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ACTION OF THE CAUCUS

Pending Carlisle Currency Bill Has Been Indorsed.

A VOTE TO BE TAKEN THIS WEEK

The Action of the Caucus Not Binding, However, and Members May Vote as They See Fit.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 7.—By a vote of 81 to 39, the democratic caucus today indorsed the Carlisle substitute currency bill now before the house. Speaker Crisp took the lead in presenting the resolution, and vigorously urged the necessity of its adoption. The committee on rules was instructed to bring in a rule tomorrow to close the debate. Efforts to amend Mr. Crisp's resolution were voted down, one of the adverse votes showing only 13 members of the caucus favorable to an issue of bonds to retire the greenbacks. The result of the caucus is accepted as a preliminary expression by friends of the bill, notwithstanding the passage of the resolution of indorsement. The 81 votes which the measure commanded in caucus is far short of the number necessary to pass it in the house. It is the belief, however, that many of the 39 votes recorded against the resolution will be changed, now that the Carlisle bill has the prestige of the caucus indorsement. But the caucus is not a binding one, and the members of the banking and currency committee, were on hand. Cookran stated early in the day that if the caucus was to be binding he would not enter it, and it was understood that the caucus was not binding. Assurances were given that the caucus would be advisory rather than binding, and Cookran and his associates concluded to attend. The issue of the caucus was presented by the following resolution, prepared by Springer and introduced by Speaker Crisp:

"Resolved, That it is the sense of this caucus that the Carlisle currency bill should be passed by the house of representatives substantially as presented in the substitute, which has been printed in the Record, and which will be offered at the proper time by the chairman of the banking and currency committee, and that the committee on rules be requested to report an order tomorrow, after the reading of the journal, which shall provide for its consideration on the floor of the house, and thereafter under the five-minute rule, and for a final vote thereon at the nearest time practicable during the week."

Livingston, of Georgia, started the caucus at 11 o'clock by moving that all who were in attendance should be bound by the action of the caucus. From various parts of the hall came cries of "No," and for a time the caucus was in considerable confusion. Chairman Holman finally sustained the point of order. He said:

"For 20 years it has been the unbroken rule of the house of representatives to consider the action of a caucus as advisory and not as binding. It leaves members entirely free to act according to their own judgment. It was agreed that all speeches should be limited to five minutes, and Crisp then spoke in support of the resolution he had offered. He spoke of the profound importance of the situation in which the majority of the house found itself, and called for conservative and careful action and a united party. The resolution was designed to test the sentiment of the caucus on the point involved, whether the currency bill now before the house should pass or not. Bland followed in opposition to the resolution, saying:

"We have now reached the point when the democratic party, for the first time in its history, is asked to become the advocate of national banks. He then urged his specific objections to the bill, being frequently interrupted by calls of "Vote," and by the speaker in support of the resolution. He spoke mainly of the importance of a caucus in securing the adhesion of members. While caucus action was not binding, it was nevertheless regarded as very persuasive on the judgment of members when party action was involved. He continued:

"The present emergency must be met by the democratic party as a whole. The responsibility is on the party, and the people will hold the party accountable for its action. In such an emergency caucus action has been very effective in bringing members of the party together and overcoming minor objections. Springer's time was extended to 10 minutes, in view of his being in charge of the bill. There was a lively interchange of questions and answers between Cookran and Springer before the latter closed. Cookran asked if Springer did not regard the currency situation as an economic rather than a party question, a question which never should be before the party caucus action. Springer replied that the question was both a party and an economic question, but in the present case the party would be held responsible for the execution of economic principles. There was much confusion as the cross-fire between the two gentlemen proceeded, and Chairman Holman tried vainly to preserve order and quiet.

Brief speeches were made by Cox of Tennessee, Coombs of New York, Bailey of Wyoming, McRae of Arkansas, Washington of Tennessee, Bryan of Nebraska, and Sperry of Connecticut. They showed a very wide divergence of individual views. Sperry closed his remarks by offering an amendment to the pending resolution by which the Sperry bill for an issue of bonds to refund the greenbacks was to be substituted as the one on which the caucus was to express its approval. Johnson of Ohio, a member of the banking and currency committee, followed in opposition to the resolution. Berry of Arkansas also submitted an amendment proposing as the sense of the caucus a bill authorizing

each state to buy silver bullion to the amount of \$1 for each inhabitant, and send the same to the United States treasury, to be coined and returned to the several states. This closed the speech-making, and the admission of amendments, and a voting began.

