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A SENATE MUDDLE

INSISTENCE ON STATEHOOD BILL MAKES PROGRAM DOUBTFUL.

SENATOR QUAY CHANGES TACTICS

A Move to Tack the Omnibus Statehood Bill Onto Another Measure May Cause Trouble—Senators Ready to Appeal from the Chair.

WASHINGTON—The omnibus statehood bill will continue to hold its place for the present as the unfinished business on the senate calendar, but it seems quite probable that the debate will be transferred to the appropriation bills. Senator Quay has entirely changed his tactics during the last week and after trying in vain to secure a quorum for night sessions on two different occasions, has abandoned all efforts in that direction, leaving the senators who oppose the statehood bill to take the responsibility for delay. He now apparently is the least concerned of all to secure late sessions.

He makes no confidants, but it is evident that it is his purpose to make his fight in connection with the appropriation bills and to secure promises to vote for a statehood rider to one or other of them.

Thus far there has not been delay on any supply measure on account of the statehood debates, but there will be a decided effort to attach the statehood amendment to the agricultural appropriation bill. It is expected that the amendment will be ruled out on a point of order, in which event there will be an appeal from the decision of the chair. It is quite possible, however, that the question may be submitted to the senate without a ruling by the chair. This plan has been pursued in other cases and has been found to work satisfactory.

Senator Cullom will attempt to secure consideration of the Cuban treaty, but until the statehood bill is disposed of all speculation as to what may be done with other questions is idle.

The anti-trust bill which was scheduled for early consideration in the house this week, will not come up until late in the week, if at all, and possibly may be postponed until next week. The friends of the currency bill are exceedingly anxious to get consideration for it, and it may most likely come in after the postoffice appropriation bill is disposed of, in which case the anti-trust bill would be shut out this week.

Omaha Child Saving Institute.

A remarkable incident occurred some time past. A woman with a young child was on the streets in a perfectly destitute and helpless condition. She was without friends and without means of support and had tried in every way she knew to find employment, with her little child, and failed. In her desperation she appealed to a children's society to take care of her little one temporarily until she could get in a better position. She was told that she must sign papers of relinquishment and make absolute legal surrender of her child and give it up, with the assurance that she would never see it again and would never know where it was; or that she must go out again upon the streets. She clung to her child and went on her journey, although it was cold and dreary and she was hungry. Finally she concluded there was nothing else for her to do but to go back and sign the papers and give up her child forever. On the day to do this, some one seeing her distress and learning the cause of her trouble, told her of the Child Saving Institute and that it would help her. She appealed to the institute and her child was tenderly cared for several weeks and in the meantime the mother met with good fortune and reached a position where she was abundantly able to provide for her own child and to keep it permanently.

Must Not Offer a Pass.

ALBANY, N. Y.—Attorney General Conneen has written an opinion in which he holds that the offering of a transportation pass to a member of the legislature would constitute a misdemeanor and make him subject to forfeiture of his office.

The giving of the attorney general's opinion arose from the fact that the Pullman Palace Car company sent to Hon. Francis G. Landon, member of assembly from Dutchess county, an annual pass, and Mr. Landon referred the matter to Mr. Conneen.

BANK IS ROBBED.

Burglar Blow Safe and Get Away with Cash.

WATERLOO, Neb.—The Citizens' State bank of this place was robbed at 2 a. m. Tuesday. The robbers secured \$3,500. Of this sum \$2,700 was in currency and the balance in gold and silver. The damage to the safe and furniture is estimated at \$600. The bank is fully protected by insurance.

The robbers, of whom there were at least three, and perhaps four, gained an entrance through the front window by removing a pane of glass. They carefully avoided disturbing the burglar alarm.

Their work inside the building was easily and quickly accomplished. The safe stands outside of the vault and it was completely wrecked by a charge of nitroglycerine.

