

SENATORS DISCUSSING THE TARIFF

An Extended Conference Upon the Puerto Rican Tariff.

HERE IS MUCH OPPOSITION

Many Senators Will Support the Scheme to Place Duty Upon Products of Puerto Rico, Simply Because It is a Party Measure—All Agree That Almost Any Bill Would Be Better Than None.

Washington, March 13.—The Republican senators were in conference for two and one-half hours on the Puerto Rican bill this afternoon, and at 6 o'clock adjourned until 2 o'clock tomorrow, when the discussion will be resumed. No action was taken on any of the various propositions before the conference, but, as a result of the conference talk, the impression prevailed that there was a great deal of opposition to the bill, which opposition, if not placated, might endanger its passage. It was also apparent that a number of senators thought the legislation was ill-advised, but, while opposed to the bill, nevertheless they would vote for it as a party measure. Deep feeling was displayed over the question by a number of senators and especially by those of the middle west, some of whom did not hesitate to affirm that any effort to place a tariff upon the exchange of business between the United States and Puerto Rico probably would have an injurious effect upon the Republican party in those states. There were some sharp passages at arms. It was generally agreed, however, that from a party standpoint, almost any bill would be better than none, and this feeling gave the friends of the measure hope, despite the apparently unyielding attitude of the opposing factions. They are still holding to the bill as originally introduced and expect a report will be made upon it tomorrow. This opinion is based upon what was said in a general way and not upon any poll of the case, as there was nothing approaching a vote during the meeting. One indication that an agreement is expected tomorrow is the continued determination of the Cuban sub-committee to leave here tomorrow night for a tour of Cuba.

The Course Would Be Humane. These senators who favored the proposition for a tariff on Puerto Rican goods coming into this country and free trade for goods going to Puerto Rico said that this course would be humane in principle, since it would afford free entry of food and supplies needed by the Puerto Ricans, while the tariff on goods coming in from the island would supply revenue for the island and also retain the people of the island. Several times during the debate the course of the administration was mentioned, and the statement was made that the tariff on Puerto Rican goods was being considered, because it had seemed that the tariff was acting contrary to the wishes of the president. Several senators asserted that the president was now anxious for the proposed tariff of fifteen per cent.

Senator Proctor talked at considerable length and vigorously supported the bill and was especially determined that the governmental features should not be abandoned. He also defended the tariff provisions as being of advantage, instead of a hardship upon the people of Puerto Rico. He declared that the bill as amended by the committee levying a fifteen per cent. duty on products both ways was the best measure that could be passed, but said he was willing to accept the compromise levying a duty only on Puerto Rican products coming to this country. Senator Hanna made a speech that was listened to with great interest. He favored the house bill and especially the tariff provisions. He said that from a party view the tariff ought to remain. This was a Republican congress and there should be Republican legislation. If the bill was defeated, he asserted, it would hand the administration over to the Democrats. He also spoke of the effect a free trade measure would have, not attempting to measure with the Democrats, but the Republicans to stand firmly together for the bill.

Senator Proctor, of Vermont, said that he believed in free trade with Puerto Rico and thought the matter could be adjusted by having a territorial government which would administer either a civil government or tariff legislation at the present time. Senator Fairbanks deplored the situation and expressed the hope that there might be some adjustment. He said there was no question as to the feeling of the people in his state, who were for free trade with Puerto Rico. Senator Davis, who recently introduced an amendment extending that portion of the constitution relative to taxation over the island, made quite an extended speech, taking strong grounds in favor of free trade with Puerto Rico.

Senator Perkins, as well as other members of the Puerto Rican committee, wanted the bill agreed upon without compromise or amendment. Quite a number of senators in this connection expressed the opinion that the majority would vote for the bill as being pursued, saying that the constant changing had done more to shake the faith of the country than anything else.

Senator Mason took strong ground in favor of free trade with the islands

HEARING IN THE RAILROAD CASE

DELAWARE VALLEY AND KINGSTON STRUGGLE

HERE IS MUCH OPPOSITION

Philadelphia Conference. The One Hundred and Thirtieth Session Will Begin Today.

The churches of the conference have a membership of 45,000; probationers, 4,500; local preachers, 343; Sunday schools, 462, with 10,177 officers and teachers, and \$9,469 scholars. The 305 churches are valued at \$6,346,352, and the 189 parsonages at \$778,740. The present indebtedness on church property is \$1,182,634.

