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HARRISBURG LETTER.

Senator Quay's Visit to the State Capital.

MANY BILLS AWAITING ACTION.

About Three-fourths of Which Are Appropriation Measures—Lack of Revenue Will Compel the Governor to Swing His Veto Ax With Vigor.

(From Our Own Correspondent.)

Harrisburg, July 12.—When Senator Quay gave out the intimation in Washington the other day that he would retire from public life at the expiration of his term in the United States senate, the announcement was scouted in some quarters as being a reiteration of an old story. But it was believed by many people, because Senator Quay had privately stated to some of his friends that he was growing weary of the cares of public office, and was disposed to seek quiet and rest in the bosom of his family. Saturday, however, he came to Harrisburg with Senator Penrose, and after a conference with Governor Hastings regarding matters of legislation still under consideration at the executive department, returned to his hotel and submitted to an interview, in which he stated that he would be a candidate for re-election. "For the first time in my life," he said, "I am a full fledged candidate for the United States senate." He admitted that he came to Harrisburg partially to make this announcement, but it is more likely that his visit to this city at this time was for an entirely different purpose. It is bruited about that Senators Quay and Penrose urged the governor to sign the Becker bill, requiring all appointments by the mayor of Philadelphia to be confirmed by the vote of three-fifths of the members of select council. This is a factional measure, and was introduced into the legislature by Senator Durham, with a view to crushing the anti-Quay people of Philadelphia, who are at present in control of the city administration. Neither Governor Hastings nor Senator Quay would talk after their conference, but it is reported that the governor declined in positive terms to approve the Becker bill. It is known that he does not desire to mix in a factional quarrel.

Regarding his candidacy for re-election, Senator Quay said while here that he had been overruled and had come to Harrisburg to consult the governor and other friends about his candidacy. He said further: "The fiery cross will again be carried over the state, and the men in blouses—the bourgeoise—will be asked to rally to my support. Governor Hastings will assist me, for Governor Hastings and I will never again be apart." Senator Penrose and other friends of Senator Quay say they are much gratified at his statement, and express no doubt of his election; but notwithstanding these confident assertions, there is promise of a great fight for Senator Quay's seat when the time comes.

Senator Quay is not as young as he once was, and his frequent battles against foes within and without the party have left their scars. Some of his most loyal friends, however, affect to believe that he will not retire from public life until he sinks to rest in the quiet bivouac of the brave soldier. At the conclusion of the great fight within the Republican party in 1895 it was announced with some show of authority that Senator Quay would be a candidate for governor next time, the theory being that he desired to finish his public career by going before the people for a vindication. His recent statement, however, that he will not be a candidate for governor, and his further intimation that he seriously contemplates retiring to the privacy of his home, seemed to set at rest the gubernatorial rumor. It is well known that Senator Quay's family are very anxious to have him drop out of public life. They feel that the strain upon his health is too severe, and that he ought to have rest and quiet. There is some ground for the story that he will spend the summer in a tour abroad on the yacht of a well known Philadelphia traction magnate. Senator Quay has been much interested in the passage of the tariff bill, and if the bill goes to the president within the next ten days it is probable that he will go abroad for the summer.

There is not a little interest in the coming convention of the Republicans of Pennsylvania. Some time ago it was generally understood that there would be a factional split in the party, but the anti-Quay element have given it out that they will fight within the lines, and that under no circumstances will they bolt the nominee of the party. This practically assures the election of the Republican ticket, as it is believed that the Democratic organization is too much divided to make a winning fight this year, even with serious defections from the Republican party. It can be stated with almost absolute certainty that the Republican ticket will have upon it after the August convention the names of James S. Beacom, of Westmoreland, for state treasurer and Major Levi G. McCauley, of Chester county, for auditor general. If Judge Willard, of Scranton, resigns his seat on the bench of the superior court, which it is said he intends to do, then there will be a third place on the ticket, which will probably be filled by the nomination of Alex Simpson, of Philadelphia. The nominees of the Democrats have not yet been seriously considered, but the name of Captain George W. Skinner, of Pittsburg, has been mentioned in connection with the office of state treasurer. Hee is an old soldier and popular outside the party lines. He has said that he would not be a candidate, but there is a disposition to urge him to accept the nomination. The Democrats will make the most of the recent legislature as a campaign issue, but the Republicans say the Democratic minority in the lawmaking body is in a poor position to point the finger of scorn at the majority.

