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WHOLE NUMBER 18,192. RICHMOND, VA., SATURDAY, MARCH 12, 1910. THE WEATHER TO-DAY—Unsettled. PRICE TWO CENTS.

UNION OF CITIES IS NOW ASSURED

Manchester Aldermen Concur by Overwhelming Vote.

MAYOR MAURICE WILL ACT TO-DAY

Papers Now Being Prepared for Court Proceedings to Call Special Election in Manchester. Majority of Citizens Already Enrolled in Consolidation Club.

With one member, J. T. Abbott, absent, the Manchester Board of Aldermen last night concurred in the action of the City Assembly in the adoption of the amended ordinance for consolidation by a vote of 6 to 1, the vote being as follows:

Ayes—President J. R. Perdue, John W. Moore, R. C. Broaddus, B. A. Gill, R. A. Patram and N. P. Bailey. No—A. R. Hooker, of the First Ward.

Mr. Abbott, of the Third Ward, although he was present up to a short time before the vote was taken, left during the reading of the ordinance and did not return. He is said to be an outspoken member of the opposition, and it was suggested that he was obliged to leave to attend an anti-annexation meeting, several of which have been held, but behind closed doors.

Mayor Will Act To-Day.

The action of the Board of Aldermen had hardly been taken when a messenger was dispatched to the huge mass meeting just called to order in Fraternal Hall. President W. H. Owen, of the Consolidation Club, made the announcement amid thunderous applause. In a moment several members were on their feet moving that a delegation be sent to Mayor Maurice asking his signature at once.

Finally the motion of A. A. Adkins that a committee of twenty-five be sent to his residence for this purpose was ordered.

The delegation was well received by Mayor Maurice, but he explained that it would be impossible for him to sign the ordinance at once, as he had not given it the proper consideration. He assured them, however, that he would either sign or veto by to-day at noon, which was perfectly satisfactory to the committe, as it is practically known that his intentions are to take action to place the matter before the people. Meanwhile City Attorney Goodwyn is preparing the preliminary steps for having the election called at the earliest possible moment and in time for the census.

Election Result Assured.

Notwithstanding the opposition, which is undoubtedly strong, the annexationists have effected an organization the like of which has never before been seen in Manchester politics. With a good part of the city yet to be canvassed, 450 of about 780 qualified voters have become members of the Consolidation Club, pledging their votes and support. A meeting of the Third Ward will be held Monday night, and the Second Ward delegation will come in strong with a big meeting in the courthouse Tuesday night. The Fourth Ward meeting will be held later, and another gathering of the voters of the First Ward has been called for Thursday night in the hall at Sixth and Hull Streets.

The "antis," as they are popularly known, are holding meetings nearly every night, but being for the most part secret—that is, not open to the press, or members of the other faction—little is known of their deliberations. One enterprising member of the consolidation side managed to get in on the grond floor of the last big meeting, and reported that there were forty men present, representing voters from all four wards. Although the fight is to be continued to the last ditch by both sides, it is practically conceded that annexation is an assured fact, and it has been jokingly said of several well-known politicians that they are already mending their fences to become members of the Richmond Council from Washington Ward.

Hooker Leads Opposition.

When the ordinance came up before the Board, the crowd of enthusiasts was but little smaller and no less demonstrative than that which urged the Council to action. Mr. Gill moved that the action of the Assembly be concurred in, and was seconded by Mr. Broaddus.

"I expect," said Mr. Hooker, "to vote against the adoption of the ordinance to-night and on election day." He explained that the Richmond Council after the adoption of the original ordinance had distributed among the people of Manchester a number of printed copies. Then, he said, when the amendment was adopted, the change was not noted, and that a great number of people would probably vote for it, thinking that it carried forty instead of thirty per cent., and were ignorant of other changes that had been made by the conference committee.

In calling for the veto, President Purdue admonished them to take all the time they wanted for discussion.

"I don't want to hurry you," he said. "You will never have this chance again." No one else, however, cared to have anything to say, so the vote was taken. Even before the result was annunced the applause broke loose in a storm that shook the building.

