

HARDING IS URGED TOP PICK SECRETARY

George Christian Considered
Most Likely Choice.

CHILD ALSO MENTIONED

Manning of Ohio Another Who
Has Been Suggested as Aid
to President-elect.

BY MARK SULLIVAN.
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WASHINGTON, Jan. 26.—(Special.)—If Senator Harding has decided who is to be his private secretary, that decision remains locked in his own mind. The probability is he has not made the decision, although one or two committees have pressed the necessity of an early decision.

There is even greater necessity for early decision on this point, and less reason for deferring decision than in regard to most of the cabinet offices. As a matter of fact, several of the future members of the cabinet already know they are to be appointed, and are preparing to take up their personal affairs. But there is no sign of any such crystallization of intention as regards the office of private secretary.

Most of the newspaper men take it for granted that the present secretary, George Christian, will be selected, but evidence of this is lacking to a degree that has significance. Christian mentioned for job.

Most of the newspaper men and many of Senator Harding's friends as well, who have become familiar with Mr. Christian, like him and hope he will continue in a relation of intimacy with Senator Harding. The last three presidents, Wilson, Taft and Roosevelt, all took into the White House the same private secretary who had already served them. In two of the cases, Taft and Wilson, and Loeb with Roosevelt, this turned out well. In Taft's case the result was less successful, and two changes were made before the four years ended.

A president-elect is usually prone to keep the secretary who through long attachment, so to speak, fingers and thumbs to him.

Other than Mr. Christian, the man most commonly rumored for private secretary, is Richard Washburn Child. Persons who visited Marion last summer for any length of time and observed the relation between Harding and Child felt confident that Harding would want to have Child in some position where his ability will be at the president's service in intimate way. For the rather specialized job of private secretary Child would seem to be an especially close fit.

PRUNE WEEK PLANS MADE

Ad Club to Aid in Encouraging
Consumption of Fruit.

Plans for carrying out a "prune" week when the consumption of Oregon prunes will be encouraged throughout the city and state were decided upon by the Ad club at the luncheon at the Benson hotel yesterday following addresses made by representatives of the Oregon Growers' Cooperative association. Frank McCrillis was appointed chairman of a committee.

Speakers included Professor Lewis, manager of the association; Walter Denton and F. A. Kurtz, all emphasizing the value of supporting home products and especially the Oregon prune.

QUARTERMASTER TO MOVE

Army Depot for Four States to Be
Maintained at Seattle.

The army depot quartermaster's office is to be removed from Portland to Seattle, according to an order issued by the war department. The order makes Seattle the depot quartermaster point for Oregon, Washington, Idaho and Montana.

A small office will be maintained here, but all stocks will be removed. It is understood.

Captain Tingley, who has been in command of the depot quartermaster's department here, has been ordered to leave here and to become quartermaster at Camp Kearney, Cal.

BILL ABOLISHES SENATE

Measure Introduced in Minnesota
House Reorganizes Legislature.

ST. PAUL, Minn., Jan. 26.—A bill to provide for a constitutional amendment to reorganize the legislative department of the state government was introduced in the senate Tuesday.

Abolishing the senate, the measure would provide for a house made up of members from various occupations. There would be one representative for each 2000 voters engaged in agriculture, mining, mechanical, transportation, trade, professional, domestic and clerical services, each member to receive a compensation not in excess of that received in civil life.

ANIMAL DOCTORS CONFER

Meet of Idaho Veterinarians Is
Opened by Governor Davis.

BOISE, Idaho, Jan. 26.—(Special.)—Governor Davis made the principal address at the opening session of the

Idaho Veterinary Medical association

today which is meeting in first annual convention at the chamber of commerce.

