THE OMAHA DAILY BEE.

ESTABLISHED JUNE 19, 1871. OMAHA, WEDNESDAY MORNING, DECEMBER 30, 1896. SINGLE COPY FIVE CENTS.

SUGAR MILLS TO START SOON

Weyler Will Permit the Grinding of Cane in Cuba.

CONCESSION TO AMERICAN INTERESTS

Pressure of Wealthy Planters from the United States Secures Permission to Renew the Work of Manufacture.

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HAVANA, Dec. 29.—(New York World Cablegram—Special Telegram.)—Permission to make sugar will be given to the planters in the western provinces of Cuba. This information comes to me privately from a high official who is in a position to know. He said explicitly, however, that his statement is not official, because he has no authority to give out such news as official. The condition of affairs now is such as to remove the objection to allowing planters to grind cane.

Powerful interests in the United States have been disturbed, I have reason to know, by the failure to make sugar this winter. The season for grinding should begin December 20, but there will be no loss through a delay of a fortnight, or even three weeks. Edward Atkins of Boston, proprietor of the great Soledad plantation near Cienfuegos, Santa Clara province, is particularly anxious to make sugar, as also is the manager of the estate of Welch Bros. of 41 Wall street, New York. Information that grinding will be permitted was sent to Mr. Atkins today.

Henry Delgado, formerly purser of the Ward line steamer Yumuri, afterward Maceo's chief of artillery, and now a prisoner in the hands of the government, having been captured in an insurgent hospital in Pinar del Rio province, is allowed to see nobody. In response to my request, Surgeon General Lesado, the head of the Spanish medical department, sends the following note: "The political prisoner, Enrique Delgado, is ill in San Ambrosia hospital with a tumor of the stomach. A diagnosis is difficult. His condition is altogether grave." Delgado has the same care and attention, I am informed, as a Spanish officer would have. Delgado is related by marriage to W. E. D. Stokes of New York.

A story was set afloat here yesterday that Lieutenant Colonel Fossdeviola, the military commander of Guanabacoa, had taken seven citizens, native creoles, from their houses night before last and put them to death. One version was that the victims were shot, another that they were cut to pieces with machetes. The story will go to Key West by Wednesday's steamer and be wired from there to the newspapers in a greatly exaggerated form and be published Thursday morning. I investigated the matter in Guanabacoa under circumstances that insured accuracy, and ascertained that there is no foundation for the report.

WILLIAM SHAW BOWEN.

MASSACRE CUBAN NONCOMBATANTS.

Men Shot Down Ruthlessly and Women and Girls Lashed.

NEW YORK, Dec. 29.—A dispatch to the World from Key West says: A recent massacre by General Melquizos' troops in western Cuba is described in a letter received here today from an insurgent leader. In a little hamlet, forty miles north of Pinar del Rio, dwell about seventy-five people, most of them old, all noncombatants. They lived from hand to mouth, having a few cattle and some small cane fields and truck farms. Spanish guerrillas commanded by Pierronto visited the place a fortnight ago. All the people were assembled and searched for valuables, the women and girls being subjected to indignities. Not finding as much as they wanted, the guerrillas shot two young men, pretending that they were Spanish deserters. Six others were tied to trees and horribly whipped. Two young women were tied to trees, their backs were bared and the lash applied if they resisted the soldiers' advances. Their screams so aroused the anger of the other women that they made a combined attack on the guerrillas with clubs. The guerrillas easily beat them off and fired indiscriminately among them, killing fifteen or twenty men and women and two young children. The others escaped, though the Spanish murderers fired at them as long as they were in sight.

The guerrillas then fired the houses, throwing the dead bodies into the buildings, drove off the cattle, destroyed the crops and trampled their horses over the potato patches, so nothing in the way of food could be had. These poor people, left without food or shelter, took up their abode in the foothills, building themselves huts of branches and grass. Some have died of exposure and not more than thirty of the seventy-five now survive.

The letter told of other outrages and stated that for miles and miles where formerly were happy homes and flourishing fields not a single human being is to be seen.

SPRINGER TO COME HOME NOW.

United States Vice Consul to Cuba About to Leave the Island.

HAVANA, Dec. 29.—Joseph Springer, the United States vice consul general, will leave for the United States on the steamer Olivette tomorrow. By the steamer Santiago there will be sent to Chafarinas political prisoners and to Fernandino Island nine cattle thieves. Two brothers named Fernando and Amado Pino, who are negroes and naturalized Americans, charged with being Nanagoes, and Thomas Ammala of Colombia, have been expelled from the island.

General Arolas, with a force of 6,000 Spanish troops of all arms, has been reconnoitering the heights of Ruly.

At the engagement which Colonel Girujoda had at Cayo la Rosa and its vicinity yesterday it is stated the insurgent colonel, Pancho Palacio of Brigadier General Castillo's staff, was killed and Castillo himself was wounded in the leg.

Two French citizens, Rene and Louis Renandeau, are being tried in Morro castle by an ordinary court martial on the charge of rebelling against the Spanish government.

