

Washington News.

Major E. J. Rathbone has appealed to the senate for a review of his case to investigate the circumstances under which he was convicted of Cuban frauds.

Brevet Major General Thomas O. Osborne, former United States minister to the Argentine Republic, died of apoplexy.

Mrs. Cornelia Grinnell Willis, widow of the author, N. P. Willis, is dead, aged 80 years.

A Washington dispatch to the New York World says: President Roosevelt has been requested by senators to withdraw the nomination of Captain Albert L. Mills, superintendent of the military academy, to be brigadier general, but has refused. This officer was jumped over 857 superiors. Senator Proctor, acting chairman of the military affairs committee, is among those who would like to see the nomination withdrawn. Mr. Roosevelt campaigned with Captain Mills in Cuba. The promotion was recommended by Secretary Root and General Chaffee. Fred C. Ainsworth will become a major general and be placed in charge of the military records. The conferees on the army appropriation bill have reached an agreement to this effect. General Ainsworth entered the army as a surgeon eight years later than Leonard Wood. He will now equal General Wood in rank. He was advanced to colonel and brigadier general by special acts of congress. There may be some trifling opposition to the confirmation of General Ainsworth.

Speaking in the house, Representative Gillette of Massachusetts replied to a speech delivered by Representative Spright of Mississippi on the race question. Mr. Gillette defended Mr. Roosevelt for inviting Booker T. Washington to dine with him. He said the president was a man of big heart as well as birth, breeding and cultivation. Mr. Reeder of Kansas spoke in defense of Mr. Washington, and he caused surprise when he said there is not a person in his section who would not feel it an honor to invite Booker T. Washington to his table.

The senate discussed the pension order making old age an evidence of disability. Mr. Carmack introduced a resolution directing the judiciary committee to inquire into the authority of the executive branch of the government to make such an order. Addressing the senate, Mr. Carmack contended that no such authority exists. He characterized the order as a piece of executive legislation, and criticized it as "another instance of executive encroachment upon the prerogatives of congress." Several senators argued that the order was in line with the regulation issued by Judge Lochren, commissioner of pensions under Mr. Cleveland, fixing 65 years of age as an evidence of infirmity.

On March 28 Representative Champ Clarke of Missouri delivered a speech in the house in which he said that the democratic position on reciprocity had been set forth by Mr. Williams, the

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minority leader. Mr. Clarke quoted the statement as follows: "The democratic party believes that when on any articles that go to Cuba or any other people on the surface of the earth you get an agreement to reduce the burdens to their consumers by reducing the duties in their markets, you have conferred a benefit upon their consumers and also on the American producer, because you enable the consumer in Cuba or elsewhere in any country entering into these reciprocal relations to get the product at a cheaper price. That enables them to buy more of our product, and that increases the volume of consumption of American products and benefits the American producer by enabling him to sell more goods at the old profit, and thus both parties to the trade are benefited."

Referring to Mr. Clarke's speech, the Washington correspondent for the Chicago Record-Herald says: He insisted that there is no free trade party in the United States, saying: "Whenever our standpat friends get into a hole they resurrect the bogymen of free trade and hold him in terror over the heads of the American people. Nobody knows better than they do that there is no free trade party in the United States and they ought to quit asserting that there is. We can all be honest, even if we can't be great." He quoted at length the democratic position as outlined by Mr. Williams, the position taken being that "tariff for revenue only" was the doctrine of the party. He then drew a line of demarkation between the tariff ideas of the two parties, and dwelt at some length on the "standpat" declaration of the republicans. He called attention to the dissenting element of that party, which, he said, marched under the banner of the "Iowa idea," and inferentially he classed this element as democrats. He predicted the renomination of President Roosevelt, and conceded that the republicans "may be able, by hook and by crook, to get together for this election," but said that there would be a "sloughing off" of the party which would amount to a split in the near future. The reciprocity speech of Representative Dalzell, delivered in the house recently, was given considerable attention by Mr. Clark. The keynote of that speech, he declared to be this sentence: "Republican reciprocity is reciprocity in non-competing articles, and in nothing else." This doctrine, he said, differed very widely from McKinley reciprocity, the foundation principle of which was expressed by President McKinley at Buffalo in these words: "We must not repose in fancied security that we can forever sell everything and buy little or nothing." President Roosevelt had indorsed this McKinley idea of reciprocity, Mr. Clark asserted, by sending to the senate an extension of time for the ratification of the reciprocity treaty negotiated with France under the direction of President McKinley. This treaty contained scores and scores of articles produced in France and Algeria and also in the United States on which a reduction of the tariff was provided for. The speaker continued: "If republican reciprocity on February 29, 1904, the day on which the gentleman from Pennsylvania made his speech, was what he declared it to be, then a vast change had come over the republican dream since those two republican presidents sent those treaties to the senate." Mr. Clark recounted the efforts of the minority members of the house to secure a reduction of the tariff on particular articles through the introduction of sep-

