BOOTH PRAYS FOR SENATORS

Leader of the Salvation Army is Given a Reception at the Capitol.

LLEN MAKES AN ATTACK ON THE SPEAKER

Says it is Impossible to Secure Legislation in the House Which the Man from Maine Disapproves.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 10.—During the entire session of the senate today the Indian appropriation bill was under consideration. The reading of the bill was completed and all the committee amendments were adopted. Subsequently several amendments of a minor character were attached to the measure.

Mr. Allen enlivened the proceedings a few minutes before adjournment by making an attack upon Speaker Reed for preventing the enactment, as the Nebraska senator declared, of meritorious legislation sent to the house of representatives by the senate. He denounced the speaker's action in this regard as a "disgrace" to congress and to the American people. When a point of order was made against him for the use of improper language concerning the other branch of congress, Mr. Allen said that he was stating only the truth, and that he was responsible here or elsewhere, at any time, for his statements.

It was expected to conclude the consideration of the pending bill today, but when an appeal was taken by Mr. Allen from the ruling of the vice president that an amendment offered by Mr. Thurston was not in order, the point of order was made by Mr. Allen that a quorum was not present. A roll call disclosing the absence of a quorum, the senate adjourned.

GENERAL BOOTH PRAYS.

General William Booth of London, founder of the Salvation Army, officiated as chaplain at the opening today of the senate's session. He invoked the divine blessing upon the senate and its members, and besought the Great Ruler of All to continue his favor to those here gathered for the ruling and regulation of this great and mighty nation, and that all that might here be done be to the honor and glory of God. He prayed that his country might move forward in the march of Christianity so that it might be an example to all other nations of the earth.

Mr. and Mrs. Booth-Tucker, the son-in-law and daughter of General Booth, were in the gallery during the prayer. Previous to the meeting of the senate the entire party held a brief reception in the vice president's room.

Mr. Frye (Me.) reported favorably from the committee on commerce a bill to amend the laws relating to navigation. He said that as the proposed bill related only to Alaskan waters it was necessary that prompt action should be taken. The bill was passed without division.

Mr. Chandler (N. H.) gave notice that he would tomorrow call up the Corbett case immediately after the morning business.

The Indian appropriation bill was then considered.

Considerable discussion arose over an amendment proposed by the committee providing "that hereafter no Indian or tribe of Indians shall lease for mining purposes lands that are not patented to said Indians."

CORPORATIONS HAVE A GRAFT.

Mr. Rawlins supported the amendment and referred to efforts that are constantly being made by private individuals and corporations to secure Indian lands, particularly mineral lands by lease from the Indians, with the approval of the secretary of the interior. He said that when he came here in 1893, an application was pending before the secretary of the interior for approval of a lease of 386,000 acres of land in the Uncompahgre reservation, containing valuable deposits of gilsonite. The lease had been obtained by an individual through the connivance of the Indian agent, and at once turned over to the American Asphalt company. The agents and attorneys of this corporation, Mr. Rawlins said, had come to Washington, and representing that they controlled senators and representatives, and had great influence in high political circles, were trying to force the approval of their lease. Ultimately, he said, a lease covering about 500 acres was approved.

Now, he declared, those same persons were endeavoring to defeat the committee amendment to prevent the Indians from leasing their lands. He believed in opening the mineral lands by the government, the leasing of them to individuals or companies, and the application of the proceeds for the benefit of the Indians.

With this argument Mr. Allen took issue. He maintained that the Indians had a higher and better right to the land than the mere permission to roam over it, hunting and fishing and feeding their ponies. He held that the Indians had a right to mine for the mineral supposed or known to be in the land or cut the timber growing thereon, and if the individual Indians or the Indian tribe did not desire to mine the land, they had the right to lease privileges to such persons as they pleased under reasonable restrictions.

THEY HAVE AN ADVANTAGE.

Mr. Allen said he did not desire to impugn anybody's motives, but he could readily conceive that those who resided near these valuable gilsonite lands, being thoroughly familiar with the location of the mineral deposits, might be anxious to open these lands to location by white people, as such opening would afford them an immense advantage over the people from other parts, who were unfamiliar with the matter.

The committee amendment was agreed to.

At the conclusion of the reading of the bill it was thrown open to amendment.

Mr. Kyle proposed an amendment that all or any part of the sum of $168,335 now in the treasury to the credit of the Sioux Indians of the Crow Creek Indian reservation in South Dakota may be used for the purchase of such cattle and agricultural implements as will promote their welfare. The amendment was agreed to.

Mr. Wilson (Wash.) presented and secured the adoption of an amendment appropriating $30,000 for school buildings and repairs on the Puyallup reservation in Washington.

In view of this amendment Mr. Allison presented and had adopted a committee amendment reducing the sum appropriated by the bill for the construction, purchase, lease and repair of school buildings from $200,000 to $170,000.

Mr. Wilson also secured an amendment opening the south half of the Conville Indian reservation in Washington to mineral operation.

