THIRTY-TWO PAGES

The Sunday Oregonian.

PAGES 1 TO 12

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QUIET AT PRIMARIES

Republicans Elect Delegates to Monday's Convention.

TOTAL NUMBER OF VOTES CAST 2759

Two Tickets Appeared Only in the Eleventh Ward—Heaviest Vote in the Third.

The Republican primaries passed off even more quietly than was expected. Only in one ward—the Eleventh—was there an opposition ticket in the field, and while personal animosity to some of the delegates resulted in the casting of scratched ballots in a few wards, the regular ticket was elected everywhere "hands down." The total number of votes cast in the city was 2759. The heaviest vote was cast in the Third Ward, where trouble was expected, and preparations had been made to meet it. Following is the result in the different wards:

First Ward.

Voting proceeded quietly in the First Ward. The number of votes cast was 223, and the following ticket was elected: W. A. Storey, John Candlish, W. A. Hart, William Kapus, J. L. Wagner, Fred Schroeder.

Second Ward.

The vote in the Second Ward was heavier than was expected, 311 votes being cast, but there was but one ticket in the field, and the afternoon passed without incident. The delegates elected were: Geo. W. Bates, A. W. Allen, D. Solis Cohen, Harry Howard, L. Q. Swetland, Alex. Bernstein, J. W. Paddock, A. Tichner, W. F. White, J. H. Schulderman.

Third Ward.

The Third was the banner ward as far as votes were concerned, 542 being deposited. The opposition that was expected failed to materialize. The ticket chosen was: Donald Mackay, James Lotan, S. C. Spencer, J. W. Brown, Walter F. Burrell, Wm. Conner, M. S. Monteith, T. B. McDevitt, O. A. Windfelder.

Fourth Ward.

There was some scratching due to personal differences in the Fourth, but no organized opposition to any candidate. The vote was 268, and the delegates elected were: Edward Holman, Sylvester Farrell, J. Thorburn Ross, W. H. Barry, Wallace McCamant, O. F. Paxton, C. F. Pearson, J. B. Slemmons, W. S. Duniway, W. L. Boise, J. W. Campbell, George L. Baker, George McMillan, Dr. E. H. Thornton.

Fifth Ward.

A light vote was cast in the Fifth Ward, 227 ballots being found in the box when the polls closed. The ticket elected was: W. M. Ladd, James Steel, C. A. Dolph, Owen Carraher, F. H. Alliston, H. P. Emery, F. A. Bancroft, L. D. Cole, A. N. Gambell, R. Everding, Marks Rybke.

Sixth Ward.

In the Sixth Ward there was hardly a ripple to stir the serenity of the regular ticket. But four scratches were made all day, so that the delegates received almost [illegible] the same vote. Four received [illegible] and the [illegible] five [illegible] each [illegible] quiet reigned at the [illegible]ting place. The ticket elected follows: O. P. S. Plummer, J. H. Huddleson, W. A. Cleland, Graham Glass, Jr., Ed Werlein, Charles F. Beebe, Walter Holman, Wm. Fleidner, B. Labbe.

Seventh Ward.

In Precinct No. 31, of the Seventh Ward, there was a total of 94 votes cast. There was a little more scratching than in the Sixth, although nothing of an opposition developed, the dissenting electors scattering their choice in a desultory manner. Hacheney received 78, McNamee, 86, Hobkirk, 84; Malone, 85, and Lohmire, 86. The entire vote in the ward was 169. Following is the ticket: Frank Hacheney, Thos. McNamee, Peter Hobkirk, T. C. Malone, A. C. Lohmire.

ON THE EAST SIDE.

One Ticket in Eighth, Ninth, Tenth and Two in the Eleventh Ward.

The primaries on the East Side were remarkably quiet. In the Eighth, Ninth and Tenth Wards there was but one ticket voted for. In the Eleventh, there were two tickets, and even here the contest was friendly, and no unpleasant feelings were engendered. The following is the result by wards:

Eighth Ward.

In the Eighth Ward one ticket was presented at the polls. It was made up from all portions of the ward and the Southern Pacific carshops, Inman, Poulsen & Co.'s sawmill, Wolff & Zwicker are represented. The vote cast was 229. Following are the delegates: T. M. Edmunds, T. H. Compton, A. Gerde, George J. Emrich, T. A. Davey, M. G. Griffin, John Russell, J. E. Reinke, C. F. Petsch.

Ninth Ward.