arate bills at the present session of congress. Referring to these bills he said: "They are all sleeping the sleep of death in that great mausoleum of tariff reform hopes, the room of the committee on ways and means." The recent efforts of the American Publishers' association to enforce the anti-trust law against the paper trust and its declaration in favor of removing tariff duties on pulp and white paper was discussed. Concerning his own efforts in this direction Mr. Clark said: "The other day, in the committee on ways and means, of which I am a member, I called up my bill to place wood pulp, white paper and the ingredients thereof on the free list. Lo and behold, every democrat in the committee voted for the bill and every republican voted against it. They being in the majority, it was defeated. All the republican members of the American Publishers' association are hereby most cordially and urgently invited to train their guns on Sen. E. Payne, chairman of the ways and means committee, and his ten republican brethren on that committee, and if they do not do so, they should forever hold their peace. The recent declaration of the Minnesota republicans on the tariff question was declared by Mr. Clark to be an endeavor to ride two horses going in opposite directions.

The investigation of the protests against Senator Reed Smoot will be resumed April 12 by the senate committee on privileges and elections. The witnesses will include a number of officials of the Mormon church.

General William H. Payne, counsel for the Southern railway, a distinguished confederate officer, and commander of the famous Black Horse cavalry at the first battle of Bull Run, died aged 73 years.

The senate committee on finance indorsed an amendment to the sundry civil bill, providing for the removal of the limitations as to the coinage of subsidiary silver. The amendment provides "that all limitations as to the amount of subsidiary silver coinage that may be outstanding are hereby removed."

The bill authorizing the erection of an additional executive department building was the subject of spirited debate in the senate and after several hours' debate it remains unacted upon. Senators divided largely on the question of location, but there was also talk as to the necessity of better office accommodations for the senate and the supreme court.

Roast Duck, by Thunder!

An extraordinary effect of lightning is reported from Lake Grandlieu, in the Nantes region. A violent tempest burst over the lake, with vivid lightning and thunder. A number of boats were on the lake, and while they were hurrying to bank there was a tremendous peal of thunder. Almost immediately there fell among the boats the dead bodies of a large flock of wild ducks, some of them roasted to a nicety and some charred to a cinder. Roast duck cooked by lightning reads like a novelty, even in the freaks of meteorology. If it could only be adapted to the "quick lunch" system! —New York Tribune.

Why War Was Declared.

Professor McGhee declares that the Japanese brain is larger in proportion to the body than that of any other race. "His head is mesaticephalic for the most part, with a tendency to brachycephaly in the gross types, and dolichocephaly in the fine type." If the Russians have anything that

looks more like an explosion of the alphabet than that, we want to know it.—Washington Post.

Further Investigation Needed.

The conditions so far disclosed in the departments warrant the suspicion that a thorough investigation of the other bureaus of the postoffice department would disclose other irregularities. The republicans excuse the suppression of such an investigation on the ground that it would afford an opportunity for sensational reports and prove susceptible of great partisan bias. Not unless irregularities were discovered. Does anybody imagine that such strenuous efforts would have been made to prevent the investigation by its own congressional committee if the party leaders and administration had not been fearful of damaging disclosures?—Buffalo Times.

Not a Winning Speculation.

It is hinted that the census will show that thus far it is practically impossible to induce American capital to invest in Philippine agricultural enterprises, and as the natives have neither capital nor industry progress must be slow, with the prospect of the cost to us in maintaining our hold on the islands annually outrunning the amount we make out of them as a market. So as a money-making proposition if we should stop "putting up" for the Philippines and buy annually all that we shall sell there and make a gift of the goods to the islanders we should be the gainer.—Indianapolis News.

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