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PRESIDENT FINDS A HEARTY WELCOME

His Drive Through the Streets of Charleston Attended With The Greatest Enthusiasm—Interesting Incidents of the Day—Governor McSweeney's Welcoming Speech at Banquet—President's Reply.

Charleston, April 8.—President Roosevelt closed the first day of his visit here by attending a banquet in his honor tonight at the Charleston hotel, given by citizens. Many prominent officials were present, including Governor McSweeney. Music was furnished by the artillery band of Sullivan's Island.

The president's drive through the city today was attended by the greatest enthusiasm. Flags were waved and he was heartily cheered by the large crowds gathered along the route.

During the president's visit to Fort Sumter he was much impressed by the soldier-like precision of Sergeant Hart, one of the men engaged in operating the disappearing gun. He asked the sergeant where he was from, and Hart replied, "Texas." The president said: "I am always interested in a non-commissioned officer." He shook hands warmly with Sergeant Hart as he left.

While the president was aboard the revenue cutter Algonquin, making the tour of Charleston waters, he espied a former rough rider, Major Micah Jenkins. "You old tramp," exclaimed the president. "You old scamp, I am delighted to see you. This gives me exceeding pleasure." Jenkins bowed and shook hands with the president. Roosevelt then took Jenkins to task for not calling on him recently when in Washington and told him if he did it again it would not be good for him.

Captain Hobson was among the officers on the Algonquin. Charleston, S. C., April 8.—The hope of President Roosevelt last night that he might see sunshine in the morning was fully realized. The downpour of rain which had marked the trip almost from the moment of departure, ceased, and the heavy, black clouds disappeared and the day broke with a cloudless sky.

The journey to Charleston was made entirely without accident. To guard against any possibility of this nature, the Southern Railway officials sent a pilot engine ahead of the president's special.

Every detail of the trip was carried out under the direction of Col. L. S. Brown, general agent, who accompanied the party from Washington.

The president and Mrs. Roosevelt were early risers and welcomed the sunshine, as it made it possible to carry out the program which had been arranged for the entertainment of the visitors. The president retired last night before the state line of North Carolina was reached.

At Summerville, twenty-two miles from Charleston, the party was met by a special committee headed by Mayor Smith, Capt. F. W. Wagner, president of the exposition, and J. J. Hemphill, who accompanied the president on the remainder of the journey.

At Charleston was up and out this morning to do honor to the president and from the time of arrival within the corporate limits of the city to boarding the steamer it was a continuous ovation.

ARRIVAL IN HISTORIC CITY.
Charleston, S. C., April 8.—The president's train reached Charleston at 9:30 a. m. on time. The party left the train five miles out of the city where trolley cars were waiting to convey them to the naval station to take the revenue cutter for a tour of the harbor. The president's immediate party went directly to the naval station where they were joined in a few moments by members of the reception committee and invited guests from the city. A guard of thirty militiamen was stationed about the approaches to the train. At the naval station fifty men of the militia were posted maintaining picket lines about the reservation and none was allowed within the lines without special passes. The president and his

NEW LINE SCREENS.
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An Eye Point

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Opposite P. O.

party were shown about the station and were then conducted to the pier where the revenue cutter "Algonquin" was in waiting. As the president set foot on the deck the jackies were paraded and a salute of twenty-one guns was fired. In the stream the cutters "Forward" and "Hamilton" were lying and further down towards the city the cruiser "Cincinnati" and the training ships "Topeka" and "Lancaster." After the committee and guests had gone aboard the "Algonquin" started on a tour of the harbor. Passing down the Cooper river a fine view of the city and the opening of the bay was presented. The weather was perfect. There was not a cloud in the sky and a gentle breeze blew from the ocean with just a bracing touch in it and not chill enough to require overcoats. Passing into the bay the "Algonquin," came abreast of the cruiser "Cincinnati," whose decks were manned with all her crew as well as the "Topeka" and "Lancaster." As the president's vessel passed each fired a salute of twenty-one guns. Off the fortifications of Sullivan's Island the "Algonquin" was greeted with the same welcome and she passed to the ocean with gay streamers amid a chorus of guns.