In the Ninth Ward, the primary ticket was selected by conference committees from the Multnomah Union, the Straight Republican and the Sunnyside Republican Clubs. After they had made up the ticket, there was a meeting Friday night, and it was indorsed. The vote was 378. Following are the delegates chosen: H. H. Pomeroy, A. W. Lambert, W. M. Taylor, D. H. Strowbridge, Oscar P. Miller, F. Buchtel, J. C. Mann, H. Richmond, J. L. Wells, J. D. Mickle, C. A. Cogswell, M. A. Flynn, O. Hepworth, C. A. Bell, E. R. Botsford.

Tenth Ward.

In the Tenth, the primary ticket voted for was chosen at a public meeting. There was a contest at this meeting, but none at the polls yesterday. The vote was 232. The following delegates were chosen: J. C. Jameson, S. E. Willard, L. B. Cottingham, John T. Whalley, E. C. Robbins, F. A. Bailey, M. E. McEachern, L. T. Gilliland, W. F. Turnbull.

Eleventh Ward.

Two tickets were voted for in the Eleventh Ward. One ticket had the names of M. E. Thompson, E. W. Rowe, Dr. L. M. Davis, J. Church, C. Weigant, J. R. Swinton, E. M. Carson. It was nominated at a club meeting held at the Mississippi-avenue engine-house. The vote was 247. The ticket elected was as follows: N. D. Bentgen, J. T. Gregg, E. M. Carson, J. R. Swinton, J. H. Stanley, J. W. Booth, E. A. Cadwell.

Outside Precincts.

At Sylvan, O. S. Cooke was unanimously elected as the representative from Precinct No. 77. In St. Johns, Precinct No. 55, there was a bit of opposition, but the regular ticket, represented by T. J. Monahan, led with 26. The opposition polled 18 votes, S. R. Ogden receiving this number. In West Portland, John Conquist was elected, receiving 48 votes. At Brower, Joseph Ellis was chosen; C. C. Littlepage at Hurlburt and Frank Prescott, at Bridal Veil. Several outside precincts were not reported last night.

CANDIDATES IN THE FIELD.

Those for Whom the Delegates May Vote.

The Republican City and County Convention will meet in the A. O. U. W. Hall tomorrow morning at 9 o'clock. It will nominate a full ticket.

As the primaries were held yesterday, the numerous candidates will have to make the best of their time today to convince the delegates of their several qualifications for office, and this will be the politician's busy day beyond a shadow of a doubt. While no one can say with any certainty that any one has a "dead mortal cinch" on an office, there are a number of candidates who appear to have no opposition, while others will have their hands full of adversaries, and may sit into several very lively fights before the day is done.

All the municipal offices, save a few seats in the Council, are well supplied with applicants. The Mayorality, as the race looks now, lies between General Charles F. Beebe and Mayor Storey, both of whom are announced as candidates before the convention, and both of whom have friends among the delegates, who will labor in their interests.

The candidates for City Auditor, while not so numerous as a week or two ago, still muster a large enough force to give the delegates something to think about. Councilman J. C. Jameson, T. C. Devlin and General William Kapus are now out for the office. All three will, it is said, have warm advocates, and the fight promises to be interesting.

The City Treasurership will be contested for by H. S. Rowe and Ed Werlein, and several others are spoken of as likely to play the roles of dark horses should the contest be close.

As far as known, no opposition has developed either to City Engineer Chase or City Attorney Long, both of whom are candidates for re-election. The Municipal Judgeship will be the office for which the liveliest scrimmage of any of the city plums will be made. Some of the aspirants have dropped out of the race, but enough are left to make things warm. Among these are: Paul R. Deady, S. H. Gruber, Frank D. Hennessy, George R. Cameron, A. C. Spencer, Gustaf Anderson and J. J. Johnson.

County Offices.

A full list of aspirants for all county offices will also be at the disposal of the delegates, and will probably be placed prominently before them some time today. The race for Sheriff remains as before, with William Frazier, Dan J. Moore and Thomas Jordan as entries. For County Commissioners a cloud of candidates is in the sky, the list growing rapidly as the time for the choice approaches. J. G. Mack is the newest entry, while J. H. Huddleson, Councilmen Hansen and Beutgen, H. C. Smith, Peter Hobkirk, Philo Holbrook and A. C. Lohmire are all in the field. Smith and Holbrook are the retiring Commissioners.

T. Scott Brooke has been brought out as a new candidate for County Treasurer. He will be opposed in the convention by Ralph W. Hoyt, the present incumbent. For County Assessor Captain Charles E. McDonell, George C. Sears, George E. Watkins and R. S. Greenleaf will run. The Recordership will lie between S. C. Beach and James Roberts.