The Berry amendment was voted on first, and was defeated 51 to 64. The Sperry amendment was also defeated—13 to 70. The last vote was regarded as significant, as showing the limited strength of the plan to issue bonds to retire greenbacks. The 13 voting for the amendment were:

Sperry and De Forrest of Connecticut, Hart and Pearson of Ohio, Strauss, Coombs, Lockwood, Tracey and Hendricks of New York, Brickner and Wells of Wisconsin, Fielder of New Jersey, and McAleer of Pennsylvania.

The question then recurred on the original resolution to indorse the Carlisle substitute bill. It was decided to divide the resolution, so as to have separate votes on the indorsement of the bill and on the instructions to the committee on rules. The first part, indorsing the bill, was carried by a vote of 81 to 39. The second part, directing the committee to attempt to bring a rule tomorrow, was adopted without division, and the caucus adjourned.

Those interested in the bill expressed satisfaction in the result, as it gave the prestige of caucus indorsement to the Carlisle bill.

ALL AGAINST DEBS.

Indictments Will Stand and Application for Habeas Corpus Denied.

CHICAGO, Jan. 7.—Judge Grosscup this morning announced that he would render his decision in the proceedings to quash the indictments for conspiracy against Debs and others tomorrow afternoon. He indicated that he would deny the motion to quash, and told the counsel to be ready to go to trial. The several motions for separate trials were all denied.

After the adjournment today of the court of appeals, Judge Woods, sitting as a court of appeals, rendered his decision for Debs and others and for the government, that he would overrule the application for a writ of habeas corpus, as he could not review his own decision, and would allow the appeal direct to the supreme court. Judge Woods added that he was not disposed to enforce the imprisonment of the defendants, but would remand them to the custody of the sheriff when the stay of execution expired tomorrow, and that the officer would undoubtedly use his own discretion.

HIS LAST OFFICIAL ACT

Attorney-General Hart Says There Can Be No Contest.

THE LAW IS UNCONSTITUTIONAL

There Are Rumors That the Republican Leaders Are Determined to Prevent Budd's Inauguration.

SACRAMENTO, Jan. 7.—Attorney-General Hart has given an opinion that there can be no gubernatorial contest before the present legislature, because the law which provides for the contest is unconstitutional in conferring on the legislative judicial powers. He says Budd must be sworn in as governor. It is stated, however, that the republicans are going to press the gubernatorial contest in the legislature. This morning the members of the contest committee of the state central committee arrived and commenced work among the legislators. The democratic party is attempting to have Mr. Budd sworn in tomorrow at a joint session of both houses. Before the two legislative sessions, and then the first of the contest will be held in the shape of a concurrent resolution to be introduced in the assembly by Timothy Gay Phelps, and in the senate by Ed. Dennis. It will recite the charges of fraud in connection with the late election and ask for the immediate appointment of a joint nonpartisan committee of five from each house whose duty it will be to investigate the charges of fraud and report as soon as possible with recommendations as to the best method to be pursued in having the election of the people not to be defeated. The resolution will also provide for the postponing of the inauguration of the governor until after the report of the committee.

Warren and Clark.

CHEYENNE, Wyo., Jan. 7.—J. C. Davis and J. L. Torrey, prominent candidates for the caucus, were in the city today, making the election of ex-Senator F. E. Warren and Congressman C. D. Clark almost assured.

Solid Caucus for Pettigrew.

PIERRE, S. D., Jan. 7.—In the republican caucus today, Senator Pettigrew was unanimously selected to succeed himself as United States senator. The vote was 91 solid.

Harris is Renominated.

NASHVILLE, Tenn., Jan. 7.—The democratic caucus today renominated United States Senator Harris. State Treasurer Craig and Comptroller Harris.

Power and Carter.

HELENA, Mont., Jan. 7.—The leading candidates for the senatorship are T. H. Carter and Senator Power. Balloting will begin a week from tomorrow.

Election Returns Tampered With.

SALT LAKE, Jan. 7.—Today sensational evidence was given in the mandamus election case against the Utah commission. The petitioners for the writ prohibiting the commission from counting the ballots to settle discrepancies in the returns seek to show that the returns have been tampered with since they were received by the commission. Several judges of election testified that names had been added to the poll lists since they were left in their hands. Today Judge Tatlock, one of the republican members of the commission, testified that he believed names had been added and alterations made in the poll lists by the democratic clerk of the commission, alleging the handwriting in the lists was in the handwriting of the clerk.