News has been received that the local column of troops in Matanzas met the insurgent band of Sotolonge at the farm of Abreu, in the Jaquey Grand district. There was a fight, and the insurgents were dispersed.

Another Philippine Conspiracy.

MADRID, Dec. 29.—Advices received here from Manila, capital of the Philippine islands, say that a conspiracy against the Spanish government has been discovered in the province of Bulucan. Many notables have been arrested and a quantity of arms have been seized. In an engagement between Spaniards and insurgents north of Manila, the latter are said to have lost 138 men.

Corrigan Not Yet a Cardinal.

ROME, Dec. 29.—The statements published in New York of the possibility of the elevation of Archbishop Corrigan to the cardinalate are pronounced by the vatican authorities to be pure guesswork, and nothing will be known definitely on the subject until the next consistory, which takes place at Easter.

Wealthy Widow Killed in Paris.

PARIS, Dec. 30.—A shocking double murder has occurred of a wealthy widow, Mme. Royerharatt and her servant, who were found strangled to death at Vitry-Le-Francois. The perpetrators stole 6,000 francs.

Archbishop Fabre is Dying.

MONTREAL, Que., Dec. 29.—At a late hour tonight Archbishop Fabre was still alive, although his physicians say he has only a few hours to live.

BATCH OF DENIALS FROM MADRID.

Stories Published in Washington and London Are Promptly Denied.

MADRID, Dec. 29.—It is officially denied that there is any truth in the report published in a New York paper on Sunday last that the United States consulate at Cardenas, province of Matanzas, Cuba, had been twice attacked and the shield torn from the door in spite of the efforts of the local authorities to protect the consulate.

An emphatic denial is also officially given to the statement today of the London Chronicle that there was reason to believe that the French foreign office has been sounded in regard to Cuba in an anti-American sense.

An emphatic denial is given here to the report credited to the Washington Post that Senor Dupuy de Lome, the Spanish minister at Washington, and Mr. Olney have concluded negotiations for the acceptance by Spain of the good offices of the United States in the settlement of the Cuban insurrection.

LONDON, Dec. 30.—The Daily News' Paris correspondent says: "It is quite clear that Spain is in negotiation with Mr. Olney, but the Castilian pride compels the government to negotiate in an underhand way. They cannot help trying to arrive at a private understanding with the United States, for the proceeds of the recent loan are nearly exhausted, and Captain General Weyler's apparent inaction has checked the buoyancy which followed Maceo's death."

IRISH ANTI-TAXATION AGITATION.

Strong Resolutions Adopted at a Mass Meeting Held at Limerick.

LIMERICK, Dec. 29.—Lord Dunraven presided today at a meeting here of all classes, at which a resolution similar to the one agreed upon at the Mansion house, Dublin, meeting of yesterday was adopted, calling upon the government to remedy the financial injustice done to Ireland by overtaxation. Bishop O'Dwyer, who was the chief speaker, exhorted Irishmen to stand together in the spirit of the words of Lord Castledown, uttered at Cork on December 3 last, when he denounced the obstinacy of the British treasury officials in refusing to right the grievance of the Irish in respect to taxation. Lord Castledown, upon that occasion, said that he hoped history might not repeat itself and the people of Cork follow the example of the people of Boston in 1773, when they threw a cargo of tea into the harbor as a protest against unjust taxation.

John Daly, the Irish agitator, recently released from prison, said that Lord Castledown's declaration that he would have truth and justice on his side or do as the people had done, sent a thrill through the country, and he hoped that the meeting would declare that if Lord Castledown was true to himself and Ireland history might yet proclaim him the successor of the great and illustrious Washington. (Cheers.)

SHELVES DOUMER AND BOURGEOISE

French Government Getting Rid of Its Powerful Opponents.

PARIS, Dec. 29.—A chorus of radical denunciations of Paul Doumer, formerly minister of finance, who is accused of deserting the radical cause and of allowing the government to shelve him by appointing him governor of Indo-China, is not likely to be diminished by today's announcement that M. Doumer has resigned his seat in the Chamber of Deputies instead of merely asking for leave of absence, as he signifies that he has no intention of returning to France for a long time.

Rumor credits the government with an intention to similarly shelve M. Bourgeois, the former premier, by appointing him governor of Algeria with increased powers to be arranged by a special bill in the Chamber, M. Cambon, the present governor, being appointed ambassador to London. Probably there is little truth in the rumor, but it is known that the London embassy has been declined by the Duc de Montebello, the Marquis de Reversaux de Rouvray and M. Cambon, French ambassador at Constantinople, who is a brother of the governor of Algeria. The reason for the refusal is that this post generally finishes a diplomatic career.

SULTAN GRANTS THE DEMANDS.

Dragomans of France and Italy May Be Present at Mazhav Bey's Trial.

