The Times

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BRITISH IN PHILOPOLLIS

General Clements Offers Amnesty to Free State Boers.

The Commando at Fauresmith Reported to Be Melting Away—Proclamation Read to the Burghers Granting Terms of Peace—Dutch Turn in Their Arms and Surrender.

PHILOPOLLIS, Orange Free State, March 23.—General Clements entered this town yesterday morning. Many Colesberg rebels were arrested in and around the place. A telegraph operator entered the office here and called up Fauresmith. The operator at that place, replying to the Englishman's signal, said: "I am a Free State burgher and can do nothing for an Englishman."

The Boer commando left here Saturday, and it is reported that it is melting away. What remains of it is reported to be near Fauresmith.

General Clements assembled the burghers in the court house and read General Roberts' proclamation to them. He added one of his own calling upon them to surrender their arms and to take an oath not to participate any further in the war. His proclamation then provided that if it could be shown that the applicants had not taken a leading part in the policy of the Republics or in the hostilities they would be allowed to return to their farms.

It was added that the burghers might be certain that the Government at Bloemfontein would never be restored. They were advised, therefore, to accept the inevitable. General Clements said that the landrosts and sheriffs had been reappointed under the British Government. The burghers were attentive and began handing in their arms and taking the oath as soon as the opportunity was given.

LONDON, March 26.—The "Daily Mail's" correspondent at Philopollis says that the village is full of Boers, who are bringing in their arms. Only a few Mausers have been given up. The surrendered weapons are mostly old and broken guns. It is reported that most of the Mausers are buried at Grobelaar.

A prisoner who was interviewed said there was satisfaction in knowing that for every Boer who had met death in the war ten Englishmen had been killed.

The British possession of the Free State, he added, is a dangerous thing. There will always be rebellions.

DRASTIC TREATMENT URGED.

The British Public Desires No Leniency for Boers.

LONDON, March 26.—There is the scantiest fresh information from South Africa. If anything of importance has occurred, the correspondents have not been allowed to transmit it. Many, therefore, resort to suggesting the course which ought to be pursued toward the rebel Dutch after the war. They are unanimous in declaring that the loyalists fear the British Government may be too lenient, and counsel drastic punishment and their deprivation temporarily, and in some cases permanently, of the right of franchise.

The mishap to the Guards' officers is generally put down to their own recklessness in running into an old Boer trap. The Guards' camp lies fourteen miles north of Bloemfontein and the disaster occurred six miles north of the camp. One despatch mentioned that the Boers are troublesome and are raiding twenty miles to the north. The Guards' officers were probably investigating when they were attacked by the enemy.

There is practically no news from Natal beyond a statement that a movement by General Buller is expected very shortly.

The main anxiety in England is concerning Mafeking, where, for the present, the chief interest is centred. Though the town was safe on March 14, a day later than General Roberts' intelligence, the news is not reassuring. Colonel Plumer has been forced to withdraw, but he has already drawn off Commandant Snyman. Colonel Plumer's aid, however, is regarded as less likely to be efficacious, inasmuch as one of his force in a letter home stated that they were on half rations on February 4. Colonel Baden-Powell, who is holding Mafeking, apparently must rely on himself until the Kimberley column or General Roberts relieves him. There is nothing of importance from General Roberts. His supplies are reported to be steadily accumulating.

The situation in the Free State south of a line through Bloemfontein remains somewhat doubtful. It seems that there is a considerable Boer force moving by way of Wepener along the Basutoland border toward Ladybrand. General French is at Thaba N' Chu. The country between him and Ladybrand is very hilly. The Boers, with their guns, commanded by Commandant Olivier, may penetrate the hills and join the enemy at Kroonstad. General Gatacre's scouts are pursuing them, but apparently they are only a trifling force.

Another Boer force is at Fauresmith, to which place Boers from Philopollis and Springfontein and that neighborhood are probably making their way.

Numerous arrests, including those of prominent Afrikanders, are constantly reported from the various towns occupied by the British in the southern districts.

THE LATEST FROM MAFEKING.

Colonel Baden-Powell Reports All Well on March 13.

LONDON, March 25.—The War Office has received the following despatch from General Roberts:

"BLOEMFONTEIN, March 25.—A telegram has just been received from Colonel Nicholson, commandant general of Rhodesia, at Buluwayo, forwarding news from Colonel Baden-Powell, commander at Mafeking, who states that all was well on March 13 and that during the past few days the enemies' cordon has been much relaxed."

General Roberts also reports that the officers of the Guards who were fired upon and wounded on March 23 are now at Bloemfontein. They are doing well.

THE FREE STATE VOLKSRAAD.

The Body Summoned to Meet at Kroonstad April 2.

