

SENATOR Butler's only object in again fusing with the Republicans and opposing the amendment is to be re-elected to the Senate, just as he was first elected by a similar fusion. If he could have been assured of his re-election by a fusion with the Democrats and advocating the amendment, he undoubtedly would have done so, since that was his intention and hope for several months after the Legislature adjourned.

He certainly did not oppose the passage of the act by the Legislature to submit the amendment to the people, nor did he make any opposition to its adoption until many months after its passage. It is very significant that the two Populist members of the Legislature from his county (Sampson) voted for the amendment in the Legislature. They were not only Butler's own Representatives but were his intimate friends, and it was generally understood that they voted his sentiments.

For several months after the Legislature had adjourned Butler did not, either personally or editorially in his paper, utter or write one word against the amendment. It was frequently published in the newspapers that he favored the adoption of the amendment and no contradiction of this was made by Butler or by any one or him. After waiting nearly six months and finding that he could not secure his re-election from the Democrats, at last he decided again to sell out his party to the Republicans.

But can he again do this? Are the honest white Populists of North Carolina so anxious for Butler's re-election that they are willing to vote with the negroes and against the great bulk of the white men of the State? It may be a long time for Butler, but how can it benefit them? Do they, can they, think that our State will be better governed by allowing ignorant negroes to vote?

The Populist party is divided into two warring factions, which of course destroys whatever influence the party united might have. The national executive committee met at Lincoln, the capital of Nebraska, on last Monday, for the purpose of selecting the time and place of holding the next national convention, and it was a most turbulent meeting and ended in a bolt.

The chairman of the committee is Senator Marion Butler, who presided at this meeting and was bitterly denounced by the bolters for unfairness. Butler and a majority of the committee favored holding the Populist national convention at the same time and place with the Democratic national convention, and the nomination of Col. Bryan. This was strongly opposed by the minority, who insisted that Tucker and Donnelly, already nominated as President and Vice-President. Finally, after an uproar the minority bolted the meeting and held a separate meeting, which decided to hold a national convention at Cincinnati on the 9th of May.

Butler and the majority of the committee have called their convention at Sioux Falls, South Dakota, on the 9th of May and will then nominate Bryan.

The British at last have met with some success in their war against the Boers, after experiencing an almost uninterrupted series of reverses. They have relieved and entered Kimberley, which had been so long besieged, but Ladysmith is not yet relieved. This campaign in South Africa has been a great surprise to the world generally, but especially to the British. Great Britain now has in active service against the Boers the largest and most powerful army that it has ever sent into the field in any war in its history. The number of British soldiers now in South Africa is over 200,000, while the Boer soldiers are but about one-fourth that number.

Of course the British will finally succeed in overpowering their weaker adversaries, but their ultimate victory will be most dearly bought.

KENTUCKY still enjoys the luxury of having two Legislatures in session at the same time. Both bodies are now holding their sessions at the State capital (Frankfort), the Republicans having returned from the backwoods of Eastern county and the Democrats from Louisville. The contest will soon be decided in the courts, and the military have been withdrawn, so it is hoped there will be no further bloodshed. It is said that Taylor's troops, when at Frankfort, damaged and destroyed much valuable property about the capitol.

The "war for humanity" waged by the United States against Spain does not seem to have benefited the island of Porto Rico, if recent dispatches from there are true. The local press says that the conditions of that island were better during the darkest days of Spanish rule than they are now. The chief cause of complaint is the oppressive customs duty, or tariff, on sugar and tobacco, which is almost prohibitive.

Eld Negro Highwaymen.

Greenville, S. C., Feb. 17.—Mr. J. J. Laughlinhouse, who lives about fifteen miles from here on the Washington road, said a lot of tobacco here Thursday. He did not get through with his business in time to go home that night. Yesterday morning he left for home in a buggy by himself. As a member about seven miles from here, he met four negroes coming down the hill on the other side. Being he had time to suspect anything, one seized his horse, two, one on each side, presented pistols, and the fourth, with an ax on his shoulder in striking attitude, took possession of the back of his buggy.

