

PORTO RICO

STARVATION AND DEATH IN OUR NEW POSSESSION.

LEGISLATION NEEDED.

Porto Rican Merchants Want the Tariff Question Decided One Way or the Other.

San Juan, P. R., March 26.—At a special meeting of the chamber of commerce it was decided to close all business houses on Monday afternoon to enable the merchants to attend an open air meeting on the plaza with the object of drawing up a petition to Governor General Davis, demanding immediate congressional decision on the tariff one way or the other. The agreement was sent to all towns throughout Porto Rico, where like demonstrations will be held.

The feeling of uncertainty regarding the tariff holds business practically at a standstill, the merchants being afraid to order goods or to advance funds on the planters' accounts. The meeting was conducted in a calm and businesslike manner.

The merchants here will be satisfied to accept any decision of congress, either free trade, the 25 or 15 per cent tariff, but they ask for a settlement of the question, so that business activity may be resumed. They decided to take this unparalleled step only after mature deliberation.

Sixty country women marched from Naranjo, arriving Friday evening, and petitioned General Davis to save them from starvation and to provide work and food. The women presented a most pitiable sight. They were barefooted and ragged, half naked, dust covered and weary from their journey. Some of them were lame. All were discouraged.

PEITION TELLS A SAD STORY.

The petition which they presented tells the story of the depressing times, no work and the price of rice, beans and bread beyond reach, fruits destroyed and relief supply discontinued, thus bringing them and others where they came from almost to starvation.

General Davis promised relief to the party and requested the mayor to provide transportation. His reply was that there was not a peso in the treasury and that the police were yet unpaid for their last two months' work. The party of women dispersed quietly, some retracing their steps, others begging easier conveyance to Naranjo, which is twenty miles from San Juan, a portion of the road being almost impassable. Similar parties are expected from other towns. The roads are dotted with the wandering unemployed and people are reported dying of starvation at inland points.

THE FRICK-CARNEGIE QUARREL.

But Will Make No Headway Until After Election.

Pittsburg, Pa., March 26.—Significant remarks made by Judge Edwin H. Stowe, in common pleas court, tend to confirm the opinion that there will be no necessary cessation of the Carnegie-Frick litigation until after the November elections.

For fear that the great profits cited by H. C. Frick in his bill in equity may make the republican ticket, the trial, if it comes at all, will be held back until the fall. Judge Stowe, when asked to write an order granting the Carnegie attorneys another extension of fifteen days in which to file the answers of some of the defendants who were absent from the state, answered that the request could readily be granted, as the case would not be called for trial until the October term of court.

As Mr. Frick's attorneys put the case on the March trial list, this caused surprise. Attorney W. L. Scott, who presented the petition, said they had hoped to have their answers in early, so that there could be a speedy trial. Judge Stowe looked at Mr. Scott quizzically, smiled and said nothing.

Mr. Frick, it is said, is willing to settle, but Carnegie so far has shown a disposition to fight. The only thing that prevents a settlement is that Mr. Carnegie will have to settle with other trust partners on the same basis as with Mr. Frick.

FOR A BIG SHIP CANAL.

Syndicate Formed for a New York Ship Canal.

New York, March 26.—Cold Storage says that a \$50,000,000 syndicate, of which J. N. Huston, ex-treasurer of the United States, is the head, has taken up the work of constructing a canal across Bayonne from New York bay to Newark, N. J. The new company has acquired the New York and Newark Bay ship canal, which was incorporated in New Jersey thirty-four years ago, and is authorized by act of the legislature to build the canal. The charter of incorporations also permits the absorption of the old Morris canal. Cold Storage says that during the week past land rights have been secured for the canal across Bayonne, close to the boundary line between Bayonne and Newark. The chartered plans of this company contemplate on each side of the canal, sites and basins to accommodate the construction of buildings, elevators, and other structures.

Mr. Bryan's peroration was a glowing appeal for the preservation of the American ideals, handed down by the fathers, that have been taught their children for a hundred years.

Banks Rush to Get In.

