

"RIPPER" UP FOR PASSAGE

Reported Back to the House as Committed and Goes on the Calendar for Wednesday.

ALLEGHENY PEOPLE ARE OBJECTING

Even Senator Muehlbrunner Says the Bill Will Have to Be Amended, but the Chances Are Senator Quay Will Not Allow Anything to Be Done That Will Be Liable to Rub Scranton the Wrong Way—Representative James Introduces a Labor Measure That Will Revolutionize Laws Governing Liens—New Primary Elections Bill Introduced.

Harrisburg, Feb. 15.—The Muehlbrunner bill was reported from the committee this morning. As told in yesterday's report of the meeting of the committee, it was decided not to amend the bill in any particular, and when it came back to the house today it will be in the same shape as when it was reported.

It will come up on first reading next Wednesday night. An attempt was made to delay its progress by adjourning until a week from Monday, but the friends of the measure succeeded in preventing this. The fact that no session will be held on Friday, Washington's birthday, was used as the main argument for having a recess all of next week. The strikers, however, refused to listen to this argument, and as a consequence the legislature will come back for a session Wednesday night and Thursday.

It is almost certain that the bill will not pass in its present shape. Some amendments must be made to its phrasing to put it in legal form, and some other amendments must be made to its provisions to make it acceptable to the Allegheny and Pittsburg people, not excluding Senator Muehlbrunner himself. The concessions to Scranton, which make the treasurer and controller elective by the people, is the principle objectionable feature. Allegheny has always filled those offices by councilman election, and they want this method to be retained, allowing, however, that the recorder shall nominate, as in the case of the other heads of departments. Should this revision be made, the only officers to be filled by the people would be mayor, assessors and councilmen. Amendments to effect this and other less important revisions will be prepared by the western friends of the measure between this time and Wednesday.

Efforts to Determine Vote.

Strenuous efforts have been made to get a line on the probable vote for and against the "ripper" in the house, but owing to the fact that the Quay Republicans who will not support it, and the Quay Democrats who will support it, do not propose to commit themselves until they have to, makes all estimates a matter of pure guesswork.

Speaker Marshall says the bill will assuredly pass, and that if it is amended the amendments will be made only by friends of the measure. Representative Harry Hall, who will likely lead the fight against the bill, declined to make any estimate of the bill's strength, but expressed himself as confident it would not pass with the "ripper" clause.

If Senator Quay is on the ground by Thursday next, as he promised, the chances are the bill will be passed practically as it stands. Those of the Lackawanna delegates who will "swallow the ripper" have served notice that they must have an aid to disposition everything that Scranton has asked, which means practically all the most recent amendments. The stand taken by Congressman Conell, the defection of Senator Vaughan and the refusal of Representative Philbrick to commit himself for the "ripper" under any conditions, will make it advisable to go to extremes to placate the Lackawanna men and Senator Quay is the kind of man to see this necessity and act accordingly. To the Allegheny people he will likely say: "You are getting reform, and you must be willing to make some concessions." If, however, the Ripperites can show they are able to get along without the majority of the Lackawanna representatives, Scranton will have to be content with such concessions as are not objectionable to Allegheny.

TO BOOST LABOR CLAIMS.

Representative James Introduces a Bill Amending Lien Laws.

Harrisburg, Feb. 15.—By a bill introduced today by Mr. James it is proposed to effect a revolution in the matter of preference of liens by making labor claims superior to almost all others.

The act is entitled an act to provide a lien to secure the payment of money due for care and diligence and money expended in or about personal property by reason of any contract, express or implied, and for labor at agriculture, mining, manufacture and other manual employment, excepting only such labor as is now protected by laws relating to mechanics liens, liens upon ships and vessels and liens of keepers of boarding houses and livery stables.

It provides that laborers and employees of any person, association of persons or corporation whether such employment be at agriculture, mining, manufacture or other manual labor shall have a

SHIPPING BILL IS DISCUSSED

Senator Teller Arouses Impassioned Speeches by His Opposition to the Measure.

SENATOR HANNA'S TALK

He Emphatically Denounces the Methods Employed by the Senator from Colorado to Defeat the Measure and Resents the Insinuations as to His Honesty—Mr. Perkins, of California, Delivers an Eloquent and Forceful Speech.

