

HOT WORDS LEAD TO ANGRY BLOWS

Democratic Leaders Fight With Fists on Floor of House.

LIE GIVEN BY MISSOURIAN

Quarrel Over Place on Committee Breaks Out After Adjournment. Combatants Forcibly Separated While Women Look On.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 19.—The spirit of rivalry that for five years has alternately smoldered and blazed between John Sharp Williams, of Mississippi, leader of the minority, and David A. De Armond, of Missouri, culminated in a fist fight today on the floor of the House of Representatives. The blows of De Armond caused blood to flow down the face of Williams and only the forcible intervention of friends cut the combat short. De Armond bore away a scuffed nose.

Williams Strikes First Blow.

The immediate cause of the fight was the passage of the lie by De Armond to Williams, resultant from a complaint by the former that the minority leader had broken faith in "burying" Booker, of Missouri, by recommending his assignment by Speaker Cannon to the committee on coinage, weights and measures. According to the statements of the principals, Williams defended his action by declaring he had been told by Booker's colleague, Lloyd, of Missouri, that the committee assignment would be satisfactory to Booker. De Armond questioned the truth of the statement, and after the failure of an effort to transfer the scene of the controversy, Williams struck De Armond a blow in the face with closed fist.

Groups of Representatives were scattered over the floor discussing committee appointments. In the confusion, Williams loitered a score or so of women and four times that many men, viewing the aftermath of an interesting session. Williams was seated at the desk of Wallace of Arkansas, on the center aisle on the Democratic side of the house. De Armond approached, greeted him and took the adjoining seat. At once they engaged each other in earnest talk. They had been thus in conversation no longer than a few minutes when both men sprang to their feet, shoving their chairs back and the gentleman from Mississippi struck the gentleman from Missouri a glancing blow on the nose. Some Representative called out: "Look! Look at the fight!"

Vigorous Slugging Match.

Everybody looked, but so startled were they by what they saw that no one seemed for the moment to think of rushing forward and stopping it. Meantime Williams and De Armond, wedged between two rows of desks, were still exchanging blows. Blood was flowing down the face of the leader of the minority, while De Armond was endeavoring to grasp his opponent by the throat, at the same time reaching and vigorously returning blow for blow.

Then everybody awoke to the unseemliness of the scene and crowded in and made an end to what had begun as a fight and his arms pinioned. Williams was pushed back against a desk and held about by detouring arms. Thus restrained, he roared in a desperate attitude, but his adversary struggled in the embrace of his friendly captors and tried to lash out. Then De Armond interposed his arms to restrain him. Presently Williams was led away in one direction and De Armond in an opposite direction and both were released.

Williams' Version of Quarrel.

"The disagreement arose over a committee assignment. Mr. De Armond called me to task for recommending his colleague, Mr. Booker, to no more prominent committee than that on coinage, weights and measures. I replied that I had been given to understand by Mr. Lloyd that Mr. Booker would be well satisfied with that assignment. "Mr. De Armond answered to the effect that I could have gained such an idea only by the operation of my imagination or by a deliberate wish to misunderstand. I suggested to him that the floor of the House was no place for a quarrel over a scene and asked him to desist. His answer was that he had never had any such understanding with me about Mr. Booker as I had declared, and he added that my subsequent action was the result either of error or untruthfulness. I again suggested that the House was no place to settle a personal difference of opinion. He retorted that it was not a matter of opinion, but of veracity, and said that he did not believe I had merely made a mistake. I then struck him, and we exchanged blows. It is most regrettable that the floor should be selected for such an affair."

What De Armond Says.

According to De Armond the episode arose over the correctness of a conversation between himself and Williams about 10 days ago regarding the committee assignment of some Missouri members and particularly of Booker. De Armond said he had spoken highly of Booker and of the other members being competent to sit on any committee, but that he had not specified to Williams any special committee on which he wished to have Booker or any other member placed. This, De Armond said, Williams today denied, saying it was a matter of recollection between them. Upon De Armond's insisting that he had not specified any committee to which he desired to have his colleague assigned, Williams, he said, brusquely replied that it was simply a matter of recollection between the two. "He said this," said De Armond, "in such a way as to leave no other inference than the one I suggested, and I told him I believed him to be a liar. He thereupon struck me, and I think I gave him as good as he gave. The next thing that was separated. When the combatants were separated, blood was flowing down Williams' face from a small gash in the left cheek, and his forehead was red and also abraded. De Armond bore no mark of the fray.