Gov Now a Judge.

NEW YORK, Jan. 7.—John William Goff, the new recorder, took his seat today on the bench as the presiding judge of the court of general sessions for the county and county of New York. A vast number of cases were already moved out of the building. Before Mr. Goff entered the judge's desk was profusely decorated with flowers. The new recorder was introduced by Judge Cowing and his colleagues were greeted with prolonged applause. He charged the grand jury with the duty of investigating charges of oppression and persecution against public officials.

All in the Sheriff.

LOS ANGELES, Jan. 7.—The newly-elected county officers, with one exception, were formally inducted into office today at noon. The exception was the office of sheriff, which is still held by J. C. Cline. Cline refused to vacate his office, and was unopposed to his satisfaction that Sheriff-elect John Burr is entitled to the office according to law. The hitch is not caused by the question of the legality of Cline's election, but by the anomaly of the fact that Burr failed to qualify within the time prescribed by law. The supervisors will decide the question tomorrow.

Richardson Now Governor of Wyoming.

CHEYENNE, WYO., Jan. 7.—Governor-elect Richardson was inaugurated at noon today, with imposing ceremonies. The Senate and House of Representatives, State militia and state militia and civil societies participated. Retiring Governor Osborne, in welcoming his successor, made an eloquent speech, predicting a most successful and successful administration. The ceremonies closed with an inaugural ball.

No Ceremony at Boise.

BOISE, Jan. 7.—The new state officers were sworn in just before noon today, without ceremony.

State Legislatures Which Begun Their Sessions Yesterday.

SACRAMENTO, Jan. 7.—The legislature met in regular session today. The senate was called to order by Lieutenant-Governor Reddick, and the oath of office administered to the new members, after which an adjournment till tomorrow was taken. The house organized by electing John C. Lynch, of San Francisco, speaker. No mention was made in the senate of Mr. Millard's absence. After the adjournment Lieutenant-Governor Reddick said:

"I shall hold over until Mr. Millard comes from Los Angeles and is qualified by taking the oath before the houses of the legislature in joint session. That is the law."

"But suppose Mr. Millard should take the oath in Los Angeles?"

"Can he do it? The statutes provide that he must appear and take the oath before both houses of the legislature."

Senator Reddick, who is the chairman of the committee on the constitution, expressed himself most clearly. He said Millard would take the oath of office in Los Angeles. The constitution provides that the lieutenant-governor should hold office until his successor is elected and qualified. He held that the provision in the statute that he should qualify by taking the oath before the two houses of the legislature was nugatory and unconstitutional. The chairman of the Lieutenant-Governor Reddick, therefore, is just as absurd, he added, as the proposition would be that in the case of the death of Millard, Reddick would hold office until his successor is elected and qualified—that is, for two years more.

An Organization in Montana.

HELENA, Mont., Jan. 7.—The fourth legislative assembly met at noon today. The republicans have a majority in both houses, and named all the officers. Senator Folsom was elected president pro tem, and W. H. Sweet speaker of the house. The governor's message will be read tomorrow. Balloting for United States senator will begin a week from tomorrow.

The Republican Seated.

SANTA FE, N. M., Jan. 7.—The upper house of the legislative assembly seated J. A. Ancha, rep., in place of G. W.

THEY FEAR A FLOOD

People in Pennsylvania, Virginia and Ohio Alarmed.

MUCH DAMAGE ALREADY DONE

At Pittsburg, Wheeling and Cincinnati and Near-by River Points the Water is Rising Rapidly.

PITTSBURG, Jan. 7.—River men are thoroughly alarmed over the probability of a big flood at this point. The Monongahela came out with a rush this morning, and with the breaking of the ice in the upper pool the damage to the boats began. Immense coal fleets were threatened with destruction. The Allegheny is full of ice, and is running like a torrent. A great amount of wreckage is coming down, indicating danger at points above. River men said today that they expected a stage of 30 feet with a prospect of going still higher. In the great flood of 1881 Allegheny rose to 25 feet, and great damage was done.

