

CIVIL SERVICE ASSAILED.

ONE DEFENDED IN THE HOUSE.

Representative Hepburn Goes So Far as to Offer an Amendment to Strike Out the Appropriation for the Commission—Minority Leader Williams Also Investigates Against the "Chinese System"—Secretary's Salary Put to Rest by the House.

Washington, Dec. 8.—The annual fight on the Civil Service Commission was begun in the House to-day during consideration of the legislative appropriation bill. The opposition came from Messrs. Bartlett, of Georgia, Hepburn, of Iowa, and Grosvenor, of Ohio.

The legislative bill was scrutinized carefully in consonance with the President's recommendation against extravagance. Mr. Bingham, in charge of the bill, was required constantly to explain some particular appropriation.

The pay of the stenographers to committees of the House was reduced from \$3,000 per annum to \$2,000, and the House refused to accept the provision increasing the pay of the secretary to \$10,000.

The paragraph relating to the Civil Service Commission elicited from Mr. Maddox, of Georgia, severe criticism, because of a proposed increase in the number of clerks to be employed.

Mr. Gillett, of Massachusetts, defended the commission. He said that the commission was not his route to his substitute and gone to the polls and worked for the Republican ticket.

Mr. Williams, of Mississippi, the minority leader, offered a suggestion that it would be an improvement over the present system to fix a certain period for which an employee should serve the government.

Mr. Grosvenor, of Ohio, referred to a package of papers which had come to him yesterday from his substitute and gone to the polls and worked for the Republican ticket.

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MORRELL FOLLOWS PLATT.

Bill to Reduce Representation Introduced into the House—More General in Its Terms Than the Senate Measure.

Washington, Dec. 8.—Representative Morrell, of Pennsylvania, to-day introduced a bill to reduce representation in States where citizens are disfranchised. The bill is more general than that introduced by Senator Platt yesterday, and its provisions apply to any State limiting suffrage.

The bill, if enacted into law, would reduce the representation in Congress of any State which denies the right of suffrage to any of its male inhabitants, or in any way abridges such right, except for participation in rebellion or crime.

The bill makes it the duty of the Secretary of Commerce and Labor to ascertain through the Census Bureau, by means of a biennial census, the number of such citizens in each State to whom the right to vote is so denied or abridged, and to report the same to the Speaker of the House of Representatives.

Provision is further made for the reading of a report in open session at the beginning of each Congress, which shall form the basis of calculation in determining the number of Representatives to which a State shall be entitled in that Congress.

Senator Tillman Brings Up a Discussion of a Bill for a Committee Report on Recess Appointments Will Not Make Fictitious Opposition.

Washington, Dec. 8.—The Senate held only a short session to-day, and adjourned until Monday. During the session an attempt to secure confirmation of the pure-flood bill was defeated by a demand of Mr. Aldrich that the bill be read at length, which brought an objection from Mr. Tillman, who did not want the time consumed.

Mr. Tillman brought the case of William D. Crum, the colored man nominated for collector of Charleston, S. C., into prominence by asking for a report from the committee on judiciary as to the status of recess appointments, such as that made in Crum's case in the first and second sessions of the present Congress.

PART REPORTS ADVISABLE.

ANSWER TO COTTON EXCHANGES.

Director of the Census North Declares That to Abandon the Installment Statement Plan Would Deprive the Market of a Steady Influence—Full Report Might Be Delayed by Lack of Returns From a Few States—Plan Will Be Banned, However, If Not Clearly Satisfactory.

Washington, Dec. 8.—Director of the Census North to-day made a statement setting forth the position of the Census Bureau in connection with the resolution adopted by the Memphis Cotton Exchange and concurred in by the exchanges at Vicksburg and Charleston, requesting that the Census Office abandon its present plan of publishing the cotton crop reports in partial statements, and withhold all information until reports have been received from every county in the cotton belt.

"Since the Census Bureau undertook the collection and publication of the statistics of cotton ginned, only two objections have been urged to it plan—namely, that too much time elapsed between the collection and the publication of the reports, and that the exigencies of the cotton trade required reports more frequently than once a month.

"The change was made to meet these two objections. It is impossible to give out complete reports until all the agents have made their returns, and, as the returns are received under conditions which differ widely throughout the cotton-producing States, it often happens that a few county reports are late, and the publication of the full report thus delayed several days.

