Scranton Tribune.

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BALLOT BILL IS DEFEATED

Mr. Guffey's Measure Lacks the Necessary Votes to Make It a Law.

THE FOX BILL REPORTED

It Appropriates $5,000,000 to Complete the State House—Business in the Senate—Bills Passed Finally. The Vorhees Bill Also Falls for the Want of Votes.

By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press.

Harrisburg, May 8.—The Fox capitol completion bill was reported to the house this afternoon from the committee on public building, with an amendment that the state shall erect its own lighting and heating plant, and will be read the first time on Friday. The bill as it passed the senate appropriates $5,000,000 to complete the state house by a commission, one of whom shall be a Democrat to be appointed by Governor Stone.

The Guffey ballot bill was taken up by the house this afternoon for third reading and final passage. Mr. Creasy, of Columbia, said the bill was prepared by some of the most prominent lawyers in the state and represented true ballot reform. Mr. Dixon, of Elk, explained the features of the bill in detail and said that if it became a law it would insure a secret ballot.

The measure failed on final passage by a vote of 95 to 87, 103 being necessary to passage. The Democrats and anti-Quay Republicans, except Mr. Abrams, of Philadelphia, anti-Quayite, voted solidly for the bill, and the Quay Republicans, with the exceptions of Mr. Cooper, of Delaware; Ferrebee and Garver, of Schuylkill; Jones, of Philadelphia; McCune, of Fayette; McPherson, of Adams; Philbin, of Lackawanna, and Vandyke, of Westmoreland, against it.

The senate bill authorizing James Ross, of Harrisburg, to sue the state to recover the amount of his claim for entering for the legislature of 1897, during its visit to New York, was reconsidered and postponed for the present.

Defect of Voorhees Bill.

When the Voorhees bill was taken up Mr. Voorhees, of Philadelphia, opened the debate with a speech in favor of the proposition. He said that a review of the causes which led to the location of the capitol at Harrisburg now demands its removal to Philadelphia. He claimed that the state owns the land on which the capitol is located and that the land would not revert to the heirs of John Harris if the seat of government was changed. If given the legal power to do so, Philadelphia will donate a large plot of land on which to erect the capitol.

A vote was then taken and resulted in its defeat by a vote of 75 to 103. The vote in detail follows:

Yeas—Abrams, Anderson, Armstrong, Baker, Bailey, Beitzel, Bethel, Bosie, Call, Champion, Clow, Clarency, Clark, Coleville, Connell, Cook, Cooper, Curry, Dougherty, Dehaven, Edwards, Fahey, Fellmer, Garner, Gibson, Graff, Haag, Hibbeman, Hall, Hamilton, John; Harrison, Haworth, Heil, Henry, Hess, Hitchcock, Hock, Hoy, Hutt, Johnson, Irwin, N.; Jones, Kaiser, Lack, Lob, Linden, McClatchety, MacFarlane, Malone, Merrills, Miller, B. Frank; Moore, Neff, Nichols, Orr, Paul, Ray, Reed, Riegel, Ripp, Savage, Sally, Shaw, Shumaker, Slater, Smith, David J.; Stone, Stroh, Sweeney, Turner, Voorhees, Wadsworth, Wilkinson, Willard, Wisner, Yates. Total, 75.