While the members of the board were on their feet and the entire house in the greatest confusion, the joint resolution requesting the City Attorney to arrange legal action for bringing the matter to the vote of the people was passed unanimously.

Mass Meeting Enthusiastic.

The audience then surged out of the Council Chamber and made for Fraternal Hall, where the mass meeting was in session. As they came in Mr. Owen was just announcing the result of the board's action. The following committee of twenty-five was appointed to call on the Mayor, urging him to sign the ordinance, last night:

H. C. Beattie, James F. Bradley, W.

(Continued on Sixth Page.)

TEST ACT OF '46

Retrocession of Alexandria County to Virginia.

Washington, March 11.—If it is the desire of Congress that he do so, President Taft will use the legal machinery of the government to bring suit to test the constitutionality of the act of 1846, by which a portion of the District of Columbia was retroceded to Virginia. If Congress does not wish this done, the President will probably take no action, although he would like to see the question cleared up.

The President has directed Attorney-General Wickersham to prepare a joint resolution for submission to Congress, giving the direction of the national legislative body for such a suit on the part of the government. It is thus up to Congress to determine whether it wants the United States courts to finally and definitely determine the much-disputed question.

A number of good constitutional lawyers in Congress have told the President that they believe the retrocession was unconstitutional, but there does not seem any deep interest on the part of Congressmen generally in legislation looking to a final test. For that reason there is some doubt whether a joint resolution will pass. The President is too much employed on legislation of greater importance to personally direct a movement to awaken interest in Congress in the subject.

THOMAS LAUGHLIN DIES

Pittsburg Man Was Brother-in-Law of Mrs. Taft.

Pittsburg, Pa., March 11.—Thomas McK. Laughlin, a brother-in-law of President and Mrs. William H. Taft, died suddenly of cerebral hemorrhage to-day at his home in this city. Mr. Laughlin's death was unexpected, although it came as a result of a period of ill health extending over some months.

He was a son of Major George M. Laughlin, who died but a few months ago. He was thirty-five years old, and was among the prominent young men of the business and social life here. He was married in 1902 to Miss Herron, a sister of Mrs. William H. Taft, and besides the widow he leaves two young sons, William, aged six, and Thomas, aged four, and two brothers, George M., Jr., of the Jones & Laughlin Steel Company, and Irwin B. Laughlin, secretary of the American embassy at Berlin.

It is at the Laughlin residence that President Taft visits when he comes to Pittsburg.

CHARGED WITH SHANGHAIING

Federal Grand Jury Indicts Lake Carriers' Association.

Buffalo, N. Y., March 11.—The Lake Carriers Association, which controls a large percentage of shipping on the Great Lakes, was indicted by the Federal grand jury here to-day on a charge of shanghaiing. The indictments are against the corporation, the officials of which must appear before Judge Hazel next week to plead.

A. L. Limonick, a former prizefighter, who acted as local shipping agent for the Lake Carriers during the strike last summer, also was indicted on a similar charge.

The indictments grew out of complaints that agents of the Lake Carriers' Association had been shipping boys of fourteen and sixteen years to take the places of striking seamen and firemen. The boys were induced to ship, it is alleged, under promise of light work and other misrepresentation, which, under the Federal statute, constitutes shanghaiing. Some of the lads were roughly handled when they balked at the heavy work, it is alleged.

THREE TIMES A YEAR

That Is "Not Too Often for a Gentleman to Get Drunk."

New York, March 11.—"Three times a year is not too often for a gentleman to get drunk," said Surrogate Daniel Noble, at Jamaica, L. I., to-day, in deciding a will contest where two brothers of the testator sought to have the will declared void on the ground that he was an "habitual drunkard." Surrogate Noble promptly decided the will was valid and gave the contestants a lecture.

The will was that of William Thester, of Evergreen, L. I., who left an estate of $4,000. To one brother he left $5 and to another the same amount. The two sisters got the residue.