Governor Hastings returned from a fishing trip in the wilds of Potter county with Attorney General McCormick Wednesday afternoon, and after a good night's rest he began the consideration of the almost 300 bills left him as a legacy by the legislature. About three-fourths of these bills are appropriation measures, and as the legislature has appropriated almost $25,000,000 in the face of the repeated warnings of the state officials about the lack of revenue, it will be necessary for the governor to swing his veto ax with more than his usual vigor to keep the expenditures within the income of the state. Private Secretary Beitler and the other clerks in the executive department have prepared for the governor a comparative statement showing the appropriations to the various institutions for the sessions of 1891, '93, '95 and '97. This statement will enable him to dispose of the bills with some degree of fairness toward the institutions that may be affected. It may not be necessary to deprive the smaller hospitals and charitable institutions of state aid, but it is not clear how the governor is to escape cutting down some of the larger grants to the big educational institutions. One of these, the Lehigh university, has been given $300,000 by the legislature; the University of Pennsylvania has also been given a large appropriation; and other institutions have fared well. Of course, if the new revenue acts produced the amount of money which their authors predicted, there will be a larger income than was originally estimated by the state officials; but there is doubt in some minds whether these new revenue schemes will be as productive as was hoped they might be. But in any case these measures will not be operative until next year, and the deficiency in the treasury cannot be met by cheerful calculations.

State Treasurer Haywood insists that a mistake was made by the legislature in not cutting down the appropriation to the public schools. He holds that this is the real trouble, and that there will be no improvement in the revenue situation until some reduction is made in the school fund. It has been suggested that under authority vested in him the state treasurer can withhold payments to the school districts a year or two until the stringency in the treasury is over. Those who made a fight against the reduction of the school appropriation, however, say that any such course upon the part of the state treasurer would be a distinct violation of the pledge given to the house by Speaker Boyer on the day of final adjournment when he promised that come what might there would be no cut in the school appropriation and the state normal schools would get their usual assistance. These say further that trifling with the school districts will react upon the Republican party, and that the state leaders must understand that the people will resent any interference of this kind.

A great hullabaloo has been stirred up among the merchants of the state by the proposed law increasing the mercantile license tax. Today Governor Hastings had before him a large delegation, representing the big and little merchants in all parts of the commonwealth protesting against his approval of the bill. They contended that it was an unfair proposition and in its features was inquisitorial and a menace to the business interests of the state. This bill makes the mercantile tax from $7 a year to $12,000, according to the volume of business transacted by the merchant. It requires him to make a return to the mercantile appraiser appointed by the auditor general and state treasurer—one for each county of the state except Philadelphia and Pittsburg, which have five and three, respectively—and should the return be unsatisfactory, the auditor general is given power by the bill to compel a merchant to produce his books and papers. State Treasurer Haywood, in a long statement, takes the position that the merchants, as a class, have not been paying their just share of the burden of taxation, and that this bill is eminently fair in all its parts. He compares the big merchants doing a business of several millions a year to the firm, copartnership and corporation doing a much smaller business and paying a tax many times higher. Notwithstanding the opposition to the bill, it will probably be approved by the governor. This bill was originally a measure to tax beer, but when it reached the senate that body transformed it into a bill taxing merchants and dealers.

Judge Gunnison, of Erie, came here Thursday and made a strong argument before Governor Hastings against the bill ceding the rights of the state to Presque Isle, a peninsular piece of ground extending into Lake Erie, to the city of Erie, on condition that the government would take similar action. Judge Gunnison contends that this bill would be an injury in the end, because it would probably result in the United States government becoming indifferent to the harbor improvements at Erie. He also intimated that Presque Isle, as a public park, the purpose for which the bill is alleged to have been introduced, would not be a place of which the people of Erie would be proud. In fact, he threw cold water on the whole project, and as there is some doubt about the constitutionality of the bill, it is pretty certain to be vetoed.

