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SPANISH HOME RULE.

Spain Proposes to Institute Reforms in Cuba.

POWER IN A LOCAL PARLIAMENT

Madrid Government Retains Executive Power

NEW YORK, Oct. 28.—A dispatch to the Herald from Madrid says: Senor Morely Prendergast, the new colonial minister, has outlined for the Herald his plan for Cuban reform as follows:

The autonomy which the cabinet of Senor Sagasta proposes to bestow on the islands of Cuba and Porto Rico in fulfillment of the manifesto of June 14, is a special autonomy founded on the aspirations adopted in the platform of the Antillean autonomists and not identical with the other colonial constitutions. It is clear that in their essential principles the future constitutions of Cuba and Porto Rico agree with those colonial constitutions that start from self-government as the capital ideal self-legislation, responsible to the government; supremacy of the governor, who, either under that name or that of viceroy, shall represent the mother country, and who shall choose the ministers who shall be the executive in that colony.

Starting from the above basis, the project of the Spanish government contains the first partition of those matters and concerns that belong to the imperial parliament, that is to the national cortes. The partition is founded on a careful discrimination between what interests the islands themselves have in a local sense and what is of national importance.

The project in operation will interpret in the most generous manner, the phrase "local interests" since it will not only grant to the colonies complete control of all that relates to education, charity, etc., but it also intrusts to representatives of the local government the right of drawing upon their customs tariff without any limitations beyond those mutually arranged.

With the metropolis to co-ordinate in their respective mercantile and commercial interests, the above functions will be performed by an insular chamber totally electoral in nature without restriction as to subsequent subdivision into two similar chambers—that is, the house of representatives and the member of this parliament shall be elected by the same suffrage system as that which regulates the election in the peninsula. The same legislative body shall represent Cuba in the imperial parliament, only this assembly has been constituted with the governor-general as the representative of the central power. It shall choose the ministers who are to be the executive body responsible to the insular parliament, thus completing the reorganization of the parliament as its government, and endowing it with that degree of responsibility characteristic of every colony administered on the principles of self-government.

The ministers shall be responsible to the colonial parliament and every enactment of the governor-general, as representative of the executive power in all that touches the local government shall be administered in the council.

Of these ministerial functions reserved to the metropolis are: First, those that concern international relations; second, military and naval matters; third, organization of the law courts; fourth, those depositions that under the name of patronage really regulate relations between the church and state.

At the same time, the new constitution shall grant to the Cuban people the use of and the protection afforded by the civil and political rights sanctioned by the Spanish constitution in such manner as shall obtain in all its integrity in the colonies, while beside there shall be established as in the United States such necessary business restrictions as will prevent the colonial parliament from lessening, closing or delimitating the rights of citizenship that are set forth in the national constitution.

The constitutional conservative party while condemning legal action has decided to constitutionally oppose the granting of autonomous government to Cuba.

New Secretary of Cuba. NEW YORK, Oct. 28.—A dispatch to the Herald from Philadelphia says: Dr. Jose Congosto, Spanish consul here, who has just been appointed secretary-general of Cuba says:

"A good doctor, you know, when called in to take charge of a case of which another doctor has made a failure, ignores the former mode of treatment and adopts one of his own. This will be my method of administering the office. The governing factor in my policy shall be liberality and fairness toward every one. All the information which I possess which can be made public will be at the disposal of the representatives of American newspapers."

No Compromise. NEW YORK, Oct. 28.—Thomas Estrada Palma, the Cuban delegate to the United States, when asked his opinion of the Cuban reforms proposed by the Spanish ministry, said:

"As the representative of the Cuban provisional government, I am in a position to state most emphatically that the Cubans in arms will enter into no compromise with Spain. The Cubans are fighting for absolute independence and they will entertain no peace proposals from the Spanish government based on anything but absolute independence. The Cubans are firmly determined to carry on the struggle until their purpose is accomplished, and they will listen to no proposition acknowledging Spanish authority over Cuba. Cubans will never accept autonomy, no matter how ample, solution of their struggle for independence. The Cuban problem must be settled this time once for all."

A mass meeting of Cubans will be held in New York soon to voice opposition to the Spanish proposals.

WASHINGTON SLUSH.

Senator G. W. McBride Confers With President

ABOUT OREGON APPOINTMENTS

Hopes to Have Them Made Before Congress Assembles.

WASHINGTON, Oct. 28.—Senator McBride had a long conference with the president yesterday concerning Oregon appointments. He hopes to have the appointments, which the delegation have agreed on, Owen Summers, of Portland, for appraiser; J. H. Hall, of Portland, for district attorney; Zoeth Houser, of Umatilla, for marshal; and John Fox, for collector of Astoria, made as soon as possible, and perhaps before the session of congress begins. The opposition to the slate which the delegation has recommended seems to be centered on Hall, but Senator McBride evidently thinks this opposition will not be successful, as he intends leaving for New York in a day or two and going thence to St. Paul.