Nays—Alexander, Arnold, Beaver, Bierman, Bliss, Blunle, Bierman, Bricker, Bussins, Brown, L. D.; Brown, Thos.; Burke, Burnett, Cassel, Cope, Conay, Crawford, Creasy, Davis, Richard; Davis, Thos.; Dixon, Doutt, Drese, Emery, Fake, Ferrebee, Fisher, Fleith, Gamble, Goldsbarles, Graybill, Hamilton, Jas.; Harris, Hartman, Hays, Heedlarth, Heinsler, Hoskins, Heler, James, Johnson, Albert W.; Kain, Kendall, Kennedy, Kirk, Kibler, Young, Laird, Lomax, McAulis, McClain, McConnell, McCune, McLean, McPherson, McTighe, McWhinney, Manning, Mates, Mayne, Miller, Wm. C.; Montgomery, Morrison, Moyer, Mulkie, Murphy, Myers, Naftsinger, Newhard, Osler, Patterson, Philbin, Pomeroy, Raymond, Reiff, Reynolds, Rodgers, Roth, Rothrock, Rutherford, Sanderson, Scheirer, Seal, Small, Smith, Albert J.; Smith, John H.; Spibb, Sorber, Stevens, Stulb, Taylor, Fred K.; Taylor, John C.; Thomas, Thompson, Horace J., Thomson, Nelson H.; Ulrich, Vandyke, Weaver, Welty, Westbrook, Wilson, Young, Marshall, speaker. Total, 101.

The Fayette City local option repealer, which was defeated last week, was reconsidered and postponed for the present.

Work in Senate.

The senate concurred in the house amendments to the following senate bills, and they now go to the governor:

Supplementing an act prohibiting foreign corporations from doing business in this state without having known places of business and authorized agents so as to validate and provide for the enforcement of mortgages or contracts assigned bona fide ten or more years prior to the passage of this act.

Amending an act prescribing the mode of fixing the salaries of county school superintendents by increasing the minimum salaries to be paid and prescribing the mode of fixing salaries above the minimum and below the maximum.

Amending an act creating the office of county controllers, so as to authorize the governor to fill vacancies.

Providing for the appointment and compensation of additional officers and employes of the general assembly.

These bills were passed finally:

Authorizing township commissioners in first-class townships to lay out, widen, open and vacate streets and the highways within their respective townships at the expense of the township or the properties benefitted.

House bill authorizing banks chartered in this state to loan money on the security of bonds in such bonds and mortgages and in interest bearing bonds.

House bill supplementing an act providing for the appointment of game commissioners by extending the powers of the protectors making disposition of fines received by them and regulating their pay.

Creating in the banking department a bureau of building and loan associations, defining the organization, powers and duties thereof; providing for the examination and supervision of mutual savings fund or building and loan associations, levying a tax upon such associations for defraying the expenses of the bureau and providing for the re-organization or winding up of the business of domestic mutual savings fund or building and loan associations in cases of insolvency.

House bill authorizing county treasurers to refund on warrant drawn by county commissioners to aliens the tax of three cents per day into the county treasury under the provisions of the act of June 15, 1897, and providing for the distribution to school districts of so much thereof as may remain unclaimed after one year.

Preventing the shooting of deer with any weapon containing more than one bullet, shot or missile for each load fired.

Providing for the registration of labels, trade marks, etc., and protecting and securing the rights, property and interest therein of persons, co-partnerships or corporations adopting and filing such trade marks.

House bill providing for the election of recorders of deeds and registers of wills in counties having a population of over 150,000.

House bill repealing the act providing for the erection of a poor house in Beaver county.

House bill to make the commonwealth liable for a proportionate share of the cost of construction of the bridges built by county commissioners over streams above a certain width and providing for the method of construction and manner of payment for such bridges.

The calendar was cleared of bills on second reading.

The first call of the senate during this session took place this morning, when the bill providing for the repeal of the law creating a poor house in Beaver county was on final passage. Less than a quorum voted, and a call of the senate was made. On the second roll call on the bill it received the required twenty-six affirmative votes to pass it.

After a large batch of nominations, sent in by the governor, had been confirmed, the senate took a recess until 4 o'clock this afternoon.

BANK PRESIDENT COMMITS SUICIDE

R. N. Pollock Shoots Himself While in a Room at a Seattle Hotel.

By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press.

Seattle, Wash., May 8.—A man believed to be R. N. Pollock, the missing bank president from Cleveland, ended his life here today in the Hotel York by sending a bullet through his brain.

A razor, a two ounce box of rough on rats and a phial containing one hundred tablets of aconite were found at hand. All papers belonging to the man had been burned before the deed was committed.