Adjutant General Thomas J. Stewart has made himself exceedingly popular with the members of the National Guard by establishing a precedent in the matter of issuing a special order announcing promptly the results of the inspections of the guard. In this matter he has been assisted by Inspector General Morrell, who insists that the various subordinate inspectors shall make their reports without delay to headquarters. On Saturday a special order was issued containing the ratings of the various regiments and companies and also the reports of Inspector General Morrell and Brigadier Inspectors Sweeney, Miller and Penny. These figures get into the hands of the guardsmen at the summer encampments before they undergo inspection and enable them to discover their weak points in advance of another inspection. These reports this year indicate that the National Guard of Pennsylvania was never in better shape.

There was a sensational report a day or two ago to the effect that 30 or 40 important bills had failed to reach the governor after passing the legislature, owing to the fact that the presiding officer of one of the two houses had failed to sign the bills. Upon investigation this proved to be without foundation. A bill appropriating about $36,000 to the Garrett School for Deaf and Dumb Children, Philadelphia, was recalled from the governor for amendment during the closing rush and never got back to him. It is difficult to place the responsibility in such cases.

CAUGHT THE CASHIER.

Meixell Arrested at Hot Springs, Ark., After a Two Months' Chase.

Bethlehem, Pa., July 14—John B. Meixell, the cashier of the South Bethlehem National bank, who on May 25 absconded, taking with him $10,000 in cash, has been arrested at Hot Springs, Ark., through the efforts of County Detective Johnson of Easton. Meixell and Willie Hoch, the teller, had been stealing for a long time, and when the bank examiner turned up in May, they decided to leave at once. Meixell went to the vault and took $10,000. He drove to Catasauqua and took a train for the west.

Hoch was to have taken the same train and stole $5,000 in cash. He missed the train and then broke down and confessed. Meixell was traced to Chicago and to St. Louis and thence to Hot Springs. Meixell was also secretary and treasurer of the Lehigh Valley Cold Storage company, and his accounts there are also short. Altogether Meixell has, it is said, defaulted to the amount of some $50,000. Detective Johnson will leave here in the morning to bring the fugitive east.

Y. P. C. E. CONVENTION

CLOSING DAYS OF THE GREAT GATHERING AT SAN FRANCISCO.

President Clark Greatly Pleased With the Work Accomplished and the Spirit Manifested—Most Notable Assembly in the History of the Endeavor Movement.

San Francisco, July 14.—President Clark, founder of the Christian Endeavor movement, thus sums up the work of the convention, which has just closed here:

"The International Christian Endeavor convention of 1897 will pass into history as in some respects the greatest and most memorable of all its 16 predecessors.

"An attendance of more than 40,000, a registration of over 26,000 actual Christian Endeavorers, which is equal to an attendance of 80,000 in any large eastern city when we remember that half of the attendants cross the Rocky mountains in order to reach the convention.

"But better far than the numbers and more worthy of note was the spirit of the convention, its earnestness, its genuine ring, its high spiritual qualities.

"It brought a blessing to California; it will leave a blessing to California. It

REV. FRANCIS E. CLARK.

will leave a blessing behind it, and all the delegates will take a blessing home with them as they scatter to the remotest parts of the world."

Many of the delegates have already departed for their homes, and many more will depart today and tomorrow. A large portion of the strangers, however, will visit various points of interest before returning to their homes.

Sunday's Session.

Sunday was an especially busy day for the members of the organization. Many meetings were held, all, however, being devotional in character, business affairs not interesting the Endeavorers on the Sabbath.

At the regular morning services of worship the pulpits of all the Protestant Evangelical churches in the city, except the Emanuel Baptist, the scene of the Durrant murder, of which Rev. J. G. Gibson is pastor, were filled by prominent preachers from all parts of the world. Mr. Gibson is a Christian Endeavorer, yet did not offer his pulpit to guests of the local societies.

In several instances overflow meetings were held, that in the extensive basement of the First Congregational church, addressed by Rev. W. H. Temple of Seattle, being almost as large as the gathering in the main auditorium, where the sermon was preached by the Rev. N. Boynton of Detroit.

