

SENATE TAKES IT UP

Discussion Begun on the Puerto Rican Tariff.

PETTUS SPEECH IN OPPOSITION

Foraker Defended the Provisions of the Bill—Remarks by Hoar and Tillman.

WASHINGTON, March 8.—Formal discussion of the Puerto Rican tariff and civil government bill began in the Senate today, and continued uninterruptedly for six hours. The bill was introduced by Foraker, but at various times during the debate lively colloquies occurred, in which other Senators took part.

The routine business was concluded, Mason (Rep. Ill.), in accordance with the notice he gave yesterday, moved to discharge the committee on foreign relations from further consideration of his resolution expressing sympathy for the Boers.

A bill giving an American register to the steamer Windward, presented by a British citizen to Robert E. Peary, United States Navy, the Arctic explorer, was passed.

Pettus (Dem. Ala.) then addressed the Senate on the Puerto Rican bill. He congratulated the President on the position he had taken in his annual message, favoring free trade between the United States and Puerto Rico.

"No arid politician's fingers had been put in the ink of that message," he said. "The President's policy was to favor free trade between the United States and Puerto Rico. He was distinctly advised free trade between the United States and the island of Puerto Rico. The public press is now trying to make it appear that the author of the bill is the author of the pending bill, and that the President has acceded to the provisions of the measure. For one, I refuse to believe this charge against the President. These bills are the result of his own initiative, and he is a brave soldier, and is an able and generous man. For him it is not everything in life to be re-elected to the Presidency by the people of the United States for the common good of all the people. If he approves your bill, then I may believe any vile story against any good man."

Pettus called attention to the amendment proposed by Davis (Rep. Minn.), which he said, was a most interesting specimen of the products of inventive genius.

"The Senator proposes," said Pettus, "to send over to the Puerto Ricans the Constitution in installments—a little now and a little then, until they have secured the whole thing."

Morgan (Dem. Ala.) gave notice of his intention to move to lay the entire substitute of the Senate committee for the House bill on the table.

Foraker (Rep. O.) in charge of the pending bill, replied to Pettus. Adverting to the criticism aroused by the bill, both in the newspapers and among the people, Foraker said that he had been informed, not intelligently and appreciative man in Puerto Rico had dissented from the propositions of the measure. There may have been some criticism, but generally it was accredited as an excellent bill.

Lindsay (Dem. Ky.) inquired if Governor General Wood had not been recommended free trade with Puerto Rico.

"Yes," replied Foraker, "he did make such a recommendation, but the committee after full consideration, decided against his proposal. We are to legislate for the whole United States, and we were forced to consider the question from all points of view. The tariff provision was constructive. The duties on the Puerto Ricans, and in its generosity it is without precedent in the territorial legislation of the United States."

Foraker explained the provisions of the bill, showing that all the internal revenue taxes and the customs duties, instead of being paid into the United States treasury, as has been the case in every other territory, are to be paid into the treasury of the island and be solely for the benefit of the Puerto Ricans. In round figures, the revenues would aggregate \$2,000,000, about \$400,000 in customs and \$600,000 from internal revenues.

Gallinger (Rep. N. H.) interjected the remark that it was proposed to expend \$2,000,000 for schoolhouses on the island, and a like sum for the construction of roads.

"Yes," continued Foraker, "we propose to do that, and we propose, in that connection, to give the Puerto Ricans remunerative labor and employment."

Continuing, the Ohio Senator said that after all means of raising revenue had been considered, it was found necessary to provide at least \$1,000,000 more annually. Then it was proposed to levy a duty of 25 per cent of the Dingley law on products of the island imported into this country, and the amount so raised back to Puerto Rico.

"The Senator admits," said Davis, interrupting, "that this handing back of revenues to a political subdivision of the United States is unprecedented, that it will not raise the revenue as usual, and, it necessary to relieve distress in Puerto Rico, provide relief by a direct appropriation from the United States treasury."

"The United States has never undertaken to support a local government in any territory," replied Foraker. "The situation in Puerto Rico is analogous. If the island is to have schools, good roads and public improvements, it must get them through taxation. On such taxation as is proposed in the bill."

A DEMOCRAT UNSEALED

THE HOUSE GAVE ROBBINS' PLACE TO ALDRICH.

Vote Was Strictly a Party One—Two Days Each Week Set Apart for Pension Legislation.