CONSTANTINOPLE, Dec. 29.—The Porte has granted the demand of the envoys of France and Italy that their dragomans be present at the trial of Mazhav Bey, charged with being responsible for the murder of Father Salvatore, an Italian priest, who was killed in the convent of Jenidjekele at Marash in 1895 by Turkish troops commanded by Mazhav Bey.

Italy demands the punishment of Mazhav Bey and the Turkish government has promised to put him on trial, but the representatives of the powers suspect this will be nothing more than a farce. Some days ago when it was proposed to include Mazhav Bey in the general amnesty, the French and Italian envoys requested their governments to send fleets to Alexandria in view of this possible miscarriage of justice, which Italy and France are resolved at all hazards shall not happen.

LEO HAS AN ELIXIR OF LIFE.

Healthy Nun Sacrifices Herself that the Pope May Live Long.

LONDON, Dec. 30.—According to a Rome dispatch to the Daily News the Voce Della Verita, the vatican organ, says the pope in a recent speech, explained his longevity thus: A nun who had always enjoyed health visited him two months ago saying that she had offered herself as a sacrifice to God in order to prolong the pontiff's life. God had signified his approval, and the nun has died, while he himself still flourishes.

Declines to Run for the Chamber.

PARIS, Dec. 29.—The duke of Orleans has written a letter stating that, knowing the French republic is engaged in diplomatic negotiations of a delegate nature, he does not wish to excite internal difficulties, but places the seal of his family connections at the service of French interests abroad. This letter was written to decline an offer of a candidature for a seat in the Chamber of Deputies from Brest, made vacant by the death M. d'Hulst, which will now be contested by the royalist comte de Blois, the abbe of Charmottant, and probably a republican candidate.

Appeal to the Imperial Government.

OTTAWA, Ont., Dec. 29.—It is reported in official circles that a representative of the Laurier government will go to England soon and have a conference with the imperial authorities, regarding the action of bishops in Quebec in excommunicating the organ of the liberal party. It is considered here among the French citizens wiser to refer the case to the English government than to appeal to Rome, where Archbishop Langevin has already managed to lay his case with apparently good effect on the propaganda.

Calls Inspector Melville a Spy.

PARIS, Dec. 30.—The Libre Parole accuses the English detective, Inspector Melville of Scotland Yard, of being nothing but a spy, who is allowed to travel in France under the pretext of unraveling anarchist suspicions.

Newfoundland Seeks Reciprocity.

ST. JOHNS, N. F., Dec. 29.—The Newfoundland legislature will attempt to secure reciprocity with the United States when it meets in February. The cabinet is now discussing the question.

Bubonic Plague in India.

BOMBAY, Dec. 29.—During the past forty-eight hours the health authorities have recorded 177 fresh cases of the bubonic plague. In the same period 130 deaths from that disease have occurred.

Peru Invaded by Bolivians.

LIMA, Peru (Via Galveston), Dec. 29.—The relations between Peru and Bolivia are strained owing to an invasion of the Peruvian frontier by a Bolivian force.

OPPOSED TO BOISE PENROSE

Wanamaker Takes a Hand in Pennsylvania Senatorial Contest.

SPEAKS SEVERELY OF ATTEMPTED BOSSISM

Says It Dishonors the State that One Man Should Claim to Own Majority of Legislature Before It Convenes.

PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 29.—John Wanamaker, who is opposing Boise Penrose for the seat in the United States senate, now occupied by Mr. Cameron, was interviewed tonight on the situation of the campaign, which is one of the bitterest known to Pennsylvania politics. He began with the statement "that if the next four years do not give good times to the country, the new century will usher in changes that will be severely felt in the most remote corner of the world. Pennsylvania's responsibility in the administration of national affairs is thrown upon her congressmen and two senators. The terms of those senators expire, one at the beginning and the other during President McKinley's administration, and as the time approaches to fill the next vacancy, some of those who labored incessantly to defeat the nomination of McKinley and carried the vote of Pennsylvania in the convention against him, are assuming to displace the federal patronage in advance of his inauguration, in order to influence the votes of the members of the legislature."

Mr. Wanamaker spoke in strong terms, saying: "The old commonwealth is dishonored by the claim that one man owns 150 votes out of the 200 chosen men, composing the legislature, not yet assembled," and add that one boss had "defiantly taken the state by the throat" and dictated his own terms.

Concerning national issues, he said he favored the tariff high enough to remunerate manufacturers so they may be able to keep employes going the full week at good wages, and to exclude everything we can grow or make in this country. He advocated a greatly restricted immigration law, and asserted his unalterable opposition to any tampering with the monetary system, which would tend to destroy the nation's credit or depreciate the coin.

IOWA'S SILVER FORCES IN SESSION.

Two Hundred Followers of the Free Coinage Failure Meet.

DES MOINES, Dec. 29.—(Special Telegram.)—Two hundred democrats, populists and silver republicans met in conference today and issued an address to the people of Iowa, announcing that the union of all silver forces of the state was permanent and that they will hereafter nominate the same candidates for all offices. The conference was larger than expected, and sentiment was unanimous in favor of the union of forces. The resolutions adopted explain that the three factions will retain their separate state organizations, but act together.