The great gathering of the day was the afternoon meeting in Mechanics' pavilion, presided over by President Clark.

"In the Interest of the Lord's Day" was the general theme of a series of eloquent addresses, which rank among the best of the convention. Thousands who sought admittance to the auditorium lingered regretfully in the streets long after the "no more room" sign was hung out. The usual song service, conducted by Robert Husband of San Francisco, was followed by devotional exercises, led by the Rev. A. D. Kinser of Lyons, Ia.

"Woman's Part."

The first speaker, Miss Matilda Kay of New York city, had as her subject "Woman's Part." She spoke particularly of the Woman's National Sabbath alliance, which had its birth in New York city two years ago. In conclusion Miss Kay spoke of Rosa Bonheur, of whom Victor Hugo once said: "As a creative artist I prize her works above those of all other women, because she listened to God and not to man."

"May that be said of every woman here," said the speaker, "that she listened to God and remembered to keep his day holy."

"Modern Time of Sabbath Observance" was presented by the Rev. W. H. Temple of Seattle, who eloquently discussed the forms of desecration of the Sabbath, godless rationalism, greed which is evidenced in Sabbath industry and unsanctified pleasure. Relative to the latter point, he said that in London actors and actresses had died for rest on Sunday because of the degraded type of audiences on that day.

Following two selections by the uniformed Policemen's Glee club, the Rev. Josiah Strong spoke of the "Civic Sabbath." He made distinction between the divine Sabbath and the human Sabbath, which are unlike in origin, authority and character. He urged freedom from labor on this day of rest, not only from a physical standpoint, because liberty of rest can only be secured where there is a law of rest. He also deprecated certain forms of amusement which are detrimental to public morals.

The speaker declared finally that the church and not the state must save the desecrated seventh day.

Mass Meeting For Men.

A mass meeting for men only was held at Woodward's pavilion in the afternoon. It was a success in every respect, and the sight of thousands of men, many of them gray bearded, excitedly waving their handkerchiefs in giving the chautauqua salute, will long be remembered.

After singing by the male chorus, led by A. N. Bonham, Rev. J. W. Chapman of Philadelphia spoke of the evil of dissipation, his remarks being blunt and effective. R. E. Elwood the Philadelphia evangelist, rendered "Saved by His Grace," a solo. Then came a unique and striking feature of the service—singing by the Police Choral society of San Francisco, all the members being in full uniform. They rendered "Throw Out the Lifeline."

A strong address was made by Rev. F. T. Ottman of Newark, N. J., on "Infidelity," and after several other musical selections "Morality" was discussed in an able manner by H. J. McCoy of this city.

A meeting for women, presided over by Mrs. Frances E. Clark of Boston, was held during the afternoon at the First Congregational church. Miss Katherine M. Jones of New York spoke on "Woman's Power," and "Our Reasonable Service" was the subject of an address by Mrs. G. W. Coleman of Boston. The "quiet hour" was conducted by Charles Studd of London. During the evening regular services were held in all of the city churches.

Monday's Services.

The attendance at the morning and afternoon meetings Monday was large, and at night those who managed to obtain entrance to either of the main meeting places were fortunate, for only 25,000 could be accommodated, and 10,000 more sought admission.

The most notable meeting Monday was the one at Woodford pavilion, in the afternoon, at which Secretary John Willis Bear of Boston presided. "Practical School of Christian Endeavor Methods and Ways of Working" was the name given to the proceedings. The most interesting feature was a series of so called open parliaments held by Christian Endeavorers. They were conducted by the leaders asking for suggestions for practical work, whereupon enthusiasts arose in every part of the hall for a one minute suggestion.

Estimates made by leading business men agree that the people brought here by this great gathering will leave not less than $1,000,000 in the city. All the leaders of the movement are pleased with the success of their efforts and with the outlook for the future of the society.

A LULL IN THE STRIKE

IT MAY BE THE PROVERBIAL CALM BEFORE THE STORM.

