

SENATOR PLATT DIES

Old Politician Succumbs to Attack of Brights' Disease.

COMES FAMILY, THEN EXPIRES

Been Sufferer for Over a Year, But Refused to Last to Give Up Business Affairs.

New York, March 8.—Thomas Col. Platt, formerly United States Senator from New York and for years a leading figure in Republican politics, died at 3:45 this afternoon in the apartment of Mr. and Mrs. Gustave Abele, on West Eleventh street, from which he had rented three rooms for the last four years. Mrs. Abele had been his nurse.

Dr. Paul Austerbridge, his physician, tonight that the cause of death was chronic and acute Bright's disease. The body was removed tonight to the home of Frank H. Platt, a son, and taken to Oswego, New York, the senator's birthplace, where it will be buried. Funeral services will be held Wednesday at the Presbyterian church in Oswego.

The end was startlingly sudden. An hour before the senator died his two sons, Frank and Edward, with their wives, and his son, Harry, with the daughter Charlotte and son Herman, had left the house after their usual daily visit. The senator died at that time he felt very well and thought he would read the papers.

At 2 o'clock he was taken with a fainting spell and Dr. Austerbridge was called hurriedly. The family was notified and returned in haste. Mr. Platt recovered from his first lapse, but sank to unconsciousness again at 3:30 and died at 3:45 o'clock. The relatives were all at the bedside.

PREDICTS JAPANESE WAR.

Banker Schiff Who Loaned Japan Money Says She is Enemy.

New York, March 7.—"As one who helped to finance the late war of Japan against Russia," said Jacob H. Schiff this afternoon, "I say it has developed during the last few weeks that Japan has joined hands with that enemy of mankind, Russia."

Mr. Schiff was speaking at a luncheon given by the Republican club. "Russia and Japan," he continued, "have evidently one purpose at present—to keep the great Chinese empire divided."

"If we are not careful, if we do not show the right statesmanship, and if we have not back of it the great moral force of the American people to defeat that purpose, we shall be drawn into trouble."

"The most difficult problem the nation has to deal with," continued Mr. Schiff, "is the problem of the Far East. I am sorry to have to say it, but we are in danger of war over this same question. As a friend of Japan, one who helped to finance her late war, I regret this conclusion, but it is inevitable."

"The Pacific," said Judge Mayer Sulzberger, of Philadelphia, who preceded Mr. Schiff, and whose remarks occasioned his declaration, "is now the commercial center of the world. On its eastern shores dwell the oldest civilizations. Heretofore we white men have said 'we are Caucasians and they are yellow men,' and we have expected them to bow to us accordingly. This they are not going to do. A conflict is inevitable."

"An empire were 400,000,000 people manage to exist is governed by no man statesmanship. Can they teach us or can we teach them? This question will precipitate the trouble."

"The imminent question is Japan. She wants everything but she is not to be allowed to get everything. The controversy over this question of dominance is coming before the people of this country, and coming soon."

Pinchot Given Gold Medal.

New York, March 8.—A gold medal in recognition of his services in conserving the woodlands of the country was presented to Gifford Pinchot, executive forester of the United States, at the dinner of the Campfire club of America. "Even if I am no longer connected with the government," said Mr. Pinchot, in expressing his appreciation for the medal, "I shall take the same position with regard to conservation as I have done heretofore. I shall do my best to aid in preserving the forests and the game of this country."

Soldiers Will Guard Mint.

Wilmington, Del., March 8.—That the United States government does not intend to take any chances of having its property interfered with by unruly mobs was made evident today when orders were received at Fort Dupont to have the Forty-fifth company, Coast artillery, ready to leave for Philadelphia at a moment's notice. This company of regulars, it is said, will be used to protect the Philadelphia mint and other government buildings.

Vesuvius is Again Active.

Naples, March 8.—Vesuvius has suddenly become active again. For 24 hours there has been a continuous eruption of red hot stones and ashes, accompanied by internal detonations. Several fissures have opened, from which gas and lava are emerging in great quantities.

PACKERS ARE TO BLAME.

