

TWO CENTS.

SCRANTON, PA., MONDAY MORNING, FEBRUARY 27, 1899.

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REVIEW OF FIFTY-FIFTH CONGRESS

Sessions Covering an Eventful Period in Nation's History.

IMPORTANT LEGISLATION

This Congress Declares War Against a Foreign Foe and Ratifies a Treaty of Peace with the Conquered Opponent—Other Measures of Importance Include the Annexation of Hawaii; the Tariff Revision; the Enactment of a National Bankruptcy Law; the Reorganization of the Personnel of the Navy—The Nicaragua Canal; the Army Reorganization Measure and Many Other Subjects of National Interest Under Consideration.

Washington, D. C., Feb. 26.—An eventful period in the country's history is covered by the work of the Fifty-fifth congress, which is drawing to a close. It has been a period of stirring and dramatic action with questions of vast magnitude constantly engaging attention, forming an epoch alongside those other American epochs, the Revolution and the Civil war. This congress has declared war against a foreign foe and it has ratified a treaty which has participated in ratifying the treaty by which that war was terminated. It has provided a great volunteer army, has enlarged the regular army, and has expanded the navy to meet war emergencies and under conditions which have been revised, fixed by the Dingley law and then by the war revenue act; a bond issue, known as the war loan, has been provided. But far-reaching as these war measures are, the congress has had time also to enact other legislation which under ordinary circumstances would make its session memorable. This includes the annexation of Hawaii; the rejection by the senate of the general treaty of arbitration with Great Britain; the enactment of a national bankruptcy law; provision for taking the Twelfth census; reorganization of the personnel of the navy. To this list may yet be added other important subjects still pending, including the Nicaragua canal, the increase of the regular army, the anti-slavery measure, the Hawaiian bill, and the proposed encouragement of American shipping. Some of the most important general measures are in the final legislative stages, and it will not be until the last hours arrive that the success or failure of these measures will be determined definitely.

The present congress began its work almost simultaneously with the opening of President McKinley's administration. Two days after his inauguration he issued the call for an extra session, and in pursuance to this call congress assembled on March 4, 1897. The special message to congress was directed to the need of a tariff law that would provide ample revenue for the support of the government. No other subject of legislation was mentioned, and the tariff bill at once became the all-absorbing feature of the session, Chairman Dingley, of the ways and means committee, and his Republican associates had already done much work on the bill, and three days after the extra session began the Dingley tariff bill was reported. It passed the house within two weeks of the opening of the session; passed the senate May 7; became a law July 21. Hardly less important was the consideration in the senate of the general treaty of arbitration negotiated by President Cleveland with Great Britain. The progress of the treaty, in the executive sessions of the senate, attracted world-wide attention, finally resulting in the defeat of the instrument. The extra session also brought forth four appropriation bills, but they were those which failed of passage in the preceding congress, and were not considered as properly chargeable to this congress. Some general legislation was enacted, including the suspension of President Cleveland's order setting aside the military reservation; providing for a gradual abandonment of sectarian Indian schools; extending relief to Mississippi flood sufferers, and to the destitute in Cuba and in India. The Cuban problem began to present an acute phase at this early session, and the senate passed a resolution recognizing the Cubans as belligerents, which, however, did not pass the house.

The Great War Session. The second session of the present congress is remembered as the great war session. It saw the culmination of the pent-up sympathy for suffering Cuba; the declaration that the people of Cuba ought to be and are free and independent; the declaration of war against Spain; and the enactment of those vast emergency measures for prosecuting the war. There were many messages from the president as the war-clouds darkened, ranging from the submission of the report on the Maine disaster to the call for a declaration of war. The first real war legislation was when congress passed at the disposal of the president, without limitation, \$50,000,000 as an emergency fund for national defense. On April 11 the president committed the entire Cuban question to congress and just one week later the congressional resolution became a law declaring Cuba free and independent; demanding that Spain withdraw its land and naval forces from Cuba and Cuban waters, and directing the use of our land and naval forces to enforce the resolutions. With in another week, viz., April 25, the decla-

ation of war was passed by congress and approved. Then came the rush of legislation on a stupendous scale, the work proceeding while actual hostilities were under way and the Dewey victory was achieved.

