

PRESIDENT WINS FIGHT FOR REPEAL CANAL TOLLS EXEMPTION IN HOUSE

VOTE TO LIMIT DEBATE SHOWS WILSON POWER

Opposition, Led by Speaker Champ Clark, Defeated by 207 to 176 in Effort to Continue Debate—Second Victory Follows.

Underwood, Leader of Majority, Also Against President, Scores Speaker for His Attitude.

WASHINGTON, March 27.—President Wilson's personal plea to congress for the repeal of the exemption clause will not be in vain so far as the house is concerned.

This much was indicated here this afternoon when the advocates of the Sims bill, providing for the repeal of the exemption clause, swept the opposition off its feet in two test votes. The first test came when the opposition, led by Speaker Champ Clark, was defeated by a vote of 207 to 176 in an effort to continue the debate on a rule to limit the debate on the repeal resolution to twenty hours.

The next victory for the Wilsonites came when the house voted to limit the debate on the Sims resolution to twenty hours. Clark opposed the administration in both instances, voting with the opposition.

Administration Jubilant Administration representatives were jubilant over the outcome and predicted that the final vote on the repeal resolution would carry a majority as large as those polled in the test cases today.

Besides Clark, the Wilsonites also had to face the opposition of Representative Oscar Underwood, leader of the house majority, who is one of the most bitter opponents of the Sims resolution. Representative Adamson led the administration forces, and while he did not personally denounce Clark, his references to the speaker were most pointed. It was believed he was saving his ammunition until the twenty-hour debate on the resolution itself starts.

Underwood Scores Clark Despite his opposition to the repeal resolution, Representative Underwood indirectly scored Clark for his break with President Wilson.

"The democratic party," he said, "made the free tolls plank. I believe the plank is right and that there is only one position for me to take and that is to sustain the party's platform. I regret that I have to differ with the president in this matter, but

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CENSURE CLARK FOR BREAK WITH PARTY LEADERS

Breach Between President Wilson and Speaker Overshadows Even Repeal Question in Interest—One of Bitterest Fights in Years.

"Political Suicide" is What Associates Call Speaker's Opposition to Administrative Measure.

WASHINGTON, Mar. 27.—The breach between President Wilson and Speaker Clark overshadowed even the repeal question in interest, and one of the bitterest fights in years started when Representative Adamson opened his attack on the Missouriian. Adamson spoke for fifteen minutes and his denunciation of Clark was extremely bitter. He was followed by Representative Hardwick.

Adamson was chosen at the early morning meeting to lead the fight against Clark. He was assisted by Representatives Hardwick, Sherley, Covington, Henry, Palmer, Day, Flood, Hull, Garrett and Foster. Those opposed to repealing the exemption clause also conferred before the house met, and it was announced that Clark would widen his breach with the president by making another speech during the day against the rule to limit the debate to 20 hours.

Fight is Bitter Both factions were extremely bitter. President Wilson's following were plainly worried and admitted that the outcome was uncertain. Representative Foster said he thought the defeat of the debate rule would forecast the defeat of the repeal resolution. Representative Henry, of Texas, chairman of the rules committee, would not admit this. He believed that the passage of the repeal bill was certain, no matter what the outcome of the vote on the debate rule.

Representative Hardwick defended the 20 hour debate rule. Turning directly to Speaker Clark, he said: "And at the eleventh hour you turn and attack the democratic president." The following comment was voiced here this afternoon by prominent members of congress on the action of Speaker Clark in opposing the repeal resolution: "Committing Suicide"

Representative Sims—"A man committing suicide is just as dead as one whom somebody else kills.

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REBELS VICTORS RE-CAPTURING GOMEZ PALACIO

Federal Losses Enormous—300 Stain Found—Rebel Loss 100 Dead, 200 Wounded—Bombardment of Torreon Continues.

Garrison Bottled Up and Villa Promises to Kill or Capture Every Man in Torreon.

EL VERJEL, Mexico, Mar. 27.—(Noon). General Herrera has just notified General Villa that his forces have captured the bullring and almost the entire southern part of Torreon. The federal garrison in that quarter of the town had been weakened to strengthen Gomez Palacio with the result, Herrera says, that his victory was comparatively easy, though he had to fight his way through barricaded streets.

The entire northern portion of Torreon is now in flames. Villa has not yet given the order, but it is believed an attempt to carry the whole city by storm will be made this afternoon.

EL VERJEL, Mex., March 27.—The rebels were sweepingly victorious yesterday and last night. They recaptured Gomez Palacio and Lerdo. The federal losses were enormous. At this hour 800 federal dead have been found, besides numerous wounded. The rebel loss was estimated at 100 dead and 200 wounded. The wounded were given first aid on the battlefield and then sent to the general hospital at Hermosillo.

Torreon on Fire The bombardment of Torreon continues. The city is on fire in many places. The assault has not started on this side of the town, but it is reported that there has been fierce hand-to-hand fighting in its eastern and southern environs.

