## ABOUT CAUCUS RULE.

What It Is and How Its Decisions Are Enforced.

#### The Senator or Representative Who Bolts from Party Determination Clouds His Political Future.

[Special Washington Letter.] When you read in the newspapers about a caucus, and understand what it means, it may be well to remember that there are very many people who do not know what it means; and that space is well used in a newspaper to explain the subject.

There were two school-teachers here recently from Chicago, and they are ladies of superior ability and attainments. It was the good fortune of the writer to have an opportunity to ac-company them to the capitol building and show them a portion of that mag-nificent edifice before they secured the ervices of a professional guide. While we were walking about the

gallery corridors of the senate a policeman came up and reminded us that it is against the rules of the capito for anyone to carry a camera in the building; and the lady carrying the camera, being from Illinois, took the little picture-maker to the committee of Senator Cullom, of Illinois, and left it there for a couple of hours

Meantime we saw many of the won-derful things there, and the ladies wrote down the inscription upon the pedestal of the statue of John Hancock, the first signer of the Declaration of Independence; an inscription which everyone ought to have in memory or in scrapbook. It is: "He wrote his name where all nations should behold it: and where all time should not ef face it

But to return to our caucus. While we were seeing the senate wing of the capitol we came to a door over which we saw the gilded words: "Conference room." It was explained to the ladies that the word "conference" is, in po-litical language, a synonym for the word "caucus." It was further explained that in the senate there is al vays a majority and a minority party When the republicans have a majority they hold their caucuses in the senate marble room; and when the democrats are in a majority they hold their caucuses in the marble room. When either party is in the minority, they use this "conference room" for their caucuses. The marble room is a large and beauti ful corridor, capable of comfortably seating 60 or more senators; and there never happens to be more than 55 or 6 members of the majority party. The "conference room" will not comfortably accommodate more than 35 or 40 senators, and the minority never composed of more than that number.

What are caucuses for? As the po-litical parties developed in this repub lie, and grew in cohesive strength, it became imperative that each party should act harmoniously in all matter. of legislation. Consequently the cus tom of holding party conferences grad ually grew. The members of a political ually grew. The members of a political party would gather together in secret meetings, and the majority present would decide upon certain lines of ac-tion. Thereafter all of the members of the party would vote together, even though some of the members of the party did not wholly coincide with the policy determined upon. It became necessary to do this in order to secure united party action in all matters.

Finally, when it became a settled par policy to do things in this manner, the conferences were termed caucuses



order, every democrat in the house voted for Mr. Crisp, and he was elected speaker. In another caucus, in 1593, it was decided to reelect Mr. Crisp. and all of the democrats voted in accordance with the caucus determination and Mr. Crisp was reelected. When the congress convened in extra

session in March, 1897, the republicans being in a majority, there was a repub-lican caucus which determined that all republicans should vote for Thomas B. Reed for speaker; and when the house was called to order, Mr. Reed was elected, receiving all of the republican votes Thus, you see, the caucus decides what shall be done, and all members of each political party obey the will of the

majority of their own party. Circumstances are such that there will be an extra session of congress in March or April of this year. The re publicans are in a majority of the house of representatives; and the caucus will decide upon the reelection of Mr. Reed, and he will again be chosen speaker. For the first time in six years the re-publicans will have a majority of the senate, and they also will hold a cau-cus. It will be held in the marble room. The senators do not elect a speaker because the vice president is always the presiding officer of the senate. But the republican senators, in caucus, will select some eminent republican to be secretary of the senate, and some other eminent republican to be sergeant-at-arms of the senate.



der, all of the republican senators will vote for the officers selected by their

Then after that shall have been ac complished the republican senators will have another caucus in the marble room, and they will decide who shall be the chairman of the various important committees, and which sen-ators shall be **n**embers of those committees. These matters having been determined in caucus, they will be rat-ified by the solid votes of the entire republican membership of the senate. In the meantime the democrats, be

ing in the minority, will assemble in the "conference room," and there they will determine upon their candidates for similar offices, chairmanships and committee places. Then, in open senate they will vote solidly for their candithey wi dates. Of course, they know that their candidates will not be elected, but they will give them a solid party "com-plimentary vote."