"The estimate of the United States Department of Agriculture, estimating the year's crop at 10,000,000 bales, appeared on December 3d. The public, therefore, had ten days in which to prepare for a large crop estimate. It would appear that the effect of the partial statement was to prepare the public for a crop which was not expected, and to prevent wide fluctuations in prices, which must otherwise have occurred.

STATUS OF CRUM CASE.

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CONGRESS FEELS THE STIR.

ONE EFFECT OF THE MESSAGE.

Well Street Excited Over the Recommendation of the President That the Inter-State Commerce Commission Be Given Power to Fix Railroad Rates—Assurances Have Been Given to Interests of Farmers, however, That Congress Will Do Nothing of the Kind—Senator Simmons Inquires About His Immigration Bill—More Jefferson Bibles May Be Printed.

Washington, Dec. 8.—The stir on Wall street excited more interest at the Capitol to-day than any consideration of politics or legislation, members being chiefly concerned over the report that the slump in stocks, which has been noticeable since Monday, had been precipitated not so much by the Lawson letters as by certain paragraphs in the President's message.

The decline in prices to that clause in the message which recommended that the Inter-State Commerce Commission be vested with power to regulate fares and rates of railroads. Long distance telephones between the metropolis and the capitol were in constant service to-day, and it seemed that the leading spirits of the House and Senate were much interested in the matter.

Such testimony as this would suggest that the "frenzied financiers" cannot well shake their grey locks at the Republican leaders in Congress, who advised the street early in the week that they need not feel alarmed over anything the President might say, a proceeding which, in the opinion of the Democrats, looks more like self-discipline to somebody. It is said by well-informed men at the capitol that there is no likelihood whatever of Congress enacting the recommendation of the President to vest such wide power in the Interstate Commerce Commission.

The question was threshed over by leading spirits of the House and Senate last session when bills were introduced. It was argued then that it would be impolitic to vest such wide discretionary powers in a body such as the Interstate Commerce Commission and that before the discretion was granted the basic organization of the commission would have to be enlarged.

CAUSE OF THE RECOMMENDATION.

The recommendation of Monday's message is accounted for by those who are interested in the subject on the score of the influence of the three Western Governors who recently talked with the President. Carl Zentz, of Minnesota, LaFollette, of Wisconsin, and Canning, of Iowa, in those three States the question of railroad rates is paramount at this time. The situation would immediately become interesting, however, if the President should insist on some plan in line with his recommendations.

SENATOR SIMMONS' BILL.

Senator Simmons to-day conferred with Senator Dillingham, chairman of the committee on immigration, with reference to the immigration bill which the North Carolina Senator introduced last session, and the passage of which he earnestly advocated.

Senator Lodge has introduced a resolution calling for the printing of 10,000 more copies of the Jefferson Bible. Senator Overman to-day urged the Massachusetts Senator to make his resolution read 40,000 and if this suggestion is not enacted an effort will be made to have the resolution amended in the Senate.

WRECK DELAYED TRAIN.

Trains from Winston-Salem and Statesville were delayed several hours last night by a south-bound freight wreck which took place late in the afternoon one mile the other side of Davidson. Six or seven cars were torn up pretty badly, but no one was injured. At a little before 10 o'clock a wrecking train from Gastonia passed through Charlotte on its way to the beach.

DEATH OF MR. JOHN R. WILSON.

Mrs. W. T. Jordan received last night a telegram informing her of the death of Mr. John R. Wilson at the home in Richmond, Va., at the age of about 32 years. Mr. Wilson was well known in Charlotte and near-by towns. He traveled for Cohn & Co., of Richmond, and was a very popular man. There are many in Charlotte who will leave with deep regret of his death.

MRS. CHADWICK IN PRISON.

SURETY FOR \$15,000 LACKING.

No Friend Owing Minuteman Real Estate Could Be Found—Following the Arraignment Early in the Morning—The Woman's Condition Physically Weak—Comforted by Her Son's Presence at the Incarceration—Says She Would Not Care to Live if She Did Not Expect to Meet Ohio Obligations.

New York, Dec. 8.—Mrs. Cassie L. Chadwick is to-night occupying one of the scantily-furnished cells in the Tombs. After a fruitless search all day for bail, her attorneys gave up the fight to-night, and Philip Carpenter, her chief counsel, stood in the corridor of the Federal building at 9 o'clock, when United States Marshal Henkel threw open the double doors of his office and led the woman out on her way to prison.

Mrs. Chadwick was wan, tired and almost fainting. She made her way across the hall to the warden's office, leaning heavily on the marshal's arm and that of her son, Emil. Behind them came her nurse, Freda Swenson, and Deputy Marshal Kennedy. The party passed through a double row of carriages, and the woman, who was waiting on the Broadway side.