The act creating the volunteer army had been approved three days before the declaration of war and under it the president was enabled to call into service the 250,000 men augmenting the regular forces. The latter also had been expanded and improved by an act which authorized three battalions formation in time of war. A further force was provided by authorizing the enlistment of 10,000 men adapted to tropical climate, since known as "imperialists." Another act provided additional artillery regiments to the volunteer army, with a total of 1,510 men. These and many lesser army measures were speedily enacted.

With these war measures were the important Pacific raising revenue adequate to meet the vast war expenditures. The first of these was the war revenue act, designed to raise \$150,000,000, and in this connection congress authorized a bond issue of \$10,000,000, known as the war loan. After news of Dewey's victory was received resolutions of thanks to the victor were passed and congress authorized the presentation of a sword to him and medals to his officers.

Although the second session was absorbed with the war there was time for much important general legislation. The annexation of Hawaii was accomplished with a resolution, the treaty of annexation not having been passed. A general bankruptcy law was enacted, providing for both voluntary and involuntary bankruptcy. Other general measures enacted were: Prohibiting the killing of seals in the north Pacific and important seal skins into this country; appropriating \$153,151 to settle the Behring sea arbitration; relieving the suffering miners in Yukon; establishment of industrial commission.

The total appropriation of the second war session footed up almost \$290,000,000 of which upwards of \$50,000,000 was purely for war purposes.

Peace Treaty Ratification. The present, or third session of the fifty-fifth congress, dealt with those far-reaching results growing out of the war. Most important of these was the consideration of the peace treaty which the senate ratified on the 4th of January. It was then referred to the committee on foreign relations, and after being held for just one week, the committee reported it back to the senate on the 11th of January. The senate had the treaty under consideration for less than a month, the vote on ratification being taken on the sixth of February. There was intense interest in the progress of the question from the beginning of the discussion until the close and this interest was intensified by the doubt felt as to the result of the vote. When the senate went into executive session on the sixth of February, half an hour before the time set for the final vote, the friends of the treaty were certain of only fifty-five of the fifty-six votes necessary to insure the adoption of the resolution of ratification. Soon afterward the senate received a message from Senators Jones, of Nevada, and McEnery, of Louisiana, and when the vote was taken the vote stood fifty-seven yeas to 27 nays, or one vote more than was necessary under the terms of the treaty.

While the treaty was exclusively before the senate, the house had some indirect participation with subjects covered by the treaty. As the branch covering the Hawaiian bill, it was reported back to the senate on the 11th of January. The senate had the treaty under consideration for less than a month, the vote on ratification being taken on the sixth of February. There was intense interest in the progress of the question from the beginning of the discussion until the close and this interest was intensified by the doubt felt as to the result of the vote. When the senate went into executive session on the sixth of February, half an hour before the time set for the final vote, the friends of the treaty were certain of only fifty-five of the fifty-six votes necessary to insure the adoption of the resolution of ratification. Soon afterward the senate received a message from Senators Jones, of Nevada, and McEnery, of Louisiana, and when the vote was taken the vote stood fifty-seven yeas to 27 nays, or one vote more than was necessary under the terms of the treaty.

Another important measure resulting from the war is that known as the Hull bill, or the Hull-Hawley bill, for the increase and reorganization of the regular army. Following the new conditions of the war, the army was increased to approximately 100,000 men. When considered in the house the grade of lieutenant general was struck out, discretion was given the president to reduce the size of command, and the grade of lieutenant general was struck out, discretion was given the president to reduce the size of command, and the grade of lieutenant general was struck out, discretion was given the president to reduce the size of command.

