

AGAINST THE CANAL

Senate Declines to Consider the Nicaragua Bill.

PHILIPPINES HAVE RIGHT OF WAY

Effort to Dislodge the Spooner Measure With the Alaskan Code Bill Also Failed.

WASHINGTON, April 12.—An effort was made in the Senate today by Morgan (Dem. Ala.) to displace the present unfinished business, the Spooner Philippine bill, by the substitution in its stead of the Nicaragua Canal bill. While Morgan's motion failed, it is believed that the Spooner measure had a narrow escape from being displaced by the Alaskan civil code bill, on motion of Carter (Rep. Mont.), the motion being defeated on a roll-call, 22 to 24.

The routine report of Jones (Dem. Ark.), chairman of the Democratic National Committee, opened the session with a sharp retort to a charge made against him in the House yesterday by Dooliver (Rep. Ia.). He read from the record a question from the speech of Dooliver, delivered in the House yesterday on the Puerto Rican bill, as follows:

"As a rule I pay no attention to aspersions of this character. I am sure that it may be possible that some honest man may have been misled or might misjudge what has been done by me. When the Puerto Rican bill was presented in the Senate, I explained the measure, and I explained to refund the duties that had been collected from the people of Puerto Rico to the people who had paid the duties."

"I did that from the conviction that the Government of the United States has a right to levy any tariff duties upon products coming from Puerto Rico, and if we had no such right it was common honesty that we should give the money back to the people from whom we had taken it."

"I had never looked to see who had paid these revenues nor where this money would go. I am not in the confidence of the sugar trust. They have not come to me to complain, but I know that they paid \$1,800,000. I did not know that this was the fact. Men who are more familiar with the doings of the sugar trust of course, know more about that than I. That they had paid me more than a half of this money into the treasury of the United States, I know nothing of."

"What I understood the facts to be is that protests were made when these duties were levied, and that the Supreme Court in the Supreme Court of the United States, and I believe that when the Supreme Court decides this question it will decide that the money shall be paid back to the men who have paid it, and I believe in doing justice, no matter who is involved. I believe in giving the devil his due, and if we have no right under the law to levy this tax, and the sugar trust has paid a part of it, and the money is due to them, it ought to be refunded."

"I have no fear of being misjudged by any member of this body. I do not believe any motive of this kind has ever been attributed to me by a man who has a sense of justice and a desire to be fair and just to his fellowmen. I offered this amendment in the course of the debate here. It was stated that the money part of the money that had been paid by the sugar trust and the tobacco trust. I withdrew the amendment. No vote was ever taken on it. After discussion, I made up my mind that the proper thing to do was to leave the matter to be decided by the courts; that having gone to the courts was better to let the courts say whether or not this thing should be done. There is nothing more, I think, that anybody can justly ensure me with."

Morgan asked unanimous consent that the Nicaragua Canal bill be made the order of business for Friday, April 13, but Lodge (Rep. Mass.) in opposition to the Spooner Philippine bill, objected.

"I shall feel bound," said Morgan, "to antagonize the Senator's bill with the Nicaragua Canal bill."

Burrows (Rep. Mich.) then addressed the Senate on the resolution relative to seating M. S. Quay as a Senator from Pennsylvania. Burrows said that as a member of the committee on privileges and elections called upon two years ago to consider the case of Henry W. Corbett, appointed as a Senator by the Governor of Oregon, he was forced to the conclusion that that case was not lodged with the committee, and a majority of the committee so reported. The Senate sustained that report by a vote of 20 to 19.

"I have seen nothing to cause me to reverse my judgment; further examination has served rather to strengthen and confirm it. The material facts in this case are the same as they were in the case of Corbett. The only change is in the name of the party seeking admission to the Senate. It was ex-Senator Corbett; now it is ex-Senator Quay. The constitution is the same. The precedents are the same. The only change is in the name of the party seeking admission to the Senate. Then it was ex-Senator Corbett; now it is ex-Senator Quay. The constitution is the same. The precedents are the same. The only change is in the name of the party seeking admission to the Senate."

