

A STRANGE ALLIANCE.

LEAGUE IN SENATE AGAINST
THE ADMINISTRATION.

PLAN TO DEFEAT CUBAN RECIPROCITY.

ISTHMIAN CANAL LEGISLATION AND
PHILIPPINE BILL.

(BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.)

Washington, April 30.—If quiet but persistently circulated reports are to be believed, there is forming in the Senate one of the strangest alliances that is possible to be formed in that body. As the story goes, negotiations are now in progress for a combination between the beet sugar Republicans, the Senators of both parties who are opposed to isthmian canal legislation at this session and the Democrats as a whole, the purpose being to prolong indefinitely the present debate on the Philippine bill, with the view of defeating action at this session on Cuban reciprocity and the interoceanic waterway propositions. Although this may be deemed as an unholy alliance, the fact seems to be that energetic efforts are now being made to bring it about, and that, unless the friends of Cuban reciprocity bestir themselves, it will be an accomplished fact before they realize its full significance. Of course the movement denotes the desperation alike of the enemies of the administration all around, since the President is committed irrevocably to Cuban reciprocity, isthmian canal legislation and the Lodge bill for the establishment of civil government in the Philippines, all at this session.

DEMOCRATS EAGERLY ACCEPT.

Who the leaders of the movement are on the part of the Republicans it is neither convenient nor expedient at this time to say, although, of course, it is not difficult to surmise who are the leaders on the part of the Democrats. In fact, it may be said that every Senator on the Democratic side of the chamber, with the possible exception of Mr. Morgan, of Alabama, would eagerly embrace any opportunity that might be offered to cause embarrassment to the administration on Cuban reciprocity and isthmian canal legislation as well as on the Philippine question. Senator Morgan is so wrapped up in the idea of pushing the Hepburn Nicaragua Canal bill at all hazards that he doubtless could not be induced to join any movement that was calculated to interfere in any way with the success of that scheme. But he is so completely out of touch at present with the controlling element of his party in the Senate that he might not be able to arrest the movement, even should he soon learn of its existence. The Senate Democratic managers are so vastly pleased with the political capital they believe they have made out of the Philippine debate that they are not likely to forego any chance that may be offered them to continue the present investigation in committee and daily dispute on the floor of the Senate in the presence of crowded galleries and alert Democratic correspondents. Hence when a proposal came to them from certain sources, opposed alike to reciprocity with Cuba and definite action at this session on the canal scheme, they are said to have accepted with alacrity the proposed alliance, with the understanding that by hook or crook the Philippine debate is to hold the right of way on the Senate calendar to the limit of endurance over all other measures pressing for attention, except, of course, appropriation and other supply bills, the expectation being that when the hot weather sets in, about the middle of June or the first of July, both houses will welcome any excuse to adjourn. If this programme can be carried out, the objects of the three elements in the alliance will be attained—that is, the Democrats will have an opportunity to discuss the Philippine question to their heart's content, and the reciprocity and canal propositions will go over to the next session.

CANNOT SUCCEED, SAYS SENATOR PLATT.

It is considered improbable, however, that this scheme can be made a success. In point of fact, supporters of the administration's Cuban policy when spoken to about it to-day flouted the idea. This was particularly true of Senator Platt, of Connecticut, chairman of the Committee on Relations with Cuba and one of the most influential men in public life. "When we get ready to report a bill for straight reciprocity with Cuba, we shall do so, and put it through the Senate with little or no trouble as a strict party measure," said the Connecticut Senator to a representative of The Tribune. "I must by this," Senator Platt went on to say, "that if such a combination as is rumored were actually formed, we would pay no attention to it, at least so far as Cuban reciprocity is concerned. The Senate would not believe it is true until I see positive evidence of the existence of the alliance described."

Mr. Platt voiced the views of nearly all the other supporters of the administration's Cuban policy, who are determined to go on with the work of getting the party together on a reciprocity bill that can be put through the Senate as a Republican measure and carried virtually the full party strength when it gets back to the House.

MR. HAVEMEYER TO BE HEARD TO-DAY.