Later on the republicans will hold a caucus in the house of representatives and a caucus in the marble room. Each one of these caucuses will select a com mittee to meet a committee from the other caucus. These joint committees will formulate some plan concerning currency legislation and other important matters. Those comruittees will re port to their caucuses; and thus a party policy will be outlined, which will re-ceive the solid party votes of the ma-jority representatives in the senate and house; and they will carry their party determination into effect.

Meantime the democratic senators and representatives will hold caucuses, and they will determine upon a policy of opposition. Although in the minority, the democrats will maintain their party policy, and will obstruct party legislation to the best of their ability; and will defeat the majority if they can possibly do so by any parliamentary means

Whether party rule, by caucus, is proper and worthy of the continued

# AN EXTENSIVE COLD WAVE.

Zero Weather Prevails in the Wess and the South Suffers from an Un-usually Frigid Spell. Atlanta, Ga., Feb. 9.—The thermom-eter fell to 10 degrees above zero in Atlanta Tuesday night, the coldest of the year, and the temperature yester-der. did near moderate. The weather day did not moderate. The weather bureau predicts continued cold throughout this section. A freezing line extends north and south through the northwest portion of Florida, and the temperature at Jacksonville has reached the freezing point. Mobile thermometers register 20 and at New Orleans 24 is recorded.

Indianapolis, Feb. 9.—The coldest weather of the winter was experienced

here Wednesday; the minimum terre-perature was 9 degrees below zero. Denver, Col., Feb. 9.—A snow storm a the mountains again tied up the Colorado railroad lines to the west yes-terday. No trains are running on the Midland, although gangs of shovelers are at work. Two passenger trains from the west on the Denver & Rio from the west on the Denver & Rio Grande were stalled between Leadville and Buena Vista and two were hell **at** Glenwood Springs. The Rio Grande officials say the main line will be re-opened in a few hours after the storm ceases. No further effort is being made to clear the South Park tracks in the vicinity of Leadville. St. Paul, Feb. 9.—The worst of the almost unprecedented cold-weather, it is feared, is yet to come. With a clear sky the intense cold continued all of Wednesday, being more severe because

Wednesday, being more severe because of a sharp northwest wind. The high-est the mercury reached during the day est the mercury reached during the day was 18 below zero. At 7 p.m. it was 22 below and falling. Excepting Helena all northwestern weather bureau points reported below zero weather. Medicine Hat and Havre reported snow and a temperature of 6 below zero. At 7 o'clock Helena was 14 above, but Du-luth reported 18 below, Swift Current 20 below, Huron, Battleford and Prince Albert 2 below and Winniper 34 below. 20 below, Huron, Bastletord and Prince Albert 26 below and Winnipeg 34 below, Chicago, Feb. 9.—Not since 1872 has Chicago experienced such intense cold as that which prevailed yesterday. At eleven o'clock last night 1899 was close upon the undesirable record of 1872, was gaining steadily and had every chance of beating it out by several derees. The lowest notch reached since the establishment of the weather bu-reau in this city was 23 below. At 11 o'clock last night it was 19 below and velocit last hight it was is brow and when the weather office closed the offi-cials predicted that in a few hours the nercury would reach 25 below and the record will be broken. The maximum yesterday was 6 be-

low and the resulting discomfort was accentuated by a strong northwest wind. There were no deaths attributable to the cold, although frost-bitter Three people collapsed on the street from the effect of the cold, but were from the effect of the cold, but were soon reviewd. All through the west and northwest the cold was intense. Reports from points in Iowa, Wis-consin and Illinois show temperatures ranging from 16 to 34 degrees below zero, the latter at La Crosse, Wis, There is much suffering in interior

Milwaukee, Wis, Feb. 9.—This city is experiencing the coldest weather in 25 years. The frost has penetrated the ground to a depth of  $4V_2$  feet, or within a foot and a half of the water mains. A double force of men is on duty to e that the fire hydrants are not froz-

see that the fire hydrants are not froz-en up. The temperature last night was 15 degrees below zero. Omaha, Feb. 9.—Wednesday was a record breaker for cold weather in Omaha, the highest point reached be-ing 15 below zero. At 9 o'clock last night the government instrument in-dicated 21 below and still falling. Des Moines, Ia., Feb. 9.—Yesterday was the coldest since 1872. The maxi-mum temperature was 14 below. At 10 last night it was 22 below and still falling.

