic. This news is brought to the United States by Tomas Govinnia, a merchant of Venice, who has been on a visit to the capital of Mexico.

Troops on Sand Island.

San Francisco, April 24.—It is currently reported that United States troops from Fort Canby have taken possession of and are now occupying Sand Island, having ejected the Washington state militia, therefrom. The state troops were protecting fish traps from striking fishermen. Sand Island is the property of the federal government.

Didn't Strike a Sandbar.

New York, April 24.—The American line steamer St. Paul from Southampton passed in at Sandy Hook to-night at 11:50 o'clock. To have equalled her own westward record, six days, 17 hours and 31 minutes, she was due to arrive off the lights at 2:21 a. m. to-morrow. She, therefore, on this trip, reduced her record by more than two hours and a half.

Democratic Governor for Louisiana.

New Orleans, April 24.—Late returns indicate the election of Foster, democrat, for governor. The count is delayed at most points.

IN EACH OTHER'S ARMS

Two Little Lowell Girls Found Dead in the Merrimack.

BESSIE AND NELLIE MORRIS

The Children Went Out for a Walk and Fell Into the Water—The Parents Heart-broken.

Lowell, Mass., April 24.—There were no more popular children among their neighbors than the two little daughters of James Morris, who lives on Lake View avenue. They were aged 4 years and the other two years. They were pretty little things and the elder, Bessie, took great pains in the younger, Nell, or Baby, as she usually called her, and was fond of posing as her guardian in right of her two extra years. Last Saturday Bessie suggested to "Baby" that she should take her to walk, and the tiny tots started out to rub their noses against the shop windows. Supper time came and they had not returned. Their father went to search for them, but none of the neighbors appear to have seen the children since 5 o'clock in the afternoon. The police were then appealed to and sent out a general alarm. Until late that night the father and mother searched, but searched in vain, for their little ones, and were up again at daybreak this morning to hunt for them. At about 8 o'clock they learned that the poor little things had been found drowned in the Merrimack river clasped in each other's arms. It need hardly be said that their parents are heartbroken.

ON THE TRACK.

At San Francisco.

San Francisco, April 24.—Weather, rain at Bay District; track muddy. Six furlongs—Realization won, Candor second, Wavona third; time, 1:17. One-half mile, 2-year-olds—Lost Girl won, Lena second, Adam Adams third; time, 2:04. Seven furlongs—Jack Richelieu won, Mabel second, Sea Spray third; time, 1:35. Mile—All Over won, Miss Maxim second, Thornhill third; time, 1:43. Five and one-half furlongs—Red Bird won, Myron second, Cardwell third; time, 1:11. Five and a half furlongs—Midway won, Jim Bozeman second, New Moon third; time, 1:05.

At Cincinnati.

Cincinnati, April 24.—Zanone and Prince Imperial, two odds-on favorites, were beaten to-day at Newport. In the second race, the starting machine failed to work properly. The field ran against the webbing and broke down the machine. Mabel M., in the last race, turned a complete somersault with her rider Ham, throwing him into a fence, but without a very serious injury to herself or the horse.

Five furlongs—Pat Tucker won, Aureola second, Zanone third; time, 1:02. Six furlongs—King William won, Prince Imperial second, Cuticle third; time, 1:14. Seven furlongs—Alamo won, Master Fred second, Feast third; time, 1:30. Mile and 50 yards—Jake Zimmerman won, The Banker second, Lightfoot third; time, 1:44. Four furlongs—Ethel Lee won, Sharon second, Tern third; time, 0:49.

At Forsythe.

Forsythe, Ind., April 24.—First race, five and a half furlongs—Ferryman II, won, Vigners second, Bob Fair third; time, 1:15. Five and a half furlongs—Santa Cruz won, Teetsa May second, Queen Faustus third; time, 1:15. Seven furlongs—Disturbance won, Forerunner second, Dejoura third; time, 1:35. Six furlongs—Canfield won, Doctor B. second, Lottie third; time, 1:20. Six furlongs—Wool won, Budget second, Ashland third; time, 1:20. Five and a half furlongs—Hillsboro won, Roslyn second, Mayfern third; time, 1:14.

At Memphis.

Memphis, April 24.—Six furlongs—David won, Tartarian second, Fanny Rowena third; time, 1:15. Mile—Whisper won, Robert Latta second, Sandoval third; time, 1:44. Arlington hotel stakes for 2-year-olds, five furlongs—Tipp Cup won, Lexington Pirate second, Chapple third; time, 1:03. Five furlongs—Valst won, Constantine second, Neutral third; time, 1:03. Four furlongs—Ornament won, Goshen second, Emeline III, third; time, 0:50.

The Venezuelan Commission.

Washington, April 24.—The report that the Venezuelan question had again reached a critical stage, owing to inaction, has developed two facts, namely: The United States government has not offered nor suggested the withdrawal of the present Venezuelan commission and negotiations toward general arbitration between the United States and Great Britain are proceeding satisfactorily, although there has been little progress as yet toward having the general scope of arbitration. Aside from these two material points, the general status of the subject, it is stated, has not changed of late and there is uneasiness lest the negotiations lapse or fail. It is the general understanding that the Venezuelan commission will not report till December.

The Wealthy Plumber's Estate.

Chicago, April 24.—Edward Partridge, the board of trade plumber who died a few days ago, was worth \$2,700,000. Application for letters of administration of the estate was made in the probate court this afternoon. As there is no will, the estate will be divided among the children of the deceased, the widow being allowed her share, one-third of the personal property and a life interest in the realty. The children are William and Frederick Partridge, Laura Partridge, Mrs. Price and Mrs. Leaning.

Saved by a Z-Boat.

London, April 24.—A special dispatch from Gibraltar says: White A. B. Walter's cutter, Albatross, was beached off the coast of Morocco, on her way to England, after taking part in the Mediterranean regatta, she was attacked by ruffians, who fired upon her. A timely breeze enabled the yacht to escape.

Ex-Governor Jones Dead.

Detroit, Mich., April 24.—David H. Jones, ex-governor of Michigan, died at Watkins Glen, N. Y., last night.