

VON KETTELER SLAUGHTERED BY THE CHINESE

GERMAN MINISTER IS SLAIN AND HIS BODY HACKED TO PIECES

LEGATIONS FIND A REFUGE

ALL BUT THREE HAVE BEEN BURNED IN THE RECENT RIOTS

ENGLAND, FRANCE, GERMANY

They Are the Only Ones Reported Standing in Late Advances From Peking.

SHANGHAI, July 1.—The German minister was attacked while proceeding to the tsung li yamen, where he died.

ROME, July 1.—The commander of the cruiser Elba telegraphs from Taku, June 30, as follows: "Advices from the German legation in Peking state that all the legation buildings have been burned except those of



BARON VON KETTELER, German Minister to China Killed at Peking.

England, France and Germany. All the members of the diplomatic corps have taken refuge in the British legation."

SHANGHAI, July 1.—The British consul at Che Foo telegraphs that Baron von Ketteler, German minister at Peking, was murdered by native troops June 18. Three legations—It is not stated which—were still undestroyed June 23.

The American consul here states that Yung Tu telegraphed June 26 that the other ministers were safe that morning, but the situation was desperate, and he doubted whether the ministers could hold out twenty-four hours longer, as he and the embassy could not longer guarantee protection.

WASHINGTON, July 1.—Two important cables were received by Secretary Hay today from United States Consul General Goodnow, at Shanghai. The date is understood to be that of last night. The text is withheld, but the consul states in substance as follows: It is rumored in Shanghai that the German minister to Peking, Baron von Ketteler, was killed at Peking on the 18th of June. On the 23rd of June three of the legation buildings were still standing. The others have been burned. On the 26th of June a dispatch was received at Shanghai from Yung Tu (believed to be the viceroys of the province of Chi Lu, where the principal troubles have occurred), stating that other ministers were safe.

TUAN IN CONTROL. Dispatches to Shanghai from different sources indicate that Prince Tuan, father of the heir apparent, seems to be absolutely in control at Peking and that his attitude is the worst possible and most hostile to foreigners. It is even said that he issued an edict as far back as the 29th of June ordering all of the viceroys to attack the foreigners in their respective provinces—an order which, so far, not been obeyed. Peking could not have been preserved through the fury of the first stages of the outbreak only to fall victims to a second thought. There is at least the indication that the Chinese government itself was protecting them. On the other hand, the statement that the notorious anti-foreigner Prince Tuan was in complete control at Peking was regarded as an exceedingly grave development, to have the United States consuls put themselves in communication with the viceroys of the provinces, treating the government at Peking as incapacitated for administrative work, and these consuls doing all in their power to protect the foreigners in their respective districts. The signs of benign disposition on the part of the viceroys is probably the basis of the hope that they can be induced at least to stand neutral and keep their own provinces in order if it should become necessary to direct hostilities against the Peking government. This course seems to be absolutely necessary, unless developments in the immediate future demonstrate the inaccuracy of Consul General Goodnow's advice relative to the status of affairs at Peking. There is authority for the statement that the government feels that what must be done at once is to drive forward a relief force to Peking, regardless of the strength required. So far it has not been regarded as necessary to do more in the way of military prepara-

tations to this end than has been done, and consequently no further reinforcements have been ordered to Taku. There is much doubt here as to the sufficiency of the force now there to undertake the work.

TROOPS ARE MASSING.

Admiral Kempff yesterday reported that 14,000 men of all armies were ashore, without stating definitely where they were. It is not known when or on what the second expedition directed against Peking has yet started from Taku or Tien Tsin. In this state of ignorance as to the military situation it is not possible to act intelligently from Washington in the direction of adding to our naval and military strength beyond the sailors, marines and regular soldiers already under orders. It would seem that, to accomplish effective work some degree of understanding must be reached among the powers interested beyond the rather vague one under which they are now proceeding.

UNCLE SAM TO CO-OPERATE.