Lincoln, Neb., Feb. 9 .-- Last night

was the coldest night experienced here for 11 years. At 10 o'clock street ther-mometers indicated 23 below zero.

## ASKS FOR A TRUCE.

Aguinaldo Requests that Hostilities Cease - Otis Declines the Proposition.

Washington, Feb. 9.-Yesterday there was an almost complete release of the tension under which the rapid occurrence of events in the Philippine has held the officials of the administ



duced it in short order. At a signal from the tower of the De Lome church the monitor Monahock opened fire from the bay on the earthworks with great effect. Soon afterwards the Uan battery bombarded the place from the

The rebels reserved their fire until the bombardment ceased, when they fired volleys of musketry as the Mon-tana regiment advanced on the jungle. The Kansas regiment, on the extreme left, with the Third artillery deploying to the right, charged across the open and carried the earthworks, cheering and carried the earthworks, encering under a heavy fire. Supported by the artillery at the church, the troops fur-ther advanced. Triving the enemy, fighting every foot, right into the town and penetrated to the presidencia, and lowered the Filipino flag. The enemy's sharpshooters, in the jungle on the right, fired at long range

on the Pennsylvania regiment, but the rebels were soon silenced by shrapnel shells and the Pennsylvanians remained in the trenches.

the Americans advanced they As burned the native huts. The rebels were mowed down like grass, but the American loss was light.

The Fourteenth infantry has unearthed several tons of Spanish shells, which had evidently been stolen from the Cavite arsenal and eached by the rebels in the vicinity of Paranaque, Fifteen cart loads of it have been brought into the city, as has also a modern naval gun and a part of its mount. There is no doubt that the gun was either stolen by the insur-gents or removed from one of the sunkn warships.

en warships. Washington, Feb. 11.—The following dispatch from Gen. Otis was received last night: "Insurgents collected con-siderable force between Manila and Casiderable force between Mania and Ca-loogan, where Aguinaldo is reported to be, and threatened an attack and up-rising in city. Friday afternoon I swung the left of McArthur's division, which is north of Pasig river, into Caloocan, driving enemy easy. Our left is now at Caloocan, Our loss slight; that of insurgents considerable. At-tack preceded by half hour's firing from two of Admiral Dewey's vessels."

## Has Andree Reen Found?

Krasnoevarsk, Siberia, Feb. 11.—A gold mine owner here has received a letter saying that a tribe of Turguses, inhabiting the Timur peninsula in North Siberia, recently informed the Russian police chief of the district that Yeniseisk, they found a cabin con-structed of cloth and cordage, apparently belonging to a balloon. Close by were the bodies of three men, the head of one badly crushed. The police chief has started for the spot to investigate, as it is believed that the bodies are those of Aeronaut Andre and his companions.

## One-Third Perished.

Fort Worth, Tex., Feb. 11.—General Live Stock Agent Pennington, of the Santa Fe system, has given out a state-ment of the probable loss of the stock interests in the various states, owing to the prevailing blizzard. Conserva-tive estimates place the losses at 30 per cent. in Texas, Wyoming, Montana

Brig. Gen. Elwell S. Otis fought the sec- cepted. From the army he went to West nd battle of Manila with a staff of re- Point, graduated, and then returned to

nic

CHARLES KING.