Mr. Allen presented an amendment restoring the annuities of the Santee Sioux Indians.

Mr. Allison made a point of order against the amendment. He said it would involve the payment of at least $3,000,000, and perhaps double that amount.

Mr. Allen said he did not want so important an amendment as that "whistled down the wind" by a point of order. He said he did not want to be "picked up and snuffed out like a candle," but desired an opportunity to discuss it.

Mr. Allison said he was convinced that there was not the shadow of right in the proposed amendment. He insisted on this point of order, but Mr. Allen withdrew the amendment.

An amendment was adopted appropriating $25,000 for the construction and equipment of an Indian industrial school on the Fort Keogh military reservation in Montana on a site not exceeding 1,000 acres.

Mr. Jones (Ark.) offered an amendment to the bill of the agreements between the United States commissioners to negotiate with the five civilized tribes, and the commissioners on the part of the Seminole nation, and it was agreed to.

ALLEN CRITICIZES REED.

In the course of the discussion of an amendment offered by Mr. Thurston, against which a point of order was made by Mr. Allison, Mr. Allen made a sharp attack upon the speaker of the house of representatives. He declared that it was impossible to secure the passage through the house of many meritorious measures, because one man stood at the entrance of the caverns into which proposed legislation was dumped and would permit nothing to be done of which he did not approve. He said that "in the other end of the capital this one man stands for 328, and his bold, unwarranted, undignified action was a disgrace to the congress and to the American people."

Mr. Frye said the senator (Allen) was himself out of order, while speaking to a point of order.

Mr. Allen said he had no desire to violate the rules and did not think he had violated them, as he had not referred to any man by name, nor any particular end of the capital.

This was received with sarcastic laughter by other senators, and even Mr. Allen smiled.

Further along in his remarks Mr. Allen reverted to the power exercised by the speaker of the house, declaring that in view of the impossibility of securing consideration of meritorious legislation the truth ought to be known to all the people in the country. If the truth hurt or if it broke any rules he was not responsible. "I want it understood," said Mr. Allen, "that I hold myself responsible at any time and in any place for such statements as I may make or have made on this subject."

Mr. Allison's point of order was sustained by the vice president.

Mr. Allen took an appeal to the senate from the vice president's ruling. Mr. Hoar moved to lay the appeal on the table. Mr. Allen made the point of no quorum and a roll call disclosed the presence of but thirty-nine senators—not a quorum.

The senate, on motion of Mr. Allison, at 5:15 p. m. adjourned.

HOUSE SHOWS SOME BAD TEMPER.

Democrats Resort to Filibustering to Obtain Their Point.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 10.—The house was in a very bad temper today and the whole session was consumed in filibustering against two bills of minor importance, one to issue a duplicate check and the other to make Rockland, Me., a subport of entry. Neither got further than the engrossment and third reading. The trouble arose over the enforcement of the rule against the discussion of irrelevant subjects when Mr. Handy (dem., Del.) attempted to reply on the floor during the consideration of those bills to a letter recently written by Thomas F. Bayard in denunciation of the free silver democracy. Roll call followed roll call all day long, and partisan spirit reached a high pitch. Finally, when it became evident that no progress could be made with the bills presented, an adjournment was taken until Monday.

Mr. Walker (rep., Va.), in the house, today presented the report of the committee on elections No. 3 on the contested election case of Thorp against Epes from the Fourth district of Virginia. The majority report was signed by all the republican members of the committee and was in favor of seating the contestant, Mr. Thorp.

Mr. Bailey, the democratic leader, got time from Mr. Perkins (rep., Ia.) during the consideration of a bill to authorize a duplicate of the check issued by Charles E. McChesney, an Indian agent, in favor of C. J. Holman & Brother for $2,819, and yielded thirty minutes of it to Mr. Handy (dem., Del.)

Some question was raised as to the right of Mr. Bailey to yield time, and considerable friction developed. Mr. Tawney (rep., Minn.) intimated in an undertone that Mr. Bailey had secured time under false pretenses.

"Of course the gentleman does not mean that," said Mr. Bailey, "but if he does I denounce it as infamously false."

The situation immediately became strained and when Mr. Handy launched his remarks, which proved to be a criticism of Hon. Thomas F. Bayard's recent utterances on the money question, objection was made that his remarks were irrelevant. Party feeling became strained by the incident, and the democrats retaliated by contesting the passage of the bill.

The previous question was ordered, but another roll call was forced on an insignificant incident. On this vote most of the democrats, under lead of Mr. Bailey, declined to vote, but the speaker noted enough members present to make up a quorum and the amendment was adopted.

On the next vote on the engrossment and third reading of the bill the speaker could only count 140 present and a call of the house was ordered.

A quorum appeared and the bill was ordered to be engrossed.

Mr. Bailey then formally demanded the reading of the engrossed bill. As this could not, of course, be done, the bill was laid aside.