ENACTMENT OF THE FINANCIAL BILL

Last Legislative Step Taken—Conference Report Adopted by House.

Washington, March 13.—The last legislative step in the enactment of the financial bill was taken by the house of representatives today, when the conference report on the bill was adopted by a vote of 186 yeas, 120 nays, and 10 abstentions. The senate had already adopted the conference report, so it remains only for President McKinley to affix his signature to the measure to make it a law.

Representative Overstreet, the author of the bill, will report it to the White House tomorrow and the signature is likely to be affixed soon thereafter. Already arrangements have been made for securing the pen with which the president will sign the bill. The debate on the report continued throughout today. Mr. Overstreet, of Indiana, opening, and Mr. Broius, of Pennsylvania, closing in support of the measure, while Mr. Little, of Arkansas, closed in opposition with a severe arraignment of the bill.

The vote was on party lines, except that nine Democrats joined with the Republicans in supporting the conference report. Nine Democrats voted with the Republicans to agree to the conference report on the financial bill. Clayton, Briggs, Underhill, Levy, Scudder, all of New York; Denny, Maryland; McAleer, Pennsylvania; Thayer, Massachusetts, and Fitzgerald, Massachusetts. In other respects the vote was on party lines.

BARBER MURDERED.

Frank Knobl Killed While on His Way Home.

Harrisburg, March 13.—Frank Knobl, a barber, aged 23 years, was murdered last night on his way home in the southern section of the city. Knobl met a man while crossing a bridge and what passed between them is not known. Four pistol shots were heard and two men who were ahead of Knobl, on hurrying to his assistance, found him lying on the bridge with four bullets in his body.

PITTSBURG LEPER DEAD.

Arthur D. Wilson Suffered from the Disease Ten Years.

Pittsburg, Pa., March 13.—Arthur D. Wilson, a leper, who has been confined in the Pittsburg pest house for two years, died today. He was a civil engineer and contracted the disease in Brazil fifteen years ago. Two years ago he was discovered living in this city and was sent to the pest house, where he has been isolated and closely guarded ever since.

Funds for Beckham's Army.

Frankfort, Ky., March 13.—The house this afternoon passed the senate or treaty resolution appropriating \$100,000 for the use of Governor Beckham in "equipping and reorganizing the state militia."

British War Loan.

London, March 13.—The war loan bill passed its second reading in the house of commons today by a vote of 266 to 21.

MAKING'S MAD FLIGHT.

Several Strange Messages Received in London Today.

London, March 13.—A dispatch received by a South African in London dated March 13, Tuesday, March 4, via Lobatse, March 9, says: "All well, but town still besieged. A dispatch to the Times from Making dated Monday, March 4, says the garrison at that place is feeling acutely the stress of the siege. It has been reduced to the use of horse and bread made from horse forage, while the water is parasitically contaminated. Typhoid, diphtheria and cholera are epidemic, but it is impossible to isolate the victims. The sufferings of the women and children are terrible, and there are deaths in the women's larger daily. The native population starves. The military operations progress favorably. They have been extended to the brick fields, whence the enemy has been expelled. A number of other persons have received cable messages from the besieged town today. One dispatch was sent to a Birmingham firm asking it to ship goods immediately. The instructions were from the town that relief is at hand. Lady Georgiana Curzon received the following dispatch from Lady Sarah Wilson: "Delighted to receive your cable of February 20. All well March 1." The latter message was dispatched from Making, March 4, by way of Colonel Plummer.

PROGRESS OF ROBERTS.

Nothing Can Be Said of His Advance on Bloemfontein—Kruger-Steyn Appeal Will Have No Weight.

London, March 14.—4.30 a. m.—Nothing can be said of the advance on Bloemfontein beyond Lord Roberts' own dispatch. Nothing more has been permitted to come through. Doubtless Lord Roberts himself is fully occupied with important military operations. The dispatch from Cape Town, saying that General Buller had arrived at Bloemfontein, probably does not mean that he has entered the city. Lord Roberts' messages may mean either that the Boers have cut the railway to the northeast or that the British have done so. If the former, the British would have to roll stock has been seized, but by general assumption the latter interpretation is regarded as correct. This would greatly facilitate obtaining supplies from Orange river, an important matter, as Lord Roberts' line of communication to Bloemfontein is now one hundred and ten miles long. The Boers may make another fight, but there is little doubt that Lord Roberts will occupy Bloemfontein today (Wednesday). The Boers retiring from the Orange river will find themselves between the British armies, and their guns are almost bound to fall into the hands of the British, while occupation of the capital of the Free State will strain the alliance of the two republics to the utmost.