CANNON NAMES COMMITTEE

Oregon Members Well Placed—Several New Committees.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 19.—Speaker Cannon today announced the committee assignments for the 60th Congress. Many changes from the last Congress are made, but in the main the members who had heretofore held important offices were retained in them. The ways and means committee is as follows: Chairman, Payne, N. Y. Republicans—Dale, Pa.; McCall, Mass.; Hill, Conn.; Boutwell, Ill.; Watson, Ind.; Needham, Cal.; Calderhead, Kan.; Fordney, Mich.; Gaines, W. Va.; Bonyon, Colo.; Longworth, O.; Democrats—Griggs, Ga.; Pou, N. C.; Randall, Tex.; Clarke, Mo.; Cochran, N. Y.; Underwood, Ala.; Granger, R. I. Twelve Republicans, seven Democrats.

Philosophy, Russian Minister.

ST. PETERSBURG, Dec. 19.—M. Philosophy, Minister of Commerce and Controller, died suddenly at the Marie Theater during a gala performance tonight. The cause of death was given as apoplexy. For a long time past the Minister had been suffering from angina pectoris.

SEND SCENIC PHOTOS EAST.

Ideal for Christmas. 28 Alder street.

PALESTINE SHAKEN; HOUSES WRECKED

Dynamite Explosion Spreads Terror in Capital of Sicily.

ABOUT 25 ARE KILLED

Powder Magazine Blows Up and Rained Houses Start Conflagration—Many Emigrants Buried in Lodging-House Debris.

PALERMO, Dec. 19.—A terrific explosion occurred this evening in the military powder magazine, where a large quantity of dynamite was stored, and was followed by a number of lesser explosions, the whole town being badly shaken and the people thrown into a panic. Almost immediately flames shot high in the air and spread to the ruins of houses that had fallen, adding greatly to the terror of those who were in the immediate neighborhood of the disaster. It is estimated that about 25 persons were killed and a hundred others injured. Wild rumors followed fast on the explosion, placing the number of killed and wounded in the thousands, and troops were ordered out to aid the firemen in clearing away the wreckage and succoring the wounded.

Several houses that stood above the magazine partially collapsed, and their destruction was completed by fire. One of these was an emigrants' lodging-house and a number of emigrants were killed.

Palermo is the capital of Sicily and in 1901 had 308,094 people. The city was founded by the Phoenicians several centuries before Christ, and was taken by the Romans in 254 B. C. It has many splendid buildings, including churches, palaces, public library, theaters and national museum.

EXPLOSION KILLS 200 MEN

(Continued From First Page.)

found places of safety and every point of the workings will be explored at the earliest moment. The main office of the company is in Pittsburgh, and immediately on receipt of news of the accident the officers hurried to the mine and are leading and directing the rescue work. Among the officers on the scene are: J. M. Armstrong, manager of the Pittsburgh Coal Company; Lee Gluck, assistant to the president; John B. Byers, livestock manager; H. O. Randolph, assistant to the general manager, and Benjamin Faraday, inspector.

About 100 feet from the mouth of the mine a heavy fall of roof was encountered by the rescuers. It is believed that most of the men will be found nearly a mile and a half beyond this point.

More Than Half Americans.

A considerable number of the miners were Americans, some of the officers tonight estimating that probably more than half of the victims are Americans, as the majority of the foreigners did not work today. The Darr mine is located on the west side of the Youghiogheny River, in Westmoreland County, along the line of the Pittsburgh & Lake Erie Railroad, 40 miles southeast of Pittsburgh and 18 miles northwest of Connellsville. It is one of the largest of the Pittsburgh Coal Company. There is much drunkenness here tonight, some of the men who got a good start on account of the holiday continuing their carousal after the explosion in celebration of their escape. A new air shaft for the mine is being constructed, work having been started on it several months ago. Had this been completed, it is said, the loss of life today would have been much less serious.