New York, March 26.—A majority of the national banks in New York have already made applications to increase their circulation to the par value of the bonds deposited by them at Washington, and the necessary papers have in most cases been forwarded to the secretary of the treasury. It is estimated that the increase of circulation will amount to at least \$2,000,000, exclusive of the circulation that may be taken out on the deposit of additional bonds.

STUDENTS BANQUET COL. BRYAN.

Democratic Leader and Others Are Invited By University.

Lincoln, Neb., March 26.—The first annual banquet of the Bryan Bimetallist club of the State university was held Saturday night at the Lincoln hotel. W. J. Bryan, T. M. Patterson of Denver and Governor Poynter were the guests of honor. The affair, in point of attendance, music, menu and oratory, was in every way highly successful.

A large number of university professors were present to lend their indorsement to the doctrines advocated by the club. There were Dean Edgren of the graduate school, head of the department of Romance languages; Prof. Caldwell, head of the department of philosophy; Prof. Peterson of the department of German; Prof. Wilson of the Latin department; Prof. Hodgman of the department of mathematics; Jay Amos Barrett, librarian of the State Historical society; Prof. E. H. Barbour, head of the department of geology; Prof. Wallace, head of the preparatory school, and August Hagenow, of the school of music.

TOAST LIST A GEM.

W. F. McNaughton, president of the club, made an excellent toastmaster. The banquet was opened with an invocation by Dr. Hodgman, an invocation that Tom Patterson, in his toast, characterized as one that ought to be copyrighted; imbued with more of the spirit of humanity and true religion than any he had ever heard. The toast list was brief.

Governor Poynter, in responding to the sentiment "Nebraska," congratulated the young men of the university on their club and its purpose. He was roundly applauded when he said:

"It hasn't always been true, unfortunately, in our university, that its students might freely gather around a board like this. But the election last fall, thank God, took the university out of politics.

Mr. Patterson's speech was a scholarly and eloquent plea for democratic ideas, and a scathing arraignment of present day republican policies. The two great schools of governmental policy, he said, are those of Jefferson and Hamilton. They are in session all the time, and have no special teachers and no special students. The one teaches the greatness and sovereignty of the people; the other a centralized government with a large standing army, and policies determined by a special class who are to have absolute dominion over the lives and liberties and welfare of the people.

FORSAKING THE INSTITUTION.

Trusts, imperialism and an alliance with Great Britain be characterized as the fruits of the Hamiltonian school which is dominant today. He denounced the "new and monstrous doctrine of denying to people subject to American laws the protection of the constitution and the bill of rights."

"It means," he said, "an era of conquest and subjugation. Such as has always brought about the annihilation of every government that has adopted it."

He pointed out the particular importance of the trust question to the young men of the country. The trust, he said, is the destroyer of their opportunity. It means the closing of every avenue of business advancement to all save the lucky-born son of fortune.

"It is utterly impossible for the young men to make progress in the industrial, commercial and business lines of life with trusts firmly implanted in our national existence."

As the result of the coming campaign will be, he concluded, so will be the trend of American institutions.

EXTRACTS FROM BRYAN'S SPEECH

"If I have done anything at all in this country it is because I have attached myself to ideas that have arisen and dragged me up, and I had sense enough to hold on."

"The democratic party today occupies a place far stronger that it could possibly have if it had been willing to abandon its convictions in the hope of gaining office. I have been down east lately and I saw the faces of multitudes of men whose backs alone were visible in 1876. They are coming back."

"When I have met anti-imperialists, who asked us to abandon our advocacy of bimetallism so that they might cooperate with us, I have asked them if they would have more confidence in us if we would abandon our beliefs to win votes; I have asked them if they have not of late seen enough of what that means."

"When we once enter on the pathway of imperialism we mean that we will establish at Washington a bureau that will govern more people than we have people who govern themselves. It means that government by consent is abandoned and government by force instituted in its stead."

"I have been in politics for some time, but I have never heard in all my life so much criticism of republican policies by republicans as I have heard in the last three months."

Mr. Bryan's peroration was a glowing appeal for the preservation of the American ideals, handed down by the fathers, that have been taught their children for a hundred years.

