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DID NOT FARE WELL

Assignments of Senators From Pacific Northwest.

OPPOSITION TO PHILIPPINE BILL

Oregon Will Lose the Alaska Collectorship—Bill Permitting the Sale of Allotted Siletz Lands.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 17.—Senators from the Pacific Northwest did not fare as well as some of their Republican colleagues in the matter of committees, nor as well as could be wished, yet they have little or no complaint to make.

Besides refilling the places he had, Senator Simon has been added to the pension and sine or two minor committees, retaining his chairmanship of irrigation. Senator Foster has been added to District of Columbia and another minor committee, and remains chairman of insular surveys.

While Senator Mitchell regrets that he was not able to obtain a place on the committee on commerce, he is well satisfied with being placed on interoceanic canals, where he is able to push the isthmian canal bill, and to secure his old place on potatoes and post roads, and also to occupy a place on Pacific islands and Porto Rico, which deals with Hawaiian affairs. As to commerce, Senator Perkins, of California, was a member of the committee on committees, and, of course, when he insisted upon having the place on commerce, it could not be otherwise. A number of Senator Mitchell's friends were anxious to have him on privileges and elections, but his well-known position in favor of the election of Senators by direct vote of the people stopped him from securing that place, as the committee has been arranged to prevent any such legislation.

There was also quite a desire among a large number of the older Senators to have Senator Mitchell go upon foreign relations, but Fairbanks and Keen insisted upon being placed there, and, besides members of the committee that made up the sine, naturally got it. Senator Mitchell's general assignments are very satisfactory.

To Sell Allotted Lands.

The Secretary of the Interior today sent to Congress, with his strong indorsement, the draft of a bill to authorize the heirs of deceased allottees on the former Siletz Indian reservation, in Oregon, to sell allotted lands. A new law is desired which will permit the adult heirs of a deceased allottee to sell the inherited lands, and, if there are both adult and minor owners of such inherited lands, to permit such minors to join in the sale thereof through a duly appointed guardian.

Aid for Washington Soldiers' Home.
Senator Turner today introduced a bill granting to the State of Washington 50,000 acres of land to aid in the construction, enlargement and maintenance of the Washington State Soldiers' and Sailors' Home.

The Alaska Collectorship.

Oregon, which has held the Alaska Collectorship for a great many years past, is going to lose it. The fact that the Senators could not agree is one reason for the failure to take an Oregon man, but the main reason is that Secretary Gage has had his mind made up to select the officer of the revenue marine service who has had a great deal of experience in Alaska, and who is highly commended to President Roosevelt.

Danish West Indies.

Members of the Senate indicate that they will vote very quickly to ratify a treaty bringing the Danish West Indies under United States control, because they are essential to this Government in maintaining and protecting the Nicaragua Canal. These islands are nearer the eastern end of the canal than any other group where a sufficient harbor can be obtained.

Opposition to Philippine Bill.

The difficulty which the Republicans find in opposing the Philippine tariff bill, now pending in the House and before the Senate Commission, is the position the Democrats have taken. To vote with the Democrats means to condemn the present policy of the Government for continuation of American control of the Philippines and to condemn the present Dingley tariff. Had the Democrats taken a position in favor of greatly reduced rates between the Philippines and the United States, there might have been some opportunity for some Republicans to stand with them, but the report of the minority of the committee is against the retention of the Philippines, an absolute impossibility now, and also against the protective system—two doctrines to which most Republicans cannot subscribe. It is not believed that the Democrats are really at heart in favor of defeating the pending Philippine legislation.

Register at Oregon City.

Assurance is given that the nomination of George W. Hibel as Register of the Oregon City Land Office is soon to be sent to the Senate. This appointment has been held up at the request of Senator Simon.

Simon at the White House.

Senators Simon and Foster were among the President's guests at dinner this evening.

Thomas Connelly, of Hillsboro, Or., called upon Representative Tongue.

Representative Jones will spend his holiday recess with his mother at Bethany, Ill.

Russian Students Protest.

ST. PETERSBURG, Dec. 17.—Exceedingly strained relations exist between Ministers Sidorov, of the Interior, and Vannofsky, of Education. The resignation of Vannofsky was announced from here December 4, but, at the Czar's request, he will remain in office until the new year. The students, realizing the impossibility of a continuation of opposing

policies in the two Ministers, ask if it is possible to expect that the partly educated youths shall enjoy liberal of organization and discussion when educated adults are punished—relegated from the capital for from one to three years or even threatened with more severe treatment, for meeting in a private house to discuss how the conflict between the students and the authorities could be arranged?

WILL NOT CHANGE DATE.

Root Says Cuban Election Must Be Held as Ordered.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 17.—Secretary Root has addressed a letter to Sildie A. Pierra, the representative of the Masaso party in Cuba, who is at present in this city, denying his request for a postponement of the Cuban elections. Secretary Root's letter, which is dated December 15, is as follows:

"Sir: The application for postponement of the Cuban election, presented by you on Saturday, December 14, in behalf of the supporters of General Masaso, as candidate for President of Cuba, has been carefully considered. The effect of granting the application would be to prolong American occupation and postpone the independence of Cuba and the control of the island by the government of her own

CHANGE IN CABINET

Postmaster-General Charles Emory Smith Resigns.