Retail Meat Dealers Exonerate Tariff—Farmers also Hit.

Washington, March 9.—Retail meat dealers today placed upon the farmers and the packers the responsibility for the higher price of meat, in testimony given before the senate committee investigating the cost of living.

Five retail men from New York, Philadelphia, Baltimore and Washington were heard, and Walter Brown, a Washington dealer who kills his own meat, was the only one who did not raise the price of meat, which had gone up at least 10 per cent during the last five years.

Mr. Brown insisted that his prices practically were the same then as now. All agreed, however, that the competition among the retailers kept the price to the consumer as low as possible.

Each witness vigorously denied the retailers were responsible for prevailing prices, and none would admit that any agreement on prices existed among them. While no one charged that the packers were in a combination, all the witnesses who had dealings with them declared there seemed to be no complaint for the retail trade.

When complaint was made to the packers about advancing the prices, they said, the latter explained that stock was scarce.

John Rohlfman, who conducts a market in New York City, told the committee that competition among the retailers in New York was so keen that they had been unable to keep pace with the steadily increased prices, which the wholesalers had forced upon them during the last 15 years. He said the increases during that time amount to about four cents a pound on beef, both to the retailer and the consumer.

STRIKEBREAKERS USE GUNS.

Angered by Attacks, Carload of Them Fired Upon Crowds.

Philadelphia, March 9.—Six persons, including a young girl, were wounded tonight with bullets fired by a party of alleged strikebreakers who rode wildly up and down Frankfort avenue in a trolley car and shot into the crowds that lined the sidewalks.

This outbreak followed the stoning of cars tonight along Frankfort avenue, after an uneventful day.

A stone thrown by one of the crowd injured a strikebreaking motorman. Infuriated at this, 15 of his comrades took out a car, all the windows of which they broke with their clubs.

As the car, loaded with strikebreakers, sped down the avenue, bullets were rained at the jeering crowd. Helen May, aged 14, was struck in the leg by a bullet.

John Maloney, aged 18, and Michael Osborn, aged 24, were also shot in the legs, and Frank Bromley, aged 28, received a bullet in the foot.

After reaching Allegheny avenue, the car was switched to the northbound track by its crew and the dash back to the barn began. So swiftly was it driven that before the crowd realized it was coming back, it had sped past them and into the barn.

The shooting of inoffensive bystanders worked the crowd into a high pitch of excitement, and as other cars came down the street the mob wrecked several, leaving only the trucks on the rails. About a dozen arrests were made.

82 MEN PROTECT CARUSO.

Italian Singer's Life Guarded Closely After Black Hand Threat.

New York, March 9.—More carefully guarded by police than President Taft on his visit here, Enrico Caruso, the tenor, who recently received Black Hand letters demanding \$15,000, remained barred in his apartments today. The singer is said to have received more threatening letters. Caruso made his first public appearance in opera last night since the Black Hand started him with its demands. No less than 75 policemen, four detectives and three mounted policemen, were detailed to look for lurking dynamites in and about the opera house in Brooklyn. Detectives mingled in the chorus while police guarded the wings and one or two perched in the flies.

"I am ready for the attack," said Caruso, valiantly, "but—" here he relapsed into a smile—"I prefer that it should not come."

Chamorro is President?

Managua, March 7.—The government authorities today published a cablegram from Panama in which it was announced that General Chamorro had imprisoned General Estrada, the provisional president, and had proclaimed himself president. Deserters from the insurgent forces say the Bluefields garrison has been reduced to 25 men. They also declare that General Estrada never leaves the town and that his wife gives all campaign orders.

36 Badly Hurt in Wreck.

Los Angeles, March 9.—Thirty-six persons were injured, some of them so seriously that they probably will die, when an Oak Knoll car of the Pacific Electric system was tossed from the track by the engine of a freight train on the Salt Lake route tonight. The electric car was crowded with people. The car had been brought to a stop at the crossing of the Salt Lake tracks on Aliso street, and was then staged up again and was half over the crossing when the freight train crashed into the rear end of it.

Denver Has \$100,000 Fire.