A small foreign force made up of different nationalities, operating on a tangible understanding, and perhaps acting under one generalship, might accomplish greater things than more numerous forces working independently, and if it is possible to reach an accord between the powers as to the precise objects of the next military expedition, treating, perhaps, only on the immediate objects of relieving the ministers and other foreigners who are in danger, and leaving out great questions as to the future of China, to be dealt with hereafter, it is probable the United States will cheerfully adhere.

NEED NOT DECLARE WAR.

This government has not yet regarded the developments as necessitating the assembling of congress in extraordinary session to declare war, but it is possible the dispatch of more reinforcements to China from Manila and the United States may not require congressional action as long as the object is to strictly succor Americans in danger and in distress.

While there was no formal cabinet council today, Secretary Hay had with him at various times members of the cabinet in the discussion of the situation in China. It is understood no change of policy was determined upon.

The non-receipt of news from China regarding the exact condition of the legations in Peking is a source of perplexity to the administration. They confess that it is difficult to arrive at a satisfactory conclusion on the subject, although the preponderance of evidence points to the opinion that the legations are safe.

At the same time officials say a discrepancy of dates is apparent. The first dispatches stating that he had been killed were received from London, June 16, and referred to a special dispatch from Hong Kong, which said all the Peking legations had been destroyed and the German minister killed. The official dispatch from Consul General Goodnow, at Shanghai, the Shanghai press dispatches of today place his murder as having occurred on June 18, or two days after the first report. The discrepancy caused some comment.

Minister Wu said tonight that he had not received any dispatches during the day from any part of China. He also is puzzled by the news, which he says appears to him contradictory regarding the legations.

He still expressed the hope that they are safe. While awaiting with greatest interest the trend of events in Northern China, the officials are not neglecting American interests in the central and southern provinces. Not being able to communicate with the central government at Peking, the consuls are addressing themselves to the viceroys of the provinces in which they are located, and making every effort to secure that Americans are given protection. So long as such protection is granted there will be no naval or military force sent by this government into the territory represented by the viceroys. It is the opinion here that the Chinese are fully alive of the consequences which might follow the introduction into their territory of a foreigner, and that they are not likely to resort to such steps may not be necessary.

WAS BRUTALLY MURDERED.

LONDON, July 2.—Official dispatches received by the consular body at Shanghai, July 1, confirm in the fullest manner the report of the British foreign minister, Baron von Ketteler, the German ambassador, on June 18. The baron was riding on Legation street when he was attacked by Chinese soldiers and Boxers and dragged from his horse. His body was hacked to pieces with swords. The German legation buildings were burned and a number of the consular staff were killed and their bodies thrown into the flames.

MAY MEAN WAR AT ONCE.

Official confirmation of this ghastly business has caused the utmost consternation among the consuls general of the powers. The British foreign minister has declared that a "poutrance" will be declared against the Peking government. The consuls entertain little hope that any foreigner will be left alive in the capital. There were 100 foreigners connected with the legations, 50 in the custom house, English and American tourists and others to the number of 150, and nearly 500 legation staff were in the capital. The Daily Mail learns, has received news from the British consul at Che Foo that Baron von Ketteler has been killed, but no other confirmation.

BUCHERY AT NANKIN.

A dispatch to the embassy from Nankin, June 30, says: "French priests here have received a report from Peking that public executions of foreigners have been in effect since the 20th of June. The British foreign minister from French priests at Peking, who stated that they administered the last rites to the condemned men." "The viceroys Li Yun Rich received a dispatch from Gen. Yulu on Friday stating that the German minister had been murdered at Peking. Yulu, who escaped from Tien Tsin to Pao Lo Fu, wires also: "Position desperate. Implore your help. Foreign troops of eight nationalities entering Peking to the number of 30,000 or 40,000. I cannot hold out for four days." Liu Hun Yih has received this news from Yansankian. "Foreign troops victorious at Tien Tsin. They will enter Peking immediately."