Just a little run to the sea and the "Algonquin" turned about and re-entered the harbor, passing around historic Fort Sumpter. While steaming up the bay luncheon was served in the cabin of the cutter. A short run was made up the Ashley river, giving a view of the city's western water front, and then the ship was headed back for the landing where a troop of the Charleston Light Dragoons was in waiting to escort the president to his headquarters at the St. John's hotel. The president seemed in high spirits and entered with keen zest into all the features of the occasion.

GOVERNOR McSWEENEY'S SPEECH AT ROOSEVELT BANQUET

Charleston, April 8.—At the banquet tonight Governor McSweeney said:

"While we may not agree on questions of policy, we are all American citizens, and the boys of the south will respond to the call of their country as readily as those of any other section. We are one people, and when the country's call sounds our hands are outstretched to clasp the hand of a brother, wherever he may be; and we will together defend the flag."

He referred to the war with Spain and said sons of the north and of the south, side by side, shoulder to shoulder, fought until the power of Spain was broken in the western world. It attested the fact that the men who made and withstood Pickett's charge at Gettysburg could clasp hands over the graves of fallen heroes. Continuing he said:

"It was a southern boy who first planted the stars and stripes on foreign soil. It was a southern boy who first gave up his fair life in this cause, and the cold, still form of Ensign Bagley, wrapped about with the folds of his country's flag, was laid to rest amid the lamentations of a reunited country."

He closed by expressing pleasure that the president had come, for it enabled them to show that they knew how to welcome him.

President Roosevelt, responding, expressed his gratification at the cordial welcome extended him. He said he felt entirely at home in Charleston, and declared every citizen "worth his salt" should feel at home in every part of the United States.

He dwelt on the uniting effect the recent war had on all sections and referred to his association in Washington with South Carolina's former governor, Hugh Thompson, for whom he expressed (Continued on fourth page.)

AT COST.
Roller Tray Trunks, while they last, we need room for our shoe stock. The Boston Shoe Store, leading shoe store.
While it rains sow Wood's Lawn Grass, 25c. Grant's Pharmacy. 50-2t
Biltmore Firewood. Phone 700.

Whitman's Fresh Candies
At HESTON'S.
Phone 183 26 S. Main
NONE BETTER.

DEMOCRATIC POLL TAX SCHEME

EXPOSED IN AN ADDRESS TO THE PEOPLE BY REPUBLICAN CHAIRMAN PRITCHARD.

Intention to Place Great Numbers of Citizens on the Insolvent List.

THOUSANDS HAVE NOT PAID THE VOVERS' TAX

AN EARNEST APPEAL TO CITIZENS TO DISCHARGE THIS DUTY AND SAVE THEMSELVES FROM DISFRANCHISEMENT—INJUSTICE OF THE REQUIREMENT NOW FORCED ON VOTERS.

Special to the Gazette.

Greensboro, N. C., April 8.—Senator Pritchard, chairman of the republican state committee today gave out the following for publication:

To the People of North Carolina:

Some of the democratic newspapers are trying to create the impression that it is the intention of the republican committee to pay the poll tax of all those who are not able to pay their taxes before the first day of May. The statement is without foundation, and, in my opinion, is made for the purpose of diverting the attention of the public from the policy which I understand they propose to pursue with respect to the poll tax question. I am informed that the leaders of the democratic party propose to try to induce the county commissioners in the various counties where they are in control to release from payment of poll tax all those who fail to pay their taxes on or before the first day of May, provided they agree to vote the democratic ticket, regardless of the fact as to whether or not they come within the provisions of the statute which authorizes the commissioners in certain cases to exercise such discretion. That there are a number of poor poor people in North Carolina whose circumstances are such that they ought to be exempted from the payment of poll tax no one will question, and in referring to the proposed action of the democrats I do not wish to be understood as criticising the conduct of any board of county commissioners for any action of theirs in exempting this unfortunate class from payment of poll tax. The provision authorizing them to do so is a wise one, and should be exercised in a spirit of liberality.

