

LAST DAYS OF CONGRESS

How the Vote on the Repeal Bill Was Brought About.

A FEW COURTESIES EXCHANGED.

The End of The Beginning as Related By an Eye-Witness—A Dis-graceful Farce.

A BRIEF REVIEW.

(Crowded out from Last Week.)

Two weeks ago, the silver men were masters of the situation. The repealers seeing no prospect for a vote had determined to employ the only method known to the senate for forcing a measure to a vote—a continuous session. They had little hope of success, but they tried it. On the evening of October 11, the "test of physical endurance" began with Senator Allen on the floor. How well equipped and how fully prepared he was for such a test, the result showed. For nearly fifteen hours he held the floor never flagging, never appearing to grow weary. The ablest and most cunning debaters of the opposition exhausted every means in their power to confuse him, to entrap him, to break down his argument. But they failed completely. For every question he had an answer, and he knocked down their arguments as fast as they could set them up. Eight o'clock the next morning found him still pouring forth a stream of unanswerable logic, apparently as fresh as when he began. At that hour, although not nearly through with his speech, he gave way to Senator Martin of Kansas who held the floor all day Wednesday. But I need not go farther into details. Such a fight could have but one ending and that soon came. Calls for a quorum became more frequent. The number of senators who responded became smaller and smaller, until finally no quorum responded and none could be secured. Then the repealers were forced to acknowledge themselves defeated and Voorhees, their leader, moved to adjourn.

After this there was a brief lull in the battle. It was generally conceded that the repeal bill would never pass. After the lull, there was a period of four days occupied in a confused running fight in which the amendment of the rules and the correction of the journals were the topics of discussion. The silver men defended their rights of obstruction, and the repealers threatened to ride rough-shod over their opponents and pass the bill regardless of rules. High temper and great bitterness were displayed especially by Democrats of the opposing factions. Many hot words were uttered, and several times senatorial courtesy crept under the desks to escape total demolition. Finally John Sherman arose and taunted the democratic majority with its failure to accomplish anything, in a way that stung the members of that party. The Democratic silver men then began strenuously urging a caucus. The administration wing refused to enter a caucus but compromise talk soon became the order of the day. A compromise was arranged between the Democratic factions which was little better than a complete surrender on the part of the silver men. It provided for repeal of the purchase clause to take effect in one year, and for the coinage of all silver bullion in the treasury. This it was understood Cleveland would accept. Thirty-seven out of forty-four democratic senators signed it, but seven of the repealers refused. The silver Democrats had made a political blunder. They had shown miserable weakness. Grover Cleveland saw his advantage, and promptly seized it. Word came from the White House that no compromise would be approved. Then there was swearing and "gnashing of teeth" among Democrats. The silver men declared they had been entrapped and betrayed, but the administration leaders smiled. Although the silver Democrats talked louder than ever, and declared they would filibuster "till the infernal regions were converted into a skating pond," their courage collapsed as soon as put to the test. The silver Republicans and Populists, realizing that the Democrats were no longer to be depended on, gave them to understand that they might take the lead in the fight from this on. In ten minutes after this word was given out the Democrats wilted completely and the great contest was over. The real friends of silver preferred to have repeal outright rather than a worthless compromise, for the issue is squarely joined, and can be appealed to the people.

S. EDWIN THORNTON.

Closer Commercial Relations.

Similarity of environment tends to produce similarity of character. One travels in the Northwest is at once struck with the fact that the difference between the Canadian and American relations in the Northwest is vastly less than between those populations in that. Nothing but an imaginary imaginary line separates the territory of two nations. The conditions are so similar and the people rapidly assimilating that their interests are to a great extent identical. Owing allegiance, to different governments, yet they are controlled by com-

mon commercial conditions. This feeling has been given something more than abstract recognition. Conventions to promote closer trade relations have already been held at Grand Forks and St. Paul, which were attended by men of all political parties from both sides of the international boundary line. The third convention was to have assembled in Duluth last month (October), but it was deemed wise to postpone it for a time, owing to the probability of a small attendance on account of the financial depression. But it has only been postponed, not abandoned. There is a deep-seated and abiding conviction in the minds of men of the Northwest that it would be to their mutual interest to trade more freely together. Future conventions will carry forward the work that has been already begun, and in due time the matter will be pressed upon the attention of the respective governments, until they take the matter up, and the wishes of the Canadian and American Northwest will be granted in so far as the rights of all the people of both nations will permit.

