

no longer resorted to except in rare instances, and in most of these instances the causes run far back into the past and have created deep prejudices and deeply-rooted feelings of distrust and animosity which do not readily yield to rational pacific treatment. During the decade of which we are speaking there have been four wars: the China-Japan war, the Spanish-American-Philippine war, the Boer war and the Russo-Japanese war; or nine if we add to these the Boxer conflict in China, the German war in South-western Africa, still going on, the Venezuela blockade, the Thibet expedition and the bloodless Panama revolution. But during the same period there have been almost a hundred settlements by arbitration. All of these have been important, and some of them of the most difficult and delicate character; as for example, the boundary dispute between Chili and the Argentine republic, the British-Venezuelan boundary dispute, the Alaska boundary controversy, and the North Sea incident between Great Britain and Russia, which though

adjusted by a commission of inquiry, was really an arbitration of the first order."

PRIOR TO THE Spanish-American war General Weyler threatened to land an army in the United States and march the same across this proud land. One newspaper paragrapher said that if he undertook such a thing "the policemen would run his old army in." We are reminded of this in an Associated Press dispatch from San Francisco. The soldiers there had been holding up all able bodied men and compelling them to assist in an effort to clean the streets. It is complained that in many instances the soldiers really exceeded their authority. The dispatch referred to was dated April 23, and follows, "Regular Police Officer J. J. Dow was held up by a soldier while on his way to report at police headquarters early yesterday morning. The regular made an attempt to force the policeman to labor

in the street, but was in turn held up himself and turned over to a lieutenant, who relieved him of his gun and directed that he be sent to the guard house. Policeman Dow was ordered to halt at Page and Cole streets. The soldier commanded him to take a shovel and aid in the work of clearing away the debris in the street. The fact that the officer was in uniform and wore his star seemed to have no effect on the soldier. He told Dow in plain English that he would shoot him if he did not go to work. The tables were turned when the soldier turned around to pick up a shovel for the man he was attempting to impress. Dow quickly drew his revolver, held it at the head of the soldier and marched him in front of him to military headquarters at Page and Schrader streets. Policeman A. C. Williams reported a like experience when he reported at headquarters yesterday. He managed to persuade the soldier that he was exceeding his authority and after a brief argument was allowed to go on his way."

WASHINGTON CITY LETTER

Washington, D. C., June 11.—Gag rule is being applied more vigorously than ever in the house of representatives by Speaker Cannon and his republican partners, Messrs. Dalzell and Grosvenor, who every now and then bring in a special order to shut off the debate on leading measures. The sundry civil is one of the most important of the regular appropriation bills. This year it carries aggregate appropriations of nearly \$100,000,000. Items in the bill affect practically every state and territory in the Union. It has been almost from the foundation of the government the custom to permit an extended debate on the sundry civil bill. But Speaker Cannon and his lieutenants suddenly reached the conclusion that they would allow only two hours for general debate. They had a double motive in adopting such tactics. In the first place the speaker and those acting with him wish to bring the session to a close at the earliest possible moment. In the second place they do not think it advisable to give the democrats an opportunity to deliver speeches that can be used with effect in the campaign that has already opened in many of the states and which will be waged with unusual determination with a view of wresting control of the house from the republicans.

The republican triumvirate of the house are even afraid to give their own men a chance to discuss some of the glaring iniquities of the sundry civil bill. They realize that on their own side they have some unruly legislative "boys" who might, in burst of passion, say things they should have left unsaid, and it is, therefore, just as necessary to shut the mouths of the republicans as it is to put the gag upon the minority statesmen.

One of the oldest congressional employees at the capitol says thirty years ago it was the custom of the house towards the close of the session to set apart certain evenings while appropriation bills were before that body to enable members of both sides to deliver speeches of a general nature. It was understood that nothing but speeches were in order. Mr. Cannon, however, seems to think that congressmen are doing too much talking, and evidently Chairman Tawney agrees with the presiding officer, as the Minnesotan is thoroughly in sympathy with the rule that was brought in. The policy of the house republican managers is to apply the gag from now on to every leading measure. They will probably not gain by this. The democrats are incensed, they have the sympathy and the assistance of a number of mad republicans also, and even under the drastic rules of the house they can interject lively five minute speeches and keep the majority leaders on the "ragged edge." If the republican managers had not been so severe they could have had most of the supply bills out of the way long before this. Mr. Williams, the minority leader, has simply been compelled to fight with all the ardor of his nature. He has maintained for several weeks that the arbitrary power assumed by the triumvirate trampled upon the rights not only of the democrats but upon the republicans as well. There will doubtless be some lively, if not sensational, scenes on the floor before the session ends.

The democrats in congress are much encouraged over the political situation in the great state of Pennsylvania. As is well known the republican ticket has been placed in the field. It is considered a "machine" ticket from top to bottom. It is declared to be the work of the

usual "gang" in the Keystone state. Senator Penrose is in command. He is the successor of the late "Boss," Quay. Mr. Penrose naturally fell heir to the place. He is by no means as able as was the late Senator Quay. But he's the best the "organization" could bring forward to make the effort to save their prestige in politics. Besides, Penrose is compelled to make a desperate fight. He likes the senatorial life. He wants to secure another term in the upper branch of congress, and it is with him a fight to the death.