ENTIRE FAMILY WIPED OUT

Negro Farmer, Wife and Eight Children Burned to Death.

Roxboro, N. C., March 11.—John Wagstaff and his wife and eight children, colored, were burned to death at their home, seven miles northwest of Roxboro, last night, in a fire which destroyed their home.

Particulars of the holocaust are meagre, for the reason that the humble Wagstaff home was remote, no one saw the fire, and nothing was known of it until this morning, when a farm hand on his way to work found the house in ashes, and the charred bones of the occupants in the ruins.

The theory is that the fire caught in the kitchen and suffocated the occupants before they could escape. The house is on the farm of W. E. Farley, a prominent farmer of Person county. Wagstaff was one of his most trusted tenants.

MAKES HER THREAT GOOD

Miss Mercy Tells What She Says She Knows About "Paradise Jimmy."

New York, March 11.—Standing on a box under a flaring torch on the East Side, Miss Henrietta Mercy, a suffragette with a grievance, made good her threat to-night to make war against Assemblyman James Oliver, locally known as "Paradise Jimmy," by attacking him on home ground. Returning from Albany recently with a delegation of women who had pleaded with the legislators for the cause of suffrage, Miss Mercy declared that Mr. Oliver had insulted her. She swore revenge and to-night she began making good.

"You have read in the papers," she began, "about our brilliant representative up in Albany, our Assemblyman, James Oliver. Well, every word of it was true. That's what I'm here for, to tell you of his remarks to me. I want to tell his own constituents, right in his own district, of the remarks he passed—remarks not very flattering to me, to the man or to his constituents."

Here Miss Mercy detailed again the alleged unflattering remarks of the assemblyman and continued:

"Yet, I think it was a good thing. I believe this will awaken the people. Unless you and I take an interest, the government at Albany, now very bad, will be worse. The Allds bribery scandal behooves us to wake up. We must make the assemblymen realize that they represent us, that their election does not mean that they are to treat those who go to see them with scorn and contempt."

Miss Maud Malone, a militant local leader, who followed, said she would have thrashed the assemblyman if he had talked to her as he did to Miss Mercy.

"I would have dealt with him as a man would," she said. "If he had dared insult a man as he did this little woman he would have been smashed. It's a coward that insults a woman."

ASSEMBLY ALMOST READY TO ADJOURN

Appropriation Bills Pass and Are Sent to Conference.

HOUSE CUTS OUT RECORDS OFFICE

Confederate Veterans Lead Fight for Its Abolition—Good Roads Get $150,000 This Year and $200,000 Next—Byrd Liquor and State Banking Bills Pass.

Consideration of the general appropriation bill has been completed in both houses of the General Assembly, each agreeing to its own measure and rejecting the other's, and the whole matter is in the hands of a conference committee. This committee will meet this morning at 9 o'clock. The two houses are not so far apart, it is believed, but that it is probable an agreement can be speedily reached. This state of affairs is largely due to the conferences hbld between subcommittees of the Finance Committees.

Both the Senate and House worked until a late hour last night, exchanging many messages and disposing of a great number of bills, most of them of minor or local importance. There was great relief over the preliminary disposition of the appropriation measure, and there remains little doubt that everything will be in readiness to end the work of the session when midnight is reached to-night.

No Radical Change.

Taken as a whole, it seems evident that there is not a great difference in total amount between the appropriation bill, as it comes from either house, and the law of two years ago. About twelve million dollars has been authorized to be expended in the next two years.

The fact that the surplus of last session has been wiped out because of the size of the appropriation of 1908 is not viewed with any alarm as regards the present situation, for the reason that the additional revenue expected as the result of the tax measures recently enacted will come to the help of the State's exchequer.

In the House the bill was passed establishing a State Board of Law Examiners. No change was made in this measure as it came from the Senate, and it goes at once to the Governor.

The Senate amendments to the State bank examiners' bill were agreed to by the House, and this much vexed question is at last regarded as finally disposed of.

Liquor Bill Agreed To.