Burrows carefully reviewed the Quay case in his incipency, and stated the question of the constitutionality of the great length precedents. Burrows cited the roll-call on the Corbett case, showing that Penrose (Rep. Pa.) voted against Corbett, and Quay himself was paired against him. In conclusion he said:

"And let me say to the Senators, that no sooner shall you have established the doctrine contended for by the minority than there will be a popular uprising in this country which no power can resist or suppress, to take from State Legislatures and Governors all power to appoint Senators, and lodge it with the people."

The unfinished business, the Spooner bill, being held over, the Senate moved to proceed to the consideration of the Nicaragua Canal bill, which would have displaced the Spooner bill as the unfinished business. The motion was lost, 15 to 23, as follows:

AYES. Jones, Nev. Money. Perkins. Taliaferro. West. NOES. Allison. Hanbrough. Platt, N. Y. Quaker. Cullom. Keon. Ross. Carter. Lodge. Scott. Dooliver. DeLoach. McCann. Sewell. Davis. McCumber. Shoup. DeWitt. Stewart. Teller. Depew. Nelson. Thurston. Foraker. Platt, Conn. Warren. Gallinger.

Carter then asked the Senate to proceed with the Alaskan civil code bill, but the motion was defeated, 21 to 21, as follows:

AYES. Bacon. Daniel. Perkins. Bate. Harris. Money. Berry. Harris. Taliaferro. Cullerson. Jones, Ark. West.

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Debate on a Resolution Providing for the Election of Senators by Popular Vote.

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Republican Senators Will Try to Force It Through.

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SITUATION IN PUERTO RICO

Former Good Feeling Between Natives and Americans Lessening.

PONCE, Puerto Rico, April 4.—At no time since the hurricane of August 3 last has the condition of the poor of Puerto Rico been so bad as it is today. About 55 per cent of the island may be placed in the peon class, which is made up of a mixture of all races. In the other 5 per cent are included the well-to-do and the middle class, including planters and professional men and their families.

The better class is able to pass through such times as are now prevailing without complaint, but the masses of the business affairs are at a standstill, and have been for a long time, and this despite the majority of the large laboring class, who are suffering from the want of means of livelihood. This large body of laboring people furnishes the very cheap and effective labor which is needed for agriculture and other work, but at all times they have been in an under-fed and under-clothed state.

Their hardships have been greatly added to by the scarcity of fruit since the hurricane, and it is consequently increased in price. Salt fish, rice and beans have been imported free of duty since the hurricane, but little of the benefit derived from this has gone to the people, and now, when there is a prospect of 15 per cent of the Dingley tariff being placed on these articles, the price of such necessities advanced. Merchants hesitate to import large stocks because of the prospect of free trade, and the present scarcity is caused by the fact that the rice and beans have gone up in 1 and 2 cents a pound to 8 and 9, beans from 6 to 12, and at one time, a few days ago, was 15 cents a pound, while salt fish has advanced from 10 to 15 cents.

THE RUNNING RACES.

Yesterday's Winners at Memphis and Tanfornan.

MEMPHIS, Tenn., April 12.—The results of the races were: Four and a half furlongs, selling—South Bay second, time, 1:15.5; Frank Johnson third, time, 0:57.5. Six furlongs—Alice Turner won, Grayless second, Larkspur third, time, 1:16.4. The Lady won, Florida second, Thrive third, time, 1:16.5. Half mile, the Ardelle Stakes—Lady Schorr won, The Mecca second, Miss Bennett third, time, 0:59.5. Four and a half furlongs, Ben Chance won, Russell R. second, Bonnie Lone third, time, 1:15.5. Six furlongs—The Rush won, Miss May Day second, Trinidad third, time, 1:15.5.

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