

F. GRAY MEEK, Editor
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War in the Philippines.

A town called Sarigao in the Philippine Islands was captured last Monday by Ladrones. That is to say the natives of the Island of Mindanao made an attack on the American garrison of that town and after a spirited conflict conquered it. Happily there were no American soldiers killed for they are not called soldiers there anymore. In support of the fiction that the territory has been pacified and that civil government has been established the troops are called the Constabulary and the commanding officer is known as the Inspector. For that reason the news dispatches tell us simply that Constabulary Inspector CLARKE and several others were killed in the encounter.

In Ireland the English troops who collect exorbitant rents from the impoverished native tenantry at the point of the bayonet are called the Constabulary. The name has a sonorous sound and conveys the idea of peace and fraternity. Where there is war there is also military equipment and titles. The colonels and majors and captains suggest swords and bayonets and rapid firing guns in these days of progress and development. But the Constabulary is composed of peace officials who have no thoughts other than those of pastoral and suburban life. One would hardly expect to find a constable with a musket. It would be an incongruous picture which presented such a spectacle.

In the Philippines, however, things are different. The Constabulary there wear uniforms and carry muskets just as soldiers here do and when the Constabulary Inspector or in Sarigao, Island of Mindanao, Philippine Islands is killed by the Ladrones there is a vacancy in the ranks of the subalterns of the American army. The confusion of sound in giving details of the event deceives the general public but there is no misunderstanding in the records of the War Department at Washington. There it is understood that the pretense that the Philippine Islands have been pacified is false and fraudulent, for the natives are still maintaining an armed resistance against our usurpation.

Party's Promises Pigeonholed.

Mr. Frank Bell, the special correspondent of the Philadelphia North American, writes to his paper the following as to the prospects of reform legislation during the present session of the Legislature, and the efforts that are being made to carry out the promises made the people last fall.

HARRISBURG, March 21.—If the managers of the Republican organization in Pennsylvania are making the slightest effort to see that the more important pledges of the last State campaign shall be fulfilled by the present Legislature, such effort is not in evidence. Only twenty actual working days of the session remain; yet no move has been made toward the enactment of laws for ballot reform, personal registration or legislative apportionment.

At the opening of the campaign for Judge Pennypacker for Governor, last fall, Senator Quay personally and through the Republican State committee, of which he is chairman, conceded the great need of radical changes in the election laws of the State and pledged the best efforts of himself and his organization to the accomplishment of his organization to the accomplishment of that reform in the present Legislative session.

NOTHING OF REFORM IN IT. Senator Quay's committee failed to produce its promised ballot bill. Senator Focht, of Union, who was not a member of that committee, has introduced the only general election measure emanating from a Republican source. It is said to have been approved by Senator Quay.

Except for a purely mechanical reduction in the size of the ballot, however, there is not even a pretense of "reform" about this measure. It merely substitutes a party "square" for a party "circle," making no correction of the present discrimination against the independent voter in the marking of his ticket.

REGISTRATION BILL SLEEPS. Personal registration is faring no better. The bill of Representative Hunt, of Philadelphia, introduced many weeks ago, still reposes in the House committee, with no indication of ever seeing the light. It is designed to carry into effect the recently adopted constitutional amendment permitting personal registration in cities, but it has been given as little encouragement as though the Republican organization were not under pledge to enact some such law.

As for Senatorial and Representative apportionment, the plain command of the Constitution, the party promises and the recommendations of Governor Pennypacker in his inaugural address have been ignored utterly.

SOTHERED IN COMMITTEE. No one has attempted even to draft a bill to reapportion the Senatorial districts of the State, and the single Representative apportionment bill introduced by Mr. McWhinney, of Allegheny, early in the session, has not been acted on by the House committee.

The determination of the Democrats to make formal demand next week that something be done with their ballot bills is, of course, merely with a view of shaping up their own record, and not with any idea that they can force the Republican majority into fulfilling its promises as to election laws or reapportionment.

NOTHING FOR THE MINERS.

Profuse campaign assurances of consideration for the miners and other elements of organized labor find no reflection in the attitude of this Legislature.