By a vote of 61 to 6 the House also agreed to the changes made in the Senate to the Byrd liquor bill. These merely cut out the inhibition of saloons within 400 feet of schools and churches, and put in a section regarding the sale of liquor at mineral spring hotels.

Another bill which received final action in the House on the same basis was that codifying the fish and oyster laws of the State. This is expected to bring in a large increase in revenue from this source.

The hotel bill was passed by the Senate, whereat Colonel Harwood went home with a smile all over his features.

The Byrd pandering bill also passed the Senate.

The appropriation bills met with no opposition on the final vote, passing the Senate by 29 to 0 and the House by 77 to 0.

By far the most interesting feature of the consideration of this measure was the fight over the elimination of the office of Secretary of Confederate Military Records, in the House. After a tremendous battle an amendment offered by Mr. Page to continue the office as at present conducted was lost by a vote of 31 to 54. As the matter now stands, the Senate bill continues the office, while, if the action of the House prevails, it will terminate on February 28, 1911.

To Be Handled Differently.

After the latter date the papers and records are to be turned over to the Adjutant-General, and a clerk in his office is to complete the work. During the year in which the office is to continue books are to be provided for a systematic system of recording the names of Confederate soldiers.

A vast deal of opposition to discontinuing this department has been shown on the part of Confederate organizations and allied bodies. Speeches made on the floor appealed to the members to preserve the glorious records of the Confederate arms.

This sort of fight would, it is regarded as certain, have proven successful had it not been for the action of the Confederate veterans who are members of the Finance Committee, who had looked into the office and its condition. With sorrow and deep regret these men announced that it was their duty to the Commonwealth to inform the House that there should be a change. They had, of course, no desire to discontinue the work, but said if it is to be made of value to future generations, the office could not be continued to be run as at present.

Mr. Ewing, one of those who followed Stuart, said that he personally was willing to spend a large amount of money to get these records, but he was not willing to spend it and not get adequate results. Mr. Pitts and Mr. Templeton had been unable to get information they sought from the of-

(Continued on Page 3.)

HOOTS AND JEERS FOR "WHEAT KING"

James Patten Mobbed on Floor of Manchester Exchange.

HOSTILE THREATS ARE CARRIED OUT

Police Rescue Him From Furious Operators and Escort Him to Train—Later in the Day He Gets Cordial Reception From Corn Traders.

London, March 11.—A hostile demonstration on the floor of the Cotton Exchange at Manchester, and one directly contrasting with it in friendliness on the Corn Exchange at Liverpool, were met with to-day by James A. Patten, the Chicago wheat and cotton operator.

In the first, Mr. Patten was mobbed and probably escaped injury only by being rescued by the police; in the latter, he was greeted with cheering and other manifestations of friendliness. Mr. Patten will sail from Liverpool to-morrow for New York on board the Cunard Line steamer Mauretania.

The brief vacation in England of the Chicago operator had been spent mostly about the Liverpool market, and to-day he made up his mind to run over to Manchester to see the city and visit the Cotton Exchange. It was known to Mr. Patten that there had been threats of an unpleasant reception should he visit "Cottonopolis," but he refused to believe they would be carried into effect.

These threats, it is said, emanated from persons on the exchange who had lost large sums as a result of Mr. Patten's operations in Chicago and from others who held him responsible for yesterday's rise in the price of cotton, and who believed that his visit to England had for its purpose the manipulation of the market.

Hardly had Mr. Patten touched the floor of the Manchester Exchange before the outburst came. He was hooted and jeered by the throng, and then surrounded and hustled to the street. The crowd followed even here, and did not desist in its manifestations of dislike until the American had been placed in a cab by the police and started for the railway station, where he took the first train back to Liverpool. While unhurt, Mr. Patten was greatly surprised and irritated at the dislike the people of Manchester had shown for him.

Arriving in Liverpool Mr. Patten just had time to visit the Corn Exchange before it closed for the day. The floor was crowded with members who evinced their sympathy with him for the treatment that had been shown him in Manchester by taking off their hats and cheering him when he referred to the incident.