Pollock arrived here Monday and registered as James Fisher. He failed to appear during the next day, and his room was finally broken into. Lying in a reclining position the body was found, and the coroner was called in. The deceased had not stirred after firing the fatal shot. No clue was obtained in the room, but the name of R. N. Pollock was found sewed on the inside of his coat, placed there by a Cleveland, O., tailor.

Cleveland, May 8.—R. N. Pollock, who killed himself in Seattle today, was the president of the Cuyahoga Savings Bank and Building company, of this city. He was fifty-six years of age, married and had three children. He was the promoter of the bank, which closed its doors last Monday. Pollock disappeared ten days ago and had not been definitely located until news of his act of self-destruction reached this city this evening. The condition of the bank is as yet a matter of conjecture, its books being in the hands of a receiver, who is making an exa mination and whose report is expected in a day or two.

The bank had deposits to the extent of $340,000. This sum of money was not in the bank's possession at the time. Rumors of its weakness were feared, and to avoid the inevitable outcome of a possible immediate demand for such a large sum of money, the directors decided to suspend business and a receiver was appointed.

CUBANS ARE SATISFIED

The Right to Send Their Own Representatives to Foreign Governments Has Saved the Self-Esteem of the Cubans.

By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press.

Washington, May 8.—There is no disposition here to criticise the report made to the Cuban constitutional convention yesterday by the delegates who visited Washington to confer with the president and Secretary Root.

The admission of the right of Cubans to send their own representatives to foreign governments and make their own treaties, free from interference on our part, except in the few specially inhibited instances, it is believed has done much to save the self esteem of the Cubans, and it is thought will tend toward a speedy and satisfactory conclusion of the pending issue relative to the relations between the United States and Cuba.

ATTENDANCE AT THE PAN-AMERICAN.

Thousands of Visitors Pass Through the Palatial Buildings.

By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press.

Buffalo, May 8.—This afternoon's shower had but little effect on the attendance at the exposition. The thousands of visitors simply stepped inside the buildings and gave no heed to the rumbling skies. Tens of thousands can be swallowed up in these great exhibit palaces without a sign of crowding.

Another novel event connected with the exposition was announced today. It is to be a coaching tournament, starting from New York and ending at the stadium. The attempt will be made to break the four-in-hand long distance coaching record.

The carnation show in the horticulture building continued today and the tables were laden with cut flowers. The next big flower show will be of roses, beginning on May 21.

Pension Granted.

Washington, May 8.—Amanda Atan (widow), of Wilkes-Barre, has been granted a pension of $8 a month.

M'KINLEY IN CALIFORNIA

Received by the Inhabitants Everywhere with Expressions of Pleasure and Good Will.

CARS PELTED WITH ROSES

A Grand Reception Tendered the President and His Party at Redland—The City Beautifully Decorated and the Streets Through Which the Visitors Passed Literally Carpeted with Flowers—The Presidential Party Given the Freedom of the State by Governor Gage.

By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press.

Redlands, Cal., May 8.—President McKinley and his party entered the state of California shortly after midnight. The Colorado river was passed at Yuma. The train was mounting a gorgeous pass between snow-capped mountain peaks when the president first looked from his car window.

The mountains were covered with verdure to the snow line and to the foothills, on both sides, stretched waving fields of wheat. Soon thereafter the train entered San Bernardino county, famed for its wonderful fruits.

In the distance towered the snow-mantled summit of San Jacinto and San Bernardino, each ten thousand feet high.

At every little station were groups of happy people. The women and children held roses in their arms and pelted the president's car with them as the train rushed by. It was a charming welcome to the state of California.

Redlands, the first stop in the state, was reached at 9 o'clock. Here great preparations had been made to welcome the president and his party.

Carpets of Roses.

Governor Gage and the senators and representatives on the congressional train had gathered here to welcome the presidential party. The city was beautifully decorated. The street through which the party drove to the Casa Loma hotel was literally carpeted with roses, purple lupins and red poppies. A company of local militia of high school cadets escorted the party to the hotel, through lines of cheering people.

