

was doing his best day by day to serve his country.

Coupled with these displays of presidential weakness comes the word that there is a well-organized movement among republican leaders to force Colonel Roosevelt to again become a presidential candidate. The report that he wired to Mr. Pinchot to meet him at Paris, and Pinchot's departure five days ago; the overthrow of Cannon; the wider and deeper chasms in republican harmony that are developing from day to day; all capped by Foss, democrat, carrying for congress the republican Gibraltar of Massachusetts, have created a stampede for Roosevelt that it looks now nothing can stop unless it be Roosevelt himself.

Will he stop it?

That will not be learned, so far as Colonel Roosevelt's utterances will solve the riddle, until he is on the briny ocean and more than likely not until several days after he reaches New York.—Washington dispatch to the Denver Times.

NOW FOR LODGE'S SEAT

Special dispatch to the Denver Times from Boston, Mass.—Stunned over the realization of the complete defeat of their candidate, republican leaders are trying today to figure out just what the result in the Fourteenth congressional district means. The election of E. N. Foss, republican, running as a democrat, and the overturning of the strongest republican district in Massachusetts, is a direct reflection of the feeling of the people toward the insurgent movement, according to democrats and republicans alike. The inevitable result will be a fight to a finish for the toga of Senator Lodge. Lodge will be a candidate for re-election when the next legislature assembles. To insure his election, the organization must nominate reactionary candidates for the legislature. The democrats and the progressives are likely to combine, and today there is a disposition to start a boom for Foss as Lodge's successor.

WHAT NEW YORK LEGISLATION COSTS

George Seward, president of the Fidelity and Casualty company, appeared before the New York legislative investigating committee. He said that for years insurance and casualty committees had been held up by boodle bills introduced into the legislature. The Associated Press gives the following report of Mr. Seward's testimony:

Mr. Seward told of an attempt to force him to pay \$10,000 for killing a bill adversely affecting casualty companies.

"A man named Brown," he said, "telegraphed to me from Sing Sing that he wanted to see me. I went in response and saw Brown at Sing Sing prison.

"This man Brown said to me:

"Tim Sullivan will put this bill off for \$10,000."

"What did you say?"

"I told him I would give my reply as a telegram to Mr. Sullivan. My reply was: 'Mr. Seward says you can go to —.'"

Mr. Seward testified that "Tim Sullivan" who a man named Brown has represented "would put off" the bill for \$10,000 was "Big Tim Sullivan."

"You mean 'Big' Tim Sullivan, the present senator?" asked Mr. Hotchkiss.

"'Big Tim,' he said.

"I didn't know there was any other. He was persistently active."

"GONE TO SMASH"

Representative Foelker of New York, republican, commenting upon the democratic victory in Massachusetts, said: "My state has gone to smash and that's all there is to it. There is no use trying to argue that this election (Massachusetts) has no bearing on the coming congressional election. It proves very conclusively to me that the democrats will carry the house."

VIRTUOUS MOUTHPIECE OF VIRTUOUS PARTY

Speaking of Elijah R. Kennedy, the press dispatches say:

"He was president of the New England Association of Brooklyn, and is one of the cleverest after-dinner speakers in that borough. In political campaigns he has won praise by his fierce oratorical denunciation of democratic corruption, and has always occupied a very high moral plane in his public utterances. He was a warm friend of President Roosevelt."

This is the gentleman who now confesses to having spent \$10,000 in obtaining legislation

wanted by the fire insurance companies. He gave \$500 sums to politicians as "presents" and gave \$5,000 to the republican bosses for "campaign purposes." Splendid citizen, he is, to attack the democratic party!—Editorial in Buffalo, N. Y., Times.

LONGWORTH AGAINST CANNON?

Washington, D. C., March 25.—Nicholas Longworth, son-in-law of Mr. Roosevelt, has broken with the Cannon machine, according to a persistent rumor in republican circles today. Longworth was slated for membership on the new committee on rules. When Tawney took the slate to Cannon for approval before the republican caucus Cannon ordered that Longworth's name be stricken off. The reason is reported to be a statement by Longworth that he thought Cannon had not treated the insurgents fairly. Longworth would not affirm or deny the story today. "I have never had a seat on the footstool about the great throne," he said when questioned.—Associated Press Report.

TOO BUSY TO SEE THE PRESIDENT

Washington, D. C., March 25.—Probably for the first time in history an opportunity for a committee to shake hands with the president has been declined. The Baltimore conference of the M. E. church was to have been received by President Taft tomorrow morning. It was decided that the conference could not spare the time.—Associated Press Report.

IN A NUTSHELL

Editorial in the Chicago Inter-Ocean (rep.): The program of the regulars has been carried out without a hitch. Speaker Cannon and the regulars of the house are to all appearances just as powerful as they were before last week's "revolt"—with this exception: Then they had both the responsibility and the power; now they have the power, with the insurgents bearing the big share of the responsibility, if anything goes wrong.