RUN ON BANK ENDS

While It Lasted, Money Was Paid at Rate of $1,225 a Minute.

Cleveland, O., March 11.—After as vigorous a run upon a banking house as has ever been known in Cleveland, the stampeded depositors of the Society for Savings to-day regained their equilibrium, and this afternoon the panic was over.

In the two days and a half that the run lasted, $1,250,000 was withdrawn, at the rate of $1,225 a minute. As the majority of the deposits affected were small ones, hundreds amounting to less than $100, the record made by the bank in handling the withdrawals is regarded as remarkable.

Spurred on by the offer of $6,000 in rewards, $1,000 of which is personally offered by former Governor Myron T. Herrick, president of the bank, thousands of amateur detectives are to-night searching for the originators of the groundless rumors on which the run was based. In addition, several detective agencies have been employed by the bank, and the municipal secret service force has joined in the quest, as the offense is a criminal one in this State.

It was said to-night that the bank officials have practically located the source of the canard.

FIGHT ABOUT TO START

Rough Time Is Promised for Taft's Railroad Bill.

Washington, March 11.—The program for the consideration by the Senate of the administration railroad bill is taking definite shape.

Supporters of the bill are anxious to have the debate begin next Monday, but Senator Cummins, of Iowa, who will lead off in the speech-making in opposition, is demanding a day's postponement, and there is little doubt that this will be granted.

Senator Cummins, who wil discuss the subject in great detail, probably will speak for two or three days. He will be followed by Senator Clapp. Both favor material amendments.

They will make especial efforts to have the jurisdiction of the Commerce Court fixed along the lines of that exercised by United States Circuit Courts and to obtain the insertion of a provision requiring that the traffic agreements between railroads shall be submitted to the Interstate Commerce Commission before they become effective.

It is understood that most of the so-called "insurgent" Senators, as well as many of the Democrats, and possibly some of the "regular" Northwestern Senators, will stand with them in support of some of their amendments.

It is generally believed that the railroad rate bill will be before the Senate until about the middle of April.

INSISTENT DEMAND FOR ARBITRATION

City Is Aroused by Ravages of Carmen's Strike.

STEPS ARE TAKEN TO END TROUBLE

Business Men Meet and Appeal to President Taft, Senators and Civic Federation — Union Men Petition Governor to Stop Intolerable Conditions.

Philadelphia, Pa., March 11.—The call for arbitration of the differences between the Philadelphia Rapid Transit Company and its 4,000 or more striking employes became insistent to-day. From quarter after quarter in Philadelphia, and outside of it, the demand for mediatory measures was voiced. Everywhere it was recognized that the failure to arrive at an arbitral agreement was the only thing that stood in the way of a speedy calling off of the general sympathetic strike in this city, which has practically paralyzed the city's industrial life and which the labor leaders made renewed threats to spread if the deadlock continued.

At a representative meeting of business men this afternoon the call for arbitration was the keynote from beginning to end.

Governor Stuart, at Harrisburg, was petitioned by labor men to take action, and the patriotic citizenship of the city and State was invoked in various resolutions, statements and petitions to exert its power in putting a stop to conditions which Philadelphia daily finds growing more intolerable.

Determined moves for arbitration have been made before in the course of the struggle, which started nearly four weeks ago, and have failed. Each day, however, seemingly brings the situation nearer a crisis.

An excellent sign was the good order which prevailed throughout the city to-day. Not until late to-night was there any sort of an outbreak in any quarter of the city. Coming out of a meeting which was held in Musical Fund Hall, at Eighth and Locust Streets, to-night, a section of the crowd displayed a turbulent spirit, and passing trolley cars were stoned. The police, by a show of force and the display of revolvers, subdued the demonstration before much mischief was done. Nobody was seriously injured and there were no arrests.

Cars ran uninterruptedly to-day in greater numbers than since the strike began.

Business Men Act.