General J. B. Weaver, chief of the populists, was the guiding spirit of the gathering, the democrats readily yielding precedence to him. Numerous addresses were made in favor of union of forces and the early opening of a campaign of education was determined on.

The democratic state committee met and elected M. F. Healy of Fort Dodge, chairman. It has been planned that C. A. Walsh, national secretary, was to be chairman, but C. S. Ranck, ex-chairman, suspected of sound money tendencies, made a vigorous protest on the ground that Walsh is too radical and his election would hopelessly alienate sound money democrats. He was supported by several other members and Walsh had to be dropped and Healy was elected.

A committee of three each from the democrats, populists and silver republicans was named to prepare an address to the state on behalf of the united silver forces.

A subcommittee was named by this committee, with General Weaver chairman, to prepare the address, which will be issued in a few days.

SENATOR BEAL HAS GREAT SCHEME

Nebraska Populist Proposes a Warehouse for Silver Bullion.

DENVER, Dec. 29.—Governor McIntyre has received the following letter, to which he has not replied:

"BROKEN BOW, Neb., Dec. 28.—Governor McIntyre, Dear Sir: What do you think of the idea of the legislature of Colorado making an appropriation to construct a depository for silver bullion in your state? The bullion could be deposited and certificates issued on the market value of the bullion, which certificates could be used as money by the people, and in this way the demand for more money could be met. I have thought the matter over, and if I can get any encouragement from silver producing states I will introduce a bill in the Nebraska senate this winter to that effect. I am satisfied that the new use such a scheme would create for silver bullion would cause the price to rise and many of the benefits sought for by the free silver advocates would be reached and no law violated.

"Please think the matter over carefully and let me hear from you. Very truly,

"C. W. BEAL,

Senator Fifteenth Nebraska District."

PLATT ENDORSED FOR SENATOR.

New York Republicans Turn Their Backs Upon Joseph Choate.

NEW YORK, Dec. 28.—The Republican club of New York last night refused to endorse the candidacy of Joseph Choate for United States senator. Every follower of T. C. Platt in the club was present. The meeting was very lively and at times uproarious. The resolutions laid over last week endorsing Choate were called up and a substitute adopted, declaring it illadvised that any action should be taken regarding the possible candidacy of any person, and that it is the sense of the club that no action be taken.

The Union Republican club of Brooklyn and the Progress Republican club of New York tonight adopted resolutions endorsing Thomas C. Platt for senator.

Populist Nominated for Congress.

KIRKSVILLE, Mo., Dec. 29.—The First congressional district populist convention today nominated Joseph Miller, a farmer of Scotland county, for congress, to fill the vacancy caused by the death of Congressman-elect Giles. Miller is a middle-of-the-road man.

Indiana Populists Organizing.

INDIANAPOLIS, Dec. 29.—The populist state committee, after being in session two days, decided tonight that the populist organization should be maintained in Indiana and recommended the organization of clubs throughout the state.

Governor Bradley May Resign.

LOUISVILLE, Dec. 29.—The Courier-Journal says: Governor Bradley told a friend today that it was his purpose to resign the office of governor, saying the place was killing him, and that he could not afford to stay in it until his health was entirely lost. Governor Bradley has also written Mr. McKinley that he would not accept any federal appointment.

Sustains a Stroke of Paralysis.

UPPER SANDUSKY, O., Dec. 29.—Word comes from Harpstock, south of here, that David Harpstock, known far and wide as the "wool king," sustained a stroke of paralysis and is in a critical condition. He is the wealthiest man in this part of the state and has been one of the most extensive wool growers in the United States.

BIG TIN HORN RINGING CANTON.

Monster Instrument Presented to McKinley by Illinois Laborers.

CANTON, O., Dec. 29.—The big tin horn which attracted so much attention in the Illinois campaign reached Canton today, borne by the men of Decatur, Ill., who set out November 16 to make the trip and carry the horn to Canton. The horn is thirty feet long, and has a bell six feet in diameter, and requires about a dozen men to blow it. The men are laborers, two of them being carpenters, two tinners and two painters. It was a condition in their undertaking that the citizens of Decatur would contribute a purse of $1,000 in the event an equal sum was raised by them while on the march to Canton, but the men have not had smooth sailing. It is declared that up to the time they reached Indianapolis they had good success in selling pictures of the horn and in other contributions, but that since that time they have not made expenses. The hospitality shown them has been generous with but very few exceptions. They have been met by bands and drum corps and other organizations in the states through which they passed. The men soon after reaching the city went to the McKinley home and presented the horn to the president-elect, who received the visitors cordially. On account of the incessant rainfall, no demonstration was made.

General Anson McCook, one of the "Fighting McCooks" of New York, spent the afternoon with Major McKinley. His call was of a social nature, and is understood to be without political significance. He is an old friend of National Chairman Hanna, and has been visiting at the latter's home in Cleveland. Other callers during the afternoon were Charles W. Mackey of New York and ex-State Senator Hodge of Cleveland.

