

The Semi-Weekly Messenger.

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THE LEGISLATURE.

THIS MEMORABLE SESSION NOW A THING OF THE PAST.

Adjournment sine die at 6 o'clock last evening—Bank Stockholders Liability Bill—Report as to Error in Enrolling the "Rolling Exposition" Bill—Hiring Out of Convicts Provided for—Resolution of Thanks to Presiding Officers and Others.

(Special to The Messenger.)

SENATE.

Raleigh, N. C., March 9.—The senate session was dull. The bill passed to regulate liabilities of stockholders in banks chartered by this state which forbids loaning of more than 10 per cent. of the capital stock to one person or corporation or company, by a bank having less than \$100,000 capital.

Senator Ray offered a resolution that the thanks of the senate be tendered Lieutenant Governor Reynolds for the impartial and courteous bearing which he had manifested toward all senators and moved that the resolution be spread upon the journal.

Senator Scales took the chair and said: "I have been called to the chair to show our respect for one of the most impartial, honest and high minded presiding officers the senate has ever had."

Senator Parker of Alamance, said it was a pleasure to say the president was a just, impartial and courteous presiding officer. He then as a token of appreciation presented the silver service in the name of every member of the senate.

The lieutenant governor spoke feelingly in reply to Senator Parker.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

The session of the house was tame today. Barely a quorum was present most of the day.

Mr. Hancock, of the special committee to investigate the enrollment of the bill to appropriate \$5,000 to the "Rolling Exposition" reported that in the engrossed copy the entire first section, making the appropriation was stricken out, and that the bill was correctly enrolled.

Mr. Fagan said there was something wrong and that the amendment was in the words: "Strike out appropriation of \$5,000 to be made by the state and add following: Provided there shall be no cost or expense to the state whatever."

Mr. Sutton said there was a "Cat in the meat tub." He thought the eagerness of the advocates of the measure was singular. He wanted the house to vote on the legality of the bill.

The vote was—yeas, 35; nays, 28.

The bill to appropriate \$500 to the Agricultural and Mechanical college here for a hospital and new boiler came up.

Mr. Fagan moved to table—lost.

Mr. Cook advocated the bill, saying the need of a hospital was urgent.

Mr. Dixon, of Cleveland, favored and so did Messrs. Walters, Lusk and Freeman.

Mr. White, of Randolph, antagonized it and said the house went blindly into any appropriation.

The bill passed its third reading.

The bill to restore Surry to the Fifth district and to put Orange in the Fourth came up for its third reading.

Mr. Person said the time had not come to redistrict the state; that the senate had tabled this bill.

Young moved to table and the vote was—yeas, 41; nays, 17.

The bill came up to allow the superintendent of the penitentiary to lease out convicts for road work between July 15th and March 1st.

Mr. Freeman favored it, so did Mr. Cunningham, who said Mr. Dockery had last night shown to the penitentiary was not self supporting.

Mr. Freeman declared it was the most meritorious measure of the session.

Mr. Sutton, of Cumberland, offered an amendment: "That the state convicts shall only be hired out upon such terms as the superintendent of the penitentiary shall prescribe." This was voted down and the bill passed its readings with a rush.

The senate amendments to the asylum bill were concurred in. The yeas reduce the appropriations \$23,500.

The bill to require fire insurance companies to charge no higher rate on fire property than is charged in Virginia, passed, being supported by Mr. R. Cunningham.

THE SITUATION IN CRETE.

THE POWERS DIVIDED AS TO THE COURSE TO PURSUE.

Italy and England Advocate Further Negotiations With Greece—Russia and Germany Propose Stringent Measures—War Between Greece and Turkey Inevitable—More Fighting in Crete—Crucifixion of Christians to Moslem Women and Children.

Canea, March 9.—Advices from Hierapetra, on the south coast of the island of Crete, say that Mussulmans in possession of that town were summoned to surrender by the Christian insurgents who were investing the town and that the Mussulmans refused to do so. The insurgents then fired a volley into the fort which was held by the Moslems, whereupon an Italian cruiser lying off the town fired upon the insurgents, compelling them to retire.