It is a hopeful sign that this purely business question has been taken up in a purely business way, and politics, in the sense of partisanship, has been left entirely out of the consideration. From Mr. S. A. Thompson's article, "Possibilities of the Great Northwest," November Review of Reviews.

Reduction of Gold Output.

Were gold likely to be produced in ample quantities a very moderate yearly output of silver might seem inordinate; but this is far from being the prospect. The world's annual output of gold, already too slight to meet the multiplied demands upon it, will be materially reduced should the silver mines remain inactive. It has been thought that one-third of the gold product of the United States comes from silver mines and must be lost if they close. This is probably an overestimate for the entire country, though not far out of the way for the Rocky Mountain area. Thirty-three per cent. of the gold produced in our country comes from California alone. Very few prominent Colorado mines yield gold only or chiefly. Colorado contributes about 15 per cent. of the United States output of gold, of which at least one half depends at present upon the continuance of silver mining. In time, of course, this will change somewhat. Already many miners hitherto engaged in extracting silver are turning their attention to placer gold mines. They will produce but little this year, as the season is too far advanced for the necessary water to be available; and the amount from this source can never be great since most of these placers are already worked out. From President E. Benjamin Andrieu's article, "The Future of Silver Production," November Review of Reviews.

The New Nomenclature.

"Mr. What's-his-name, the new minister to Italy, is well qualified for the position. He is rated at \$12,000,000. That's a good idea. Family names were largely accidents. The son of John became Johnson. The son of Peter, Peterson, etc. Or a man is called "Brown," or "Black," or "White," or "Tawney," or "Gray," or "Long" or "Short" or "Stout," because of the physical peculiarities of some remote ancestor. But those names throw no light on the real man of today.—Mr. "Black" may be red haired; Mr. "White" may be black-haired; Mr. "Long" may be short-legged and Mr. "Short" may be long-legged. But money! Ah! there's rub! It is what a man is worth, not what he is, that determines his position. For instance,—"Mr. Twelve Millions" is fit to go as minister to Italy; or to become U. S. Senator. But Mr. Two-dollars-and-a-half would convey the evidence of his mental and social inferiority in his very name; there would be no use of bothering one's head any further about him. He is rated—p—scribed—set down. Imagine a public meeting. The chair says "Mr. Twenty Millions has the floor." How the audience would hang with devout and rapt attention on his every utterance, even though they knew he had stolen every dollar of his fortune. And then imagine "Mr. Thirty Seven Cents" rising to reply to him! How the crowd would cough and shuffle and laugh and sneer and break for the door. The poor devil might have the wisdom of the bare-footed Socrates and the honesty of the bare-headed Diogenes, but, in the vernacular,—he would not be in it. By all means let us have the new nomenclature. It would simplify things. It would be an official recognition of existing conditions.

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Allies Ownership of Land.

One of the demands of the Alliance is that alien ownership of land should be prohibited. Perhaps we have not seen the importance of this demand as we think we have some others. The subject is worth our most serious and earnest consideration. We do not propose here and now to enter into an exhaustive discussion of the question, but simply to call your attention to the report made to the Fifty-first congress by the judiciary committee, which had been instructed to investigate and report to that body the extent of alien ownership of land in this country. In this report, No. 2,388, first session of the Fifty-first congress, we find the following:

Your committee has ascertained with reasonable certainty that certain noblemen—principally Englishmen—have acquired and now own in the aggregate about 21,000,000 acres of land within the United States.

Now, mark you, these are English noblemen, and they have acquired the land, and it is in large bodies.

The report says further:

We have not sufficient information to state the quantity owned by untitled aliens, nor is this so important, as it is generally held in smaller bodies. This alien non-resident ownership will, in the course of time, lead to a system of landlordism incompatible with the best interests and free institutions of the United States. The foundation of such a system is being laid broadly in the western states and territories. A considerable number of immigrants annually arriving in this country are to become tenants and herdsmen on the vast possessions of these foreign lords under contracts made and entered into before they sail for our shores.