The sub-committee of which Senator Platt is chairman will begin the examination to-morrow of officers of the Sugar Trust, with the view of determining what foundation there is for the charge in the Teller resolution calling for the investigation, that a large part of this year's crop of Cuban sugar is owned by the Sugar Trust. Henry O. Havemeyer, the president of the trust, will appear before the sub-committee to-morrow morning, and probably will be kept on the stand the greater part of the day. What other witnesses will follow him has not yet been decided. However, this investigation will not be permitted to interfere with the dispatch of reciprocity legislation, which, as before stated, will be brought forward as soon as the leaders are ready for it.

BELMONT'S DEMAND OPPOSED.

DISAGREEMENT OVER EASEMENTS—ASTOR
SYNDICATE SATISFIED WITH SUB-
WAY STATION IN HOTEL.

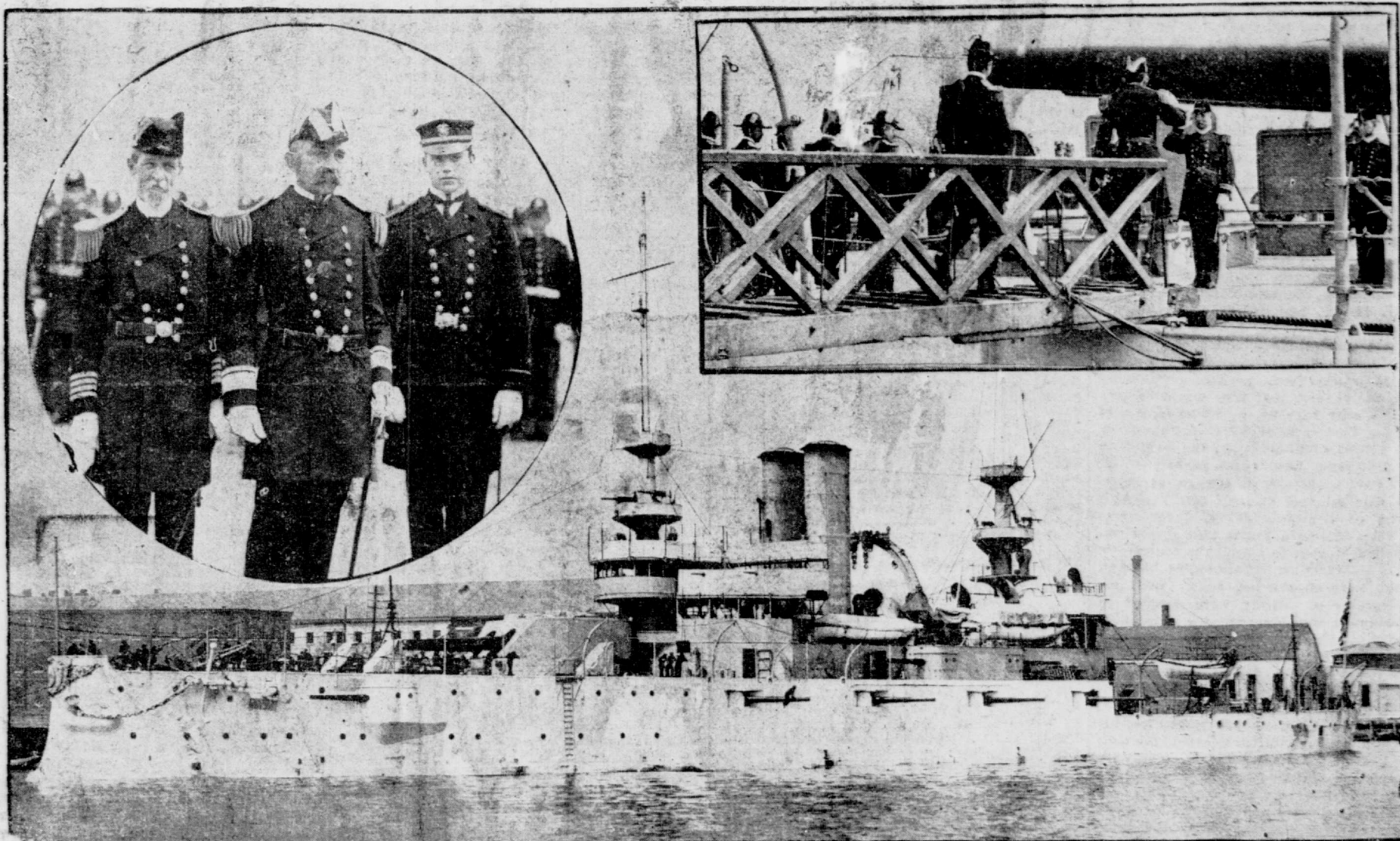
Controller Grout had a talk lasting an hour and a half yesterday afternoon with August Belmont and his counsel, Mr. Wickham, over the property free of cost, for the rapid transit tunnel at Park-ave. and Forty-second-st. The Subway Realty Company, in which Mr. Belmont is financially interested, wants about \$150,000 for allowing the tunnel more room under the hotel they are going to build at Park-ave. and Forty-second-st. They are willing to throw off \$25,000 of this for certain vault privileges from the city at the same place. Controller Grout is against allowing Mr. Belmont any such sum. He told Mr. Belmont and Mr. Wickham yesterday that John Jacob Astor's syndicate, which owns a hotel site at Broadway and Forty-second-st., was willing to surrender the easement under the property free of cost, in return for a station in the basement of the proposed hotel. Mr. Grout said that having a subway station in the basement of a hotel was a great deal, and he would not be asked to give the value of Mr. Belmont's easement prepaid before he would agree to pay him anything.