CAPE TOWN, March 25.—It is reported that the Volkraad of the Orange Free State has been summoned to meet at Kroonstad on April 2.

THE DUKE WILL SERVE.

The British Postmaster General in the Sussex Yeomanry.

LONDON, March 25.—It is stated that the Duke of Norfolk, Postmaster General, who has hitherto been much disappointed by his unsuccessful efforts to serve in the army in South Africa, will go to the front as an officer of the Sussex Yeomanry.

PAUL KRUGER'S DELEGATES.

They Will Visit Europe and America on a Secret Mission.

LONDON, March 26.—A correspondent had a long talk yesterday with a distinguished Boer, whose name he cannot disclose, though he is permitted to state that the man is a relative of President Kruger, has held political positions in the Transvaal, is the son of a well-known Boer general, and is very rich. He told the correspondent many very important things, some of which he is not allowed to repeat, but it can be stated that President Kruger's delegates, who are coming to Europe bring with them a proposition from the small Republics to the greatest Republic—the United States.

The anonymous Boer also declared that there was not the least danger of the Boers destroying the mines.

"That report," he said, "must have been invented by our enemies. It would mean to us merely destroying our own property."

Referring to Mr. Montagu White's statements on this subject in Washington, he said:

"They were totally unauthorized. He had absolutely no right to say anything of the kind, and what he has said has given a false, harmful impression."

He was asked what he thought of the war as it stood at present, and his candid reply was:

"With three to one or even four to one the English could not have beaten us, but we recognize now that the British forces have come in such overwhelming numbers that the war for us has reached a very critical period. That is why we have hurried our delegates over here."

At this point he told in confidence of the mission of these delegates. All that can be said now is that they will, with the utmost speed, repair to Berlin and Brussels, and then to the United States. Their mission is all important, and of the utmost international interest. This relation of President Kruger was asked what significance he gave to the "stagger humanity" threat, and he said:

"The President means that the loss of life will be stupendous. Pretoria has strong forts around it, built on the most modern principles. To take these fortifications will be well nigh impossible."

"Do you regard the prospects of a long siege of Johannesburg and Pretoria as likely?"

"Johannesburg," he replied, "is, from a military point of view, untenable.

"We would not think it advisable to sustain as long a siege of Pretoria as has been suggested in the papers here, yet, let me tell you, and bear it well in mind, the Boers will never give in.

"They will, when pressed, go north into their own territory, a sort of desert, which is full of brushwood, which furnishes endless shelter. We know that intricate country well. We have been in the habit of going there every year for sporting purposes.

"In the mean time we have made all arrangements to blow up every bridge along the railroad."

THE FEELING AT PRETORIA.

The Boers Expect Better Terms of Surrender by Fighting On.

LONDON, March 25.—A Durban correspondent telegraphing under date of March 24, says that authentic information has reached that city that Pretoria is aware that the Republican forces must finally be beaten, but the Boers in the Transvaal's capital think they can hold out for from four to six months, when they firmly believe that intervention will force Great Britain to grant favorable terms, including independence.

They look to Germany and the United States for intervention. Pretoria is being prepared for a siege. The guns are occasionally fired in order to take the ranges. Mines have been laid and other preparations made. The prisoners there are now accorded better treatment. They have an ample supply of bread, and each man is allowed a pound of meat weekly.

At Water Fall, where there are 3,000 prisoners, the situation of the camp is unhealthy. The shelter for the men is insufficient, and there is, therefore, considerable sickness. The spirits of the prisoners have been raised by the news of the British success brought by the most recent captives. They do not fear ill treatment in view of the numerous Boers who are held prisoners by the British.

THE GOVERNMENT ACCUSED.

General Roberts' Lenient Proposals to the Free Staters.

LONDON, March 25.—General Roberts, in his recent proclamation, accused the Free State Government of being guilty of a wanton and unjustifiable invasion of British territory.

He says that the British Government believes the responsibility for this rests wholly with the Government, and it, therefore, wishes the people of the Orange Free State to understand that it wishes them no ill, and so far as is compatible with the successful conduct of the war and the reestablishment of peace, it is anxious to preserve them from the evils brought upon them by the wrongful action of their Government.

This passage is probably what the Natalians, Kimberleyites, and others in South Africa protest against as being too lenient.

THE DUTCH DISPLEASED.

General Roberts' Proclamation Offensive to the Afrikanders.

LONDON, March 25.—A news agency despatch from Ladysmith dated March 24 says that General Roberts' proclamation, as it is understood, dissatisfies the loyal Dutch, because it is taken to mean that General Roberts has morally pledged himself to protect on the termination of the war the life and property of rebels who lay down their arms and return to their homes.

KIPLING AN EDITOR.

The Poet Working on a Correspondents' Paper at Bloemfontein.