Denver, March 9.—The Griffin Wheel works, in South Denver, was destroyed by fire tonight, entailing a loss exceeding \$100,000.

PROCEEDINGS OF CONGRESS IN BRIEF

Washington, March 11.—The sum of \$237 spent by the State department last year in shoeing horses was characterized as extravagance by Representatives Hamlin and Clark, of Missouri, in the house today. They failed, however, to have the appropriation cut.

"What should be said if we under took to curtail the horse-shoeing bill of the secretary of state, when we intrust him with even the great question of whether we shall go to war?" inquired Mr. Mann, of Illinois, derisively.

Mr. Burke of Pennsylvania, suddenly terminated the long debate with the following remark: "I will remind the house that it costs \$10,000 a day to run this house and we have already spent \$2,500 worth of time on the cost of shoeing horses."

"Secretary Knox has not made good in Far-Eastern affairs," declared Representative Underwood of Alabama, in the house today. He added that Mr. Knox had not proved so able a secretary of state as his predecessor, Mr. Root.

The section of the legislative, executive and judicial appropriation bill, providing funds for the new divisions of the State department having charge of Far-Eastern, Near-Eastern, Latin-American and European affairs was under discussion.

Representative Burke of Pennsylvania, warned the house that any failure to provide for a continuance of the division established by Mr. Root would be interpreted in the Far-East as evidence that the United States was not in sympathy with Mr. Knox's eastern policy. By a vote of 74 to 43 the house provided for a continuance of the divisions.

Washington, March 10.—Proposed changes of laws concerning passenger transportation between Hawaii and the United States evoked lively interest at a meeting today of the house committee on merchant marine. Delegate Kalaniano'ole, of Hawaii, George B. McClellan, representing the merchants of that territory and the board of trade of Honolulu, spoke for the bill. Representative Kahn of California, Patrick Flynn, of the Seamen's union of San Francisco, and William F. Yates, president of the National association of Marine Engineers, opposed the measure.

The rocky road that stretches ahead of the proposed \$30,000,000 bond issue to enable the completion of reclamation projects in the West became visible at today's hearing on the bills before the house committee on ways and means.

Mondell of Wyoming, argued for his bill, which is one of a number before the committee. The Carter bill, which authorizes the issuance of \$30,000,000 worth of certificates of indebtedness instead of a bond issue, is also pending. The Carter bill has already passed the senate, but has struck a snag in the house committee.

Hearing on the Lefean apple-box bill was continued today before the house committee on agriculture, but it was not concluded.

W. K. Newell and C. E. Whistles, representing Oregon applegrowers, will be heard tomorrow in opposition to the bill, and will be prepared to give the committee actual demonstration of the Oregon method of packing, and the reason for maintaining the standard box, uniformly in use in Oregon, Washington and other Western states.

Washington, March 9.—Senator Jones today introduced a bill intended to recognize the right of the states to regulate the development of water power within their respective boundaries.

The bill provides that, upon application of any state, the secretary of the interior shall patent to said state such public lands within its borders as may be valuable for power development purposes, provided the state can show that its laws fully provide against power monopoly and for effective control of charges for use of power. The state must also be able to show that development of power on such lands will not interfere with navigation or with any government irrigation project.

The bill stipulates that states must retain title to the lands so conveyed by the government, and in case they fail properly to regulate the development and use of power the lands shall revert to the Federal government. The bill does not in any way seek to impose the terms on which states shall lease power sites or stipulate the price at which power shall be sold.

The senate today passed a bill providing that bona fide homesteaders on government irrigation projects may, after making substantial improvements on their land and upon showing that water is not available for irrigation of their lands, obtain a leave of absence from their entries until water is turned into the main canals, but the period of absence will not be deducted from the full time of residence required by law.

Washington, March 8.—More than \$1,000,000 was added by the house to

Indians Will Talk to Congress.