Two hours and a half of discussion of the strike question by a large gathering, representative of more than thirty business organizations of the city, was productive late this afternoon of the adoption of a resolution in which three separate influences are invoked to bring the industrial war to an end.

Of the two local influences appealed to, stress was laid upon the financial powers of the city. The city's banks are requested to use their influences to bring about arbitration or an equitable settlement. Each commercial body represented was asked also to bring every possible pressure to bear upon the Councilmen to cause a special meeting of City Councils to be called for action which will induce the company and its men to come to terms.

The resolution took a wider scope, however, in directing that a telegram be sent to Seth Low, president of the National Civic Federation, asking that the federation immediately offer its services as arbitrator to the two parties to the dispute, the company and the union organization representing the men. The traction company, many thought, would not lightly cast aside an offer from the National Civic body to act as mediator. The men's organization has already announced that it would welcome arbitration.

All shades of opinion were represented at the meeting, at the close of which a representative committee of thirty was named to put the resolutions adopted into effect. A petition to President Taft, presented by Alfred H. Love, of the Universal Peace Union, was numerously signed by the business men at the close of the meeting. It suggested that the commission for the promotion of industrial peace, which has at its disposal the funds donated by Theodore Roosevelt from the Nobel peace prize, awarded to him, be asked to act in the crisis here.

Action Demanded.

"Immediate action," was the demand of every speaker of the afternoon. The blocking of a settlement was variously attributed in the speeches, some of which were extremely warm in tone, upon the Transit Company, the city officials and in a few instances upon the attitude of the strikers themselves in forcing a general walk-out and insisting upon recognition of their union in any arbitration they were willing to indorse.

"The city hall could settle this in twenty-four hours if it would," was one orator's declaration.

To-night the Philadelphia Rapid Transit Company, through President Kruger, announced its willingness to comply with Mayor Reyburn's request of the afternoon for concessions to

(Continued on Fifth Page.)

LITTLE REST FOR MORGAN

In Perfect Health, He Spends Busy Day in Rome.

Rome, March 11.—There was hardly a minute of rest to-day for J. Pierpont Morgan, for the American financier was busy almost continuously from early morning until late to-night. Viewing works of art of the masters, taking care of a large amount of accumulated correspondence and receiving visitors, were embraced in the program of the morning and afternoon, and this evening he dined with the Princess Teano, and afterwards remained for a reception held in his honor.

Mr. Morgan is in his perfect health, and he said to-day that owing to the mild weather prevailing, he had not for many years so thoroughly enjoyed a visit to Rome.

Having expressed a desire to visit the Borgia apartment in the Vatican at a time when tourists were not admitted, Mgr. Misciattelli, prefect of the Apostolic Palaces, to-day sent Mr. Morgan a special card of admission, and later in the day Mr. Morgan viewed the art masterpieces there. Mr. Morgan said he would not mind being a life prisoner in the Vatican, if he were permitted at all times to look upon such artistic perfection.

Mr. Morgan to-day accepted an invitation of the committee of the Italian organization which is arranging for the celebration in 1911 of the fiftieth anniversary of the proclamation making Rome the capital of United Italy, to act as the honorary president of the foreign committee.

ORATORY WILL FLOW

Many Addresses on Program When Calhoun's Statue Is Accepted.

Washington, March 11.—The Senate and the House of Representatives will unite to-morrow with a large delegation of South Carolinians in exercises appropriate to the unveiling of the statue of John C. Calhoun in Statuary Hall, sometimes called "The American Hall of Fame."

Governor Ansel, of South Carolina, will preside, and the principal speech will be made by former Governor Manldin, of that State. The unveiling will be performed by Miss Margaret Adams Gist and Mrs. Robert Moultrie Bratton, both of South Carolina, and both members of the committee in charge of the work of preparing the statue and putting it in place.

The ceremony will take place at 11 o'clock, in time to permit both houses of Congress to convene at the regular hour. Immediately after the Senate is called to order resolutions of acceptance will be presented and speeches will be made by Senators Lodge, of Massachusetts; Chamberlain, of Oregon, and Smith, of South Carolina. Similar resolutions will be presented in the House, where a long list of orations will be delivered, the speakers being Messrs. Lever, Aiken, Finley, Johnson, Ellerbee, of South Carolina; Lamb, of Virginia, and McCall, of Massachusetts.