There was a constant stream of callers at the home of the president-elect this morning. Shortly after breakfast visitors began to arrive and kept coming all day. One of the early callers was Hon. Charles Allison of Knoxville, Tenn. Mr. Allison was quite active in the recent campaign, and led the fight in that part of the state. In an interview Mr. Allison said that, in his opinion, Tennessee would hardly be represented in President McKinley's cabinet.

"There has been a great deal of talk about Mr. Evans," said Mr. Allison, "but I do not think he will be selected. I believe that Judge Goff of West Virginia is a favorite man to represent the south, if that section of the country is to be recognized."

Hon. Frank McDowell of South Dakota was also a caller. Mr. McDowell is a close friend of Senator Pettigrew. Among the other callers were Eugene V. Smalley of St. Paul, Minn.; D. J. Smith of East Liverpool, O.; Colonel Caleb B. Wick of Youngstown, O.; Hon. Niles Hauen of Taylor Falls, Wis., and Mr. Arthur J. Stewart of Manchester, England.

CLEVELAND, O., Dec. 29.—A number of prominent visitors called at the office of Hon. M. A. Hanna today. Among them were Hon. Henry C. Payne of Wisconsin of the national executive committee; Hon. William J. Osborne of Massachusetts, Senator Clark and Hon. Frank W. Mondell of Wyoming, Judge Robertson, a prominent politician of South Dakota, and a half dozen well-known Ohio republicans. Most of those named met together at Mr. Hanna's office and held a long conference with the national chairman. It was stated that Messrs. Payne and Osborne came here to confer with Mr. Hanna on business connected with the national executive committee. General A. G. McCook, who was the guest of Mr. Hanna at Windermere during his brief visit in Cleveland, left for Canton today to call upon the president-elect. As a result of the big conference today, all sorts of cabinet rumors were in circulation, but those best qualified to know said the slate had not been even partially completed. Indeed, one gentleman who stands very close to both Major McKinley and Mr. Hanna said today that he had good reasons for believing that not to exceed one or two members of the cabinet under the incoming administration had been decided upon. The conference at Mr. Hanna's office today was held behind closed doors, and at its conclusion Mr. Hanna escorted several of his visitors to the Union League club for lunch.

KANSAS MAN SHOT IN HIS HOME.

Attempted Killing of Gilmore Outcome of Domestic Complications.

ATWOOD, Kan., Dec. 29.—The story sent out from Topeka of the assassination of G. W. Gilmore, a rancher of this county, and the arrest of a mysterious woman supposed to be from New York, is not borne out by the facts. Gilmore was shot as he sat at his supper table, his assailant firing through the window, and, though his left eye was destroyed and his upper jaw shattered, he is still alive and may recover. A short time ago Gilmore's wife left him and went back to a divorced husband, who lives in Nebraska. Since that time he has had a Mrs. Ballou, a married woman, keeping house for him, which caused Mrs. Ballou and her husband to separate. The attempted assassination is supposed to have been an outgrowth of the rancher's complicated domestic affairs.

On the night of the shooting an unknown man was seen in the vicinity of the Gilmore house carrying a gun. A nephew of Mrs. Gilmore was arrested, but has been released.

JOBBERS GAIN THEIR POINT.

Complain Against Scale Proposed by Window Glass Manufacturers.

CHICAGO, Dec. 29.—Window glass manufacturers and jobbers met at the Auditorium Annex today. The jobbers had rebelled against the manufacturers' scale and threatened to place their orders in Europe if a greater profit was not given them by the American manufacturers. The scale fixed the price at a small margin and a rebate system. The rebate scheme was satisfactory to the large jobbers, but the small men protested against a scale that gave a rebate of but 3 per cent to purchasers of less than $25,000 during the year, and 5 per cent to larger purchasers. The jobbers presented their ultimatum in very vigorous fashion, and the manufacturers, after some deliberation, granted their demands, and a new rebate system was agreed upon. The system secured for every purchaser who buys $8,000 worth of glass in six months, a rebate of 2½ per cent, and to those buying $25,000 worth in six months a rebate of 5 per cent. No advance in prices was made.

PLAN IS REFUSED CONSIDERATION.

Boston Citizens Take a Hand in Street Car Troubles.

BOSTON, Dec. 29.—The committee appointed at the mass meeting at Faneuil hall last night to consider the West End street railway difficulty from the citizens' point of view met today and prepared a plan of settlement. The statement calls for an equitable settlement of the whole controversy, the discontinuance of the employment of new men, the reinstatement of former employes, and asks that the company receive a committee of its employes in order to reach an agreement. The committee submitted the plan to President Little, but he refused to consider it.

Kills the Girl and Himself.