The noise of the explosion awakened the people in the vicinity of the bank and they soon gathered around but were kept back by the robbers. A number of shots were exchanged, but no one was hurt.

In the confusion and darkness the burglars made their escape with their booty and although a posse was soon assembled, there is little clue upon which to work.

Several strange men in a wagon were seen north of town Wednesday. It is thought that they may be the robbers. It was said the outfit had gone towards Omaha and the officers there have been notified to be on the lookout for it.

Detective Franklin and posse, with bloodhounds, took the trail from the wrecked bank. The hounds seemed somewhat confused and were unable to get a start.

After an hour J. W. Miller, one of the posse, found a roll of bills tucked under a plank in a barn one and one-half miles from Waterloo. The dogs were taken to the barn. At noon they were in full chase to the north of Waterloo. The trail is fresh and the race will be hard.

NEBRASKA IRRIGATION PROJECTS

Much Inquiry as to What is Going to Be Done.

WASHINGTON.—The Nebraska delegation in congress is receiving numerous inquiries from constituents as to what has been, or will be done, in the matter of irrigation projects in that state, their object being principally to ascertain the contemplated sites of reservoirs in order to secure homesteads in that vicinity. In order to secure some definite information upon this subject, Congressman Shallenberger called upon the irrigation expert, Elwood Mead of the geological survey, and was informed that nothing has been done in Nebraska up to the present time, except the measurements of certain streams and the sinking of a few artesian wells, but that during the next season, which will commence in the spring, experiments with these wells will be carried out quite extensively, but that no definite plans had been made as to the probable locations of the wells. This means of securing water from irrigation, so Mr. Mead stated, was more adaptable to Nebraska than any other system. Nebraska is in what is known as the Dakotas sandstone belt, and the expert says there is plenty of water under the soil to carry on all needed irrigation projects in that state.

FIFTY LOSE LIVES IN FIRE.

Horrible Catastrophe Occurs at Insane Asylum in England.

LONDON.—About fifty insane patients were burned to death by a fire at the Colney Hatch asylum Tuesday morning.

The outbreak occurred in the Jewish wing of the institution. The flames spread with great rapidity and before they could be got under control five wooden buildings, including dormitories and the doctors' apartments, were gutted.

All the efforts of the officials were directed to removing insane patients, but the latter became wild with excitement and so panic stricken that not only were they unable to help themselves, but greatly impeded the operation of those trying to save them.

There were nearly 600 women in the burned annex at the time the fire was discovered and most of them were safely transferred to the main building, which was uninjured. Some, however, escaped and are still at large, rendering it difficult to ascertain the exact number of those burned to death. It is believed that at least fifty perished.

AT A STANDSTILL

VENEZUELAN EMBROGLIO STILL FAR FROM SETTLEMENT.

MAY GO TO HAGUE TRIBUNAL

Arbitration Necessitates, However, Preliminary Protocol of Terms—Problem is to Get Powers to Meet—Belligerent Allies Want Preference.

WASHINGTON.—No answer has come from the allies to Mr. Bowen's last proposition.

The British ambassador sent a long cablegram to Lord Lansdowne stating what might be expected in case Great Britain and its two allies insisted upon the preferential treatment, blockading the other powers. The text of the cablegram cannot be published, but it informed the foreign office that Mr. Bowen, in the event of a refusal of his proposition would call on the representatives of the other claimant powers in Washington and explain to them that Venezuela was being forced by the triple alliance to yield to a plan which would affect seriously the interests of France, Belgium, Norway and Sweden, Denmark, Spain, Holland and the United States.

When this step is taken it is expected France will make representations at once to London, Berlin and Rome, protesting against any interference with the previous arrangement it has made with Venezuela for the settlement of claims. France may be joined in this protest by the other claimant nations.

There is reason to believe that the French government already has sounded the United States government, to learn how much in common there may be between their interests in Venezuela. It is said that there is a strong resemblance between the claims of the two nations, perhaps enough to link them together in resistance to any policy on the part of the allies, which would tend to destroy those interests.