ONE CENTRAL "CENTER"
around which hotels, theatres, clubhouses and residences cluster, is the Grand Central Station of the New York Central at New York. A through train departs for the North and West every hour.—Adv.

ADMIRAL CROWNINSHIELD INSPECTING THE ILLINOIS.

Captain G. W. Converse, Admiral A. S. Crowninshield, Cadet Cook.

ADMIRAL CROWNINSHIELD GOING ABOARD THE ILLINOIS.



THE UNITED STATES BATTLESHIP ILLINOIS JUST BEFORE SAILING.

AN IMPERIAL TARIFF.

WHAT CANADA WILL PROPOSE AT THE
LONDON CONFERENCE.FEATURES OF AN ACADEMY SHOW ABOVE
THE AVERAGE—SOUTH AFRICAN
PEACE RUMORS.

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(Special to The Tribune by French Cable.)

London, May 1, 1 a. m.—The most interesting episode of the last twenty-four hours has been the breath of fresh air at the Imperial function, the annual banquet of the Colonial Institute in Whitehall Rooms. The speaking began after 9 o'clock, and was perfunctory for two hours. Lord Grey, as chairman, opened the proceedings quietly, and there was nothing of exceptional interest. Henry Copeland, representing New-South Wales, suggested that the three sons of the Prince of Wales should have the titles of princes of Canada, Australia and South Africa, and his daughter that of Princess of New-Zealand. Sir Edward Seymour quoted Captain Mahan, and described Americans as creating colonies and increasing their navy, and Sir Leslie Rundle asserted that good feeling had been brought about between the colonial contingents and the British army. The Lord Chancellor talked about the utility of Parliament, and Lord Grey paid a tribute to the unselfish idealism of Cecil Rhodes.

It was not until 11 o'clock that real interest was created by the response of Colonel Denison to the toast, "A United Empire." He was only on his feet five minutes, but he carried a representative audience of 240 colonials with him. He said it was true that the empire was neither united nor organized for defence, and that the approaching conference at the coronation would be the most important event in the history of the British race. Canadians thought that the empire should be combined for defence. A trade war might come at any moment. What Canada would propose at the conference would be to put a tariff of 5 or 10 per cent on all foreign goods at every British port, not for protection, but for imperial defence. This would help protect the trade of the empire, and stop merciless competition and a commercial war from foreign nations. If this tariff were put on and free trade established within the empire, England ought to be willing to make sacrifices. Premier Seddon certainly would be with Canada, and probably Australia also, in presenting this proposition.