HURON, S. D., Dec. 29.—Edward Rosa, who made his home with his brother, Cale Rosa, a well known rancheman, near Forest City, shot and killed his sweetheart, Miss Mary Brehl, at the home of her sister, Mrs. Stewart, in Forest City, today. After killing the girl Rosa blew out his own brains. They had been to a dance on Christmas, where Rosa believed he was not given proper attention by the girl. Both belonged to excellent families.

Man and Wife Shot by Burglars.

KNOXVILLE, Tenn., Dec. 29.—At 11 o'clock William H. Whaley and wife, poor but respected citizens of Sevier county, living near Sevierville, were shot down by two men who broke into their home. There is no clew to the guilty parties. Many seem to think the perpetrators of the tragedy were some of the crowd whom Whaley recently had prosecuted before the grand jury. Sheriff Maples is working on the case.

GAFFIN, RICH OR SHELDON

Populists Uncertain as to Who Will Be Speaker This Time.

SOUTH PLATTE MEN PROFESS CONFIDENCE

Supporters of Gaffin Let On that They Have Their Man Already Elected, but the Others Are Still Fighting.

LINCOLN, Dec. 29.—(Special.)—Today witnessed the first skirmish among the populists preceding the battle royal for the organization of the legislature. The traveling men's banquet to Bryan last night at the Lincoln hotel brought a great many populist and democratic wheelhorses into town, and a large majority of them remained over. Some of them will spend the rest of the week in Lincoln working for favorite candidates for official positions in house or senate.

Senator W. V. Allen was the center of attraction today at the Lincoln, and around him revolved and buzzed the lesser lights of populism and alleged local leaders of "free silver democracy." The senator has a kind word and a smile for all the aspirants for the speakership, but it is understood he has so far committed himself to no one.

Of course it is said with gusto in Lincoln that J. N. Gaffin of Saunders has the inside track for the speakership. He is a South Platte candidate, and South Platte constituents do not usually give up the fight until the last vote is counted, and then they demand hat the jury be polled to see that no mistake has been made. Edson Rich of Douglas, however, has some warm friends in this vicinity, but so far it is evident that no very tangible combinations have been made by either Mr. Rich or Mr. Gaffin. It is thought the state house element, including Governor Holcomb, Oil Inspector Edmisten, J. H. Edgerton and John Powers, are favorable to Gaffin. If this support is united Gaffin will prove a formidable opponent to Rich. However, it is claimed by friends of Rich that Gaffin's connection as umpire in the Bill Dorgan state prison deal, wherein he received $500 for ten days' work watching the appraisers, Broatch and Gale, turn $35,000 over to Dorgan for a lot of junk and shop-worn goods, will militate against his chances to seize the speaker's gavel for the second time in his political career. All this does not reckon with the chances of A. E. Sheldon of Dawes county, who is coming with strong support from his section, and may be a most formidable factor in the fight.

There are three prominent candidates for chief clerk of the house, and others not so prominent. The three are Henry C. Richmond of Red Cloud, Elias Baker and Frank Eager of Lincoln. Eager is being assailed by friends of Baker with charges of business laxity in drawing overdraft checks, and Eager's friends retaliate by pointing to the alleged fact that so far Baker, who was clerk of the district court for four years in Lancaster county, has not made full settlement with his successor, Sam Low. Meanwhile, Mr. Richmond, who is a newspaper man and the editor of the Nation, skirts around the edges, and cultivates the friendship of each opposing element against Baker and Eager. Richmond is a big man with a big voice, and would have no difficulty in making himself audible in the house. The clerkship will likely go outside of Lincoln anyway, as the Capital City wants so many minor clerkships of committees, pages, janitors and assistant doorkeepers and postmasters that it will be obliged to be content with what it can secure of these and let the bigger game go to the country.

The late private secretary of W. J. Bryan, however, is making a heroic fight for secretary of the senate. His name is Schwind, and it is said he has the best backing of any of the aspirants for legislative patronage. He is a quiet, but effectual worker, and has Mr. Bryan and the postoffice contingent at his back. Still there are a number of "good western men" who are prepared to contest the position with Mr. Schwind and it may develop that he is not so strong as he thought he was.

Congressman R. D. Sutherland of the Fifth district is in the city. He is said to be a warm supporter of Mr. Richmond in his race for the chief clerkship of the house. Among others, populists and free silver democrats who are here attending to legislative preliminaries are Ed P. Smith, V. O. Strickler, G. M. Hitchcock, Edson Rich and E. R. Duffie of Omaha and O. C. Weesner and Dr. Bamrell of Hastings. So soon as the big plums have been shaken down there will be a rush for the smaller fruit in the shape of minor clerkships. But so far there has been no crystallization of aim in this direction among the many aspirants, but their prospects are in a rather rebulous condition. Those who are anticipating any great reduction in the number of house and senate employes during the coming session seem doomed to disappointment.

It is announced that a caucus will be held Saturday night, when the first round of the speakership fight will be had.

REASONS FOR ARBUCKLE'S DEATH.

Jury Finds a Number of Causes and Leaves Others to Imagination.