At the hotel, Governor Gage, in eloquent language, welcomed the president and extended to him the freedom of the state. The president's response, delivered in an eloquent manner, drew repeated cheers. The exercises were followed by a drive of an hour and a half through the orange growing section.

Mrs. McKinley and the ladies of the party met Mrs. Gage and the ladies of Redlands in the parlors of the hotel during the exercises and were taken for a drive through the beautiful valley of San Bernardino.

While the party was driving, committees had been busy decorating the train and when the president returned it was filled with flowers.

The train left for Los Angeles at noon.

Continuous Ovation.

From Redlands down to Los Angeles it was a continuous ovation. Every station was crowded by children with wreaths of flowers in their hands and by cheering men and women. Minute stops were made at Colton, Ontario, Pomona, and at 2.30 o'clock the train drew into Los Angeles.

The approach to the city of Los Angeles was heralded by a terrific din, which could be heard for miles. Steam whistles screamed, cannon boomed and as the train passed through the Chinese quarter of the city long strings of firecrackers, hung from awnings, exploded like the continuous rattle of musketry. The city had been beautifully decorated in honor of the president's coming. The fiesta is in progress here and the town was dressed like a queen to receive the coming of her lord. The colors of carnival predominated. The streets were avenues of masts festooned with yellow bunting and crowned with palm leaves and laurel. At the state line the party was met by the citizens' committee and many distinguished people from all over California. General Shafter, commander of the department of the Pacific, with his entire staff in full uniform, had come from the presidio to greet his chief. Secretary of the Navy Long, who was to have met the party at San Francisco, also came here to meet the president and was at the station. The party was driven in carriages to the Nueyes hotel. An escort of artillery and several companies of militia had been provided to escort them, but both the military and police had to fight their way through the enormous crowds that had swarmed into the city, drawn by the double attraction of the president's visit and carnival.

The Freedom of Los Angeles.

At the hotel the police were obliged to literally force a way to the entrance. There the president met Governor Nash, of Ohio, and the Ohio congressional delegation, which had arrived by different routes an hour before. In the rotunda of the hotel the mayor of Los Angeles formally greeted the chief executive and extended to him the freedom of the city. The president, after responding to the welcoming address, held a short public reception in the parlors of the hotel. Meantime Mrs. McKinley and the ladies of the party had been driven to the woman's club in Figure street, where they met the ladies of Los Angeles. This evening the president and Mrs. McKinley dined at the "Bivouac," the handsome residence of General Harrison Grey Otis and after dinner a private reception was held there in their honor. They spent the night at the "Bivouac." Governor Nash held a public reception at the chamber of commerce. Late in the afternoon some of the members of the president's party ascended Mount Lowe, 6,000 feet high, whence they had a birdseye view for seventy miles of southern California, and the Pacific ocean for twenty miles out to sea. Tonight the members of the party witnessed the brilliant illumination in the streets. The whole city seethed with fantastic colors and the air was a blazing storm of confetti thrown by the merry rioters. Tomorrow the president and his party will witness the floral parade and in the afternoon a visit will be paid to the Soldiers' Home at Santa Monica.

The train will leave Los Angeles early Friday morning.

BLUE LAWS IN HONESDALE.

C. L. Collison to Be Fed on Bread and Water for Working on Sunday.

By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press.

Honesdale, May 8.—Charles L. Collison was committed to the county jail here last night for six days, to be fed upon bread and water, because he refused to pay a fine of $4 for working in his garden on Sunday last.

Collison is a member of the Seventh Day Adventists' church, at Ariel, and he claims that he is being persecuted for his religious belief.

CIVIC FEDERATION MET YESTERDAY

John Mitchell Addresses an Audience at Cooper Union—Remarks of Mr. Gompers.

By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press.

New York, May 8.—A mass meeting under the auspices of the committee of conciliation of the National Civic Federation, was held tonight at Cooper Union, to further the movement inaugurated at the conference on Tuesday to form a national board of arbitration.