There was great excitement along the Monongahela wharf today. The channel was full of ice and snow and the current water is now over the cofferdam, and the harbor and the boat bottoms tied up along the river gave way early this morning and went rushing down the river. The ferry-boat Sinclair broke away and floated down stream, but was caught in the harbor and towed safely to shore. The report of 35 feet of water at Lock No. 4, and 35 feet at Morgantown caused a general panic among the coal operators, and most of the boats and employees were ordered out and stationed along the river to look after the craft and make reports. There were several millions of bushels of coal on the banks in the harbor here, and an effort was made to keep the fleets from being wrecked. Several coal barges, a house-boat and a swinging ferry-boat broke from their moorings and went down with the current.

The most serious damage along the Allegheny will be done to the government work at Harris Island, where the new dam is now in course of construction. The water is now over the cofferdam, and it is likely all the work will be destroyed. The residents of Etma and Sharsburg are alarmed. The low ground in both towns is submerged, and the water is rising. The railroad tracks, which are not being troubled by the high water, although no serious damage has been done yet. At McDonald, on the Panhandle, the Union News Company's stand was washed away this morning. The building was built on piles along the river bank, and when the ice broke the piles were knocked out from under it and the building floated down the stream. The Allegheny at Conneville, which completely interrupted traffic for several hours.

Forecaster Stewart, of the local signal office, does not think the stage in the Allegheny will reach 25 feet. He says the only danger now of a flood is to be apprehended from the Monongahela river, which is now rising rapidly.

PITTSBURG, Jan. 8.—The latest news is encouraging, and indicates that the flood has done its worst, so far as Pittsburgh and points above on both rivers are concerned.

M'KESPORT, Pa., Jan. 8.—At midnight the water is up on Market street, and all families living along Water street have moved out.

BEAVER, Pa., Jan. 7.—Reports tonight say that the cofferdam at the new government dam below Van Port, has been swept away, with a considerable money damage and the loss of one life.

At the Mercy of the Waters.

UNIONTOWN, Pa., Jan. 7.—The flood is sweeping things along the river at a lively rate tonight, and the situation is really alarming. Yowerville, a suburb of New Haven, is submerged, and two-thirds of the citizens have already moved out, and if the water rises much higher, their homes will be swept away. Reports from Dawson, Dickerson's run, Darnings and other towns down the river show that they are all at the mercy of the waters, and great damage is being done.

Still Rising at Wheeling.

WHEELING, W. Va., Jan. 7.—The rivers are still rising, and considerable damage has already been done. On the Cleveland, Loraine & Wheeling road, one of the bridges was washed away. There has been no train north today, and the train due at Brigsport at 10:50 P. M., has been abandoned at Ulrichville. The Panhandle, Baltimore, Ohio and Ohio River trains are all right so far.

Forty-Six Hours of Rain.

PARKERSBURG, W. Va., Jan. 7.—Rain has fallen here steadily for 46 hours and the river is rapidly rising. At Grantsville, up the Kanawha river, the water is 23 feet, and rising. Timberman predict immense damage. The steamer Onida, a river packet, was sunk here at midnight. The ice knocked a hole in her, and she will be a total loss.

THE RIVER AT CINCINNATI.

It Rose About Fourteen Feet in Twenty-four Hours.

CINCINNATI, Ohio, Jan. 7.—The river continues to rise, and at midnight stood at 21 feet 2 inches. This is a rise of about 11 feet in the last 24 hours. The rain ceased early today, having been a record-breaker. For the 24 hours ending at 11 o'clock, the total fall was 2.7 inches. The reports are against the supposition that a flood will result, although, in the low lands, considerable damage has been done. No great damage has been done in the immediate vicinity of Cincinnati. Several bridges and levees have given way, but the total loss is less than \$25,000. At Portsmouth a boom of 150 logs broke and will be a total loss. The worst reports come from the Little Kanawha. The steamer Onida, which exploded here Sunday, was righted, but went to the bottom later, as did the Matamoros, lying at Newport, W. Va. For a time, logs were coming out of the Kanawha river at the rate of 100 a minute. The railroad companies are being inconvenienced in that section, but have lost no track or bridge.

In Southern Indiana.

INDIANAPOLIS, Ind., Jan. 7.—Advises from southern Indiana to the News report disastrous floods, resulting from the heavy rains.

A Serious Accident.

Mr. Joseph Holladay last night met with an accident which possibly may be attended with serious consequences. For a number of years Mr. Holladay has suffered from a kidney ailment. Last night, while operating upon himself, the instrument broke, leaving a portion in his body, causing most excruciating pain. Dr. Belf, his attending physician, was speedily summoned, and rendered such assistance as he could, but the result of the accident can hardly be determined before today.