Announcement was made by Secretary Luce of the result of the election of officers for the ensuing biennial session being conducted by mail, according to the by-laws. Dr. Ray B. Hurd of Payette was chosen president, succeeding Dr. O. L. Corvallis of Coeur d'Alene. Dr. E. T. Powell of Coeur d'Alene was selected vice-president, succeeding Dr. A. J. Dufrene of Sandpoint, and Dr. H. C. Luce was chosen secretary-treasurer, having been re-elected. The members of the executive committee are: One-term year, the Hon. Dr. Corvallis and Dr. D. Ellis. To be decided later: two-year term, Dr. W. P. Kidwell.

WHAT CONGRESS DID AS ITS DAYS' WORK.

Senate.

Heroic efforts were made by Penrose to stem the filibuster against the emergency tariff measure and fix a date for voting, but without avail.

It became known that Great Britain is urging delay in disarmament negotiations, pleading that it would prove embarrassing to that country at present.

Prominent labor leaders appeared before the foreign relations committee and urged resumption of trade relations with Russia.

Sherman introduced a bill fixing the salaries of congressmen at \$12,000 per annum.

House.

Continued debate on agricultural appropriation bill.

Borah resolution to stop naval building six months introduced by Representative Murphy, republican, Ohio.

Hearings held before agricultural committee on Snell bill for forestry conservation, with Gifford Pinchot, ex-chief forester, leading the opposition to measure.

Bill to require repayments of courts-martial fines introduced by Representative Mason, republican, Illinois.

Members of Walsh committee investigating shipping board activities expressed satisfaction that the charges were not true that Schwab received money from the government.

War department would be required to turn over war materials to states for road building under bill introduced by Representative Reavis, republican, Nebraska.

Boise, three-year term, Dr. J. H. Plank of Rusk, four-year term, Dr. A. J. Powell of Lewiston.

NEGRO BURNED AT STAKE

VICTIM CHARGED WITH KILLING
MAN AND HIS DAUGHTER.

Mississippi Lynchers Take Suspect
Across River to Arkansas.

OSCEOLA, Ark., Jan. 26.—Henry Lowery, negro, charged with the murder of C. T. Craig and his daughter at Nodena Christmas day, was burned to death by a mob tonight on the Nodena river levee near the Craig plantation.

Lowery was taken across the river to Arkansas by the men who earlier had taken his father's case on to Nodena, Miss. The negro was taken to Nodena, where the Craig plantation is located, according to information received here.

The mob then took him to the levee near the scene of the crime and, driven by a mob of about 500, chained the negro and burned him to death. The mob then dispersed.

MEMPHIS, Tenn., Jan. 26.—Matthew Houston, 35 years old, alleged to have confessed to the police the killing of 6-year-old Frank Dilly, whose mutilated body was found in a field near his father's farm, was taken to Memphis last night, where he has been removed to Nashville for safe keeping.

Medicine detectives are endeavoring to establish the accuracy of a statement credited to the negro that the slaying of Dilly was a warning shot by a white youth who, according to Houston's alleged confession, aided in dragging the body to the field in which it was found.

LITTLE ROCK, Ark., Jan. 26.—Governor Hefner tonight characterized the lynching of Henry Lowery, negro, at Nodena, Ark., as "the most disgraceful act ever committed in Arkansas," and declared that he would recommend to the legislature that any sheriff or officer who permits or does not prevent lynching within his jurisdiction be removed from office.

LUMBER DEALERS MEET

Conference of Yard Bosses Held in
Walla Walla.

WALLA WALLA, Wash., Jan. 26.—(Special.)—Managers and their assistants from 50 lumber yards in the northwest owned by the Tumalum Lumber company of Walla Walla met here today for their annual conference, which will continue two more days. General business conditions are being discussed, as are the problems peculiar to the company.

No reference was made today to prices.

Each manager discussed questions affecting his locality. An auction sale of "dead stock" was held this afternoon, each manager putting up for auction stock which was not moving in his yard, and other managers bidding in it.

The managers were greeted this morning by Ben F. Hill, mayor. Tonight the city and their families attended a theater party. Social affairs are arranged for the families of the managers.