UNREST AT CANTON.

Outbreaks of the Boxers appear to be limited to Canton. The feeling of unrest steadily increases. Boxers from Peking are marching on Sunday to Che Foo. The governor feared for the town and sent to the warships for forces. A small riot occurred at Che Foo on Sunday.

WILL OPOSE GERMANS.

Fifty-two refugees who have arrived from New Chung avar that the Boxers have destroyed the railway north of Port Arthur, and that all the American and English residents are leaving. Gen. Yunnankian, commanding the best drilled troops in China, has notified the German government of Kiao Chau that he will not permit the Germans proposed expedition to Wei Sin to pass Chifont. The Misses Bowden and Hayes, the American missionaries, are in the hands of the Boxers. The missionaries at Pao Ting Fu were reported to be safe on June 15. A correspondent in Shanghai learns from official sources that the Chinese are

FIRE ON WHARVES AT HOBOKEN WAS A VERITABLE HELL

DETAILS OF THE HORROR DETRACT NONE FROM THE EARLIER REPORTS

THE ESTIMATES ARE VARIOUS

BUT THE DEAD AND UNACCOUNTED FOR WILL REACH UPWARD OF 200

DEATH LIST IS ENORMOUS

Many of the Victims Were No Doubt Cremated, While Others Are Yet to Be Found in the Bay.

NEW YORK, July 1.—Up to 11 o'clock tonight eighteen bodies had been recovered. Eleven of them were placed in a row at the morgue in this city and numbered, this being the only means the authorities have of maintaining any sort of identity over the corpses, as they are so badly charred and dismembered that identification will be made only by trunks and pieces of clothing that were found about the bodies. The only way the steamship officials have of approximating the loss of life is by comparing the list of those reported safe with the list of the employes on the steamships.

COMPANY MAKES FIGURES.

Late tonight Gustave Schwab, the general agent of the North German Lloyd line, gave out a list showing what men on each vessel had been missing up to that hour. On the Saale 255 men were employed, and only 127 of these had been accounted for up to 11 o'clock, leaving 128 men actually employed as officers, sailors, stewards, engineers, coal passers, oilers and trimmers to be accounted for. The Bremen had 204 men on board, but only 127 of these have been found. The Main had 137 employed on her at the time, and of these only 76 have been reported safe.

AMONG THE RUINS.

The scene of the great fire today presented a spectacular, but horrible sight. Over in Hoboken, where two days ago piers reached hundreds of feet out into the river, and rising in the air like great hills stood, alive with outgoing and incoming commerce, a great waste of burning and smoldering beams, with here and there a remnant of a high brick wall, are all that remain.

NEW YORK, July 1.—The losses sustained in the fire at the docks of the North German Lloyd Steamship company in Hoboken yesterday afternoon were placed at nearly \$10,000,000. The loss of life, while merely guesswork at even this late hour, will probably reach as high as 200, and the number of persons in the hospitals in this city, Hoboken and Jersey City badly burned.

The immense piers of the North German Lloyd line are burned to the water's edge, the Thinsville pier also is smoldering, and a part of the Hamburg-American pier, which has just been added to their great piers, were in ruins. Four large steamships, the Kaiser Wilhelm, the Bremer, the Saale, and the Bremen, and a part of the Hamburg-American pier, which has just been added to their great piers, were in ruins. Four large steamships, the Kaiser Wilhelm, the Bremer, the Saale, and the Bremen, and a part of the Hamburg-American pier, which has just been added to their great piers, were in ruins.

This was the scene of the greatest attraction today, and thousands upon thousands of people were there. Far off up the river, at Weehawken, a great cloud of smoke rose and tumbled, at one moment lying hard on the water and at the next rising into the air to show the skeletons of two of the great liners, the Bremen and the Main, that rose like giant spires out of the smooth surface of the water. They had both been beached there, and the water was full of small boats, carrying spectators.