Three or four bills of interest to the anthracite miners have been permitted to go through the House with scarcely any opposition, simply because the machine leaders had absolute confidence in the readiness of their Senate committee on mines and mining to see that such measures get no further.

That committee has been named "the graveyard for labor legislation." It was selected with such care that not a single Senator from an anthracite county got a place on it.

As a result, the House members are free to "make good records" on all miners' bills without endangering in the slightest degree the interests of the machine's corporate campaign contributors.

Goes Back on Their Promise of Ballot Reform.

Quay's Promise Thrown to the Winds by His Legislature. How the People Were Deceived is Shown by the Actions of the Republican Members of the House.

HARRISBURG, March 23.—The Democrats of the House of Representatives tonight made their anticipated effort to rescure their ballot reform bill from the fatal embraces of the committee on elections. They succeeded only in forcing the Republican majority to put itself on record against any ballot reform.

Mr. Ikeler, of Columbia, offered the resolution. It was to the effect that the committee be discharged from further consideration of the general election bill he introduced a month ago, at the instance and with the approval of the Democratic caucus. In a pertinent speech in favor of his resolution Mr. Ikeler said:

"In offering this resolution I may be looked upon as inaugurating a partisan movement. I may be criticised for attempting to make political capital out of the question now under consideration.

While I would not presume to advise the majority party in this House, yet I sincerely believe that the adoption of this resolution will prove as advantageous to you as to us. Whatever differences may divide the great political parties on other matters, both the Republican and Democratic members of this House stand bound to the cause of a better ballot.

As far back as 1890, on the public stage at West Chester, no less a man than Senator Quay himself announced the necessity of ballot reform and pledged his party to its support. From that time to this, Republican platform leaders and Republican newspapers have promised our people this much needed relief. Has it been the fault of the minority that these pledges have not been kept?

In the session of 1901 I had the honor of introducing a ballot bill, and I likewise had the experience of seeing it go down to overwhelming defeat. But even that Legislature, some into history as the acme and climax of all things evil, had the saving grace to allow the Democratic ballot bills to be reported on the floor of the House.

But in this body we not only refuse to pass ballot reform; we even decline to consider it. For three months we have been in session; our calendars are overflowing with bills; debates have been frequent and prolonged; but in all this time, out of all this multitude of measures, I have yet to hear one single sentence uttered in behalf of the cause that lies at the foundation of all government and patriotism—an honest ballot and a fair election.

KEPT A GOVERNOR BUSY. Since the organization of this House we have kept a Governor busy correcting our grammar and probing our morals. We have risen in righteous indignation over the wrongs done to squirrels and rabbits and bullfrogs and terrapin. We sprang to the relief of the gentleman from Philadelphia on the subject of reed-birds, and we debated long and wisely over ox-eyed daisies and wild carot. But through it all the ballot bills have slept the sleep of death in the pigeonholes of the Elections Committee.

I am not skilled in the intricacies of running a Legislature. I do not understand the system of centralized power that enables you to vote down a measure in the morning and consider it before the noon adjournment and unanimously pass it before evening. I do not pretend to have caught the full meaning of that matchless word "orders," but I do votedly wish that there was to be found in Pennsylvania to-night, or, if not in Pennsylvania, then in some balmy corner of the Florida peninsula, a voice mighty enough to at least allow us a report on this bill, and a fair consideration of its merits.

I may be told that this resolution is unnecessary; that this bill will be considered by the committee in due form and at the proper time.

Mr. Speaker, there comes a time when moral conviction deepens into certainty and I do not believe that the bill will ever be considered. Certainly, there is not a man with in sound of my voice but knows that with only a few weeks left of this session, if it is to be reported at all, it must be reported now. And, moreover, I sincerely trust that whenever you do with this resolution will be done frankly and openly. I hope we will not be met with that timeworn subterfuge about "reflecting upon the committee."

DEMANDS IMMEDIATE REPLY. Let there be no pretense, let us here and now, squarely meet this single question: Shall there be any consideration of Ballot Reform by this Legislature?