The French officials had not doubted that equal treatment would be recognized and this unexpected turn of events has caused much surprise and concern. For the present it does not appear to be the purpose of French authorities to assume an imperative position, but rather set forth what they regard as the manifest equities of the case.

After conferring with those in authority an official said that the French position is based on two essential principles.

The first is that a pacific settlement between two sovereign nations is entitled at least to equal treatment with a war settlement. If not a precedent would be established which would be an incentive to war, as countries first adopting force in the collection of claims would have superior rights to those observing the usual pacific means of settlement.

The view is freely expressed here that the United States, France and Belgium are, in effect, pacific allies, as they did not resort to force against Venezuela. It is insisted that the present attitude of the allies tends not only to prejudice the rights of the pacific allies, but also establishes the dangerous principle that a resort to war is preferable to efforts to maintain peace.

AMENDMENTS TO ARMY BILL.

Senate Committee Favors Increased Appropriations.

WASHINGTON.—The army appropriation bill was reported to the senate and amended in various particulars. The most important additions provide for the retirement with advanced rank of officers who served in the civil war and for the creation of a general staff. The retirement amendment is in the exact language of the bill recently reported by the senate military committee and the staff amendment is in the language of the staff bill recommended by the secretary of war, with the military committee's amendments added.

The committee recommended increases in appropriations aggregating \$3,366,000, the total carried by the bill as reported being \$77,241,277.

Mutineers Make Confession.

LIVERPOOL.—The four seamen of the British bark *Veronica*, accused of mutiny, were remanded. Two of the prisoners have made a statement implicating themselves and the others in the crime, but another of the accused men, William Smith, an American, declares his statements untrue.

THE LAND LEASING BILL.

Why a Texas Congressman is Opposed to the Measure.

WASHINGTON—Additional opposition to the land leasing bill has arisen in the house from some of the southern members of congress. Representative Burleson of Texas introduced a resolution in the house calling upon the secretary of the interior to furnish the house with full information as to what steps, if any, had been taken to prevent the illegal fencing of the public domain in Nebraska, Wyoming and New Mexico. He also desires to know the number of filings or applications for part of the public domain which have been made in the states of Nebraska and Wyoming during the year 1901 and 1902 under the homestead and desert land acts, and how many persons who have made such filing have been fraudulently used to secure color of title to said lands for the purpose of conveying or transferring the same to others. The resolutions also directs that upon report being made the attorney general shall immediately institute proceedings against all persons who have illegally fenced in government lands and to declare all fraudulent appropriation of lands under the acts referred to, and that in an event shall any money paid for land be refunded, where it is shown that the filing was fraudulent. When inquiry was made as to his motive for introducing the resolution and his opposition to the bill, Mr. Burleson stated that it would give the cattlegrowers of Wyoming and Nebraska an undue advantage over the Texas cattlemen, for the reason that when Texas came into the union she retained all her public lands and the state had to buy or lease their lands from private individuals, and if the Nebraskans were permitted to keep up their fences without paying rent or allowed to lease lands at a few cents per acre it would continue to work an injustice upon the people of Texas.

SOMETHING IN BUTTER NAME.

A Ruling that "Renovated" Cannot Be Replaced with "Process."

OMAHA—Process butter manufacturers of the city have received from James Wilson, secretary of agriculture, a letter, in which he refuses to consider the request of the national association of process butter manufacturers that a change be made in the regulations of the department by which the word "process" may be substituted for the word "renovated" on the packages of butter sent by the factories. In his letter the secretary says that the word "renovated" has been adopted by the department after considering the question at length and upon the recommendation of dalmymen, and that no good reason has been shown why the regulations should be changed. He also refuses to make a rule for butter for export different from that for process butter for domestic consumption.

PLANNING A NEW OUTBREAK.

