

FIRST DEBATE IN HOUSE

PHILIPPINE TARIFF WAS UP FOR CONSIDERATION.

Speeches For and Against the Bill Will Be Voted on This Afternoon.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 17.—The bill to provide temporary revenues for the Philippine Islands was debated in the House today and will be voted on tomorrow at 4 o'clock. It was the first debate of the session, and was conducted calmly and without display of temper.

Thayer, in a 15-minute speech, explained the reasons which induced him to oppose the passage of the bill. He declared that we had overpowered the Philippines, but had not conquered them.

Grosvonts recalled the storm of criticism against a similar bill for the benefit of Porto Rico. Grosvonts described the benefits of the bill from the standpoint of Porto Rico.

"I have not," answered Grosvonts. "I wish the gentleman would take that speech and read it, and act upon it. It does not do me any harm in my estimation."

Referring to the provision of the bill relative to the suspension of the coastwise navigation law on vessels going between the United States and the Philippines, Grosvonts said the provision was necessary because of the congested trade in the Pacific.

"Since this bill was reported, however," said he, "I learn that possibly we were in error as to our facts and that the coastwise vessels may soon be able to come to the rescue. If that proves true, the provision can be stricken out in the Senate."

Shafroth, who has recently returned from the Philippines, vigorously opposed the bill. He declared that the spirit of independence and liberty lived in the Filipino as well as the American, and that until the Filipinos were free the situation could not be improved.

De Armond, who has recently returned from the Philippines, aroused much enthusiasm on the Democratic side by a denunciation of the pending measure and of the entire Philippine policy of the Administration. He declared that the bill proposed legislating after the manner of a conqueror.

Patterson denounced the bill as tending toward imperialism and against the interests of the whole country. The Democrats, he said, always had favored the acquisition of territory which could be carved into states with American citizenship.

NEW SENATE COMMITTEES

REPUBLICAN ASSIGNMENTS ANNOUNCED YESTERDAY.

Democrats Agreed on Their Places at a Caucus Held After the Session.

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Hawley, McMillan, Fairbanks, Wellington, Audit and Control of Contingent Expenses of the Senate—Jones (Nev.), Gallinger, Keim.

Constitutional—Turner, Tallaferro, Patterson. To examine the civil service—Helffeld, Culbertson, Simmons.

Foreign relations—Morgan, Bacon, Money, Rawlins, Bailey. Geological survey—Money, Rawlins, Cockerill.

Immigration—Rawlins, Turner, Clay, McLaurin (Miss.), Patterson. Improvement of the Mississippi—Bate, McLaurin (Miss.).

Indian Affairs—Morgan, Jones (Ark.), Rawlins, Harris, Dubois, Clark (Mont.). Indian Depredations—Berry, Bacon, Martin, Pettus, McLaurin (Miss.).

Inter-territorial—Turner, McLaurin (Miss.), Carmack, Foster (La.), Patterson. Irrigation—Harris, Helffeld, Bailey, Patterson, Gibson.

Judiciary—Bacon, Pettus, Turner, Culbertson, Blackburn.

Manufactures—Harris, Clay, Gibson. Military Affairs—Bate, Cockerill, Pettus, Harris.

Mines and Mining—Tillman, Helffeld, Clark (Mont.), Dubois.

Naval Affairs—Tillman, Martin, McEnery, Blackburn.

Organization of the executive department—Tallaferro, Dubois, McLaurin (Miss.), Clark (Mont.).

Pacific Islands and Porto Rico—Cockerill, Mallory, Blackburn, Clark (Mont.).

Public lands—Berry, McEnery, Helffeld, McLaurin (Miss.), Gibson.

Railroads—Bacon, Pettus, Money, Carmack.

Relations with Cuba—Teller, Money, Tallaferro, Simmons.

Relations with Canada—Jones (Ark.), Bailey, Clark (Mont.).

Revisions of the laws of the United States—Daniel, Mallory, Patterson.

Potomac River front—Martin, Bacon, Clark (Mont.).

Territories—Bate, Helffeld, Bailey, Patterson.

Transportation routes—Turner, Pettus, Daniel, Dubois.

Woman suffrage—Bacon (chairman), Woodard, Clarke & Co.

Industrial expositions—Daniel, Cockerill, Jones (Ark.), Carmack, Gibson.