The government will not allow the Kruger-Steyn appeal to influence in any way their determination not to spare any effort to prosecute the war. There will be no diminution of measures calculated to maintain the full efficiency of the field force, and whatever reinforcements were previously considered advisable will still be sent out. Lord Salisbury's reply meets with unanimous approval among conservatives, and it is the universal opinion that the Boers, by their extravagant claims and canting tone, meant to influence the British cabinet, and they overreached themselves, as they did by the ultimatum.

RAIDS IN NEW YORK.

Women Are Driven from Tenderloin Resorts into the Streets—Proprietors Arrested—Gambling Dens Visited.

New York, March 13.—By decision of Chief of Police Devery tonight a number of resorts in the Tenderloin districts were raided and the proprietors placed under arrest. The raids were made under the law forbidding the keeping of a disorderly house or a refuge for dissolute women. The proprietors were subsequently released on bail. The arrests caused much excitement. As fast as the detectives went to one of the resorts they arrested the men who they wanted and drove every woman found in the resorts into the streets. The men in the resorts were not disturbed. There were hundreds of women in these concert halls and they made a considerable noise. The police, who all appeared on Sixth avenue and Broadway. Big crowds gathered when it became known that the police were raiding the Tenderloin, and Upper Broadway was in a state of excitement until long after midnight.

Captain Thomas Siskin, of the Tenderloin precinct, although called upon a few days ago to make a report of the disorderly places in his precinct, failed to report many scores of these, notwithstanding the order of the chief of police, until he received direct orders from the chief himself. He specified the places that should be raided, and it is stated that District Attorney Gardner will tomorrow appear before the grand jury and ask that body to find an indictment against Captain Thomas on account of neglect of duty. At midnight the police, under the direction of Superintendent Burr of the Division of the Prevention of Crime, raided a gambling place at 147 Broadway. They arrested sixteen men and marched them prisoners down Broadway, followed by hundreds of people from the theaters. Several of the men were black. Klondyke and poker were in progress at the place when the police broke in.

"SAPHO" NOT IMMORAL.

Philadelphia Grand Jury Ignores the Bill in Case of Kline. Philadelphia, March 13.—The Philadelphia grand jury today decided that "Sapho" is not an immoral or obscene book. This decision came as a result of the grand jury's examination of the book while inquiring into the case of Bernard Kline, who was arrested on the 4th instant while selling copies of the book and committing to a state prison. After perusing the book the grand jury ignored the bill of indictment and placed the costs upon the county.

Looking for Lost Votes.

Philadelphia, March 13.—The Democratic investigating committee which was appointed to find the cause of the falling off of the Democratic vote in certain counties of the state held another session here today. The conference was held behind closed doors and nothing was made public.

UNITED STATES OFFER DECLINED

CABINET RECEIVES NO FORMAL ANSWER

The Government Therefore Will Refuse to Make Public Any Statement Relative to the Part the United States Is Taking in the Effort to Terminate the War. Washington, March 13.—Up to the time the cabinet meeting adjourned today no answer had been received from the British government to the representations made through Mr. Choate, touching the restoration of peace in South Africa. In view of this fact it was decided by the cabinet, upon an explanation of the case by Secretary Hay, that it would not be proper at present to make any statement relative to the part which the United States government is taking in the effort to terminate the war. It is held that whatever matter is to be made public touching the peace negotiations must emanate from one of the principals, Great Britain or the South African republics, and that the United States, being nothing more than an intermediary, is not justified in betraying the secrets of the principals. It is stated again, on the highest authority, that in its present capacity the United States government is not a mediator, but a go-between. Not a single proposition to serve as a basis of a peace agreement between Great Britain and the Boer republics was set out in the communication to Lord Salisbury. All that was ventured in this first overture was an inquiry as to whether Great Britain was likely to demand as the price of stopping the war. To have gone further and have proposed terms on our own account might have placed the United States in the position of an uninvited mediator.

WAR IN KENTUCKY.

Mr. Taylor Will Continue to Act as Governor—Democrats Prepared to Fight at the Proper Time.