Representative Kline, the only democratic member of the house from Pennsylvania, is quite hopeful of an upheaval in his state this year that will put the regular republican organization out of business. It is too early in the season for him to claim that the democrats have it in their power to defeat the republican ticket. Pennsylvania is one of the rankest republican states of the land. Much will depend upon the course of the new party up there known as the Lincoln republicans, who, several weeks ago, placed an independent ticket in the field. If they persist in sticking they will surely draw an enormous vote from the Penrose machine crowd, and there would then be an excellent opportunity for the democrats to win the election. It will be recalled that last year there was a political upheaval in Pennsylvania which resulted in the election of the democratic candidate for state treasurer by a pronounced majority. But no matter how things turn out as regards the state ticket the Pennsylvania democrats appear to be absolutely certain they will elect seven or eight and possibly ten members of congress. All reports indicate that the democrats are placing strong congressional candidates before the people, and the Keystone republicans are understood to be badly torn into factions on account of the abuses of the past ten years by the Quay ring.

Labor representatives who watch legislation in the interest of the various organizations are divided as to the employers' liability bill. Senator Daniel, of Virginia, insists that the bill as it finally was put through the senate does not do justice to railway employes. He contends that the railway corporations compel the employes to join the relief associations, and to maintain these associations a portion of each man's wages is deducted whether he wishes it or not, and he has no recourse. On the other hand, H. R. Fuller, a legislative representative claiming to speak for 230,000 railway employes, opposed the amendment of Senator Daniel on the ground that it would endanger the passage of the bill.

As such a large number of men are personally and directly interested in this proposed law it will be appropriate to give the third section of the bill, as follows:

"That no contract of employment, insurance, relief benefit, or indemnity for injury or death entered into by or on behalf of any employe nor the acceptance of any such insurance, relief benefit, or indemnity by the person entitled thereto, shall constitute any bar or defense to any action brought to recover damages for personal injuries to or death of such employe: Provided, however, That upon the trial of such action against any common carrier the defendant may set off therein any sum it has contributed toward any such insurance, relief benefit, or indemnity that may have been paid to the injured employe, or, in case of his death, to his personal representative."

The law that was passed by congress eight

years ago had the following provision bearing on the subject, but will be repealed and the section given above will take its place:

"That any employer subject to the provisions of this act and any officer, agent, or receiver of such employer, who shall require any employe, or any person seeking employment, as a condition of such employment, to enter into an agreement, either written or verbal, not to become or remain a member of any labor corporation association, or organization; or shall threaten any employe with loss of employment, or shall unjustly discriminate against any employe because of his membership in such a labor corporation, association, or organization; or who shall require any employe or any person seeking employment, as a condition of such employment, to enter into a contract whereby such employe or applicant for employment shall agree to contribute to any fund for charitable, social, or beneficial purposes; to release such employer from legal liability for any personal injury by reason of any benefit received from such fund beyond the proportion of the benefit arising from the employer's contribution to such fund; or who shall, after having discharged an employe, attempt, or conspire to prevent such employe from obtaining employment, or who shall, after the quitting of the employe, attempt or conspire to prevent such employe from obtaining employment, is hereby declared to be guilty of a misdemeanor, and, upon conviction thereof in any court of the United States of competent jurisdiction in the district in which such offense was committed, shall be punished for each offense by a fine of not less than \$100 and not more than \$1,000."

The contention of Senator Daniel is that the section last quoted denounces the conduct of the corporations who compel their employes to join the relief associations. The first proviso given above, the senator maintains, rewards the corporations for violations of law, and gives them special privileges instead of punishment.

Senator Daniel made a hard struggle to strike out the proviso, but under the manipulation of Senator Kean, of New Jersey, it was kept in the bill mostly by the votes of republicans.

Although former Senator William P. Whyte, who has been appointed by Governor Warfield to succeed the late Mr. Gorman in the senate from Maryland, is 82 years of age, he is a remarkably active and clear minded man for his years. Senator Whyte and the late Senator Gorman did not always pull together in Maryland politics. Governor Whyte, as the most people call him in the state, is a few weeks younger than Senator Morgan of Alabama. The latter was born June 20, 1824, and Senator Whyte first saw the light of day on August 9 of the same year. These venerable statesmen served together in the senate from 1877 to 1881. It seems odd, indeed, that the late Mr. Gorman, who defeated Mr. Whyte for the senatorship in the winter of 1880-81, should in turn be succeeded by the man whom he vanquished. It is conceded on all sides that between now and the meeting of the next Maryland legislature there will be about as lively politics as the voters of that commonwealth could wish. No less than a half dozen candidates are expected to be in the field, and the republicans will doubtless renew their efforts to see what chance their party may have in getting another senator. The republicans, however, will have a hard row to hoe. Maryland is believed to be safely democratic.

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