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OLD GLORY NOW FLOATS AT CEBU

THE BLUE JACKETS LANDED ON WASHINGTON'S BIRTHDAY.

Rebels Retire to the Mountains. General Miller Believes That the Natives Will Soon Be Convinced of Their Error and Will Follow the Example of the Inhabitants of Negros—Sharpshooters Are Active.

Manila, Feb. 26 (noon).—Last night the rebels concentrated in such numbers near the Chinese cemetery that General MacArthur anticipated an attack and asked for reinforcements. Two companies of the Twenty-third regulars were sent to Calocan and a battalion of the Twentieth regulars to the cemetery at about midnight.

But the expected attack was not made, the rebels, after making a great noise with bugle calls and yells of "Viva Independencia" and "Mucho Alho Americanos," and firing volleys, disappeared in the woods.

It is believed their leaders are getting desperate and are attempting to force the United States troops to make an attack in the hope of breaking through the American lines, but the rebels are evidently unwilling to be sacrificed when facing the Americans. It is just possible, however, that they may be goaded into such a move before reinforcements arrive.

According to the advice brought this morning by the steamer Gustra Senora del Carmen, whose arrival brought the news that the American flag had been raised over the Island of Cebu, the United States gunboat Petrel, Commander C. Conroy, visited Cebu on Feb. 22. Commander Conroy sent an ultimatum ashore declaring the intention of the Americans to take possession peacefully, if possible; by force, if necessary. The rebels immediately vacated, taking their guns to the hills. A party of marines and blue jackets was landed and the American flag was raised by them over the government building, which they still occupied when the Gustra Senora del Carmen left.

News from General Miller. The same steamer brought dispatches from Brigadier General Miller at Holo to Major General Otis, reporting that the progress of the war there had been no further fighting, that confidence had been restored and business was being generally resumed. General Miller thinks it probable that the natives will soon be convinced of the error of opposing the inevitable, and that the example set by the inhabitants of Negros is having its effect among the other islands, which though not entirely convinced are, in General Miller's opinion, open to reason.

It is quiet this afternoon inside and outside of Manila, except near Calocan, where the enemy's sharpshooters continue to annoy our troops at a comparatively close range. One man of the Twentieth Kansas volunteers was killed at Mariguina village, which was burned last night, and four were wounded in the skirmish, one of the Idaho, of the Minnesota and two of the Pennsylvania volunteer regiment.

No such emergency exists here as has been represented by reports circulated in Manila. The States and called Manila to Manila—to the effect that Admiral Dewey has had a collision of a forcible character with the German naval commander.

Dewey Will Not Talk. Manila, Feb. 27, 11.40 a. m.—Admiral Dewey, when asked by the correspondent of the Associated Press, to give his reasons for requesting Washington to send the battleship Oregon to Manila, firmly declined to discuss the matter. All was quiet here last night and along the line, except for some desultory firing by the rebels near Calocan and San Pedro Macati.

LAWLER MURDERERS. William Epps and Samuel Dobson Arrested for the Crime. Philadelphia, Feb. 26.—William Epps, alias Turner, and Samuel Dobson, colored, who are charged with the murder of Mrs. Lawler, in this city several weeks ago, were brought back to this city from Richmond, Va., late yesterday, and Dobson has since made a confession to the detectives placing the entire blame on Epps. Mrs. Lawler was carried to a small grocery, lived alone and was choked to death. A small amount of money was missing.

STEVENS A WINNER. Buffalo Rider Victorious at the San Francisco Bicycle Race. San Francisco, Feb. 26.—These bicycle riders started in the 24-hour race which was won by Stevens, Chapman, Barnabe, Ashinger and Pilkington.

Senational Fire Story. Manlio, Ind., Feb. 26.—Fire in a two-story tenement house near the factory district this morning at 2.30 o'clock caused a fatal rumor that twelve people had been burned. Nobody was injured and the loss was small.