NEW YORK, Dec. 29.—In the case of Frank Arbuckle, the wealthy politician and miner of Denver, Colo., who died under suspicious circumstances in this city on November 19, a coroner's jury returned a verdict today that death was caused by "fatty degeneration of the heart, chronic nephritis, cerebrial and pulmonary oedema and other causes to the jury unknown."

Arbuckle was found dying in a vacant lot in the upper part of the city on the morning of November 19. The jewelry he was wearing when last seen by friends had been taken from his person and it was for a time believed he had been drugged by those who robbed him. Chemical analysis, however, failed to establish this theory.

COME TO AN AGRICULTURAL COLONY

Band of Italians Admitted Under the Immigration Laws at New York.

NEW YORK, Dec. 29.—Austin Corbin, several months before he died, founded an agricultural colony near Helena, Ark. Today when Inspector M. J. Renick of the contract labor bureau boarded the Kaiser Wilhelm II, he found 390 Italian men, women and children ticketed to Arkansas. He also found that each adult had a collection of seeds, vines, shrubs and roots, as also a stock of agricultural implements. He telephoned to Ellis island, and was instructed to land the colony over there. Meanwhile word came from Washington that the colonizers were to be admitted, as they were in no wise violaters of the contract labor law.

MONEY FOR A CRIPPLE CREEK MINE

J. D. McMaster Returns from England with Plenty of Cash.

ROCHESTER, N. Y., Dec. 29.—J. D. McMaster of the Six Brothers Gold Mining company has just returned from London, where he succeeded in selling a three-fourths interest in the Caledonia gold mine to a syndicate of English investors for $575,000. The Caledonia is located in the Cripple Creek mining district and has been developed sufficiently to demonstrate its richness. Negotiations are now pending for investment by Englishmen in three other principal Cripple Creek properties owned by the company.

Too Warm for a Winter Carnival.

ST. PAUL, Dec. 29.—V. J. Rothschild, secretary of the St. Paul Winter Carnival association, announces that owing to the mild weather the association has been forced to abandon its plans for an ice palace this season.

THEY DEFEND CORPORATIONS.

Economists Take Issue with President Adams on One of His Points.

BALTIMORE, Dec. 29.—The American Economic association this morning took up President Adams' address, which was read last night, and spent the early hours discussing it. Some of the speakers took issue with President Adams upon many of the points contained in the address and thought corporations were in many respects overabused.

The next subject taken up was the query: "Is There a Distinct Agricultural Question?" The leader of the discussion was to have been Prof. Bailey of Cornell university, but being unavoidably absent he formulated a thesis on the general subject and the debate was participated in by Prof. Scott of Wisconsin university, Prof. Walker of the Massachusetts Agricultural college and Dr. Lester E. Wood of Washington, D. C., and others.

Prof. Roland P. Falkner of the University of Pennsylvania, reported that a memorial asking for the establishment of a permanent census bureau had been presented to congress. The memorial stated the census reports to be in many respects unsatisfactory to economists and statisticians, owing to the lack of continuity in the work and to the haste with which the whole census machinery is put in motion.

Prof. David Kinley of the University of Illinois read a paper on the use of credit instruments in retail trade. His estimate was that 60 per cent of the total retail trade was done without the use of money, and at least 80 per cent of the entire business of the country. He said the monetary circulation of the country was not so greatly enlarged by this extensive use of credit, because much money was held in reserve in the banks. Credit based upon such a reserve, by setting free a certain amount of money, lowers prices or keeps them from advancing.

A general discussion followed, Mr. Thomas G. Sherman of Brooklyn criticising Prof. Kinley's statistics and asserting they would have a false influence in the political agitation of this country. Mr. Sherman showed the absence of banking facilities compelled the people of the south and southwest to carry about large amounts of currency, and that tended to a constant demand for currency. He hoped the proper method might be devised, whereby relief could be had for the two great sections, so a new sectionalism would be avoided.

The convention will meet again tomorrow and conclude its business on Thursday.

SIXTY THOUSAND DOLLARS ON HAND.

Western Commercial Travelers' Association in Excellent Condition.

ST. LOUIS, Dec. 29.—The annual meeting of the Western Commercial Travelers' association was held today, with a large number of members in attendance. The report of the financial committee showed that the balance on hand to date is $59,429, with no liabilities. The amount paid beneficiaries during the year was $99,525 and the number of death assessments twenty-two. The operating expenses were $4,905. The reserve fund amounts to $52,869.

The officers for the ensuing year are: President, Robert B. Dula of St. Louis; first vice president, Murray Carleton, St. Louis; second vice president, Alex Shelby, Little Rock, Ark.; third vice president, W. B. Massey, Springfield, Mo.; fourth vice president, S. H. Shannon, Dallas, Tex.; fifth vice president, John C. Killingsworth, Illinois; sixth vice president, George E. Bragdon, Pueblo, Colo. A board of directors was also selected, and a treasurer and secretary will be elected Saturday.

A resolution was adopted favoring a convenient and adequate 5,000-mile interchangeable ticket, good over various lines of railroad.