The answer to this question rests with your all powerful majority. We have presented our bill. We have made our fight, and our hands are clean. You can and will do as you please. But let me say this, in all sincerity and without bitterness, if you continue to ignore this question of Ballot Reform, if you persist in making pledges only to violate them, if you remain willfully deaf to the call of the people, even you will sooner or later awake to the discovery that there yet remains in Pennsylvania a power that is higher than political "orders," that is stronger than any band of political leaders, and before which your much boasted organization will disappear like a tissue of cobwebs in the path of a mighty tempest."

Mr. Mayne, Democrat, of Lehigh, declared there was abundant proof of the assertion that anything Senator Quay wants, in the heavens above or the earth beneath, or the waters under the earth, he can have in Pennsylvania. Therefore, the responsibility for the defeat of ballot reform would rest on Quay.

"TOO BUSY," PLUMMER'S EXCUSE. Mr. Plummer, of Blair, chairman of the elections committee, replied to the remarks of "the new Democratic leader" and his satellite, as he termed them.

Opening Day's Work of the Methodist Conference at Altoona.

Large Attendance and Great Interest Manifested.

The thirty-fifth annual session of the Central Pennsylvania conference of the Methodist church convened in Altoona, Wednesday morning. When at 9 o'clock Bishop Cranston called the conference to order in the Eighth avenue M. E. church, more than two hundred members of that body were in their seats.

After devotional exercises, the roll of the conference was called by Rev. T. S. Wilcox, D. D. The transfer of Rev. Josiah L. Albritton, D. D., to this conference was announced. Rev. T. S. Wilcox, D. D., was elected secretary of the conference and named as his assistants A. L. Miller, J. F. Anderson, M. C. Piper and William Brill. Rev. John Horning was elected treasurer and named as his assistants G. E. King, F. W. Leidy, E. E. Harter, O. H. Albertson, F. C. Byers, J. H. Price, H. K. Ash, A. S. Williams, M. N. Walker, J. C. Grimes and W. J. Shaffer.

Rev. R. J. Allen was elected statistical secretary and named as his assistants G. F. Boggs, M. S. Derstine, W. L. Armstrong, J. T. Bell, R. M. Snyder, J. E. Breneman, Herbert Hinkle.

Resolutions welcoming EARL Cranston, D. D., as presiding Bishop and regretting the illness of Bishop Merrill, who had been assigned to preside over the conference, were presented and a short letter from Bishop Merrill, voicing his disappointment at not being able to perform the duties when Bishop Cranston among other things were adopted said:

"I am here unexpectedly to do my best with you and for you. Whether this conference will be a religious one to you will depend upon how much religion you have brought up to it. Idle gossip is the bane of many a Methodist conference. Do not gossip about the appointments and so cause anxiety to your brethren and the charges. The appointments are not made by the newspapers or in the lobby but in the cabinet by the bishop. I belong to all of you. From 1.30 to 2.30 each day I shall be glad to see any minister or committee. The cabinet will meet every afternoon at 2.30 in the parlor of the church.

Last night's meeting has made one thing plain—the person who wants a seat at the opening sessions will have to get there on time and the one who comes late will not be able to get in at all. One thing is certain there will never be more people in the Eighth avenue church than were there last evening." From wall to wall was one unbroken mass of humanity. Even the vestibule and the side class rooms from, which it was impossible to see the speakers, were packed.

Upon motion of Dr. W. W. Evans the secretary was instructed to convey to Revs. E. M. Stevens, W. H. Stevens, E. P. King and Owen Hicks the sympathy of the conference in their illness.

The order of the day being called for the conference proceeded to hold its memorial service. The memoir of Rev. I. N. Morehead was read by Rev. J. L. Leilich, D. D., superintendent of the Utah mission. It will be remembered that last August Rev. I. N. Morehead was transferred from Grace church, Williamsport, Pa., to the First Methodist Episcopal church of Salt Lake City, and died six weeks after reaching that place.

Rev. A. S. Baldwin, Rev. J. P. Benford and Rev. T. L. Tomkinson also made remarks on the life and work of Mr. Morehead.

The Rev. J. Emory Weeks read the memoir of Rev. A. M. Barnitz, who had been for fifty-four years a minister of the Methodist church. The story of his dying hour, as told by his pastor, Dr. M. L. Ganoe, brought tears to the eyes of all who heard it read.