Major J. P. Kennedy has, as far as known, no opponents for the nomination for Clerk of the Circuit Court, and H. H. Holmes, as Clerk of the County Court, is equally fortunate.

Professor R. F. Robinson, Professor Curtis and Professor A. P. Armstrong will each endeavor to secure the nomination for County Superintendent of Schools, with chances, so it is stated, about equally divided.

John Hurlburt is a candidate to succeed [illegible] as C[illegible] Surveyor, and Dr. D. H. [illegible] is a [illegible]ate for a second nomination as Coroner.

Judge Otto J. Kraemer will have no opponents as a candidate for nomination for Justice of the West Side District. For Constable, Thomas McNamee, George Mitchell and Sam L. Simmons are in the fight. Simmons, who is the latest entry in the race, has held the office before, and has served many years in the detective department of the city police force.

Thad W. Vreeland will probably be nominated for Justice of the East Side, and his Constable, Parker, will without doubt run with him on the regular ticket.

EARLY ADJOURNMENT.

Republican Senators Determined to Close Session in First Half of June.

WASHINGTON, April 7.—The Republican caucus committee on order of business of the Senate held a session today, but when it adjourned the members declared that nothing had been definitely decided upon beyond a steady effort to secure final disposition of the measures now receiving the attention of the Senate. These are the Quay case, the Philippine bill, the Alaskan code bill and the appropriation bills. They estimate that the disposal of these bills will require two or three weeks' time, and say that there will yet be plenty of time to decide what measures to take up next.

While no definite final decision was reached on other measures, it is understood there was considerable discussion of the entire field of legislation. The shipping bill received more or less attention, the result being a tentative decision to bring it up before final adjournment if there should appear a probability of getting it acted upon without too great delay. It is understood, however, that the Democrats will make stubborn resistance to the passage of this bill, and fear is felt that an effort to pass it will extend the session beyond the time when the Republican leaders hope to be able to adjourn finally. They are quite determined to close the session during the first half of June, and on this account may have temporarily to sacrifice several measures which are very seriously championed by individual Senators.

No formal action was taken upon the treaties before the Senate, but it is understood that none of the pending conventions will be pressed to a vote during the present session. They include the Hay-Pauncefote treaty and the French and the other reciprocity treaties. Senator Davis, chairman of the committee on foreign relations, said early in the day that he would not again during the session ask the Senate to consider the Isthmian treaty, and it is understood that this determination on his part has the sanction of the committee on order of business.

MUST SUPPRESS "BOXERS"

The Powers Deliver an Ultimatum to China.

MUST SUPPRESS BOXERS.

LONDON, April 7.—A special from Shanghai announces that the American, British, French and German Ministers have sent a joint note to the Chinese Foreign Office demanding the total suppression of the Society of Boxers within two months and announcing that otherwise the powers mentioned will land troops and march into the interior of the Northern provinces, Shan Tung and Pe Chi Li, to secure the safety of foreigners. According to the same dispatch, the American, Italian and French Legations are now provided with naval guards from a large gathering of warships at Taku.

Liu Kun Yih, Viceroy of Liang King, has had three audiences with the Dowager Empress relative to the Emperor, and it is believed he has impressed her with the advisability of restoring His Majesty to power.

Captain John Codman Dead.

BOSTON, April 7.—Captain John Codman, the famous advocate of free ships and free trade, is dead, in his 86th year.

FLOOD AT AUSTIN

Swollen Colorado River Carried Away the Great Dam.

THIRTY OR FORTY LIVES LOST

Similar to the Johnstown Disaster—Great Loss to Property—Part of the City Inundated.

AUSTIN, Tex., April 7.—This city is tonight in pitch darkness, with a raging river, one mile wide, swollen far beyond its natural banks, roaring and surging through all the lower portion of the town, having spread destruction and death in its wake. In addition to the vast loss to property interests, it is calculated that between 30 and 40 lives have been sacrificed, and the reports coming in from the tributary country tonight do not tend to improve matters. The flood is not unlike the disastrous Johnstown flood of some years ago, in that a raging river, already swollen far beyond its capacity, bore too heavily upon an immense dam spanning a river, breaking it and letting loose a reservoir of water 30 miles long, half a mile wide and 60 feet deep, to aid in carrying destruction down the valleys of the Colorado River.