THE ADAMS INQUEST.

Testimony Not All in Yet—Cornish to Have Another Session.

New York, Feb. 26.—If the inquest into the death of Mrs. Kate J. Adams is not completed by Tuesday night, Coroner Bausch will demand that further hearing be adjourned until he can dispose of some outstanding cases. The Adams inquest has occupied the coroner's court for the last two weeks and as a consequence all the coroners are far behind in their work.

Coroner Hart had a conference today with Coroner Bausch and the latter gave reasons for his demands that there is no prisoner in the Adams case and that therefore the interests of justice could not suffer by a few days' delay, while in some of the cases the coroner's police of the detective bureau and in confinement. He says that justice demands that the evidence against those prisoners should be heard and determined without further delay.

Coroner Hart said today that Assistant District Attorney Osborne told him he expected to finish the Adams case before the end of the ensuing week. Cornish is to have another session on the stand, several members and employees of the Knickerbocker Athletic club are to be called, and the handwriting experts will tell what they know and what they expect. It is announced that, contrary to precedent in the coroner's court, Mr. Osborne will make a general summing up to the jury when all the evidence is in.

TRIAL OF THE QUAYS WILL BEGIN TODAY

All parties Are Anxious That It Should Proceed—John Wanamaker a Witness for the Defense.

Philadelphia, Feb. 26.—There is every indication tonight that United States Senator Quay and his son, Richard R. Quay, will be placed upon trial in the criminal court tomorrow to answer the charges of conspiracy and the unlawful use of state moneys. Both sides are ready, and it is so anxious to have the trial proceed without further delay. Senator Quay and his son have been in the city for some time past in daily consultation with their lawyers, A. S. L. Shields and Rufus E. Shapley. So far as known, former District Attorney Gibson, who was active in the early stages of the prosecution, will take no part in the trial, which will be conducted for the commonwealth by District Attorney Rothwell, who was elected to that office last November, and his assistants, Finletter and Clemens.

The trial will undoubtedly be of unparalleled importance, not only because it presents the unusual spectacle of a United States senator as the chief defendant, but also because upon its result largely depends the political future of the Quays. It is regarded as extremely unlikely that the long existing legislative deadlock at Harrisburg will be broken in the meantime and it is conceded that the outcome of the trial will directly influence the question of the senatorial session.

The Quays were indicted on Nov. 21 last jointly with former State Treasurer Benjamin J. Hayward, who died last Thursday. The charges grew out of the failure of the People's bank of this city in March last. Hayward and his son, Richard R. Quay, were indicted, while the latter was state treasurer, conspired with John S. Hopkins, cashier of the bank, to use, and that they did use, in violation of law, state funds on deposit in the bank for their own private purposes, and that the bank failed.

The case has already gone through many preliminary stages and a number of postponements have been granted at the prayer of the defense. Delinquent to the indictment were filed and over-ruled and then the case was taken to the supreme court on the plea, among others, that the prosecution was actuated by political motives which would prevent an impartial trial in this county. The plea was denied and the trial is to proceed.

Judge Betler, who will be upon the bench during the trial, has, with the assistance of counsel, been devoting much time to the examination of the case to the court room. In anticipation of a crush the attendance will be restricted to witnesses, jurors and newspaper representatives, who will be provided with special tickets. Even members of the bar are not connected with the case will be excluded.

The first day will undoubtedly be occupied in drawing a jury panel of fifty men and it is thought that the trial will consume at least one week. The court will call the witnesses and the defense probably as many more. A curious feature of the case is that among the witnesses summoned by the defense are former Postmaster General John Wanamaker, ex-Judge Gordon, Benjamin National Committee man Guffey and State Senator David Martin, who have been the leaders in the Quay opposition.

CUBAN WAR RUMOR

A Story That Does Not Cause Much Anxiety in Official Circles.