The speaker then began a call for the committees for the presentation of bills. This was the first time this order of business has been entered upon at this session.

On the first bill presented Mr. Bailey again got the floor and again yielded to Mr. Handy. He had only uttered a few sentences, stating that he intended to reply to Mr. Bayard, when Mr. Dalzell called him to order.

Mr. Bailey protested vehemently that there was no way of determining whether Mr. Handy was in order or not.

Mr. Dalzell replied that the statement was a mere evasion.

Mr. Williams (dem., Miss.) and several others were drawn into the controversy.

Suddenly the speaker straightened up in his chair and addressing Mr. Bailey, said: "That the gentleman from Delaware is out of order can certainly not be disputed by gentlemen who are looking each other in the face."

Continuing the speaker said that while it had been the custom to allow the widest latitude in debate in the committee of the whole that had not been the practice in the house. There the debate was confined to the subject under consideration and he thought members on both sides must admit that it would not be suitable to fasten upon them a system by which all manner of questions could be discussed at any time. It was wise, he said, to conform to the principles that governed every parliamentary body.

Mr. Bailey, in reply, maintained that custom was as binding as the rule, and he contended that it had always been the practice to give gentlemen latitude. He had never known, he said, a case where a gentleman was called to order, unless he was attacking some one or indulging in personalities. He called attention that last week for two hours during the consideration of a pension bill in the house a debate on Pacific railroads had gone on. "Yet today," he said, "the rule was invoked on this side. When a gentleman on this side desires to reply to an attack on him, and all those associated with him, he is silenced. I appeal to gentlemen on the other side to reflect how far the practice they contend for can go."

The speaker said he had no desire to enforce the rules rigorously, except when they were invoked. If the rule had not been enforced on other occasions, it was the misfortune of those other occasions. There was no longer any pretence that Mr. Handy intended to discuss the pending bill.

It becoming evident that the democrats intended to continue the filibuster, and as the house had no regular business to proceed with, Mr. Dingley at this juncture moved an adjournment until Monday.

Mr. Richardson (dem., Tenn.), who, with his fellow democrats, desired to have a session tomorrow for the consideration of private bills, contested this motion with a plain motion to adjourn.

The speaker ruled that Mr. Dingley's motion took precedence.

The motion was carried, 128 to 116.

Mr. Henderson (rep., Ia.), chairman of the judiciary committee, asked unanimous consent for the consideration of the bankruptcy bill on Wednesday, Thursday and Saturday of next week, with provision for a vote at 4 o'clock on the following Monday. There was no objection, and the order being entered at 4:25 p. m. the house adjourned until Monday.

ASSASSIN PROMPTLY SHOT DOWN.

Official Confirmation of Killing of President Barrios.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 10.—The official confirmation of the assassination of President Barrios came today to the State department in the following telegram from Minister Hunter at Guatemala City, dated yesterday:

President Barrios was shot and instantly killed last night at 8 o'clock while walking with two military officers near the palace. The assassin while attempting to escape was immediately killed by the president's staff.

Manuel Estrada Cabrera, temporarily the constitutional successor, has been peaceably installed. All quiet.

Favors Survey of Southwest Pass.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 10.—The senate committee on commerce today authorized a favorable report on the house resolution providing for a survey of the southwest pass of the Mississippi river.

CANADIANS CHANGE FRONT

New Deal Announced Concerning Alaskan Relief Expedition.

SURPRISES WAR DEPARTMENT OFFICERS

Passage of Escort of Troops Had Been Assented To by Canadian Officials and British Minister.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 10.—In view of the apparent disposition of the Canadian authorities to prevent the United States troops from accompanying the relief expedition into the gold country, a brief review of the correspondence that has so far taken place between the two governments may be in order.

The negotiations proper started December 30 last between Acting Secretary Meiklejohn of the War department and Mr. Sifton, minister of the interior for Canada, then in Washington. The official reports show that a complete agreement, as it was understood at the time, was reached as to the course to be followed by the expedition and its escort. Soon after Mr. Sifton's return to Ottawa a question arose as to the free admission of supplies to be taken in by the government expedition in case they were to be sold at cost, which was disposed of by a prompt telegram from Mr. Sifton in answer to Mr. Meiklejohn, saying that it was intended to charge no duty upon provisions to be sent in. Mr. Sifton also reminded Mr. Meiklejohn of the stipulation between them that no unofficial or unauthorized persons should accompany the expedition. To facilitate free entry he asked for a certified list of the persons and an inventory of the outfit of the expedition. In confirmation of this came a note from Sir Julian Pauncefote, the British ambassador, confirming the statement as to free entry of goods and having this important paragraph as bearing on the present controversy: "Also that convoys may be accompanied by such reasonable escorts as the United States government may desire to provide for them and each convoy shall be likewise accompanied by a Canadian officer, the expense of such Canadian officer being borne by the Dominion government."

COMES AS A SURPRISE.