The avarice and enterprise of European capitalists have caused them to invest in American railroads and land bonds, covering perhaps 100,000,000 acres, the great part of which, under foreclosure sale, will most likely before many years become the property of those foreign bondholders in addition to their present princely possessions. It is thus manifest that if the present large alien ownership is an evil, of which we have no doubt, the probabilities of the near future will still more imperatively demand legislation for its prevention. This aggressive foreign capital is not confined to lands it has purchased, but overlapping its boundaries has caused hundreds of miles of public domain to be fenced up for the grazing of vast herds of cattle, and set at defiance the rights of the honest but humble settler.

The committee cites an instance in which Mr. Scully, a subject of the queen and residing in England, owns 90,000 acres of land in Illinois, tenanted by ignorant foreigners from whom he receives \$20,000 per annum and expends it in England; and another instance, the Schuylers estate in Pennsylvania from which they draw annual rentals of not less than \$100,000, and says, "no other nation in the world allows subjects of other governments to acquire such possessions within its jurisdiction." We present these extracts from this report to show that those who are in power now know full well what is going on. They see the danger and cannot shrink it. This report was made by Mr. Oates, of Alabama, and he closes it with these words, which are as true as gospel:

With the natural increase of population and the 500,000 foreigners who flock to our shores annually and by competition are reducing the wages of labor, the battle of life is made harder to win. How, a few years hence, to provide homes for our poor people is a problem for the American statesmen to solve. The multiplication of the owners of the soil is a corresponding enlargement of the number of patriots, and every landlord in this country should owe allegiance to the United States.

Now, we wish our people to see and to know that the party now in power sees and knows, and fully comprehends the meaning of this and other demands we make, and we wish the people to keep an eye on them and see if they will show themselves patriots enough to grapple with these questions and formulate them into laws. The American farmer and mechanic are not going to wait patiently until after the next congressional election, and then vote for the present incumbent unless he proves himself worthy, and he can only show this by earnest, persistent, honest work for needed reform.—Progressive Farmer.

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STATE NEWS.

Interesting Items Regarding Nebraska and Nebraska People.

The Nebraska Baptists were in session at Lincoln last week.

Work on the new county line bridge near Crowell is progressing rapidly.

A great revival of religion is in progress at Harvard, under the direction of evangelists.

The directors of the Kearney cotton mill have decided to increase the capacity of the plant.

A resident of Bloomfield shot and killed a wolf on one of the main streets of that village the other day.

Thieves went through the stables of R. C. Golden near Nebraska City and stole every bit of harness in the building.

Dick Thompson, a well known Ne-braskan who was recently sent to the asylum for the insane, is reported to be improving.

The Salvation army in all its glory holds forth nightly in Lincoln, trying, with hearty endeavor, to pluck brands from the burning.

The Catholics of Atkinson are holding a fair to raise funds to repair their church, which was caught in a cyclone last summer.

Robert M. Peyton, president of the State bank of Creighton, contracted typhoid fever at the World's fair and is now seriously ill at his home.

Two children of Mr. and Mrs. J. M. Hollandsworth of Gibbon have succumbed to typhoid fever and their father is lying at the point of death.

Dr. Von Mansfeldt and wife, of Ashland, celebrated their silver wedding anniversary and over 200 guests were present on the occasion to participate in the festivities.

Fairfield officers raided the place of business of J. T. Rossiter and discovered a quantity of liquor. Rossiter is out on bail on the charge of selling whisky without a license.

Mrs. Ada Ramaly of North Bend was found dead in her bed one day last week, at the home of George Dodge. It is supposed to be a suicide and family trouble the cause.

Hold on to your hay is the advice of many. And it is good advice. Hay already a scarce article, is constantly increasing in value owing to destructive prairie fires that are burning up hundreds of tons.

Two spans of the B. & M. bridge near Orepolis were destroyed by fire which started from a spark from an engine. Seventy-five men were put to work at once and a temporary structure was soon erected.

Burglars attempted to rob the store of Mr. Larten, at Cheyney, and found a clerk named Houston, who slept in the store ready to receive them. He did fire several shots but unhappily his aim was like the burglars—bad.

The new weekly paper in the interests of the western youths will soon make its appearance from Lincoln, Neb. A request is all that is necessary to secure a sample copy. Every boy and girl in the west will want to see it. Wonder what its name will be? Write the Capital Publishing Co., Lincoln, Neb.

