

POPULAR CRY NO LONGER SWAYS LOWER HOUSE

Delegates Kill the Bill to Elect Corporation Commissioners by People.

NEW MEASURE MAY BE OFFERED NOW

Long Argument on Both Sides, Ending in Defeat of Proposed Change, Proved to Be Sensational Surprise of Session Up to This Time.

How They Killed Commissioners Bill

FOR BILL. Messrs. Adams, Bell, B. H. Bowman, Brown, Clarke, Cooke, Cornett, Eller, Deakin, Green, Griffith, Hall, Janney, Jennings, F. M. Love, S. H. Love, Lucas, Millard, Montague, Myers, N. N. Oliver, J. J. Owen, Paudleton, Powell, Powers, Head, Raw, Richardson, Robinson, Sneed, Strout, Surratt, Sturdivant, T. J. Weaver, West, J. W. Williams, Wisler and Mr. Speaker—42.

AGAINST BILL. Messrs. Baker, Barrett, A. M. Bowman, Breckenridge, Brewer, Churchman, Clement, Cox, Craig, Curlett, Williams, Davidson, DeLoach, Good, Goolrick, M. M. Green, Houston, Howie, Jett, Charles A. Johnson, Lewis, Linder, Long, M. M. Page, Pulliam, Rogers, Spessard, Stebbins, Stretter, Stuart, Stubbs, Thrift, Walker, Wilcox, W. Williams, Wilson, Wingo and Withers—44.

BY LEWIS H. MACHEN.

Perhaps the biggest surprise of the session of the Legislature was the defeat in the House of Delegates yesterday of the bill providing for the popular election of members of the State Corporation Commission. The majority was not large—only two—but it was sufficient to kill the bill. A motion to reconsider was lost, and another motion to amend the bill was also defeated. The bill was introduced in the Senate to-day and will probably be taken up there to-morrow.

AN EXPERT WITH CHECKS

For the bill it was argued that there was a popular demand for it, that it gave the people a larger participation in the government of the State; that there was danger that a Governor might pay off political debts by such an appointment; in fact, there was a charge that there was a rumor that a Governor had been suspected of doing this thing—and there was strong stress laid upon the danger of corporate control through some future Governor, who might be elected by corporate influence.

TRY M'BRIDE FOR BIGAMY

Placed in Portsmouth Jail to Await Trial. (Special to The Times-Dispatch.) NORFOLK, Va., January 24.—H. C. McBride, formerly a sergeant of the Norfolk police force, was transferred to the Portsmouth jail to-day, where he will answer to one charge of bigamy.

GREAT LOCKOUT AVERTED

Cotton Mill Operatives Finally Accept New Terms. (Special to The Times-Dispatch.) MANCHESTER, N. H., January 24.—There will be no lockout of the Manchester cotton operatives. The employers have accepted the terms of the new agreement.

STORM DELAYS THAW TRIAL

Atlantic, With Witnesses, Falls to Come In, and Case Goes Over.

NEW YORK, January 24.—The blinding snowstorm which swept New York to-day caused the first serious interruption of the second Thaw trial. It put an embargo on practically all shipping in the lower bay, and prevented the big steamer Atlantic from reaching her dock. On board the liner are four physicians and a trained nurse from Europe, who, Mr. Littleton declares in court, are important witnesses for the defense, and whose testimony he desires to place upon the record before propounding hypothetical questions to the three experts, who will swear that when Harry Thaw shot and killed Stanford White he was mentally deficient that he did not know the nature or quality of his act or that the act was wrong.

DEMANDS RETRACTION

Judge Reynolds, of Asheville, Calls Senator Webb to Account. (Special to The Times-Dispatch.) ASHVILLE, N. C., January 24.—Demanding what he considers unjust criticism of an arrest of Dr. Smith, Judge Reynolds has written a letter to Senator Charles A. Webb, at Raleigh, demanding a public retraction by the Senator on the floor of the Senate of remarks attributed to him, to the effect that Judge Reynolds had voted "wet" at the recent prohibition election, and reflecting on his moral character.

PARENTS OBJECT THEY ELOPE

AND WED IN COVINGTON. CINCINNATI, O., January 24.—Geo. W. Potts and Gertie Potts, daughter of Gertrude M. Roads, of Blackwood, Va., twenty-four and twenty-one years old, respectively, eloped to Cincinnati last night, and were married in Covington, Ky., just across the river. They eloped because the parents of the bride objected to the marriage.

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PLANS ARE UPSET BY SMITH AND SHEEHAN

Their Presence Regretted by Democrats Who Wish Bryan Would Retire.