Far down the river, off Ellis Island, lay the smoking and steaming hulk of the Saale, the first vessel to be destroyed. The loss of life will probably prove greater when the wreck of the Saale has been searched. Already a number of bodies have been taken off her, and as soon as the fire in her hold has been subdued enough to allow any one to go down in her there is every probability that many bodies will be found below decks, as various tug boat captains claim to have seen the bodies of persons in one compartment just before the Saale went down.

Of the 263 persons who were reported missing tonight, it is believed that some will be found safe. Sailors were taken from the Main; Cordts, Mrs. Lena, thirty-one years old, stewardess on the Saale; Cordel, Fred, longshoreman of Hoboken, found in river; Elter, Fred, fireman on Saale, perished in hold; Hande, Fred, longshoreman, found off North pier; Hehenstein, Karl, twenty years old, painter on Saale (friends saw him burn); Cimer, Day, head fireman of Main, seen to have perished in the hold; Minow, James, fifty years old, captain of the Saale, burned to a crisp on deck, identified by penknife; Melnick, chief storekeeper on the Bremer, seen to have perished in hold; Reichert, Paul, painter on the Saale, seen to fall back into flames; Sander, Herman, twenty-four years old, sailor on Bremen; Schumacher, Carl, of crew of Saale, body in Hoboken morgue; Viner, Ernest, thirty-seven, from Saale; Wehlan, J., chief engineer of Saale, rescued companion saw him dead on the ship; fourteen unidentified bodies.

NEW YORK, July 1.—The fearful havoc of life and property caused by the fire which broke out at the docks of the North German Lloyd company in Hoboken yesterday cannot be approximated with any degree of certainty. Conservative people who have had experience along the docks are of the opinion that not more than 200 lives were lost.

One of the officers of the steamship

Bremen said today that there were fully 200 visitors on board that vessel when the fire touched there, the majority of them being women. A boat was lowered from the Bremen shortly after the alarm had been given, but the craft capsized as it touched the water and all hands were precipitated into the water, and none of them were saved by those remaining on the vessel. This in itself would indicate that the list of dead may be larger than it was first thought to be.

The property loss can simply be approximated at this time. None of the officials around the docks could give anything like a precise estimate of their losses, and they were prepared to make a statement on this point. A conservative estimate made by a prominent fire underwriter places the entire damage at less than \$10,000,000.

DOCKS TOTAL LOSSES.

The three docks of the North German Lloyd line are total losses, with all their contents, and they are still smoldering with many streams from fire hose working continually on the debris. The pier of the Kaiser Wilhelm pier is totally wiped away, and an extension which had just been built on the Hamburg-American line's expense of piers was burned down to the water's edge.

The warehouses of Palmer Campbell, which were across the street from the North German Lloyd line dock, suffered greatly, and a number of houses along the street were scorched badly. The loss to the steamship properties and other companies is estimated tonight approximately as follows: The steamship Main, of the North German Lloyd line, cost \$1,500,000, outside of the cargo, fittings and stores. The loss is placed at \$1,200,000 for the vessel and \$300,000 for fittings, cargo and cargo that was on board of her.

The steamship Bremen, of the North German Lloyd line, cost \$1,250,000, and her fittings and cargo were valued at \$200,000. The cargo and stores were entirely consumed and the loss to the vessel proper will amount to at least \$700,000. She is beached off Weehawken tonight, and will smoldering, apparently destroyed, save for her machinery. The Saale, the steamship which will have the most horrible story of death to unfold when the divers go down in her, cost the North German Lloyd company \$1,250,000, and the fittings and cargo were valued at \$300,000. The Saale is beached at Ellis Island and still burning. The Kaiser Wilhelm vessel proper is placed at about \$900,000.

KAISER DAMAGED SOME.

The damage done to the Kaiser Wilhelm der Grosse is estimated at \$25,000. The three decks of the North German Lloyd line, which were built on the water's edge are said to have cost \$300,000. The docks were well filled with merchandise just received from abroad and valued at \$500,000. The fittings and cargo on the vessel were valued at \$50,000, counting the stores which were on it.

