

LAYING BLAME BUT A HANDFUL ON INSURGENTS

Plans Being Shaped at Capitol and White House to This End, in the Event Reciprocity Fails and Extra Session Called.

PRESIDENT SAYS HE'LL SIGN THE FOREST RESERVE BILL

It is a Constant Surprise to Visitors That Few Senators Pay Any Attention to Indiana's Grand Young Man's Oratory.

Gazette-News Bureau, Hotel Hamilton, Washington, Feb. 27.

PRESIDENT TAFT has assured Congressman Weeks that he will sign the forest reserve bill today.

Plans to Blame the Insurgents.

At both the capitol and the White House there appears a disposition to pave a way, in the event reciprocity fails and an extra session is called, to shoulder the blame on those insurgent republican senators who are remaining in the capitol.

If prices for farm products of other sections are not lowered then the consumer has nothing to gain by such legislation, they say, and, therefore, they argue that the Canadian agreement is without merit.

Congressman Thomas introduced in the house, after letters were called for, an amendment to include in one of the large supply bills the appropriation to provide range lights at Morehead City.

Congressman Small and two daughters have gone to Norfolk, where Mrs. Small is ill.

Senators Pay Little Heed to Beveridge. Hon. Whitehead Klutz of Salisbury was here Saturday on his way home from Boundbrook, N. J., where he spoke on the occasion of the celebration of the anniversary of the birth of Washington.

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W. A. H. Almost Priceless Jewels Missing. New York, Feb. 27.—Federal authorities and local police are interesting themselves in searching for the almost priceless jewelry stolen from cabinet drawer in a stateroom of Mrs. Baldwin Drummond, formerly Mrs. Marshall Field, Jr., of Chicago, on the liner America, some time Saturday night.

Bolton Succeeds Following Censure. Richmond, Va., Feb. 27.—Jackson Bolton, assistant city engineer, announced himself in his lair room after brooding several days over a censorious report by the city council committee which investigated the engineer's department and found costly errors attributed to Bolton.

John Lee Carroll Dead. Washington, Feb. 27.—John Lee Carroll, governor of Maryland from 1878 to 1890, died at his home at 8.30 this morning, after a long illness. He was born at Homewood, near Baltimore in 1820.

EDWARD SHEPARD HAS WITHDRAWN

He Is No Longer Candidate for Senator from New York—Littleton Urges Elimination of Sheehan—Early Break in the Deadlock Expected—No Action Is Looked for Today.

ALL COURT'S MACHINERY INVOKED AGAINST HARSHAW

Even Judge Boyd Wrote to Attorney General Advising Against Appointment—Evidence for Harshaw Entirely Disregarded.

Gazette-News Bureau, Hotel Hamilton, Washington, Feb. 27.

IT seems that the entire machinery of the court was invoked in the effort to prevent the appointment of Moses Harshaw as assistant district attorney.