They were driven directly to the Tombs. Arriving there, Mrs. Chadwick was hurriedly carried up the steps into the building, where Philip met her, and after the usual preliminaries had been attended to, the woman asked permission to have her nurse remain with her. This was denied, the warden saying that she should have no privileges not allowed her prisoner.

Mrs. Chadwick gave a hand-bag and a few trinkets to the nurse, and whispered some instructions to her son, Marshal Henkel formally turned her over to the warden and she was taken to the matron's room. She asked to say good night to her son, and the lad eagerly rushed to his mother, and wrapping his arms about her, gave her a long embrace. Then he was led away to the inner office, where her pedigree was taken and she was assigned to a cell.

The son and nurse entered a carriage and were driven to a hotel. While lying on a couch in the United States marshal's office awaiting a handman, Mrs. Chadwick, for the first time since her name has been before the public, consented to talk for publication and gave the representative of the Associated Press a statement in which she related the details of the case.

Mrs. Chadwick also told of the Wade Park and Oberlin Bank matters. Referring to the failure of the latter institution, she said: "I would not like to live a minute if I did not think I could pay these poor people back." When asked concerning Andrew Carnegie's connection with her financial affairs, she declared absolutely to talk, referring her interviewer to her counsel.

This has, no doubt, been one of the most momentous days in Mrs. Chadwick's history. It commenced with her early departure from her hotel for the Federal Court building, and ended with her incarceration in the Tombs.

CRUMPACKER SEES PRESIDENT.

Effort Made to Enlist the Chief Executive's Influence in the Proposition to Reduce Southern Representation.

Washington, Dec. 8.—An effort is being made to enlist the influence of President Roosevelt in promoting the proposition to reduce the representation of certain Southern States in the House of Representatives. Representative Crumacker, of Indiana, one of the advocates of a reduction in Southern representation, had a talk with the President to-day regarding the matter. He declined to make any statement about the result of his interview, but he is reported to have declined conference with the President at a later date on the subject. The President has not indicated that his influence may be toward the proposed legislation.

FOUR HELD FOR TRIAL.

Result of Testimony of an Alleged Member of a South Carolina Mob—The Smallpox Situation Growing Serious, Especially in Marlboro County.

1209 Main Street, Columbia, S. C. Edwards, the alleged Statesville lyncher who has turned State's evidence, gave his most startling testimony at the hearing before Magistrate McWay at Georgia's town of Edgefield, S. C., to-day.

Edwards, who was arrested at Edgefield, S. C., on December 1st, testified that he was a member of a mob which had been organized in Marlboro County, S. C., for the purpose of committing smallpox on the State.

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JAPAN ACCEPTS INVITATION.

Will Gladly Participate in the Hague Conference, Provided It Does Not Meddle With the Far Eastern War.

Washington, Dec. 8.—The charge d'affaires of the Japanese legation to-day informed the Secretary of State that the Japanese government cordially sympathized with the excellent purpose that inspired the invitation to the President to the second Hague conference.

The Japanese government does not find in the proposed conference, provided that the Government of the United States will not take, or assume to take, any action relative to or affecting in any way the present position of the United States in the Far East, a sufficient reason why they should not participate in the conference.

THREE MORE SHIPS SINKING.

Battleships Pobeda and Retvizan, and Cruiser Pallada Seriously Damaged by Japanese Land Batteries.

Tokyo, Dec. 8 (P. M.).—The following report from the Japanese legation to-day informed the Secretary of State that the Japanese government cordially sympathized with the excellent purpose that inspired the invitation to the President to the second Hague conference.

SLEEPING FAMILY KILLED.

MURDER FOLLOWED BY ARSON.

Charred Remains of Mr. B. B. Hughes, His Wife and Two Daughters Found in the Smoking Parlor of Their Home in the Center of Trenton, N. C.

