

New York Capitol and Men Interested in Graft Charges



Albany, Feb. 20.—Not since the famous insurance investigation of 1905-6 has the political world of New York state been stirred as it is by the present investigation into the Aldis-Conger charges. The statement by Senator Conger, who accuses Senator Aldis of receiving money to kill proposed legislation, that "there was a payment to the state chairman of the republican organization" in 1902, together with the statement of Governor Hughes made in New York in regard to the matter, helped in arousing popular interest. Speaking in New York, Gov. Hughes, who is counsel for the Armstrong committee, which conducted the insurance investigation, said: "This is not a time to retire in dismay and allying itself with the evil that may be in it. It needs to purge itself of evil. It needs to get rid of that which can be justly condemned."

In 1902 the chairman of the republican state committee, accused by Senator Conger of receiving funds raised by the bridge companies to influence legislation, was Colonel George W. Dunn of Binghamton. The picture shows the captain and Governor Hughes in a characteristic speaking attitude.

They were under Captain Victor Gordon, with General Mena, the contingent being known as the "American scouts." The wounded man is William Wilkins, who joined the provisionals from Panama. A steel bullet struck the carriage bell, swung across the shoulder, near the heart, and deflected, penetrating the ram and leg.

GOVERNMENT FORCES DRIVEN TO RETREAT

Huefolds, N.C., Feb. 20.—Americans took an active part in the battle between the insurgents and the Madris forces at St. Vincent and at least one was badly wounded.

Another scout, G. F. Bushby, was bruised when a stone from behind which he was firing was shattered by a cannon ball. Bushby was thrown twenty feet, but he went back to the fight.

In a dispatch that he has sent here, Captain Gordon says that the battle began on the 15th. The insurgents reached Chinoo on the 18th, when after 10 hours of desperate attacks and counter attacks the enemy under General Vasquez retired to a sec-

onary position, from where this morning they opened a desultory artillery fire that ceased at 10 o'clock.

According to Captain Gordon, Vasquez was beaten, although his six hundred men outnumbered the provisionals two to one.

Vasquez can receive no reinforcements and when all Maturya's men arrive, and they are expected hourly, General Mena will assume the aggressive and will attempt to drive Vasquez toward the lake.

Early in the morning of the 18th the enemy's guns demolished Mena's left trenches, drawing out his troops, including the Americans. Mena reinforced and recaptured the place. The enemy then opened in front of a new hill, but Mena executed a flanking movement, causing the government troops to retreat, but not to the rear. They abandoned many rifles and narrowly saved a Maxim. Some of Vasquez's effects were taken and the general himself got away only by a close margin.

Battle Is Fierce.
The fierce heat of the battle is indicated by the fact that two of Mena's guns were disabled. Another was twice dismounted but each time re-planted, doing effective execution. Mena's loss was 12 wounded. Gordon thinks that the enemy's loss was heavy, as their assaults were deluged across open spaces in the face of artillery.

When the enemy withdrew, Frank Reynolds, at the head of five other Americans, led a party of seven, coming within 50 yards of capturing a Maxim, when his men were compelled to desist.

At times the bullets, shells and shrapnel came so thick that it was difficult to see because of the dust. One of the enemy's Maxims was captured by assault, this being the engagement in which Wilkins was wounded. He was carried to the rear by comrades in the midst of a hail of bullets. Once the Americans ran out of ammunition and before a new supply came they were compelled to defend themselves in a hand to hand fight. Five additional Americans under General Zeldou were placed in command of forty Nicaraguans, with whom they turned the enemy's left flank, and shortly afterwards terminated in the enemy's complete retirement.

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Upon the enemy's retirement Mena's cavalry gave chase but were unable to come up before Vasquez had taken shelter on a high hill. It was from this position that Vasquez bombarded today. Apparently further fighting is inevitable, although prisoners taken by the provisionals force report that Vasquez's men are deserting in squads.

SPORTS FIRST BIG MITT INTENDED AS JOKE

There are not many men left who know the exact circumstances of the invention of the big glove, and the inventor has never been told in print before. The great glove, which has changed the whole defensive system of baseball, was the result of a joke, and the joker thought only of his fun that afternoon, although he was keen enough to make his humor pay him in the end. Was ever a joke productive of so much history or so many dollars, either before or after? Not in the world of baseball, anyway.

"I was only a boy in Toronto," says how Kid Bernstein, the ticket broker, tells the story, "but I was a fiend for baseball and was always hanging round the park of the old Toronto team. For a minor league lot that team was classy, too. Among the men I can still remember Ed Crane, who had the speed of Kuele—poor old Ed, Harry Sawyer, handsome, polished, versatile in every playing position, yet destined to a finish of unhappiness and sorrow; Mike Slattery, who afterward was a Giant star, and a stocky little catcher by the name of Oldfield. There were others on the famous team and nearly all of them played in the fast company, but those were my special friends.

