

TRIANGULAR DEBATE ON CIVIL SERVICE

Discussion in the House May Last At the Week.

DEMOCRATS GENERALLY FAVOR REPEAL

Republican Members Seem Unlikely to Harmonize Their Views.

Senators Discuss Civil Service in Connection with the Bill Making Provision for Taking the Next Census—Secretary Sherman Thinks the Law Should be Modified—Hawaiian Treaty to be Called up Next Monday.

Washington, Jan. 5, 1898.

The civil service debate began in the House to-day, based on the item in the legislative, executive, and judicial appropriation bill for the maintenance of the commission. It promises to continue at least until the end of the week, with a possibility that it may run longer. But it is generally admitted on both sides that the appropriation in the bill will stand, as the anti-civil service reformers do not seriously contemplate an attempt to strike it out. The debate, therefore, is only preliminary to any programme which the enemies of the law may agree upon. The members of the House are divided into three camps on this question: those who stand by the law, those who advocate its entire repeal, and those who desire its modification. These divisions were apparent in the debate to-day, the nature of which was not as stirring as had been anticipated.

It was proposed that Mr. Moody (Rep. of Massachusetts) and Mr. Dockery (Dem. of Missouri) control the time for and against. Mr. Hepburn (Rep. of Iowa) suggested that it was a three-cornered contest. "The Democrats," said he, "desire the entire repeal of the law. Some of those on this side desire it to stand as it is, while a large body of us desire a wholesome modification of its provisions."

"Why does the gentleman aver that all the Democrats on this side of the House desire the entire repeal of the law?" inquired Mr. Clark (Dem. of Missouri).

"Simply because that would be wrong, and your side is always wrong," retorted Mr. Hepburn, amid great laughter.

All suggestions as to the control of the time failed at last; and the chair recognized Mr. Grow (Rep. of Pennsylvania), who spoke for twenty minutes in support of the general principle of the civil service law.

Mr. Moody (Rep. of Massachusetts) followed with an elaborate defense of the civil service law, which he said protected officials who received \$70,000,000 in salaries per annum. Yet, he said, he had no sympathy with those who believed the law was perfect and should be modified by extension. He thought those who were placed under the protection of the law by executive order should be compelled to submit to a test of their efficiency and he also believed that some method should be found to preserve, if not restore, the efficiency of the service.

Mr. Dockery (Dem. of Missouri) opened the debate in opposition to the law, which he argued was alien to the American people and should be repealed in toto. He pointed out that the striking out of the appropriation for the commission would accomplish nothing, as the commissioners could use in the Court of Claims for their salaries. The courageous thing to do, he said, was to pass a bill aimed directly at the law.

Mr. Robt. Dem. of Missouri) and Mr. Pearson (Rep. of North Carolina) followed in opposition to the law. The latter, who has been very active in his hostility to the civil service law, contended that life tenure inevitably meant a civil pension list; whether the pensions should be paid directly out of the Treasury or indirectly from a retiring fund collected from employees for that purpose. While Mr. Pearson admitted that some good purposes had been subserved by the law, he declared that so far as its main purpose, economy, went, it had been a failure. Since 1883 in Washington the departmental force had increased 37 per cent, and the salaries 43 per cent.

Mr. Clark (Dem. of Missouri) asked whether he was intended to bring in a bill for its repeal, to which Mr. Pearson emphatically replied in the affirmative. He further said it would be prepared to-night and introduced at the earliest practicable moment, and the chairman of the Civil Service Commission would be asked to report it. "If he does not," said he, "the committee will instruct me to report it." (Applause.)

"Will you gentlemen on the other side use your best endeavors to secure consideration for it when it is reported?" asked Mr. Clark.

"We will make desperate efforts," answered Mr. Pearson. "We will go to the extreme and vote with Democrats to secure consideration." (Applause and laughter.)

Mr. Landis (Rep. of Indiana) favored a modification of the law, which, he said, would doubtless earn for him a reputation as a spoilsman. He entered at the professional civil service reformer.

He had never known those who called themselves the better element who were not narrow, selfish, bigoted and dangerous. They had bulldozed and cowed men at conventions and hypnotized Presidents, while they managed themselves to sit continuously at the banquet table.

He denounced Mr. Cleveland's methods in his second administration, describing particularly what took place in the Government Printing Office, to the head of which, he said, Mr. Cleveland appointed a man who would do the dirty work. On a single day, he said, Public Printer Benedict discharged 750 men. That was known at the Government Printing Office as bloody Monday. On another day he discharged 420. When 1,800 removals had been made and 1,800 Democrats appointed Mr. Cleveland pressed the button and the civil service blanket was thrown over them. He read what purported to be a liberal transcript of the reasons assigned for the discharge of the public employees in the secret records of Mr. Benedict's private secretary. Some of them were very amusing and kept the House in a roar.