WASHINGTON, March 8.—The House unseated Gaston A. Robbins, a Democrat, from the Fourth district of Alabama, and seated in his stead William F. Aldrich, a Republican, who has been three times a contestant from the same district on the ground of fraud, and who is now given his seat for the third time by a Republican House. The vote was strictly a party one. This case out of the way, a new rule was brought in to set aside the day sessions on the second and fourth Fridays of each month for pension legislation. The rule limited debate on each bill to 15 minutes on a side, but this provision was withdrawn upon the assurance of Richardson, the minority leader, that his side of the House would not indulge in filibustering.

At the opening session of the House Overstreet (Rep. Ind.), in charge of the conference report on the financial bill, gave notice that he would call up the report next Tuesday. By unanimous consent, it was agreed that the vote on the report should be taken at 4:30 Tuesday afternoon.

Debate on the contested election case of Aldrich-Robbins was then resumed, under agreement that a vote should be taken today. Hamilton (Rep. Mich.) addressed the House in support of Robbins. Elliott (Dem. Ga.) closed for the sitting member, Robbins, and Mann (Rep. Ill.) for the contestant.

The minority resolutions declaring Robbins entitled to retain his seat were defeated by a strictly party vote, 134 to 138, and then by 142 to 136 Aldrich, the contestant, was declared entitled to his seat. Aldrich was sworn in at once. The House then adjourned until Friday night session.

Richardson (Dem. Tenn.) criticized the rule and questioned the necessity for it. He declared that the other side, if it lived up to its professions of friendship for the old soldier, could bring a quorum to the House Friday evenings.

Mahon (Rep. Pa.) attacked Talbot (Dem. S. C.) who had introduced legislation Friday nights by demanding the presence of a quorum. Mahon's attack led to hot words between him and Talbot, the hot words expressing a wish that the members of the majority should be killed, wounded, or died of disease. The garrison is so small that the hope that some one, Populist or Republican, should contest his seat in order that he could vote to throw him out without reason or justice, as the gentleman from Alabama had been thrown out a few minutes ago. (Democratic applause.)

Proceeding, Talbot denounced the Republicans as hypocrites and pretended friends of the old soldiers, and reiterated his intention of insisting upon the presence of a quorum for the consideration of pension bills, whether the sessions were held at night or in the day. The rule was adopted without division.

At 5 o'clock the House adjourned.

RECIPROCITY TREATY.

France Will Be Asked to Extend the Time for Its Consideration.

WASHINGTON, March 8.—Several conferences were held with the President today on the pending reciprocity treaty with France, with the result that it is thought that the French Government will be communicated with on a proposition to extend the time for its ratification or rejection. By the terms of the treaty, action must be taken thereon before the 24th of the present month, and it is the opinion of many prominent members of Congress that, if pushed to a vote at this session, the treaty will fall. Hence an effort is being made to secure postponement until the terms of the treaty can be more fully considered.

Efforts to Secure Ratification.

NEW YORK, March 8.—A special to the Herald from Washington says: "The friends of the Franco reciprocity treaty in the Senate are going to make an effort to bring about the ratification of the treaty the coming week. If necessary, it will be made the subject of caucus action. As the matter now stands, the treaty was practically deadlocked by a motion to refer it to the Finance committee. It has already been favorably reported from the committee on foreign relations and was briefly considered in executive session. The opponents of the treaty include the entire New England delegation, which has the best parliamentary tacticians in the Senate. If a vote could be reached, it is asserted that the treaty could easily muster the two-thirds to insure its ratification. Appeals from all parts of the country are daily made to Senators in behalf of the prompt ratification of the treaty, but by sharp practice the opposition has thus far been able to prevent decisive action. So bitter is the contest over this treaty that the steering committee has been unable thus far to bring about an amicable adjustment of the difficulty. At a meeting of the committee this subject was under consideration, and it is understood that the case will be referred to the Republican caucus, which is to be held in a few days for the purpose of trying to untangle the snarls into which the Republican party in the Senate has been drawn by recent events."

Grip and Pneumonia.

NEW YORK, March 8.—Dr. Tracey, registrar of vital statistics of the Health Department, says that there has been a large increase in the number of deaths from grip and pneumonia in the last week compared with the same week of 1899. During this period the deaths from both diseases were 248, as compared with 189, in 1899. Grip, Borough of Manhattan, 1899, 11; 1900, 25. The five boroughs: 1899, 13; 1900, 52.

Flying Fox Sold.