GERMAN AIRPLANES EXCEL

Postmaster-General Says Craft Are
More Economical.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 26.—German airplanes recently purchased for the new York-San Francisco air mail service are operated 30 per cent cheaper than machines supplied by the war department, Postmaster-General Burleson informed the house today in response to an inquiry as to foreign equipment.

Mr. Burleson said the upkeep cost was 50 per cent less and that the purchase represented a forward step in airplane development over development at this time in the United States. He reported that two of the eight German machines had been destroyed, with the killing of two pilots and their mechanics.

HOUSE INQUISTORS EXNERATE SCHWAB

Steel Magnate Did Not Use
Federal Money in War.

CHARGE IS NOT PROVED

Committee Investigating Shipping
Board, Through Members, Issues
Statement on Accusation.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 26.—With the approval of Chairman Walsh, members of the house committee investigating the shipping board declared in a statement today that they were "satisfied" that the charges that Charles M. Schwab received money from the government for his personal expenses while serving as war-time director of the emergency fleet corporation, "was not proved and further that it was not true."

The statement was issued by Representative Steele, democrat, Pennsylvania, after discussion with the other members who heard the testimony relating to the \$260,000 voucher. Its issuance in advance of the final report of the committee was unusual, but members explained that it had been decided to take such action on the grounds of fairness to one unjustly accused.

When the final report on the whole inquiry is submitted to congress, it was said that the committee would reiterate in more formal form its belief that the charge was without justification.

Mr. Steele's statement was issued after it had been read by Chairman Walsh, who announced he had no objection to its publication. It follows: "When asked if he cared to make any statement relative to the hearing held by the select committee on shipping board expenditures on the charges that Mr. Charles M. Schwab had received payment for expenses which were charged against the shipping board, emergency fleet corporation, to ship construction cost, Mr. Steele replied that members of the committee who heard all the testimony and saw the documents were satisfied that the facts were not proved, and further that it was not true."

Mr. Steele further said this statement was made with the knowledge and consent of the members of the committee.

It was explained by Mr. Steele that there might have been some impropriety in an utterance of this kind from the chairman of the select committee in advance of an official finding, but that there was urgent demand for an expression in view of Mr. Schwab's public services.

Feeling strong for Schwab, indication of the committee's feeling was given by Representative Foster, republican, Ohio, while Mr. Schwab was testifying in New York yesterday.

Mr. Foster said he wanted to express his appreciation of Mr. Schwab's work and the inestimable service he had rendered the country during the war.

"Committee members were convinced by the testimony," said representative Connally, democrat, Texas, "that Mr. Schwab did not receive a dollar from the United States shipping board as compensation or expenses while serving as director-general of the emergency fleet corporation, and that no part of the \$260,000 voucher of the Bethlehem Steel corporation was paid by the shipping board as a part of the cost of ships built for the United States as indicated."

The committee will continue its general hearing next week, but it was said the voucher incident, so far as it related to Mr. Schwab, had been closed.

SCHWAB SAYS HE IS GRATEFUL

Action of Walsh Committee Best
News Magnate Has Heard.

NEW YORK, Jan. 26.—"I am indeed grateful," Charles M. Schwab, steel magnate, said today when he learned that the Walsh committee had issued a statement in Washington clearing him of charges of receiving payment from the government for expenses while serving as director-general of the emergency fleet corporation.

"It is the best news I have ever heard," he declared, "and I am filled with emotion. I appreciate beyond words the action of the Walsh committee in so promptly exonerating me from the unfounded charge that I received money from the government for the construction of ships."

Representative Sumners of Washington gave a luncheon in the speaker's room at the capitol today to express his appreciation of the action of the Walsh committee in clearing Mr. Schwab of the charges.