It had been expected that Senator Tillman would deliver the opening address in the Senate, but his serious illness has necessitated a change of program.

NOT A BUCKET SHOP

Court Holds Cotton Exchange to Be Legitimate Market.

New York, March 11.—The appellate division of the State Supreme Court decided unanimously to-day that the New York Cotton Exchange is not a bucketshop, but a legitimate market for trading in actual cotton.

The decision was handed down in the case of Richard A. Springs and others against David W. Jones, a Blakely, Ga., planter. James refused to settle a claim of $18,000 due on a cotton transaction on the ground that it had been contracted through "gambling transactions upon which there can be no recovery."

The court ruled otherwise, sustaining the lower court and a referee's report.

MAY HONOR NEWSPAPER MAN

Bill for Monument to "The Liberator of Bulgarians."

Washington, March 11.—A newspaper man may have a statue erected in his honor at the national capital, a bill having been introduced to-day by Representative Douglas, of Ohio, appropriating $20,000 for that purpose. The man was Januarius Aloysius MacGahan, whose descriptions of the atrocities practiced upon the Bulgarians by the Turks attracted the attention of William E. Gladstone, resulted in English recognition of Bulgaria's freedom, and won for their author the title of "The Liberator of the Bulgarians."

MacGahan was a correspondent for the London Daily News, at Constantinople. He died there in 1878, and in 1884 his body was brought to America, at the expense of this government, and interred at New Lexington, O. The Bulgarians celebrate his memory annually with a requiem mass.

MEETS IN WASHINGTON

Republican State Committee Will Discuss Battle With Stuart.

[Special to The Times-Dispatch.]

Washington, D. C., March 11.—The Republican State Executive Committee of Virginia, Chairman C. B. Slemp presiding, will meet here to-morrow night, at Congress Hall Hotel. The entire membership is expected. A number of matters will be discussed, but the most important topic will be the ways and means of the coming battle in the congressional districts, with particular attention to the Ninth, where Henry C. Stuart will lock horns with Mr. Slemp. Some unfinished business of the last campaign will be disposed of.

H. E. C. B.

SEARCHING FOR BANDITS

Posses Scouring Country for Men Who Held Up Paymasters of Coal Companies.

Pittsburg, Pa., March 11.—With posses and bloodhounds still searching the country about Zanesville and Brilliant, O., where yesterday two paymasters of coal companies were held up and beaten, no arrests have been made up to a late hour to-night, although in the case of George E. Evans, who was shot from ambush and about $1,600 taken, an arrest is expected within twenty-four hours. The police have under surveillance a man who lived in the ravine where Evans was shot. He was traced to South Zanesville, where it was learned he had paid a number of debts last night, and was reported to be armed with a rifle. He has not been at his home since before the crime, but the police assert they know where he is.

Charles Pommering, in the hospital at Steubenville, was still alive tonight.

MAY CONFER WITH MACK

Tammany Leader Will Be at Hot Springs With Chairman.

Hot Springs, Ark., March 11.—News that Charles Murphy, Tammany leader, was on the way to Hot Springs, where National Democratic Chairman Norman E. Mack has been in conference for several days with friends of Southerners who aspire to party leadership in 1912, caused much gossip to-day and to-night.

Presidential booms have been unofficially started for Senator Culberson, Joseph Folk, Governor Harmon and Mayor Gaynor, of New York, but no one will admit that any serious conference on the subject has been held.

FORMER CLERK GAVE NOEL HIS INFORMATION

Senate Rejects Charges Against State Board of Health.

GIVES $40,000 FOR CATAWBA

Many Speakers Testify to Value of Sanatorium and Integrity of Health Officials—Why Dr. Robert Williams Left. Papers Abstracted From Office Records.