One day last week some miscreant attempted to burn a vacant house on Pine street in Lincoln, belonging to H. T. Clarke, but the fire department managed to save the building with but little loss. A day or so afterwards he again fired it and this time made a success of his endeavor, the building being burned so badly it will have to be razed.

The Grand Army post at Shubert gave a baked bean and hard tack supper at McGee's opera house one day last week and a first-class time was had. Mayor Pond, one of the members of the committee on arrangements, had the distinguished honor of participating in the capture of Jeff Davis after the war was over, and his reminiscences would fill a volume with interesting matter.

A youngster named Freddie Brown found the body of a male infant wrapped up in a cloth under a culvert over the draw near Fourth & J streets, Lincoln, last Tuesday evening. The boy was playing about there when he ran across the cadaver. There was nothing to indicate who had committed the crime, and by direction of Chief Cooper and Coroner Crim it was buried in the vicinity. It was a fetus probably about six months old.

The Burlington express leaving Plattsmouth Monday night struck an open switch about a mile east of the Missouri river bridge. The engineer reversed his engine, but owing to the steep incline of the switch he could not stop. The engine ran to the end of the switch and jumped off and turned over in the ditch. The baggage car turned across the track just as the rest of the cars stopped. No one was injured and not much damage done except to the engine.

Mayor Weir of Lincoln vetoed an ordinance allowing sacred concerts, the main object of which was to hold the Nebraska state band together and now he has a rumpus on his hands with the manager of the band. The best element of the city is with the mayor, as they recognize such a step as one toward open theatres on the Sabbath. The good intentions of the Mayor, however, were overruled by the council, for they passed the ordinance over the veto.

Waverly would have been treated to a fire on Monday last and of no mere dimensions had it not been noticed just in the nick of time by Dr. McCandles, as he was passing the rear end of the house. His attention was drawn to the smoke and at a glance saw the flames rapidly running up the siding. He at once took in the situation and the flames were extinguished. Had he been five minutes later at the rate the wind was blowing, at such a rate, it would have burned the entire block. He thinks it must have caught from sparks from the chimney.

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See our New Pattern Hats.

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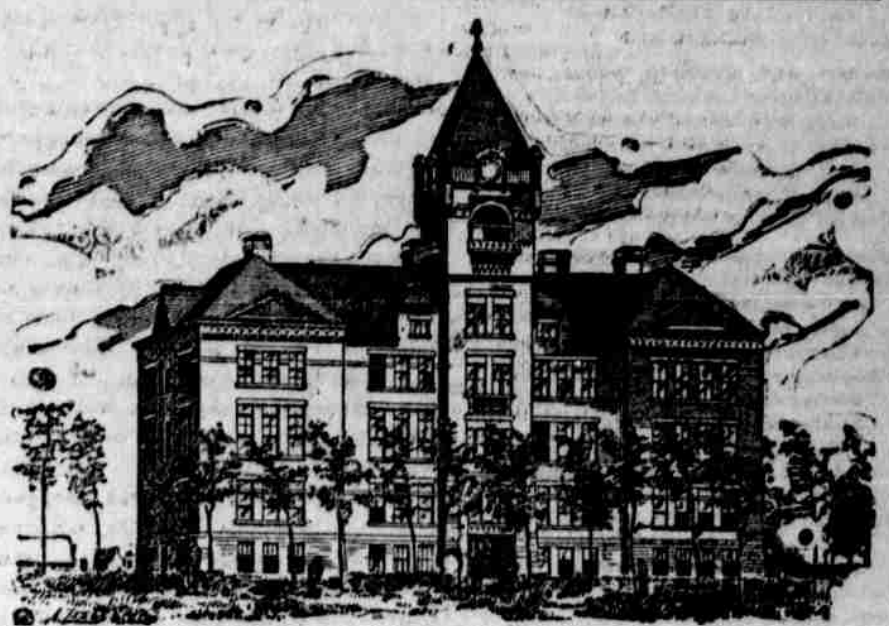
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Missouri Pacific are offering the very lowest rates for round trip tickets to the World's Fair, good for return until November 15, 1893. A so have placed on sale summer tourist tickets at the usual low rates as can be verified by calling at office 1201 O street, Lincoln, Neb., J. E. MILLER, C. T. A. or H. C. TOWNSEND, G. P. & T. A. St. Louis, Mo.