CHICAGO, Dec. 29.—The annual meeting of the Northwestern Traveling Men's association was held today. The annual report of Secretary D. K. Clink showed that the death payments for the year amounted to $169,400 and relief funds paid out to disabled members to $1,600. The association has a membership of 2,387, a net loss of 109 during the year. The following officers were elected for the ensuing year: President, William H. Gribben; secretary, D. K. Clink; directors, B. A. Scovel, J. J. McDonald, D. L. Murray, O. D. Tracey, William Young, Emanuel Buxbaum; vice presidents were elected from twenty-three states.

WHEAT TAKES AN UPWARD TURN.

Price Advances Nearly Two Cents and Closes Strong.

CHICAGO, Dec. 29.—May wheat, which closed yesterday at 82 cents, was being sought for at 83⅞ cents to 84 cents at the end of the session today, an advance of almost 2 cents. The failure of the Van Nortwicks, accompanied by financial disturbances in other parts of the country, had absolutely no effect on prices, the truth of the matter seemingly being that the statistical situation was too strong to permit such influences to control the course of the market.

The advance was not accompanied by heavy trading except during the last few minutes of the session. Russian reports of a shortage of 80,000,000 bushels in the winter wheat crop, the continued foreign demand, large clearances and a heavy decrease in the world's visible supply, contributed to the strength displayed by the market from the opening. Toward the end of the session the trade grew heavier in volume, with an active demand, and the market closed strong at the top figures of the day.

TWO MORE VICTIMS OF THE WRECK

Bodies of S. W. Tibbs and Wife Are Found Badly Burned in Debris.

ST. LOUIS, Dec. 29.—A special to the Republic from Birmingham, Ala., says: Two more charred corpses were found deep under the debris of Sunday's wreck of a Birmingham mineral passenger train and brought here today. They were too badly burned for identification, but it is regarded reasonably certain that they are the bodies of S. W. Tibbs and his wife of Alger, who are missing.

The bodies recovered today run the list of dead up to twenty-four. A. H. Hinton of Pratt City was here today, searching for his 15-year-old son, who, he says, left home for Gurnee on Saturday and was to have left Gurnee for Blocton Sunday morning. He has not since been seen or heard from, and it is feared that he, too, was a victim of lives lost.

The death of Andrew Bryson, an injured passenger, which is likely to occur at any hour, will swell the death list to twenty-six. There were ten funerals of victims of the wreck at Blocton today and the business of the town was suspended for the time.

FRANTZ FOUND GUILTY OF MURDER.

Jury Decides that the Prisoner Caused the Death of Bessie Little.

DAYTON, O., Dec. 29.—The jury in the case of the State against Albert Frantz, tried for the murder of Bessie Little, brought in a verdict of murder in the first degree tonight, having been out a little over an hour.

Woman Robbed on Fifth Avenue.

NEW YORK, Dec. 29.—Mrs. James Abercrombie Burden was knocked down and robbed by a highwayman at Fifth avenue and Seventy-second street this afternoon. Mrs. Burden was walking along Fifth avenue when the robber jumped at her, put a knife to her throat and demanded that she give up her money and jewelry. She refused and the assault and robbery followed. The highwayman was captured and the purse, which contained a check for $60, restored to Mrs. Burden, who had not been hurt.

Pennsylvania Miners on Strike.

SHARON, Pa., Dec. 29.—Over 1,000 coal miners in Mercer county went on strike today, crippling the Black Diamond, Trout, Grove City, Westerman and Filer & Co. mines. The strike is to enforce a demand for an increase of 5 cents per ton. A similar raise has been granted in the Pittsburg district.

NEW LAWS FOR THE SCHOOLS

State Teachers Association Will Not Press Many Changes.

CORBETT'S PLAN FOR LEVYING TAXES

Scheme by Which an Equalization May Be Secured and More Regular Attendance at Country Schools Stimulated.

LINCOLN, Dec. 29.—(Special.)—At the meeting this morning of the educational council of the Nebraska State Teachers' association, the report of the committee on legislation was taken up. In presenting this report State Superintendent Corbett said that teachers fail to realize how little they count in the estimation of the solons of the legislature. What the teachers suggest may have but little weight, and for this reason it would be best to concentrate on one or two good things and use all honorable efforts to secure these. The report recommended that the present free high school law and free text book law be let severly alone for the present. The pressing need of more effective means of securing attendance in the schools was recognized, but no change in the present law was recommended. It was the opinion of the committee, however, that the school law should be so amended as to remedy some of the evils growing out of unequal taxation. Districts with a levy fully up to the limits of the law were not able to maintain good schools, while others could support fair schools on a very low levy. To remedy this evil it was recommended that the law be amended to permit county commissioners to make a general levy of 5 mills for school purposes, one-fourth of this to be divided among the districts equally, and three-fourths to be divided in proportion to the aggregate days of attendance in schools. It was argued that this change would cut both ways, remedy unequal taxation and secure prompt and regular att