

EDWARD SCHELL, Editor and Proprietor. WEDNESDAY, March 15, 1910.

ALL investigation roads in Harrisburg seem to lead to Democratic cohesiveness.

The bill increasing the minimum school term to seven months passed the House and is likely to be enacted into a law at the present session.

ARTHUR D. T. WATSON, of Pittsburg, has written Governor Stone, declining the appointment tendered him to the Supreme Court Bench.

Thus far that investigating committee has found that Democrats tried to induce Democrats to vote for a Democrat for United States Senator, which seems to be a crime in the eyes of the Mugwumps.

SENATOR QUAY left Washington for Florida for a much-needed rest, last Wednesday. He will return in about two weeks, invigorated and refreshed, and prepared to push his senatorial candidacy to a successful conclusion.

The Democratic party is up to its old tricks and will go down to defeat by the same old bogtrotter. It has taken a stand against holding the Philippines, and in its next national convention will probably pride with pride in the plank in its platform of 1892, declaring the war to be a failure.

SENATOR GRAY, of Philadelphia, has introduced a bill in the Senate that makes it compulsory for every qualified voter to cast a ballot at each and every general election, and provides a penalty for failure to do so; also, an act regulating primary elections, requiring every voter to participate in such elections of his party.

A VIENNA professor of economic science declares that American products threaten the commercial life of Europe. If our products and manufactures are better and cheaper than any that can be obtained in Europe, the Austrians will be apt to order them if they get a chance. In some lines of production the Americans are unrivaled.

WHENEVER General O'Rourke raises a rifle in defense of the Stars and Stripes he is charged by the anti-expansionists with the design of exterminating the Philippines, "just as the Indians were exterminated." If that be his purpose he can find much better management in the success of his countrymen in "exterminating" the Indians, of whom about 300,000 are still drawing rations at the old stand.

The President desires the commission about to meet in the Philippines "to exercise due respect for all the ideas, customs and institutions of the tribes and races which compose the population, emphasizing upon all occasions the just and benevolent intentions of the Government of the United States." The well-disposed natives will gladly accept this policy as soon as Aguinaldo's things are put down.

ONLY three new laws have been added to the statute books by the present Legislature. One is the constables' fee bill, and was enacted before the Spring elections. Another authorizes the Pennsylvania Canal Company to abandon its canal from Newton Hamilton to Duncan's Island. The third allows courts to appoint masters in divorce proceedings. These three measures originated in the House of Representatives and are all that have gone to the Governor.

The Delaware Legislature adjourned Monday afternoon without electing a United States Senator to succeed Hon. George Gray. The seat of ex-Senator Gray will remain vacant until the General Assembly of 1901 shall have chosen his successor. On the final ballot, the fourteenth of the day and the one hundred and thirteenth during the session, John Edward Adkins, Republican, had 21 votes, while the remaining 11 Republican votes and the 12 Democratic votes were scattered among a number of candidates.

General W. H. Kootz, of Somerset, receives a majority of the votes of the Republicans of Blair county for State Chairman, says the Altoona Tribune. The result will be an endorsement of treason. General Kootz is a traitor, and has been since the meeting of the Legislature, in alliance with the Democrats, and has lost no opportunity to injure the party which sent him to Harrisburg. We trust that every Republican in Blair county who abhors treachery and believes in party organization will scratch the name of Kootz from his ticket.

THE recent Congress was a billion and a half dollar Congress. The country, too, is a billion and a half dollar country at this time. The expansion in expenditures was chiefly due to the war, though, of course, part of it was caused by an increase in population and business. The growth in inhabitants and industrial activity will continue. It will be advisable to practice economy in public expenditure wherever this can be done without injury to the service, but at the same time it is well to bear in mind that the Government of 1899 can not be run for the same amount of money that was used in 1879 or 1889.