The memoir of Rev. J. A. DeMoyer, written by Dr. W. M. Frysinger, was read by Rev. A. S. Bowman. Rev. DeMoyer had been an active itinerant minister for over half a century and had served many charges all over this conference territory. The audience stood and sang, "Servant of God well done. Thy glorious warfare's past."

Rev. S. B. Evans read the memoir of Mrs. Margaret A. Porter. Rev. A. S. Bowman announced the death of Sarah Elizabeth Frysinger, wife of Dr. W. M. Frysinger, and it was stated that she had died at her home in Altoona, Pa., on Tuesday morning, March 23, 1903, at the age of 78 years. She was a native of Blair county, and was aged 69 years, 8 months and 11 days. He was a much respected citizen of the town in which he had for many years made his home. Surviving him are his wife, one daughter and two sons. Funeral services were held in the Methodist church at Philipsburg on Tuesday afternoon and the services at the grave were in charge of the Masons.

A VICTIM OF SCARLET FEVER.—William Howe Lingenfelter, a local preacher of the Methodist Episcopal church, died at his home in Philipsburg on Sunday morning, at 2 o'clock, after an illness of three weeks of heart and liver trouble. He was a native of Blair county, and was aged 69 years, 8 months and 11 days. He was a much respected citizen of the town in which he had for many years made his home. Surviving him are his wife, one daughter and two sons. Funeral services were held in the Methodist church at Philipsburg on Tuesday afternoon and the services at the grave were in charge of the Masons.

RELEASED AT LAST.—On the 5th, inst., at the Warren insane asylum, Miss Sarah Beck, formerly of Howard, passed quietly away. She was aged about seventy-five years, thirty-eight of which had been passed as an inmate of that institution. Relative to her life the following facts are furnished by a correspondent at Howard: "The deceased was a sister and three brothers were born in Ireland. Their father dying, the mother with her five children sailed for America, landing in Philadelphia they took passage on a canal boat owned and captained by the late George Peck. In due time they landed in Howard where the widow had one or two brothers living at that time, by the name of Riddle. Mrs. Harvey McClure and Mrs. Thomas Moore, were sisters of the widow Beck. The boys and girls were bright, brainy people. Ill health partially undermined Miss Sarah's reason and she was sent to the asylum thirty-eight years ago. So far as we know the brothers living are, William P., in Lock Haven; Matthew R., somewhere in Penna. and James R., in Dubuque, Iowa.

APPROXIMATELY. 2—Mutual Beneficial Association in the Social Hall, Anniversary Woman's Foreign Missionary Society, Mrs. B. C. Conner, presiding. Address, Rev. James M. Thoburn, D. D., Allegheny, Pa.

7:45—Anniversary Missionary Society, Rev. H. C. Pardo, D. D., presiding. Address, Rev. J. Wesley Hill, Ph. D. Address, Rev. Stephen O. Benton, D. D.

9—Conference local feast, in charge of Rev. D. S. Moore, D. D.

2—Anniversary Bible Society, Rev. J. W. Rue, D. D., presiding. Address, Rev. James Morrow, D. D.

7:45—Anniversary Preacher's Aid Society and Annuity Fund, M. L. Ganoe, D. D., presiding. Address, Rev. E. B. Hamlin, D. D. Address, Hon. Alex. E. Patton, Curwensville, Pa.

8:30—Prayer service. 9—Conference session.

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Hardenberg Withdraws.

Says He Will Try Again for State Treasurership in 1905.

HARRISBURG, March 24.—Auditor General Hardenberg to-night announced his withdrawal as a candidate for the Republican nomination for state treasurer. "No use hitting one's head against a stone wall," he said. "The ticket is made up, and I will support it. But I will be a candidate two years from now."

Senator Herbst, of Berks, to-day predicted the nomination of State Senator Joel G. Hill, of Wayne, for state treasurer on the Democratic ticket. Senator Hill is a veteran of the civil war; his father, who is 91 years of age, fought in the Mexican war, and his son was a soldier in the Spanish war.

It is reported that a bill will be introduced, probably to-morrow, to increase the salary of the state treasurer from \$5000 to \$10,000 a year. It is said that the passage of such a bill was one of the conditions, which William L. Mathews, of Delaware, insisted on prior to permitting himself to be slated for the Republican nomination last Saturday in Senator Penrose's office in Philadelphia.