RETURNS TO NEWSPAPER WORK

Henry C. Payne, of Wisconsin, Vice-Chairman of the Republican National Committee, Succeeds to the Place.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 17.—Charles Emory Smith, of Philadelphia, has tendered to the President his formal resignation as Postmaster-General, to take effect early next month, and Henry C. Payne, of Wis-

consin, vice-chairman of the Republican National committee, has accepted the tender of the office, to which he will be nominated after the holiday recess. Mr. Smith has agreed to remain until January 15, if necessary, but will return immediately thereafter to Philadelphia to resume the editorship of the Philadelphia Press.

THE LAST STEP.

Ratification of Canal Treaty Will Be Exchanged in a Month.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 17.—Lord Pauncefoot, the British Ambassador, called at the State Department today to confer with Secretary Hay respecting the next steps to be taken toward consummating the treaty ratified yesterday by the Senate to replace the Clayton-Bulwer treaty. It is possible that ratifications will be exchanged in about a month. King Edward first must ratify the treaty, and then, the exchange copies of the convention having been prepared, the British

THE RETIRING POSTMASTER-GENERAL AND HIS SUCCESSOR.



Charles Emory Smith. Henry C. Payne.

Henry C. Payne, of Milwaukee, Wis., who has been appointed by President Roosevelt to be Postmaster-General, vice Charles Emory Smith, has been a prominent figure in Wisconsin politics for years. He is one of the best-informed men in the Middle West on National affairs, and has served for years as the member and vice-chairman of the Republican National Committee from Wisconsin. Mr. Payne, while active in securing political preferment for his personal and political friends, has devoted the larger part of his busy lifetime to his transportation enterprises. He practically controls all of the electric street railways in Milwaukee, and his fortune is estimated at several million dollars. He has been a sincere and consistent worker for Republican success. Mr. Payne was on terms of intimacy with all of the big leaders of the party in the East, and was an ardent supporter of the late President McKinley and his policies. He was supposed to be close to Mark Hanna, and other members of the National Committee, who were close to the President. If Mr. Payne has determined to take a hand in the political game, it is not unlikely that he will be a candidate for the United States Senate to succeed Senator Joseph V. Quarles, whose term expires in 1905.

Department of Justice Appointments.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 17.—The Cabinet meeting today was almost entirely devoted to the discussion of appointments, principally in the Department of Justice. The following have been selected and will be appointed within a day or two: W. J. R. Robinson, third Judge of the Circuit Court of Hawaii; Robert J. Breckons, of Wyoming, Attorney for the District of Hawaii.

VISITED MARCONI'S PLANT.

Indignation at St. Johns Over Cable Company's Attitude.

ST. JOHNS, N. F., Dec. 17.—Marconi was visited officially at Signal Hill today by Governor Boyle, Premier Bond and the executive council. They were shown the wireless apparatus, which was explained to them. No attempt was made to get signals from England because of the hostility of the Anglo-American Cable Company. The government officials, in visiting Marconi, had to consider the protest against their going made by the superintendent of the Anglo-American Cable Company, who maintained that the government should not identify itself with either party. The officials decided that the scientific aspect of the Marconi plan warranted their recognizing him. There is a widespread and growing feeling of indignation here over the Anglo-American Cable Company's attitude toward Marconi. The view taken by the public is that the company, seeing that only two years of its monopoly remain, should not prevent the colony from enjoying the benefits of the new invention, especially as it may take that period to perfect the Marconi system.

The Marconi Wireless Telegraphy Company, of London, and the Anglo-American Cable Company, also in London, have opened negotiations for the settlement of the difficulty between them arising from Mr. Marconi's work here.

It is important that Marconi's operations be expedited, he will cease his experiments here, and will leave next Sunday for Nova Scotia, where, in the event of the failure of the present negotiations, he will select another site for a wireless telegraph station. The inventor's work in Nova Scotia will occupy him about a week; he will then leave for London, via Halifax. Marconi expects that the negotiations between the two companies will be satisfactorily terminated before he reaches England. In that event, he will make preparations for the erection of a wireless telegraph station either at St. John's or at Canso, N. S. If Nova Scotia is selected, the station there will probably be erected next Spring.

Hawaiian Leper Colony.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 17.—Delegate Wilcox, of Hawaii, today introduced a bill making the leper colony of Hawaii a United States Government reservation, and providing that the colony shall be under the control of the Secretary of the Treasury.

Pacific Cable Bill.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 17.—The House committee on interstate and foreign commerce today fix January 11 for taking up the Pacific cable question.

DRYDOCK OF WOOD

Port of Portland Commission Comes to a Decision.

COST WILL BE ABOUT \$225,000

Members Believe It Will Be Economy to Renew Dock Every Fifteen Years Rather Than Spend \$540,000 for Steel Structure.