"I fell to Oldfield's lot to catch Ed Crane, and to catch Crane with the short pitching distance and the little leather-tipped glove was an awful thing. Twice a week Oldfield caught Crane, and so terrible was Ed's speed that before the game was over the leather tips were torn right off the glove. Oldfield's hands were swelling and bugged, but he was game, and stuck to his post. One day in the club house Oldfield exhibited his swollen hand and Decker guffawed at him.

"Tell you what, old man," laughed Decker, "why don't you have a mattress made in the style of a glove? That would save your poor little fingers, and you wouldn't have so many passed balls. Look—suppose you get some leather like this and a lot of felt stuffing—like this (picking up a lot of rubbish from the ground) and make a big mitten this way. That would protect you wouldn't it, my tender little darling?" And Decker, who was a mechanical genius, kept rapidly at work with the odds and ends around the clubhouse till he had a working model of his big glove that differed in no way, so far as idea and general ground plan were concerned, from the big glove of today.

"Oldfield and the other players laughed at Decker, but as he finished his invention they realized that something practical was before them. Decker stayed it too. He snipped laughing. 'Boys,' said he, 'I think this would work. I'm going to have one made! And thus the big catching glove was born.

"Decker should have made a fortune from his glove, which was patented and sold by thousands. But he went wrong. Must have gone crazy, I believe, for he forged checks and misbehaved in many ways till he finally vanished from view, and few people know whether he is living or dead. But he invented that big glove and there is the story of the invention.

CONNERS STILL A DEMOCRAT

New York Leader Declares Will Not Resign No Matter What Happens.

New York, Feb. 20.—"I've got just one thing to say," declared William J. Conners, chairman of the democratic state committee, tonight. "I'll not resign and I shall be a democrat whatever happens."

Mr. Conners had just returned from Palm Beach and had canvassed the situation with his supporters. He had hurried north to retrace his position before the special meeting of the state committee to be held in Albany, Thursday when his opponents hope to oust him. They will remain until Wednesday when he will go to Albany. In the interval he expects to see every one of the state committeemen individually.

"Shall you see Charles F. Murphy?" he was asked. "I don't know whether he'll call on me or not," answered Mr. Conners. "How many votes have you got against you in the state committee?" "They've got less than they think they have—how many will be shown Thursday."

STORM SWEEPS THE BRITISH ISLES

London, Feb. 20.—A fierce gale has swept over the British isles, doing an immense amount of damage. The harbors are all crowded with shipping seeking shelter.

Incoming vessels report extremely rough passages. The Adriatic and the America, which arrived today at Fife-head, experienced a succession of gales all the way across the Atlantic.

The Mauretania, after a long delay, succeeded in embarking the mails at Queenstown but was unable to land her pilot, who was taken on to New York.

BABY AS A SIGHTSEER.

Babies under a year old suffer physically and mentally from the pressure of a swift succession of sight or sound waves on their tender senses. What pleasure is it to them in "airing" where everything else is considered but the air, and where they are mere adjuncts to the convenience of their guardians? The infant sightseer, too immature to enjoy, it not too dull to feel the woe of the turmoil. He needs peace, the harmonies of a gentle mood, quiet understanding, a garden to him "a jolly do," a back street away from the cars and other horrors, is better than the boulevards, filled with things that flash and shriek and bewilder him to insensibility.—American Baby.

STORIES FROM WASHINGTON

Speaker Cannon is showing some signs of unbending toward the insurgents. For years he has not spoken to Victor Murdock. To others he has not spoken for many months. Not very long ago Representative Ralph Cole of Ohio wrote to his district, found the anti-Cannon sentiment strong, came out against Mr. Cannon, and when he got back to Washington found that "Uncle Joe" looked over his head without seeing him.

But recently the speaker has been in a more forgiving mood. He has showed signs of no longer taking the role of the stern parent who goes about the house looking things unutterable at the bad boys of the family. A day or two ago he got down out of the chair and went over to the vicinity of Herbert Parsons of New York, set down and talked in the most agreeable fashion. Parsons looked haughty, but "Uncle Joe" spoke in kindly, fatherly tones, and it seemed to have something of a soothing effect on the New Yorker. It amazed the insurgents. Norris of Nebraska rushed over to Victor Murdock and inquired anxiously if he saw right or had a somnambulistic dream.