He was made to get out of the buggy and was then robbed of \$720 in money, a bank of Greenville cashier's check for \$500 and his gold watch. They then left him. A short distance in the hill he looked back and saw the negroes in the road going in the opposite direction. Mr. Laughlinhouse drove hurriedly to Greenville, five miles further, and phoned Sheriff Moore of the robbery. Many people left at once for the scene of the robbery and in a short while a crowd was there. The surrounding country was searched for tracks and many were found, several of which were thought to be those of the robbers. A large woods was also searched. In the meantime the robbers had been traced to a place five miles from the State farm and a report was sent. They arrived on the grounds about nine hours after the robbery, and for a while the negroes were kept in the woods and then taken to the station where the robbers took their last and best protection. From there the negroes were made to strike a hard. After a trial of about two hours this plan was abandoned and the crowd dispersed.

Mr. Laughlinhouse was in a mood. The negroes were all strangers to him, though he was positive that he could identify them. Enclosing offers will be made to capture them.

A Fire at Southern Pines.

Southern Pines, Feb. 19.—One of the most destructive fires that was ever known in Southern Pines broke out here last night at 10:45, destroying the post-office, bank, opera house, and Hotel Alpena, in the buildings belonging to Captain A. M. Clark. The losses, at about \$120,000, the insurance being only about \$4,000.

About 25 Northern visitors were in the hotel, but all escaped with their baggage. All of the papers in the bank of Chas. T. Greer & Son were saved. All the mail in the post-office was saved, but about \$100 worth of stamps, stationery, etc., was lost.

The chief of police fell from the top of the house and broke his nose. Assistant Agent Chas. Brewer, of the Seaboard Air Line at this point, received a bad cut over the eye by a bucket falling from the top of the house. The building was four stories and will be rebuilt at once of brick.

The seventeenth annual convention of the North Carolina Sunday-school Association will be held in Charlotte March 14th, 15th and 16th. Entertainment will be provided by the citizens of Charlotte for all delegates. Reduced rates have been secured from all railroad lines.

It is said that Butler will be nominated for Governor and ex-Judge Spencer B. Adams for Lieutenant-Governor on the Fusion ticket, and then Adams is to become Governor when Butler is re-elected Senator.

Senator Pritchard has recommended Hon. Frank I. Osborne, of Charlotte, as the Southern member on the Philippine Commission.

Don't miss the great New Orleans Mardi Gras, February 21st to the 27th, by the Seaboard Air Line.

Washington Letter.

Washington, Feb. 16, 1900. The story that Governor Roosevelt is in the field as a candidate for the Republican Presidential nomination has found a sufficient number of believers among the McKinleyites to make it more important than it seemed to be when it reached Washington several days ago. It is now said that there is a Roosevelt "marching order" that it is plentifully supplied with money and is actively collecting with the men who usually control delegations from the Southern States to Republican national conventions; that Roosevelt's positive refusal to be a candidate for Vice-President and his opposition against the former incumbent and in favor of absolutely American control of the canal was a part of his scheme to attract the support of the anti-McKinley Republicans. A considerable number of Republicans in both Senate and House would be glad to see Mr. McKinley defeated for the nomination by Roosevelt, or any body else, but they have no idea of sacrificing all their official positions by announcing that fact, unless it can be shown that Roosevelt, or somebody else, has sufficient strength to win the nomination. Some think that Roosevelt is merely making a bluff in order to force the administration to throw its influence in favor of his nomination for Governor.

Representative Bell, of Colorado, showed in a short speech that the charges respecting money by Republicans, that the banks had no profits by the deposits of government money, was ridiculous. He had written to State Treasurers and ascertained that they received from 1 1/2 to 4 per cent, on daily loans from the banks in which State funds were deposited, but the government did not receive a cent of interest on the millions deposited by Secretary Gages' orders in national banks. Mr. Bell characterized those deposits as a crime against the people.