Colonel Denison's policy excited murmurs of dissent at first, but was applauded with great vigor at the close as a practical sequel of the tax on grain and flour.

The Academy is distinctly above the level of ordinary years. Nearly every prominent British painter outside of the Glasgow School is represented, and with few exceptions by work of average excellence. Luke Fildes's portrait of the King occupies the place of honor. It is an academic portrait, with splendors of scarlet and crimson toned with gold, white and pink. The likeness is excellent and the posture characteristic. Other pictures illustrating state functions are Seymour Lucas's "Reception of the Moorish Embassy, St. James's Palace"; John Charlton's "Passage of Queen Victoria to St. Paul's for the Jubilee Service"; and Mill's "Proclaiming the King." Sargent's group of thirty-four portraits is the main feature of the exhibition. Two are group pictures of three young women. The portrait of Ladies Alexandra, Mary and Theo Acheson is known among artists as "The White Ladies." It is an outdoor picture on lines of the masterpieces of Reynolds, with three ladies under a tree with fruit. It is a brilliant composition, with everything done to render three women graceful, animated and interesting. The second group portrait presents the three Misses Hunter—one in white and two in dark dresses, with a poodle curled up in the folds of one of the gowns. It is a marvel of technique, with most natural posing of the figures and a charming color scheme. The most brilliant Sargent is a portrait of the Duchess of Portland in a white dress and scarlet mantle, a splendid embodiment of stateliness and dignity. Other subjects are "Lord Ribblesdale," "Alfred Wertheimer," "Mrs. Endicott," "Mrs. Leopold Hirsch" and "Lady Meysey Thompson." Sargent's variety of style at this exhibition is simply amazing. Mr. Watts has a strong portrait of General Baden-Powell, and Mr. Orchardson a brilliant work entitled "The Borgias." Alfred East and Mr. Waterlow have fine landscapes, Shannon a remarkable series of portraits.

The New-York Central announces a number of first class excursions to St. Paul, Colorado, Utah, California, Oregon and Yellowstone Park at very low rates. Itineraries now ready. Call at ticket offices or address M. C. Roach, 125 Broadway, New-York.—Adv.

TUNNELS INSTEAD OF BRIDGES.

THEY WOULD SOLVE THE INTERBOROUGH TRANSIT PROBLEM MORE QUICKLY AND MORE CHEAPLY.

OBJECT LESSON IN NEW EAST RIVER STRUCTURE.

Actual work has been begun on Bridge No. 3 that is to span the East River near the Brooklyn Navy Yard and be called the Manhattan Bridge. If it is built, The big caisson for the Brooklyn tower foundation of the bridge is already in place, ready to be sunk. The contract for the foundation has been let, the price being \$574,236. The building of the bridge was authorized by the Board of Estimate and Apportionment and the Municipal Assembly in the Van Wyck administration, the plans having been passed by the Board of Public Improvements on November 29, 1899. The estimated cost of the bridge is \$15,883,000, including the land to be taken for the approaches, but the actual cost probably would exceed \$16,000,000.

Will the administration of Mayor Low decide to go on with the work of the Manhattan Bridge? That is a question which is known to be agitating many city officials and is of abounding interest to many thousands of the people of Brooklyn, who want increased facilities of travel between the two boroughs separated by the East River. Regard for the interests of Brooklyn, as well as for the interests of the entire city, has led many persons of late to declare that the authorization of the Manhattan Bridge was a serious blunder, that its construction would be a worse blunder, and that the sooner the administration decides to abandon the bridge construction and makes plans for more tunnels between the two boroughs the better will be its record.