A Turkish transport with Turkish civil engineers and soldiers on board, arrived here from Kastel today, but was refused a pilot to bring her into the harbor, owing to the fact of her having small pox on board.

Admiral Canevaro, commanding the united fleet of the powers, has notified the Greeks here, including the Greek vice consul, that they must leave the island at once.

It is reported that the siege of Kandamos has been raised and that the Mussulmans who were beleaguered there have moved to places of safety.

The insurgents made an attack upon the Turkish positions at Akrotiri yesterday but were stoutly resisted by the Turks and finally repulsed. The insurgents were reinforced during the night and renewed their attack upon the place today.

Athens, March 9.—The reply of the Greek government to the ultimatum of the powers, having been delivered to foreign representatives here, preparations for hostilities between Greece and Turkey, which are apparently inevitable, are being hurried forward with all possible speed. Crown Prince Constantine is about to start for the Turkish frontier to assume command of the Greek troops there and several Greek transports have landed great quantities of war material and large numbers of horses and mules at Volo, Thessaly.

It is reported that Greek bands have destroyed a number of bridges on the railway between Monastir, the present headquarters of the Turkish army, and Salonica.

London, March 9.—The Westminster Gazette publishes a dispatch from Canea, Crete, saying that the Greeks have been ordered by the commander of the united fleets to leave that place immediately. The Greek vice consul at Canea, who is included in this order, has replied that he will submit only to force, which, the dispatch adds, will be employed by the powers, if necessary to compel obedience to the order.

Despatches from official sources in Berlin say that a certain measure of blockade of Greece must be observed, though it may not be immediately enforced. The form of blockade which Germany favors is something similar to that which was put into operation in 1886, which was pre-eminently a peaceful blockade. Under the German plan, as outlined in the Berlin dispatches, a fortnight should elapse before any action is taken. At the expiration of that time a pacific form of blockade should be put into operation, under which any Greek or other vessel that may be arrested will not be confiscated, but will be released when the blockade is raised.

Communications which Lord Salisbury wired to the powers last evening concerning the reply of Greece to the collective note of the powers have resulted in the concurrence of France and Italy with Great Britain, that the Greek measures toward Greece should be delayed and negotiations continued at Athens. A telegram received at the foreign office from Rome states that the Italian government considers the Greek note of too negative a character to justify the powers in taking immediate action.

Rome, March 9.—The cabinet met in council this afternoon, the premier, Marquis di Rudini, presiding, to discuss the reply of Greece to the collective note of the powers and as the result of the discussion a communication was wired to each of the great powers saying that, according to the opinion of Italy, the powers are not to be considered as to the method of cooperation which should be directed against Greece and that nothing can be done until the question is settled. The dispatch further says that the foreign affairs in Cretan waters after an address in Admiral Canevaro's camp, was the Italian squadron, and by means of seniority directing the united fleet, which would be ineffective. The operation from Piræus to extend its blockade, he says, must be the government to the powers adds that Italy will not entertain a proposal to occupy Crete alone, but if there shall be any occupation of the island it must be a joint one.

The Greek reply to the identical note of the six great powers has been received at the ministry of foreign affairs, where it is being most carefully considered. It is not considered at all satisfactory, as it is evasive, Greece at present being very desirous of doing the very points upon which the collective note was based.

London, March 9.—An extraordinary meeting of the cabinet to consider the new Cretan situation arising from Greece's practical refusal to accede to the demands of the powers was held this evening in one of the private rooms of the house of commons. After the meeting Prime Minister Salisbury went to the foreign office, where he was met by Count Deym, the Austrian ambassador. Later, Lord Salisbury sent telegraphic messages to the foreign minister of Austria, Sir Michael Culme-Seymour, commander-in-chief of the British Mediterranean squadron.