Fail to Nominate a Judge.

Washington, D. C., March 26.—Senator Allison of Iowa issued a call for a meeting of the Iowa delegation for the purpose of deciding on a candidate for the vacant United States judgeship, southern district of Iowa.

The names of several candidates were presented, but the delegation did not succeed in agreeing on any of the names suggested. After a meeting, lasting several hours, an adjournment was taken until next Saturday, when it is expected the candidates will be agreed on.

THE TRUSTS

INVESTIGATION IS STARTED IN CONGRESS.

AFTER STANDARD OIL.

Congressman Fitzgerald Starts the Fight Under the Sherman Anti-Combine Law.

Washington, D. C., March 26.—Representative Fitzgerald of Massachusetts prodded the Standard Oil company with this resolution:

"Whereas, It appears as a matter of public record that the Standard Oil company paid in the City of New York, on March 15, 1906, the sum of \$17,000,000, this amount being an extra dividend, in addition to the regular quarterly dividend paid by this corporation; and

"Whereas, It is a matter of public record that this last dividend is \$5,000,000 in excess of the last quarterly dividend paid by this corporation; and

"Whereas, It is also a matter of public record that the price of kerosene oil, the sole means of lighting used by the middle and poorer classes of people, during the period of time between the declaration of these dividends, was increased 3 cents per gallon, constituting a tax on every home in the land; therefore, be it

"Resolved, That, in the opinion of congress, this action of the Standard Oil company is in direct violation of the Sherman anti-trust law, and, therefore, punishable by fine and imprisonment, and the attorney general is hereby instructed, in accordance with the provisions of that act, to direct the several district attorneys of the United States, in their respective districts, to institute proceedings to bring the above named violators of law to justice."

"I shall endeavor to have this resolution passed," said Mr. Fitzgerald. "I have personal knowledge of the advance made in the price of kerosene oil by the trust, and as it is a tax on the majority of the people, congress should take some action to have it stopped. I am not actuated by a desire to obtain campaign material."

The republicans are beginning to realize the importance of the trust issue in the coming campaign. Representative Ray, chairman of the Judiciary committee, said: "Existing laws are practically of no avail, because of the ease with which they are evaded. The people of this country need protection from the enormous combinations, but the remedy exists only in a constitutional amendment."

A resolution will be introduced in the senate directing the president of the senate to appoint a committee to investigate the reports that certain senators are directly connected with and pecuniarily interested in trusts. The resolution will be drafted by a democrat and presented by a republican.

WAR TALK IN THE FAR EAST.

Japan Said to Be On the Verge of War With Russia.

Yokohama, Japan, Feb. 23, via Victoria, B. C., March 26.—The persistency with which the western press clings to the imminence of war between Russia and Japan is attracting much attention here. Thus far there has seemed to be no foundation whatsoever for the rumor. The fact which now impresses the public is the arrival of representatives of some of the prominent New York papers. They have been sent for the express purpose of being on the spot when the outbreak comes. This, together with the activity prevailing in the Russian squadron in eastern waters, assembling in force as it is the Korean straits, and the reports constantly coming in of extraordinary doings at Port Arthur, have at last forced the conviction that where there is so much smoke there must be some fire and the people and press are correspondingly on the qui vive.

In official circles, however, the utmost calm is manifest, while everybody else is wondering what it all means. In the meantime one of the Chinese papers actually propounds the theory that Japan will be likely to take the opportunity furnished by the approaching naval maneuvers in the Korean straits to strike a sudden blow at Russia.

Maud S. is Dead.

New York, March 26.—Maud S., the famous trotter, died at Schults farm, Port Chester, N. Y., Saturday morning. She was brought to the farm from New York a week ago and it was intended to use her for breeding purposes. She was sick when she arrived here and had been under the care of a veterinary surgeon. She gradually became worse, however, and efforts to save the life of the famous animal were without avail. Maud S. was owned by the Robert Bonner estate and was 25 years old. Her trotting record was 2:08 3-4, made in 1885.

Banker Sentenced to Prison.