NONE ARE READY TO TELL HIM SO

Many Think the Nebraskan Should Withdraw, but None Found to Speak—Taft Makes Smart Stroke.

Shaw May Get Virginia.

Times-Dispatch Bureau, Washington, D. C., Jan. 24.

The Democrats who have been planning to confer with Mr. Bryan when he comes here to-morrow, and urge upon him the wisdom of a course which would eliminate himself from the contest for the Democratic nomination to the presidency, are not pleased with the turn affairs are taking. They were not elected when former Senator James Smith, of New Jersey, and William R. Sheehan, of New York, blew into the city to-day and began a buttonholing campaign in opposition to the nomination of the statesman from Nebraska.

TOOK HEAVY LIFE TOLL

Three Firemen Killed and Sixteen Injured in Baltimore Fire.

BALTIMORE, MD., January 24.—Fire at an early hour this morning took heavy toll of the members of the fire department of this city, three being killed and sixteen injured. The fire broke out in the rear of the Regester Sons Company building, which was a three-story structure, and was caused by a gas leak.

MOTHER OF DUCHESS DEAD

Mrs. Antonio Yznaga, Seized with Pneumonia, Dies in Natchez.

NEW YORK, January 24.—Mrs. Antonio Yznaga died this morning in Natchez, Miss., of pneumonia. Mrs. Yznaga was the mother of Duke of Connaught, Duchess of Manchester, who was on her way to her plantation in Louisiana when she was taken ill in Natchez.

FIRE SWEEPS BENNETTSVILLE

Business Section of Town Burned—Hotel Guests Have Narrow Escape.

CHARLOTTE, N. C., January 24.—Fire of unknown origin, which was discovered this morning at the Hotel Skye, at Bennettsville, S. C., destroyed practically the entire business section of the town, and many fine residences. The fire broke out in the rear of the Regester Sons Company building.

MUST PAY THE SAILORS

Judge Brown Decides Against Captain Whose Men Sought Desert.

PROVIDENCE, R. I., January 24.—Judge Arthur L. Brown, in the United States District Court, to-day decided that the five colored sailors of the schooner Dorothy Palmer, who were arrested and imprisoned in Newport News, Va., at the instance of Captain Joseph Harding, the master of the vessel, were entitled to full wages for the entire time that they elapsed since they shipped at Boston for the voyage south, with the exception of \$2 each, which the court ruled should be levied as a fine against them for refusing to continue the voyage.

NORFOLK MEN ACQUITTED

Agenda Brothers Not Guilty of Fraud in Use of Warehouse Receipts.

PORTLAND CITY HALL BURNS

Knights of Pythias Jubilee Broken Up and Few Are Hurt.

PORTLAND, MAINE, January 24.—The five-story city building, in which were located the county as well as the city offices, and which cannot be replaced for much less than \$1,000,000, stands in ruins as a consequence of a fire that broke out in the city electrical department in the third story early to-day.

DELSCHE NOT GUILTY OF MURDER CHARGE

Verdict of Acquittal Received With Demonstration of Approval.

SAID HE THOUGHT MAN WAS BURGLAR

Incriminating Letters and Pictures Ruled Out, the Commonwealth Unable to Prove a Motive for Alleged Crime.

PHILADELPHIA, PA., January 24.—After a trial of three days, Andrew Jackson Delsch, who was charged with murdering Harry Ferre in a boarding house in this city last November, was to-day acquitted. The jury was out nearly three hours. The announcement of the jury's verdict caused an enthusiastic demonstration.

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GALE BLOWS AT NEWPORT

Nearly Three Feet of Snow, and Thereafter a Heavy Gale.

NEWPORT, R. I., January 24.—With the wind blowing sixty-five and seventy miles an hour, a heavy fall of snow and the temperature dropping to below zero, the blizzard of the winter of 1907-8 was repeated to-day. The wind, which had blown from the northwest since last night, changed to the northeast at sun set, at the same time increasing in violence.

SEVERE STORM ON COAST

Several Reported Lost, and One Body Ashore. (Special to The Times-Dispatch.) NORFOLK, VA., January 24.—A storm night the body of an unknown seaman, clad in oilskins and having on a life preserver, was washed ashore at Blue Beach.

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DEATH AND DAMAGE MARK SNOWY PATH OF SEVERE STORM

High Wind With Falling Flakes Bring Disaster and Loss of Life.

NEW YORK HAS TO DIG HERSELF OUT

Thoughtfuls of Millions Piled High With Drifts—Car Traffic Impeded, Trains Stalled and Ships Are Unable to Reach the Harbor.

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