

RANGE OF THERMOMETER.
The range of the thermometer at the Times office yesterday was as follows: 9 A. M., 68; 12 M., 70; 3 P. M., 74; 6 P. M., 72; 9 P. M., 63; 12 M., 58. Average temperature, 67.

VOL. 15. NO. 70.

ON THE EVE OF THE CONVENTION

No Agreement on the Constitutional Revision.

ELLYSON NOT OPPOSED

H. D. Flood Chosen for Temporary Chairman.

PARTY ORGANIZATION

The State Committee to Have the Power to Settle all Local Disputes. Governor Tyler Likely to be Made a Delegate at Large. Four Names Mentioned for 3d Dist. Delegate.

(A Staff Correspondent.)

NORFOLK, VA., May 1.—There never has been a State Democratic Convention held in Virginia in which there were so few candidates for the positions of honor to be voted away as the one that meets here to-morrow. No one seems especially anxious to go to Kansas City. There are two reasons for this. The cost of the trip will be more than a person usually has to pay to go to a National Convention.

The second reason was aptly expressed by Representative W. F. Rhea in a conversation with the Times' correspondent. Said he: "The National Convention will be simply a big ratification meeting. It is settled in advance that Bryan will be renominated and the Chicago platform reaffirmed. There will be nothing to fight over, and people, as a rule, do not care to go so far to a ratification meeting, especially as Bryan will not be there to make an address. There are not as many delegates as were expected. They are slow coming in. All the big party leaders and many of the smaller ones are on the ground. But there are comparatively few of those who take no active part in politics. The only delegates who appear to be poorly represented. The late trains to-night and those in the morning may bring in many delegates and visitors. Norfolk is an ideal convention city.

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TO HONOR TYLER.

He said Mr. Martin was in favor of conferring this honor upon Major Tyler, Representative Jones' friends are anxious that he be made delegate at large, but Mr. Jones is willing to pay for Mr. Martin for the Senate, and they are the people who will control the convention, seem to prefer Governor Tyler to Mr. Jones. Representative Swanson is talked of for delegate at large, and Mr. Jones is willing to pay for Mr. Martin for the Senate, and they are the people who will control the convention, seem to prefer Governor Tyler to Mr. Jones.

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the movement are unwilling to do this, because they think the matter should be left to the constitutional convention itself.

PEACE AND HARMONY.

It looks at 10 o'clock to-night as if all would be peace and harmony in the convention. After many private conferences between advocates and opponents of the Constitutional Convention the substance of the resolutions have been practically agreed upon. The meeting will simply endorse the convention scheme and call upon all Democrats to vote for it.

These resolutions will not be such as to embarrass a Democrat who votes for the convention, nor will they indicate what the Democratic policy shall be as to changes in the present constitution.

Senator Daniel, who has been looked upon as the champion of the convention, has pursued a conservative course, and his aim and object have been, while committing the party to the convention proposition, to do so in a manner that would harmonize the two courses as far as practicable. He has succeeded very well up to this time.

The Senator will probably write the resolutions, and Representative Hay, Senator Glass and other leaders will assist him in the work. Hundreds of delegates came in to-night, and the convention will be very well attended.

STATE COMMITTEE.

The State Democratic Committee was in session at the Monticello Hotel to-night. After calling the body to order, Chairman Ellyson stated that since the last meeting two members from the Fourth District, Stephen P. Pipes and Alexander King, had died. He called attention also to the fact that since the committee was elected two years ago, Captain Shirley Harrison, also of the Fourth District, had passed away. Mr. Groveland stated that a committee be appointed to draft resolutions of respect to the memory of these gentlemen. This was adopted, and the chair appointed Colonel Gaines, Hon. Francis W. Linder and Mr. J. P. Woods as the committee.

There was a lengthy discussion of the report of the sub-committee appointed to revise the plan of organization. The most important change recommended was to give to the State Committee power to settle local disputes. It will be recalled that when the Shanks case was under consideration by the Democratic caucus, Senator Glass made the point that the State Committee had exceeded its authority in declaring Colonel Boykin its nominee. The change proposed would make the authority of the committee clear. This amendment was adopted without objection.

The debate occurred on the amendment providing that there shall be one or more members on the County Committees from each precinct. Much objection was made to this on the ground that many county precincts cast very small votes. Judge George W. Morris got the committee out of the tangled web by offering a substitute which, in effect, leaves the organization of the committees as at present, but provides that they shall be elected every two years. This was agreed to. Some other consequential changes were made.

THE GOOD ELECTED.

The committee unanimously elected Senator H. D. Flood for temporary chairman. In seconding the nomination, Judge Mann said Mr. Flood was well known to the people of the State, and his nomination for a constitutional convention. The Democratic party, he said, should reward such bold and fearless men.