The great dam in the Colorado River gave way at noon from the enormous pressure of water and debris, and with a roar and crash swept the valley below the city, wrecking the immense light and power plant and drowning eight workmen. Following is a list of the known dead, including those killed in the power-house:

Frank Kincet.
Frank Kinney.
Walter Flower.
Walter Johnson.
Alfred Johnson.
Frank Fitzgerald.
Walter Blossman.
Joseph Newman.
Dick Morris, colored.
John Proes.
Charles Burchard.
Six negroes.

Last Wednesday night it began to rain very hard at this place, the storm extending north of here along the watersheds of the Colorado River. The precipitation continued until this morning, the downfall averaging six inches within an hour. All this vast quantity of water all along the watersheds of the Colorado River rapidly swelled the current until at 8 o'clock this morning the river, which had been rising steadily since last evening, was a raging torrent, having risen 40 feet within 10 hours.

After daylight this morning it became evident that the situation was serious. The river began to rise so rapidly that it became evident that the dam, power-house and contents, costing $600,000, were in imminent danger. To add to the danger of the situation, small frame houses, trees and debris of every description commenced descending the river, and piled up against the upper face of the dam. This weight was [illegible]ented every moment until by 10 o'clock there was a mass of debris lodged against the dam which threatened the safety of the structure. In addition, millions of gallons of water, muddy from its long journey, was whirling and plunging to the 60-foot fall, and it was evident that no wall could withstand the immense pressure.

Breaking of the Dam.

The crisis came shortly after 11 o'clock, when suddenly, with a report like the roar of the ocean, a great wedge, 25 feet high, 500 feet wide, and about 8 feet thick, rolled out of the center section of the dam, down the face of the 60-foot fall, deep into the river below. This left a hanging gap in the very middle of the dam, through which the debris and water fiercely poured, while the flood, already raging, was threatening everything in its path. The released water poured into the power-house, catching eight employes at work there, drowning all of them.

The breaking of the dam caused wild excitement in the city. The telegraph companies at once wired to places below here to look out for the great wave, and runners were dispatched on horses to notify those living in the valleys below the city. The telegraphic messages served as a timely warning to many, but the rushing waters outstripped the horsemen, and many houses were picked up and swept away before the occupants could get together their valuables.

Within a short time all the valleys to the south and west of Austin were filled to overflowing with water, and the southern portion of the city, tributary to the river, was inundated. Large crowds collected on the river banks, and several persons were swept into the river when the dam broke, but all were saved by boatmen.

A crowd of white people, numbering about 30, living just below the dam in tents, were seen at their habitations just before the dam broke and have not been accounted for since. It is generally believed that all of them were swept away.

One man, attempting to cross the roadway leading to the bridge across the river just as the big wave rolled down, was caught, and he and his horse and buggy went down with the torrent and were heard of no more.

A family of six negroes living in the valley south of the city are known to have been drowned.

It is estimated that more than 100 houses have been destroyed, and the loss to property will be great. The breaking of the dam engulfed the old water company's plant below the city, and it is tonight lying 15 feet under water, while the city is in darkness and without water.

Reports from points below here are to the effect that the flood has been most disastrous. The surface of the river throughout the day has been dotted with small houses or fragments of houses and drowned animals, along with trees and debris, all of which bear testimony to the ravages of the flood in the mountainous region above Austin.

In addition to the losses here, the International & Great Northern and the Austin & Northwestern Railroads, both entering this city, have suffered severely, the first-named having a very serious wreck by reason of the floods this morning. The south-bound "Cannon Ball" train from St. Louis on the International & Great Northern was wrecked at McNeill, nine miles above here, as a result of a washout. The engine and cars plunged into a culvert, demolishing the engine, the mail, baggage car, two day coaches and one sleeper. The cars left the track and rolled over on their sides in four feet of water, but fortunately no lives were lost, nor were any of the passengers badly hurt. This is attributable to the fact that there were not many on the train, and it was running slowly at the time, owing to the bad track. The mail clerk, Ora Davis, of San Antonio, was seriously bruised, and Engineer Mayham, of San Antonio, and Fireman C. M. Stanley were slightly injured.

The Austin & Northwestern road operated no trains today, as five of their bridges were washed away during the night.

The Power-House Gone.

AUSTIN, Tex., April 8.—The increased volume of water which came down the river tonight undermined the power-house at the dam at 1:30 this morning, and it fell into the river, carrying with it $300,000 worth of machinery.

STORM AT SAN ANTONIO.

Railroad Traffic Stopped—Rockport Shipping Damaged.

SAN ANTONIO, Tex., April 7.—The heaviest rain and electric storm in 35 years visited San Antonio and the entire Southwest last night, destroying all street lights, flooding cellars and overflowing San Pedro Creek and San Antonio River.