CANNON FOR RE-ELECTION

Washington dispatch to the St. Louis Globe-Democrat (rep.): That Joseph G. Cannon not only will be a candidate to the next congress, but will also be a candidate for re-election as speaker of the house, is the firm conviction of one of his loyal friends who had a talk with him today.

FIXING THE BLAME

News Item in Washington, D. C. Star: "Say, you," cried a real regular republican, pointing an accusing finger at a genuine untamed democrat on the floor of the house Saturday afternoon just after the excitement was all over. "I know what's the matter. I know why we have been beating each other to death today. I know why we have assaulted the speaker. I know why there's blood on the moon. It's so simple I wonder why somebody didn't think of it before."

"Tell me, little one," demanded the democrat, cupping his hand behind his ear and feigning acute attention.

"Why," gurgled the real regular republican, "this is William Jennings' birthday."

"Discovered," bawled the genuine, untamed, slapping his forehead in well simulated agony. And then, laughing like a couple of kids, they locked arms and chased off in search of a drink.

The republican was right. It was Mr. Bryan's birthday. He is 50 years old.

IN THE EAST, TOO

Chicago dispatch to the Denver Times: That the east as well as the west is dissatisfied with the Aldrich tariff bill is shown not only by the election Tuesday of a democrat to congress by 5,640 majority in a Massachusetts district, which two years ago was republican by 14,250, but by the result of a poll made by the Tribune of republican editors of eastern newspapers.

After the publication of the poll of the western states, which showed an overwhelming disapproval of the Aldrich law and the Cannon speakership by western republican and independent editors, the Tribune sent similar queries to the editors in the east. The answers of the eastern editors were received before the now historic revolt of the insurgents against Speaker Cannon.

The result of the poll now has been carefully compiled and it shows that the opposition to the Aldrich tariff is stronger in New England than in any other section thus tested and that the editors of the Atlantic and eastern states show

a stronger proportionate opposition to the new law than the west. This is the vote:

Aldrich Law—New England

Republicans—For, 39; against, 184; not answering, 157.

Independents—For, 3; against, 57.

Total—For, 42; against, 241.

The following shows the percentage of republican editors for and against the Aldrich law by geographical sections:

Aldrich Law (Republicans)

New England—Against, 82.5 per cent; for, 17.5 per cent.

Eastern states—Against, 74 per cent; for, 26 per cent.

West—Against, 77.1 per cent; for, 22.9 per cent.

South—Against, 62.8 per cent; for, 37.2 per cent.

This is the vote:

Eastern (Atlantic) States

(Excluding New England)

Republicans—For, 142; against, 406; not answering, 497.

Independents—For, 13; against, 142.

Total—For, 155; against, 548.

Total for East

Republicans—For, 181; against, 590; not answering, 654.

Independents—For, 16; against, 199.

Total—For, 197; against, 789.

At the same time the poll was taken on the Aldrich tariff law the Tribune asked the eastern editors whether or not they favored the re-election of Cannon to the speakership. An overwhelming majority of those replying declared "No," and, although events since they sent their answers have done much to settle the question, yet the figures will be of interest.

New England

Republicans—For, 32; against, 205; not answering, 143.

Independents—For, 1; against, 61.

Total—For, 33; against, 266.

Eastern States

(Not including New England)

Republicans—For, 119; against, 465; not answering, 447.

Independents—For, 3; against, 148.

Total—For, 122; against, 613.

Totals for East

Republicans—For, 151; against, 670; not answering, 590.

Independents—For, 4; against, 209.

Total—For, 155; against, 879.

In every eastern state the majority of the editors are recorded against Cannon for speaker. In only two districts in the east, the Second of Rhode Island and the Nineteenth (or Yonkers) district in New York, does a majority of the republican editors go on record in favor of the re-election of Cannon as speaker.

To all subscribers who renew their subscriptions to The Commoner during the month of April we will send the American Homestead one year, without additional charge. The two papers will be sent to different addresses upon request.

Practical Tariff Talks

Mustard is a very common article of table use, very largely used by the masses, and it would seem that a congress bent on a revision downward would include it in those articles upon which the tariff should be reduced. The mustard flour industry was in its infancy in 1862, and a duty of 16 cents a pound was levied thereon. As it grew the tariff was reduced to 14 cents in 1872 and to 10 cents in 1883. Although under this high protection there have been a great many mills built, for twenty-seven years there has been no reduction in the rate. At the last session the request was made that it be reduced to 2½ cents, and figures were presented showing that this would be ample protection. It was not reduced, however. The 10 cent a pound rate is so high that it bars out of the home market all but the finer and more expensive mustards, those which grace the tables of the wealthy.

This rate of duty compels the importer to add the tariff to the cost of his stuff and this price fixes that of the home product, since the American manufacturer need but undersell the importer slightly to capture the bulk of the