While the republicans regret exceedingly to know that any citizen of this state is to be denied the right to vote on account of not being able to pay his poll tax before the first day of May, at the same time they recognize the fact that the payment of such taxes by any political party would result in inaugurating a system in our state, pernicious in character, and one that would do much to corrupt the morals of our people. While this is true as to the payment of the poll tax by any political party, the policy which I understand is proposed to be inaugurated by the democrats would be equally obnoxious and would be a great injustice to the taxpayers of the state, as well as a cruel disregard of the rights of the poor children whose education depends in a great measure upon the amount of the public school fund, which would necessarily be depleted to a very great extent if such policy should be adopted. Such action however, would be in harmony with the recent amendment to our constitution, inasmuch as its framers saw fit to fix the first day of May as the date on which all poll tax should be paid rather than postpone the payment of the same to a later date which would have afforded almost every citizen in the state an opportunity to comply with its provisions in this respect.

Reports from different counties in the state disclose the fact that thousands of our citizens have failed to pay their poll tax, and unless something is done to arouse the people to the importance of promptly paying their taxes I am

sure that between 30,000 and 40,000 white men will be denied the right to vote at the coming election in consequence of this provision. I earnestly appeal to the people in every section of the state to at once take such steps as will be necessary to impress the voters with the importance of paying their taxes between now and the first day of May. The disfranchisement of any number of our citizens by this provision of our constitution would be a great outrage, and it should be the ambition of every individual to do what he can to prevent such a deplorable result.

The people of North Carolina who earn their living by daily labor are required to work the public roads and perform other public duty, and in time of war a majority of those who go to the front to fight the battles of their country come from their ranks, and in view of the fact that these duties are incident to their citizenship, the action of the framers of this particular clause of our constitution can be accounted for upon no other hypothesis than that they were of the opinion that such provision would result in preventing this class of people from participating in the management and control of our public affairs. Had not such been the case they would have provided that all those who paid their poll tax on or before the first day of October should be entitled to vote.

I appeal to each individual voter in the state to use all means within his power to pay his poll tax on or before the first day of May in order that he may be in a position on election day to rebuke the authors of this unreasonable requirement.

J. C. PRITCHARD,
Chairman Republican State Executive Committee.
Greensboro, N. C., April 8, 1902.

BRYAN WON'T KNOW HIS OWN COMMITTEE

WHEN THE REORGANIZERS HAVE FINISHED WITH IT—JONES' SUCCESSOR.

New York, April 8.—The defeat of Senator Jones of Arkansas for re-election to the senate will no doubt result in a reorganization of the democratic national committee.

Among those most prominently spoken of as successors of Jones as national chairman are James M. Guffy of Pittsburg and Daniel J. Campau of Detroit. Both are wealthy. It is believed that the committee will be so changed that Bryan won't recognize it.

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CUBAN BILL DEBATE OPENS

BATTLE IN HOUSE BEGINS WITH MOTION TO GO INTO COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE.

Cullom Speaks in the Senate in Opposition to the Chinese Exclusion Bill.

SAYS IT VIOLATES TREATY WITH CHINA

IF IT IS PASSED, THE SENATOR SAYS, HE WILL BE SURPRISED IF WE RETAIN ANY CHINESE TRADE.

Washington, April 8.—The debate upon the Cuban reciprocity bill opened in the house today. There was much activity among the leaders on both sides before the house convened, in anticipation of the coming battle, and the attendance on the floor was unusually large.

Mr. Lacey, of Iowa, asked unanimous consent for the consideration of a bill to protect game and fish in Alaska. There was no objection and the bill was passed.

Mr. Payne, chairman of the ways and means committee and leader of the majority, then moved that the house go into committee of the whole for the (Continued on fourth page.)

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