London, March 9.—The latest dispatches from Athens say that the fever of excitement is abating and the city is becoming quieter. The Greek government have reason to believe that the moderate tone of Greece's note to the powers will be approved by the governments at Paris and London, and oblige the powers to accede to Greece's demands. Russia, in the opinion of the Greek government, will not act alone, and a halt on the part of the powers is believed to be assured.

Another dispatch from Athens says that every available steamship of Greek waters has been chartered for the purpose of conveying war material to Thessaly. The reserves, who have been summoned to arms by the government, are arriving by thousands, amid the cheers of the populace and are being hurried to the front.

A dispatch from Candia, Crete, under yesterday's date says: A large number of Moslem women and children are confined in the hospital here suffering from mutilation inflicted upon them by Christians. News from the interior shows that massacres of Moslems by Christians are of almost hourly occurrence. Out of 167 Moslems in the village of Cykia, only one person, a child, escaped slaughter.

M. Skouzes, Greek minister of foreign affairs, has sent a telegram in response to numerous offers of Englishmen to take up arms in the Greek cause, saying that only Greeks are admitted to the Greek army.

The list of British authors who have signed an address expressing sympathy with Greece, includes Grant Allen, Justin McCarthy, Hall Caine, William Watson, Anthony Hope and Israel Zangwill.

PECULIAR SITUATION

OF THE POLITICAL PARTIES IN THE SENATE.

The Question of Reorganization of That Body a Difficult One—Both Parties Slow to Take Action Through Fear of Failure—The Division in Democratic Ranks—Republicans Three Votes Short of a Majority—The Matter Discussed in Democratic Caucus.

Washington, March 9.—For a little more than two hours this afternoon the democrats of the senate endeavored to reach some conclusion upon the question of the organization of the senate. Like the republican conference of Saturday, it was fruitless in results. Two factions arrayed against each other. On the one hand the republicans present a solid phalanx of forty-two votes that will stand by each other through thick and thin. On the other hand there are divided ranks of gold standard democrats, silver democrats, bolting silver republicans and populists. The problem before those seeking to take the control of the senate from the republicans is how can these various factions be solidified and made one in interest. No satisfactory answer to this question has yet been proposed, and the more the discussion proceeds, the less appears to be the chance of definite action by reason of the inability of these contending factions to cohere into one determined party of opposition. Caucuses and conferences have been numerous since the new senate convened. The populists, while holding no formal caucus, have agreed among themselves that they will support any plan that may be endorsed by the democrats. So, too, the silver republicans—those who bolted the St. Louis platform—have agreed to stand by whatever policy may be inaugurated by the stronger of the bodies in opposition to the element now in control of the senate committees.

When the democratic caucus was called for today there was no distinction made between the men who endorsed the Chicago ticket and those who stood upon the Indianapolis platform. Notices of the caucus were sent to every democrat, with the gold standard chairman of the Indianapolis convention, and his absence may have some political significance. The situation was discussed in a rather informal manner, and the only result reached was the appointment of the old secretary of the senate, Senator Paulkner, of West Virginia, and Smith, of New Jersey, substituted for Senators Brice and Blackburn, whose terms expired last Thursday.

The effort to take the committees from the republican control, by some leading democrats for various reasons.

Senator Gorman thinks the scheme to consolidate all the factions in the senate by a combination with the silver republicans, with Senators Paulkner, of West Virginia, and Smith, of New Jersey, substituted for Senators Brice and Blackburn, whose terms expired last Thursday.

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THE SENATE ADJOURNS.

PRESIDENT HAD NO IMPORTANT NOMINATIONS TO MAKE.

Ex-Senator Ransom Cordially Greeted by His Old Comrades—Credentials of Kentucky's New Senator Presented and Referred to Committee on Objection to His Being Sworn In—Senator Hoar Gives Notice of Proposed Amendments to the Rules so as to Expedite Business.

Washington, March 10.—There was an unusually large attendance of senators at the opening of today's session in the senate. Ex-Senator Ransom, of North Carolina, now minister to Mexico, was on the floor and was cordially greeted by his former associates.