BLOEMFONTEIN, March 24.—Rudyard Kipling is hard at work in the office of the newspaper, "The Friend," which is edited by the war correspondents with General Roberts.

THE DELAGOA BAY RAILWAY.

A Decision by the Arbitrators Postponed.

BERNE, March 25.—The decision of the arbitrators in the matter of the seizure by Portugal of the Delagoa Bay Railway has been postponed. The amount of the indemnity to be paid by Portugal has been fixed, but there is difficulty regarding the distribution of the award to the different groups of claimants representing the McMurdo interest and the English company. It is probable the court will leave the division to be settled by the claimants themselves.

The Ivernia's Trial Trip.

LONDON, March 25.—The Cunard Line steamer Ivernia, the third largest vessel in the world, her gross tonnage being 13,800, made her trial trip Saturday. It is intended that she shall sail for New York April 11.

More Troops for South Africa.

SOUTHAMPTON, March 25.—Over 2,000 troops sailed from here for South Africa yesterday.

Ask your druggist for Kretol.

HAY'S ACTION DISCUSSED

His Tender of Mediation May Annul the Monroe Doctrine.

A Clause of the Hague Treaty Said to Have Been Violated by Our Offer to Go Between England and the Boers—A Promise Not to Interfere With Foreign Nations.

The constant repetition from European capitals and from Pretoria of the statement that this or that continental country has answered the Boer mediation overtures with a polite declination to offer its good offices to bring the war to a close on the ground that the invitation did not come from both belligerents, is serving to emphasize in the minds of public men here, the importance of the position assumed by the United State in tendering to Great Britain what practically amounted to the expression of their hope that this Government would be permitted to act as a mediator.

While the course of the United States in placing itself at the disposal of the British and the Boers as a peacemaker is regarded as laudable from a humanitarian standpoint, there is some concern expressed over the possible effect of the American overtures. It had been given out by Administration officials prior to the request of Presidents Kruger and Steyn that this Government was restrained in tendering its services as a mediator for two important reasons. One was that mediation could not properly be offered, as expressed by President McKinley in his last annual message, unless both belligerents requested it. The other reason was found in the declaration of The Hague treaty that "nothing contained in this convention shall be so construed as to require the United States of America to depart from its traditional policy of not intruding upon, interfering with, or entangling itself in the political questions or internal administration of any foreign State."

This clause was inserted at the instance of the American delegate at the disarmament conference, and the virtual pledge contained to keep out of European politics was given by the official representative of this Government in return for an acknowledgment of the Monroe doctrine by all the signatories of the treaty in these words: "Nor shall anything contained in said convention be so construed as to require the relinquishment by the United States of its traditional attitude toward purely American questions."

According to officials who were willing to explain before the receipt of the Kruger and Steyn appeal to the United States for a tender of its good offices to Great Britain why it was that the Government had not responded to the sentiment in this country in favor of the United States taking the initiative in peace proposals, the clause quoted from The Hague Convention that the United States would not interfere in political matters affecting foreign nations, and that, confronted by that pledge, the Government was powerless without violating it, to offer mediation unless requested to do so by both Great Britain and the Boer Republics, for one of the belligerents to request American aid to secure peace, it was explained, was not enough; both parties to the war must do so.

Considerable surprise was felt, therefore, when it became known that the Government, in response to the request of Kruger and Steyn, had made what amounted to a tender of its services as mediator to Great Britain. Before the correspondence between the parties to the negotiations at Pretoria, Washington, and London was made public, there was a disposition on the part of men who were officially and personally interested in diplomatic questions, to disregard the statements that the good offices of the United States had been tendered to the British. This view was supported by the statements emanating from officials familiar with what was going on between the three capitals, that the United States had offered merely to act as an intermediary, as a messenger serving to transmit communications between two nations that, on account of their quarrel, could not communicate with each other directly.

When the correspondence on this subject was published the men who had satisfied themselves that the President's statements in his annual message and a pledge contained in The Hague Treaty served as an effective bar to an offer of mediation by the United States, were astonished that such an offer had been made. They construed the message of Secretary Hay to Lord Salisbury, transmitted through Henry White, United States Charge de Affaires in London, as a direct tender of mediation, and could not on account of the plain language used adopt the construction which officials continue to assert should be placed on the instruction to Mr. White, that the services of the United States Government as an "intermediary" were all that was offered to Great Britain.

The importance of the course pursued by the United States in the mediation proceedings comes from the effect it may have on the observance by the foreign signatories of The Hague convention of the pledge concerning the Monroe Doctrine contained in that agreement. The clause of the treaty setting forth the attitude of the United States toward foreign political matters and the recognition by the other parties to the convention of the Monroe Doctrine was regarded by the Administration and by the nations of the world as the most important feature of The Hague conference so far as the United States was concerned. It contained the first general acknowledgment by all powerful Governments that the Monroe Doctrine was in full force and effect.