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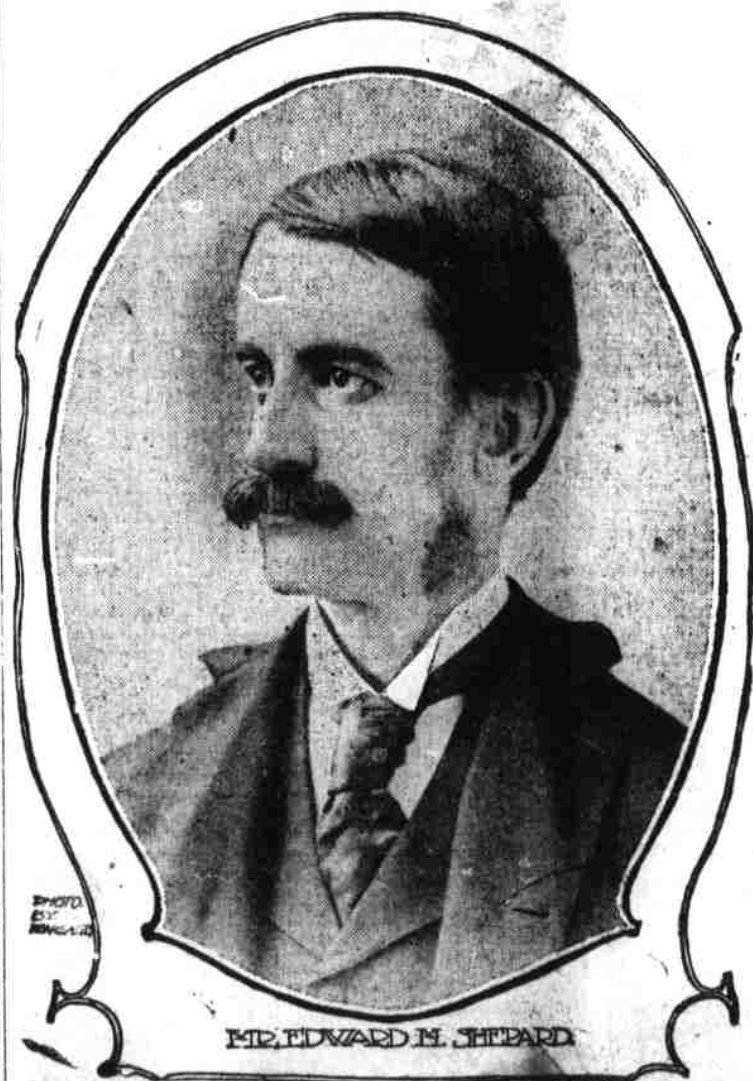
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MR. EDWARD M. SHEPARD

New York, Feb. 27.—Whether the withdrawal of Edward M. Shepard, a candidate for the United States senatorship, and Martin W. Littleton's letter to Charles F. Murphy, urging the retirement of William F. Sheehan's name, will have the effect of bringing about an early break in the senatorial deadlock is a much mooted question in Albany.

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EQUALIZATION OF THE TAXES

Provisions of the Bill, in Preparation of Which Views of Chairman Doughton of Committee Have Dominated.

ACTION WILL BE HURRIED UPON THE REVENUE BILL

State School for Blind Raised Contribution for Bill Nye Building at Stone-wall Jackson Training School, Concord.

Gazette-News Bureau, Chamber of Commerce Rooms, Holleman Building, Raleigh, Feb. 27.

THE revenue bill that has passed the house is expected to be reported from the enacting clerk's office to the senate sometime today, and will be put through its readings with the least possible delay, as it will take three days for it to get through its separate roll call readings.

The machinery bill introduced in the house Friday from the finance committee came back to the house from the state printers in printed form and it will be taken up and passed at once. There is expected to be some discussion over the best means of assuring some degree of equalization of taxes but the views of Chairman Doughton that have dominated in the preparation of the bill are expected to control in the enactment of the bill in the house.

Plans for Tax Assessment. The bill as it is pending in the house provides that the state tax commission shall visit each county and instruct the assessors in their duties. The commission also names by April 1 a tax assessor for each county. This assessor shall devote as much as three months each year to the duties and shall be in direct touch with the township assessors.

There is very general protest among the people of the city against the recent action of the city authorities in allowing children of the city to use their roller skates on the asphalt pavements of the streets around Capital square and up Fayetteville street.

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Explosion Occurred During Night and Members of Family Were Unable to Escape. HAZELTON, Pa., Feb. 27.—A lamp explosion caused a fire during the night and burned two houses at Oneida, occupied by Gabriel Gerotsky and Michael Slovak, Hungarians. Five members of the Gerotsky family lost their lives.

Race Will be Puffed Off at 3.30 This Afternoon. New Orleans, Feb. 27.—The first race on the last day's program of the Mardi Gras speed carnival is scheduled for 3.30 this afternoon. The feature is a ten-mile contest between Fiat and Buick cars, driven by Braug and Burman. Weather excellent. Track fine condition.

Will Fortify Panama Canal. Washington, Feb. 27.—After nearly five hours of debate the house of representatives shortly before 10 o'clock Saturday night voted overwhelmingly in favor of the policy of fortifying the Panama canal, and appropriated \$2,000,000 to begin the work, the total cost of which has been estimated at \$12,000,000.