AMENDMENTS ARE INVALID

(Continued From First Page.)

amendments, that authorizing the water bonds, was carried by a majority of only 133 yeas. The other measures were all carried by more decisive majorities, but each issue must be fought out again if the amendments are ultimately held illegal. "This seems to be a case where the Council has made an expensive mistake," remarked Mayor Lane, in discussing Judge Cleland's decision last night. "I have been expecting this decision, for it was my opinion that initiative legislation must be inaugurated by the people. If this decision would not hold, it seems to me that the initiative and referendum would have to go down with it. Must Wait, Says Mayor. "We shall now have to continue doing business on the same old basis and all of the proposed improvements must be delayed. The Water Board will have to charge consumers to meet the full expenses of the department and district improvement of streets. If it ever comes, will have to come at some later day. Among other things, the members of the Police Department who have been designated as sergeants will be left by this decision ranking as patrolmen. "In view of Judge Cleland's decision there is nothing for the Park Board to do but await developments before beginning to acquire the new park system," said Isadore Lang, a member of the Board. "We have no money available to acquire this land and will not have until this bond issue, or another one, is at our disposal."

MAY WITHDRAW CHARGES

(Continued From First Page.)

and Count Wartensleben, a relative of hers, have been cited to appear. Will Air Family Secrets. Two of the former valets of Von Moltke will testify regarding the marital relations of the ill-matched pair and two former maids of the then Countess will speak as to her temper and general bearing. The whole miserable married life of the Von Moltke couple will evidently be gone into fully in the trial, which will occupy three days at least. Those parts of the testimony relating to the family life of the Von Moltkes will almost certainly be heard in private. A deep impression was caused by the recent utterances of Prince von Buelow in the Reichstag roundly condemning the publicity given under German law to such unhappy details.

PALESTINE SHAKEN; HOUSES WRECKED

Dynamite Explosion Spreads Terror in Capital of Sicily.

ABOUT 25 ARE KILLED

Powder Magazine Blows Up and Rained Houses Start Conflagration—Many Emigrants Buried in Lodging-House Debris.

PALERMO, Dec. 19.—A terrific explosion occurred this evening in the military powder magazine, where a large quantity of dynamite was stored, and was followed by a number of lesser explosions, the whole town being badly shaken and the people thrown into a panic. Almost immediately flames shot high in the air and spread to the ruins of houses that had fallen, adding greatly to the terror of those who were in the immediate neighborhood of the disaster. It is estimated that about 25 persons were killed and a hundred others injured. Wild rumors followed fast on the explosion, placing the number of killed and wounded in the thousands, and troops were ordered out to aid the firemen in clearing away the wreckage and succoring the wounded.

Several houses that stood above the magazine partially collapsed, and their destruction was completed by fire. One of these was an emigrants' lodging-house and a number of emigrants were killed.

Palermo is the capital of Sicily and in 1901 had 308,094 people. The city was founded by the Phoenicians several centuries before Christ, and was taken by the Romans in 254 B. C. It has many splendid buildings, including churches, palaces, public library, theaters and national museum.

EXPLOSION KILLS 200 MEN

(Continued From First Page.)

found places of safety and every point of the workings will be explored at the earliest moment. The main office of the company is in Pittsburgh, and immediately on receipt of news of the accident the officers hurried to the mine and are leading and directing the rescue work. Among the officers on the scene are: J. M. Armstrong, manager of the Pittsburgh Coal Company; Lee Gluck, assistant to the president; John B. Byers, livestock manager; H. O. Randolph, assistant to the general manager, and Benjamin Faraday, inspector.

About 100 feet from the mouth of the mine a heavy fall of roof was encountered by the rescuers. It is believed that most of the men will be found nearly a mile and a half beyond this point.

More Than Half Americans.

A considerable number of the miners were Americans, some of the officers tonight estimating that probably more than half of the victims are Americans, as the majority of the foreigners did not work today. The Darr mine is located on the west side of the Youghiogheny River, in Westmoreland County, along the line of the Pittsburgh & Lake Erie Railroad, 40 miles southeast of Pittsburgh and 18 miles northwest of Connellsville. It is one of the largest of the Pittsburgh Coal Company. There is much drunkenness here tonight, some of the men who got a good start on account of the holiday continuing their carousal after the explosion in celebration of their escape. A new air shaft for the mine is being constructed, work having been started on it several months ago. Had this been completed, it is said, the loss of life today would have been much less serious.