Supposing that this understanding was perfect, it came as a surprise to the War department when Mr. Sifton, on January 27, wrote that he took it for granted that the fifty-five enlisted men who were to accompany the expedition were not intended to go beyond the boundary line, which, he says, "is provisionally at the summit of the mountains about the middle of the pass." Mr. Sifton added that the arrangement into which he had entered was that he should furnish escort for the American expedition and he had accordingly sent forward the men for the purpose. In reply, under date of January 31, Mr. Meiklejohn said that his understanding was that the entire escort designated by our government should accompany the expedition to its destination as necessary to render assistance in overcoming anticipated difficulties, subject to Canadian law and to be accompanied by a Canadian officer. Enlisted men instead of civilians were selected as more available and amenable to discipline and costing less. The escort is not regarded as a military expedition, but on Canadian soil its service will be of a civil nature. Mr. Meiklejohn thereupon reminded Mr. Sifton of the agreement with Sir Julian as to the "reasonable escort" to be permitted. He points to the condition that would confront the expedition if it arrives upon the Canadian border with supplies and had to go beyond to meet hungry and desperate people without a single arm for the protection of the expedition, its supplies or equipments. So far no further communication has been had with the Canadian government on this subject. The route to be followed by the expedition is therefore uncertain.

YOUNG WIDOWS TO GET PENSIONS.

House Committee Votes Against Bill Cutting Them Off.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 10.—The contest which has been waged in the house committee on invalid pensions ever since the assembling of congress over the question of barring from the pension rolls the widows and children of soldiers who marry hereafter came to an end today in the defeat of the proposition. A measure with this end in view was introduced by Representative Samuel Smith of Michigan, and it had the endorsement of Commissioner of Pensions Evans. The question has been agitating the committee at all of its meetings and today after a very spirited discussion Representative Norton (dem., O.) brought it to a sudden close by demanding a vote on the question of favorably reporting it to the house.

The vote disclosed five members of the committee in favor of it and seven against it, the division not being on party lines. The division was as follows: Yeas, Ray (N. Y.), Warner (Ill.), Henry (Conn.), Smith (Mich.), republicans, and Driggs (dem., N. Y.); nays, Sulloway (N. H.), Kerr (O.), Gibson (Tenn.), Sturtevant (Pa.), republicans; Norton (dem., O.), and Botkin (Kan.) and Castle (Cal.), populists.

This probably ends the effort to secure the enactment of a general measure along these lines at this session. Chairman Ray, who was instructed at the last meeting to appoint a subcommittee to draft a service pension bill, notified the committee today that he would appoint the committee in a few days.

TWENTY-SIX BOARDERS POISONED.

Doctors Have Not Located the Cause of the Trouble.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 10.—The boarders and servants at 215 East Capitol street, a large boarding house several blocks from the capitol, were badly scared last night as the result of poisoning following dinner. Twenty-six of the boarders and servants were made ill, but while some of them are still suffering quite severely from the attack, it is believed the recovery of all of them is assured. Representatives Bodine and Lloyd of Missouri were among those attacked, but were able to be out today. Mrs. Bodine and Mrs. Lloyd and the latter's two children were not so fortunate and were compelled to remain abed today. A. M. Shelton and T. S. O'Ferrall, private secretaries to the two congressmen, and Captain Williams, a doorkeeper at the house of representatives, were also badly affected. The physicians summoned have been unable as yet to tell the causes of the poisoning.

HORSES ARE NOT YET EXCLUDED.

Reports of Action of Prussian Minister Exaggerated.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 10.—The following statement was made today to the secretary of state by the German ambassador:

Certain declarations of the royal Prussian minister of agriculture have evidently been distorted. The minister answered to an inquiry made to him in the Prussian Diet that we had to wait if any evidence might be furnished of veterinary dangers from the importation of American horses. Only when in case such dangers should have been proved would there be reason to take energetic measures or impose a quarantine as far as we are entitled to do so.

This explanation was called forth by the cabled statement that the Prussian minister of agriculture had said that American horses infected with influenza were being imported, and it might become necessary to forbid the further importation of horses.

Recalls the Landing Party.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 10.—Captain Leutze, commanding the United States ship Alert at San Jose, Nicaragua, has cabled the Navy department that he has recalled to the ship the force of marines and sailors landed two days ago at that place to protect the American consulate during the conflict between the government forces and the insurgents. Matters are reported to be still in an unsettled condition at San Jose.

Expect Lower Brules to Consent.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 10.—Inspector McLaughlin of the Indian bureau will leave in a few days for the Lower Brule reservation in South Dakota, to obtain the consent of three-fourth of the Indians to the agreement reached by delegations of that tribe and the Rosebuds, whereby 450 of the former are to locate on the Rosebud reservation. This is necessary because about 120,000 acres of the Lower Brule land will have to be sold in order that they may pay for a similar amount of the Rosebud land. No opposition to this step on the part of the Indians of the Lower Brule reservation is looked for.