whose names have been most intimate-by connected with the death of Mrs. Their Final Wrestle Begins ly connected with the death of Mrs. Kate J. Adams were on the witness stand Friday before the coroner's jury and were put through a rigid cross-ex-amination by Assistant District Attor-ney Osborn. Harry S. Cornisk, who gave the poison to Mrs. Adams, was the first witness called, and at the af-ternoon session R. B. Molineaux, who had been named by Cornish on the stand as the man he believed to have sent the poisoned bromo-seltzer through the mail was called. Cornish sent the poisoned bromo-seltzer through the mail, was called. Cornish was somewhat reticent and equivocal a his answers to questions put to him y the assistant district attorney. Cornish said he had suspected Moli-

neaux of having prepared the poison because a chemist, a friend of his, had suggested, on account of a sediment having been left in the glass from which Mrs. Adams drank, that the bromo-selizer preparation had been put bromo-selfzer preparation had been put up by a half chemist, a man who has some knowledge of chemistry, but not a complete knowledge, and that as Molinéaux knew something of chemis-try, his name naturally suggested it-self. This was the reason, Cornish said, and the fact that he had had a quarand the fact that he had had a quarrel with Molineaux was another reason. Cornish gave way on the stand to Molineaux. Mr. Osborn asked the witing of Mrs. Adams. Molineaux replied: "I am absolutely innocent." Molineaux "I am absolutely innocent." Molineaux told of his connection with the Knick-erboeker and New York Athletic clubs, and said he had left the former club largely because of his quarrel with Cornish. He was asked if he had known Henry C. Barnet, and replied that he was a warm personal friend of known Henry C. Barnet, and replied that he was a warm personal friend of that man. He could suggest no motive department will consist in the main of

GEN. HARRISON GREY OTIS

Brig. Gen. Elweil S. Otis fought the sec-ond battle of Manila with a staff of re-markable men. When the insurgents made their onalaught, trusting to find the Amer-leana unprepared and an easy prey, they faced, besides the gallant commanding. They were MacArthur, Harrison Grey Otis, An-derson, King and Miller. Every one of them was waiting forit. Gen. Marcus F. Miller came out of West Point in 1558 and fought at Malvern Hult in the Winchester campaign, and at Din-widdle Court House. He was brevetted or the martilery and in full charge of the Third artillery and in full charge of the defenses of San Franctsco. His 41 years service in the army has been almosta toontinuous one of service. The engagements, two wounds in battle and seven promotions. His 41 years to the regular generalis, and at malver milt be engagements, two wounds in battle and seven promotions. His 41 years tunerford H. Harves. Thate King, brigadier general, is the well-known soldier-author of Wisconsin, who at the age of 16 volunteered for Marilia When Gen. Merritt was organ-izing the American forces there. During the civil war was a first lieutenant and ad-jutant of Wisconsin, who at the age of 16 volunteered of the Spanish war he was a tarmpa and the civil war as a first lieutenant and ad-jutant of Wisconsin, who at the age of 16 volunteered of Misconsin, and or the verson mendation of Maj. Gen. Rutherford H. Hayes.

Declaration Made by the Man Whom Cornish Suspected of Sending Poison to Mrs. Adams. New York, Feb. 11.—The two men whose names have been most intimate

Next Week.

A BIG LOT OF EVIDENCE.

Both Parties are Preparing It for the Court of Inquiry.

EAGAN IS STILL ON DECK.

## He Devotes His Time to the Collection of Information that Is Supposed to Refute Gen. Miles' Charges Concerning "Embalmed" Beef.

Washington, Feb. 11 .- Next to news from the Philippines, interest at the war department centers on the 15th of February, when the court of inquiry to investigate Gen. Miles' "embalmed beef" charges will convene. All information, even as to the court's routine, s jealously guarded and officers refrain is genously guarded and officers refrain from expressing any opinion in the case. It is well understood, however, that both Gen. Miles and the commis-sary general's department are prepar-ing a mass of evidence which will be submitted to the court, the one tending to sustain Gen. Miles' statements as to the character of the meat furnished the army, and the other discounting any criticism of the material bought, passed upon and issued by the commis-

## BEHIND THE SPEAKER.

and that name will probably continue for an indefinite period. Caucuses ulti mately extended from the national cap the state capitals, and now ital to political actions are predetermined in caucuses