The garrison is bottled up and General Villa promises to kill or capture every man of them, as there is no hope of their escape. Since Sunday night a practically continuous battle has been in progress. It will go down in history as the most sanguinary engagement fought thus far on Mexican soil.

The heaviest losses were sustained in the final rebel charges on Gomez

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WELL KNOWN LECTURER AND GIRL HE MARRIED, ENDING ROMANCE OF TEN YEARS



MR. AND MRS. BURTON HOLMES.

The wedding in New York city of Mr. E. Burton Holmes, the well known lecturer, and Miss Margaret Elise Oliver, formerly of Baltimore, was the culmination of an ocean romance that began ten years ago, when they met on board the Lahn, of the North German Lloyd line, crossing the Atlantic. They became engaged, but later the engagement was broken. Then there was a reconciliation. For the last few years Miss Oliver has devoted her time to photography, and last summer had a studio at East Gloucester, Mass. She is a Southern girl, the daughter of the late Charles Kemble Oliver.

PRESIDENT'S ROUTINE NOT VARIED BY FIGHT

WASHINGTON, March 27.—President Wilson did not vary his routine work today, despite his great interest in the fight in the house of representatives over the repeal resolution. He discussed departmental matters with the members of his cabinet and then cleaned up accumulated business.

President Wilson spent the afternoon on the golf links, but Secretary Tumulty kept in communication with the capitol. "It was just what I expected," said Tumulty, "when the result of today's vote reached him. It means the repeal resolution will carry in the house by 100 majority. It will also pass the senate."

Representative Knowland predicted, however, that the resolution would be defeated on the final vote.

REPORT CARRANZA SURROUNDED BY REBELS

DOUGLAS, Ariz., March 27.—General Venustiano Carranza, supreme in command of the constitutionalists in northern Mexico, is cut off from Juarez, with his 600 followers, according to Archibald Wilson, a Mormon rancher, who arrived here this afternoon.

OHIO GOAL MINES TO CLOSE APRIL 18

CLEVELAND, O., Mar. 27.—Following a conference among themselves the Ohio coal mine operators said their mines would be closed April 18 because of the failure of the miners to reach an agreement with them on the wage scale.

ARMY TANGLE LIKELY TO CAUSE CABINET'S FALL

Asquith Ministry Tottering as Result of Home Rule and Military Situation—Seely Likely to Be Sacrificed to Save the Day.

Progress Still Insufficient for Issuance of Statement—King George Butts In.

LONDON, Mar. 27.—The house of commons adjourned today without a concerted attempt to attack the ministry. Unless Premier Asquith has made some progress by tomorrow, however, in his efforts to settle the army and home rule tangles, it was certain a campaign would be launched to force the cabinet's resignation.

LONDON, Mar. 27.—The Asquith cabinet still stood over a volcano today. Field Marshal Sir John French and Adjutant General Sir John Ewart were steadfast in their determination to retire. The government's repudiation of the "Gough treaty," which they endorsed, placed them in such a position, they said, that they could not retain their posts honorably.

Politicians agreed that if their resignations had to be accepted, it was hard to see how the ministry could escape being overthrown. Only one thing, it was said, might induce the two officers to change their minds—the sacrifice of War Secretary John Seely, who, by drafting the "Gough treaty," signing it and asking them to endorse it, involved them in their present embarrassment.

Seely to Be Sacrificed And that Seely would be sacrificed was thought very likely, though Premier Asquith refused his resignation once. Asquith, Seely and French held a conference early today at which it was presumed the matter was discussed. The impression prevailed that, if Seely went out, Colonial Secretary Louis Harcourt, a strong home ruler, would be transferred to the war office.

The statement Asquith promised to make in the house of commons last night had to be postponed because he had not made sufficient progress to have anything to say. The expectation was that he would be

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HART TIMBER INTERESTS SOLD FOR \$200,000

John S. Owen Company of Eau Claire, Wis., Purchases 5840 Acres in Butte Falls District From the Hart Estate.

Other Deals Pending Which, if Completed, Involve Possible Construction of Large Manufacturing Plant.

The John S. Owen company of Eau Claire, Wis., has purchased from Ernest E. Hart, incorporated and the Ernest E. Hart estate of Council Bluffs, Iowa, 5840 acres of timber land in the Butte Falls district for \$200,000. The timber is principally sugar and yellow pine and Douglas fir and lies along the Pacific and Eastern railroad and its projected extension. Agreement of sale and deeds to property involved, including mills, sawmills and box factory at Butte Falls and Medford, were filed for record today.

Other Deals Pending The deal is one of several pending, involving the purchase of over 20,000 acres of timber land in this district, and the erection of a large sawmill, sash and door and box factory at Medford. The Owens' are large lumber manufacturers of Eau Claire and owners of extensive timber holdings on the coast, including the redwood timber belt of Del Norte county, California.