Washington, March 9.—Two delegations, representing the Sioux Indians of the Standing Rock and Cheyenne River reservations in North and South Dakota have arrived in Washington to present to congress and the Interior department their views on the proposed opening to settlement of the remaining surplus lands on their reservations. The Standing Rock Indians are said to favor the opening, while those on the Cheyenne River are divided.

day to the appropriation recommended by the committee on postoffices and post roads for the rural free delivery service for the year ending June 30, 1911. The bill as a whole carried \$241,000,000, or about \$6,300,000 more than the appropriations for the current year. It was passed by the house.

The rural free delivery appropriation, it was stated, would be sufficient to permit the establishment of 3,000 new routes, as it would make available for such extensions about \$1,500,000. For the current fiscal year \$660,000 was available for extension of this service.

That the 14th and 15th amendments to the constitution are null and void, was declared by a resolution introduced by Representative Sisson, of Mississippi, which directs the attorney general to submit the question to the Supreme court.

The naval appropriation bill will carry at least \$900,000 for the Puget Sound navy yard. The largest item is \$600,000 to continue the construction of a new dry dock, provision being inserted to increase the limit cost from \$2,000,000 to \$2,300,000 in order to permit an increase in width to 110 feet.

The postal savings bank bill, which passed the senate last Saturday, reached the house today and was referred to the committee on postoffices and post roads.

"When will the bill be reported?" was asked of Chairman Weeks.

"Not this week," replied Mr. Weeks. "We propose to give this bill not only earnest, but very careful consideration. It is liable to be some time before we are through with it."

Washington, March 7.—The forestry reservation question was discussed and the forest service was criticized by Senator Heyburn, of Idaho, today, during consideration of the agricultural appropriation bill before the senate.

The measure carries an appropriation of \$5,703,700 for the forest service, or about \$4,000,000 in excess of the receipts from the service. Mr. Heyburn contended that the appropriation was increasing from year to year, whereas assurance had been given that the service would be self-sustaining.

He said the last administration had been conducted regardless of the rights of the settlers in the West, and had gone upon the theory that, where there was no law there should be no license. He expressed confidence, however, that the country was now entering upon a different system.

While the agricultural bill was under consideration there was extended discussion of a provision appropriating \$78,000 for the investigation for the drainage of swamp lands.

Senator Gallinger found in the paragraph the possibility of entering on the reclamation of swamp lands and said that if that were to be done, it would involve an expenditure of millions of dollars. Later, when Heyburn suggested that the expenditure of the money should be confined to lands overflowed by irrigation, Gallinger said:

"If the government is going into this sort of thing, I wish it would take the rocks off the land up in New Hampshire."

He said such a policy would "swamp the government," and he warned senators that if they expected to curtail expenditures to the extent of \$300,000,000 as Senator Aldrich had said might be done, they could not go far in the direction of this provision.

Washington, March 5.—Representative McCredie today introduced a bill fixing the size of apple boxes to be used in Oregon, Washington and Idaho at 18x11 1-2x10 1-2 inches, inside measurement, and pear boxes at 18x11 1-2x8. This is proposed as a substitute for the Lefean bill.

Dividing practically upon party lines, the senate, at the close of the third session of the legislative day March 3, today passed the administration postal savings bank bill.

Of the 72 votes cast, 50 were in favor of the bill and 22 against it. The negative votes were cast by Democrats, even McEnery, who had voted with the Republicans throughout the consideration of the bill, deserting to his own party. Chamberlain, of Oregon, was the only Democrat who stood with the Republicans in favor of the bill.

As it goes to the house the bill authorizes the various money order departments in the postoffice to accept sums of one dollar or more from depositors and to deposit these sums in the local banks, where the money is to remain, unless withdrawn by the President in case of war or other exigencies.

Irrigation Ignorance Shown.

Washington, March 10.—Throughout the hearing on the \$80,000,000 irrigation bill today before the ways and means committee of the house, hostility towards that measure, as well as ignorance of irrigation matters generally, was shown by members of the committee and the Washington congressmen who appeared in behalf of the bill. They will have a further hearing Thursday.

Protects Water Power Sites.

Washington, March 8.—If the "interests" are seeking to monopolize water power sites in the West, they will have to hustle or else the United States geological survey will have all the available ones reserved. According to a statement issued by Director George Otis Smith, the survey during the last 12 months has withdrawn lands thought likely to contain water power sites aggregating 11,500 acres.