John Mitchell, the first speaker, was greeted with applause and cheers. He said, in part:

"Nearly all of the strikes which have occurred could have been avoided if the employers and the representatives of labor organizations had conferred. We have learned in the bituminous coal regions to get together on the annual convention and talk out our differences, instead of fighting them out. Twelve men on each side met last year and in eleven days fixed the wages of 150,000 men.

"I know there are those who believe there can be nothing between capital and labor. To those I say that the work of this conciliation committee will show that there is much in common between them for the good of both."

Samuel Gompers, president of the Federation of Labor, prefaced his remarks by stating that those who are braggarts, continually declaring war, are usually cowards in the actual struggle.

"The strong man," said he, "does not boast of his power, because he knows that with power comes responsibility. Employers have found trades unions an element so costly that they want peace as well as we."

"We want force," yelled a man who had furnished previous interruptions, and many in the audience cheered.

Charles Sprague Smith came forward and, raising his hand, called sharply for order. When he could make himself heard he said: "The socialists have had their turn and we will let them have it again, but now I ask for order. I ask this little group of socialists to hold themselves in."

William H. Sayward, secretary of the National Association of Builders, and Herman Justi, commissioner of the Illinois Coal Operators' association, also spoke.

At the meeting tonight the national committee on conciliation and arbitration gave out its report. The report says that the purpose of the organization is to enter into active service in the cause of peace and harmony in the industrial world, for the purpose of preventing strikes and lockouts. The report advocates full and frank conferences between employers and workmen, with the avowed purpose of reaching an agreement as to the terms of employment. It further says the aim is to establish and maintain a board of commission composed of the most competent persons available, selected from employers and employes of judgment, experience and reliability, which shall be charged with carrying out the objects aimed at and shall also be expected to make known to workmen and their employers that their counsel and aid will be available if desired in securing that co-operation, mutual understanding and agreement already indicated as the general purpose of the national committee.

The committee will select from its members an executive committee of fifteen to direct the work of the organization.

CONTROLLERS' BILL SIGNED.

Governor Stone Affixes His Signature to Important Measures.

By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press.

Harrisburg, May 8.—Governor Stone today signed the bill extending the Act of 1898, creating the office of county controllers to Berks, Lancaster, Lackawanna and Westmoreland counties.

These bill were disapproved:

Granting a pension of $8 a month to Charles H. Huyett, private Company I, Twelfth regiment, Pennsylvania volunteer militia.

To provide for ward representation in the town council of the borough of Dunmore and providing for the election of members of council from each ward.

Carpenters Win Strike.

By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press.

Waterbury, Conn., May 8.—The carpenters' strike, which began a week ago, ended today, when the demands of the workmen for shorter hours without a reduction of wages, and that only union men be employed, were granted by the contractors.

POWERS' BILL IS PRESENTED

Foreign Ministers Decided to Render It to China Yesterday.

THE CONDITIONS IMPOSED

Joint Indemnity of 450,000,000 Taels to Be Demanded—Reply Expected This Week—Belief That Chinese Government Will Propose an Increase of Customs Tariff.

By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press.

Pekin, May 8.—The foreign ministers today decided to address a collective note to the Chinese government informing it that a joint indemnity of 450,000,000 taels would be demanded by the powers, and asking what method of payment is proposed. A reply is expected at the end of the week, which will probably propose to meet the indemnity by raising the customs tariff. It is believed that the powers will assent to some such measure in return for concessions on the part of China, in the shape of a total abolition of the likin, the placing of import duties on a gold basis, really free navigation of Chinese waters, and the removal of impediments to navigation and the tax at Woosung.

The ministers were unable to agree as to the desirability of opening the whole empire to tra[illegible] and residence, some of them holding that it would be asking China to assume too great responsibility, and that under the present system of government it would be impossible to guarantee the safety of the numerous foreigners who would flock into the interior if the empire was entirely opened.