The Hamburg-American line dock, which had just been completed as an extension to their great pier, and which was destroyed in order to prevent the spread of the flames, was damaged to the extent of \$15,000. This was the only loss to the Hamburg-American line, contrary to reports, was not even scorched. The warehouse of Palmer Campbell, Houses E, F, G, J and H were burned. The Kaiser Wilhelm pier, which was built on the water's edge, was not given a definite estimate of its losses, but the damage to buildings alone would amount to at least \$5,000,000 and the contents \$1,250,000. Had the fire occurred at any other time, the loss to the city proper would have been much greater, as just at the present time the imports are very light, and the houses were not well filled.

The Democratic accounts for the comparatively small loss on the three piers of the North German Lloyd line. One lighter, containing 5,000 bags of sugar, was destroyed, the loss being \$27,000. Eight barges and eleven canal boats were either burned or sunk, with their cargoes. Total valuation, \$125,000. The Hoboken shore railway had a number of cars burned and other property damaged. Loss, \$7,000.

Minor losses on floating property burned at the fire proper, or set on fire by the drifting driftwood, will amount to about \$20,000.

VESSELS MAKE ESTIMATES.

Freight Manager Bonner said tonight: "The Main had about 5,000 tons of cargo in her hold. Of this there were 2,000 tons of grain, 1,000 tons of sugar, about 3,000 bales of cotton and considerable merchandise." "The Saale had a full cargo, including copper and general merchandise, but the Bremen had hardly any cargo on board of her."

"I believe," Mr. Bonner said, "that the loss to the cargo on the three ships will exceed \$10,000,000. As to the loss on the piers, it is difficult to estimate, for there were both inward and outward-bound cargoes there."

"The great damage to the cargo of the Saale will be done by water. I believe the hull of the Saale below the water line is all right also, as are her engines. As to the Bremen, we found that the loss to the cargo was approximately the same as that of the Saale. The Bremen now has a list to port, and there is some danger that she may break if she lists further."

"The Main, like the Bremen, was still burning when we went to the Bremen. Gustav Schwab, the agent of the North German Lloyd Steamship line, said tonight: "Things are in a very unsettled condition as yet, and I have been hard at work today gathering up the ends. I have been on a tour of inspection this afternoon, and with a tug visited all three wrecked vessels, as well as the Kaiser Wilhelm der Grosse. She will leave on her regular trip Tuesday at 10 a. m. The Saale was the first vessel to be destroyed. From this we went to the Bremen and the Main. Both are still burning. I should not say that any of the vessels would be a total loss. They look worse than they are, and they will be salvaged. After they are pumped out we can tell better what the loss will be. Both the Bremen and the Saale are, however, pretty badly damaged. Wrecking companies are already working on the Saale, and she will be pumped out as soon as possible."

"I will not give any figures, nor can I estimate what the loss will be. The loss on the ships will be estimated by the home office. We received a cablegram this morning from them asking for information. The home office knows the value of the ships, and they will be roughly at the cost. The piers in Hoboken are all insured in local companies. There was on the pier a quantity of cargo, which, of course, was destroyed. We are not responsible for the cargo either on the ship or on the piers."

"The cargo on the pier comprised cotton, machinery, measurement goods, tobacco, cement and general merchandise." Mr. Schwab states that there will be no passengers on board the steamship Saale, but if any bodies were found other than those of the crew, they were the remains of visitors, for Saturday was visiting day with the line, and it was probable that there were a number on board at the time. It is estimated that from 300 to 400 persons were injured and taken to different hospitals in this city, Jersey City and Hoboken. Many of them were found to be not seriously hurt, and were discharged today. Many others are believed to be seriously injured and may not recover.

The sailors of the line lost all their property. Women besieged the offices of

DEMOCRATIC HOSTS GATHERING AT KANSAS CITY



DAVID S. ROSE, TEMPORARY CHAIRMAN.