The history of the new East River bridge, to be known as the Williamsburg Bridge, shows what may be expected if the Manhattan Bridge is completed. The plans for the bridge were approved in 1896 by the New East River Bridge Commission, which was appointed by Mayor Strong, of New-York, and Mayor Schermer, of Brooklyn, acting jointly under an act of the Legislature, in 1895. The contract for the foundation of the Manhattan tower of the bridge was made in October, 1896, and work on the foundation was begun immediately. The foundation was completed in September, 1898, and the foundation of the Brooklyn tower was begun in September, 1897, and the foundation was completed in March, 1899. The contracts for the two anchorages of the bridge were let in 1897. The contracts for the two steel towers were let in February, 1898, and the towers were completed late in December, 1900. Contracts for the bridge cables, for the suspended steel structure and for the approaches to the bridge were let long ago. There has been delay in stringing the cables, and it is expected that the cables will not be completed until the beginning of July. It will take about eighteen months, engineers say, to complete the suspended structure after the cables are finished. It is barely possible that the present administration will see the bridge open for traffic.

Seven years to build a bridge! If the bridge is completed before the end of 1903! It may take

George H. Boughton exhibits his best picture produced in a long period. A. C. Gow has a historical picture worked out with great spirit, "Washington's Farewell to the Revolutionary Army."

Prices rose smartly on the Stock Exchange yesterday on rumors that the government has received good news from South Africa. If, however, the Boer commandoes had definitely decided in favor of peace, it is certain that Mr. Balfour would have kept his word and announced the fact at once. The rumors are, no doubt, the outcome of expectancy. The three weeks' respite is drawing to a close, and speculation of all kinds is being freely indulged in.

Fresh from his American successes, Charles Hawtry was greeted with tremendous enthusiasm at the Prince of Wales Theatre last night, but the play in which he chose to appear proved thin and feeble, and the curtain fell in an atmosphere of chillingly courteous frigidity. "The President," by Frank Stayton, is described as a farcical melodrama, and shows how a lazy Englishman, having settled in a South American republic for peace and quiet, is induced to lead

WHEN DESIRING PERFECTION
The traveller uses the Pennsylvania Limited, combining every element which goes to make a pleasant journey.—Adv.

AT YOUR SERVICE ANY HOUR.

When a Pennsylvania Railroad car is called an elegant equipage is furnished at reasonable rates.—Adv.

THE ILLINOIS SAILS.

ADMIRAL CROWNINSHIELD STARTS FOR
THE CORONATION CEREMONY.

The first scene in the participation of the United States in the coronation ceremony in England next month was enacted at the Brooklyn Navy Yard yesterday morning, when Rear Admiral A. S. Crowninshield's flag was raised on the battleship Illinois. At 9:30 o'clock the band, in scarlet and gold uniforms, appeared on the quarterdeck aft and, simultaneously, the marines were mustered on deck forward. Then there was a wait of twenty-five minutes, during which the dock became crowded with the wives, sweethearts, mothers and sisters of the officers and crew of the ship.

At 9:55 o'clock the machine guns of the receiving ship Columbia, moored at the cob dock, belched forth a salute, indicating that Admiral Crowninshield had entered the Navy Yard. Ten minutes later the sentinel at the foot of the gang plank shouted: "Make gangway!" and a moment later the new commander of the European Squadron was saluting and receiving the salutes of the officers of the ship.

As the foot of the admiral touched the deck three ruffles of the drums and as many bugle blasts bade him welcome. The marines stood at present arms, and the scarlet uniforms of the musicians and the gold cord and braid of the officers in full dress flashed in the sunlight which burst through the clouds as if to cheer the admiral. The hand of each officer was grasped warmly, and the marines and musicians were formally greeted, after which the sailors of the Illinois marched to the afterdeck and were massed at its sides, leaving the side toward the after tower open. In the centre of this mass of his officers and men Admiral Crowninshield stood as he read his commission, and formally assumed command of the squadron. The band played "Flags," arms were again presented, and all eyes were turned aloft, where the red flag of the admiral lazily floated to the masthead as the starboard midship gun boomed forth the news that the Illinois had become the flagship of the squadron to which it was lately assigned. The port guns took up the greeting, and alternately they told off the admiral's salute, while the women on the dock covered their eyes with their hands and jumped at every starboard shot. The cob dock guns responded, and then the admiral, accompanied by Captain G. W. Converse, inspected the ship and its crew.