The only train into San Antonio today was on the International & Great Northern, from Laredo. No trains have gone out. No telegraphic communication can be had west of Delrio, on the Southern Pacific, and the damage beyond that point is not known. It will be many days before trains can run to El Paso.

In Rockport many houses were blown off their foundations. Shipping suffered most. Out of about 30 boats lying in front of the town, only three rode the storm, suffering no damage.

THROUGHOUT THE STATE.

Cotton and Corn Crops Will Have to Be Replanted.

WACO, Tex., April 7.—Reports of loss of life and damage caused by floods, due to the incessant rains during the past three days, continue to pour in from all directions, indicating a repetition of the disasters of last year. The loss of life to a great extent has already surpassed that of previous years. Both telegraphic and telephone service all over the state is completely prostrated, and details from flooded districts are very meager. All streams, including the Brazos and Colorado, are overflowing the lowlands, and rising very rapidly. The crops of cotton and corn are nearly submerged, and will have to be replanted. Railway traffic is practically suspended on all railroads running into this city.

Another Town Washed Away.

ST. LOUIS, April 7.—A special to the Post-Dispatch from Dallas, Tex., says:

A bulletin from Taylor, Tex., at 3 o'clock this afternoon says the town of Circleville was washed away. The place had 100 inhabitants. It is feared some were drowned.

CHILDREN OF IRELAND.

Remarkable Demonstration Before the Queen in Phoenix Park, Dublin.

DUBLIN, April 7.—Pleasant weather prevailed today. After breakfast, the Queen drove out in a donkey carriage. The streets were full of pictures and processions of boys and girls, all the children carrying small union jacks, probably for the first time in their lives. They were in charge of priests, Sisters and teachers. During the afternoon, Her Majesty drove from the Vice-Regal Lodge to Phoenix Park and reviewed the children. There was a remarkable demonstration. After driving up and down the [illegible] several times amid ever-increasing [illegible]ing, Her Majesty returned to the Vice-Regal Lodge.

The children's demonstration, which closed the Queen's week in Ireland, was probably one of the most gladsome days either the Queen or Dublin has known in years. Certain it is that the Queen is making fresh conquests daily, and Her Majesty's many acts of personal self-sacrifice have completely won the hearts of the people of Ireland. Today's demonstration had elements of joy which the Queen has experienced but seldom in the recent gloomy months. There were miles of cheering children under a continuous canopy of fluttering flags, with a background of thousands of holiday-making elders who accompanied them. The charming weather tended to make the celebration in every way delightful not only to the Queen but to the little Princes who followed in the royal procession. The genuineness and spontaneity of the children's welcome kept Her Majesty in continual good humor, and yet visibly affected her deeper feelings as well.

The fact that 50,000 children arrived and departed from this city without serious accident, so far as known, is not the least remarkable feature of the day. Monday the Queen will pay another visit to Dublin, and the event promises to be quite the equal of her first entrance into the city.

Commenting upon the seizure of the United Irishman, the Dublin Independent condemns the action of the authorities as "stupid and inopportune." It says: "Looking through the issue we find many coarse and insolent references to the Queen and Lord-Lieutenant, which no one with the instincts of a gentleman could attempt to defend, but abusively offensive as they are they afforded no justification for suppression."

The Freeman's Journal remarks: "The castle has again acted with its usual stupidity. Such unwarrantable interference with the press without a trial or warning would never be attempted or tolerated in England. The castle authorities deem the Queen's visit an auspicious moment to emphasize the difference between the two countries."

Maud Gonne's Tirade.

NEW YORK, April 7.—According to the Dublin correspondent of the World, the copy of the United Irishman which was seized contained the following extracts from an article by Maud Gonne, entitled "The Famine Queen":

"In truth for Victoria, in the decrepitude of her 81 years, to have decided, after an absence of half a century, to revisit the country she hates, whose inhabitants are the victims of the criminal policy of her reign, the political necessity must have been terribly strong, for, after all, she is a woman, and however vile, selfish and pitiless her soul, she must sometimes tremble as death approaches, when she thinks of the countless Irish mothers, who, shelterless and watching their starving little ones, have cursed her before they died. Every eviction during 63 years has been carried out in Victoria's name, and if there is justice in heaven, the shame of these poor Irish emigrant girls, whose very innocence renders them an easy prey and who have been overcome in the terrible struggle for existence on a foreign shore, will fall on this woman, whose bourgeois virtue is so boasted and in whose name their homes were destroyed. Taking the shamrock in her withered hand, she dares to ask Ireland for soldiers to protect the exterminators of their race."