Fears that China Will Re-Enact the Rising of 1901.

VICTORIA, B. C.—According to advices received from North China, fears are being entertained that China is planning another outbreak similar to that of 1901. The North China Daily News says:

"It has been learned on good authority that Yung Lu, the real ruler of China, and the man who is reported to be responsible for the murder of Prof. Hubert James of the Pekin university, will centralize the command of the military forces of the empire, or at least the provinces north of the Yangtze, together with Tung Siang and others.

"The plot for the simultaneous murder of foreigners in 1900 failed owing to the unwillingness of many viceroys and governors to carry out the order to the military officials, whose implicit obedience may be relied upon."

Italy Accepts Proposition.

ROME.—The Italian government is ready to accept the proposition of United States Minister Bowen to set apart a certain percentage of the customs receipts at La Guayra and Puerto Cabello as a guarantee for the payment of the foreign claims. The government considers that the guarantees offered by Venezuela through Minister Bowen are sufficient to warrant the raising of the blockade, which, it is understood here, will cease as soon as Germany agrees to the propositions. The foreign warships, however, will remain in Venezuelan waters.

TRAINS WRECKED

IOWA MEN DEAD AND MAIMED IN SMASHUP.

THE LOSS OF LIFE IS GREAT

Twenty Bodies Are Taken from the Debris of the Sunset Limited and Others Are Supposed to Have Perished in the Collision.

CHICAGO—Four persons were killed, four seriously injured and eight slightly hurt in a rear-end collision between stock trains on the Chicago & Northwestern railway near Lafox, Ill.

Dead: CHARLES X. COE of Woodbine, Ia., imprisoned in the debris and roasted to death.

B. LANE of Vail, Ia., pinned down by wreckage and burned to death.

A. A. AMEY of Scranton, Ia., badly burned; died an hour later in the station at Lafox.

J. PETERSON of Battle Creek, Ia., badly burned and died before medical aid arrived.

Seriously Injured: H. Johnstone, Clinton, Ia. William Kochsims, Schleswig, Ia. Evers Neilson, Schleswig, Ia. Albert Playman, Dunlap, Ia.

The trains came together in a dense fog. The killed and injured were for the most part stockmen in charge of stock on the way to Chicago and the east.

Train Runs Into Funeral Car.

CAIRO, Ill.—On the Illinois Central railway near Pulaski the Chicago fast train No. 3 crashed into the rear of St. Louis train No. 203, which is due here at 4:17 a. m.

Both trains were late on account of the dense fog and the Chicago train was running at the rate of sixty miles an hour, while the St. Louis train was making thirty miles an hour.

The last car on the St. Louis train was the private car of the late Judge W. G. Fentress and family of Chicago. Judge Fentress, who died in Chicago Monday, was the head counsel of the Illinois Central and his body was in the car en route to Bolivar, Tenn., for burial.

The rear half of the car was demolished and the coffin broken open. The family of the judge was badly shaken up. Three of the train crew were injured, but none will die. None of the passengers were hurt.

Twenty-One Dead on Jersey Central.

NEW YORK.—One of the most appalling railroad wrecks that has occurred in the vicinity of New York for many years took place at Graceland, on the Central Railroad of New Jersey, when an express plowed at top speed into the rear of a local train.

Up to noon Wednesday the total loss of life was believed to be twenty-one. Of these fourteen bodies had been identified and seven were held at Plainfield for identification. From the wreckage twenty bodies were taken, and Thomas McCarthy, fireman, is dead in a hospital.

More than fifty persons were injured, some of them severely. The hospital reports were, however, that with perhaps one or two exceptions all would recover.

Missouri Pacific Denver Express.

KANSAS CITY, Mo.—Missouri Pacific train No. 1, which left here at 6:40 for Colorado, crashed into a switch engine, head on, in the east bottoms of this city. Three trainmen on the passenger train were seriously hurt, and both engines and a dining car were badly damaged. The passengers were uninjured.