A wooden drydock was practically set on last evening by the Port of Portland Commission, and that style built by Faber, Du Four & Donnelly, of New York, was regarded with most favor. The cost of this is estimated at \$225,000. The cost of a composite dock—that is, a wooden dock with steel bracing—would be about \$400,000. It was figured, and an all-steel dock could not be constructed for less than \$500,000. It was therefore argued that the wooden dock would be cheaper, even though it rotted at the end of 15 years, as it could be rebuilt for less than the original cost of the steel dock.

Other plans than that of W. T. Donnelly were examined, but as none of those were presented, the plans of Donnelly and a drydock of the pattern required, they were passed over with little comment, the commission evidently not being inclined to experiment. The plans of Cranfill & Son Co., of East Boston; H. C. Holmes and S. G. Hinds, of San Francisco; J. J. Cousins, of East Boston; J. Duthie, of Bremerton, Wash.; Ritchie & Ripley, of Cleveland, O., and the Dunlop Construction Company, of San Francisco, were spread upon the table and scanned for points of superiority, but the Donnelly wooden model that stood on the table held its own against all competitors, though there was no one present to represent it.

But the cost of using the plans of this dock—5 per cent of that construction coupled with the price charged for the patent, 10 per cent—brought Mr. Donnelly's personal charges away up toward \$50,000, and here was the sticking point. None of the other plans came so high, and some of them closely resembled the Donnelly dock in the method of strengthening the cross section. These Mr. Donnelly had declared infringing upon his patent on Monday evening. In his model the timbers arch across the interior of the dock, while minor arches span the narrower widths. It appeared to the commission that the strain of a heavy vessel on the longitudinal center of the Donnelly dock could be better withstood than on any other style of dock.

Chairman Higgs feared the trust timbers would be inclined to decay where wind and water meet, and he could see no way by which these timbers could be renewed.

It was finally decided that a wooden floating drydock is not built to be repaired, but to be renewed when it gives out.

Members of the commission who had visited the lumber mills with Mr. Donnelly yesterday thought the average cost of 2,000,000 feet of timber necessary would be about \$15 per 1000. Bridge carpenters, it was determined, could do the work as well as any mechanics, so there would be no need of high-priced ship carpenters. The iron used in strengthening the structure will have to be galvanized to keep it from rusting, and electricity is favored for working the pumps. There would be very little machinery on board the drydock, and the pumps would be plain wooden boxes with iron castings of oak and leather. The commission will meet with Mr. Donnelly this evening for further discussion.

Trans for New Dredge.

The Phoenix Iron Works, of this city, will construct the steel truss for the new dredge at a cost of \$800,000. A. A. Millard, to whom the contract was awarded for \$120, having failed to furnish the required bond, the iron will be furnished by the Wabash Iron Works, and is to be put on board the cars in Pennsylvania within 45 days from the signing of the contract, barring strikes, accidents, floods, fires and shortage of cars.

Reciprocity With Cuba.

NEW YORK, Dec. 17.—Commercial bodies throughout the United States are being asked by the Merchants' Association of this city to co-operate in a movement toward securing reciprocity with Cuba in the matter of commercial reciprocity with Cuba. To this end, resolutions on the subject, recently adopted by the directors of the association, are being sent to merchants and commercial organizations all over the country, and also to President Roosevelt, members of his Cabinet and to all members of Congress.

SUMMARY OF THE DAY'S NEWS.

Congress.

The debate on the Philippine tariff bill was opened in the House. Page 2.
The new Senate committee assignments were announced. Page 2.
Oregon and Washington Senators did not fare well in assignments. Page 1.
Many Siletz resolutions were introduced in the House. Page 3.

Foreign.

General French has captured Commandant Krutzinger. Page 3.
Kruger may abandon his demand for Boer independence. Page 3.
Severe earthquakes occurred in New Zealand. Page 3.

Domestic.

Postmaster-General Smith resigns, and will be succeeded by Henry C. Payne. Page 1.
A reconciliation committee was appointed at the New York labor and capital conference. Page 3.
A quadruple suicide is reported from Columbus, O. Page 5.

Pacific Coast.

Resonant testimony in action to disbar Colonel A. S. Cole, of Whitman, Wash. Page 4.
Secretary of State Dunham returns from the East. Page 4.
Election at Ashland, Or., a prohibition town, resulted in favor of high license. Page 4.

Commercial and Marine.

Steamship Hatties to head at Portland for Vladivostok. Page 5.
Steamship Pembroke arrives from the Orient. Page 5.
Portland grain ships still receiving quick dispatch. Page 5.

O. R. & N. Steamer Ruth sunk in the Willamette, near Corvallis. Page 5.

Eastern wheat markets were firmer. Page 11.
Notable gains made in a number of prominent Wall-street securities. Page 11.

Portland and Vicinity.

Port of Portland Commission practically decides on wooden drydock. Page 1.
Brown and Miskin win Oregon King mining suit. Page 10.
D. P. Thompson's will leaves property to wife and two daughters. Page 10.
Gambling opens, and suddenly closes. Page 10.
Board of inquiry looks into abandonment of British bark Pimora. Page 10.