LONDON, March 8.—At the sale of the late Duke of Westminster's string of race horses today, Flying Fox, the winner in 1898 of the St. James's Palace Stakes, sold for £7,500, the highest price ever paid for a horse in England. Flying Fox was bred by the late Duke of Devonshire and was owned by the late Duke of Westminster. He was trained by Mr. J. W. Porter and was ridden by Mr. J. W. Porter. He was sold to Mr. J. W. Porter for £7,500. He was bred by the late Duke of Devonshire and was owned by the late Duke of Westminster. He was trained by Mr. J. W. Porter and was ridden by Mr. J. W. Porter. He was sold to Mr. J. W. Porter for £7,500.

THE SHIP SUBSIDY BILL

HOUSE COMMITTEE VOTED TO REPORT IT FAVORABLY.

The Measure as It Stands Amended Practically Agrees With the Senate Bill.

WASHINGTON, March 8.—The House committee on merchant marine and fisheries held an extended session today, with a view to completing the ship-subsidy bill, which has been under consideration for some time. The bill as originally introduced served as the basis for action, a number of amendments being made along the lines of the substitute measure proposed by Representative Minor. These amendments have been incorporated in the bill in the Senate bill, so that the action of the House committee brings the two houses in virtual agreement on the form of the measure. The voting discloses that the majority was united in the general plan of revising the bill.

Substitute for Cape Nome Bill.

WASHINGTON, March 8.—The House committee on public lands has agreed upon a substitute for the Lacey Cape Nome mining bill. The purpose of the substitute bill is to give the miners, through miners' meetings, the power to control the working of the beach claims to the Republican caucus, which is to be held in a few days for the purpose of trying to untangle the snarls into which the Republican party in the Senate has been drawn by recent events.

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MAP OF THE ORANGE FREE STATE, THE SCENE OF LORD ROBERTS' INVASION.

DEFENSE AGAINST INFLATION

No Danger of Excessive Note Issues Under New Law.

New York Commercial Advertiser. There are persons that never can be happy except when intoxicating themselves with anticipation of disaster. No sooner does the new financial legislation promise relief from contraction through operation of the treasury system on the revenues than there is a chorus of apprehension lest this lead to dangerous inflation of bank-note currency. This comes at first from enemies of the National banking system, persons that wish to see all the circulating medium of the country drawn out of the treasury on the credit of the Government. It is likely to extend, with the inevitable rapid increase of bank-note circulation under the new law, to persons of academic habits who will apply the precepts of the past to the changed conditions of the present. The new law will contain within itself ample safeguard against note inflation under the new conditions. The safeguard is that it rests on immutable economic law. There is no peril in inflation of currency equal in value in gold and redeemable in gold, because the gold is drawn off by exportation, and the necessary contraction of notes resting on it. Alarmists do not question that there is absolute security for all notes, bank or treasury, new or old, when they rest on gold. The treasury reserve is enlarged and protected to secure the legal tenders, and every dollar in bank notes has a dollar in Government bonds, payable in gold, behind it. The firm establishment of the gold standard puts an end to all the uncertainty of permanent value of all kinds of currency that has been the constant provocation of drain of gold from the treasury and the danger of inflation. All others rest on and flow from it. The alarmists have so long been accustomed to the notion of a gold standard, a safe and a gold or to purchase bonds, and to reduce the gold obligations of the Government; and, of course, no one need sell bonds for them unless he wishes. So this surplusage, beyond the business demand, will dispose of itself automatically. There is no fear of a surplus of bank notes, because these are only profitable, even on 2 per cent, when lent on sound security. The notion that they will be used to buy bonds in order to lend notes on cats and dogs, is a relic of the old wild-cat days, when all a bank needed to issue notes was a cat, a seal, a safe and a pad of letter-heads. Complete responsibility for note redemption is safeguarded against inflation. The banks will be quick to take up notes, they can't lend safely, and sell the bonds for a better investment.

AMATEUR TOURNAMENT.

Third Night at Olympic Club Devoted to Boxing.

SAN FRANCISCO, March 8.—The third night of the amateur athletic tournament was devoted to boxing exclusively. The results were: Feather-weight—Daniel Dandinger defeated William Schoenfeld; Frank McConnel defeated N. T. Gilchrist; Special, 155 pounds—J. L. Scholes, Jr., of Toronto, defeated Robert Lawrence; Lightweight—George Eager defeated D. Carroll; J. E. Britt defeated W. K. Gooby. Welter-weight—Joe Doyle defeated J. J. Groom; St. Bergen defeated James Pollock; H. W. Pincus defeated J. Dukelove; Thomas Marlet defeated E. Berry. Middle-weight—W. J. Radenbach (New York) knocked out George Tantan in the second round; F. G. Wegener knocked out Joseph Doyle in the second round.

THE RUNNING RACES.

Yesterday's Winners at New Orleans and Oakland.