Washington, May 8.—Information has been received here confirming the dispatch from Pekin regarding the amount of indemnity to be demanded. The total has been reduced from something like half a billion dollars to about $337,600,000.

The value of the tael varies. That of the customs tael, by which the indemnity will probably be computed, is 2s. 11⅝d. That would make the indemnity demanded in United States money, about $330,750,000.

HALF-HOUR OF PERIL.

Thrilling Experience of a Steeple Jack in Hoboken.

By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press.

New York, May 8.—Dangling sixty feet in the air, with one ankle caught in a knotted rope, Charles Brockholz, a steeple jack, hung for half an hour this afternoon, waiting instant death. Brockholz had been regilding the ball on top of the seventy-foot flagstaff at the corner of Second avenue and Adams street, Hoboken. His foot slipped and he would have been dashed to the ground had not the rope to which his paint pot was attached knotted about his left ankle and held him.

His screams attracted attention, and some one rang a fire alarm. When the engines reached the scene they found no flames, but a huge crowd pointing upward at the steeple jack. A seventy-foot extension ladder was run up the pole, and Brockholz was carried in safety to the ground.

BIG FIRE AT AUGUSTA.

Cotton Warehouses Are Destroyed. Loss, $160,000.

By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press.

Augusta, Ga., May 8.—Fire this afternoon destroyed the cotton warehouses of the Union Compress company, Whitney & Company. The losses aggregate $160,000, of which Whitney & Company lose $105,000.

Many bales of cotton were burned. It was fully insured.

INSANE SALESMAN'S CRIME.

John C. Mersereou Tries to Murder His Wife and Then Commits Suicide.

By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press.

New York, May 8.—Suddenly seized with violent insanity, John C. Mersereau, a salesman who lived in Brooklyn, tried to murder his wife and sister-in-law today and then killed himself. Just after he had left his home to go to business in New York, he reentered the house and seizing a flatiron tried to brain his wife. Her screams brought her sister and Mesereau attempted to murder her.

The noise brought the sister's husband. He pushed the women out of the room and then bolted the door on the inside. A suspicious quiet made the relatives force the door, and Mesereau was found dead. He had placed a rubber tube attached to a gas jet in his mouth and inhaled the gas. He was at one time president of the Coronada Rubber company.

PRIMITIVE METHODIST CHURCH APPOINTMENTS.

By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press.

Wilkes-Barre, May 8.—The conference of the Primitive Methodist church, in session at Plymouth, has made the following appointments: Schuylkill district—Tamaqua, W. F. Nichols; St. Clair and Wade, J. Bath; Mahanoy City, C. H. Higginson; Mt. Carmel, W. H. Acomley; Glendville, S. Cooper; Shenandoah, G. J. Jeffries; Shamokin, W. H. Robbin; Hazleton, W. H. Russell, Williamstown, care of district; Gilberton, under Mahanoy City pastor; Seek, W. Harvey. Philadelphia—First, S. A. Nichols. Wyoming district—Plymouth, first, A. C. Cook; second, C. Prosser. Wilkes-Barre—First, H. J. Buckingham; second, D. Savage; Nanticoke, W. J. Richards; Hudson and Plains, H. G. Russell; Avoca, James Moore; Scranton, G. Lees; Taylor and Sibley, J. Walker; Dorrance, W. Paul; Pittsburg, W. Bentley; Olyphant, J. Hey; Jermyn, S. D. Molten.

THE NEWS THIS MORNING.

Weather Indications Today:
RAIN; WARMER.

1 General—Bulls and Bears in a Panic in Wall Street.
Guffey Ballot Bill Defeated.
President McKinley and Party in California.
Bill of the Powers Is Presented to China.

2 General—Carbondale Department.

3 Local—No New Trial for Dentist Faatz.
Records of the Local Bowlers.
New Federal Court in Session.

4 Editorial.
Elbert Hubbard on Roycroft Ideals.

5 Local—Spread of the Strike on the D., L. & W.
Opinions on the Assessments of Railroad Companies.
Manager Silliman Arrested.