When he had concluded the reading, Mr. Perkins (Rep. of Iowa, asked if it was intended to return to a system which made such a record possible.

"No," replied Mr. Landis, "but we want to modify the law."

Mr. Henderson (Rep. of Iowa, protested against the production of the record of one man in condemnation of the best system yet devised for the purification of the Government service. He said the Civil Service Commission did not endorse such work.

Unless the law was modified by its friends, Mr. Landis said, a Democratic President and a Democratic Congress would destroy it root and branch. The law must be rescued from the clutches of the zealots. Mr. Landis was vociferously applauded when he concluded.

Mr. Greene (Pop. of Nebraska, closed the debate for the day with a speech in favor of civil service reform. He criticized Mr. Landis, who, he said, urged the abuses of the spoils system as an argument for a return to that system.

Mr. Richardson (Dem. of Tennessee, in reply to Mr. Landis, asserted that the record showed that when the civil service was extended to the Government Printing Office only 31 per cent of the employees had been appointed under a Democratic administration, while 44 per cent had been appointed by a Republican Civil Printer.

At 4:55 p. m. the House adjourned.

SENATE. Washington, D. C., Jan. 4.—The presentation of replies of the members of the Cabinet to the resolution calling for information as to the application of the civil service law to the various departments of the Government together with the consideration of the bill establishing a bureau for the twelfth census, precipitated a sharp debate in the Senate to-day.

Mr. Davis, chairman of the Committee on Foreign Relations, gave notice that he would on Monday and daily thereafter move that the Senate consider in executive session the Hawaiian annexation treaty until it was disposed of finally.

Mr. Carter, chairman of the Committee on Census, called up the bill providing for the preliminary arrangements for the taking of the twelfth and subsequent censuses and offered a committee amendment to Section 2, providing that the President instead of the Secretary of the Interior, should approve of the examination the director may prescribe for his subordinates named in the bill.

Mr. Cockrell (Missouri) sharply attacked the amendment. He said that the offering of such an amendment and the consideration of the section as it had been changed by the committee proved that the Republican party was making a square and unconditional surrender upon the civil service question.

Mr. Hale (Maine) thought that the Senator from Missouri (Cockrell) properly understood the position of the committee. The committee, through the bill, did not make an attack upon the position of the Republican party upon the civil service question. It provided for the appointment of a director of the census and thirty-one subordinates and he thought that those positions ought to be filled as provided for in the bill.

Mr. Jones (Democrat, of Arkansas) charged that in the taking of the censuses of 1870, 1880 and 1890, he was satisfied that frauds, perhaps unintentional so far as the responsible census officials were concerned, had crept in. These frauds were due to incompetent and dishonest enumerators through the provisions of the civil service law. As they were employed only a month or less they would have to be selected substantially as they had heretofore been.

Mr. Jones said that all he was contending for was that the census should be taken by honest and competent men selected because they were capable of doing the work assigned to them and not because they had any political influence. He then gave notice that after the pending committee amendment had been disposed of he would offer one providing that the assistant director of the census should not be of the same political party as the director.

In a brief discussion of the work of the census bureau in the past, Mr. Allen (Nebraska) bluntly asked those in charge of the bill if it were a fact that a disposition had been manifested to spin out the work simply that some people might enjoy the salaries.

CHINA CONCEDES GERMAN DEMANDS

Kiao-Chou Bay Ceded to the Independent Lease Port.

LAND FOR DOCKS AND FORTIFICATIONS

Sovereign Rights Over the Ceded Territory Surrendered to the Germans.

Concession Made on the Ground That Germany Ought to Have a Base for Trade and Navigation in Chinese Waters—If the New Possessors of Kiao-Chou Bay Become Dissatisfied, China Will Take It Back and Cede Another Port.

Berlin, Jan. 5, 1898.

The Reichsanzeiger this evening announces that according to a telegram from Peking, an understanding has been reached between Germany and China regarding the cession of Kiao-Chou bay to the former. The arrangement, it is added, is substantially as follows: It is intended by the cession to render possible for Germany the fulfillment of her just wish for the possession, in the same way as other powers, of a base for trade and navigation in Chinese waters.

The cession of Kiao-Chou bay to Germany takes the form of a lease for an indefinite time. Germany is at liberty to erect on the ceded territory all the necessary buildings and establishments, and to take the measures required for their protection.

Continuing, the Reichsanzeiger says the ceded territory comprises the whole of the inner basin at Kiao-Chou bay, so far as the high water line, the larger headlands situated south and north of the entrance of the bay, to the point where there are naturally bounded by mountain ranges, and also the islands situated within and in front of the bay.