There will be no recommendation for collector of customs to succeed Black until the president requests the delegation to make one. The gold democrats of Oregon are making quite a stand to have Black retained.

No recommendation has been made for collector of internal revenue, but the delegation will select an Oregon man, and let him take chances with the Washington man that will be recommended by Senator Wilson. It is not believed that Colonel Weidner, of whom Wilson has spoken in kindly terms, will be selected by the Oregon delegation.

Rivers and Harbors.

WASHINGTON, Oct. 28.—The report of the chief of engineers of the army is always of interest on account of the estimates for rivers and harbors, and also on account of what is said about the project in different states. It is the official pronouncement upon these improvements. The estimates, of course, while interesting, are not very reliable. Congress usually appropriates about 30 per cent of the estimates of the engineers. The coming session may cut far below that. Such a cut will not seriously interfere with Oregon improvements because they are generally well under way. The estimates have already been published but there are other facts in the report of general interest.

In the river and harbor act of 1896 was an item which indicated that something was to be done at Port Orford, but the report shows that there is still an unexpended balance of \$140,858.52. This will be reduced somewhat by a survey which has been ordered with an estimate of the cost of the improvement and importance to shipping and commerce.

The Yaquina Bay project gets a black eye in the report. After reciting the proposed project, the general says:

"Work under the extended project, or the making of a continuing contract for this work, has not yet been approved by the secretary of war, and no appropriation was made for this work by the sundry civil act of June 4, 1897. Therefore no estimate is presented for this work for the year ending June 30, 1898."

The amount of freight received and shipped from Yaquina bay in the calendar year 1896 is reported as 17,883 tons, the receipts consisting principally of general merchandise and salt, and the shipments of grain, flour, potatoes, building stone, cooperage, and cordwood. This is a decrease of 7000 tons from previous calendar year.

The commerce noted is not likely to hurry the secretary in approving a project for the improvement.

Of the Coquille river improvement the report says:

"Up to June 30 1896, the sum of \$141,162.69 had been expended on this improvement, and \$6883.90 for snagging on the upper river, making the total expenditures \$148,046.59."

"The result was to secure a comparatively stable channel across the bar. This channel had at times a depth of from 8 to 19 feet, but was subject to very considerable shoaling from the effort of winds and tides, having sometimes as little as four or five feet."

"On June 30, 1896, the north jetty was 510 feet long, and the south jetty 2104 feet long. The result was to secure a straight channel across the bar varying from four to ten feet deep."

"The traffic on this river for the calendar year 1896 is reported as 21,199 tons. The receipts consist principally of general merchandise, machinery, and building material; the

shipments of lumber, coal and agricultural products."

Work is also recommended on this river between Coquille City and Myrtle Point.

Coos bay meets with favor, and, while estimating that \$600,000 can be expended during the year with profit it is estimated that to complete the project will cost \$1,941,412.

THE SIMMONS ESTATE.

Warren Simmons, the Administrator Seeks to Have His Claim Paid. Warren Simmons, administrator of the estate of Asa B. Simmons, deceased, recently filed in probate court a petition for order authorizing him, as administrator to dispose of 100 acres of land belonging to the estate that claims against the estate might be paid.

Tuesday, October 26, was named as the day for final hearing of the petition. On that day Attorney Tilton Ford appeared in behalf of the widow, Mrs. Vina Simmons and three of the minor heirs, whose interests he had been engaged to protect. The widow and the minor heirs of the estate wished to prevent the payment of the claim of the administrator and incidentally to defeat the petition for the order for the sale of the real estate.

It was first necessary to establish the right of the administrator's claim and with this end in view the case began before Judge G. P. Terrell at 10 a. m. Tuesday. The taking of testimony was not completed until this forenoon, when the closing arguments were begun, the attorney for the widow not concluding his argument until about 2 o'clock in the afternoon. H. G. Bigger appeared for the administrator.

From the testimony introduced it appears that the bill of Warren Simmons, the administrator for \$1900, is about twenty years old and is alleged to be due for the erection of a house, barn, hop-house and some small out buildings.

The testimony also showed that the book in which Warren Simmons kept an account of his dealings with the deceased was misg about twenty-seven leaves.

At press hour the closing arguments had not been completed.

GYPSY GIRL FOUND.

She Relates An Interesting Story To the Local Police Officers. The police officers have succeeded in locating the Gypsy girl who was reported missing in last evening's JOURNAL and she is now temporarily in the care of the police officers.

Word was received at the police headquarters this morning that the girl had spent last night at the home of Mrs. Minor on North Liberty street.