6 Local—West Scranton and Suburban.

7 General—Northeastern Pennsylvania.
Financial and Commercial.

8 Local—Opinions on Assessment of Railroad Companies (Concluded.)
Industrial and Labor.

DISCUSSING POWERS OF ARCHDEACONS

Business Before the 117th Annual Convention of the Protestant Episcopal Church.

By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press.

Philadelphia, May 8.—Lengthy discussions as to the advisability of increasing the power of arch-deacons characterized the second session of the one hundred and seventeenth annual convention of the Protestant Episcopal church in the diocese of Pennsylvania. No step was taken to elect an arch-deacon to succeed Rev. Cyrus Townsend Brady.

An amendment to canon 8, which was adopted provides that "the bishop, with the concurrence of the board of missions, may appoint a presbyter to be arch-deacon of the diocese, to serve until the consecration of a new bishop, and when such appointment shall be made all missionary work in the diocese shall be under the direction of such arch-deacon, subject to the supervision and control of the bishop."

The amendment also gives the arch-deacon direction of all missionary work in the diocese and provides for his removal at any time by the bishop for any cause satisfactory to the latter. No one shall be appointed arch-deacon who has not been a presbyter for at least seven years and held a parochial charge in this diocese for at least two years; provided, however, that the board of missions may dispense with these requirements.

WARNING FROM MINERS.

They Will March Unless the Senate Takes Prompt Action on Labor Bills.

By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press.

Shamokin, May 8.—The miners' committee now at Harrisburg telegraphed the local United Mine Workers' headquarters today that the senate committee on mines and mining had given positive assurance that the majority of the more important labor bills would be reported favorably to the senate.

The miners were notified that plans for the proposed march to Harrisburg had not been abandoned and should the senate fail to take prompt action on the bills the march would be ordered.

FIRE ON PENN AVENUE.

Explosion of Lamp Causes Blaze ot House of S. Hinerfield.

The first fire to which a central city company has responded since the reorganization of the fire department occurred about 8 o'clock last night. A lamp exploded on the second floor of 315 Penn avenue, which is occupied by Simon Hinerfeld and family.

The explosion occurred in a hallway, and before any damage could be done the Crystal Hose company had answered the still alarm which was sent in and extinguished the blaze. The damage was very slight, the only evidences of a fire being the scorched walls.

STUDENTS TO ENTERTAIN.

Exhibition by St. Cecelia Pupils for Benefit of St. Mary's Convent.

The entertainment by the pupils of St. Cecilia's academy, for the benefit of the new Mt. St. Mary's convent, will take place this afternoon and evening at the Lyceum.

The entertainment is one of the highest order, and from the advance sale of tickets a large attendance is assured at both the afternoon and evening performances.

TODAY'S EVENTS.

Select and common councils meet tonight.

The executive committee in charge of the opening of the new armory will meet tonight in the board of trade assembly rooms.

Prof. Rooney and his traveling male (colored) will entertain with some the members of Scranton council tonight. There will also be smokes.

There will be a meeting of Electric City lodge, No. 129, Brotherhood of Saltchmen, at 8 o'clock this evening in Carpenter's hall, Wyoming avenue, which will be of much importance. All members are requested to attend.

Big Gas Combine.

By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press.

Pittsburg, May 8.—A consolidation of all the natural gas companies, numbering about 20, in Washington and Green counties, with a capitalization of about $12,500,000, is on the programme. Numerous conferences have been held recently by those interested in the plan and it is believed the consolidation will shortly be effected.

Mrs. Robinson Cremated.

By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press.

Jacksonville, May 8.—In the ruins of her home the body of Mrs. Sofia Robinson was found today, where she had been burned in the fire of last Friday. She was the widow of Sofia Robinson, for many years agricultural editor of the New York Tribune.

WALL STREET'S GREATEST DAY

A Novel Spectacle of a Bull and Bear Panic in Progress Side by Side.

NORTHERN PACIFIC RISE

Almost Without a Precedent in the History of the Street—The Stock Moved Up from 132 to 180—Other Stocks Affected by the Unusua Activity of the Northern Pacific.