Deaths From Plague and Scallipox. Amoy, China, Feb. 27.—Six deaths from the bubonic plague and five from smallpox were reported during the fortnight ending Friday.

French Cabinet Resigns. Paris, Feb. 27.—Premier Briand and members of his cabinet assembled at Elysee palace this afternoon, following General Broune's funeral, and tendered their resignations.

Seven Hundred Men and Girls Strike. Kalamazoo, Mich., Feb. 27.—Seven hundred men and girls, employed by the Kalamazoo Corset company, have struck. A cut from one to three cents per dozen on piece work precipitated the strike.

Chas. D. Norton Taft's Secretary



Washington, Feb. 27.—Robert O. Bailey, private secretary to Secretary of the Treasury, MacVeagh since the latter became a member of President Taft's cabinet, was nominated by the president to be assistant secretary of the treasury. He will succeed Charles D. Norton, who is said to be Taft's private secretary, and is a former newspaper man of wide experience and acquaintance with public men and affairs.

EXTRA SESSION MAY BE CONVENED ON APRIL 4

President Taft Confers With Champ Clark and Mr. Underwood About Matter.

Washington, Feb. 27.—So probable is it that an extra session of congress will be necessary in order to get action on the Canadian reciprocity agreement that President Taft has fixed April 4 as the date on which such a session may be called.

There was no change in the situation in the senate Saturday regarding the Canadian reciprocity agreement and the leaders see no hope of bringing a vote at this session. The McCall bill to carry the agreement into effect.

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UNCLE SAMUEL PRESENTS BILL

Says He Holds Some Carolina Bonds of S. Dakota Class, and Would Like the State to Hand Over About \$300,000.

GOVERNMENT OWES STATE; SENATOR OVERMAN'S REPLY

Much to the Surprise of Secretary MacVeagh—Overman Thinks Equitable Adjustment Would Be in State's Favor.

Gazette-News Bureau, Hotel Hamilton, Washington, Feb. 27.

OVERMAN'S more a conflict has arisen between the federal establishment and the Old North State, but this time it is quite certain that the difficulty will be adjusted without the letting of fratricidal blood.

Whether or not some sovereign state will be found to sue North Carolina some more, the state will nevertheless hear again from those old construction or reconstruction bonds. It seems that the United States government has a claim against North Carolina in this respect, and the secretary of the treasury has called on Secretary MacVeagh to invite Senator Overman over to the treasury department for a talk and remind the senator that North Carolina owes the government \$58,000, this having been the amount of some bonds purchased by the government prior to the war, a block of bonds of the South Dakota class, which were compromised on the basis of 40 cents on the dollar in 1879.

The government purchased the bonds by way of investing in a trust fund for some Indians, and while the matter seems to have been kept rather quiet, it seems that the government, through the secretary of the treasury, demanded payment a short time ago, and Governor Kitchin and Treasurer Lacy came here to see about the matter.

Compromise Refused. A proposal was made to pay the government on the basis of the settlement that had been made with other creditors—that is, on the basis of 40 cents on the dollar, but Secretary MacVeagh told Senator Overman he did not see how this could be done; that it was a just debt, and under the decision of the Supreme court of the United States in the South Dakota case, it seemed that the state should pay dollar for dollar, with interest for all these years, which would make the claim aggregate something like \$200,000. Senator Overman could not see that that way for a moment. He directed the attention of the secretary of the treasury to the historic fact that, whereas South Dakota had won that suit, she took no pride in the triumph, did not feel comfortable while the money was in her possession, and had offered to return it. The senator thought the federal government should take a view of the situation as liberal as that once taken by a sovereign state and by many individual creditors. Furthermore, North Carolina has presented the central government the land now embraced within the borders of Tennessee, and the property upon which this bond issue was based was largely alive property, and this has been taken away from the state by the Washington government.