Chicago, March 26.—George L. Magill, former president of the Avenue Savings bank, which collapsed in August, 1898, has been convicted of receiving deposits, knowing his institution was in an insolvent condition, and sentenced to the penitentiary for an indefinite term. He was also fined double the amount of the deposits received, the fine amounting to \$2,928. The usual motion for a new trial was made and will be argued later.

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TRUSTS IN GREAT BRITAIN.

There is No Agitation Against the Various Combinations.

Washington, D. C., March 26.—In a report to the state department Consul Hatstead at Birmingham, England, says that trusts are created there without attracting public attention or creating alarm, and, although no trouble is taken to keep the fact from the public, it is extremely rare that a voice is raised against such combinations. These remarks are based on the recent formation of a wall paper trust, with a capital of nearly \$20,000,000. Dealers are expected to buy all their stock of this company for a period of about ten years, but latitude is allowed within fixed limits to certain dealers whose trade actually requires them to use a certain amount of foreign made paper. In such cases, however, the dealer is held to a limited number of designs and must purchase them through the combination.

Consul Wilbour at Dublin, in discussing the same matter in a report to the department, says that in order for American wall paper manufacturers to compete, it would seem to be necessary for the American makers to reach some agreement with the combination. He says there is a class of paper made in the United States which is imitated in Great Britain and Germany, but is not so good. These papers are in gloss or satin finish, and can be sold at reasonable prices, while the imitations cost very much more.

A DAMAGE SUIT COMBINE.

Syndicate Formed To Commence Fraudulent Suits.

Chicago, Ill., March 26.—It is said that the grand jury which was sworn in yesterday will investigate a syndicate that is charged with being organized for defrauding the city of Chicago and many railroad corporations by fraudulent damage suits. It is said that the evidence gathered by City Attorney Ryan against a dozen or more persons interested in this combination is so direct and positive that indictments are sure to follow. The evidence of a conspiracy is so plain, it is declared, that it will take less than an hour to present the case to the grand jury and several indictments are expected on charges of conspiracy to defraud, perjury and obtaining money by false pretenses. On the list of defendants in the charges which have been made are the names of twelve individuals who have filed damage suits against the city of Chicago, street railway companies or railroad corporations.

One attorney is said to have been instrumental in filing nearly all the suits and nearly all of the plaintiffs have lived or do now live at the same street number. The suits filed by these plaintiffs asked for damages amounting to a total of over \$200,000.

TRIED TO SHOOT AN EDITOR.

The Culbertson Era Editor Has a Narrow Escape.

Culbertson, Neb., March 26.—About midnight Friday night a desperate attempt was made to shoot Ira Cole, editor of the Era of this place. Cole was sitting near a gas lamp in the private office of his establishment. The offices are in a basement. The editor was reading and smoking a cigar. Suddenly two shots were fired through the curtains from the sidewalk. The first shot tore through the book being read, while the second was evidently fired at the shadow of the editor as he rose in alarm at the first shot. The bullet which struck the book glanced up and struck the office wall. The second shot struck about two feet from the floor, near the former shot.

Cole grabbed a pistol and opened the door in time to fire at the fleeing man. Cole terms the Era "a hot paper in a hot town," and announces: "If you don't want to get excited, don't read it." He is aggressive and has been a factor in political affairs here for some time.

QUEEN NOT WELCOME TO ALL.

Two Irishmen Refuse to Receive Her as Officials.

Dublin, March 26.—John Henry Parnell, M. P., brother of the late Charles Stewart Parnell, is the city marshal of Dublin. In that capacity he has custody of the keys of the city, which will be formally presented to the queen on the occasion of the presentation of the corporation address. Properly it would be Parnell's duty to present the keys, but he has notified the Lord Mayor that he must provide a deputy.

The bearer of the civic sword of Dublin is James F. Egan, who was released from prison four years ago, to which he had been sentenced for life for alleged complicity in a dynamite plot, but as he asserts that he was really a victim of the agents of the British government and he, also, has demanded relief from duty at the royal ceremonies.

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A TURMOIL.

TOPEKA CAPITAL SANCTUM IS DIVIDED AGAINST ITSELF.