BOUND TO RISE.

When any one mentioned John Sibley, the face of John's grandfather brightened, for John was the apple of the old man's eye. "The folks thought because he was kind of undersized, he wouldn't ever amount to much," the old gentleman would say, with a chuckle, "but I guess they've seen before how. Youngest of the lot of 'em, and already superintendent of one branch of the railroad where he started in as conductor only five years ago."

"He must have made quick progress," said one visitor, who had accidentally started Mr. Sibley on the subject of his favorite grandson.

"He did, certain," said Mr. Sibley. "Fact is, John has a lot o' horse-sense and a level head."

"Seems the president of the road is most seven feet tall, and one day, just to try John, who didn't know him by sight, he got on John's train, having bought a ticket. He put the ticket in his hand, and when John came along he was standing up at the rear end of the car, talking to a man, and watching to see what John would do."

"John took a good look at him, saw he didn't intend to pass down his ticket, and looked as if he'd make some game of John's size if a word was said—but there wasn't!"

"John finished up the other fares, then he opened the little store closet, took out the steps he used when he lighted the lamps to go through the tunnel, set 'em up against the president, climbed up, took the ticket, punched it, and put it back in the hand."

"Well, sir, there were a good many in the car that knew who the president was, and when John had gone on, sober as a judge, there was considerable talk."

"When he came through the car next time the president was sitting down, and he asked John a number of questions, and the upshot of it was that John got his first promotion the next week."

"The president said that he'd shown three things all at once, John had—that he was good-tempered, knew when to hold his tongue, and had resources of his own."

A Polite Elephant.

That everything should be in its own place is a matter not only of convenience, but of necessity for some people, and some animals, as the following examples from John Augustus O'Shea's "Leaves from the Life of a Special Correspondent" go to prove. Certain orders of intellect run smoothly in accustomed grooves, but have no ability to meet any unusual occasion. The author describes a visit to a traveling menagerie.

The showman was repeating his lesson like a schoolboy. He was ostriching on the peculiarities of the ostrich of Africa, upon the uncanny form of which the visitors were supposed to be gazing.

"But, my friend," I remarked in an undertone to that functionary, "that is not the ostrich of Africa; that is the pelican of Australia."

"They're always playing jokes on me!" exclaimed the showman, plaintively. "How can a cove tell which is which, if they goes on a-changing of the cages when his back is turned?"

In the other instance of the value of order it was the animal which was not equal to the emergency. The showman rose superior to such slight vicissitudes of fortune.

In the illness of the regular showman, a substitute was furnished with a piece of paper setting forth the elephant's tricks.

"The behemoth will now walk around the ring on three legs!" shouted the showman.

Behemoth did as ordered, and the audience applauded.

"The behemoth will now stand on his hind legs!" the elephant performing his tasks faithfully.

At last a mistake was made in the order. Throwing his whip on the ground, the showman announced that the behemoth would now lift the whip with his trunk. Nothing of the kind happened. The elephant began moving round the ring backward. A negro attendant whispered to the showman:

"That's his next number!"

The showman was equal to the occasion, and said:

"Ladies and gentlemen, my favorite is not backing out of his engagement, but he is more polite than I, and wishes to make his farewell before he goes. So polished are his manners that he retires as he might at court, and presently will follow with the whip."

Chinese Wax Farming.

One of the best known industries of China is wax farming, Harper's Weekly says. A certain tiny insect is cultivated with great skill by the Chinese of a certain district, because of the fine white wax it produces.

This little insect, which is hardly yet known to western science, has many peculiarities, one of which is that for the successful production of wax two stages of its life must be passed in very different regions. The earlier stage, in which the females develop until almost ready to deposit their eggs, is in the Chien-chang valley, in the western part of China, where grows a tree at an altitude of 5,000 feet, on which the insect passes the first part of its existence. In May it is time to remove the colonies of wax workers to the lower altitude of Szechwan province, where is found an

other tree, feeding upon which the insect makes its wax.