VERE DOES POP GOME IN!

[Aunt Mr. Blumle's bill to pension mothers of large families, in which the paternal side of the partnership is entirely ignored, Mr. "Ludwig Saurber, makes these pertinent comments in the Philadelphia Record.]

Was machen Sie, Herr Blumle? Du bist ein bösest man, Zu gather all diese prizes Und shower 'em upon Die mutters von die kinder, Ach Gott! es ist ein witz, It ain't a fair division? For vere does pop gome in? Bei Wartenburger standards Villeicht it's alles recht, But heir im Pennsylvania Das ganzen dinst sielect, Die vatens earn der money, Und jez die mutters win, Und so bin Ich sehr zoeiring— For vere does pop gome in? Six sohus—ein golden adler— Puer neun ein doppel prize, Die seventh sohn gets college, Und learns a pack ut lies, Ein faensig thaler medal, Die fifteenth kinder win, Und gives it all zu mutter— For vere does pop gome in? Here—mensch von Pennsylvania! Antwortle mein schrei! Es sind't zu sein for foelings, But nun zu thun for, Dose Harrisburglar lawyers Hat besser nun begin Zu make a few amendments— For vere does pop gome in! Who buys der babies clothes? Who buys die knaben clothes? Wer kauft der brodt und schenken? Does mutter I suppose? Ya, Sie kann dust der fluster, Or sew und esselich grin, But Ich wunsch nicht swof kinder— For vere does pop gome in?

Howard.

James Hogan left on Tuesday for Emporium. John Thompson, of Snowshoe, is visiting relatives here. Rev. I. N. Bair departed on Wednesday for Millheim, his new appointment.

Hensly Heverly, who is employed at Johnsonburg, arrived home on Saturday. Clair Tipton returned home on Saturday. He was attending school at Williamsport.

George Moore, of Renova, visited on Saturday at the home of Grant Swyers. Rev. G. L. Boggs departed on Tuesday for Altoona, where he will attend conference.

Sherman Holter and Eugene Pletcher arrived home Friday to spend a week with their parents. Mr. and Mrs. Ed Reilly, of Lock H aven, were the guests of Mrs. A. J. Weber a few days last week.

Balser Weber, who is attending school at Mercersburg, arrived home on Saturday to pay his parents a short visit. The remains of Mr. Charles Smith, who died at Danville, arrived here last Friday on the 4:14 train and was taken to Jacksonville, his former home, for burial.

Misses Maud and Ethel Sechrist, after spending a few days with their sister, Mrs. Geo. Williams, returned to their home at Lock Haven on Tuesday.

Hulersburg.

Miss Lulu Johnson is visiting friends in Bellefonte. Miss Sophia Rockey spent Saturday with friends at Howard. Edward and Jacob Ritzman, of Salona, were callers in town Sunday.

L. H. McAnlay returned home Thursday, having spent several days in Williamsport. Mr. and Mrs. Wm Bell, of Bellefonte, spent Sunday at the home of their son-in-law T. L. Kessinger.

Marie Holmes and Mrs. Kate Allison, of Nittany, were pleasant visitors at the High school Friday. On account of the inclement weather the social was not a great success. Proceeds amounted to \$8.50 for the benefit of the church.

Harry and John Clevenstein, who are confined to their home with typhoid fever, are improving under the efficient care of Dr. Fisher. A crowd of our jolly boys were invited to the home of Frank Carner, Friday last, to attend a wood chopping. Dinner and supper were furnished and a good time reported. The appraisal of the personal property of Mrs. Julia Brown, lately deceased, was held last Thursday. The appraisers were lawyer Woodring, Mr. John McAnlay and Wm Decker. James Love, of Wilkensburg, and James McCormick, of Allegheny, were called home on account of the serious illness of Mrs. McCormick, sister of the former and wife of the latter. At this writing her condition is critical. Beginning Monday evening, March 30th, and continuing every evening but Saturday, of the week, services will be held in the Reformed church by Rev. Crow. Preparatory services Saturday evening and communion Sunday, April 5th.