"No, you're awake all right. Uncle Joe's scared," said Murdock. Not alone did the speaker converse with Parsons, but he talked in the most pleasant fashion for fifteen minutes with Madison of Kansas, who is badly infected with the insurgent germ.

Even the regulars are wondering what has come over the speaker. Recently three Russians, who have a long tale of woe, wrote a long letter in German, telling of their troubles, inclosed it in a big envelope and sent it to Washington, addressed to "The Government of the United States." Someone in the postoffice department, after carefully looking the ground over, concluded that he knew what the writer meant, so he sent it to Speaker Cannon.

The speaker modestly refused to allow it. He had the letter sent to the library of congress for translation and it was ultimately sent to Representative W. P. Borland, who hails from Kansas City, and from whose district the epistle was written. He forwarded it to Baron Rosen, Russian ambassador.—Washington Times.

FAIRBANKS AT CHURCH.

Berlin, Feb. 20.—Charles W. Fairbanks, former vice president of the United States, today occupied the pulpit of the American church.

TWO KILLED IN STREET CAR WRECK

El Paso, Texas, Feb. 20.—Two people are dead, one perhaps fatally, and several slightly injured as a result of a street car accident tonight, caused by the blowing out of the fuse. Flames filled the car and the people became panic stricken, a number jumping from the swiftly-moving car. The dead:

A. G. SMITH, 32 years old; neck broken.

MISS MAGGIE RILEY, Canada, neck broken.

NELSON FILLED WITH CONFIDENCE

San Francisco, Feb. 20.—Battling Nelson is so confident that he will return the winner over Ad Wolgast in their battle at point Richmond on Washington's birthday that he will urge Louis Biot and Jimmy Griffin, two promoters representing different clubs, to hear their best terms for a 45-round contest between him and Cyclone Thompson on either the Saturday preceding or following Decoration day.

Nelson weighed 133.24 this afternoon. He said in his training quarters: "Wolgast has been strutting around just as Munroe did after he met Jeffries in Montana. He has claimed that he made me back up. Well, I'll go after him on Tuesday just as Jeffries did, and he will back up."

Wolgast is at the weight notch that will permit him to make the required 133 pounds by fight day with little difficulty.

He says that he feels he will have little trouble in disposing of Nelson. The betting still remains at 10 to 6 with Nelson a strong favorite in the pool rooms.

TELEGRAPH BREVITIES

Weston took a six-mile jaunt Sunday, walking from Canyon Diablo to Sunshine, New Mexico, where he spent the day recuperating from his 42-mile walk on Saturday. He will leave at daybreak for Winslow, 28 miles east.

As Pennsylvania train No. 30, which usually makes New York in 24 hours from St. Louis, was seeking to regain about 30 minutes lost time by a fast run over a level stretch of the Panhandle division, five of its six cars jumped the track a mile west of Scio, Ohio, at 8 o'clock yesterday. The twenty-nine passengers aboard, most of whom were asleep, were shaken from their berths and suffered from the shock, but none was injured seriously enough to require surgical attention.

Boutros Pacha Chall, Egyptian premier and minister of foreign affairs, was shot and seriously wounded at Cairo, Egypt, yesterday by a student from the school of the navy. The student fired five shots, three bullets lodging in the premier's body. Two of them, however, inflicted only superficial wounds. The bullets were extracted and it is thought that the premier will recover.

Robert A. Johnson, long associated with Claus Spreckles in the sugar business, died in New Jersey yesterday, indirectly from a blow from a bolt received in the Philippines in 1892. Locomotor ataxia resulted.

For the first time in several months President Diaz of Mexico attended a bull fight at the million dollar steel building yesterday. Prizes of the fight went into the 1910 celebration fund.

There is an uncomfortable suggestion of the re-opening of the famous Auld-Robbett court martial case which it was supposed, had been finally settled by the approval of the navy department of the findings of the court martial. It appears that attorneys for Surgeon Robbett have been authorized to present to the department arguments to show that the young officer was illegally punished.

Final details closing up the \$62,000,000 merger of the four street car companies in the south division of Chicago have been completed. It was learned Sunday and the Chicago City and Connecting Railway company becomes a fact.

Bernard J. Showinger, president of the American chamber of commerce in Paris, has submitted to M. Jean Dupuy, minister of commerce, a series of figures which, he claims, will completely demolish the French side of the tariff controversy with the United States.

TWO OF BALLINGER'S LAWYERS IN THE LAND OFFICE PROBE

Washington, Feb. 20.—In the examination of the witnesses in the Ballinger-Pinchot investigation, Secretary Ballinger, himself one of the ablest lawyers in the country, is represented by other legal lights. His principal lawyer is John J. Vertrees of Nashville, Tenn., who is an old personal friend of President Taft. Acting in an advisory capacity is Albert Battle, who was formerly associated with Mr. Ballinger in the law firm of Ballinger, Roland, Battle & Tennant of Seattle. Most of the questioning of Louis R. Glavis and the other witnesses in the famous case is being done by Mr. Vertrees.