Senator Talmadge, of Florida, this week made public a vigorous demand of the charge made in a New York paper on the authority of a detective, that he had during the Spanish war been a party to a conspiracy to prevent the government from purchasing a lot of tobacco in company of which the Senator was an officer. In addition to promulgating the charge on a issue of malicious falsehoods from beginning to end, Mr. Talmadge says it was perpetrated by the animosity of ex-Senator Call.

Senator Jones, of Nevada, whose speech about the Republic being a grand old party was so much applauded, after stating that the measure was wrong from his standpoint and that in a year or so a proposition to raise a \$100,000,000 loan, to be used in the purchase of the national bank, was a part of the bill, he said that he reserved his opinion on the proposition until he had seen the proposition in its entirety, as his feeling on the subject was not settled.

The interests of the people in the United States are being neglected, but I would rather be under absolute government, as we have financial independence than to have political independence, and financial independence without financial independence is only independence in name.

There seems to be something attractive in the word "suffrage" for the average Republican in Congress. The House to-day on Interstate and Foreign Commerce has decided by a vote of 87 to 67, in favor of the bill authorizing the laying of the Pacific cable by a private corporation and the payment of a subsidy by the government for a period of twenty years.

Republican hints of their intention to do something that will remove the trust question from this year's campaign induced Representative Bell, of Texas, to recall the bill. He did so by offering a resolution authorizing the Speaker of the House to appoint a special committee, only five members of which shall belong to one political party, to which shall be referred all bills and resolutions relating to trusts, including those already introduced and now apparently sleeping in various committees. Mr. Bell's resolution is now in the hands of the Committee on Rules, and the question of whether there shall be any trust legislation is up to that committee, which is dominated by Speaker Henderson.

Believing that if the Isthmian canal is to be a world canal, instead of the distinctly American canal, it ought to be the world ought to clip in its share of the cost of constructing it. Representative Jefferson Levy, of New York, has introduced a bill authorizing negotiations with the maritime nations asking them to contribute to the construction of the canal in proportion to the extent of their shipping tonnage.

Take advantage of the cheap rates over the Seaboard Air Line to see the South in midwinter and the quaint old city of New Orleans, during the wonderful Mardi Gras festivities.

Atwater For the Amendment.

The following letter from Congressman Atwater received too late for last week's Record explains itself, and we commend it to the careful consideration of all honest Populists:

Washington, Feb. 12. Mr. R. H. Hayes, Pittsboro, N. C. "DEAR SIR: I received this morning yours of the 10th inst., inviting me to be present at Pittsboro tomorrow at a meeting of the citizens of my county. I regret that my work here at this particular time requires my personal attention and will prevent me from accepting your kind invitation.

"With your permission I will embrace this opportunity to state briefly my position upon some of the questions now uppermost in the minds of the people of North Carolina. Regarding my own personal position, I can state that there has been no change. I became a Populist because of my sincere convictions upon certain public questions, and upon the main issues, which indeed my change at the time the Democratic party subsequently aligned itself by the adoption of the fusion platform of its national convention in 1892. During the entire time since I became a Populist, I have never knowingly aided or aided with the Republican party for the sake of the spoils of office, and I claim that my record in this respect has been entirely consistent.

"I state most emphatically that I am for wine supremacy, for the rule of the white man in North Carolina, and for the establishment of the various and agreed-upon vote, which has for years stood as an open menace to good government in the State.

"Senator Butler, nor any other man can lead me to antagonize my own race or to oppose the present movement in North Carolina to amend the constitution of the State so as to disfranchise a portion of the ignorant negro voters, or to sacrifice the principles of the Populist party by fusing with the Republican party. It is an opportunity which has not come to the people of the State since the franchise was originally conferred upon the negroes, and every white man who loves his race and his State should, without hesitation, embrace this opportunity, and, in my opinion, if he follows his own conscience and his individual judgment, he will do so.