The vice president laid before the senate a communication from Governor Bradley, of Kentucky, setting forth that he had appointed Andrew T. Wood, of Montgomery county, Kentucky, as senator from that state to supply a vacancy which had been created during the recess of the legislature—that body not being in session—the appointment to be in force until the next meeting of the legislature and until the election of a senator.

The communication having been read, a motion was made by Senator Hoar that Mr. Wood be now admitted to take the oath.

Senator Gorman—The senator, of course, understands the question involved in this matter, I move, as a substitute, that the communication and credentials be referred to the committee on privileges and elections.

Senator Hoar—Under present circumstances I do not expect to antagonize the motion of the senator from Maryland.

Senator Gorman's substitute was agreed to, and Mr. Wood's credentials were referred to the committee on privileges and elections.

Senator Hoar gave notice of two amendments to the rules, which were read. They were both radical innovations upon the practice of the senate for a century past. The first was "to enable the senate to act on legislation when it desires, after reasonable debate." It provided that when any bill or resolution had been under consideration more than one day any senator could demand that debate be closed. If a majority of the senators so decided there should be a vote without further delay, and no motion should be in order pending the vote but one to adjourn or to take a recess. The other was in relation to calls of the senate, so that a resolution or bill pending in the senate should be called for by the presiding officer, instead of instantly ordering a call to be made, shall determine the matter and report whether there is or is not a quorum present. If there is, the business shall proceed, and if not, the roll is to be called. The purpose of this proposed change was stated to be "to prevent the interruption of business by unnecessary calling of the roll."

Senator Shoup, republican, of Idaho, presented a memorial from the legislature of Idaho, asking for the annexation of portions of Wyoming to that state.

Senator Warren, republican, of Wyoming, referred to the memorial as an attempt to have a portion of a good and fertile state added to a somewhat dry and barren one, and intimated that opposition to it would be made in proper time.

The senate then proceeded to executive business and at 12:40 o'clock adjourned without day.

During the executive session of the senate today attention was called to the fact that it having agreed to adjourn until 11:30 o'clock next Monday, an embarrassing condition of affairs would result should any nominations be sent to the senate on that day. Mr. McKinley has called an extraordinary session of the Fifty-fifth congress to convene March 15th at noon. The present special session of the senate will end at noon on that day. Any nominations sent in would therefore have to be acted upon within the half hour the body would be in session, or they would fall and the president would have to send them in again during the regular session. To obviate such a condition of affairs it was agreed to work of the best thing to do was to adjourn sine die and this was done.

The senate was this morning advised that there would be no important nominations before next week.

The Floods in Missouri.

St. Louis, March 10.—The recent heavy rains have swollen the small streams in the northeastern part of Missouri and the low lands are submerged to a depth of from one to three feet. The loss in livestock and damage to farm buildings and crops is very heavy. The Missouri river is rising at an alarming rate, and if the spring rise comes on top of the present high water, fears are entertained of a disastrous flood. The Missouri, Kansas and Texas railroad is keeping a large force of men at work repairing the bridge along the river near St. Charles, Mo., and every effort is being made to prepare for the expected flood. The Mississippi river at this city registers twenty-two feet, which is six feet below the danger line.

The Philadelphia Nine Come South.

Philadelphia, Pa., March 10.—Manager Stallings and eighteen players of the Philadelphia base ball club left here this afternoon on the steamer City of Macon for Savannah, Ga., whence they will go to Augusta and engage in spring practice. The Philadelphia players have all been signed, the list being completed yesterday when Cross and Clements handed in their contracts.

The Crisis in Germany.

Berlin, March 10.—The National Zeitung says the parliamentary situation in Germany has assumed a serious aspect. Vice Admiral Hollmann, secretary of state for the admiralty, the paper says, is determined to resign if he is unable to carry all the essential demands of his estimates.

Bismarck's Poor Condition of Health.