Colonel William Henry Mann was chosen temporary secretary, and W. H. Jaques, of Norfolk, for sergeant-at-arms. The opponents and advocates of the Constitutional Convention have been unable to reach an agreement. It became apparent that the building of the convention was to try and capture the meeting to-morrow.

The conventionists hastily called a caucus.

(Continued on Second Page.)

BIG FIGHT FOR EIGHT-HOUR DAY

Many Workmen Go on Strike for Shorter Hours and Higher Pay.

Thousands Affected.

PHILADELPHIA, May 1.—The demands of the Allied Building Trades, composed of bricklayers, masons, carpenters, laborers, etc., for an eight-hour work day with increased pay, were put in force today, and as a result, 2,000 men are on a strike. The trades affected and the number of men on strike are: bricklayers, 400; masons, 400; carpenters, 400; laborers, 400; plumbers, including plumbers, 700; paper-hangers, 50; sheet metal workers, 700; steam-fitters, 250; floor layers and planers, 200; millwrights, 100; other trades, estimated 250.

Men in several trades not affiliated with the Allied Building Trades, quit work this morning, but many of these returned to their work after the day of differences between the masters having been adjusted. Labor leaders assert that many of the trades belonging to the league will have their men working within a week or ten days.

The fact that comparatively so few men were compelled to strike is regarded by labor leaders as favorable for the membership of the Allied Building Trades Council, which embraces about 35,000 men employed in the building trades.

None of the men connected with the Plasterers' Union stopped work, as their demands were acceded to. The cabinet makers instead of a ten-hour day, without reduction in pay, did not strike, as their demands are being favorably received by the employers, forty-five out of sixty shops having signed the workmen's scale.

The Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners, with strength of 4,000 men, which is not affiliated with the Allied Trades League, has received the signatures of 20 individual masters to the demands of the men.

In many cases the masters in certain trades have signified their willingness to accept the men's demands, but have steadily refused to recognize unions, practically all a full recognition of the organization there can be no settlement, the men say.

There was not the slightest disturbance throughout the day.

READING, PA., May 1.—The Carpenters' Union has struck for an advance in wages. Some contractors have signed the new scale.

CARPENTERS AND PLUMBERS.

ALBANY, N. Y., May 1.—Five hundred carpenters and sixty plumbers went out on a strike here to-day.

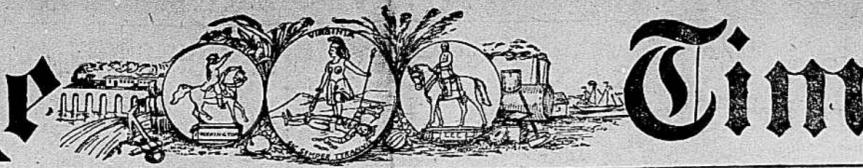
WOODWORKERS GO OUT.

MINNEAPOLIS, MINN., May 1.—Over eleven hundred union wood-workers, practically all the employees of the sash and door bar-fixture and show-case factories of St. Paul and Minneapolis, decided to strike to-day.

PLUMBERS STRIKE.

ST. PAUL, MINN., May 1.—All the

(Continued on Second Page.)



RICHMOND, VA., WEDNESDAY, MAY 2, 1900.

CARNIVAL WEEK, RICHMOND, MAY 14 TO 19.

CONSTRUCTION OF NICARAGUA CANAL

The Bill to be Voted on During This Session.

ALL FAVOR THE CANAL

Yet There is Powerful Opposition Against the Measure.

NR. HEPBURN'S STRONG PLEA

He Evoked Applause by His Declaration for an American Canal Under American Control—Objection Raised on Ground That Clayton-Bulwer Treaty is Still in Force.

WASHINGTON, May 1.—For the first time during the fifty years of agitation of the project of the construction of an inter-oceanic canal the House of Representatives to-day entered into the consideration of a measure for the actual building of a canal. Many times projects for the building have been before the House, but this is the first that some action can be predicted.

The bill will be voted on before adjournment.

The debate to-day was noticeable for the powerful opposition it developed.

Mr. Hitt, of Illinois, chairman of the Foreign Affairs Committee and Mr. Cannon, of Illinois, chairman of the Appropriations Committee, threw the weight of their influence against it, not because they are opposed to the building of the canal, but because they considered that the time for authorizing its construction was not ripe.

Mr. Burton, of the Rivers and Harbors Committee and Mr. Hitt, claimed that the Clayton-Bulwer and Bulwer-Clayton treaties was a guaranty of the neutrality of the Powers, and Mr. Cannon claimed that the commission was not prepared to say which was the best route.

OPPOSITION DEVELOPED.