Officer Hutton, this morning, went to Mrs. Minor's, where he found the girl. At his suggestion the girl consented to accompany him to the office of Chief of Police Dilley, where it was intended to interview the girl. They started for the city hall, but had not proceeded far when they were overtaken by a large, burly gypsy, who, when arrested, gave the name of George Butler.

He addressed the girl in the Spanish tongue which the girl interpreted to Officer Dilley as consisting of the statement: "If you do not release that girl, I will cut the throats of both of you." The man was asked by the officer if he made such a statement, when he replied that he did whereupon his arrest followed. Butler claims to be a brother of the girl.

Arrived at the city hall, the girl related an interesting story to Chief of Police Dilley. She gives her name as Pearl Boyd and is aged about 14 years. She is a very bright and intelligent girl, considering the company with which she has been obliged to associate. The girl claims that the people with whom she has been traveling for several years are not her parents. She asserts that she was taken away from her home in the east by this company. The people, with whom she came to this city give the name of Butler.

The girl objects strenuously to the thoughts of returning to her old life. She was obliged to frequent saloons, dance and otherwise perform in return for a few nickles.

An effort will be made to provide a home for the girl in this city, and legal steps will soon be taken in that direction. The W. C. T. U. women contemplate taking the matter in hand.

Geo. Butler, who claims to be the girl's brother, will be given a trial this evening before Recorder Ed N. Edes on the charge of "threatening to kill."

SEMI-ANNUAL ACCOUNT.—C. O. Boynton, guardian of the person and estate of Robert Soonsce, today filed a semi-annual account, with the county clerk showing \$17.09 cash on hand.

PIANO RECITAL.—Wednesday Nov. 3rd, at the First Congregational Church will be given, by Mr. Edward W. Tilton, a piano recital. He will be ably assisted by some of Salem's best musical talent. This entertainment will be free, and all are invited to be present.

CHANGE OF TIME.—The Steamer Ramona owing to break in Oregon City locks, has changed its time to leave Salem Monday, Wednesday and Friday at 7 a. m. Remember this change.

STATE HOUSE NEWS.

The attorney-general has not yet decided whether the secretary of state should pay the members of the last legislative assembly and their clerks and other employees. It is rumored that the attorney-general will decide adversely but nothing definite is yet given out.

The state insane asylum, state penitentiary and the state reform school are now running as well as if the legislature had appropriated for their necessary expenses. One thing the taxpayer has gained is that while he has to pay eight per cent in addition to his taxes he does not have to pay for extravagant improvements, new buildings etc. at the different institutions. Under the present system warrants are only issued for necessary expenses and such improvements as are absolutely necessary to carry on the institutions. Appropriations for improvements were asked for from the legislature but the failure of the legislature knocked them out and the new system ordered by the supreme court decision only contemplates the paying out the state money for necessary expenses and actually needed improvements.

Mr. J. E. Hyde, Baker City, received a notarial commission from the department of State today.

People who have furnished supplies to the State Institute for the Blind, better known as the State Blind School have not yet received warrants for their claims against the State. The teachers and employes of the school are also anxious to get their warrants. An inquiry into the trouble brought forth the fact that the law relating to the maintenance of the school is somewhat indefinite and the Secretary of State, proceeding in his usual careful manner, hesitated to draw warrants until it was definitely decided by the Attorney General whether such warrants could be legally drawn under the laws as construed and regulated by the recent Supreme court decision. The Attorney General is working on the opinion and until it is rendered the Blind School employes and others interested will have to wait. The secretary of state is proceeding with the utmost caution in the matter of issuing State script and declares that he will not issue a single dollar's worth that is not specifically authorized by law.

The state board of education yesterday elected Miss Margurite Alderson musician at the blind school, vice Miss Bertha Hubbard, resigned. She was elected to the music teacher must make her home at the school, hence Mrs. William and Miss Shelton could not consent to become applicants.

The case of the State vs. Cesaro Marco was argued and submitted in the supreme court. Marco is under sentence of two years' imprisonment in the penitentiary, but is out on bonds, pending an appeal. He was convicted in the circuit court of Multnomah county of embezzling \$1,500, belonging to the Mazzini society, which money had come into his hands as the society's treasurer.

Probate Court.

Mrs. M. C. Smith, recently appointed administrator of the estate of Dr. W. M. Smith, deceased, has filed a bond for \$16,000 with the county court, with A. M. Farland, H. W. Smith, John Wittschen and L. C. Cavanaugh as sureties. Geo. W. Jones, N. W. Silver and Geo. Cornelius were named appraisers of the estate.

AN E. L. RALLY.—The Epworth chapter, of the First Methodist church, will have a rally at the "Chestrnut Farm," of Dexter Field, on East Asylum avenue, tomorrow evening. It is expected there will be a large number of the members of the church and congregation in attendance. "Palace cars" will leave the church at 7 p. m. Free ride, free refreshments and free fun.

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