The luncheon was attended by Representatives McCarver and Sumners of Oregon, Senator Poindexter and Representatives Hadley, Miller and Johns of Washington and Senator Gooding and Representatives French and Smith of Idaho; also by Surgeon-General Cumming and Major Hugh Devall, supervisor of the 14th district of the public health service, which comprises Oregon, Washington and Idaho.

It is planned to construct a hospital on the old Walla Walla reservation to house at least 1000 patients. The Surgeon-General Cumming, of the public health service, told the house committee there was a pressing need for this institution to take care of veterans suffering from nervous and mental troubles.

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strongest prosecutors of the soda

company.

The petition was opposed by Commissioner Bigelow, and the firm was told to file application under the new soft drink ordinance, and its status would be considered when this application came up.

Another retailer who sought the restoration of his license was Louis Mitchell, who conducts an establishment at the corner of Fifth and Burnside streets. Mitchell signified his willingness to post either \$500 cash or a \$1000 bond, provided for under the new ordinance, for those who have been convicted of a violation of the ordinance with their establishments. His case was put over to Tuesday afternoon, as was the application of Ah Koe, a Chinese, who desires to conduct business from 35 North Fifth street.

PEETE WITNESS CHARGED

WOMAN'S COUNSEL SAYS TESTIMONY IS DISCREDITED.

Statements Before Grand Jury and at Trial Are Said to Be at Variance.

LOS ANGELES, Jan. 26.—William T. Aggeler, acting public defender, head of counsel for Mrs. Louise L. Peete, on trial charged with the murder of Jacob Charles Denton, declared late today that he had impeached the testimony of William F. Heitzman, a witness for the state.

Heitzman, a landscape gardener, testified he had carried into the Denton home, in which Mrs. Peete was a tenant, the earth under which the body of Denton was found. He said Mrs. Peete helped him to do this and told him she wanted it removed from some rose bushes and stored in the cellar for future use.

Aggeler claimed the impeachment in cross-examination. He quoted statements of the witness as at variance with testimony given by Heitzman before the grand jury that indicted Mrs. Peete. Heitzman said his statements today were "his best recollection."

After the defense claimed Heitzman's testimony impeached, Thomas Lee Woolwine, district attorney, called Lee Hayata, a Japanese, who testified he saw Heitzman carry the earth into the basement. Hayata further testified Mrs. Peete borrowed a shovel from him, which he found several days later in the cellar "with dirt on it."

He said he burned, at the request of Mrs. Peete, a tiny comb, some shoes, infant's size, a tiny comb and two small bottles of water bottles, with crocheted covers were admitted in evidence.

Mrs. Mamie Tilton testified these articles were given to her by Mrs. Peete. She said they were in a box marked "in memory of Dolly and baby." Another prosecution witness said Dolly was Denton's wife and the baby was Martha Margaret Denton, their child, who died a few days after birth.

The diamond ring, according to Mrs. Tilton, was pawned by her at the request of Mrs. Peete.

FORT TRANSFER PLANNED

HOUSE SOLDIER HOSPITAL
BILL COMPLETED.

Measure Provides for Shift of
Walla Walla and Wyoming Post
to Treasury Department.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 26.—Fort Walla Walla will be transferred to the treasury department and will receive an appropriation of approximately \$450,000 for alterations and repairs under the provisions of the general hospital bill completed today by the house committee on public buildings and grounds.

The bill provides for the establishment of five new hospitals. One of these will be at Fort Walla Walla and another at Fort McKean, Wyo., which also is to be transferred from the war to the treasury department. The committee was told that hardly more than a year ago it was required to put Fort McKean in perfect condition for a hospital. The bill authorizes an appropriation of \$500,000 to be used in converting the two army posts.

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DEMOCRATIC CLOQUE WOULD DITCH TARIFF

Senate Filibuster Menaces
Farm Relief Bill.

SOUTHERN COMBINE SEEN

Republican Leaders Fear Measure
May Fail; Purpose of Obstructionists Disclosed.