"There are thousands of other Populists who feel upon this issue as I do, and they will be found in this contest with the great bulk of the white people of North Carolina. Senator Butler has made the mistake of his life. He may have realized that the only alternative would be to present his objection to the Senate or present his objection to the people, and that the latter course would have been the only one to have secured the support of the people. He has chosen the former course, and he gets his patent.

"I am, Sir, very truly, your obedient servant, B. NOGE JR., Pittsboro, N. C., Feb. 2, 1900.

There are some good men in the State who have agreed that if the 5th section of the proposed amendment should be declared unconstitutional, that the remainder of the proposed amendment would stand, and thereby result in disfranchising a large number of honest white voters in the State. While the great majority of the best lawyers in and out of the State have given it as their opinion that the amendment would either stand as a whole, or be rejected as a whole, and that the 5th section was entirely unconstitutional, still naturally a doubt among the people may have existed upon this question, it being entirely an issue of law.

"However, if the Legislature at its adjourned session in June shall adopt another section to the amendment, as is proposed to be done, providing that the amendment shall stand or fall as a whole, all opposition to the amendment will thereby be dismissed, and the plausible argument of the opponents of the amendment will be eliminated.

Yours truly, J. W. ATWATER.

Elephants Tore Into Crowd.

London, Feb. 18.—An exciting scene took place at the Crystal Palace, Sydenham, this afternoon. Two large elephants belonging to the circus en passant, killed their keeper and tasked another man. There was a terrible panic in the audience attending the concert in the palace.

One animal was captured after great damage to property. The other escaped through the grounds, but was caught late this evening in the suburb of Breckenhelm.

Mardi Gras by the Seaboard Air Line, February 21st to the 27th.

Tired of Butler's Playing Politics.

Against Senator Butler's official record we have nothing to say. We only wish we had a majority in Congress like him. But he has played "politics" with the People's party in this State until there is not much left to play politics with. We believe the party can be reorganized if we leave off some of the "practical politics" and return to first principles.

"Ours is a minority party and, notwithstanding we have a record for pretty good standing, we could not hope to get a majority of Populists in the Legislature. Are we to preserve our party identity? Can we afford to put a few men in office at such an expense? Are we to again fuse with both the old parties this year as we did in 1890 and wish we had more old parties to fuse with? If we keep on fusing with everything that can get on our side or elude us, it won't be long (I'll show it to you) before a few leaders will probably keep on issuing addresses to the various places where our voters used to be. Expensive has meant that a minority party gets it in the neck in a fusion deal. Will we profit by the experience of the past? We shudder.

More than now. The new future promises to bring great activity in the gold mining industry in Idaho. The Pittsboro mine has been sold for \$50,000. The Perry mine for \$25,000, the Scott Hill mine, owned by Mrs. Sarah M. Doolittle, for \$5,000, the Pittsboro mine for \$10,000 and the Grayson mine for \$4,000. New York capitalists with reported millions of dollars have bought these mines, and it is said, will have machinery in place and have hundreds of hands at work within the next month.

Railroading Patents.

A single firm of Patent Lawyers, C. A. Snow & Co., of Washington, D. C., have in their hands prepared 1,000 patents for their clients, many of them for selected inventors. C. A. Snow & Co. have been successful in securing patents for their clients in all the States, and they are now in the process of securing the same in the United States. They are now in the process of securing the same in the United States.

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SEABOARD AIR LINE VESTIBULE LIMITED TRAINS. DOUBLE DAILY SERVICE TO ALL PORTS SOUTH, SOUTH AND WEST.

In Effect November 5, 1899.

Table with columns for Southbound and Northbound trains, listing destinations like Norfolk, Roanoke, and Richmond, and arrival/departure times.

TRAINS LEAVE PITTSBORO 3:20 p. m., 5:30 a. m. Trains Arrive at Pittsboro 11:25 a. m., 5:25 p. m.

Trains except Saturdays.

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WHILE ADVOCATING White Supremacy, the RECORD will do all it can to help the colored people in improving their condition.

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