It is not unreasonable to suppose, some thinking men in Washington contend, that if the United States Government ever has occasion to seek to protect any interest which may be threatened by a foreign nation by calling the attention of that nation to its pledge concerning the Monroe Doctrine contained in The Hague treaty the foreign nation will hold that it does not regard that pledge as binding because the United States Government, by offering mediation, violated its promise set forth in the same clause that it would not interfere with the political questions of foreign States.

The fact that The Hague convention had not been ratified by all the signatories, and was therefore not in effect when the offer of mediation to Great Britain was made, would, of course, enable the United States to claim that the non-interference clause was not binding at that time, but some of those who are interested in the matter are afraid that the important victory gained by the United States at The Hague has been thrown away.

Pro-Boer Meeting in Baltimore.

BALTIMORE, March 25.—A largely attended pro-Boer meeting was held in Lehmar's Hall, here this evening under the auspices of many of the leading business and professional men of the city. The speakers were Montagu White, of the Transvaal, and Philip Louter Wessels, of the Orange Free State.

Norfolk & Washington Steamboat Co.

Delightful trips daily at 6:30 p. m. to Old Point Comfort, Newport News, Norfolk, and Virginia Beach. For schedule, see page 7.

THE SITUATION IN PANAY.

Military Governor Hughes to Consult With General Otis.

MANILA, March 25—(9:50 p. m.).—General Hughes, military commander in the Island of Panay, has arrived here from Iloilo for the purpose of consulting with General Otis. He says that the Island of Negros has a model civil government. Everything is peaceful there, and the crop outlook is excellent. The situation in Cebu is improving.

In Panay the natives are restive, and General Hughes expects that some campaigning will be necessary. The rainy season has commenced, and supplies are being sent to the various garrisons, against the time when they will be isolated by reason of bad weather. The west coast cannot be approached during the prevalence of the southwest monsoon, and hence it is probable that only two garrisons will be kept on that coast. The natives are suffering, owing to scarcity of rice.

Pedro Paterno, who was the head of the Filipino National Assembly, proposes to surrender to the Americans. He is expected to arrive at San Fernando de la Union some time this week and give himself up.

The authorities are dealing severely with newspapers which try to cause trouble with the natives. One of these, the "Patria," has been suppressed and its editor imprisoned.

The mothers of Aguinaldo and Mabini, formerly Filipino minister of foreign affairs, are still kept under guard here. They are not allowed to talk with the natives.

MONTREAL BANK WRECKERS.

The Ville Marie Case Results in Two Convictions for Conspiracy.

MONTREAL, March 25.—The case of James Baxter, the well-known Montreal broker, and Ferdinand Lemieux, former accountant of the defunct Ville Marie Bank, on a charge of conspiracy to defraud the bank out of a large sum of money, was concluded last night in the Court of Queen's Bench. Judge Wurtele, the presiding judge, charged the jury strongly against the prisoners, holding that the evidence clearly showed that there had been a conspiracy between Baxter, Lemieux, and Tellier Herbert to defraud the bank.

The jury was locked up for the night and came into court this morning, returning a verdict of guilty, with a strong recommendation to mercy. The verdict, which was unexpected, created a tremendous sensation and had a terrible effect on the prisoners. Baxter shook convulsively when the verdict was announced and broke down and wept like a child. His young son, who was in the courtroom, sobbed convulsively and threw his arms around his father's neck as he was removed from the dock.

The scene was a most painful one and the spectators and jury were deeply affected. Baxter was removed to jail to await sentence. It is expected that the prisoners will receive at least five years in the penitentiary, unless the verdict can be set aside.

Baxter, who is now about sixty years old, has had a checkered career. He came to Canada some years ago from Chicago, where he got into trouble, and started a note shaving and brokerage business. He made money and acquired considerable property. He was mixed up with the Central Bank failure, in Toronto, and the Exchange Bank failure, in Montreal, some years ago, but proceedings against him collapsed. He was also charged a couple of years ago with smuggling diamonds from the United States and was arrested at Plattsburg, but managed to escape from the officer who had him in charge and got safely across the border. After twenty-five years of scheming he winds up his career in the penitentiary.

THE TEXAS POPULISTS.

Split Between the Bryan Faction and Middle-of-the-Roaders.

DALLAS, Tex., March 25.—After a full day's conference between the fusion and anti-fusion Populist factions at Waco yesterday, the State Executive Committee last night called a State convention to be held at Fort Worth on May 4 to select National Convention delegates and to decide whether Texas shall be represented in the convention to assemble at Sioux Falls, S. D., or the one to be assembled in Cincinnati, Ohio.