AMENDMENTS ARE INVALID

(Continued From First Page.)

amendments, that authorizing the water bonds, was carried by a majority of only 133 yeas. The other measures were all carried by more decisive majorities, but each issue must be fought out again if the amendments are ultimately held illegal. "This seems to be a case where the Council has made an expensive mistake," remarked Mayor Lane, in discussing Judge Cleland's decision last night. "I have been expecting this decision, for it was my opinion that initiative legislation must be inaugurated by the people. If this decision would not hold, it seems to me that the initiative and referendum would have to go down with it. Must Wait, Says Mayor. "We shall now have to continue doing business on the same old basis and all of the proposed improvements must be delayed. The Water Board will have to charge consumers to meet the full expenses of the department and district improvement of streets. If it ever comes, will have to come at some later day. Among other things, the members of the Police Department who have been designated as sergeants will be left by this decision ranking as patrolmen. "In view of Judge Cleland's decision there is nothing for the Park Board to do but await developments before beginning to acquire the new park system," said Isadore Lang, a member of the Board. "We have no money available to acquire this land and will not have until this bond issue, or another one, is at our disposal."

MAY WITHDRAW CHARGES

(Continued From First Page.)

and Count Wartensleben, a relative of hers, have been cited to appear. Will Air Family Secrets. Two of the former valets of Von Moltke will testify regarding the marital relations of the ill-matched pair and two former maids of the then Countess will speak as to her temper and general bearing. The whole miserable married life of the Von Moltke couple will evidently be gone into fully in the trial, which will occupy three days at least. Those parts of the testimony relating to the family life of the Von Moltkes will almost certainly be heard in private. A deep impression was caused by the recent utterances of Prince von Buelow in the Reichstag roundly condemning the publicity given under German law to such unhappy details.

INDICTED FOR STEALING

BROWN AND BARNETT EACH ACCUSED ON TWO COUNTS.

Charge Is Embezzlement of Colton Securities—Their Lawyer Raises Cry of Persecution.

GOES INTO RECEIVERS' HANDS.

CLEVELAND, Dec. 19.—The Glenville Banking & Trust Company, of this city, was placed in the hands of a receiver this afternoon. Assets, \$100,000; liabilities, \$125,000.

Future of Merchants National Bank.

The future of the Merchants National Bank will be known upon the return to Portland of President J. Frank Watson, who is now on his way here from Washington. He will arrive Saturday or Sunday. Meanwhile the bank is in the hands of Bank Examiner Wilson.

Cortelyou Not So Well.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 19.—Secretary Cortelyou was not quite so well today. Secretary Metcalf was able to be in his office for a short time.

DENIES FORGERY CHARGE.

Vancouver Spendthrift Says His Name Is Smith, Not Kellar.

DR. HANNA IS APPOINTED.

Will Be Archbishop Rlordan's Aid Despite Opposition.

NEW YORK, Dec. 19.—According to a special dispatch from Rome to the New York World, Rev. Dr. Edward J. Hanna, professor of dogmatic theology in St. Bernard's Seminary at Rochester, N. Y., has been appointed coadjutor archbishop of San Francisco, in succession to the late George Montgomery.

Your Christmas Shopping

Can be done with comfort and satisfaction by buying here and avoiding the crush and confusion of the Department Stores. Our stock contains the latest ideas only, our salesmen are competent, courteous and polite, and will give you all the time you require, while our large, light and airy store affords plenty of light and room, so you can shop in comfort. Our prices are no higher than ordinary styles elsewhere.



We offer a splendid assortment of—HOUSECOATS, BATHROBES, SUSPENDERS, LOUNGING ROBES, TRAVELING BAGS, SUIT CASES, UMBRELLAS, STEAMER RUGS, HANDKERCHIEFS, NECKWEAR, in fact everything that a gentleman needs—HAT, GLOVE and merchandise orders, all at our usual modest prices

BEN SELLING LEADING CLOTHIER

financial conditions in this city and state have practically resumed their normal condition. Governor Gillett has announced that after Saturday, December 21, no more holidays will be declared. This action was taken after the receipt of a resolution unanimously adopted by the San Francisco Clearing House, declaring that the special holidays have served their purpose and are no longer required. Specie payments already have virtually been resumed by the banks.

Advertisement for Columbia, Victor, or Edison Talking Machine. Text: "A Sensible Gift! A Columbia, Victor, or Edison Talking Machine—It will please the entire family \$100 - a week does it. Largest Assortment on West." Includes logo for Piano House.

Advertisement for W. G. Smith & Co. Text: "XMAS PRESENTS Box of our Monogram Stationery or 100 Engraved Visiting Cards from W. G. SMITH & CO. Wedding Card Engravers WASHINGTON BLDG." Includes logo for Piano House.