Mayor Rose, of Milwaukee, who is to be the temporary chairman of the Democratic national convention, is a man who will easily attract the attention of the delegates when he takes possession of the gavel. He is handsome, tall and not too massive. He has a fine bearing and is fully equal to the task of handling a national convention. He is accustomed to the use of the gavel, not only in the council of the Cream City, but also in the Democratic conventions of Wisconsin. Mayor Rose is also an orator of known ability, and his speech, which will open the convention, is likely to prove a treat to the delegates.

HILL GOES TO LINCOLN

Gen. McEwan, the Governor's Close Friend, Says That Hill Is Not a Candidate for the Vice Presidency.

MR. BRYAN SUMMONS THE NEW YORK POLITICIAN TO NEBRASKA CAPITAL

OBJECT OF VISIT UNKNOWN

KANSAS CITY, July 1.—Former Gov. David B. Hill, of New York, accompanied by his private secretary, F. J. Manweller, and Gen. J. S. McEwan, of Albany, arrived here early today from St. Louis, having left Albany on Friday. Within two hours after his arrival Gov. Hill departed for Lincoln, Neb., to hold a conference with Mr. Bryan.

As Gov. Hill was leaving the breakfast room at the Coates house, shortly after his arrival, he was handed a telegram from Mr. Bryan requesting him to come to Lincoln at his earliest convenience.

"That is a question which only Gov. Hill himself can answer," said Gen. McEwan, cautiously. "He alone knows what he would do in any given set of circumstances. He is not a candidate, however."

The summons received by Gov. Hill from Mr. Bryan created the first distinct sensation of the anti-convention proceedings. While few people saw Mr. Hill before he left for Nebraska, the fact that he had gone at the request of Mr. Bryan soon was noted about the hotel corridors, and was the principal topic of discussion. Opinions varied widely as to the object of the conference, but it is known that Gov. Hill does not desire a distinct declaration in favor of 16 to 1, and it will be his effort to induce not only Mr. Bryan, but also the convention to accept a modified financial plank, which, while not specifically declaring for the free coinage of silver at the ratio of 16 to 1, will be such a reaffirmation of the Chicago platform on that subject as will prove satisfactory to all elements of the party.

Later in the day it was suggested that Gov. Hill might not return to Kansas City before tomorrow evening. His conference with Mr. Bryan, it was said, was to be of such importance that it could not be disposed of in time to enable the governor to leave Lincoln tonight in time to reach this city tomorrow morning.

BULLETIN OF IMPORTANT NEWS OF THE DAY

- Weather Forecast for St. Paul, Fair. 1-German Minister Killed. Details of Hoboken Disaster. Democratic Convention. 2-Sunday Sermons. Colored Camp Meeting. Man Recovers His Gens. St. Paul Man Drowned. Caught With Stolen Goods. Saloon Music Stopped. 3-Democratic Convention. 4-Editorial. Indian Scare Over. Duluth Boy Killed. Proclamation by Aguinaldo. 5-Sporting News. Results of Ball Games. Lennon's Ball Team Wins. Minneapolis. 6-Popular Wants. Some New Summer Drinks. 7-Markets of the World. Henry Clews's Letter. 8-The Ship's Adventure.

FRIENDS OF THE VICE PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATES BEGINNING TO BOOM THEIR FAVORITES

STRONG SENTIMENT FOR HILL

BUT THE FORMER GOVERNOR OF NEW YORK SAYS HE IS NOT A CANDIDATE

MR. BRYAN SENDS A SUMMONS

THE CALL TO LINCOLN CAUSED NO LITTLE COMMENT AND MUCH CONJECTURE

FIGURING ON THE PLATFORM

SOME FAVOR A SIXTEEN TO ONE DECLARATION, WHERE OTHERS THINK IT UNNECESSARY

MINNESOTANS ON THE GROUND

The Contractors Say the Building Will Be Ready and Turned Over to the Committee Tuesday Evening.