The debate also developed other lines of opposition. Some of the Democrats insisted that some of the amendments striking the words "defend" and "fortify" from the bill are in violation of the Clayton-Bulwer treaty and it is therefore objectionable, and Mr. Shackelford, of Missouri, desired the bill amended so that if that treaty is ratified the bill will not go into effect. This anomalous situation is therefore presented of practically every member on the floor professing his friendship for the canal and yet of powerful opposition arrayed against it on various grounds.

The bill was ably and vigorously championed by Chairman Hepburn, of the Inter-State Commerce Committee; Mr. Levering, of Massachusetts; Mr. Randsford, of Louisiana, and Mr. Corlies, of Michigan.

Mr. Fletcher, of Minnesota, was the only member of the Commerce Committee who opposed the passage of any bill at this session.

During the debate to-day ex-Secretary of State Sherman was one of the inter-state speakers on the floor, and Admiral Walker followed the proceedings from a seat in the reserved gallery.

Mr. Hepburn sought to reach an agreement as to the length of general debate and the division of time, but as some temper was displayed by Mr. Cannon and Mr. Hepburn, the House finally went into committee of the whole to consider the bill without any agreement.

It was understood that a night session for debate should be held to-night.

The bill was then read. Mr. Hepburn then offered the amendments of the committee, substituting the word "provision" for "defend," and the words "provision for defense" instead of "fortifications for defense."

SUPPORTED THE BILL.

Mr. Hepburn opened the argument in support of the bill. All the reports, he said, were practically unanimous in favor of the Nicaragua route.

Speaking of the Clayton-Bulwer treaty, he said the objection raised to the project on the ground that it was still in force, Mr. Hepburn declared, amid a general outburst of applause, that the interests of the American people would be refused to be bound longer by a barrier imposed by another generation half a century ago.

As to the Panama Canal, Mr. Hepburn expressed the opinion that it would never be feasible for the United States.

"I am afraid," responded Mr. Hepburn, "that such action would be unfortunate for the provisions of my bill, but if the House of Representatives by an overwhelming vote declares the policy of the American people to be for an American canal, untrammelled by entangling alliances, no one in the United States will dare to say 'no.' I don't think there is any disposition by the administration to thwart the will of the American people." (Applause.)

"If you will put that word 'fortify' back in the bill it will have the unanimous vote of this side," said Mr. Clark.

Replying to Mr. Dillmer, Mr. Hepburn said he believed the Clayton-Bulwer treaty could be abrogated by an act of Congress.

MONROE DOCTRINE.

Mr. Shackelford, who made the minority report in the Senate, declared that the section providing that the canal should not be built if the Clayton-Bulwer treaty was ratified, took the floor. He was, he said, earnestly in favor of a canal; that

WARM DISCUSSION OF TRUST QUESTION

Precipitated by Amendment to Army Bill.

ALASKAN CIVIL CODE

The Measure Passed the Senate Without the Alien Clause.

AMENDMENT WAS WITHDRAWN

Mr. Carter Took This Course to Prevent the Defeat of the Bill—Mr. Berry's Amendment to the Army Bill, That Created the Warm Discussion of Trusts, Was Defeated.

WASHINGTON, May 1.—After having been under consideration more than two months, the Alaskan Civil Code Bill was passed by the Senate to-day. The amendment relating to the alien location of mining claims has delayed the passage of the measure for several weeks, and at times has engendered a deal of feeling in debate.

Mr. Carter therefore to-day withdrew the amendment and all other points in dispute and a few minutes later the bill was passed. It provides a full civil code of procedure for the District of Alaska.

During the greater part of the session, the Army appropriation bill, carrying supplies for the military establishment of more than \$114,000,000, was under consideration. The feature of the discussion of the measure was a debate on trusts, precipitated by an amendment offered by Mr. Berry, of Arkansas, providing that the Quartermaster's Department should not purchase supplies from any recognized trust. The amendment was defeated.

The bill has not been completed when the Senate adjourned.

A resolution offered by Mr. Tillman, of South Carolina, calling on the Secretary of the Navy for information as to the tests made at Indian Head of the Krupp armor, was agreed to soon after the Senate adjourned to-day.

THE ALASKAN BILL.

When the Alaskan bill was laid before the Senate Mr. Carter, in charge of the measure, conceded that further efforts at adoption of various pending amendments relating to location of mining claims would result in the bill's defeat. He asked unanimous consent that sections 72 and 73 of the bill and all amendments thereto, including his own amendment, be withdrawn.

After some colloquy, the request was granted, and after the other amendments had been agreed to the bill was passed.

The army reorganization bill was then called up, but soon laid aside for the army appropriation bill. The latter, as reported to the Senate carried \$114,515,500.