The ceded territory comprises an area of several square miles, bounded by a larger zone around the bay, within which no measures or arrangements may be made by China without the consent of Germany. In particular, no obstacles are to be raised by China to any measures Germany may deem necessary for the regulation of the water courses.

Finally, in order to avoid conflicts which might disturb the good understanding between the two powers, China has transferred to Germany, for a period, a lease of all sovereign rights over the ceded territory.

The telegram, which is brief, does not state the duration of the lease, nor the amount payable by Germany. If for any cause Kiao-Chou bay should prove unsuitable for the objects Germany has in view, China, after arriving at an understanding with Germany, will cede the latter, at any other point of the coast, a piece of territory which Germany may regard as more suitable for her purpose. In that case China will take over the buildings and establishments constructed by Germany at Kiao-Chou bay and refund their cost.

THE NEWS IN LONDON

London, Jan. 6.—The Daily Mail, commenting upon the "fact that the United States and Japan are openly on our side in the Chinese affair," says: "For once we are getting some recognition for our generous commercial policy."

A dispatch to the Times from Peking, dated yesterday (Wednesday) says that Germany has taken a lease of Kiao-Chou for fifty years. It says also that reports are current there that a French occupation of Hai-Nan Island is imminent.

The Times says editorially this morning: "It would be simple to assume that the Reichsanzeiger's dispatch tells the whole story, for it quite omits to say what China gets in return. To the world at large, however, the material fact is that Germany by physical force has obtained a naval station. This is the fact that must guide other powers in determining their own policy. The talk of a lease is a mere saving of appearances. There is no doubt that both Germany and China are aware that it is a practical cession in full sovereignty. It provides a further argument in favor of an English guaranteed Chinese loan."

The Daily Graphic calls the seizure of Kiao-Chou a felonious act and says that Emperor William with incredible levity has responded to the Chinese question and put in jeopardy the relations of Germany with Russia in order to induce the Reichstag to sanction a big navy.

The Daily Telegraph suggests that England should join with the United States in guaranteeing a Chinese loan. Rome, Jan. 5.—It is understood that a cruiser will be dispatched to Shanghai in response to the request of the Italian residents there for protection in the event of trouble, but there is no idea of sending a squadron.

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HE RESPONDS IN AN APPROPRIATE SPEECH

Three Important Measures Proposed to Reform the County and Circuit Courts.

Bill Introduced in the Senate to Incorporate a Beet Sugar Company on a Large Scale—Committee Favours Changes in Laurel Reformatory—Members at Sea in Regard to Retrenchment Gen. Hundley Had no Warlike Intentions.

(Special Cor. of The Virginian.)

Richmond, Va., Jan. 5, 1898.

The feature of the day at the Capitol was a very brief address before the members of the General Assembly by Senator John W. Daniel. He went up to the Capitol about noon and was invited to make an address. He consented to deliver a short address. The Senate took a recess and the members of that body went over to the hall of the House. The Senator talked only about ten minutes. He did not go into any discussion of public questions. What he had to say was in acknowledgement of the great honor of an unanimous re-election. His speech was a little gem and was most heartily applauded by representatives of all parties. Later in the day Senator Daniel went over to the Senate chamber and that body took a recess for five minutes in order that the members might pay their respects to Major Daniel. The Senator will remain here to-morrow.

Senator Daniel's speech was as follows: "Mr. Speaker and Members of the General Assembly of Virginia: Three times it has been the pleasure of this honorable body to choose me as one of the Senators of Virginia in Congress, and twice by a unanimous vote this rare compliment has been paid me. There has been no courtesy lacking to grace this ever memorable event, and the magnitude of my obligation to you beraves me of the power to express adequately my gratitude.

"Your unanimous preference for me is all the more remarkable as it comes from such able and patriotic sons of this Commonwealth, and I can only attribute this to the boundless magnanimity of a noble people, in an indebted and grateful mood, for coming as this selection comes from your hands, this selection becomes so much more valuable. I am proud in your presence to trace my title back through the personal work to the people whom we should always remember, and whose faithful servants we ever should be.

"It was as a Democrat I was recommended for this office by the Democratic State Convention at Roanoke; it was as a Democrat I was nominated for this office by the Democratic caucus of this General Assembly; it was as a Democrat I have been elected and as a Democrat I shall serve. I appreciate it so much more that the Republicans and Populists have joined in this unanimous vote, and have not marred an occasion which they could not have controlled.

"This token of good will, I am sure, on your part, will meet with a responsive spirit. It was not needed to remind me that he who occupies this great office should be the servant of the whole people, but it was an impressive lesson. Where party lines are drawn no one will ever anticipate from me anything other than strict party adherence. (Applause.) But it shall ever be my highest aspiration to make the people of Virginia feel that he who represents them in the Senate of the United States, in party claims all Virginia in friendship, and in good esteem, and will be happy to serve, so far as he may, all of her citizens with impartiality."