Santiago de Cuba, Feb. 26.—It was recently reported to General Leonard Wood, on reliable authority, that a prominent Cuban, holding a high position in this province under the military government, had openly stated that if the Americans did not "ret out" by July, Cuba would declare war.

Needless to say, the military government attaches no importance to talk of this character.

AN INTERESTING WEEK IN CONGRESS

THE HOUSE WILL DEVOTE TIME TO APPROPRIATION BILLS.

Every Minute of the Closing Sessions Will Be Required to Get Them Through Before Noon on March 4—Several All Night Sessions May Be Necessary—Hundreds of Bills Will Die on the Calendar.

Washington, Feb. 26.—The house will devote practically all of the closing week of the session to the appropriation bills and conference reports and the prospects are that every minute of the time will be required to get them through before noon on March 4. An order has been made to meet at 11 o'clock each day, but in addition to this night sessions will be held, and it would surprise none if one or more all-night sessions should be necessary. Everything else except the appropriation bills and the army organization bill will go by the board in the final rush. A few minor bills may go through by unanimous consent, but there is no longer any time for the consideration of important general business. The bill for the government of Hawaii has been abandoned, and although the friends of the public buildings bill, favorably acted upon in conference this week last Saturday, still cherish a lingering hope that time will be given for their consideration in the house, the chance is so insignificant that it is barely worth mentioning. Hundreds of bills will die on the calendar. Although the fear of an extra session practically disappeared with the agreement in the senate upon the army reorganization bill it will require the most arduous labor to get through the appropriation bills and conference reports before the curtain falls next Saturday.

The actual physical work of engrossing eight extra bill appropriation bills during the last forty-eight hours will necessitate a large temporary addition to the clerical force. The engrossment of bills is done at the government printing office, where no special exigency exists, but by a special resolution introduced Friday, permission to engross by hand during the remainder of the session was given. In the first adjustment of differences between the two houses the house has enabled to bring every proposition to a vote quickly under suspension of the rules, a motion to suspend the rules being in order at any time during the last week of the session. This gives the house a distinct advantage in its deliberations at the fat end of the session to transact an enormous amount of business in a very short time.

Appropriation Bills. The state of the appropriation bills is such that the situation might well cause alarm were it not for the almost universal desire on both sides of the house to obviate the necessity of an extra session of congress. Only three of the fourteen supply bills have come to the president—the pension, military academy and consular and diplomatic. Six were passed by both houses. Five of these—the legislative, executive and judicial, the postoffice, the agricultural, and the navy bills—have come to the president. The naval bill has passed the house, but has not yet been reported to the senate. The army bill is being considered in the house and two of the bills, the fortifications and general deficiency, are yet to be acted upon by the house. Many of the appropriations bills have problems which will be more or less difficult to solve, but none of these differences, vexatious and serious as they may be, promise a deadlock which might result in their failure—with the single exception of the river and harbor bill and its loss would not necessitate an extra session. The fight over the Nicaragua canal amendment, which the senate placed upon this bill as a rider, will be bitter and to the death. Although the canal proposition undoubtedly would command a majority of the votes in the house, against it is arrayed the opposition of the appropriation committee and the ablest tacticians of the house who do not believe legislation authorizing such an enormous expenditure should be hastily passed during the dying hours of congress. Every strategy known to parliamentary law will be employed to defeat the proposition and if necessary probably to kill the bill should the senate prefer its death to its enactment without the canal amendment. After the committee considers the senate amendments, Chairman Burton will probably come into the house with a motion for a disagreement upon all amendments and an agreement to the senate's request for a conference. Mr. Hepburn, chairman of the inter-state commerce committee, will move concurrence in the canal amendment, which motion is in order and will take precedence. But if the amendment carries an appropriation it must be considered in committee of the whole first and here its opponents will make their first fight. Obstructive tactics can be employed, but it lies in the power of the majority to win in the end, and it is probable that upon a vote the house may agree to the amendment. But this will not end the matter by any means. It can be transferred to all conference reports upon the bill and prolonged to the jeopardy of the appropriation bills to such an extent that it would seem that in the final issue the friends of the canal amendment will be effectively blocked unless they can command the necessary two-thirds to suspend the rules. If they can the bill will probably become a law with the canal amendment in it. If they cannot, the bill will probably fail, unless the senate, at the last moment, jettisons it. Taken altogether, the promise is for a most interesting and remarkable week in the house.