National banks—McEnery, Gibson. Standards, weights and measures—Clark (Mont.), Carmack.

In the Senate. WASHINGTON, Dec. 17.—Soon after the Senate convened today a joint resolution making some amendments to the act "to establish a code of law for the District of Columbia" was reported and passed.

After the transaction of purely routine business the Senate at 2:35 P. M. on motion of Allison, moved into executive session. Morgan made an effort to have the Senate make his bill authorizing the acquisition of a right of way for the proposed Isthmian canal across Costa Rica and Nicaragua the special order for 2 o'clock tomorrow, but the Senate declined to make the order.

It was suggested that Morgan might move to take up the bill tomorrow. He indicated a purpose to pursue this course. At 1:50 P. M. the Senate adjourned.

WATERS HAVE SUBSIDED. Pennsylvania Railroads Repairing the Damage. PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 17.—Railroad service in this state is gradually recovering its normal condition, and by tomorrow trains will be running practically on time.

Thousands of laborers are at work repairing the damage to roadbeds and bridges wrought by the rushing waters. The railroads that suffered the most damage are the Lehigh Valley, Central of New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Delaware, Lackawanna & Western and the New York Central.

In some localities it will be weeks before the damage is fully repaired. The sweep of water was greater in some sections than was ever known before, and bridges that withstood the floods of years were swept away. The sudden drop in the temperature was providential in some respects, as it prevented the flood from spreading, but it entailed great suffering on the 30,000 or more persons rendered homeless by the destruction of their homes.

All passengers on stalled trains were removed from their uncomfortable situation last night and this morning by the railroad companies, and the trains are now being taken to their destinations. In the lower anthracite coal region the situation is growing worse. The mine workings are thoroughly soaked with water, and it may be weeks before some of them can be worked, although there was a resumption today in a few mines. It is estimated that 50,000 mine workers and mechanics are idle as a result of the flood. The weather today is not quite as cold as yesterday, and in some sections snow is falling. Conservative estimates place the loss from the floods at from \$1,000,000 to \$5,000,000. So far reports have been received of the loss of nine lives in various parts of the state.



MRS. FRANK J. GOULD.

HEIRESS WHO MARRIED JAY GOULD'S YOUNGEST SON.

Miss Helen Margaret Kelly, who recently became the bride of Frank J. Gould, is a grand-daughter of the late Eugene Kelly, one of Jay Gould's old opponents. She is in her 18th year, and Mr. Gould is not yet 24. Mrs. Gould is heir to a fortune of over \$1,000,000, and her annual income is over \$50,000. Her husband is heir to a fortune exceeding \$3,000,000.

of the Senate committees will be as follows: Appropriations—Allison, Hale, Cullom, Perkins, Sewell, Warren, Wetmore and Quay.

Finance—Aldrich, Allison, Platt (Conn.), Burrows, Platt (N. Y.), Hansbrough, Spooner, Jones (Nev.). Foreign Relations—Cullom, Frye, Lodge, Depew, Jones (Nev.), Foraker, Spooner, Fairbanks, Keim.

Commerce—Frye, McMillan, Elkins, Nelson, Gallinger, Penrose, Hanna, Mason, Depew, Jones (Nev.), Burrows, Fritchard, Mitchell, Burnham.

Revolutionary Claims—Simon, Gallinger, Millard. Transportation Routes to the Seaboard—Dillingham, Clark (Wyo.), Perkins, Gamble, McLaurin.

Select Committees—Woman suffrage, Wetmore, Bard, Mitchell; additional accommodations for the library of Congress, Cullom, Allison, Mitchell; industrial exhibitions, Burnham, Hawley, Hansbrough, Lodge, Scott, Wellington, McLaurin; National banks, Kearns, Burrows, Penrose; investigate trespassers upon Indian lands, Dietrich and Simon; standard weights and measures, Kittredge, Simon, Dolliver.

Democratic Assignments. The Democratic Senators met in caucus today after the Senate adjourned and agreed upon their committee assignments, as follows: Agriculture and forestry—Bate, Money, Helffeld, Simmons.

Advertisement for A.C. Feldenheimer, Diamond Merchants and Manufacturing Jewelers, featuring holiday gifts and Christmas goods.