RESTRICTS CANADIAN VESSELS.

Protect American Ship Owners Along the Pacific Coast.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 10.—Senator Frye today secured the passage by the senate of a bill amending the navigation laws in important particulars affecting the coasting trade of this country. The bill is of general application, but it is intended especially to prevent Canadian vessels from securing an undue share of the carrying business between Alaskan and other American ports. It will prevent Canadians gaining part of our coasting trade.

Complaint has been made that Canadian vessels were attempting to participate in the trade by starting from their own ports and then stopping successively at more than one American port and taking on passengers and freight from one American point to another on the theory that all were embraced on one voyage.

The bill passed by the senate today provides for the forfeiture of any merchandise shipped from one American port to another, directly or via a foreign port, on any other than an American vessel. A like provision is also made in regard to the transportation of passengers by a foreign vessel from one American port to another, except that the penalty in this case is placed at $100 each. The penalty under the existing law is $2.

The bill authorizes the secretary of the treasury to prescribe regulations for the transshipment of freight and merchandise into the United States by sea for immediate importation to a foreign port by sea or by a river, and also amends the present law found in section 3109 of the Revised Statutes so as to read as follows:

The master of any foreign vessel, laden or in ballast, arriving, whether by sea or otherwise, in the waters of the United States from any foreign territory adjacent to the northern, northeastern or northwestern frontiers of the United States shall report at the office of any collector or deputy collector of the customs which shall be nearest the point at which such vessel may enter such waters; and such vessel shall not transfer its cargo or passengers to another vessel, or proceed farther inland, either to unload or take on cargo, without a special permit from such collector or deputy collector, issued under and in accordance with such general or special regulations as the secretary of the treasury may, in his discretion, from time to time prescribe. This action shall also apply to trade with or through Alaska. For any violation of this section such vessel shall be seized and forfeited.

The bill is made to take effect one month after its passage.

ENLARGES YELLOWSTONE PARK.

New Boundaries for a Natural Barrier to Poachers.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 10.—Senator Hansbrough, at the instance of the secretary of the interior, today introduced a bill for the enlargement of the Yellowstone National park from 3,321 square miles to 6,566 square miles. Additions are made on the east and south and the northwest of the park. The eastern addition is a part of the Yellowstone forest reserve, and the southern addition of the Yellowstone and Teton reserves. The northwestern addition is in Montana, and includes the upper basin of Madison river, extending to the headwaters of the Gallatin river.

The lands included in the various additions are all mountainous, and most of them are heavily wooded. The southernmost addition includes Jackson's Hole, which Superintendent Young says, in recommending the addition, is a valuable winter resort for game. He estimates that 10,000 elk usually winter there. The proposed northwest reservation is the resort of the most daring poachers on the elk and buffalo in the park.

Colonel Young says the extension of the park's limits by these additions would supply such natural boundaries that with only eighteen miles of fencing the park game could be effectually enclosed and protected from poachers.

AMEND THE PROHIBITIVE DECREE.

Germany is Less Severe in Enforcing the Fruit Order.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 10.—The State department today sent to the senate the correspondence with Germany regarding the exclusion of American fruit. It shows that Ambassador White and the State department both took vigorous and prompt steps on learning of Germany's action, and that Germany disavowed any intention to avert competition, saying it merely intended to prevent introduction of apples.

Secretary Sherman sums it up by saying: "From the foregoing report it will be seen that the action of this government, and of its diplomatic representative at Berlin, for the protection of all legitimate commercial and exporting interests injuriously affected by the German prohibition was prompt and effective, and that as the matter now stands the admission of American fresh fruit into Germany has been secured in all cases save where the actual existence of the San Jose scale insect upon the fruit, or in the packings thereof, is ascertained."

Booth Calls on the President.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 10.—General William Booth, commander in chief of the Salvation Army, and his son-in-law, Commander Booth-Tucker of the American army, called on President McKinley today at the White House. The president received his callers very cordially, and in the course of the interview, which lasted about fifteen minutes, he expressed to General Booth his great admiration for him and for the great work of the Salvation Army, especially in the United States.

Its Receipts Are Increasing.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 10.—The Treasury department today issued a statement to the effect that the average daily receipts from all sources for the first ten days in February were $1,057,890, or at the rate of $386,130,580 per annum, which is $36,000,000 in excess of the average annual expenditures for the last nine years.

Nominations by the President.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 10.—The president today sent the following nominations to the senate:

Justice—George M. Christian, to be marshal for the southern district of Iowa.

Treasury—John T. Rich, collector of customs, district of Detroit, Mich.

Major Wham is Exonerated.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 10.—The house committee on military affairs has reported favorably the bill to restore Major W. W. Wham to his rank and pay in the pay corps of the army. The report fully exonerates Major Wham of the charge on which he was court-martialed.

Alger Goes to Fortress Monroe.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 10.—Arrangements have been made to convey Secretary Alger to Fortress Monroe on Saturday. He will go in a special car, accompanied by Mrs. and Miss Alger, his physician and an attendant and a nurse.