Frankfort, Ky., March 13.—The legislature of Kentucky adjourned sine die today. A conference between Adjutant General Collier and Cassinman resulted in a perfect understanding being reached. Governor Taylor will continue to act as governor. Governor Beckham will make no move toward securing possession of the state buildings until after the court of appeal has decided the disputed governorship. The legislature appropriated \$100,000 for the use of Governor Beckham in reorganizing the state militia. This in brief is the situation in Kentucky politics tonight. Among the more conservative elements of each party the opinion prevails that the worst is over and that when the court of appeals renders its decision the danger of civil war in the commonwealth, which has been so long imminent, will have entirely passed away. To the Democratic leaders, with a full understanding of the situation, only one course appears, that is Governor Taylor's future course. Governor Taylor himself will not outline his plans of action, beyond the statement which he made to the Associated Press correspondent today that he will continue to act as governor. Republicans in Governor Beckham's confidence, however, say that he will remain at Frankfort in the discharge of his duty until the court of last resort passes upon the question at issue. Then, if the decision be against him, he will retire to his home in Kentucky. The Democratic leaders assert that they will cheerfully abide by the decision of the court of appeals. But should the decision be in their favor, the Democratic leaders will not be satisfied until the decision of the state building "peaceably" as it was expressed today. Not until that decision is rendered will further action be taken. The final adjournment of both houses was taken shortly after 5 o'clock and the evening trains from Frankfort were crowded with legislators returning to their homes. By tomorrow afternoon the city will practically be deserted by politicians, and beyond a few soldiers in the capital square, little will remain to show how near Kentucky has been to civil war.

BETTER PAY FOR MINERS.

President Wilson's Statement to Mine Workers at Altoona—Address of Mrs. Jones.

Altoona, Pa., March 13.—Representatives of all the miners in district No. 2, of the United Mine Workers, assembled in an annual convention here today. Over one hundred delegates were present. President W. B. Wilson, of Bloomsburg, presided. This morning's session was opened with organization of the appointments of committees on credentials and order of business. Upon re-convening after dinner the order of business was adopted, and pending the report of the credential committee, Mrs. Mary Jones, of Chicago, a labor leader, who spent some time in Tioga county, where an eight months' strike was recently settled, spoke on the labor question. The great hope of the future in labor movements was in the young men, she said. She blamed the miners for their conduct, because they failed to insist on their rights. She was loudly applauded. A prolonged discussion was provoked by the credential committee seating John Harvey, of Baker's Mines, and Joe Boggin, of Jefferson county, who were sent to the convention by unorganized miners, but the question was finally settled by allowing them to the joint conventions, but giving them no vote in this convention. In President Wilson's report he discussed the affairs of the district, setting forth that as strikes took up a considerable portion of his time, they prevented organization, but there had been a healthy growth, nevertheless. He regretted that the district was not self-sustaining. He was pleased to announce that miners were getting from five to twenty cents better wages per ton than last year, and this means \$1,250,000 to the miners, when it is known that 25,000,000 tons of coal were mined in this district last year.

REV. SHELDON'S PAPER.

Contents of the Publication Today.

Topeka, Kan., March 13.—The leading article on the first page of Rev. Charles M. Sheldon's Christian daily tomorrow morning will be a brief statement by Associated Editor Chase, telling of the prompt response to the appeal made in this morning's paper in behalf of the famine-stricken in India. The Christian Endeavor World of Boston, telegraphed Mr. Sheldon urging him to open a fund, but he says he is too busy to attend to the work and suggests that contributions be sent through regular channels. Governor Stearns writes a column article on the most gratifying feature of his administration, which he says is the prison reform that has been made in the state. Another feature of the page will be an anti-war cartoon by Leonard, and in this connection General Otis' latest list of casualties in the Philippines will be run as comment. The leading article on the second page will be a statement from the Kansas Millers' association, protesting against alleged unjust treatment which they receive at the hands of the railroads. On the telegraph page much will be made of the war and Editor Sheldon will comment freely on the news. There will be a long special from Grinnell, Iowa, telling of the election of President Gates, of Iowa college, and giving his reasons therefor. The editorial leader will be headed "What Can We Do to Make This a Better City?" It advocates non-partisan politics.

Fought with Convicts.

Columbia, S. C., March 13.—This morning five convicts of a penitentiary farm near this city attacked Abe Harting, a guard. He got his Winchester gun, but did not know how to operate it and fought him with his fist. He succeeded in drawing his pistol after a desperate fight and killed Tom Houghton, a negro desperado, and wounded another. Two surrendered and the fifth escaped.