For example: In the state of Virginia all of the democratic members of the legislature, in caucus assembled, decided to vote for the reelection of John W. Daniel to the United States senate. Then, when the legislature met, all of the democratic members voted unitedly and Senator Daniel was reelected. When the legislature of reelected. Minnesota assembled there was a republican caucus, and the republicans Senator present decided to reelect Cushman K. Davis: and when the legis lature met all of the republicans voted that way, and Senator Davis was re-This procedure obtains in all of the states; and the majority party

of the states, and the majority party carries things in accordance with the conclusions of the caucus. For further example: In December, 1891, the democrats of the national house of representatives met in caucus in the hall of the house of repre-sentatives. The candidates for speaker were Mr. Crisp, of Georgia; Mr. Spring-er, of Illinois; Mr. Mills, of Texas, and er, of Hinnois; Mr. Mills, of Texas, and Mr. McMillin, of Tennessee. After a number of ballots a majority of all number of ballots a majority of all present voted in favor of Mr. Crisp. that she had such a big appetite? On the following Monday, when the bouse of representatives was called to | nal.

support of politicians is a question which each thinking reader will determine for himself. Young men who are entering upon political careers will do well to study the subject of the caucus and be prepared to take some positive stand one way or the other. Yoang men will do well to make mental note of one fact, and keep it ever in memory Whenever any man of independent spirit bolts from the caucus, or refuses to be bound by caucus determination has always happened that such a man lays in a big stock of trouble; and that is usually defeated by the consivance leading members of his own party The caucus rule is so strong that any man who undertakes to openly oppose it clouds his immediate future.

In December, 1889, William McKin ley, of Ohio, was a candidate for speak er of the house of representatives 216 was defeated in caucus, and Tom Reed became speaker. After the caucus de cided upon Mr. Reed, and he was nom-inated in the house, Mr. McKinley voted with all other republicans for Reed, who was elected. If McKinley had been made speaker by that cauci might never have been president But, being defeated for speaker, he was made chairman of the committee or ways and means. That committee for mulated a tariff bill which became known as the McKinley bill. That bill made its putative author the most popular man in his party. Thus by being defeated in caucus McKinley came to the front, and attained the presidency SMITH D. FRY

#### Expensive.

The Fool-To my cost .- N. Y. Jour

tration since the first startling news from Manila Saturday night. This was brought about through the receipt of a bulletin from Gen. Otts summing up the latest results of the fighting he ha had with the natives. His stat thta Aguinaldo's influence had been destroyed and that the Filipino leader was seeking for a cessation of hostili ties and for a conference was inter preted as an admission that he had re-alized his terrible mistake. It is en-tirely improbable that he will be able to restore anything like the status qu to restore anything like the status quo or to obtain anything like the same terms as were possible last week. No one here now knows just what Gen. Otis intends to impose in the way of terms.

Secretary Alger said that he had given the general no instructions since the battle and saw no reason for giving any. He realized, he said, that Gen Otis being on the ground and having proved his fitness, was in better posi-tion to deal with the situation that He realized, he said, that Gen any one in Washington. Should the general ask permission, therefore, to do anything, he would be granted perion immediately.

#### Will Return to Alabama.

Pana, Ill., Feb. 9.-A possibility of the settlement of the miners' strike which has caused great disorder her for several months and cost the state thousands of dollars in the mainte-nance of several companies of militia, has been brought about through the presence of President Farley, of the United Mine Workers of Alabama, Farley is offering the negro miners who were imported by the Pana oper-ators free transportation to Alabama and kinder pages at Pleninghum and ators free transportation to Alabama and higher wages at Birmingham and Bessemer than they are receiving here. Many negroes are accepting the offer.

## William May Propose a Conference.

London, Feb. 11.—The Berlin corres-pondent of the Mail says: Emperor William disapproves of the continuince of the condominium in Samoa and will propose a conference of the three powers after he has received the state ment of Joannes Raffel, president of the municipality of Apia.