Daily Treasury Statement.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 10.—Today's statement of the condition of the treasury shows: Available cash balance, $216,787,258; gold reserve, $165,369,712.

HANNA TALKS TO SCOTCH-IRISH.

Is the Guest of Honor at the Annual Banquet.

PHILADELPHIA, Feb. 10.—Senator Mark Hanna was one of the guests of honor tonight at the ninth annual banquet of the Pennsylvania Scotch-Irish society. Senator Hanna's speech was entirely humorous and devoid of any mention of politics.

After the banquet when spoken to in relation to the De Lome episode, Senator Hanna said the feeling against the Spanish minister in congressional circles was extremely bitter, but that the majority of the more conservative members were with the president in the decision not to split hairs over the manner of De Lome's retiring, so long as he departed from the country, and that quickly.

POTTER WINS TWO TO ONE

Re-Elected President of the League of American Wheelmen.

FIGHT ON NEW YORKER FALLS FLAT

Three Hundred and Twenty-four Votes Cast, of Which He Secures Two Hundred and Twelve.

ST. LOUIS, Feb. 10.—The national assembly of the League of American Wheelmen got down to business today. But little time was taken up with the reports of the officers and standing committees, which had been printed and circulated before the meeting began. These were promptly adopted, and the assembly proceeded to the election of officers, who were all chosen before the recess for lunch was taken. The Potter ticket was elected without much opposition. President Isaac Potter, who sought re-election, received 212 votes, to 107 votes cast for George D. Gideon, ex-chairman of the racing board, and the election was made unanimous.

The following officers were elected: President, Isaac Potter of New York; first vice president, Thomas J. Keenan of Pennsylvania; second vice president, E. N. Hines; treasurer, James C. Tattersall of New Jersey.

The afternoon session was given up to the consideration and disposal of miscellaneous business, and the final discussion of amendments to the constitution and by-laws. The delegates decided they did not want professionals admitted to the league, and defeated that amendment.

Another was adopted giving the board of officers of any state division power to establish a junior membership of the League of American Wheelmen.

THRONG THE HOTELS.

The corridors of the Southern hotel, where the national assembly of the League of American Wheelmen is holding its session, present the aspects of a national political convention. The numerous state delegations have been holding meetings and caucusing for their respective candidates ever since their arrival. While Isaac Potter, the national president of the League of American Wheelmen, is in the lead for re-election to his present position, friends of his only opponent, George D. Gideon of Pennsylvania, ex-chairman of the racing board, say their favorite may surprise him with his strength when the time for balloting begins. President Potter's supporters assert he will go into the convention with more than enough votes to elect him. The action of the Pennsylvania delegation last night precludes the possibility of support from that division for Gideon. It is asserted that he will have at least 100 votes to begin with. These votes will probably come from the New England states, Massachusetts especially, Ohio and from some southern and western divisions.

Just before the assembly convened the Illinois delegation, which, as one of the delegates expressed it, was between the devil and the deep sea, held a caucus to decide which candidate to support. The Illinois delegation unanimously decided to cast its fourteen votes for Gideon and stand by him throughout.

The business session of the national assembly was called to order at 10:45 a. m. by President Potter and the calling of the roll was immediately proceeded with. It showed 307 delegates were present in person or represented by proxies. The proxies numbered 145.

The reports of President Potter and the other officers of the league, which had previously been prepared and printed, as well as the reports of the various standing committees, were passed upon without reading.

PRESIDENT POTTER'S REPORT.

The report of President Isaac B. Potter primarily dwelt at length upon the progress of the good roads movement in the league. He then called attention to the fact that ten states have passed laws requiring bicycles to be carried as baggage without extra charge, and bills are now pending in the legislatures of Kentucky, Virginia and Maryland for the same purpose. This policy on the Long Island railroad alone increased the traffic from 40,000 cycling passengers in 1896 to 160,500 in 1897. He recommended that the publishing of an executive bulletin of news and notes relating to the general work of the league and its separate divisions be continued. He also recommended the continuance of the loan fund which served an excellent purpose within the last year.

During the past year 54,793 new members have joined the league and 48,017 of the old members have renewed. But, as in former years, the percentage of renewals is by no means satisfactory. In closing his report, President Potter dwelt briefly on the dissatisfaction that was expressed in southern California owing to the failure of the passage of an amendment at the last assembly to sanction Sunday racing. He maintained that the deliberate judgment of the national assembly must at all times prevail.

SECRETARY BASSETT'S REPORT.