Bryan in California.

SAN FRANCISCO, April 7.—Colonel W. J. Bryan arrived here today from the north, making a stay of half an hour at the Palace Hotel, where an informal reception was held, several thousand people having gathered to greet the orator. Colonel Bryan made a very brief address. He refused to discuss the personal aspects of the campaign, especially declining to express his views in regard to the question of Admiral Dewey's candidacy for the Presidential nomination.

FRESNO, Cal., April 7.—W. J. Bryan made two addresses here tonight to large audiences. He left on the midnight train for Los Angeles.

MAY ATTACK BULLER

Boers in Natal Are Showing Activity.

PLANNING TO OUTFLANK HIM

May Advance on the British Forces by Way of Helpmaakar—Engagement at Reddersburg.

LONDON, April 8.—No news was issued by the War Office last night. None was received from the front except that from Bloemfontein, dated April 14, relating to the engagement of General Gatacre at Reddersburg, which seems to have been

GENERAL ELWELL S. OTIS

WHO HAS BEEN RELIEVED OF COMMAND OF THE UNITED STATES' FORCES IN THE PHILIPPINES.

held back by the censor. It will be remembered that Lord Roberts, in reporting the "unfortunate occurrence" at Reddersburg, said that General Gatacre had arrived there the morning of April 4. Hence he may have succeeded in engaging the Boers later in the day. It is strange, however, that General Gatacre's subsequent movements have not been mentioned in Lord Roberts' other dispatches, the last of which was dated the evening of April 6.

It is reported from Ladysmith that the Boers are beginning to construe General Buller's inactivity as a sign of fear or inability to resume active operations. Hence they are showing much activity, particularly around Biggarsberg, and are said to be planning to outflank General Buller by an advance in force by way of Helpmaakar. As the plan is known, it is not likely that the Boers will find Buller unprepared.

The Boers state that the Colesberg and Stormberg commandoes, numbering 6000 men and 10 guns, have reached Kroonstad.

Speaking at an annexation meeting at Wynburg, April 6, ex-Premier Sir John Gordon Sprigg declared that he had been informed by a member of the Afrikander Bund, who had just returned from Pretoria, that the executives of the republics at the commencement of the war expected the active assistance of 45,000 colonials. He had learned also that documents existed incriminating a number of leading colonials in machinations with the government of the republics.

Speaking at a large imperial demonstration at Newcastle-on-Tyne, last night, G. W. McArtney, Secretary to the Admiralty, said that, when the war was ended, the settlement that the government would feel it incumbent upon itself to make would be received by the people of the country as adequate satisfaction for the expenditure of blood and treasure that has been made in defense of the rights of British subjects.

A Fight at Reddersburg.

BLOEMFONTEIN, Wednesday afternoon, April 4.—General Gatacre had an engagement with the enemy at Reddersburg today. Details of the affair have not yet been received here.

DEMOCRATS WILL BE THERE

Minority Will Be on Hand to Vote Against the Tariff Bill.

WASHINGTON, April 7.—The Democratic members of the House of Representatives held a caucus tonight to determine upon plans in connection with the approaching vote on the Puerto Rican bill. About 90 members were present. The chief attention was given to the question of pairs, as the vote is expected to be so close that the result may depend upon the pairing of members. On motion of Underwood of Alabama, the Democratic whip, the following resolutions were adopted:

"Resolved, That all Democratic members are urged to return to Washington at once.

"That hereafter Democratic members will make no general or permanent pairs.

"That all pairs shall be made in writing, and shall be signed by one of the members designated by our party caucus to arrange pairs."

Richardson, the Democratic floor leader, offered the following resolution, which was unanimously adopted:

"Resolved, That as a party we declare our unalterable opposition to the measure now pending before Congress, entitled 'A bill temporarily to provide revenues for the relief of Puerto Rico,' and hereby enjoin upon every Democrat to be present in the House of Representatives when the vote is taken thereon, and record his vote against it."

Another resolution by Underwood was adopted, asking Democratic members to remain throughout the Puerto Rican debate, and, whenever reasonably possible, to remain until the end of the session of Congress. It is expected that the action taken will enable the minority to make an exceptionally strong showing against the bill when the vote is taken next Wednesday.

Republican members of the House have decided not to allow a protracted discussion on the motion to concur in the amendments to the bill. A special rule will be framed which will bring the motion to a vote after several hours' debate. The opposition will make their first fight on the adoption of the rule, but Republicans who are canvassing the situation express great confidence in their ability to put through the programme agreed upon at the Republican caucus Thursday by a larger majority than was secured for the original bill.