"This message of political good will came to us at a season of the year when from many altars there arise prayers for peace and good will toward men. This country is not one in the severity of section, in the severity of party, in the severity of individuality; we are one people with a common country, and to that country, more than to any here, is due our true adherence, our fond admiration, our devotion and our labors.

"Gentlemen, once I thank you, I know you would not expect me upon this occasion to indulge in the discussion of any issue. In the dawn of a new year I bring you, fresh, vigorous Republic, and good at no problem that it has to solve, forces the future, and good and confident, knowing that it has great difficulties to deal with, but knowing also, in the proud consciousness of American strife, that it will solve all those difficulties in the spirit of fraternity and good will, and to the end that the pursuit of happiness may still be continued by all men.

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LONG DEADLOCK NOW PREDICTED

Contest for Senator in Ohio Will Be a Prolonged Struggle.

OPPOSITION TO HANNA CANNOT AGREE

Democrats Will Scatter Their Votes Among Many Candidates.

Anti-Hanna Republicans Declare That They Will Not Vote for a Democrat—Griffith's Constituents Bolting Over With Indignation—Gross Vener Profess to Believe That Hanna Will Win—Legislature Adjourned Until Monday.

Columbus, O., Jan. 5, 1898.

Both branches of the Legislature have adjourned till Monday. But both sides of the Senatorial contest remain in conferences daily and nightly at the Neil House and the Great Southern Hotel, respectively. The suspense and secret work will continue till next Tuesday, when the two branches of the Legislature vote separately for Senator, and the roll calls will show whether any changes have been made. The doubtful members made no flops today. They still remain doubtful and are receiving the united and untiring attention of the legislative steering committees and outside workers.

Lewis C. Beard, the Democratic leader from Cincinnati and the manager of John R. McLean, said to-night: "There will be no election for a long series of ballots. The Democrats will scatter their votes."

This is taken to mean that the Democrats will not be able to agree in their caucus on a candidate. The anti-Hanna Republicans announce positively that under no circumstances will they vote for a Democrat. They will continue the deadlock indefinitely rather than elect a Democratic Senator.

Cleveland, O., Jan. 5.—A special from Mansville, O., the home of Representative Griffith, of the State Legislature, says: "The people here are wild, and threats of violence are made against Representative Griffith. Two Kurtz men, from Columbus, while here, narrowly escaped violence at the hands of angry Republicans. A mass meeting of Griffith's constituents has been called for to-night to take action in the matter."

Washington, D. C., Jan. 5.—Congressman Grosvenor, of Ohio, who left Columbus last night, arrived here to-day, and was in the House this afternoon. To all inquiries as to the Senatorial contest he expressed the opinion that Senator Hanna would be re-elected. General Grosvenor will probably return to Ohio before the contest is ended.

"If Hanna should be defeated," said Congressman Grosvenor, "it will be by a combination of Democrats and bolting Republicans, which will give the Democrats a majority in the Senate for the long or short term. They will not furnish the votes without getting part of the spoils. But I still maintain that Hanna will be re-elected."

ANNEXATION PROSPECTS. Friends of the Movement Hopeful of Success—Affected by the Situation in China.

Washington, Jan. 5.—Senator Davis, chairman of the Senate Committee on Foreign Relations, gave notice in the Senate to-day that he would call up the Hawaiian annexation treaty in executive session on Monday next and assist the Senate to consider it each day thereafter until the treaty should be disposed of.

It was positively announced that the Republican side of the chamber would be a unit on the vote. Senators Morrill, Hoar and the two or three other Republican Senators who were classed as doubtful prior to the holiday recess now being considered as committed to the treaty, and its supporters are hopeful of getting the necessary sixty votes for its passage. The supporters of the agreement also expect to have the anti-silver Republicans with the exception of Senator Pattigrew. The Populists will be divided and a majority of the Democrats will be against ratification. The Democrats have, however, given up any idea that they may have had of making the annexation question a party issue, and it is believed that the action will have the effect of increasing the affirmative vote on that side of the chamber.

There is no doubt that the situation in China is largely responsible for the improved prospects of the treaty, as many Senators hold the opinion that for the United States to hesitate in this matter at the present critical time would be to manifest a serious weakness.

FLOGGING FOR CONVICTS.

Ottawa, Ont., Jan. 5.—Alding Warden Coster, of the St. Vincent de Paul Penitentiary at Montreal, has suggested to Minister of Justice Mills that flogging should be permitted as a punishment for making in that institution. Mr. Mills has declined to permit this to be done. The idea of Mr. Coster is that some of the ring leaders and ringleaders in the presence of the other convicts,