

Washington News

Senator Overman of North Carolina, was operated on for appendicitis. He is on the road to recovery.

A dispatch to the New York American says: With twenty-seven progressive members of the senate "signed" to guarantee the control of that body by the progressive wing of the party after March 4, so that President Wilson will have effective support in redemption of platform and campaign pledges, there is no doubt that they will be in command when the party assumes full power at both ends of Pennsylvania avenue. Twenty-seven is a safe majority of any senatorial democratic caucus or conference. As Senator Owen expressed it a few days ago, the progressives will reorganize the senate and the committees and prepare for the complete and cordial support of the policies of the new administration. For a time it looked as if Senator Martin of Virginia, chief of the reactionaries, would be dethroned. Conscious of their power,

however, the progressives are inclined to exercise it with moderation. To overthrow Martin, some of them argue, would be to create friction that easily can be avoided. Martin probably will be re-elected as leader by the caucus, but he will be leader only in name. Unless he is willing to pledge himself to work faithfully for such things as are directed by the caucus some one else will be given the office. Martin doubtless will be glad to retain the titular leadership even upon such conditions. Should he not there are men, like Kern, Hoke Smith, O'Gorman, Gore, Stone and John Sharp Williams, progressives all, available for the place. The same reasons may operate to keep Simmons, of North Carolina, at the head of finance, where tariff bills are considered in the senate, but additional progressives will be put on the committee and its complexion materially changed. The leaven of progressivism is to be injected into every important committee of the senate.

Admiral Dewey celebrated the 75th anniversary of his birth December 25. He is hale and hearty.



Charles S. Mellen president of the New York, New Haven & Hartford Railroad, and Edson J. Chamberlain, president of the Grand Trunk railroad, and Alfred W. Smithers of London, chairman of the Grand Trunk's board of directors were indicted by the federal grand jury at New York. They are charged with conspiracy to bring about an arrangement whereby the Canadian railroad would withdraw from New England and leave the Mellen road a monopoly.

William M. Carleton, the poet, author of "Over the Hills to the Poor House," "Betsy and I Are Out," and other famous verses, died in New York city, aged sixty-seven.

Mr. Bryan, Representative Carter Glass of Virginia, Champ Clark, Senator Hoke Smith and other democrats have paid visits to Governor Wilson at Princeton.

The viceroy of India was wounded by a bomb thrown by a fanatic at Delhi. A native who was holding an umbrella over the viceroy was killed.

Governor Wilson was given a great reception by the people of his birthplace, Staunton, Va.

The Lincoln, Neb., gas company, undertook to persuade the people of Lincoln to adopt a compromise for the settlement of all the city's difficulties with the company. A hot fight resulted and the people won by a vote of more than three to one.

William Loeb, jr., former private secretary to President Roosevelt, has been given an executive position with the Guggenheim Smelting Co., at a salary of \$25,000 per year.

At the birthday dinner given him at Staunton, Va., President-elect Wilson predicted the early independence of the Philippine islands. He made a casual reference to the frontiers of the country when he said parenthetically:

"The Philippine islands are at present our frontier, but I hope we presently are to deprive ourselves of that frontier."

The remark was greeted with tremendous applause, and the governor turned his speech back to historical lines. While enroute to Staunton Governor Wilson had a long talk with Representative W. A. Jones of Virginia, who is pushing in congress a bill for ultimate Philippine independence. Mr. Wilson's announcement was his first definite expression that he favored the carrying out at an early date of the pledge in the democratic platform promising Philippine independence.

Following is an extract from the Associated Press report of the banquet: Referring to possible changes in legislative policy, the governor said there was no reason for legitimately conducted business to fear anything from him. He added with a smile:

"I haven't got my gun out for anybody. Somebody might accidentally get in the way of the gun. The level of the gun is established and the range is well known. I shall feel that I am not responsible for accidents."

"There were certain gentlemen, I dare say one of them is present tonight, who have frankly told me there was a time when they were afraid of me, because they thought

I had some screw loose, or that I was rather wild. For example, Virginia herself in the convention showed no great enthusiasm for my nomination. But these gentlemen now say to me that in view of things I have said since I was nominated—which are exactly the same things that I said before I was nominated—they are no longer afraid of me. From which I draw the simple conclusion that they did not read the things I said before I was nominated and that after I was nominated it became worth their while really to find out what I did actually say. I have been uttering, so far as I know, nothing but the original doctrines of liberty as understood in America, and these doctrines have nowhere better been understood or better illustrated, than in this ancient commonwealth of Virginia."

During the banquet a big birthday cake, with fifty-six lighted candles on it, was set before the president-elect while the orchestra played "Auld Lang Syne."

Congressman Flood, who represents this district, sat a few seats away. Mr. Flood, in the Baltimore convention, was one of the Virginia delegation who opposed the Wilson candidacy, and for a long time declined to consent to swinging the delegation to Mr. Wilson.

Later Mr. Flood made a speech in which he said he thought Mr. Wilson had hardly done justice to the Virginia delegation at Baltimore in commenting on any lack of enthusiasm.

"If you could have seen the Virginia delegation you would have thought otherwise," he said. "Whatever may have been the views of two-thirds of the delegation, I believe all—and I can speak for at least one—recognized your wide vision and extraordinary attainments as the foremost interpreter of public desire for

SOME INTERESTING FIGURES

The total old line insurance written in Nebraska in the year 1911 was \$26,000,000 of which the home companies wrote \$8,800,000 or 34 per cent. The total premiums collected were \$4,595,000 of which \$1,240,000 were paid to the home companies, or only 27 per cent. Nebraskans are sending nearly three dollars to outside companies to every dollar paid to a home company. The people of New York took over 48 per cent of their insurance in their own companies and paid their home companies over 52 per cent of the total premiums on their insurance. The people of Iowa bought over 48 per cent of their life insurance from their home companies. The best way to develop home companies is to buy insurance from them. Write for rates, giving age and occupation.

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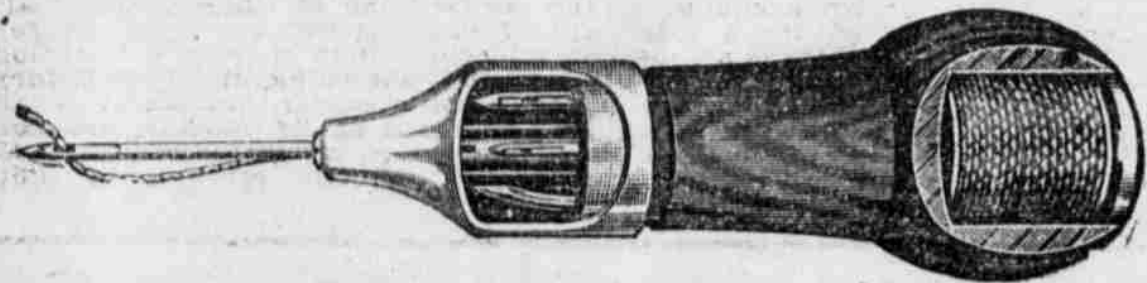
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