AS JESUS WOULD EDIT

The Chief Owner Would Continue To Run It After the Style of Rev. Sheldon.

Topeka, Kan., March 26.—With the retirement of Rev. Charles M. Sheldon from the editorial management of the Topeka Capital as a Christian daily a big row is on in the directorate of the Capital company over the future conduct of the paper. Part of the owners wish to continue it on the lines mapped out by Mr. Sheldon, while others threaten legal proceedings if any attempt is made to conduct it as a purely Christian newspaper.

F. O. Popenoe, president of the Capital company, announced that the paper would be continued as a Christian daily newspaper on the general lines placed by Mr. Sheldon, except that it would print more news than the paper has contained under Mr. Sheldon's management.

In order to carry out this arrangement A. C. Baize, a Chicago newspaper man, one of the dozen special correspondents who have been in Topeka writing up Sheldon's work, has purchased stock in the Capital company since coming to Topeka, and Popenoe stated that he will be managing editor in the future.

BUSINESS MANAGER "KICKS."

Mr. Popenoe's announcement aroused the indignation of General J. K. Hudson, the veteran editor of the Capital and pioneer newspaper man of Kansas, who gave up his desk temporarily to Mr. Sheldon, and Dell Keiser, business manager of the paper, and the company seems to be in a fair way to be disrupted.

"The proposition is absurd," declared Mr. Keiser when he read the announcement. "There has been no meeting of the stockholders and Popenoe has no authority to make such a statement without consulting the other owners. It would be impossible to run a paper as a Christian daily with our present contracts and if any attempt is made to force it I will bring legal proceedings to prevent it. Besides, General Hudson would not edit such a paper. We will hold a meeting of the stockholders, and then will see about this matter."

EDITOR HUDSON WON'T HAVE IT.

General Hudson declares that he will not run a paper as indicated by Mr. Popenoe, and neither will he give up his editorial chair without a struggle. "I have never been in sympathy with the idea of a religious daily newspaper," he declared, "and I have said so editorially."

"The paper that I edit will be for sinners as well as saints. I would not more edit a Christian newspaper than I would edit a democratic or populist paper. More than that, any attempt to dislodge me from my position will not be successful, for I have a contract to run the paper for a term of years at \$5,000 per year, and I propose to run it as I see fit."

BUT POPENOE RULES.

Hudson owns no stock in the paper and his only hold is his contract. Keiser owns only a small portion of the stock, while Popenoe not only has a controlling interest in his own name, but he is backed by all other stockholders except Keiser.

The Capital has been the republican organ of Kansas for twenty years, and Hudson has been its editor continuously, with the exception of two years, during part of which time he served in the Spanish-American war. He resumed control of the paper a year ago and has been using it to overthrow Cyrus Leland, the present republican national committeeman from Kansas.

Popenoe announces that his Christian daily will not be partisan and will engage in no political fights. Hudson fears this will take his power from him, and for that reason is fighting the change. It is the opinion here that Popenoe has the power to force Hudson out and that he will do so.

Mr. Sheldon is taking no part in the controversy. He concluded his week's work Saturday night by publishing a Saturday night edition in place of the regular Sunday morning issue. Three pages were filled with quotations from the bible on different subjects. The fourth page gave a history of the bible and the balance of the page was advertising.

Bishop Potter Returns.

New York, March 26.—Bishop Henry C. Potter arrived Saturday on the Campania from Liverpool. Speaking of the conditions of the Philippines, which islands he visited in his absence from home, he said that on the whole they were satisfactory. The war in the Philippines he believed to be practically over. He paid a strong tribute to the American soldiery. Bishop Potter said he went to the Philippines on an ecclesiastical mission and added that some advance had been made toward the establishment of an Episcopal church in the Philippines.

The Northern Pacific has finished laying rails on the Clearwater short line, thus completing sixty-three miles of new road.

No damage is reported from North Mississippi, Arkansas and Western Tennessee from the cold weather. The weather has moderated.

MIDDLE OF THE ROADERS OUSTED.

Douglas County Pops Do a Good Job in Omaha.