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SHIP SHOWS BIG IMPROVEMENT

Washington, D. C., Feb. 20.—A better ship than she was in her infant days, the battleship Virginia maintained an average speed of 19.54 knots during a four-hour trial that Rear Admiral Schroeder, in command of the Atlantic fleet, put her through off Guantanamo, Cuba, according to a cablegram received today at the navy department.

This speed is better than that made in the contractor's trials, when the ship was put into service and were conducted with a displacement of 1,000 tons more than was the case when the contractors took the ship out. Last week, Admiral Schroeder reported, the fleet had been at sea part of the time, holding, turning and battle exercises.

Landing forces from the Minnesota, the New Hampshire, the Mississippi and the Idaho, encamped all week on Deer Point, holding rifle and pistol target practice and engaging in company, battalion and regimental drills. In addition, boat crews laid mines, teams scaled walls and 147 men qualified as swimmers.

TILLMAN'S VOICE AGAIN RESTORED

South Carolina Senator Finds Power of Speech and New Hope Is Given.

Washington, D. C., Feb. 20.—Favorable indications showed themselves today in the condition of Senator Tillman. The initial symptoms which caused his partial paralysis and loss of speech have abated, the probability has commenced, according to a bulletin issued late this afternoon by the three attending physicians.

Today he recognized and called by name one of the physicians, a man whom he had once seen only once before. Until today the senator had spoken only two words since he was stricken last Thursday; but today, when the family physician entered, his face brightened as he recognized him and he said:

"Hello doctor."

A little later the physician whom he had seen only once said to the senator:

"I don't suppose you remember me?" "Yes, I do," replied Mr. Tillman. "You are Dr. White."

The doctors consider this return of speech most favorable and they entertain no doubt now as to the patient's full recovery of his speech. The senator passed a comfortable night and awakened this morning soon after the physicians arrived.

Following is the bulletin issued by the attending physicians:

"The senator's condition is as favorable as could be expected. The initial symptoms have abated and improvement has commenced. The disturbance of speech is less marked. Pulse 72; temperature normal. He is resting comfortably. There are no indications pointing to the probability of unfavorable developments at this time."

BRYAN AT SANTIAGO.
Santiago, Chile, Feb. 20.—William J. Bryan, his wife and daughter arrived today. They will remain four days. On Tuesday S. L. Pierpont, American charge d'affaires, will give a reception in their honor.

FINCKE PUTS HIS OPPONENT TO BAD

Boston, Feb. 20.—Reginald Fincke of Chicago, national amateur racquet champion, out of the hunning in the present tournament by defeating him in one of the semifinal matches three games to one. G. R. Earing, jr., of this city was obliged to default his match with Quincy A. Shaw, also of Boston, in the semifinal so that the championship for 1910 lies between Fincke and Shaw. The match to decide the title will be played Tuesday afternoon.

PRIZE FIGHT CROWD ESCAPES WITH ROPE

Chicago, Feb. 20.—Twenty spectators at a prize fight held in an actuator by the police today pinned the ropes around the ring and hastily turning them into ladders used them as a means of escape out the windows. Several men, including the principals in the fight, were injured by falling. The police surrounded the place and took four prisoners. The fight had gone fifteen rounds when the police entered.

SIX THOUSAND SEE JEFFRIES

San Francisco, Feb. 20.—Before 6,000 spectators James J. Jeffries, who is to fight Jack Johnson on the afternoon of the Fourth of July, appeared in the ring at an "athletic carnival" conducted by Jack Gleason, one of the promoters of the big fight, this afternoon. It was the first time that Californians have seen Jeffries since he signified his willingness to fight Johnson.

The fight loving public of the city where Jeffries won his first great battle was impatient to see if he had "come back." From the applause the retired champion received as he went through his paces, it was evident that the public was satisfied with his condition. He skipped the rope, did shadow fighting and performed stunts to show his speed. When his part of the program was over Jeffries jumped from the ring and sprinted across the baseball field to the club house, outdistancing his trainers.

No announcement was made today as to where the fight would be held, although announcer Jordan in calling attention to the fighting ring this afternoon, stated that it would be held in California.

"Tex" Rickard and Gleason will spend another day or two looking over the ground before the final meeting is held to decide the question.

Rickard said tonight that he was still receiving telegrams from his backers in Salt Lake instructing him to let the Utah city desire to stage the Jeffries-Johnson contest.

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