NEW ORLEANS, March 8.—Four of the six races today fell to favorites, Grace Phillips, who was backed down from four, being the hardest blow to the rink. The results were: Six and a half furlongs—Jim Goro II won, Higgins second, Dolly Without third, time, 1:28. Six furlongs, selling—Avatar won, In-kone second, Frangible third, time, 1:15. Mile and a quarter, selling—Nador won, Cuisaer second, Ruschells third, time, 2:14. Mile, handicap—Stranger won, Cathedral second, Lady Callahan third, time, 1:54. Seven furlongs, selling—Irms won, Sister Fox second, Clarence B. third, time, 1:33. One mile, selling—Grace Phillips won, Al Chale second, Ben Chance third, time, 1:44.

Races at Oakland.

SAN FRANCISCO, March 8.—The weather was rainy at Oakland, and the track was sloppy. The results were: Five furlongs—Espirado won, Bamboula second, Lady Helene third, time, 1:33. One mile—Tokis won, Essence second, Chateau third, time, 1:24. Mile and a sixteenth—Nons Such won, Don Luis second, Stuttgart third, time, 1:51. One mile—Torbilo won, Scotch Plaid second, Boundley third, time, 1:43. Three and a half furlongs—Intrada won,

CORBIN'S RECORD.

Colonel Morgan Relates the Events That Led Up to the Court-Martial.

NEW YORK, March 8.—T. J. Morgan, late Colonel of the 10th Cavalry, United States Colored Infantry, and Brevet-Brigadier-General, U. S. V., has written an open letter to the Tribune with reference to Adjutant-General Corbin's military record. Morgan says that he is sorry that he is prompted to write the letter by the frequent mentioning of his name in connection with the Senate resolution of inquiry as to the military record of General Corbin.

Colonel Morgan's letter deals principally with the battle of Nashville, Tenn., December 14 and 15, during which he was in command of the 10th Cavalry, United States Colored Infantry, and Brevet-Brigadier-General, U. S. V. He mentions that he is sorry that he is prompted to write the letter by the frequent mentioning of his name in connection with the Senate resolution of inquiry as to the military record of General Corbin.

"Colonel Shafter and Colonel Grosvenor acquired the same rank with great credit. Shafter showing special activity and courage, and suffering the loss of many of his men. I was not with Lieutenant-Colonel Corbin during the fighting, but officers reported to me that he was a coward as to the ridicule of both officers and men. I spoke to him about it, and he at once tendered me his resignation, subsequently, however, he was ordered to rejoin his regiment, and I was ordered to expunge that sentence before the report was published. I declined to do so on two grounds, first, because I did not believe that the record at the time of believing that such action on my part and on that of other officers would not only tend to destroy their historical accuracy and value; and second, because subsequent events clearly showed that the report was untrue. I was given the command of a brigade by the personal act of General Sherman, and I was confirmed by the President as Brevet Brigadier-General, in August, 1865, the war being over. I left the service; Lieutenant-Colonel Corbin became a Major-General, and I was at that time both very young volunteer officers, with but little experience in either life or service, and it seems to me that neither his act as a soldier nor mine as a commanding officer, when I was ordered by the severe military standard of the Regular Army, I believed that at that time Colonel Corbin had betrayed cowardice, as reported, and felt it my duty to court-martial him. But the Judge Advocate General did not sustain me, and the incident should be regarded as closed."

"The question whether the Adjutant-General of the Army should be a Major-General is one to be determined by experts, and I do not feel called upon at the present time to pass any opinion upon it. My object in writing this communication is to state facts, and to suggest means to remove from the public mind many misapprehensions and misunderstandings."

Tonks to the Queen.

NEW YORK, March 8.—Promoted in the British army which does not toast Her Majesty at the mess. This is the Seventh Fusiliers, and the regiment is extremely proud of its distinction. It seems that upon one occasion, in the long ago, some King of England was dining with the officers of the regiment, and said, after dinner, that the loyalty of the Seventh Fusiliers was the best of any in the army, and that it was his duty to toast their drinking the sovereign's health. It is a curious fact—the origin of which is not known—that the Queen's health, on shipboard, is drunk by the officers sitting, instead of standing, as is customary elsewhere.

Comparisons Equally Offensive.

NEW YORK Times. The opposition to this measure within the Republican party in the House is as nothing compared to the opposition, without regard to party, in the Senate. The American people do not like meanness, they do not like perfidy, they do not like cruelty. And with these base qualities in the bill the House has passed is branded.