Omaha, Neb., March 26.—The populists of Douglas county did good work in Omaha Saturday. Led by the fearless, brainy and nervy Elmer E. Thomas, the middle-of-the-roads were routed bag and baggage.

It was a county convention fight, the middle-of-the-roads led by D. Clem Deaver, who are now openly arrayed against the whole people's party organization from precinct up to the national committee, took advantage of the technicality of the law and shamelessly participated in the populist primaries. Fine hacks with prancing horses were flying around populist primaries for the first time in the history of the party. They all belonged to Deaver. Money appeared to be plentiful, and it was given out right and left that "all expenses of delegates to Cincinnati" are provided for. The primaries were overrun by the riff-raff gathered around town, and in that manner succeeded in electing delegates to the county convention.

However, the populists were in the majority, and passed the following resolutions, which let their fellow populists elsewhere know where they stand:

PLATFORM ANNOUNCED.

"We, the people's independent party of Douglas county, in convention assembled, indorse the people's independent party platform adopted in St. Louis, Mo., 1896. We favor uniting with all parties on the cardinal principles of that platform and promise to do all in our power to promote the success of such principles by fusion with the other parties who hold those principles dear. We register our vote in opposition to all modern tyrodism and modern imperialism as tending toward the violation of the sacred principles enumerated in the Declaration of Independence and guaranteed by the constitution of the United States as inimical to the sacred rights of the people of the states."

"We believe that the issues for which the people's independent party stands are dependent on the election of W. J. Bryan to the presidency in 1906."

"We recommend that the delegates to the state convention to be held in the city of Lincoln, March 15, 1906, be instructed to select delegates to the national convention of the people's independent party who are pledged to work for W. J. Bryan for president in 1906 and Judge Caldwell for vice president."

"It is the sense of this convention that the national convention of the people's independent party is the convention regularly called by the national committee of the people's independent party to meet at Sioux Falls, S. D., May 9, 1906."

"We denounce the action of the individuals who illegally attempted to secure control of the national committee of the people's independent party recently held at Lincoln, Neb., who by their action evinced a desire to destroy the people's independent party of the United States. We also believe that there is an organized effort on the part of the republican managers of this state to spread dissension among the voters of the people's independent party by corrupt measures, and we pledge ourselves to use every means within our power to present a united front to the common enemy."

YEISER'S AMBITION.

Before the middle-of-the-roads left the hall the John O. Yeiser boom for governor was sprung. From this crowd Mr. Yeiser received enthusiastic support. Mr. Yeiser asked the right to name the 105 Douglas county delegates to the state nominating convention, which is not yet called. It was explained by his friends that Mr. Yeiser had stood in with all sides in this fight, that he had remained neutral and that the giving him the right to name the Douglas county delegates would widely advertise his candidacy all over the state, and when the smaller counties out in the state saw that Mr. Yeiser had the solid big Douglas county convention, that county after county would instruct their delegates for him.

A protest was made against turning the delegation over to Mr. Yeiser, because the one-man power was unpopulist, and for the further reason that the present convention had not been called for the purpose of selecting delegates to the state nominating convention, and therefore could not turn over to Mr. Yeiser a power which the convention did not have, and that when a county convention was called for the purpose of selecting a set of delegates to the state nominating convention all this business would have to be done over again. However, the vote was taken, and Mr. Yeiser was given the right to name his 105 men.

The convention then proceeded to select delegates to the state convention called for the purpose of selecting delegates to the national people's party convention at Sioux Falls. Notwithstanding the adoption of the above resolutions, the middle-of-the-roads fought like wolves to get on the delegation. Elmer E. Thomas struck the final blow by putting through a motion which compelled each and every individual to show his hand before he could be selected as delegate. This good generalship whipped them to a finish, and they left the hall yelling, "This way for Cincinnati!" and went out to a hall which they had previously hired and held a meeting of their own.

They endorsed Yeiser's candidacy for governor, selected a set of delegates and declared themselves to be the only pebbles on the beach.

A reception will be tendered General Luke E. Wright, the southern member of the new Philippine commission, at the Peabody hotel by the citizens of Memphis.