This removal is one of the most picturesque features of the industry. Thousands of porters are employed in it. The colonies of insects removed from the trees are wrapped in leaves of the wood-oil tree. Packed carefully in baskets they are slung from the shoulders of the porters, who must bear them from 200 to 400 miles. The way lies over the rocky paths and heights of the Szechwan mountains, through several cities and ends at the farms, where the masters of the bearers await them. All the journey must be made at night, as the sun's heat would develop the insects too fast.

At that time of year it is the custom of the cities along the way to leave their gates open all night in order that the progress of the bearers may not be interrupted. With the baskets suspended from their shoulders, the porters run in their weird procession at their top speed from dark till daylight. Clad almost invariably in rain-proof straw, they carry picturesque lanterns which swing a stey run, throwing the fantastic shadows of their bodies all around.

At daybreak the men find some dense shade for their burdens, prepare their meals and go to sleep. At nightfall they are under way again.

At the farms where the wax is to be formed the leaves containing insects are tied to the limbs of trees, where the heat of the sun develops them. Crawling out, the males proceed to form cocoons and these are the sources of the wax. In a short time the entire tree is covered with the shining white, so that, but for the heat, one would believe the tree was hidden in frost. This white covering is sometimes a quarter of an inch thick over most of a tree. It is scraped off and refined, and from it are made candles for the household, objects for the temples and many other things, and an annual tribute of the best quality is sent to the royal family at Peking.

BOYS' INTENSIVE FARMING.

Showing How the Productiveness of Land May Be Increased.

More than 12,000 southern boys less than 18 years old planted and cultivated an acre of corn each last year under the direction of the department of agriculture, the Youth's Companion says. Persons interested in the experiment in Arkansas, Mississippi, South Carolina and Virginia offered to pay the expenses of a trip to Washington for the boy in each State who raised the greatest amount of corn on his acre. The winning boys will soon visit the national capital.

The average yield of corn to the acre in 1909 was a little more than twenty-five bushels. The South Carolina boy, who made the best record, produced 152½ bushels. The winning Mississippi boy raised 147 bushels, the Arkansas boy 135 and the boy in Virginia 122. The average raised by each of the 12,000 was sixty bushels.

The instructions given to those boys by the department of agriculture are available to every farmer in the country. If they should be followed exactly the yield of corn to the acre could easily be doubled in a single year.

Intensive cultivation is worth while on all crops. The average yield of potatoes to the acre in 1909 was 107 bushels, but the Maine farmers averaged 225 bushels, and some of the most progressive of them dug 400 bushels to the acre. The yield of corn and potatoes depends more upon cultivation and fertilization than upon the soil, and there is practically no part of the United States in which these crops cannot be raised successfully.

It is beyond doubt that larger crops can be produced from ten acres thoroughly tilled than from two or even three times ten acres cultivated as they usually are. The fact that the South Carolina prize winner raised more corn on one acre than the average farmer produces from six tells a story that should not be lost upon those for whose benefit the experiment was made.

Rather Venomous.

A tenderfoot who visited the Yosemite in the old days thus related his experience: The stage driver found out that he was seriously afraid of snakes and immediately proceeded to make his hair stand on end.

"Venomous reptiles? You bet, I don't know what reptiles is, but them snakes you can just bet your life is venomous. Why, one day I was comin' down here drivin' a wagon when I catches sight of a snake in the brush all ready for a spring. My horses starts, an' I whips 'em up fast to clear the snake, don't you see, afore he could spring. He makes one clear spring, the snake does, an' he misses the horses."

"That was lucky. But you—you—" "Lucky? You bet your life it was lucky. He missed the horses, the snake did, but he stuck his fangs clean through the wagon."

"You don't say!" "I do say, and maybe you don't believe it, but it's a fact. He stuck his fangs clean through that wagon, an' that wagon is swelled up so bad that we had to leave it by the wayside and take the horses home."

What He'd Take.

The Lady—What would you expect me to give you if you'd split that wood for me?

The Hobo—Some new kind of anesthetic, mum—and yer'd better give it before I started.—Cleveland Leader.

Fears of people up in airships are groundless