Secretary Abbot Bassett, in his report said the year 1897 had seen the membership grow from 72,000 to 102,000, and the finances had shown a very healthy condition. The membership roll shows a gain of 42 per cent. The largest percentage shown in the past was 87 per cent, in 1876. The gross income for 1897 was $165,042, an increase of $41,546 over 1896. Among the several divisions during 1897 was distributed $91,504. Subscriptions to the Bulletin amounted to $25,247, and to its publishers was paid $39,239, making the Bulletin cost the league $13,992. The number of paid subscriptions received was 100,990. League club fees amounted to $508. As instructed at the last assembly, the work of re-numbering the membership cards has been begun, but it is expected at least two years will be consumed in perfecting the alphabetical index.

The report of the auditing committee, composed of J. Fred Adams, John J. Van Hort and George L. McCarthy, showed that the league had in its treasury over $15,000. The principal heavy receipts for the past year were: Applications, $95,887; renewals, $36,012; subscriptions, $25,247. The heavy expenditures were: Distributions among divisions, $91,504; Bulletin account, $39,239.

The report of Albert Mott, chairman of the racing board, showed that during the year the receipts by the racing board amounted to $9,426, the expenditures $7,594, leaving a balance on hand of $1,832. During the year 2,912 race meets were held, where 17,316 races had been given, participated in by 9,000 racing men, who have won and received racing and pacemaking prizes to the value of $1,654,020.

One new feature that has improved bicycle racing in the past season is the entrance into it of capitalists and business men. They are in it for an investment and to get proper returns, consequently their meets are conducted in a business-like manner and with system. The racing sanction privilege is not only necessary, but it is a wise measure in fostering this class of recreation and entertainment for the public. The control by the League of American Wheelmen, without direct pecuniary profit, invites public confidence to an extent that could not be accomplished in any other manner.

Mr. Mott called attention to the manner of determining the professional national champion and asserted it is at fault. "For obvious reasons," he continued, "the national amateur championships should be determined entirely at the national meet and there should be but one champion."

In the report of Otto Dorner, chairman of the committee on improvement of the highways, he stated a vast amount of personal effort had been expended upon the good roads work in most of the states, and many active minds had devoted themselves enthusiastically and persistently to the cause. Apart from the continuous general agitation going on all over the country, the good roads movement has made considerable specific progress in a number of states.

The report of the committee on transportation stated that with the exception of Pennsylvania, Maryland, Delaware, Virginia, West Virginia, Indiana, southern Illinois and Florida, the railroads carry wheels by force of law, while these states are included by voluntary concession. The key to the eastern situation is now in the state of Indiana. If its legislature should pass a bicycle baggage law the scheme of transportation between Chicago and St. Louis and New England would be finished. Illinois is the key to the western situation, and recognizing this, the greater part of the committee work had been concentrated there. In the south the railroads are undecided. Florida's railroads voluntarily granted free transportation, commencing January 1 of this year.

The report of the membership committee submitted by Chairman George L. Cook showed that out of 100,000 applicants and members, just forty-nine had complaints or objections entered against them for causes other than ineligibility, and in twenty of these instances, the objections were overruled as trivial or unfounded.

The report of the committee on rights and privileges, submitted by Chairman Walter S. Jenkins, comprised the citation of numerous instances where that committee had been applied to from all over the country for opinions concerning the rights and privileges of riders, from complaints relating to collisions to constitutional questions. In all cases answers were given that would tend to produce harmony where seeming discord threatened.

The next business before the assembly was the election of officers and nominations for president were declared in order. Vice President Morrison took the chair at this point in the proceedings and Mr. Van Valkenburg of Wisconsin, at the request of the Empire state, placed in nomination Isaac B. Potter of New York, the present incumbent. He eulogized President Potter as the father of good roads.

After the enthusiasm over the nomination of Mr. Potter had subsided Wallace Sherwood of Indiana, Chief Consul E. F. Kerriker of New Jersey and Chief Consul Jenkins of New York seconded the nomination.

TELLERS ARE APPOINTED.

The chairman appointed Messrs. Fullerton of New York, Hayes of Massachusetts and Miller of Iowa as tellers. Before the result of the ballot was known, and during its counting, the other officers to be elected were nominated and chosen.

W. R. Tucker of Pennsylvania nominated Thomas J. Keenan of Pittsburg for the office of first vice president.

Sterling Elliott moved that the secretary be instructed to cast the unanimous ballot of the assembly for Mr. Keenan. This was done and he was declared elected.

E. N. Hines, chief consul of the Michigan division, was nominated for second vice president and J. C. Tattersall of New Jersey was placed in nomination for treasurer. The unanimous vote of the assembly was cast for each by the secretary, and they were also declared elected, amid much enthusiasm.

This completed the list of officers, as Secretary Bassett's office is a perpetual one, with the exception of president.

While waiting to receive the report of the tellers, invitations were received on behalf of Philadelphia and Providence, R. I., for the national assembly to hold its next convention in 1899 in one or the other of those cities. Providence was chosen by a large majority.

It was almost an hour after the ballot had been taken before the tellers were ready to report, with this result: Total number of ballots cast, 325, of which 212 were for Potter, 107 for Gideon and the remainder scattering. Only 154 votes were necessary for a choice.

