

TENSAS GAZETTE.

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HOW GOV. FOSTER LOOKS UPON THE SUBSTITUTE FOR THE PROPOSED AMENDMENT.

The Times-Democrat's Baton Rouge correspondent recently telegraphed them as follows: "Governor Foster to-day announced to the Times-Democrat representative that he did not favor the substitute for the proposed amendment to the Constitution touching the suffrage question, but farther than this mere assertion his Excellency would not express himself. That Gov. Foster was not prepared for the report made by the committee of fourteen is evidenced by his assertion, for had he been possessed of all the facts he would scarcely have refrained from expressing his opposition to the proposed change in the organic law of the State. That Gov. Foster will give his close attention to the solution of the vexed question can be taken as assured, but just what course he will pursue is largely problematical. He declares that there exists no necessity for the calling of a constitutional convention to settle the matter, nor does he favor the calling of a special session to consider the reform in elections question. "This afternoon one of the members of the election and suffrage committee was told of this determination on the part of Gov. Foster, and replied that the committee's solution, to his mind was the only one which could well be accepted, and that he for one could do no better nor suggest any more satisfactory method of reaching the desired conclusion.

"Since the speech made by Mr. E. H. Farrar to the General Assembly on Wednesday night there has been little heard concerning ballot reform. His remark that the existing trouble could be remedied only by a change in the organic law of the State, and not by any legislative act seems to have made a considerable impression on the minds of the members of the Assembly, and they are in a measure inclined to regard with favor the proposed amendment, as submitted to the caucus. Unless Gov. Foster takes a hand in the matter it is considered very likely that the caucus to be held Monday night will be of a nature to assure the adoption of the substitute, and that in it will be the necessary number of Senators and Representatives to assure the life of the report when it is brought before the Assembly for final passage. This will be effected by the pledging of all members in the caucus to the support of the report, and the majority of those seen on the matter to-night declare their intention of supporting the amendment. As a matter of course, if the amendment be adopted its veto by the Governor will have no effect, as a three-fourths vote will be necessary to adopt the report and a like number to ride over the Governor's veto. It is scarcely probable, however, that the Governor will go to the ends of vetoing the measure, but will rather try and have the report changed in some manner before being finally submitted to the caucus.

"If the reported substitute to the constitutional commission's amendment be carried there will be no ballot reform measure adopted or drafted by the committee of fourteen, at least such is the general opinion from present indications. It is contended by those who hold to this view that in the parishes there exists no necessity for reform in ballot, as between white men there are no frauds committed, and such fraudulent action is carried on solely in large cities. This question may figure in the ballot reform discussion, which will at least take place in both House and Senate, and may lead to the

adoption of Mr. Farrar's proposed amendment, which, being supported by decisions of the Supreme Court of the United States, can be used in any section of the State and not be operative in another. In other words there may be a ballot measure adopted for New Orleans which will not affect elections in the country parishes. It is doubtful, however, that the city delegation will support any such move, as the sentiment among the delegation seems to be equal laws for all sections."

"One of the leading Senators, in discussing the question yesterday, remarked that it was a trifle out of place to think that the present Legislature should be expected to be in a position to frame any ballot reform measure. They were not, he held, elected on any such issue, and until ballot reform was made an issue he saw no way by which the desired legislation could be effected."

"It was in 1855, the night of the terrible battle of Inkerman," says an exchange, "when the long disputed field had been taken and retaken several times, that two soldiers lay dying side by side on the ground, which was saturated with blood; one was a Frenchman, the other a Russian; the former had his chest pierced by a ball, the latter had his leg broken—possibly they had been struck at the same time. Night had come on, and with it the cold increased; the wounded men drew nearer to each other and clasped hands, and in some manner exchanged good wishes. But soon the Russian, who shivered with cold, fell into a heavy slumber, and, only having his thin coat over him, this sleep might have been fatal. When he awoke towards morning, and gradually recovered consciousness, he found himself carefully wrapped in a warm military great coat, and found it was a French great coat. His unfortunate companion, feeling that his hours were numbered, had had just strength enough to take his own great coat off and to wrap his new friend in it, then with a mind perfectly at rest he had lain down again and quietly breathed his last. The wounded Russian was taken to a hospital later the same day, and in time he recovered; but as he remained a cripple he was sent home to his own village. He had carried home with him a button of the French great coat to which he owed his life, and for which he had the highest veneration."

It is possible that some proposition looking to a change in the rules of the Senate may be proposed after the tariff bill is passed. There has been a loud demand in certain quarters for a closure rule during the consideration of the tariff bill, but such a demand could not be enforced when a measure of such magnitude was already under discussion. Mr. Cockrell, of Missouri, in discussing the subject of closure, said: "It would be impossible to change the rules when a bill is under consideration, especially if there is any desire to prevent its passage by extended debate. The proposition to change the rules could be debated as long as the question itself. This is recognized by any person who ever looked into the matter. I should be in favor of a proposition changing the rules so that the majority could control the passage of revenue and appropriation bills. Any party that is instructed with the power ought to have control of such bills, and ought to be allowed by the rules of the Senate to enforce a vote after reasonable discussion. To that extent I would favor a change in the present rules of the Senate. It would not do to try and change the rules now, but when there is no great question before the Senate, and when all Senators can look at the proposition uninfluenced by any other question, and unbiased by partisanship, the matter can be considered in a business way and decided."

THE PLAGUE.

Something About its Origin, Spread, and Terrible Ravages.