Both chambers of the Starling General, Rear Admiral Barker, commandant of the Navy Yard, approached, and the guard at the foot of the gang plank again cried: "Make way!" There were more bugle calls and more rolls of the drums, and Admiral Crowninshield performed the first social function of the day. Admiral Barker's call was short, and when he had gone the ceremony of taking command was brought rapidly to an end. Admiral Crowninshield and Captain Converse permitted themselves to be photographed for The Tribune on the deck of the ship and then went below. Then the wives, sweethearts, daughters, sisters and mothers were allowed to go aboard, jockies being detailed by the obliging officer of the deck to carry the bundles they brought. The men drawn from the Columbia to cater to the crew marched aboard with their bags, and by noon all was ready for the voyage across the Atlantic.

The Illinois left the Navy Yard at 3 o'clock and proceeded slowly down the bay. She was saluted by the forts as she passed the Narrows, and the sunset had faded from view. She sailed to the eastward of the Highlands of Navesink. She will proceed to Naples, where she will remain a short time before going to English waters.

SHEEP DYING IN HUNDREDS.

DROUTH HAS DRIED UP NEW-MEXICO
RANGES—GRASSHOPPERS EAT-
ING THE CROPS.

Santa Fe, N. M., April 30.—Reports from all parts of the Territory indicate that sheep are dying in hundreds. This is lambing season, and the number of lambs that will be saved will be unusually small. The ranges have practically dried up on account of the drouth.

Added to the losses of the shepherds in the Territory are reports that grasshoppers already are creating havoc in the northern Rio Grande Valley. Around Santa Cruz the insects are as thick as leaves on the fruit trees, and they are eating off the tops of the early vegetables.

QUEEN WILHELMINA IMPROVING.

The Hague, April 30.—The morning bulletin issued from Castle Loos regarding the condition of Queen Wilhelmina, says she passed a quiet night, and that the feverish periods were more frequent.

On account of the favorable symptoms, the bulletins issued by her majesty's physicians will hereafter be limited to one daily.

On receipt of to-day's bulletin from Castle Loos, charged their presidents to convey to the Queen an expression of joy at the glad news of her majesty's improvement.

FROM THE CENTRE TO THE CENTRE.

Of each of the great commercial marts of the country, you go if you travel by the New York Central Lines.—Adv.

CATTLEMEN TO FIGHT.

STARTLING DEVELOPMENTS
IN BEEF TRUST WAR.

TEARING DOWN FENCES MAY CAUSE

BLOODSHED—MANY PROTESTS

AGAINST THE PRES-
IDENT'S ORDER.

(BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.)

Washington, April 30.—Since the exclusive publication in The Tribune this morning of the President's intention to make war against the Beef and Cattle Trust by ordering all fences illegally constructed to be torn down, some startling developments have risen to the surface. Scores of cattlemen and their attorneys are in Washington, using every effort to thwart any action against the ranchers which would result in mixing their cattle. To tear down fences and let all cattle graze together on the public domain at this season of the year would produce consternation throughout the West. Senator Warren, of Wyoming, said to-night that it would result in actual bloodshed. It would mean wrenching the very assets from the ranchers. In times past, more conspicuously in the administration of President Cleveland, there was bloodshed for this cause. But to enforce the law by compelling illegal cattle tenants to vacate the federal domain is regarded as a bold strike against the trusts, well designed to secure justice and protect the farmer, who is now literally having his business ruined by the grazing capitalists, who, with a patrician claim or no claim at all, absorb the watered pasture lands of the West, and inclose the surrounding territory with wire fences, so as to deprive the farmer and settler of the use of government water and grass. Responsibility for the action to be taken to correct this evil is laid at the door of the Secretary of the Interior. As a result, Secretary Hitchcock has been subjected to severe criticism.