Another State convention was called to meet in Waco on July 24, to nominate a State ticket. It developed during the proceedings, which at times were characterized by bitter personalities, that neither faction has the right to claim to be anti-fusion. The Bryan faction, led by State Chairman Bradley and Harry Tracy, is openly in favor of fusion with the Democracy in support of Bryan for President, while the middle-of-the-roaders, headed by Milton Park, want only the slightest pretext or encouragement to unite with the Socialists in support of Debs and Harriman.

SOCIALIST PARTIES MEET.

Prominent Labor Leaders and Politicians Assemble in New York.

NEW YORK, March 25.—A convention of delegates from the Socialist Labor and Social Democratic parties, called to make preparations for uniting the two and nominating a combination ticket next fall, was opened today at the Labor Lyceum, 64 East Fourth Street. The Socialist Labor party was represented by Job Harriman, of Los Angeles, Cal.; J. D. Benham, of San Francisco; J. Mahlon Barnes, of Philadelphia; C. E. Fenner, of Boston; F. A. Sieverman, of Boston; M. S. Hayes, of Cleveland; M. Hilquit, of New York; M. E. White, of New Haven, and N. I. Stone, of New York.

The Social Democrats were represented by Victor L. Berger, of Milwaukee; Mayor John Chase, Haverhill, Mass.; William Butcher, of Brooklyn; Margaret Hale, of Boston; G. A. Hoehn, of St. Louis; Frederick Heat, of Milwaukee; Seymour Stedman, of Chicago; J. P. Carey, of Haverhill, Mass., representative of the Social Democrats in the Massachusetts Legislature, and W. P. Loregan, of Rockville, Conn.

A platform for the united party was discussed and committees were appointed. A reception will be given at the Labor Lyceum tomorrow night to the delegates, who will be in session for several days. On Thursday night a mass meeting will be held in Cooper Union.

MAYOR JONES AS AN EDITOR.

The Toledo Official Invited to Run a Newspaper.

TOLEDO, Ohio, March 25.—Mayor Jones has been invited by the "Columbus Press-Post" to take control of that paper editorially during the present municipal campaign. The management intimated that it was presumed support would be given Dr. Washington Gladden and other non-partisan candidates, but the mayor would be given an absolutely free hand, with full control, a la Sheldon.

It is not probable that Mr. Jones will accept, as the time is short, and, moreover, he does not care to be absent from the city until the present struggle over the city gas plant sale is terminated.

Flynn's Business College, 8th and K.

$5——Census Office Examination——$5

KENTUCKY APPEAL CASE

The Gubernatorial Contest Going to the Higher Court.

Papers to Be Filed in the Clerk's Office Today—A Decision Expected in About Two Weeks—Contention Likely to Be Argued in Washington Before the Highest Tribunal.

FRANKFORT, Ky., March 25.—The case of Taylor et al. vs. Beckham et al., involving the Kentucky gubernatorial contest, will be carried to the Court of Appeals early in the week on an appeal from Judge Fields' decision. The case is expected to be filed with the clerk tomorrow. The Court of Appeals will meet tomorrow for the first time for over a week, and if the case is filed before the morning session adjourns, a day for argument will be set early in the week, and it is probable no other decision will be rendered by the court until one has been handed down in this case. A decision may be rendered in about two weeks.

After this decision a petition for rehearing may be filed before the case is taken to the Supreme Court of the United States. This petition will probably be filed immediately after the decision has been rendered, but under the rules of the court thirty days is allowed.

The examining trial of Powers will be continued tomorrow, and probably be concluded before Judge Moore. Golden will go on the stand for cross-examination by the defence, unless he again becomes too ill to complete his testimony. Few of the large number of witnesses summoned will be placed on the stand by either side after Golden's testimony. The day has been unusually quiet, and Taylor soldiers have been kept strictly within the lines on State House square.

The guard at the jail has been constantly on duty, and Beckham soldiers remained in the court house and within the lines established here. The trial seems to have borne heavily on Powers, who looks careworn and appears to have lost flesh.

GOLDEN'S STORY DISCUSSED.

The Defence Think They Can Break His Testimony.

LOUISVILLE, March 25.—Golden's sensational story at Frankfort, it is expected, will be sufficient to hold Powers over to the grand jury. While the story was well told and fitted tolerably well into the known facts, it has not carried conviction with it. To begin with, it has already leaked out that Golden has been kept stimulated with whisky for several days in order to prevent a collapse. When this is taken into consideration, with his known habits, it not only weakens the effect of his story, but gives weight to the testimony which will be given by two witnesses from London, Ky.

The witnesses are Harvey Steele and Dr. A. C. Foster, both reputable citizens. It is understood that these men will be used to show that Wharton Golden told them since his alleged confession that he had never made a confession to anyone, but simply got drunk and told something when he did not know what he was talking about.