By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press.

New York, May 8.—The stock market today offered the novel spectacle of a bear panic and a bull panic in progress, side by side. The bear panic in Northern Pacific was the impelling cause of the demoralized rush to sell other stocks, which was held in check for a time after the astounding opening in Northern Pacific, but which gained almost panic force in the late trading. Prices were not toppled over as a direct result of calling of loans and forced liquidation, such as often culminate a period of over speculation, but it was evident that the holders of long stock were holding their stocks tenaciously and were waiting to be actually forced out. The punishment which was being inflicted on the shorts in the Northern Pacific was so distressing an example as to keep the bears in a timid frame of mind and they hesitated to attack the market. The support which came in on the opening dip helped to encourage the bulls and intimidate the bears, but the liquidation seemed so large that the bears took courage and attacked the market after midday and secured rich returns. As the recession in prices reached the ten point line the decline gathered force, showing the dislodging of long lines of long stock by the wiping out of margins. A scrutiny of a stock table will show the large number of stocks whose declines extended to between ten and twenty points, with the resulting wiping out of the ordinary margin.

The chaotic condition into which the market was thrown became alarming in the afternoon, but the determined support which developed and the resultant rallies, which reached as much as eight points in one or two instances, took away the effect to a partial extent of the disorderly drop in prices and even induced expressions from some of the more confident bulls that the health of the market was greatly improved as a result of the day's happenings. The apparently unlimited buying orders which appeared in United States Steel preferred, when the decline had reached 12 points and the resulting rally of 8½ points, gave some of the bull speculators the courage to claim that the day's reaction was really engineered by the powerful financial interests which have been behind the bull market throughout, with a desire to shake off weak followers.

Anyone seeking to explain today's movement will have to go back over a period of many weeks, and for every suggestion of a great financial combination or consolidation he will have to suppose a deep-seated doubt or apprehension, such as was shown by the disclosures of this morning in Northern Pacific. It came with a chilly shock to the speculation that the country's great financial forces, which it was supposed were earnestly working in accord to secure a community of interests in the whole railroad world, were in fact arrayed against each other.

Burlington Deal.

The Burlington deal, on which such far-reaching conclusions have been based by the speculators, was seen to be in jeopardy. In other words the broad intimation was carried by the disclosures growing out of the Northern Pacific development that the recent great buying of stocks was for the most part wholly speculative and without the supposed basis in investment purposes. Add to this the growing constrictions of the money supply, continued insatiable demands from the stock speculation and growing uneasiness among money lenders as to the stability of values of the securities which they hold as collateral, and the delicacy of the position is easily seen. It is not surprising, therefore, that the shock of the Northern Pacific episode coming on this situation, toppled prices over. Northern Pacific's sky rocket course this morning to 180, compared with 143½ at last night's close and 132 for the London parity this morning, is almost unprecedented for short-time movements in the local stock market. This stock was up to that figure and back to the opening figure of 155 within three minutes. It went as low as 145 afterward, and as high again as 170, closing at 160. The close corner into which the shorts were crowded, of course explained this movement. Among the severest sufferers in the afternoon slump may be mentioned: St. Paul, which fell 19¾; Union Pacific, 17½; Rock Island, 14; Missouri Pacific, 15; United States Steel preferred, 12; Delaware and Hudson, 19; Amalgamated Copper, 12¼; Pullman, 19½; Illinois Central, 11; Burlington, 10½; Brooklyn Rapid Transit, 10½; Kansas and Texas, 10; Western Union, 10, and other stocks all the way up to 10 points. The final rally reduced most of these losses considerably, but the closing showed uneasiness at some points, while rallying at others. Total sales today, 2,461,100 shares.

WEATHER FORECAST.

Washington, May 8.—Forecast for Thursday and Friday: Eastern Pennsylvania: Rain Thursday and probably Friday; warmer Thursday; fresh southeasterly winds, becoming variable.