SOMERSET county will only be entitled to two delegates in the coming Republican State Convention, while in the last one she had three. We only polled 4007 votes for Governor Stone, and representation in the State Convention is fixed on a ratio of one delegate for each 2000 votes. The date for the convention has not been definitely decided upon, but the probabilities are that it will be held in the month of June, and if so it will necessitate the holding of our primary election on a date earlier than that prescribed by the party rules, the fourth Saturday in June.

The bill providing for a minimum school term of seven months passed the House by an overwhelming majority, the vote on final passage being 144 to 41. Much to the disappointment of many of their constituents the voice of the member of Somerset county's Representatives was raised in opposition to the bill, so far as we have been able to discover, and if raised, it was without influence or effect, as the large majority in favor of the bill would indicate. We presume the time of Representative Kendall and Kootz is so fully occupied in assisting their fellow-bellies and Democratic allies to prevent

the election of Mr. Quay that they have no time to spare on measures in which their constituents are interested.

ACCORDING to Senator Penrose, a law which will restrict the election of any candidate for United States Senator who secures a plurality vote in both branches of the Legislature, instead of a majority of both branches in joint convention. Such a law at present would ensure the election of Senator Quay, who has a plurality in both branches of the Legislature, and yet he is kept out of an election. The plurality rule obtains at general elections, and it is only fair that it should be applied to elections for United States Senator. If the majority rule were applicable to all elections, there would be a hard time to fill the office, especially where three candidates were running for the same office.

THE Wannamakers have started in to make a determined effort to control the next Republican State Convention and expunge the States apportionment. Senator William Finn is their candidate for State Chairman and will make an aggressive fight for the position. It is claimed that they will carry their fight into every county in the State. Five delegates to the State Convention have already been chosen and they are all pronounced adherents of Senator Gray. They were elected, two from Lawrence county, two from Indiana and one from Union. The Union county primaries were held Saturday, and notwithstanding the fact that Senator Finn made a stamping tour of the county, the Quay candidate was elected by a majority of over 1000 in a poll of less than 2500. Primary will be held in Blair and Lancaster counties Saturday of the present week. The fight is being waged in a lively manner in both counties and is being watched with considerable interest throughout the State.

The joint convention of Legislators at Harrisburg continues to go through the form of balloting for a candidate for United States Senator each day without any change in the result. Saturday there were ten votes cast, and Monday only ten Members and two Senators were present. Of those who voted Monday 6 cast their ballots for Quay, 4 for Jenks, 1 for Dalzell, and 1 for Irvin. As only five weeks remain of the present session, the likelihood of an election by the present Legislature grows less each day. The fifty odd holding Republicans will not vote for Quay, and they dare not vote for Jenks. They have no other power to prevent an election at this session, and their actions indicate that they will do so. In the meantime all legislation is practically blocked, and the bills for the taxpayers to liquidate go on multiplying and increasing. The present Legislature bids fair to achieve a reputation that will put to the blush the unenviable one acquired by that of two years ago.

Quay or Noboy. The conditions at Harrisburg are such, says the Philadelphia Inquirer, that either Quay or Noboy will be elected. Senator or Pennsylvania will have to be content with one Senator when Congress again in session. If there shall be no election the "insurgents" the Republican members of the Legislature will have to be content with the decree of their party—must shoulder the responsibility. They will have to face their constituents, and their antagonism to the great Republican principle of majority rule must be a most dangerous destructionist and their careers.

Senator Quay is the party choice, made so by a two-thirds majority in a regularly called caucus, the majority adopted, not only in Congress, but in every State of the Union for determining the popular will. Against the wishes of the Republican party of Pennsylvania—a choice regularly made by the voters of the State by the caucus—a few individuals, for personal reasons, have revolted. It is wrong to call these "insurgents." They are revolutionaries, for they would overthrow the Republican rule and substitute the brute rule of the few.