A bullet through the man's head and the skulls of the women crushed—Hobbery the supposed murderer, arrested at Edgefield, S. C., August 2d, Dec. 8.—A special issue of The Chronicle from Edgefield, S. C., "The most hideous of all human horrors occurred at Trenton last night equal in horror to the Staircase affair. If the general accepted theory be true that the victims were first murdered before the house was fired, at 5 o'clock this morning the residence of Mr. B. B. Hughes, centrally located in the town, was discovered on fire. Neighbors rushed to the scene, but the fire had progressed so far that entrance to the house was impossible. A once inquiry was made as to the whereabouts of the inmates, it being thought that they had made their escape in their night clothes. As soon as the fire had died down sufficiently, a fearful scene met the eyes of the beholders. There lay the charred and almost unrecognizable bodies of the entire family, consisting of Mr. Hughes, his wife, Eva, and two young daughters, Emma, aged 15, and Hattie, 14 years of age. Mr. Hughes' body lay just below where was situated the door leading from his room to the hall, with a bullet hole through the upper part of his head. A pistol with one empty chamber lay near by. Part of his charred clothes were on his person, showing that he was dressed at the time he met death. The body of his wife was on the bed springs, while those of the young ladies were similarly situated. The skulls of these three were crushed as if hit with an axe or some blunt instrument. Their bodies when found occupied a most natural position, with nothing to indicate a struggle, showing that they had been struck and done to death while asleep. The news spread like wildfire and soon the entire surrounding country was on the scene.

Under the direction of Solicitor Thurmond, a coroner's jury was impaneled, but as yet no testimony has been taken. It being thought best to await further developments. It was said three tracks were discovered leading from the field up to the rear of the house. The county blood hounds were secured and put on the trail, but this effort has availed nothing. The horror is veiled in mystery. Every external evidence goes to show that the family were all killed before the house was fired. One Chesley, who was entered for the purpose of robbery, that was being discovered, the robbers accomplished the murders and fired the house. Excitement runs high, but nothing rash will be done. Upon the request of Solicitor Thurmond, Governor Hewitt has offered a reward for the apprehension of the guilty parties.

PROBABLY HUGHES' OWN ACT.

Little Reason to Doubt That the Husband and Father First Murdered His Family and Then Committed Suicide.

Columbia, S. C., Dec. 8.—B. B. Hughes, aged 42 years; his wife, Eva, about the same age, and two daughters, Emma, aged 15, and Hattie, 14 years of age, respectively, constituting an entire family, are dead at Trenton, Edgefield county, and no one remains to explain the mystery of the tragedy. Citizens of the town were aroused at 5 o'clock by a fire at the Hughes' house, and upon reaching the scene the flames had gained such headway that it was impossible to enter the burning building, and not until the fire had burned itself out and the walls had collapsed was it discovered that the family was dead. The bodies of the two young ladies were found in their beds with their heads crushed in. The body of Mrs. Hughes was found in a room across the hall. Her head was also crushed by a fire at the Hughes' house. A bullet wound through the left temple. A pistol with one empty chamber lay near his right hand. Hughes was a prosperous farmer, supposed to be a member of the Ku Klux Klan, and why he should have been murdered, as he was on good terms with the white and colored people of the community. The surrounding conditions all point most strongly to Hughes as the murderer of his entire family and to a subsequent suicide.

ENABLED TO HOLD COTTON.

Texas Banks Generally Willing to Give Farmers Reasonable Rates—A Few Dissidents.

Houston, Tex., Dec. 8.—Interviews over the country show that the banks generally are willing to extend to enable farmers and merchants to carry their crops until they are ready to market. While there are some who oppose the plan, the generally do so on the ground that the amount held will result in continuing the cotton price at a level below the market price, and that the cotton will be absorbed, whereas by marketing the true crop the size of the crop could be more readily known. Generally, the reports to date from the country correspond to the fact that farmers will continue to hold.

NEW PRESIDENT FOR THE ORIENT MILL.

Mr. J. G. Wardlaw, of Gaffney, S. C., has arrived in the city to take charge of the Orient Mill in the capacity of president and manager. Mr. Wardlaw is successor to Mr. H. D. Wheel, who resigned the presidency of the mill on account of his interests in Gaffney. The latter will retain his interests in the mill and continue on the board of directors.

THIEVES ENTER STATION—AGENT HAD BEEN POISONED.

Houston, Tex., Dec. 8.—Station Agent Kelly, of the Missouri, Kansas & Texas Railroad at Brookshire, who was poisoned by unknown persons, died to-day. Thieves broke into the station office, stole ninety tickets, ransacked and carried away numerous merchandise and express packages, attached the express safe unsuccessfully, cut open two mail sacks said to contain registered matter, and opened many letters taken therefrom.

THE MELODRAMA LAST NIGHT.

A small audience witnessed the usual weekly presentation of a Western melodrama last night at the Academy. "At Cripple Creek," the name, tells the story, and there's little need be said about it. There were the usual bad men and heroes and heroines.