Operators In the Pittsburg District Planning a Coup to Defeat the Striking Miners—A Repetition of the Stickle Hollow Tragedy May Be Repeated.

Pittsburg, July 14.—There is a lull in the miners' strike in this district, attributable to the fact that nearly every mine in the district is idle. To keep up the enthusiasm and prevent the strikers from becoming lukewarm in the cause, however, the officials have arranged for a series of meetings in different sections every day. Meetings have been held at Banning, Fayette City and West Newton, and at each place resolutions were adopted not to return to work until the officials gave the order.

A large meeting has also been held at Snowden, on the Wheeling division, and the men were unanimous in their determination to stand firm for the 69 cent rate. The miners on this division fear that the company will soon begin evictions from their houses and intimate that if this is attempted there will be no trouble.

The meeting was addressed by President Garland of the Amalgamated association, Thomas Grundy of the United Teamsters, M. P. Carrick of the Painters and Decorators, and John Kelley of the United Labor league.

News has reached the miners' headquarters that the diggers in the Cannel, Warner and Morgan mines, Beaver county, have thrown down their picks and joined the general strike. The three pits employ about 300 men. The strike has also spread to Mercer county. Five mines are idle in that region. They are Hallville, Spear, Ridge and Diamond mines Nos. 1 and 2. The men struck for an advance of 10 cents per ton.

An effort has been made to resume work at the Eagle mine at Monongahela City. It is a co-operative concern, but the sentiment of a majority of the stockholders was against resumption, and it was decided to keep the pit closed until the strike was settled. A delegation from Brownsville says the Knob, Beaumont, Umpire and Albany mines have closed down, and the miners have joined in the general strike, with a determination to remain out until the question of wages is satisfactorily settled.

President Dolan said a movement would shortly be made on the mines above the Pennsylvania railroad that are still in operation, and a strong effort will be made to bring the men out. No plans have yet been arranged to bring out the men at the three mines of the New York and Cleveland Gas Coal company, but Mr. Dolan says they will receive attention later in the week.

The Calm Before a Storm.

The proverbial calm before the storm is likely to be exemplied in the miners' strike situation here.

It has developed that a number of the operators have been quietly planning a coup, which is expected to bring dismay to the miners. It is the intention to at once equip the mines with machines and do away with a great many diggers. When the mines are ready to start, miners will be imported and put to work under heavy guard and the premises barricaded. With the co-operation of the other operators J. A. Beidler of the Webster Gas Coal company, located on the Monongahela river, will take the initiative. The operators claim this plan becomes necessary because the West Virginia people are gobbling all of their contracts. It goes without saying that the diggers will resort to every possible means to prevent the carrying out of the proposed scheme. From present appearances the Stickle Hollow tragedy of 1894, when seven striking miners were killed, is likely to be repeated soon. This mine is in the Washington run district and has been reported as closed. The managers deny that it has been closed for an hour. They are determined to continue work and have made preparations for trouble.

It was reported at the miners' headquarters here that 2,000 miners in that district were getting ready to march on the mine and bring out the 400 men working there. The attempt is to be made on Friday or Saturday. This mine is shipping daily 100 cars and is a menace to the success of the strike.

A movement is also on foot among the strikers along the Panhandle to march to the Boon and Allison mines and compel the miners there to quit work. If these threats are carried out, there will probably be a repetition of the bloody scenes that characterized the closing days of the strike of 1894.

It is probable that Eugene V. Debs will spend a few days in this district. The local officials are making an effort to have him address several meetings here before he goes to West Virginia.

Pennsylvania's Alien Tax Law.

Philadelphia, July 9.—The new alien tax law signed by Governor Hastings two weeks ago has resulted in an unusual number of applications by foreigners for first papers. Over 1,800 first papers have thus far been issued. The law requires that employers pay a tax of 3 cents each working day for each unnaturalized foreigner employed. Employers generally have determined to compensate themselves for this outlay by deducting the amount from the foreigners' wages. To this fact is attributed the hurry to become citizens. The exaction of the per diem tax is required until the final papers are taken out.

The Rev. S. H. Camp of Brooklyn has been stricken with paralysis at Woodstock, Conn.

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