

FOUR CANDIDATES OUT RACE FOR SPEAKERSHIP; HANSON HAS SUPPORT

SUDDEN CHANGE IN HOT FIGHT OCCURS SUNDAY

Long Conference Ending Early Yesterday Morning Accomplished Result. GO INTO CAUCUS UNITED TODAY

Treadwell Twichell, W. J. Burnett, A. G. Divet and H. A. Haroldson Abandon Personal Ambition—Thompson and Hendrickson in Final With Hanson.

(BY H. D. PAULSON.) Bismarck, N. D., Jan. 4.—The republican house members went into caucus at 2:30 o'clock this afternoon, after one of the closest fights in years. The outcome entirely unexpected, so far as indications previous to the caucus were concerned.

With the fight centered between Thompson, Ward and Hanson of Barnes, and with Hendrickson of Burke county, still retaining his position in the race, the contest drew to a close. The caucus has commanded, unusual interest.

Even as late as this morning, these five candidates were considered as likely "dark horses" candidates. However, the scheme did not develop.

Steps to organize a farmers' caucus were also taken last night and were completed this morning, with W. S. Dean of Grand Forks county, as chairman.

About forty house members are expected to attend the caucus. It is given over to a discussion of educational and appropriation matters only. The house caucus was signed by Burnett, Divet, Williams and Treadwell Twichell.

Bismarck, N. D., Jan. 4.—The surprise of the speakership struggle was the announcement of the retirement of Treadwell Twichell of Cass, Burnett of Traill, Divet of Richland, Haroldson of Bowman and the centralization of their support for A. P. Hanson of Barnes county.

In a conference that continued from late Saturday night till long into the early morning hours of Sunday, the question of reconciling the five candidates was under discussion, and at adjournment announcement was made of the withdrawal and the determination to support Mr. Hanson.

ASSEMBLY WILL CONVENE AT HIGH NOON ON TUESDAY

Both Branches Meet at 12 O'clock—Inaugural Ceremonies Wednesday.

MANY BIG TOPICS ARE CONFRONTED Unusually Important Business Is Up for Transaction During the Next Sixty Days—Taxation Leads in Point of Interest.

EXPECT FRANE'S METHOD WILL BE ENDORSED TODAY

Plan of naming Senate Committees has Brought Forth Little Opposition.

NO INSTITUTION MEN ON APPROPRIATIONS

Objected to Davis as Chairman of that Committee Because He is "U" Grad.

(BY H. D. PAULSON.) Bismarck, N. D., Jan. 4.—Lieutenant-governor J. H. Fraine's method of naming the senate committees without the customary senate committee on committees, doubtless will be endorsed in the republican senate caucus, held this afternoon, under a call signed by Senator Henry McLean, senior member of upper house, and Senator Steele of Sittlington, Hughes of Burleigh and Ellingson of Steele.

While there was some objection apparent to Colonel Fraine's attitude, it is understood that thirty to thirty-five senators had of their own accord pledged their support to Fraine.

Colonel Fraine took the position that under the senate rules, the burden of appointing the committee was placed in the hands of the lieutenant-governor. Heretofore, the senate has appointed a committee on committees to advise with the lieutenant-governor. This year, Fraine adopted the new method of a list of committee preferences.

In the distribution of important committee chairmanships, Colonel Fraine has been impartial. Objected to Davis.

Senator Kretschmar of McIntosh county, is slated for the chairmanship of Davis for the appropriations committee, while Senator Davis of Sheridan county is slated to succeed himself as head of the state affairs committee.

Changes in the taxation laws will be proposed by which it is expected that the state's revenue can be increased to meet the growing demand of the commonwealth.

As for prospective appropriations, everything is now uncertain. The legislature doesn't know what it has to appropriate, although it will this year have the benefit of knowing from the start.

THORNE REFUSES TO ACCEPT SEAT

Dickey Man Says He Cannot Afford to Attend Legislative Session.

(BY H. D. PAULSON.) Bismarck, N. D., Jan. 4.—John Thorne, chief of the house from Dickey county, probably will not qualify. He has informed the other members from Dickey county that he cannot afford the expense of attending the session and all efforts to induce him to take his seat have so far failed.

LONDON EXCHANGE IS OPENED TODAY

Had Been Closed Since July 30—Severe Restrictions Are Made.

(BY H. D. PAULSON.) London, Jan. 4.—The London stock exchange reopened for business today, after having been closed on account of the war since July 30. Severe restrictions were placed upon the exchange in order to prevent anything approaching a panic in the selling and unloading of securities by hostile countries.

FRENZIED MOB LYNCHES BLACK NEGROES, ACCUSED OF BEING IMPLICATED IN MURDER, ARE KILLED.