These men will testify that Golden did not deny the confession, but that he denied all knowledge of any plot to kill Goebel. Another piece of his testimony to be refuted will be the statement that Combes fired the fatal shot. Gardiner Wallace, a brother of Postmaster C. C. Wallace, says that he was in the Adjutant General's room talking to Combes and Kerkersmith when the shot was fired, and asserts that he will be able to prove it.

The newspapers are not disposed to accept Golden's testimony as conclusive.

The general opinion seems to be that if $100,000 reward had not been appropriated more credence might be placed in the testimony.

THE MOUNTAINEERS MASS.

The Democrats Alarmed at Indications of Trouble.

LEXINGTON, Ky., March 25.—Nearly five hundred mountaineers have arrived at High Bridge, on the Kentucky River, about twenty-five miles above Frankfort, since yesterday morning. They are raftsmen, and they gave the Democrats a scare. Sheriff White and Jailer Condiff, of Clay County, went to High Bridge on Friday night, and last night Sheriff White's brother, John G. White, went there. Goebel detectives have heard of this, and they are afraid the mountaineers will go down the river to Frankfort tonight and attempt to rescue Caleb Powers and other prisoners in the Frankfort jail, charged with complicity in the assassination of William Goebel.

Messages have been sent to Sheriff Sutton at Frankfort, telling him of the gathering of mountain men, and a detective has been sent there from Harrodsburg to see if they are really going to Frankfort.

It is almost certain the Democrats are needlessly alarmed, as there are many rafts of logs floating down on the tide, and two hundred rafts arrived at High Bridge yesterday, and nearly as many came today.

NO FUSION IN INDIANA.

The Democrats and Populists Fail to Agree Politically.

INDIANAPOLIS, Ind., March 25.—It developed today that the Democrats and Populists have failed to reach an understanding in reference to fusion, and as a result the Populists have called a State convention for May 1 and will put a full State ticket in the field. At a recent conference of the leaders of the Populists and Democrats the former asked for representation on the State Democratic ticket and pledged themselves to nominate a ticket if two places were accorded them.

The Democrats declined to consider the proposition on the ground that there are Democratic aspirants for all of the nominations and that all of the candidates would not be willing to step aside for Populists, and even if they were it would be very doubtful if the convention would make such concessions.

The Populist leaders then notified the Democrats that they would not only name a State ticket, but would also put candidates for Congress in the several districts. The conference adjourned with the understanding that there was no possibility of fusion, and the Populists immediately issued the call for the State convention. Leading Democrats express the belief that the majority of the Populists will vote the Democratic ticket anyhow.

Thomas C. Platt in Atlantic City.

ATLANTIC CITY, N. J., March 25.—United States Senator Platt arrived here yesterday from Washington and joined his wife at Haddon Hall. Mrs. Platt has been quite ill, but is now recovering rapidly.

A JEALOUS HUSBAND SHOT.

Edward Leasure Attacked by George Crotty Uses His Revolver.

NEW YORK, March 25.—George Crotty, an electrician employed by the Brooklyn Rapid Transit Company, and living at 131 Fifty-third Street, Brooklyn, had been objecting for the past two months to his wife about the attentions Edward Leasure, a young clerk living in the house, was paying her. Neither Mrs. Crotty nor Leasure paid any attention to his remonstrance, and Crotty grew angrier every day.

Mrs. Crotty and Leasure today came to Manhattan together. Crotty spent the day in the saloons in the neighborhood of his home, and declared to a number of his acquaintances that he was going to beat Leasure within an inch of his life when he saw him again. Mrs. Crotty and Leasure were on their way home at 10:30 tonight, when Crotty met them in front of 167 Fifty-third Street. Leasure was carrying two framed pictures that belonged to Mrs. Crotty under his arm. Crotty jumped at him, and, after an angry word or two, struck Leasure in the face.

Leasure returned the blow, and the two men went at it hammer and tongs. Mrs. Crotty started to run down the street, but she had not gone more than fifty feet when there was a report of a pistol, followed in a second by another. She ran back, screaming, and found her husband lying unconscious on the ground with the blood pouring from a bullet wound in his head, while Leasure stood over him holding the revolver in his hand.

The reports of the revolver and the screams of Mrs. Crotty brought Policeman Graham to the scene. Leasure had made no attempt to escape, but waited quietly for the policeman to arrive and arrest him. He was locked up in the Fourth Avenue station on a charge of felonious assault. Graham summoned an ambulance from the Norwegian Hospital and Crotty was taken there. Dr. Keigard said that the bullet had entered the brain, and that he did not think Crotty would live for ten hours.

SHOOTS AT A PRIEST.

An Unknown Man Wounds Father Dalge on a Train.

