

The thermometer ranged as follows at The Times office yesterday: 9 A. M., 56; 12 M., 57; 3 P. M., 59; 6 P. M., 56; 9 P. M., 52; 12 midnight, 50. Average, 55.1.

HEAVY DEBATES NOW UNDER WAY

Bill of Rights Will Soon Clear Way for Suffrage.

A FLOOD OF ORATORY.

From Now There Will be Big Speeches Every Day.

MAY REACH EARLY AGREEMENT.

Members of the Suffrage Committee Hold Frequent Meetings and Are Laboring Hard—A Harrisonburg Woman Presents a Plan—Important Committee Meeting—Live Committee Gossip.

Now that the convention has begun to debate the report of the Committee on Preamble and Bill of Rights, there will be a constant flow of oratory until the final adjournment of the body.

It is thought that the debate on the report now before the Committee of the Whole will last for two or three weeks, and when that is finally passed upon other questions will be in shape for debate.

The Committee on the Legislative Department will, through its chairman, delegate Moore, of Fairfax, make a report to-morrow. The committee will hold a meeting to-day for the purpose of finally determining upon some matters, and will finish up its report and submit it to the convention to-morrow. This report will be printed and lie on the table until the debate now pending shall have been concluded.

Meanwhile, it would cause no surprise should the Suffrage Committee get together and make a report to the convention. The members of this important committee are holding day and night with this end in view. They meet nearly every day, and there are important conferences of the members held very often. Last night some of the members met and discussed the matter at length, and the view was expressed that there would be an agreement at no distant day.

Perhaps the greatest debate of the session will take place over the report of the "Franchise" Committee. Senator Frazier will, as chairman, have charge of the measure, and is expected to make an elaborate argument. Messrs. Thom, Glass, Weyer, Wise and other great leaders will make strong speeches, and large crowds will be attracted to the Capitol. It does not seem probable that there will be any report of the Suffrage Committee until after the Norfolk Convention, for it is altogether likely that there will be a recess for at least two weeks from next Saturday. From now until the final days of the session there will be much speech-making, and those who love good oratory can attend the sessions of the convention with enjoyment.

There was less committee work yesterday than usual. At least, there were not so many meetings. The absence of a number of members who went home to spend Sunday may have had something to do with this. The heat, too, made the committee-rooms unbearable. The leading fans in the convention hall kept the members and visitors from feeling the full force of the high temperature, but there are no fans in the committee-rooms and breezes were not abundant.

The Judiciary Committee, whose work is watched with so much interest just now, held three sessions devoted to the discussion of proposed changes in the judicial system. The feature of the day was the very able speech made by Chairman Huntin against going away with County and Circuit Courts and in favor of electing fewer judges, each to have a tier of counties, and to pay them \$300 per annum each.

The only committee in session last night were those on the Judiciary and Reduction of Expenses. They chose the coolest places to be found. The former sat in the mezzanine on the south portion of the Capitol, while the latter spent three hours in the basement of the Capitol at work on the department of city, town and county government. The committee, which is working very hard, has nearly completed this task and will report this week.

The Judiciary Committee seem to recognize the fact that there will be a protracted contest over the adoption of any new system of courts. After a recess next session yesterday, the committee met again on adjournment of the convention, and arranged for night sessions for Monday, Wednesday and Friday nights. In addition to the morning sessions, Chairman Huntin suggested that the committee should hold a session on the importance of completing the work as rapidly as possible, so that a report could be in by next Saturday. He expressed the opinion that the committee could take a recess next Saturday for a considerable period, and said it was important to have the report of the committee in by that date.

The session yesterday morning was devoted to discussion of a recess system of courts. The heat was so oppressive in the committee-room that after an hour's session it moved to the Senate Chamber. Mr. Meredith spoke for an hour in advocacy and explanation of the resolution offered by him. His plan contemplated a monthly fiscal and fiduciary court, to be held by supervisors or justices of the peace, and a circuit court, to be held by the County Courts. It has been fully reported in former discussions.

The event of the session was the unexpected and earnest opposition by Chairman Huntin to the adoption of any system of courts, which was met by the Circuit or County Courts. It was the first time during the whole session that Mr. Huntin has essayed the role of a speech-maker. For a long time he has attracted the close attention of the committee. He contended that the trouble of the present County Courts came from the personnel of the judges more than any other cause. He would improve this by requiring the judge to be elected by the Legislature for a tier of counties, to hold court once a month in each county, to receive a salary of \$1,000, and not be allowed to practice law. He would restore to the County Courts the same jurisdiction as they had prior to 1873 and encourage removal of causes from this court to the Circuit Courts. He strongly criticized the district plan proposed by Messrs. Meredith and Bennett Gordon, and said the plan suggested by Mr. Eggleston was preferable to any other one that he had seen. From questions asked, the chairman, it is safe to say that he will be strongly supported by Messrs. Robertson and Thom. It looks like a fight now

SETTLEMENT IS EXPECTED TO-DAY

Committee to Decide on Proposition To-Day.

TERMS OF AGREEMENT

Both Sides Seem to Have Made Some Concessions.

ALL MILLS ARE TO BE OPEN.

Amalgamated Association is to Drop Contention For the Signing of Scale For all Mills and is to Have Privilege of Organizing Men in Any of the Plants.

Boers in Cape Colony.

LONDON, July 20.—A dispatch from Cape Town says:

"Boers are scattered throughout the upper districts of the Colony. Some are within a few miles of Indwe. Others are around Jamestown and between Molteno and Burgersdorp. Several parties are close to Cradock.

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The officials of the Wood mill of the American Sheet Steel Company, made no attempt to start the plant and indications pointed to their remaining inactive until the strike negotiations are decided upon by the contract.

On the day that the American Tin Plate Company was making an effort to start the Denpler plant with non-union men, and that one set of rolls was being operated, the other set was being worked by a rumor that started from the fact that the company had some men at work repairing the plant, with the expectation that the strike would be settled shortly.

OUR GERMAN TRADE.

Ambassador White Has Made Interesting Report to State Department.

WASHINGTON, July 20.—Ambassador White has made the study of United States trade with Germany the basis of a report to the State Department. He deals with the matter broadly and presents interesting figures. For instance, he shows that in the course of ten years the United States has advanced from fourth to first place on the basis of goods shipped to Germany, the total value of such goods and natural products in 1900 being \$266,750,000.

The United States thus stands far above any other country in the trade. On the other hand, in the matter of goods imported from Germany, the United States has stood in third place without change for the last ten years, the value of the imports in 1900 being \$104,452,000.

INJUNCTION DENIED.

WASHINGTON, July 20.—The Department of Justice to-day received a telegram stating that Judge Erwin, of the United States Court in Oklahoma, had denied the application of Lone Wolf and other Indians for an injunction restraining the Government from distributing land in that territory by drawings.

No Truth in Rumor.

LONDON, July 20.—Inquiry made by the Associated Press shows that there is no foundation for the rumor published by the Daily Express that the United States Ambassador, Joseph Chase, had left London for Holland, not for a holiday but on invitation of Mr. Kruger, who desires his mediation in bringing about

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