OTIS IS COMING HOME.

Formally Relieved of the Command of the Eighth Army Corps.

WASHINGTON, April 7.—General Otis has been formally relieved of the command of the United States forces in the Philippines and of the Eighth Army Corps. The correspondence showing how this was brought about was made public at the War Department this afternoon. It is as follows:

"Manila, April 3.—Private interests require my return to the United States. I have been absent from my family and business, attention to which is important, since November, 1897, except for a few days. Wish to sail by May 1, if possible. I believe matters here can be placed in quite satisfactory condition by that date, although a large repressive military force must be maintained some time.

"OTIS."

"Washington, April 3.—Otis, Manila: Replying to your cable of April 3, the Secretary of War instructs me to say that the President regrets to have you leave the Philippines, but he feels that your distinguished and successful service in both the military and civil administration for nearly two years entitles you to prompt compliance with whatever wish you choose to express regarding your assignment to duty, and the requisite order will be made for your return May 1, by such route and taking such time as may be agreeable to you. With the understanding that General MacArthur will succeed you as Military Governor, the Secretary of War wishes a recommendation for commander of the Department of Northern Luzon. CORBIN."

"Manila, April 6.—Will remain until certain important modifications in the civil administration are determined. The new code of judicial criminal procedure is approaching completion, and other matters are receiving consideration. I think I can leave about May 1, and will cable the latter part of the month the date I desire to be relieved, and recommend an officer for Department Commander. I wish to return by the most expeditious route, and await orders a short time until my private business receives attention. No request to make regarding future sphere of duty. OTIS."

DEPARTMENT STORE BURNED

A Million-Dollar Blaze in Pittsburg This Morning.

PITTSBURG, April 8.—For the second time in three years the extensive department store of Joseph Horne & Co., at Fifth and Pennsylvania avenues, is in ruins. Shortly after midnight Policeman Sylvester Doyle discovered flames issuing from the windows of the eighth floor, and inside of an hour the big eight-story structure was completely gutted, entailing a loss of over $1,000,000. If the building, which was supposed to be fire-proof, proves to be so badly warped as to necessitate a new structure, the loss will be nearly $2,000,000. A member of the firm says the building was valued at $750,000, and was insured for $450,000. The stock was valued at $1,000,000, with insurance in the neighborhood of $800,000.

Ohio Town Burned.

PROCTORVILLE, O., April 7.—The large flouring mill of G. D. Pugh, at Proctorville burned today, and from this a conflagration resulted which destroyed half the village, clearing two squares of residences and business houses. The loss is estimated at nearly $200,000, with about 80 per cent insurance.

Fire at Colorado Springs.

COLORADO SPRINGS, Colo., April 8, 1:30 A. M.—The Hagerman building burned this morning. The loss is $40,000.

Seconds Fought a Duel.

PARIS, April 7.—A duel between Comte de Dion and M. de St. Alery, the respective seconds of Comte de Lubersac and Baron Edouard de Rothschild in their quarrel, was fought this morning in the Hippodrome at Neuilly le Valois. De St. Alery was slightly wounded in the 16th onslaught, and the duel was then stopped. The combat lasted nearly two hours. M. de St. Alery, whose wound was in the right arm, was taken home at once. Comte de Dion fought in defiance of the doctor's orders, who counseled a further postponement of the duel, owing to his sprained wrist.

Nonunion Workmen Assaulted.

CHICAGO, April 7.—Nineteen nonunion workmen were reported to have been assaulted and badly beaten by union pickets today. Two of the men were injured seriously, one being a gray-haired man whose age may not withstand the shock. Six men are under arrest for the assaults.

FUND FOR THE RIVER

Another Effort to Secure an Appropriation.

TO IMPROVE MOUTH OF COLUMBIA

McBride Introduces Amendment to Sundry Civil Bill—Delegation Will Fight to Keep It There.

WASHINGTON, April 7.—Senator McBride today introduced an amendment, which he intends to offer to the sundry civil appropriation bill, providing for the expenditure of the full amount recommended by the engineers for the improvement of the mouth of the Columbia River. The Senator says that Senator Simon and the Oregon members in the House were consulted on the subject, and all will do what they can to have this amendment placed in the bill, and also to keep it there with the hope that at least a contract for the improvement may be authorized in the present bill. All the members of the delegation realize the difficulty there is in trying to get legislation of this kind, and Chairman Allison, of the appropriations committee, says that if this is once begun it will mean that the sundry civil bill will become a river and harbor bill.