The terms of payment as shown by the recorded contract were \$10,000 down, \$25,000 on examination of abstracts, and \$25,000 annually until the entire amount is paid. He sale was made by J. F. Mundy, who just returned from the east and negotiated the sale of other timber land involved in the deal.

Plans Not Completed Since the purchase of the property from the Big Bend Milling Co., about eight years ago, it has been managed by Edgar Hafer, along with other holdings in the Hafer-Hart-Harkness syndicate, but plans to operate were abandoned and the syndicate dissolved after the death of Mr. Hart last year.

Asked concerning future plans, Mr. Sam Owens, who is now at Butte Falls, stated that plans had not been matured sufficient for announcement.

UNDERWOOD FIGHTS TOLL REPEAL

WASHINGTON, Mar. 27.—The unusual spectacle of the leader of the house majority leading the fight against a policy advocated by the titular head of his party was furnished in the house this afternoon.

Representative Oscar W. Underwood, of Alabama, chairman of the ways and means committee, vigorously opposed repeal of the exemption granted American ships in the Panama canal act. He did not mention the president by name, except, incidentally, and he steered clear of direct reference to his chief's recent message to congress.

His address was delivered before a jammed house and crowded galleries and punctuated by frequent applause, mostly from republicans.

Believes in Platform "I believe the democratic party was both wise and patriotic," he said, "when it announced a policy in favor of discriminating in favor of our coastwise ships and I believe there is no reason at this time why we should abandon a solemn promise made to the American people in one of the most prominent planks of our party platform.

"But we are told that we are violating a solemn treaty made with another nation and in good faith that we should abandon the canal to foreign rivals without contest or dispute in order that we may keep our standing in the family of nations.

"Not for one moment do I believe that we have violated a treaty right or Great Britain seriously feels that we violated a treaty right.

Spirit of Surrender "Our whole difficulty in the matter arises from the un-American spirit of surrender that some of our own people have exhibited toward this important question from the very beginning. If congress had unanimously passed the canal tolls bill two years ago, I do not believe that the question would ever have been raised."

The majority leader held that the Panama canal toll rates are fair and lower than the Suez rates and that the exemption, as a subvention, is the only way in which America can build its marine in the coasting business. In a careful analysis of the Hay-Pauncefote treaty he declared emphatically that the pact was never intended to take from the United States the right to grant this indirect aid to its coastwise ships.

TRADING IS DULL IN STOCK MARKET

NEW YORK, March 27.—Early stock market trading was dull today, stocks declining fractionally as a rule, but there was no pronounced bear pressure. Pittsburg, C. C. & St. Louis declined 2 and the preferred 1. Dullness persisted during the morning. The downward trend continued most of the day, bear traders pointing to business dullness in foreign lower prices. Buying to cover helped to steady the list.

Bonds were steady. The market closed steady.

UNIONISTS HOLD CONFERENCES AS ULSTER SITUATION GETS WORSE.



LORD LONDONDERRY



EARL OF CLANWILLIAM



CAPTAIN CRAIG

ADAMSON DEFENDS REPEAL TOLLS

WASHINGTON, March 27.—Defense of President Wilson's request for the repeal of the exemption clause of the Panama canal act was voiced in the house today by Representative Adamson of Georgia.

"I would not be impolite enough to accuse anybody of treasonable conduct," he said, "but when the president of any party emphasizes the dire extremity of the government by going personally to congress and describes an obstacle in the safe conduct of foreign affairs, no man can escape by quibble and sophistry.

"Whoever fights this repeal now not only fights honest equality and domestic economy of the people, but fights the administration on the foreign policy of the government, and if disaster results must share the odium and responsibility for the cheap and vulgar criticism that has been indulged in regarding the president's motives.

"The president has been charged, without foundation, with dickering with governments and trading for help and peace. Nations do not do business in any such vulgar way, which we are involved will depend on the honesty and fairness of our treatment of England. There is more claptrap and poppycock and delusion about this jingoism against England

than any other feature of the ship trust propaganda which is fraudulent from beginning to end."

Adamson also declared that the free tolls declaration in the Baltimore platform was not a democratic plank, but was slipped in under false pretences.

"An effort has been made," he said, "to pervert the truth and becloud the issue by perverting the meaning of the treaty. The government needs the tolls to defray the operating expenses of the canal. The railroad bugaboo is the main stock in trade of the opponents of the measure. But it is also the most valuable to coastwise ships owned by railroads or allied with them. The railroads never expected to compete on their own tracks with the canal. They expected to get free tolls and then run their ships parallel with their own lines, drive off competition and raise the rates to their own level.

"The sham fight of exemption advocates was, according to their professions, to prevent a certain transcontinental railroad from monopolizing the canal traffic through the ship company it controlled. The government did not build the canal for the sole benefit of the Southern Pacific and the Pacific Mail Steamship company.