The enthusiasm that was shown over the re-election of Mr. Potter lasted for several minutes, at the conclusion of which Mr. Gideon moved that his opponent's election be made unanimous. The motion was carried with a rush, and Mr. Potter made a short speech, thanking the delegates for the honor.

LARGE NUMBER OF PROXIES.

Previous to the balloting the committee on credentials reported that 307 delegates were present or represented by proxies. There were actually in the convention 162 delegates, who held proxies for the remainder.

The convention here took a recess for luncheon.

President Potter presided at the afternoon session, which was held in Masonic hall.

An auditing committee for the ensuing year, consisting of George E. Blackman of New York, J. Fred Adams of Massachusetts and George E. Greenburg of Chicago, was elected.

A motion by Chief Consul Samuel of Maryland that Chairman Mott of the national racing board retain the balance of funds in the treasury of the board, some $1,400, as compensation for his work during the last year, was unanimously adopted.

It was also voted to pay to Secretary Bassett $200 for his services, and to authorize the loaning of $250 to the International Championship association to defray the expenses of sending amateur and professional teams to the world's championship contests to be held at Vienna.

Through Chairman Mott the racing board reported a long list of riders who had been transferred to the professional class for the infraction of rules other than that of competing for money. It was recommended that they be restored to their former standing in the amateur class. This recommendation was adopted, with the single exception of J. B. Corser of Allentown, Pa. This list of riders, with the exception of sixty-seven on the Pacific coast, added today, was made public last night. The additional reinstatements follow:

MORE REINSTATEMENTS.

The additional reinstatements follow: F. C. Boochman, W. J. Black, P. H. Rosenheim, George Thorne, M. J. Francis, John Davidson, C. J. Kendall, J. W. McGarvey, A. J. Strel, R. A. Coulter, E. H. Ward, J. E. Wallace, M. Kielberg, A. Siegfried, F. Heur, A. Bell, T. H. White, Robert Black, O. O. Hoffman, J. Baptiste, R. F. Haman, R. F. Galindo, Ita Champman, W. Rusher, L. A. Burke, George W. Ferris, A. E. Cumber, W. Hamilton, F. G. Coxshead, G. H. Depuy, F. W. Phillips, W. W. Smith, M. F. Rose, E. T. Morvey, W. H. Bray, C. H. Staples, F. C. Behrman, N. M. Gilman, F. Maunder, L. Desot, F. Thomas, J. C. Falbe, F. R. Haley, A. Ferry, T. Broderick, H. Kahn, J. H. Nash, I. R. Lind, W. J. Mills, George Pecht, A. Reidy, Johann Winn, Emil Schoenwald, C. W. Nunan, H. W. Squires, H. J. Smith, H. Anderson, George M. Bedbury, all of San Francisco; E. M. Whaley, M. J. Curtis and W. W. Thompson of Oakland; T. J. Hagan, C. M. Smith and Tony Deimas of San Jose; Gunard Wingard and W. P. Breeze of Tacoma, Wash.

Another list of professionals, made public last night, who desired reinstatement to the amateur class, was passed up to the assembly without the recommendation of the racing board and was promptly laid on the table by a unanimous vote.

The consideration of amendments to the constitution and by-laws of the league was then begun. The first was an amendment to article III of section 1, of the constitution.

Mr. Cook of Rhode Island and Mr. Lawson of Kentucky moved to strike out the word "amateur."

This would have the effect of admitting to membership in the league members in the professional classes, which had hitherto been entirely excluded.

EVERYBODY TALKS.

There ensued a most interesting debate, in which it seemed every delegate present participated, and advanced his views for and against the matter. At times the debate became acrimonious. Every opportunity was given the delegates to be heard before the previous question was presented.

As the result of the ballot the amendment failed of adoption, 182 to 143. As 325 votes in all were cast, 217 was the number required to carry it. An analysis of the vote showed that most of the opposition to the admission of "pros" to membership came from the east, New York and New Jersey voting solidly against the adoption of the amendment, thus insuring its defeat. It was notable that Massachusetts and Rhode Island voted solidly for the amendment. Aside from these two states and nineteen votes from Pennsylvania, the main support of the amendment came from the divisions south and west of the Allegheny mountains.

The second amendment proposed to article III, section 1, of the constitution, failed to be even considered, for it was discovered that it had not been published as required. A motion to cast it aside was adopted.

The next amendment was adopted, after some debate, and a few changes had been made in the wording. In brief it provided that the board of officers of any state division shall have the power to establish a junior membership of the League of American Wheelmen, to be subject to the control and management of the board of officers of the state division in which the junior member resides. Such junior membership shall consists of persons between the ages of 12 and 18 years, who must be a member of the family or a ward of a regular member of the League of American Wheelmen in good standing at the time of the presentation of the application for membership as a junior member of the league.

The remainder of this amendment pertained to the details of the new departure.

Adjourned until 9 a. m. tomorrow.

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