Without even a vote, the charges preferred by Senator Noel against State Health Commissioner Ennion G. Williams were dismissed by the Senate yesterday, after a three-hour discussion of the matter. No motion was made. When the clause making the $40,000 appropriation to the Catawba Sanatorium was read there was no dissenting voice against its approval.

What had promised to be sensational allegations of misapplication and misappropriation of the public money dwindled down into a charge of a "egregious blunder." An unexpected development came when it was charged that the papers upon which Senator Noel based his indictment were abstracted from the public records of the State Health Department, after he had admitted that his informant was W. B. Watkins, a former stenographer for that department. In justice to himself, Senator Noel said he had no knowledge of that fact, but had been told that the papers he had consulted were copies.

No Charge of Dishonesty.

Shortly after the Senate convened Senator Noel was recognized. "I disclaim any charge of dishonesty against State Health Commissioner Williams," he said. "My remarks should not have been construed to mean that. I charge that the whole Catawba Sanatorium transaction was an egregious blunder and that in that transaction money was wasted."

In reply to a question from Senator Elam, it was stated by Senator Noel that he had been in possession for days of definite information on which to support his charges. He said he had made a general charge of misuse of funds against the State Board of Health during the debate on the Fletcher bill. At that time no one had taken the matter up. He had then pointed out that the expenditures of that department had jumped in one year from $9,000 to $60,000. He was frank enough to say that he might have aired the matter, had it not been for the editorial in the Richmond Times, which had severely censured him.

The first evidence brought forth by Senator Noel was a letter from Dougate Spessard, written to State Health Commissioner Williams, suggesting Newcastle as a fit site for the sanatorium, saying that a good site could be bought for one-sixth of the price paid for that at Catawba. It went on to say that the board had been wrong in its estimate of the site, and that the public generally ought to have been advised of the fact that the board was scouting about for a suitable place. Another Spessard letter to Williams declared the Catawba location was "low and damp."

Williams's Reply Read.

Then the reply of Commissioner Williams was read, stating that the question had been settled," after advisement, but that in case it might be reopened the Spessard suggestion would be taken into account.

"This letter from a Democrat in the House shows that the Democrats, of the unfitness of the place," said Senator Noel.

The next testimony adduced was that contained in the report of Dr. Robert Williams to the Board of Health, which Senator Noel declared had never been published, so far as he knew. That report characterized the site as "hopeless" and pointed out that the location would be such as to prevent patients from climbing up the high grades around the sanatorium, practically confining them to a narrow sphere and retarding their improvement. Another objection to Williams was that the old hotel was not to be used, on account of its dilapidated condition. He spoke of the conditions there as "frightful," and that the sills were rotten, and that a portion of the house had sunk into the ground. The farm, he thought, was in "bad order."

"To my mind, to put a cent into an old building would be a waste of money," he wrote. He was of the opinion that the present site should never be a proper sanatorium.

Robert Williams's Salary.

"There is no excuse for the expenditure of $9,000 on those old buildings," declared Senator Noel, "and I think we ought to consider well before we appropriate that amount in the pending bill. The official record shows that for two months' services as head of this sanatorium, Dr. Robert Williams received $2,262.75, nearly a year's salary. Miss Coles, who probably never at the site of the sanatorium, accompanied Dr. Robert Williams to this State as a nurse, and she received over $200, and that for not a day's service. I submit that the board had no right to do that. I can see why the board should have paid almost a year's salary over to Robert Williams, even upon the advice of the Attorney-General, unless it found itself in such a position as to make it think he had some action against them."

He then read from a letter of Commissioner Williams, replying to certain queries put to him by Dr. Robert Williams, before coming to the State. In response to the question, "What length of time am I to be employed?" Dr. Williams had written: "So long as you give satisfaction. Should

VIRGINIA'S DELEGATION IN CONGRESS

The Sunday Illustrated Magazine of The Times-Dispatch to-morrow will contain engravings of the two United States Senators and the ten United States Representatives from Virginia. This feature will interest every citizen of the State.

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