

THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE ON THE LABOR TROUBLE WARMLY COMMENTED.

The President's message upon the labor troubles having been read by the clerk, Mr. Springer of Illinois, moved its reference to the Committee on Labor, with instructions to that committee to report upon it by bill or otherwise, on or before May 15.

Mr. Butterworth, of Ohio, moved to refer the message to the Committee of the whole.

This gave rise to a debate in which the message was warmly commended by Messrs. Randall, McCreary and others. It was finally referred to the Committee on Labor with instructions to report upon it on or before May 15.

Mr. Voorhees of Washington Territory, rising to a question of privilege, offered the following resolution:

Resolved, That the Committee on Rules be instructed to inquire whether Hon. L. D. Swett, or any other ex-member of the House who has availed himself of the privilege of admission to the floor under rule 34, is interested as agent or attorney for any railroad or attorney for any railroad or other corporation, or is interested in any claim or bill pending before Congress and to report to the House the result of such inquiry with such recommendations as may be necessary.

It has been an open secret, he said, that ever since the beginning of this Congress a powerful lobby, organized in the interest of various railroad corporations, had infested the Capitol, and that the rules of the House had been openly, repeatedly and notoriously set at defiance by some members of that lobby. He protested against the continuance of that rank and crying abuse.

He did not intend to reflect upon Mr Swett, but had inserted his name because he personally knew that Mr. Swett was attorney for the Northern Pacific Company.

Accepting suggestions made by Mr. Blount and Mr. Randall, Mr. Voorhees modified his resolution by omitting the name of Mr. Swett, and by providing that the inquiry shall be carried on by a select committee of five members. As so modified the resolution was adopted.

What a Stenographer Won by Reporting 208 Words a Minute.

One of the most rapid shorthand or stenographic reporters in Richmond is George Lafferty, son of Dr. J. J. Lafferty, editor of the Richmond Christian Advocate. Young Lafferty is private secretary to Gov. Lee, but he had higher aspirations and he made a fight for the position of Official Stenographer in the United States Congress.

The shorthand reporters of the capitol constitute a close corporation. They would have no stranger enter the charmed circle, and least of all from the South. They are paid \$4500 each, and their places are worth the having. But a new reporter was wanted, and the Civil Service Commission interposed, and that no improper adventurer might secure the rotund stipend, the stenographers themselves were authorized to apply the crucial test, and George Lafferty (private secretary to Gov. Fitzhugh Lee) came up from Richmond. There was a vivacious Swede undergoing examination as a witness before a Congressional committee, and Lafferty was sent to report the Swede, who uttered 208 words each minute. For five hours questioning

lawyers and the more valuable Swede rattled away, as did the reporter. Next morning Lafferty read the 19,000 words of his report to the lawyers and the Swede. It was pronounced perfect and Lafferty won the place he sought.

A YOUNG WONDER.

Louis Hahn, of Pittsburg, is well known there as "The Little Chief." Whenever there is an alarm of fire, the boy, clad in the grab of a fireman, is always seen dashing to the burning building. He is almost a monomaniac on matters pertaining to the fire department than most of the firemen. He can do what every member of the department confesses himself unable to do, and that is, to be given the number of a box, and then tell its exact location and what engines will respond to the alarm from it. Time and again, when in an enginehouse, this test has been made, and young Hahn could never be deceived. He keeps posted on every new box. In his room he has fixed up several wires and gongs, and often enjoys himself in practising on them. So far has his fire department proclivities gone that it is his great desire to have a wire run to his house and a gong placed therein, that he may hear once alarm of fire. He knows every fireman, and frequents every engine house.

THE PLAIN GIRL.

(N. Y. Tribune.) As usual, the pretty girls seem to be doing all the mischief or getting into all the scrapes. The girls in London who recently eloped with the coachman, the guileless young thing in Paris who poisoned her husband, the stage-struck Berlin bride who ran away with a barnstorming company, and the western—far western—young woman who was recently discovered to be the wife of three husbands, none of whom are yet dead, are all ravishingly beautiful beings—on paper. The plain girl, on the hand, never does anything apparently but work. She never figures in scandals or tragedies; and although she may be homely enough to stop a clock, she is never heard of as breaking her father's or her husband's heart. Let some novelist arise and immortalize the plain girl for she will never do herself that service.

LABOR NOTES.

Some Congressmen are timid on Labor questions.

Stone-cutters and masons at Chattanooga demand higher wages.

Turpentine hands at Slidell, La., are on a strike for higher wages.

The Tarrytown, N. Y., servant girls receiving from \$6 to \$16 per month have struck for an increase in wages.

Many Chicago retail dry goods dealers announce that they will willingly adopt the eight hour day if made general in the trade.

The strike of street car drivers in Milwaukee was averted by the willingness of the companies to meet the demands of the men.

A dispatch from Listowel says that all of the employees of Lord Cometh Waite have joined the boycott against his Lordship and quit work.

C. J. L. Meyers, Son & Co., glass door and blind makers, of Chicago, have adopted the eight hour system without reduction in wages.

The Chicago coopers intend to appeal to European trade unionists and request them not to buy provisions packed in convict-made barrels.

Most of the cigar factories at Terre Hill near Lancaster, Pa., which suspended several weeks ago on account

of union label troubles, will shortly resume.

The New Haven Journal and Courier procured an injunction against members of the Typographical Union forbidding them from injuring the business of the Courier.

The strike of the card room hands at a dye house labors in Naylor's carpet mill's at Lowell, Mass., has been settled the men receiving a slight advance in wages.

The members of the Boston Stone-mason's Union are organizing an assembly of the Knights of Labor, and have resolved to demand \$4 per day on and after May 3, with eight hours work on Saturdays.

Keene Brothers of Lynn, Mass., have signed the agreement made with the Knights of Labor two weeks ago, and the Executive Board issued a notice that the trouble has been satisfactorily settled. All the men will return to work except the lasters, who will not go back until their price list is arranged.

THE MARKETS.

MONROE MARKET.

[Corrected Daily.]

Table listing market prices for various goods including Sugar, Coffee, Syrup, Rice, Corn Meal, Flour, Bacon, Lard, etc.

NEW ORLEANS

COTTON.

Table listing cotton quotations for Good Middling, Middling, Low middling, Good ordinary, and Ordinary.

GRAIN AND PROVISIONS.

Table listing prices for Flour, Extra Fancy, Corn, Oats, Hay, Pork, etc.

Table listing prices for Flour steady, Wheat, Corn, Oats, Hay, Pork, etc.

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