It is the bounden duty of all true Republicans at Harrisburg to fight to the bitter end this pernicious doctrine of minority rule. The Republican can honor, desert his party and join hands with those who are hastening to their own political destruction. No Republican can take up arms against majority rule and the Republican rule of the majority. The Republican must pursue their dangerous course if they will and leave the great State of Pennsylvania with only half representation in the Senate. Far better go without a Senator than to have a Senator who is not a Republican in name and substance.

There can be no surrender to revolutionists. If the latter wish to join hands with the "insurgents" they must do so. The Republican who surrenders to Senator Quay they have the power to do so. If they do not dare to take this final step of party disunity, then let the deadlock go on until Quay is elected the party rule of the majority rule is triumphant and the revolutionaries are overwhelmed—as they will be at the polls.

Admiral Dewey's Final Health. A Vancouver dispatch, March 8, to the New York World says: Captain Fraser, of London, says the British Imperial forces, arrived at day direct from Manila, where he had the honor of dining with Admiral Dewey. To the World correspondent Captain Fraser said: "The real state of mind will have to do with the life of the great American Admiral will be worth nothing."

"I dined with him at Manila within a month, and on a conversation I do not believe in the terrible strain imposed upon him he can not last a month longer. As he sat at the banquet table, surrounded by his staff, he looked to me like a dying man. His hair is snowy white, his face ashen, and he looks hardly any older than he is."

"I had the pleasure of a few minutes' conversation with him when we retired to the smoking room. Having in mind how he had been in the Philippines, I asked him if he thought of returning to America soon. He replied: "I would like to, but my work is by no means finished here. When it is, and only then, I return."

"I am thoroughly convinced that only the Admiral's indomitable will has kept him so long. The strain on him is terrific, and the climatic conditions have reduced him to a mere shadow of his former self. His officers and men worship him. "As an English officer, and knowing the magnificent work he has done, I have the greatest admiration for him. One of his officers said to me just before I left Manila: "The war will be ended by the Admiral soon, or it will be done. No man can stand such a strain as he does in this climate and live long."

Treason of "Seething Oil" Justice of the Peace O'Leary, of East St. Louis, makes the following statement regarding administering oaths to persons who wish to stop drinking: "I intend to make the issuance of these oaths a feature of my work. I propose, also, to prosecute any of those who have taken the pledge should they break it. They will be charged with perjury, and will be liable to penitentiary service."

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State Finances. A conference between Governor Stone, Attorney General Egan, and Chief General McHenry, and members of the House Ways and Means committee was held last Thursday to consider ways and means to meet the deficiency of \$3,000,000 for the current year, and the current revenue to the Commonwealth for the next two fiscal years. No definite action was taken, although the Governor stated that he would not sign bills making appropriations to charitable and penal institutions in excess of the estimated revenues \$3,111,872,220.30.

The personal property tax bill, which provides that all personal property tax shall be turned into the State treasury for the next two years instead of three-fourths of such tax, which now goes to the counties, was endorsed. This is an administrative measure, and it is estimated that it will increase the revenue \$2,000,000 annually.

The Hoosier bill, taxing one-half cent a gallon on beer, ale and porter brewed in the State, and the Greasy taxation bill, which provides for a strong effort to be made by friends of the Administration to reduce the public school fund, unless additional revenue is provided by the present Legislature.

Settlers in the Philippines. WASHINGTON, March 12.—Major Theodore Sherman, paymaster, U. S. A., has written a letter from Manila to an officer in the War department in which he says: "I wish you would call the attention of the President and Secretary of War to the fact that the Philippines are the only islands in the world which have remained here and engage in agriculture, lumbering and mining. From every point of view the Philippines are a most valuable asset to the United States. To lose them means to hand down to our children a great and valuable inheritance. The time will come when every American will recognize the value of these islands. Take but one example: California has a population of 2,000,000 and produces 1,000,000 tons of wheat annually. The Philippines produce 1,000,000 tons of rice annually in which they produce 100,000,000 bushels of rice. The Philippines are a most valuable asset to the United States. 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