Berlin, March 10.—The Hamburger Nachrichten announces that Prince Bismarck has lately been in poor health and is now suffering from chronic neuralgia, which deprives him of the power of speech and renders it impossible for him to sleep. The ex-chancellor, the paper says, rather dreads the celebration of the 82nd anniversary of his birth on April 1st. Though he will not forbid the holding of the torchlight procession in his honor, on his birthday, he will be a silent spectator of the parade.

ROYAL BAKING POWDER

ORGANIZATION OF THE SENATE.

The Parties Still Uncertain as to Their Strength—Still Possibility of Making a Combine of Parties Against the Republicans.

Washington, March 10.—The republican senatorial steering committee met this morning, but no action of any kind was taken. The members received their notice late and some did not arrive until the conference was breaking up. While no member of the committee was able to offer a tangible solution to the existing difficulty in connection with the filling of the vacancies on the committees, it was the general impression that no combination having for its purpose the organization of the senate committees by the silver vote could be made effective. Several members of the committee who, as individuals, have given this question the most painstaking consideration and have held numerous conferences with leaders of both factions of the democratic party and the bolting republicans, have reached the conclusion that the differences between these elements are so great and the demands made so incapable of being complied with, that it will be utterly impossible for the opposition to the republicans to concentrate upon any particular plan of action. For this reason members of the committee state that the status quo in the senate will be maintained and that, ultimately, the vacancies will be filled with the republicans. The chairman, Mr. Cannon, although, owing to populist representations on some of these committees, it will not be possible for the republicans to fully control the action of some. Another meeting of the steering committee will be held tomorrow.

A denial is made to the published statements that a compromise has been agreed to, whereby the republicans are to retain control until December, when the regular session convenes, and that at that time contest for the control of the senate is to be waged.

The democratic steering committee held a short conference after the senate adjourned today, but no result came of it.

While the members of both steering committees are very noncommittal, it is understood that an agreement will be reached whereby the republicans will fill the vacancies on the committees caused by the retirement of men who were appointed as republicans and that the democrats will fill their vacancies.

Senator Burrows, of Michigan, appears to be slated for the place of Mr. Sherman on the finance committee. This committee will be favorable to a tariff bill, but not necessarily a gold committee. Senator Jones, silverite, of Nevada, will vote for a tariff bill without a free silver rider being attached, and will oppose the action of some of the free silver men attempt it in committee.

Senator Platt, of New York, made a strong fight for the place on the finance committee, but was long absent from the senate militated against him. Senator Allison will remain as chairman of the committee on appropriations, with a good working majority behind him. With this condition of affairs in that committee, neither Senator Teller nor Pettigrew will be disturbed.

Senators Teller, Pettigrew and Cannon, three of the bolting silver republicans, are quoted in dispatches in the evening papers as having yesterday, during their visit to the White House, assured the president that they would not stand in the way of or object to any tariff scheme that might be suggested by the new administration. These senators wish the Associated Press to say for them that they called upon Mr. McKinley simply to pay their respects, and they add with emphasis that during the time they were in the presence of the executive the subjects of tariff, silver and patronage were not mentioned or referred to in any indirect manner by either of the parties.

Telegraphic Sparks.

The committee of arrangements of the faculty and trustees of Washington and Lee university decided on September 14th as the day for the installation of President-elect William L. Wilson.

The Monon railroad was sold at Indianapolis under an order of the court at 11 a. m. yesterday by Commissioner Van Buren, for \$2,000,000. Thirty thousand dollars was deposited as a guarantee.

The steamer Bermuda arrived at Bermuda Tuesday night, and is still there. Rumors that she was seized were not confirmed last night. It is thought that there is no foundation for them.

T. J. Crawford, of Newport, attorney for Scott Jackson, yesterday morning presented Governor Bradley, of Kentucky, his brief and petition for a pardon for his client. The papers are a foot thick and it will take the governor two days to go over them.

The northbound Illinois Central St. Louis express collided with a freight train at East Cairo, Ky., at 1:20 o'clock yesterday morning, killing Fireman Walter Rogers and injuring Telegraph Operator Godwin Boas, who was in the station, which was knocked over by the passenger engine.