Tonight

Just before retiring, if your liver is bilious, constipated, take a dose of Hood's Pills. And you'll be all right in the morning.

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Cure All Liver Ills. ARE YOU BANKRUPT in health, constitution undermined by extravagance in eating, by disregarding the laws of nature, or physical capital all gone, if so, NEVER DESPAIR. Tutt's Liver Pills will cure you. For sick headache, dyspepsia, sour stomach, malaria, torpid liver, constipation, biliousness and all kindred diseases. Tutt's Liver Pills an absolute cure.

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THEATER FRANCAIS BURNS

DESTRUCTION OF A FAMOUS PARIS PLAYHOUSE.

Charred Remains of an Actress Found in the Ruins—A National Institution.

PARIS, March 8.—The famous Theatre Francais has been destroyed by fire. The fire broke out about noon, but was not discovered immediately, and the theater was burning furiously before the fire brigade got to work. Even then the appliances were quite inadequate to cope with the conflagration, and by 1:30 P. M. the dense column of smoke rising from the fire attracted crowds from all parts of Paris. The Theatre Francais being regarded as a national institution, the theater, which is the home of the Comedie Francais, was only reopened a fortnight ago, after having been renovated for the Exposition things expected to visit Paris during the year.

A rehearsal of a comedy which was billed for the matinee had just concluded when the fire broke out. Indeed, two actresses, Madame Daudy and Madeleine Henriot, were still on the stage when an electric wire fused, and a spark catching the scenery, the whole stage was soon in flames. Madame Daudy had to be rescued in costume and let down from a window. M. Sardou, the playwright, arrived on the scene at about 1 o'clock, and burst into tears when he saw the building was doomed. A part of the dome collapsed at 2:30 P. M.

The Theatre Francais, or Comedie Francais, was situated on the Place de la Theatre, near the Palais Royal, and occupied the highest rank among the theaters of France.

During the day the charred corpse of a young actress, Marie Henriot, was identified as that of Madeleine Henriot, who was a promising young actress. After examination, the belief is expressed that the fire was of incendiary origin. The magnificent ceiling, bearing the allegorical painting by Mazerolle, the ceiling painting by De Beuf, the younger, of "Truth Enlightening the World," and other mural tableaux and works of art, together with a portion of the invaluable library of manuscript, perished in the flames. M. Sardou, the sculptor, however, was saved and removed to the Ministry of Finance, which faces the site of the theater on the Rue de Rivoli. The priceless statue of Voltaire, by Houdon, and several other beautiful objects, were saved by being enveloped in a pile of mattresses.

The only victim of the fire, so far as is known, was Marie Henriot, a beautiful young actress, whose photographs have been displayed in the shop windows along the boulevards as a type of beauty. She came of a theatrical family, and her mother had been a member of an important role at the Theatre Antoine.

During the confusion thieves cut several paintings out of the frames and got clear away. M. Henriot, who is usually assisted them, under the impression that the thieves were workmen from the Comedie Francais. Owing to a derangement of machinery, the iron work of the roof was broken, and the auditorium was quickly involved.

DISSOLUTION OF THE REICHTAG.

Rumors to That Effect Circulating in Berlin.

BERLIN, March 8.—In parliamentary circles yesterday, wild rumors were circulated about the coming dissolution of the Reichstag. The rumors were generally identified as that of Mademoiselle Henriot, who was a promising young actress. After examination, the belief is expressed that the fire was of incendiary origin. The magnificent ceiling, bearing the allegorical painting by Mazerolle, the ceiling painting by De Beuf, the younger, of "Truth Enlightening the World," and other mural tableaux and works of art, together with a portion of the invaluable library of manuscript, perished in the flames. M. Sardou, the sculptor, however, was saved and removed to the Ministry of Finance, which faces the site of the theater on the Rue de Rivoli. The priceless statue of Voltaire, by Houdon, and several other beautiful objects, were saved by being enveloped in a pile of mattresses.

The fact is that the parliamentary leaders themselves are in the dark. Prince von Hohenlohe, the Imperial Chancellor, yesterday heard from Reichstag members, Count von Posadowsky-Wehner, the Imperial Secretary of State for the Interior, and Herr Bredel, Prussian Minister of Commerce, pro and con as to the meat inspection bill. It is probable that the Emperor that it is necessary to yield regarding the prohibitory terms of the meat bill in order to gain their votes for the law.

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The press comments fully upon the meat question, mostly against the bill, however. One Agrarian organ exclaims: "It would be an unheard-of shame if the government were to retreat before the impudent Yankees and abandon measures which the same government deems necessary in the name of National hygiene."

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