Accidents in St. Louis.

ST. LOUIS.—As the result of a heavy fog that overspread the city for several hours Wednesday, there were several street car collisions. Within seventy minutes two head-on collisions occurred on the Clayton division of the transit company's lines. Seven men were seriously injured in the two wrecks and a number of others received bruises and scratches.

Sunset Limited Wrecked.

TUCSON, Ariz.—A disastrous collision occurred on the Southern Pacific Wednesday morning between passenger train No. 9, west bound, and No. 8, east bound. The wreck occurred near Vallsburg, Ariz., twelve miles east of this city, as a result of which twenty are dead.

TWENTY-TWO DEAD IN WRECK.

Frightful Disaster on New Jersey Central at Graceland.

NEW YORK—One of the most appalling railroad wrecks that has occurred in the vicinity of New York for many years took place Tuesday night at Graceland, on the Central Railroad of New Jersey, when an express plowed at top speed into the rear of a local train.

Up to noon Wednesday the total loss of life was believed to be twenty-two. Of these fifteen bodies had been identified and seven were held at Plainfield for identification. From the wreckage twenty bodies were taken, and two men, W. E. Davis, engineer of the Reading express, and Thomas McCarthy, fireman, died in a hospital.

More than fifty persons were injured, some of them very severely. The hospital reports were, however, that with perhaps one or two exceptions all would recover.

The blame for the accident is placed by the railroad officials on Engineer Davis of the Philadelphia & Reading express, and, according to a policeman who took Davis from the smashed cab, Davis admitted that he had taken chances and disregarded the danger signals because he expected to see the red and green lights changed to white as he neared them. They did not change.

ROSEBUD AGENCY LANDS.

May Yet Be Thrown Open to Settlement This Year.

WASHINGTON.—The chances of the passage of the bill opening the Rosebud Indian reservation in South Dakota to settlement have been somewhat enhanced within the past few days. The community of interests plan is to be tried on this measure and if the contemplated program can be carried out, there is some hope that the Gregory county lands may yet be thrown open to settlement during the present year.

The members of the South Dakota delegation in the house are laboring diligently to bring about this desired result and at the suggestion of Congressmen Burke and Martin a conference was recently held in the committee rooms of the public lands committee to discuss ways and means of putting the bill through.

TIME IS TOO SHORT.

Not Much Legislation by the Present Congress.

WASHINGTON—A month ago or more party leaders predicted the probable legislation that would be enacted by the present session of congress. They said that statehood would fail; that the Cuban reciprocity treaty would be ratified by the senate and that there would be no radical legislation against trusts, but provision would be made for a better enforcement of the Sherman anti-trust law. The situation today justifies that prediction. The president is opposing the admission of any territory at this time, while there are many senators who hope they will not have to vote upon the real issue of admitting any territory. The opposition to the ratification of the Cuban reciprocity treaty is also dwindling.

NO TENDER OF A LIBRARY.

International Court of Arbitration Waits on Carnegie.

THE HAGUE.—The foreign minister, Dr. Van Lynden, replying to a question in the chamber as to whether an offer from Andrew Carnegie of \$250,000 to found a library for the international court of arbitration had been rejected, said it had not been rejected, and added that no offer had been made in a form rendering either acceptance or refusal possible. The minister observed that in view of the special character of the arbitration court the best form for such a gift would be to make it a special foundation. Meanwhile the government was willing to administer the gift if it were offered.

FARMERS SEEK BETTER RATES.

The Wants of Nebraska, Kansas and Oklahoma Agriculturists.

TOPEKA, Kan.—A call has been issued for a meeting of the Farmers' Co-operative Shipping association to be held in Topeka at an early day.

The purpose is to form a close arrangement for mutual protection among the farmers of Nebraska, Kansas and Oklahoma. The farmers seek the same treatment from the railroads in the matter of shipping as the elevator owners.