NATURAL GAS EXPLODES

Logansport, Ind., Feb. 26.—An explosion of natural gas today wrecked the residence of Daniel Eckton, at Walton, this county. Two persons were fatally and three seriously injured.

Fatally injured: Mrs. Jesse J. Burns and mangled: Mrs. Eckton, burned.

Killed by Dynamite

Berne, Feb. 26.—Six men were killed last night by a dynamite explosion at the Elger tunnel works on the Jungfrau railway. It is supposed that the explosion was the result of an accident.

THE NEWS THIS MORNING

Weather Indications Today: FAIR; SOUTHERLY WINDS.

- 1 General—France Takes Vigorous Action Against Monarchists, Fifty-fifth Congress in Review, Forecast of the Week in Congress, Stars and Stripes Float Over Cebu. 2 General—The Fifty-fifth Congress (Concluded), Financial and Commercial. 3 Local—Sermon by Rev. M. D. Babcock, D. D., Letter Carriers Entertain National Officers. 4 Editorial, Comment of the Press. 5 Local—Topics of Current Gossip, Electric Light Combination Assured, Madison Township Has an Election Contest. 6 Local—West Scranton and Suburban. 7 News Round About Scranton. 8 Local—Thirtieth Loses Another Member by Death, Industrial Cleanliness, News of Pittston.

ate, but it is impossible to say how long it may continue to demand the attention of that body. The best opinion is to the effect that a vote will be secured Monday, but this depends largely upon the temper of Mr. Gorman and his friends, who insist upon the amendment of the army bill so as to further control the size of the army in 1901. It is not, however, believed that they will press their opposition to the point of entering into an extended controversy over the merits of the measure and the friends of the bill count confidently on a vote before adjournment Monday. Mr. Gorman disclaims any intention to force delay, but says he will press his amendment as long as there is any chance of success.

If the debate should be continued to any considerable length the action would be generally accepted as indicating a purpose to force an extra session. No senator can be found who avows himself desirous of forcing a called session. Hence the general belief that all these measures will become laws and that when congress adjourns for the session next Saturday legislation will be in such shape as to render it safe to permit the legislators to remain at their homes until next December. The confidential sources indicated that the warrants aimed to discover the existence of any political action on the part of the anti-Semetic league or its relations with the Royalist and Bonapartist committees, or with other leagues.

No incident occurred in the course of the domiciliary visits. This morning M. Buffet, who represents the Duc d'Orleans, vigorously protested against the violation of his domicile and declared that the Royalist party would always conspire, even if threatened with imprisonment. Many documents were seized at M. Buffet's residence.

AMPHLETTS AND PORTRAITS.

Quantities of propagandist pamphlets and portraits of the Duc d'Orleans, a list of members of the Royalist committee and voluminous correspondence were seized at the headquarters of the League of the Duc d'Orleans, at Saint-Honore and at the residence of Comte Sabrand de Ponteves. The committee who visited M. de Montcourt surprised him just as he had returned from Brussels with letters from the Duc d'Orleans addressed to Royalist persons and instructions from the pretender to his supporters. All these were seized.

M. Thiebaud expressed surprise at the proceedings against him on the ground that he belonged neither to the Royalist committee nor the Anti-Semetic league.

Altergether a large quantity of documents was secured and placed under seal. All whose residences were searched denied the possession of compromising documents, but it is believed the raids would continue.