THE OREGONIAN NEWS BUREAU.
Washington, Jan. 26.—Republican leaders in the senate began to despair this afternoon of the passage of the emergency tariff bill. The democratic filibuster against the bill which has been going on for several days developed such formidable proportions that republican leaders became fearful that persistent efforts to pass the tariff measure may prevent the enactment of any other legislation in this congress.

Senators Underwood of Alabama, Fletcher of Florida, Pat Harrison of Mississippi, Simmons of North Carolina, Dial of South Carolina and Hoke Smith of Georgia, all democrats, seem to have effected some sort of combination to kill the emergency relief measure asked by the farmers.

Several democrats in the senate intend to support the tariff bill if their colleagues give them an opportunity, but the determination of the filibustering group was well illustrated by the fact that Smith of Georgia this afternoon delivered a speech he has delivered twice before in the last fortnight against the minimum measure. The Georgia senator smiled all the time he was discussing the wage bill as if he had in mind what was happening to the tariff measure, and still smiling, declined any purpose to filibuster. The other senators in the filibuster, however, entered no denial.

Purpose Held Disclosed.

The purpose of the filibuster, it is understood, is not directed entirely against the tariff bill, but is a piece of maneuvering intended to bring overtures from the republican side to confirm some of President Wilson's appointments who are due to lose their jobs on March 4, unless this senate acts favorably. Senator Penrose, as chairman of the finance committee, came to the senate in his wheel chair and this afternoon to offer a resolution designed, he said, to "test the faith of certain gentlemen on the other side who deny that they are filibustering against the tariff bill."

The Penrose resolution asked unanimous consent for a vote on the tariff bill on February 1. Senator Underwood, democratic leader, objected, whereupon Senator Penrose asked for an agreement upon any date up to the middle of February. Underwood was then joined by Simmons of North Carolina in objecting. Senator Ashurst (dem.) of Arizona thought to help out the republicans by announcing in the senate that he favored the passage of the tariff bill as a relief measure much desired by the farmers, but this did not discourage his filibuster.

New Element Injected.

A new element was injected into the fight tonight when the national federation of federal employees issued a statement denouncing the democratic filibuster for holding up the passage of the Johnson-Nolan minimum wage bill. Friends of the farmers' tariff face a ticklish situation with only five days left of the session remaining. The filibusters have it in their power to stop all of the big appropriation bills, which might be passed by the senate, or to adjourn the office to call an extra session to meet immediately instead of the time proposed, early in April.

PARTISANS CLASH ON TARIFF

Drive to Put Fordney Emergency
Bill Through Fails.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 26.—Republican and democratic senate leaders clashed tonight in a bitter fight over the Fordney emergency tariff bill.

Republican suggestions of a democratic filibuster brought on the clash, Senator Underwood of Alabama, minority leader, and other prominent democrats denying that filibustering was in progress or contemplated. The democrats expressed willingness to vote after "proper and legitimate" debate, and charged that the republicans were trying to reduce the cost of living, the proposed sugar tariff of about 2 cents a pound would add about that much to the cost.

Senators Smoot, republican, Utah, and Randall, democrat, Louisiana, conceded that the sugar prices would be increased to the extent of the tariff on Cuban sugar and also the domestic crop. Both, however, argued that the increase was necessary to offset the loss of the Cuban sugar tariff, which was being forced to sell at 2 cents a pound below production cost. Senator Simmons of North Carolina, democratic leader, objected, whereupon Senator Kenyon, republican, Iowa, added that "apparently" a filibuster would prevent passage.

During the brief discussion Senator Harrison charged that there was a "joker" in the wool schedule by which most imported wool would be charged a tariff of 20 per cent to reduce the 15 per cent rate in the bill. This, he declared, would be effected by a provision placing the higher rate on wools which are cut.

The proposed sugar duties also were discussed by Senator Harrison, who declared that, despite republican campaign pledges to reduce the cost of living, the proposed sugar tariff of about 2 cents a pound would add about that much to the cost.

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