Wilson and the President.

Ex-Senator Wilson, of Washington, saw the President today and had a long conversation with him regarding conditions on the Pacific Coast, and assured him that the people of the Coast were heartily in favor of his policy, and that they would be solid for his renomination. He also said that there was no doubt of the Republicans carrying the Pacific Coast states this Fall.

Bryanites Abuse Richardson.

Richardson, of Tennessee, the minority leader of the House, and chairman of the Democratic Campaign Committee, has stirred up quite a mare's nest in the Democracy by naming an executive committee composed almost wholly of men who are in favor of a radical modification of the Chicago platform. The first gleam of sense the Democrats have shown in four years was in the selection of Richardson for their leader in Congress. If his influence can bring about any modification of the Chicago platform, it would be a very good thing for the party. The extreme silver wing of the party is determined to keep Bryan and the Chicago platform at the front. Richardson, however, has come in for considerable abuse from this particular element, although it is plainly apparent that any action of the committee can have little influence on the Democratic platform.

Scope of the Eight-Hour Bill.

Representative Gardner, of New Jersey, who introduced the eight-hour labor law, in discussing the measure recently, admitted that his bill covered more than appears on the surface. The shipbuilders, he says, will oppose it, as they claim its passage would prevent them from doing Government work. He realizes that some of the contentions made against the bill are ridiculous, but is forced to admit that the day for the passage of such a bill as his is not yet at hand. In fact, it is admitted that it would be impossible to enforce such a law according to the letter. "The passage of such a bill," says he, "would force the Government to go into all kinds of business: mine coal and iron, smelt the ore, roll and forge it, make its own armor, plates, bolts, etc. It would also affect other branches of the Government, as no clothing could be made for the soldiers, etc., except under its provisions, which would require the cloth to be woven, the yarn spun, and I suppose the sheep clipped, all under the eight-hour system. I think, if I had realized all this, I would have introduced a bill merely requiring the Government to do all its own work."

Substitute for the Searchlight.

One of the many lessons taught by the Spanish war was the disadvantages that result from the use of the searchlight. While our Navy sustained no loss because of the use of these modern instruments of war, yet, if the enemy had been encountered in any other way than as at Santiago and Manila, and at night, disastrous results might have been recorded. The great objection to the searchlight is that while it may disclose the enemy it, at the same time, discloses the whereabouts of the ship from which it is thrown. To obviate this difficulty, the inventive genius of the country has been at work, and at last a remedy seems to be in sight. Just now experiments are being made with explosive shells, which are intended to be fired at night, which, upon explosion, create a great blaze, lighting up a large area in the vicinity of where they strike or explode.

As yet the invention has not been perfected, for, while it works very satisfactorily at short range, a shell has not been devised which is sufficiently strong to withstand the shock of explosion necessary to project it more than a mile or two. The inventor claims that he will be able to devise a shell which will be exploded by time fuse, which can be fired for a distance of at least five miles. Experiments in that direction are now being made at various naval stations and proving grounds, and if success is encountered, the usefulness of the new invention will be beyond question. Of course, the use of these bombs or torches will not do away with the searchlight in time of peace, but will be a safer method of detecting the enemy in time of war. The great drawback in the way of this new invention is that it would require a good many bombs to light up the entire surrounding sea, whereas a single sweep of the searchlight accomplishes the same purpose, and much more rapidly and completely. Still, like most new inventions, it awaits a practical test before final judgment can be passed.

SOLDIERS AND POLICE CLASH

Serious Trouble Narrowly Averted at Frankfort.

FRANKFORT, Ky., April 7.—There is great excitement here tonight. Two soldiers at the Statehouse were arrested by the police for drunkenness while in the street near the Statehouse. A squad of 25 soldiers dashed out of the Statehouse yard and rescued their comrades from the two policemen who had arrested them. The policemen resisted, and during the scuffle a number of shots were fired, but no one was hurt. Chief of Police Williams summoned his full force and started for the Statehouse to demand the prisoners, but the Beckham military authorities intercepted the police and dissuaded them from attempting to recapture the men who had started the trouble, and who had been rescued by their comrades. The soldiers of the opposing administration were drawn ready for action, and trouble was very narrowly averted.

Chief Justice Hazelrigg, of the Court of Appeals, today granted a writ of error from the decision of the Court of Appeals to the Supreme Court of the United States in the contest over the offices of Governor and Lieutenant-Governor.