THE DUKE AT TURIN.

Turin, Feb. 25.—The Duc d'Orleans arrived here this evening from Brussels.

SPANIARDS ARE COMING.

Thirty Immigrants Arrive on the Umbria. New York, Feb. 26.—Thirty Spaniards arrived here today on the Cunard liner Umbria. Most of the men are laborers and are able to read and write. All of them are going to different mining towns in the west. They were held for investigation by the immigrant officials to determine whether they came here to work under contract.

RUDYARD KIPPLING'S COMMISSION

The Friends of the Novelist Are Prepared for the Worst. New York, Feb. 27.—The bulletin at 10.20 o'clock last night that Mr. Kipling's commission was announced was the latest authentic news from the sick room. There were the usual rumors about the hotel, perhaps some founded in part on the actual condition of the patient, but it was hard to gather even a small quantity of hope from them.

DEATHS OF A DAY.

Washington, Feb. 26.—Ex-Representative Levi Walsh, of Pennsylvania, died here at 1 o'clock from an attack of apoplexy, in his sixty-second year. He had a creditable war record and was wounded several times. Washington, Feb. 26.—Major General Joseph C. Reynolds, United States army, retired, is dead, aged 77 years.

HUNTING THE ROYALISTS

Police Endeavor to Undo Mischief of Monarchist Party.

VIGOROUS ACTION TAKEN

Searching Parties Discover Quantities of Propagandist Pamphlets, Portraits of the Duc d'Orleans, and Voluminous Correspondence of a Dangerous Character—Documents Secured Are Placed Under Seal. The Duke at Turin.

Paris, Feb. 26.—In consequence of the searching throughout the city of speeches of the Duc d'Orleans, the Orleanist pretender recently delivered at San Ilemo, and the seizure of scarf pins and medals bearing the pretender's portrait, the prefect of police ordered by the government to make strict investigation in to the recent proceedings of the monarchist party.

Last evening the prefect communicated the result of his inquiries to M. Dupuy, the premier and minister of the interior, with the result that the minister decided upon vigorous action. At midnight M. Cochefort, chief of the secret police, was summoned to the prefecture and directed to prepare seventeen confidential reports and fifteen warrants, which were handed to seventeen police commissaires, authorizing a search of the residences of suspects, particularly M. Guerin, manager of the newspaper Anti-Juif; Messrs. Devaux, Barlet, Robert de Chilly, Thiebaud, de Montcourt, secretary to the Duc d'Orleans; Dubuc, president of the Young anti-Semites, and Comte Sabrand de Ponteves.

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COAL FAMINE THREATENED.

A Strike in Arkansas That Will Affect 4,000 Miners.

Fort Smith, Ark., Feb. 26.—Every coal mine in Arkansas and the Indian territory will be closed down next Wednesday is the present programme of the miners and operators is adhered to, and there is no reason to prove that any deviation from this programme will occur. Over 4,000 miners are involved and the mines supplying a large section of the southwest with fuel will be affected. A coal famine is sure to ensue as the supply on hand is small and will be speedily exhausted. Already railroads are confiscating every car of coal that comes on their tracks and are keeping it for their own use. Private dealers have been notified that if they can get no more coal, the trouble is settled. The situation is the most alarming that has existed in this coal region in years.

ATLANTIC LEAGUE MEETING.

To Be Held at Allentown—Session Will Open May 1.

Philadelphia, Feb. 26.—The spring meeting of the Atlantic league will be held at the Hotel Allen, Allentown, Pa., on Thursday, March 2. The exchange of Hartford for Wilkes-Barre with the Eastern league completes the Atlantic make-up for 1899, and gives it the strongest and most compact circuit of its history.

WEATHER FORECAST.

Washington, Feb. 26.—Forecast for Monday: For eastern Pennsylvania, clear, clearing in the early morning; fair Monday; fresh to brisk; easterly winds becoming southerly.