A Genuine Surprise for MacVeagh. And still again (and this is where the treasury head had a genuine surprise coming to him) Senator Overman thought that North Carolina would be entirely willing to pay any of her debts upon any sort of just basis if the federal government would reciprocate by paying the amount due North Carolina. Of course, Mr. MacVeagh called for particulars; he was told that the government had been owing North Carolina \$44,000 with interest since 1865 for property which the government had appropriated to its own use, and which, according to the Supreme court, right now belongs to the state. Senator Overman expressed the opinion that, with the two accounts squared, or a compromise effected of the amount due by the state to the government along lines that have met the approval of other creditors, and with the settlement of the counter claim which the state has against the government, North Carolina might have a little balance in her favor.

Senator Overman, while disclaiming any authority to speak for the state officially at this time, offered the tentative suggestion that a bill be passed before congress adjourns creating a commission, say two gentlemen representing the government and two from the state, to adjust these claims. Mr. MacVeagh was inclined to look upon this suggestion with favor, and should the state authorities agree, Senator Overman will undertake to secure action promptly. At the instance of Mr. Overman the senate passed a bill two years ago designed to bring about a settlement of the old claim which the state has against the government, and while the bill encountered opposition from Senator Smoot at that time, it is not believed that such a bill is now content placed would meet with serious opposition.

Origin of the Claim. Some may wonder how the state happened to have a claim against the government. It was this. In war times Governor Vance in the adjustment of the state's debt to the federal government (Continued on page 3.)

CHARLOTTE ASSAY OFFICE APPROPRIATION CONTINUED

Senate Amendment Accepted by the House—St. Louis Will Lose Its Assay Office.

Washington, Feb. 27.—The house of representatives today accepted the senate amendment to the legislative executive appropriation bill providing for the continuance of the assay office at Charlotte, N. C. The house appropriation committee sought to eliminate the assay offices both at St. Louis and Charlotte. The St. Louis item was not restored.

RESIDENCE BURNED

Home of Clem Smathers at Waynesville Totally Destroyed Sunday.—House Valued at \$4000.

Special to the Gazette-News. Waynesville, Feb. 27.—The residence of Clem Smathers was totally destroyed by fire about 2 o'clock Sunday morning. The house was not occupied at the time having been closed for about two months. There is no clue as to how it caught unless it was set purposely. None of the furniture was saved. When the fire was discovered by a neighbor it was well under way. The house was valued at \$4000. There was \$2,500 insurance on the house and \$1000 on the furniture.

TRAGEDIES AT SEA

Vessel Discovered With Crew of Thirty Frozen—Another Steamer's Crew Lost. London, Feb. 27.—A news dispatch from Odessa says a tragedy at sea is revealed in the discovery in the Caspian sea a few miles off Astrakhan, of a derelict vessel. The crew, numbering thirty, frozen in ice.

Crew of Ten Perish. Cuxhaven, Germany, Feb. 27.—The fishing steamer Senator Strack was sunk in the North sea during a storm. The crew of ten perished.

Dr. Wiley of Pure Food Fame, Weds Miss Anna Kelton. Washington, Feb. 27.—Dr. Harvey W. Wiley of pure food fame, led to the altar Miss Anna Campbell Kelton, daughter of the late General Joseph Kelton, U. S. A. The wedding was a quiet affair in the bride's home. Elaborate gifts were received from all quarters of the country. Dr. and Mrs. Wiley left immediately after a wedding breakfast for a trip through northern states.

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SCHOOL OF CORRECTION BILL IS INTRODUCED

Also Bills to Increase Salary of Buncombe Treasurer and Regulate Trapping, Big Ivy.

Gazette-News Bureau, Chamber of Commerce Rooms, Holleman Building, Raleigh, Feb. 27.

Representative Roberts today introduced in the house and had placed on the calendar without reference to a committee a bill to establish a school of correction and detention in Asheville.

He also introduced bills to amend the law of 1901 as to the salary of the treasurer in Buncombe and to regulate trapping in Big Ivy.

Spy Bill Favorably Reported. Washington, Feb. 27.—The Hobson bill, preventing disclosure of national defense secrets, which passed the house, was reported by the senate judiciary committee with favorable recommendation. Measure is monotonously known as the "spy bill."

Imposing Funeral of Gen. Brum. Paris, Feb. 27.—Imposing military funeral for General Brum, late minister of war, were held. The entire garrison of Paris participated.