DALLAS, Tex., March 25.—An attempt was made this morning to assassinate the Rev. Father Dalge, a Catholic priest, who was traveling in a westbound passenger train on the Texas and Pacific Railroad. The train was standing at the depot in the little village of Lambert, seven miles west of Weatherford. A man sitting two seats behind Father Dalge suddenly sprang up and fired two shots at him from a pistol, the assassin leaning over the unoccupied seat between himself and the priest.

Father Dalge grasped his assailant by the throat, pulled him forward over the top of the seat, wrenched the pistol from his hand, and held him until assistance came. A physician on the train examined the priest's head, where one of the bullets had struck, and discovered an ugly scalp wound an inch and a half long, which bled freely. The skull was not seriously injured.

The man who did the shooting was taken in charge by the train crew and passengers, who conveyed him to Eastland, the nearest county seat on the road, where he was placed in jail to await the arrival of officers from Parker County, in which the crime was committed. He would tell nothing concerning himself. Father Dalge stated that he had never before seen the man and knew nothing about him or why he should desire to kill him. The priest had been to Weatherford to hold early morning mass, and was returning to his home at Thurber.

THE HARDY BANK ROBBED.

Thieves Take $38,000 From a Safe in Nebraska.

LINCOLN, Neb., March 25.—The State Bank of Hardy was robbed of $38,000 in money by safe blowers about 3 o'clock yesterday morning. The robbers used so heavy a charge of dynamite that they wrecked the front of the building, tore the fixtures to bits, and awakened the whole town. Bloodhounds were put on their track, but they were not run down.

The men overlooked $900 in notes and gold in their haste.

This is the fourth robbery of small banks that has occurred in Southern Nebraska in the past two weeks.

A PROFITABLE INVESTMENT.

The Nicaragua Canal Will Pay Well.

BOSTON, Mass., March 25.—Capt. Jacob W. Miller, member of the original United States Inter-Oceanic Survey, is of the opinion that the Nicaragua Canal would be a profitable investment for this country. In an address before the Commercial Club he said:

"Assuming that the canal will cost $115,000,000, the fundamental question presents itself: Will the trade warrant such an outlay? A most critical and thorough investigation has been made on this point and is shown in the exhaustive report on prospective tonnage prepared by the Nicaragua Canal Construction Company. The statistics contained therein have been obtained from the most reliable governmental sources.

"A summary on the report of the prospective tonnage shows conclusively that 10,000,000 tons will pass through the canal annually. The rate per ton via Suez is $1.85. Assuming that the tariff by the American canal should be the same, we will then have a gross revenue of over $18,000,000.

"The capacity of the Nicaragua Canal is 14,000,000 cubic tons. Is there room for doubt that it will be taxed to its fullest extent. We are on the eve of a large development of our merchant marine. The natural growth and development of the Pacific States and Territories will soon furnish thousands of tons of traffic for the canal for the hundreds that exist under the present conditions."

AN APPEAL FOR THE BIRDS.

The Use of Feathers for Trimmings Denounced.

PHILADELPHIA, March 25.—The Rev. Dr. Rutlege, in his sermon tonight, denounced the use of feathers as hat trimmings. There were many women in the congregation, and few whose hats were not ornamented with feathers. Christ, he said, taught the gospel of mercy. He then said:

"I hope my words will pierce the hearts of my hearers, that they will appeal to conscience and mind. The condemnation of heaven is upon the reckless fashion and whim of women, this pandering folly that calls for the destruction of the innocents."

Carnegie-Frick Reconciliation.

PITTSBURG, March 25.—H. C. Frick tonight engaged rooms for next Wednesday at an Atlantic City hotel, supposed to be the Traymore. He will meet Andrew Carnegie and their business reconciliation will become social as well. James B. Dill, the New York lawyer, is still here. He spent the day with C. M. Schwab, President of the old Carnegie Steel Company, at Schwab's office.

Amos Rusie Signs.

INDIANAPOLIS, March 25.—It was said on good authority tonight that Pitcher Amos Rusie had signed a contract to play with the New York club this year.

THE PORTO RICAN MUDDLE

Mr. Foraker Expects a Vote on the Tariff Bill This Week.

A Caucus Called for This Afternoon in the Efforts to Secure Harmony Among the Republican Senators—Opponents May Not Filibuster—Legislation for Alaska Territory.

The Porto Rican Tariff bill will take the place of the bill to provide a civil government for the island as the unfinished business in the Senate this week. Mr. Foraker, who has the bill in charge, stated last Saturday that he expected it to be brought to a final vote not later than Thursday. The Civil Government bill, which has been recommitted to the Committee on Pacific Islands and Porto Rico, will be permitted to remain in that committee until the tariff bill has been voted upon, when it will again be reported to the Senate and its passage urged.