From two members of the Cabinet expressions were obtained to-day emphatically declaring the monopoly of the public domain an outrage which ought to be broken up. Conditions in this country now, they said, are not as they were twenty years ago. Public land is comparatively scarce, and should be carefully preserved for the homeseeker, instead of being given over to the encouragement of a conspiracy largely responsible for the excessive price of beef.

To facilitate regaining possession of the millions of acres of public domain now occupied unlawfully, the Secretary of the Interior several months ago ordered a thorough investigation into the entire question. Voluminous reports from the land agents and the Commissioner of the Land Office, which show that in every Western State where there is a public reservation there are illegal tenants, are now in the hands of Secretary Hitchcock. In every one of these States there are vexatious problems with which officials here have to deal. In some States there are factions of ranchers ready to acquiesce in the enforcement of the regulations because of peculiar benefits to be derived therefrom. These are in the minority, while the majority, through their legal and Congressional representatives sent to this city, have declared in unequivocal terms their determination to resist to the last the tearing down of fences.

CARRYING THE FIGHT TO CONGRESS.

Senator Millard said to-night that the delegation from Nebraska would be a unit in fighting such an order, and would unite in supporting legislation providing for leasing public lands. Within the last week the Nebraska Congressmen have introduced about fifty cattlemen from that State at the White House to protest to the President against forcing the evacuation of these domains. It is evident that they have reluctantly decided that there is no chance of securing concessions from the executive authorities, and efforts have been turned to Congress. To-day Representative Lester, of Iowa, chairman of the Committee on Public Lands, introduced a bill to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to lease portions of the public domain for a period of five years, at the end of which time the leases are to expire, without any rights of renewal. The intent of the bill is to give ample time for the cattlemen to arrange to vacate without incurring unnecessary losses. The rent rates proposed are one, two, three, four, five and six cents a head an acre, according to the grade of the land occupied. Division of the lands would be made under this bill by the Secretary of the Interior. To this bill there are many objections, in the opinion of several Senators, and the common belief is that it is too general to prevent partial results. The bill was framed as a substitute for another one, now shelved, which proposed to lease the lands for ten years at the rate of two cents a head an acre pasturage, with the right of indefinite renewal.

From the activity and excitement prevailing here with respect to a solution of the public domain question, it is evident that the forthcoming fight in Congress to secure an adjustment of the matter will assume the most sensational character; and the consideration of it appears to be near at hand. Leading Senators have expressed these ideas, adding that every one knew it must come some time.

VIEWS AT DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE.

At the Department of Justice to-day the news of the illegal cattle tenants was the leading topic of discussion. It developed an entirely new phase of the beef investigation. Checking unlawful pasturage on these lands would benefit legitimate farming; cattle could not be bred so high; the stock, being better cared for, would produce a higher quality of beef, and as there would be no wholesale free grazing, in the regular course of farming the cattle would have to be marketed in the proper season. Thousands of them could not be left to roam the prairie for the purpose of decreasing supply with an increased demand to run up the price of beef.

Although it seems simple to stop the conspiracy to control beef prices by this means, the Department of Justice will not change its plans, but will go on with the investigation already started. There can be no misapprehension in regard to the object of the department to try the case against the Beef Trust, because of violation of the legal limitation on combinations, and also to establish to what extent the law may have been broken in all phases of the case. On these grounds the Attorney General proceeds, although the net result may be a drop in the price of beef and the establishment of a precedent to be observed hereafter in restriction of the operation of combinations by the federal government.

FROM SIR THOMAS LIPTON.

(BY CABLE TO THE TRIBUNE.)

London, April 30.
To the Editor of The Tribune.
Mean time have no information regarding matter referred.

The above in answer to an inquiry as to the report from Chicago of a possible \$1,000,000 packing trust in which Sir Thomas Lipton's name was mentioned as one of the principals.

NO ACTION ON FREE MEAT BILLS.

Washington, April 30.—The Ways and Means Committee has taken no action on the bills to place

LUXURIOUS TRAIN TO CALIFORNIA.

The "Overland Limited." Best of everything en route via Chicago & North-Western, Union Pacific and Southern Pacific Railways. Offices, 61, 231 and 319 Broadway.—Adv.