Steamship Arrivals.

New York, March 13.—Cleared: West-erland, for Antwerp; St. Paul, for Southampton, sailed; Georgia, for Liverpool; Kaiser, Wilhelm der Grosse, for Bremen via Cherbourg and Southampton. Arrived: Friesland, from New York via Southampton, Plymouth; Sailed: Grant Waldersce, from Hamburg for New York.

BOERS' OFFER IS SPURNED BY ENGLAND

Great Britain Rejects the Overtures for Peace.

SALISBURY READS REPLY

Refuses to Assent to Retention of Independence by the Transvaal and Orange Free State—Tender of Mediation by the United States Declined—Form in Which Intervention Was Proffered.

TEXT OF BOERS' APPEAL.

London, March 13.—In the house of lords today the premier, Lord Salisbury, read the British government's reply to President Kruger and Steyn. The concluding sentence is as follows: "Her majesty's government can only answer your honors' telegram by saying it is not prepared to assent to the independence of either the South African republic or the Orange Free State." The United States government, at the request of President Kruger and President Steyn, offered to the British government its services as mediator, with the view of bringing about peace in South Africa, but the offer was declined. No desire to interfere was shown in the representations made by the United States government. The communications from the British government to the United States consul at Pretoria were transmitted and assurances were given that anything which the state department at Washington could do in the interests of peace would be undertaken gladly. The suggestion of mediation sprung from Pretoria, where Mr. Hay, with the other consuls, subsequent to the dispatch by Presidents Kruger and Steyn of their peace cable to Lord Salisbury, were asked to endeavor to enlist the good offices of their respective governments, apparently with the view of bringing about the influence to bear on Lord Salisbury's reply to the Boer overtures. The efforts of all the European powers' representatives in the Transvaal capital appear to have been fruitless, but the report of the United States consul was forwarded, March 2, from Washington to the United States embassy in London, with the proffer as before outlined. Mr. White, the charge d'affaires, presented them personally to Lord Salisbury, who received them cordially, but did not commit himself to any definite expression of opinion. The president of the United States waited on Lord Salisbury and received the formal reply declining the offer. As the Boer overtures had been answered to the effect that no propositions including the retention of the republics' independence could be considered, the president's overture, it is believed, was too late, but the premier, apparently, deemed it a matter of sufficient importance to put himself on record with a formal answer.

NEWARK FIRE VICTIMS.

Two More Bodies Recovered from Ruins Yesterday.

New York, March 13.—Two more bodies were recovered today from the ruins of the Italian tenement which was burned yesterday morning in Newark, N. J. The supposed victims have not yet been accounted for. The bodies discovered today were those of Luella Casillo, two years old, and one unidentified child about the same age. Two men, two women and one girl are still unaccounted for. The finding of the bodies today was a surprise, as the firemen had boarded upon the ruins, believing they had out all the bodies, and only went back for another search upon the persistent pleas of the Italians in the neighborhood. Vito Crestone, the Italian, who was arrested on suspicion of having set fire to the house, was arraigned in court today on a suspicion of arson and remanded until tomorrow for a further hearing.

ROOT AT HAVANA.

The Secretary Visits the Cruiser New York.

Havana, March 13.—Secretary Root visited the armored cruiser New York this morning and was received with a salute of seventeen guns. The greater part of the day he spent in receiving organizations representing the different industries of the island, among them the Sugar Planters' association. He received also a deputation from the municipality of Havana. He held a long interview with Collector Elles and attended to numerous matters of minor importance. Tomorrow he will visit Mariage chiefly with the view of devoting the day to the examination of many papers, owing to the great number of cables he has found it impossible to read here.

DEATHS OF A DAY.

Toulon, France, March 13.—Pere Haidon, the celebrated monastic preacher and author, died suddenly today of apoplexy. He was 93 years of age. Towanda, March 13.—Edward Van Dyke, for forty years a resident and business man of Troy, and a pioneer among the operators of large tanneries in this section, died today, aged 73 years. Forty years ago he operated the Innes tannery at Granville, then the largest in this state. He was a man of great wealth and is survived by his wife, two sons and a daughter.

WEATHER FORECAST.

Washington, March 13.—Forecast: For Wednesday and Thursday: For eastern Pennsylvania, fair Wednesday and Thursday; fresh north-easterly winds.