Montgomery, Ala., Jan. 4.—Two negroes, Ed and Will Smith, were taken from the Wetumpka jail early today and lynched by a mob. They had been accused of being implicated in the murder of R. A. Stillwell, an Elmore county farmer.

GERMAN'S IMPERIAL CHANCELLOR SAYS HE DID NOT WANT THIS WAR; HIS COUNTRY IS WELL PREPARED

In Interview With Associated Press Representative, He Discusses Conditions—Assisting in Belgian Relief—Confident of Ultimate Victory.

Berlin, Jan. 4.—The imperial chancellor, Dr. von Bethmann-Hollweg, received a correspondent of the Associated Press today and spoke openly on the Belgian relief situation, the question of contraband, the way in which industrial Germany has adapted herself to war conditions, the sentiment of Germany toward her enemies and toward America and on the responsibility for the war, which he attributes to Great Britain.

"I did not want this war," was one of his phrases, given with striking emphasis. "We Germans do not cherish hate," was another, occurring in a discussion of the attitude of the Germans toward the French soldiers and people.

A. M. CHRISTIANSON WILL DELAY TAKING OFFICE; FISK NEXT CHIEF JUSTICE

(H. D. PAULSON.) Bismarck, N. D., Jan. 4.—A. M. Christianson, supreme court justice-elect, probably will not take office till Thursday or Friday, the purpose being to give the court an opportunity to dispose of several big pending cases.

RAINY WEATHER HINDERS ARMIES

Worst Downpours in Years Prevent Operations on Large Scale. HEAVY ARTILLERY BATTLES REPORTED

Germans Capture Important Russian Position at Borjimow. London, Jan. 4.—The extremely rainy weather, the worst Europe has experienced in years, causing floods in the river valleys of the continent as well as those of England, has prevented any operations on a large scale on the western battle front and has interfered seriously with those in the east.

DESPERATE FIGHTING IN PROGRESS ALONG THE EASTERN BATTLEFRONT

RENEWAL OF GERMANY'S OFFENSIVE MOVEMENT AGAINST WARSAW CHECKED TEUTONIC ARMY SUFFERS SEVERELY

In Other Campaigns, No Essential Changes Are Reported—Statements From Russian and Turkish Authorities Differ Widely. ATTEMPT TO EXPEL GERMANS FROM CONQUERED TERRITORY MAY BE DEFERRED FOR FEW MONTHS

Attacks of Allies in France and Belgium Have Developed into Another Great Struggle—Weather Conditions Preclude Operations in the West. London, Jan. 4.—Violent fighting is in progress along the eastern battlefront, and at several points there are desperate hand-to-hand encounters. The official Russian statement shows that, after capturing Bollimow, the Germans attempted to push on to the northeast, in the direction of Warsaw, 30 miles away. This movement marked a renewal of the German offensive toward the Polish capital, after a period of comparative inactivity, but their advance in this direction is said to have been repulsed with large losses.

RUSS AND TURK REPORTS DIFFER. In the other campaigns no essential changes are reported. In the Transcaucasian, the Turks and Russians are engaged in fierce struggles, but the reports from Petrograd and Constantinople concerning the outcome are at complete variance.

RUSSIAN STATEMENT OF FIGHTING. Petrograd, Jan. 4.—An official communication from the Russian general staff in the Caucasus gives details of the fighting in the region of Sari Kamyah, in the trans-Caucasus.

TURKISH COMPANIES CUT TO PIECES. "At one point, a company of Caucasian regiment was dispersed by bayonet charges, while two Turkish companies were cut to pieces by artillery fire."

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FEW INFANTRY ATTACKS LATELY. Paris, Jan. 4.—The official statement shows that the artillery fighting along the front is proceeding intermittently and at some points with particular violence. There seems to have been few infantry attacks recently.

STEINBACH TAKEN BY THE FRENCH. Berlin, Jan. 4.—Steinbach, a town on the heights between Theres and Senheim, for which desperate fighting was in progress for several days, officially is admitted by the German army headquarters statement today, to have been captured by French.

FRENCH AVIATORS DO DAMAGE. London, Jan. 4.—According to an Amsterdam dispatch to the Exchange Telegraph company, French aviators dropped several bombs in the vicinity of Brussels Saturday, partly destroying a Zeppelin shed under construction and killing several German soldiers.

FARMERS' CAUCUS TAKES NO ACTION

BAD WRECK AT EMMONS TODAY

STRAW VOTE ON SPEAKERSHIP IS TIE—FAVOR SMALL APPROPRIATIONS.

Several are Perhaps Fatally Injured in Derailment of Passenger Train.

Relieve Prisoners

Saw Wrong Man

Kills Two

Weather

University Readings

German Invasion

Prepares for

Relieve Prisoners

Saw Wrong Man

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