Washington, Feb. 15.—That the opposition to the shipping bill in the senate will not permit a vote to be taken on the measure at the present session was made clear during the closing hours of today's session. For several days it has been evident that it would be difficult to gain unanimous consent to take a vote on the measure, but not until late today was the frank assertion made that a vote could not be had.

At the conclusion of several hours' consideration of the bill, Mr. Teller of Colorado, announced his purpose to prevent a vote at this session. In an impassioned speech he declared that he would not consent to any agreement to vote, and that it must be evident to the advocates of the bill that no vote could be had.

The statement by the Colorado senator elicited a sharp response from Mr. Aldrich, of Rhode Island, who insisted that, despite the declaration of Mr. Teller, the business of the senate would go on as usual. In accordance with the wishes of the majority.

Mr. Teller's statement also drew the fire of Mr. Chandler, of New Hampshire, who stated that the position of the opposition was preposterous. Mr. Hanna, of Ohio, replied to Mr. Teller in a forceful speech, in the course of which he became impassioned in his denunciation of the methods employed by the opposition to defeat the measure. The advocates of the bill, he said, were honestly endeavoring to advance the best interests of the country, and he resented the insinuations against their honesty of purpose.

Prior to these remarks Mr. Perkins, of California, delivered an eloquent and forceful speech, in which he supported the bill, particularly the idea of giving subsidies to American vessels, but pointed out what he believed to be defects in the pending measure. He attacked especially the provisions for the admission of foreign-built ships.

Earlier in the day the agricultural appropriation bill passed after being under discussion for nearly four days.

There is considerable pressure upon the friends of the subsidy bill to withdraw it, but so far they have declined to yield, taking the position, as they did in the steering committee, that it was more desirable to have the bill defeated by Democratic antagonism than to have it voluntarily withdrawn.

INVENTORY FIRES.

Conflagrations at Chicago Are Suspicious in Character.

SIXTY MEN IMPRISONED

Terrible Results Follow an Explosion at Victoria, Canada.

MINE SHAFT IS WRECKED

Explosion of Gas Ignites the Mine and Destroys the Shaft—Sixty Men in the Mine at the Time of the Explosion, and Not One Has Escaped. A Rescue Party Hard at Work—A Hopeless Task.

TRAGEDY IN PITTSBURG.

Three Men Killed and Others Wounded While Thawing Dynamite.

TROLLEY ACCIDENT AT PITTSBURG

Car Jumps the Tracks and Is Totally Wrecked—Twenty Passengers Injured.

THE ENVOYS INSIST ON PUNISHMENT

Their Decision Regarding the Guilty at Pekin Has Been Declared Irrevocable—Fu Siang's Sentence.

THE OLEO WAR.

Twenty-Five Informations Made Against Dealers at Pittsburg.

BREAD RIOTS IN BUDAPEST.

Several Thousand Persons Out of Work March Through Streets.

JOINTS RAIDED AT WICHITA.

Steamship Arrivals.

BONNER GETS DECISION.

Decorations for Michael.

THE NEWS THIS MORNING.

Weather Indications Today.

KRUGER WANTS ARBITRATION

In an Interview in the Pall Mall Magazine He Asks for Some One to Interfere.

ADMITS DECLARING WAR

But Says That the Hands of the Boers Were Forced—The Ex-President Bitterly Disappointed with His Reception in Europe—Grateful for Bouquets but Cares Nothing for Them—He Only Wants a Fair Hearing—The Situation at Cape Town—Lord Methuen Gathering Them In.

JEFFRIES-RUHLLIN INCIDENT CLOSED

Pugilists and Their Managers Announce They Will Take No More Chances on Exhibitions Unless Protected.

SURRENDER IN PHILIPPINES

General MacArthur Reports Another Important Capture.

KING MILAN'S FUNERAL.

Services Over the Remains Held in the Serbian Orthodox Church.

MAURICE THOMPSON DEAD.

NEGRO HANGED.

ABSOLUTE QUIET AT MADRID.

WEATHER FORECAST.

Washington, Feb. 15.—Forecast for Saturday and Sunday: Eastern Pennsylvania, fair; Saturday and Sunday: fresh west to northwest winds.

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