Senator Foraker's remarks concerning an early vote are regarded as indicating that he has received information to the effect that filibustering tactics will not be resorted to by tariff opponents. It is the general impression that the minority leaders have come to the conclusion that the voting strength of the supporters of the bill has been greatly overestimated, and that there is no fear of new accessions to their ranks. Mr. Foraker has stated emphatically that he is sure of enough votes to pass the House bill without amendment, but Mr. Beveridge is equally as sure that this is not the case.

A caucus of the Republicans has been called for this afternoon and an attempt will be made to secure harmony, but the free traders among them declare that they will not be bound by any caucus action, and it is extremely doubtful if an agreement of the desired nature will be reached. The members of the "peace" committee have been making a canvass of the Senate and they claim to have enough pledges to ensure a majority of at least three votes. It is possible that, should the free traders adhere to their determination to concede nothing unless the House bill is amended, a vote will be taken without further attempts to placate them.

As the Republicans opponents of the tariff bill all voted for the relief bill, which provides that the existing tariff rates shall not be changed until a new law is enacted, they are now forced to consider whether it would be wise for them to be placed in the position of being to an extent responsible for a failure to reduce the existing tariff. Their support of a free trade amendment to the pending bill would not have that effect, but should they refuse to vote for the bill itself and thereby aid in preventing its passage, they would at the same time assist in defeating the attempt to reduce the existing Dingley rate of duty, 85 per cent, and Porto Rico would be left as it now is, under the same tariff laws as apply to foreign countries.

The majority declare that they will accept no amendment, with the possible exception of one providing that the articles included in the free list of the present tariff governing the importation of articles into Porto Rico, shall continue to be exempt from duty, and the fact that there appears to be a strong sentiment among the friends of the bill in favor of this provision makes its adoption possible. Such an amendment, however, cannot be proposed as long as there is a possibility that if the bill is sent back to the House in an amended form it will meet with unfavorable action.

Among others, Mr. Foraker is confident that this would not be the case, but there is a difference of opinion on the subject, and the bill is in too precarious a condition in the Senate to permit of further risk by again submitting it to the action of the House unless it is made clearly to appear that there would be no danger in so doing.

The minority has not yet consented to the fixing of a date for taking a vote, but the opinion is gaining ground that if a vote is permitted within a reasonable time, and before further use can be made of the Republican party lash, it is likely that a free trade amendment of some kind will have enough supporters to secure its adoption. For this and other reasons it is probable that if the supporters of the House bill follow the plan announced by them of forcing a test vote as soon as possible, there will be no appreciable opposition to its being taken. With the tariff bill in this unsettled condition a meeting of the Porto Rican Committee has been called for 10 o'clock this morning to consider the Civil Government bill and to incorporate in it the amendments that have been proposed, in such a form that the amended bill can be placed before the Senate in the most acceptable form. In response to an enquiry by Mr. Allen, Mr. Foraker stated last Saturday that this bill would not remain in the committee longer than three or four days. This statement, however, was in a way qualified by a former statement that the bill will not be reported until the tariff bill is disposed of, so that the time for a vote on the former is really dependent upon the disposition that is to be made of the latter.

George Finley, of Porto Rico, denies the statements of Senators Gallinger and Spooner, made in the Senate Friday and Saturday, regarding his controlling the sugar interests in Porto Rico. He says he has a very small quantity of sugar and owns but one plantation.

Mr. Carter announced Saturday that he will move to take up the Alaskan bill today at the conclusion of the routine morning business, and to continue its consideration until it is disposed of. He stated that if the unfinished business is laid aside for the day the consideration of the Alaskan bill can be completed at one session and that even then the engrossing of the bill, its consideration elsewhere, and the conference which will doubtless result, will involve about all the time the Senate will have to devote to it. There appears to be no objection to Mr. Carter's proposition, and unless there are new and unexpected developments in the Porto Rican matter his motion will doubtless be agreed to.

On Wednesday of this week the Senate Committee on Privileges and Elections will meet for the purpose of hearing the arguments of the opposing counsel in the Clark case. It is expected that the committee will be required to devote several days to this work, and that no further action will be taken in the case this week.

The Army Appropriation bill which was reported February 14 will be taken up in the House today or tomorrow. The debate will occupy several days, the understanding being that a large number of members will address the House. Friday will be given over to private claims. The special order for Tuesday, April 3, is Senate bill 222, to provide a government for the Territory of Hawaii. Saturday, April 7, has been set apart for the delivery of eulogies on the life and character of the late Richard P. Bland, of Missouri.

Most Superb Day Train in the World.

The "Royal Limited" leaves Baltimore and Ohio Railroad Station, New Jersey Avenue and G Street, daily 2 p. m., arrives New York 8 p. m. Splendid dining and cafe car service.