

# The Dalles Chronicle.

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## ROYAL

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### THE TANGLE IN SALEM

No Telling When the House Will Perfect Organization.

#### EFFECT ON SENATORIAL FIGHT

Mitchell's Chances Are Vitrally Involved and Aspect of Affairs Is Unfavorable to Him.

SALEM, Or., Jan. 13.—The house did not organize today, nor does it appear that the tangle will be soon straightened out.

The members of the helpless majority remained in their seats during the entire day, and at times rose to protest against the deliberate absenteeism of the minority, that left them without a quorum. Just before the tiresome day closed there was a faint glimmer of hope that some action might be taken by the speaker to bring in the absent members. Crawford and Douglass appealed to Speaker Davis to make some effort to secure a quorum. Much debate followed and the speaker promised that he would take the night to investigate the authorities and discover the extent of his powers, and, meanwhile, he would request the volunteer sergeant-at-arms to use due diligence to bring in recreant legislators. As a matter of fact, the speaker is aware that he has no authority to enforce any writ or process, and has no official power to require members to attend. So his promise is not likely to be fruitful of results.

There is some probability, however, that tomorrow night's senatorial caucus will have a direct bearing on the organization of the house, and give matters a new direction.

Senator Mitchell's chances of re-election are vitally involved in the termination of the speakership fight. The aspect of affairs is unfavorable to him, and it is understating the truth when it is said that his prospect of election is not bright. It has been widely circulated by Mitchellites that 50 Republicans have signed a call to elect. The exact number is 47, which is just one more than is necessary to elect. It is not certain that 47 Republican members will be present at the caucus, and, even if they do, it is known to be the purpose of several to announce that they will not abide by the action of the caucus, if there is no modification of the requirements of the call. At the very earliest, there can be no vote for senator for 12 days from the time of the caucuses, and the opposition to Senator Mitchell expresses its entire confidence that he will not be able to hold his support until that time, 46 members, caucus or no caucus.

The fact is to be considered that all republicans who go with tomorrow night's caucus are not necessarily Mitchell

men, and it does not follow that all will accept its result without question. If they do not, Mitchell is gone. He has absolutely alienated Bourne republicans, and all of his other contingent sources of support (democrats and populists) by his attitude in the speakership fight, to say nothing of his ambiguous position on the money question. They will not come back. It is known further that not less than three and probably more of his supporters have served notice on Senator Mitchell that they would abandon him the moment he received either a democratic or a populist vote. This, by the way, may in part account for Mitchell's recent repeated assurances to go to standard republicans only that he stands on the republican platform, and will oppose free silver. Altogether, it is not too much to say that Mitchell's fight is in a critical condition, and that any one of the half dozen complications that may arise between this time and January will defeat him.

Sol Hirsch arrived here at 11 o'clock tonight.

#### To Preserve the old Frigate Constitution.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 13. The proposition to preserve the old frigate Constitution has received a fresh start in congress, and it is possible that an appropriation will be made to put the vessel in condition and bring her to Washington to be preserved as a naval relic. Charles Francis Adams and other citizens of Boston have just appealed to the senate to make some provision to save the frigate.

Secretary Herbert has repeatedly urged congress to save this historic ship.

"Of the old Revolutionary navy," he said, "we still have two precious relics, the Constitution and Hartford. The Constitution, so glorious in the war of 1812, lies rotting at the Portsmouth navy-yard. In my annual reports I have recommended that a sufficient sum of money be appropriated to repair and insure her preservation, but my appeal has been unheeded. I believe that this generation of Americans should do its duty and repair and hand down the old Constitution, with masts and spars still standing, and ensign still flying, to the generation that is to come.

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#### DEADLOCK CONTINUES.

Lower Legislative House Cannot Muster a Quorum.

SALEM, Or., Jan. 13.—The house was called to order at 10 o'clock by Speaker Davis, and skirmishing immediately began. The speaker directed the clerk to call the roll, but Somers demanded a call of the house, which is practically the same thing.

U'Ren wanted the floor to make an explanation about the committee on credentials, and Bilyeu insisted on a point of order that the proceedings were out of order. The speaker finally directed the clerk to proceed to call the roll. The roll call showed twenty-nine present. Bridges wanted yesterday's journal read, but the motion was declared out of order, there being no quorum.

At 11:20, after an hour of idleness, U'Ren filed a report of the majority of the committee on credentials. Thomas called for its reading, and Bilyeu asked for a call of the house. Thirty-two were present, which was declared no quorum. Some confusion and hot talk followed. Somers served a notice on the opposition that the people of the state would not much longer stand the delay.

"We won't have it," he shouted. "What do you mean?" cried U'Ren. "Do you propose to capture this house by force. Are you revolutionists?" (hisses and cheers.)

"I'll tell you what we mean," replied Somers. "We were sent here to do business, and we propose to do it."

Smith, Riddle, U'Ren and others then engaged in a wordy controversy. Quiet was soon restored.

The house adjourned at noon till 2 p. m., after a roll call, which showed only thirty-four members present.

#### IN THE SENATE.

SALEM, Jan. 13.—The senate opened with prayer by Rev. Grannis, after which President Simon announced the introduction of bills as the order of business.

Bills were then introduced as follows:

By Patterson of Marion, providing that all insane persons be conveyed to the asylum by a person to be designated by the superintendent of the asylum, the expense to come from the asylum fund, the bill to take effect upon approval; Mackay, to establish agency for the state in New York city; Harmon, providing for the conveyance of persons committed to state institutions; Haseltine, incorporating the city of Portland; McClung, authorizing the mayors of cities to bid in property sold for taxes; Dufur, fixing the term of circuit court in the Seventh district; Bates, incorporating the city of Portland; Michell, for the construction of a portage railway between The Dalles and Celilo; Driver, by request, providing for the election of district attorneys; Brownell, relating to free transportation of baggage of passengers by transportation companies; Dawson, providing for the election of road supervisors and the levying and collection of road taxes; Smith, authorizing cities, counties and school districts to dispose of real estate acquired at tax sales; Haseltine, to secure a more convenient mode of making assessments and levying taxes; Haseltine, providing for the payment of taxes; Brownell, by request, requiring that road taxes be collected in money; Mulkey, creating the office of recorder in Polk county.

President Simon announced the following committee on revision of rules: Simon, Johnson and Michell.

The senate then took a recess.

#### Refrigerator Line.

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