A telegram from Washington to the Times-Democrat under date of June 16, thus speaks of the terrible plague now devastating the Myserious Kingdom: "The records of the Department of State throw light upon the singular plague which is now ravaging China, and make it evident that this most fatal disease is really similar to the Black Death or plague which devastated London, as told by Defoe. It has its origin in Yunnan, a Chinese province, where it is epidemic. The Catholic missionaries there held that it was merely a pestilence slowly rising in equable stratum from the ground, and as it increases in depth, all animals are, as it were, drowned in its poisonous flood; the smaller creatures being first engulfed, and man, the tallest of all, suffering last. Its approach may be told by the rats springing continually from their hind legs, as if they were trying to jump out of something. The rats fall dead, and then comes the turn of the poultry. After the poultry have succumbed pigs, goats, ponies and oxen successively die off.

"In man its approach is indicated by eruption of one or more minute red pustules, generally in the arm-pits, but occasionally in other glandular regions. If several pustules appear, the case is not considered so hopeless as when they are few. The sufferer is seized with extreme weakness, followed in a few hours by agony in the chest, and every part of the body, delirium shortly ensues; and in nine cases out of ten the result is fatal. It often happens that the patient suddenly, to all appearances recovers, and leaves his bed, but in such cases the termination is always a collapse and death. As soon as a case appears the Chinese desert the afflicted, leaving him in a room with a jug of water, and peering in the window at intervals, and producing the victim with a long pole to ascertain if life is extinct. To make matters worse, in the country the corpses are not buried, but are laid out to decay in the sun, poisoning the air for miles around.

"It is known in Yungku under the name of bubonic fever, in Laos, Siam, in Barmah, and in Queycho, China, where it has prevailed for years. Never before, however, has it made its way to Canton and to Hong Kong, whence it may spread over the earth.

"One reason for attributing its origin to miasmatic influences is the fact that it always appears upon the planting of rice in May or June. It penetrates by caravans and travelers to the uplands, and becomes more severe by fall. Sometimes it passes over certain communities in its line of progress, but only to return later on, or the next year. When it appears the people desert their homes and crops and flee to tents in the hills. In some provinces the population is decimated, and whole families disappear."

Forecast Official W. T. Blythe, of the Weather Bureau, stationed at Cairo, Ill., has designed a bulletin board to be carried on river packets for the display of river stages. He has sent a model to Capt. Isaac Mason, of the Anchor Line, who has shown it to a large number of rivermen, who all think well of the scheme. The idea is to have an arrangement attached to the Texas of the boats, showing the stage of the water at the last landing the boat has left. This is to be done in bold, large letters, that can be read on both shores, and would be of especial benefit to give warning of overflows. The stations along the river, starting at St. Paul, are: La Crosse, Dubuque, Davenport, Burlington, Keokuk, Quincy, St. Louis, Cairo, Memphis, Vicksburg and New Orleans.

A Boston special of the 9th says: "John L. Sullivan, ex-champion, is not feared by the citizens of this city as he was in the days when he was champion. While in the Clarendon Hotel last evening he took offense at remarks made by a prominent physician regarding Paddy Ryan, and after some hot words the physician seized a bottle and hit the ex-champion on the cheekbone. Sullivan was taken to the Emergency Hospital, where the wound was sewed up. It is not at all serious.

Says the Concordia Sentinel: "We notice that several wealthy and enterprising gentlemen of Natchez have organized an independent cotton oil company, capitalized at \$75,000, and propose to start a mill over there. The men whose names are mentioned in connection, that is most of them, have the means to push their project to a successful consummation, and if they do, they will greatly benefit Natchez. The bulk of the cotton seed that formerly went to that city, on which was predicated a large amount of business, now goes to New Orleans and elsewhere. An independent mill there, then, would bring much of this business back, and would contribute largely to the prosperity of the "Bluff City." We shall watch the progress of the movement with much interest.

Says a Washington telegram of the 16th inst. "Senator Quay was before the Sugar Trust Committee just before 2 o'clock. He told the committee that he bought Sugar stock for speculation and that he would do so again. He further said that he had been dealing in stocks more or less all his life, and for the past twenty months had bought and sold Sugar stocks. The day before the vote was taken he sold all he had at a loss, so that it could not be charged that it influenced his vote. He said that he had not been furnished with any information as to what the finance committee would do with the sugar schedule, and that formed no part of his basis of purchase or sale. He saw no reason why a United States Senator should not avail himself of a plain business proposition, and be intended to transact any such business in the future as he had in the past.

Senator Peffer, of Kansas, in a recent speech in the Senate, said: "If you will give notice to the American people that at the end of five years all tariff laws will be wiped from the statute books, that our custom houses will be sold, that our army of customs officers will be mustered out of service, and that our doors are open, swinging outward and inward, by that time my friend from Delaware and his manufacturing neighbors will be swimming along much more comfortably, I pray, than they are now. The truth is, I say to the Senator, that some day we shall have to compete with the world, and the sooner we learn to do it the better. But I would not wipe out the duties all at once. I should take a little time to do it. If you undertake to build up a perpetual protection wall against foreign trade, the American people will strike out and burst your wall. You cannot do it. It is not American. I believe at an early era in our history it was necessary, for the establishment of our commercial independence, that protected duties should be levied upon imported goods. It was wise then, but the situation is different now." Senator Peffer is correct in the position he has taken, but the trouble with him is that he talks like a tariff reformer, but on several occasions has voted like a protectionist. We believe, however, that when it comes to a showing of hands he will vote for the Wilson bill.

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