Mr. Stewart offered an amendment providing that nothing in the bill should prevent the landing of submarine cables in Cuba.

Mr. Platt, of Connecticut, who made the point of order against the amendment, that it was general legislation. The chair sustained the point of order.

Mr. Hawley, in charge of the bill, charged prior to the adoption of amendments appropriating \$20,000 for clerk hire, furniture, stationery, etc., for the War College; increasing the appropriation for paymasters' clerks, and fixing such from \$10,000 to \$12,000, and fixing the compensation on a service basis, thus fixing travelling allowances for officers and men discharged in the insular possessions at four cents a mile.

EXTRA PAY.

A committee amendment was offered by Mr. Hawley, and striking out, and inserting in lieu thereof the following:

"That the act approved January 12, 1899, granting extra pay to officers and enlisted men of the United States Volunteers, shall extend to all officers and enlisted men of the volunteer organizations who have served honestly and faithfully in the volunteer army of the United States during the war with Spain and prior to January 12, 1899, with their organizations without furlough, or by reason of their services being no longer required, or at any time by reason of wounds received or disability contracted in the service and in the line of duty, and who have not received the extra pay granted in said act or subsequent act of Congress supplemental thereto."

Mr. Berry offered a debate on the questions of trusts.

THE TRUST QUESTION.

It provided that the Quartermaster's Department in making contracts and purchases of articles and supplies should give preference, all other things being equal, to articles of the growth, production and manufacture of the United States, and as between the producers, manufacturers, merchants and dealers of the United States preference should be given to those producers, manufacturers, merchants and dealers who are not members of or in any way connected with any trust or combine.

Mr. Sewell, of New Jersey, designated the Standard Oil Company and the American Sugar Refining Company as two combinations of capital which had cheapened their products to the people.

Mr. Berry said such combination was to raise prices.

Mr. Hawley opposed the amendment, as officers would have to accept the lowest bids.

Mr. Pettigrew produced figures, which he maintained showed that neither the Standard Oil Company nor the American Sugar Refinery had ever really cheapened their products.

Mr. Stewart contended that some combinations of capital were good and others bad.

An amendment offered by Mr. Foraker, tending to contract surgeons the provisions of the act enabling volunteer soldiers to draw one month's extra pay if they served in the army during the Spanish war within this country, and two months' pay if they served in Cuba,

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HEAVY FIGHTING IS IMMINENT

Boers Expected to Battle Near Thaba N'Chu.

REAR GUARD ADVANCE

British Were Forced to Act Chiefly on the Defensive.

MOVE TO PRETORIA DELAYED

Roberts, Cannot March on Boer Capital Half of His Army is Kept Busy Elsewhere—Mafeking Can Hold Out Two Months—Sir George S. White Decorated

TO STOP CHINESE EVASION

Two Important Orders Issued by General Otis.

MANILA, May 1.—Major-General Otis has issued an order which will have the effect of stopping the evasions of the Chinese immigration laws. The Chinese desire to enter the country must prove former residence, with proof that they still have property or domestic interests in the Philippines.

Another order, making changes in the Spanish criminal procedure, has been issued, giving an accused person the right of habeas corpus, of being confronted with witnesses against himself, of open trial, of exempting the accused from testifying against himself, establishing a system of bail and pleading, and abolishing the priests' exemption from trial by the civil courts for crimes and misdemeanors.

TIME EXTENDED

Spainards Given Time to Designate Their Allegiance.

WASHINGTON, May 1.—The President has issued a proclamation extending for six months from April 11th the time allowed Spanish subjects in the Philippines to designate their allegiance in accordance with the treaty of Paris.

TO MANUFACTURE PAPER

Company Organized for That Purpose in This City.

A company has been organized, with Mr. F. C. Christian at the head of it, for the establishment of a manufacturing plant to be known as the "Virginia Coated Paper Company."

It is the purpose of the company to secure the old Gallego Mills property, upon which to erect their plant, and the general plan proposes to manufacture enameled blotting, coat, book, chrome, lithograph and fine papers, and coated writing boards.

The total cost is not to exceed \$250,000, with a working capital of \$50,000 additional.

MUST CLEAR OUT

All Who Will Not Shoulder a Manner Must Leave the Transvaal.

LONDON, May 1.—1:15 P. M.—The following dispatch has been sent to the War Office by Lord Roberts:

"BLOEMFONTEIN, April 29.—The Boers have been persistent attacks around Thaba N'Chu Saturday and Sunday, but the position which the Eighth (Rundell's) Division holds is very strong, and he had the assistance of General Buller's Cavalry Brigade, the cavalry under French and Smith-Dorrien's infantry brigade, and a body of mounted infantry under Ian Hamilton. Pole-Carew's Division returned from DeWets's Drap's division."