## Cunarder Disabled.

Fayal, Azores, Feb. 11.—The British steamer Colorado, from New York, for Hull, has arrived here and reports having passed the British steamer Pavo-nia, of the Cunard line, from Liverpool for Boston, in a disabled condition about 300 miles from here.

## Toronto's Sig Fire

Toronto, Ont., Feb. 11.—Fire yester-day destroyed the building occupied by Cowan, Kent & Co., erockery and Cowan, Kent & Co., crockery and glassware dealers. The loss is estimated at \$200,000.

#### Don Carlos Weakens

London, Feb. 11 .- The Rome corres condent of the Chronicle says that Don Carlos has instructed his agents in Spain to stop the agitation on his behalf.

## Cervera to be Prosecuted.

Madrid, Feb. 11.-The military court which has had under consideration the loss of the Spanish squadron at Santi-ago, Cuba, on July 3 last, has decided prosecute Admiral Cervera Commandant Moreu, former captain of the Cristobal Colon.

#### A Shoemaking Mechine Trust.

Boston, Feb. 11.-It is announced that a consolidation of all the royalty shoe machinery interests centered in Boston has been consummated in a corporation organized under the laws of New Jersey, with a capital of \$25,-000.000

hy any one should send p Barnet.

#### Beresford Arrives in Frisco

San Francisco, Feb. 11.—The Japan-ese liner Maru arrived Friday from China and Japan. On board the vessel was Lord Charles Beresford, admiral of the British navy. The Maru was met at the Heads by a government tug bearing a party of distinguished citiens who went to welcome the visiting admiral, who comes to this country on a three-fold capacity, viz: as a British statesman, an officer of the oyal navy and a commissioner from he associated chambers of commerce of England.

#### Three Men Freeze to Death.

Pittsburg, Feb. 11.—Three fatalities have been reported in this vicinity as as a result of zero weather. Hugh Galla-gher, a miner employed at Leisenring by the Frick Coke Co., was frozen to leath while on his way home from work. At Morgan, a hamlet on the Pan-Handle, John Gillespie, aged 42, lately of Wadsworth, O., and Patrick o'Grady, aged 79, were found dead Fri-day in a shanty which they had fitted up for protection from the cold.

## Another Pair of Filipino Envoys.

Another Pair of Filipino Envoys. San Francisco, Feb, 11,—On the steamer which arrived Friday from Yokohama were Capt. De Dios and Senor Rivera, who are Aguinaldo's special commissioners to Washington. hey were much disturbed when told the latest developments in the Philipptnes.

#### Governor s Mansion Burned.

Frankfort, Ky., Feb. 11.—The gover-nor's mansion was totally destroyed by fire vesterday. The firemen were soon disabled by the intense cold, to which trouble was added frozen pipes and cutting off the water supply.

official reports, and both will be voluminous.

Gen. Eagan is still at the war department denying himself to all visitors except personal friends. He is now relieved of the routine work of his office. which is being transacted by his assist-ants and is free to devote himself to collecting all the information in possession for presentation to the

Col. Weston, who was appointed acting commissary general when Gen. Eagan was called to answer to the charges preferred against him before the court-martial, is sick in New York.

## Quakers' Weather.

Philadelphia, Feb. 11.—The cold weather in this city Friday broke all existing records of the weather bureau during its 29 years of existence, and while beyond that period there is no authentic data, it is said that yesterday's minimum temperature, six below zero, was the lowest, with one excep-tion, since February, 1797. The excep-tion was in 1866. The thermometer was even lower in the suburban distriets, where it hovered around 10 and 12 degrees below.

#### The Deal Goes Through.

New York, Feb. 11.—The final con-grence between the Baltimore and Brooklyn baseball magnates was held Friday and the deal put through, Charles H. Ebbitts is to be president of the new organization, F. A. Abell is to be vice president and treasurer, Harry Vonderhorst secretary and Edward Hanlon manager.

#### Signed the Peace Treaty.

Washington, Feb. 11.—The treaty of peace, as ratified by the senate, was signed by the president and Secretary Hay Friday afternoon in the library of the executive mansion.