KANSAS CITY, Mo., July 1.—Three noteworthy events loomed up today above the mass of detail marking the approach of the Democratic convention—the arrival of David B. Hill from New York, and his departure for Lincoln, in response to a telegraphic summons from Mr. Bryan; the conference of Chairman Jones, of the national committee, with Mr. Croker, ex-national Senator Murphy, and other influential leaders concerning the platform, and the first serious consideration by the convention leaders of a plan to reach an understanding on the platform that the way will be open to nominate Mr. Bryan for the presidency on July 4.

Aside from these main features of the day there were few outward evidences that the convention was near at hand. The tide of travel had not yet surged over the city, bringing the crash of bands, the tramp and hurrah of uniformed clubs, the struggle and confusion of hotel corridors and the massing of great throngs along the streets and in public places. Many of the conspicuous leaders are here with their immediate following, and there is the hum of preparation and of conference, but the rank and file of delegates have not appeared. The chief centers of interest, the Coates house, the Baltimore and the Midland hotels, a shifting and drifting crowd gathered and discussed the two main points of difference—platform and the vice presidency. But thus far it is a calm and dispassionate discussion, without clamor or enthusiasm.

DELEGATIONS ARRIVING.

During the day the Wisconsin, Pennsylvania, Kansas and Indian Territory delegations arrived, and as the day progressed there was a steady augmenting of the throngs. But the main bodies will come tomorrow, and it will not be until then that Kansas City will be fully pulsating with the force of the national convention.

The leaders are losing no time, however, in making their preparations. But it is noticeable that this is not a gathering of leaders in the accepted sense. On the contrary, this is quite democratic, and one hears frequently and proudly the remark that in this convention the delegates represent the people, will frame the platform and name the candidates. The conspicuous men here—Jones, Hill, Croker, Murphy—are not exerting any powerful hand on affairs; their influence in the vice presidency contest is not discernible, and not until today have they evinced an interest in smoothing away the rough places in the path of the platform. Most of the members of the executive committee are here, including Chairman Jones, Vice Chairman Johnson, ex-Gov. Stone, of Missouri; J. M. Guffey, of Pittsburg, and George Fred Williams, of Massachusetts, and they hold frequent meetings to determine upon formal features of the committee proceedings. In one respect their determination to have the reading of the Declaration of Independence a feature of the Fourth of July session is both interesting and significant, for it is in line with the strong effort being made to lend patriotic fervor to the presidential nomination by making it on the national holiday. The committee has chosen Charles Hampton, of Potosky, Mich., secretary of the Michigan state committee, to read the instrument.

MAY NOMINATE WEDNESDAY.

Despite the local opposition to a nomination on the first day of the session, the members of the executive committee are giving it serious consideration. The main difficulty in the way of such an arrangement is the doubt on the platform, for this that settled it is believed the organization could be so advanced as to permit nomination to be made on the first day. This has emphasized the doubt existing on the platform, and has been the chief cause of several interesting private conferences during the day. The first of these conferences was in Senator Jones' private room, where Mr. Croker and former Senator Murphy called. They found Messrs. Johnson and Campau, of the executive committee, with Mr. Jones, and the talk soon turned to the platform. It can be stated on the authority of one of the gentlemen participating that Messrs. Croker and Murphy made no demand, nor did they submit any exact platform proposition, but they appeared more as counselors and advisers in the general interest of the party to urge that judicious action on the platform would make the East, particularly New York, debatable ground in the coming campaign. Practically the entire discussion, quite informal at all times, was on the platform, with a view to securing united action by the East, West and South. After the conference it was stated with satisfaction by those present that all the indications pointed to complete unanimity and reconciliation between the sections. Another meeting of the same general character occurred later in the day, Chairman Jones, ex-Gov. Stone, of Missouri; J. M. Guffey, of Missouri; and Mr. Murphy from Pennsylvania.

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