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ELECTION SAID TO BE DOOMED

Not Much Hope of Electing Senators by the People

CANADIAN MATTER TODAY

Reciprocity Treaty Safe so Far as the House is Concerned—Tariff Bill Likely to Pass—A Conference of Democrats Called for Next Tuesday—Situation Outlined.

Washington, Feb. 13.—Members of congress would give much to know whether they are to be permitted to break ranks on March 4 and retire to their homes for the summer or whether they must linger in Washington for an indefinite period to act upon the Canadian reciprocity agreement in extra session. Something positive on the subject from the white house would be especially acceptable.

There is some foundation for the report that President Taft is viewing with entire complacency the solicitude of members of the senate on the subject of an extra session. Several senators who feel that there is no chance for the approval of the agreement at the present session have found that this view is not shared at the white house. The president has met all pessimistic predictions with the suggestion that he is willing to trust the agreement to a vote. He has never said, for publication, that he would call an extra session if such a vote is denied, but senators certainly have failed to obtain assurances that he would not do so.

The McCall bill to carry out the provisions of the Canadian agreement, having been reported to the house from the ways and means committee, probably will be brought up today. Immediate consideration will be asked. If an agreement to that end is opposed the supporters of the bill will seek a rule for limitation of debate and inhibition of amendment.

There has been manifested thus far no organized movement to the prevention of a vote in the house. The consideration of the bill nevertheless probably will result in one of the liveliest debates of the session.

The democrats of the house are pledged to the reciprocity agreement under the recent caucus action, although a handful of the minority will oppose the measure, being exempted under the caucus rule, which relieves members from being bound by the will of the party majority when such action brings them into conflict with the expressed will of their constituents. A conference of democratic senators has been called for Tuesday, but it is expected that an adjournment will be taken until the house has acted upon the agreement.

The indications are that Senator Brown, of Nebraska, will not have to invoke his threatened opposition to appropriation bills in order to bring about votes on the resolution providing for popular election of senators, the Lorimer case, a service pension bill and the bill to create a permanent tariff board. The situation in regard to these measures has changed during the last week. It is extremely probable now that the senate will vote upon all of them before the session is adjourned.

A caucus as careful as it is possible to make at this time, but nevertheless not intended to be regarded as other than speculative, seems to justify the statement that the sentiment as to these measures may be described as follows:

Popular election of senators probably will be defeated by reason of the injection of the question into the discussion of the resolution. Even without the speech by Senator Root on Friday, which incited the indignation of Senator Bacon and others from southern states, this issue could not have been avoided. An amendment will be adopted, and its effect certainly would be to alienate southern support, thus making impossible the nearly two-thirds vote of the senate for the resolution.

A week ago the bill to provide for a permanent tariff board seemed to be in danger of defeat by reason of almost solid democratic opposition. There has been a considerable change of sentiment in the senate minority. Led by Senator Money, a number of those who believed the passage of the bill would strengthen President Taft politically have arrived at the conclusion that democratic opposition would simply convince the country that the democrats of the senate and house were not pulling together. The house democrats voted for the bill almost to a man, and it was their position that made its passage certain.

Piedmont County Lost.
Raleigh, Feb. 13.—After a spirited discussion extending far into the afternoon Thursday the bill to create Piedmont county out of portions of Guilford, Randolph and Davidson, with High Point as county seat, was defeated in the house by a vote of 54 to 42.

Solons Clearing Up Calendar Important Bills in the House

Friday in the Senate Was Devoted Mainly to Local Matters—Torrens Land Title System Favored by Committee

Raleigh, Feb. 13.—In the senate an immense amount of work was done in clearing the calendar and in advancing bills on their readings, nearly all, however, being local measures.

Senator Cotton's bill to provide the Torrens land title system was reported favorably by the committee on agriculture and sent to the committee on judiciary.

The bill increasing the salary of judges received a favorable report from the committee on salaries and fees, but action was deferred.

Dr. Kent's house bill prohibiting the sale of near-beer, beerine and other like drinks was reported favorably when an amendment by the committee on propositions and grievances was made special order for next Tuesday at noon to give Senator Bassett time to prepare an amendment relating to the sale of cider.

Senator Martin, of Washington, introduced a bill to establish a state fisheries' commission and protect the fisheries of the state, being a duplicate of commission bill pending in the house.

Senator Gardner introduced a bill to provide medals after 15 years' service in state militia and exempting military men from civil or criminal liability for acts committed under orders.

Senator Boyden introduced a bill to provide for medical inspection of school children in towns having a population of 4,000 or over.

Especially notable bills introduced in the house were by Sykes to fix salaries of supreme court justices at \$4,500; by Spahnour to appropriate \$400,000 additional to public schools; by Privatt to assist farmers by cooperative field experiments; by Kent to prevent carrying revolvers and sale of them except to officers of the law.

The house passed on second reading the Battle bill to allow cities and towns to change charters or amend charters at will without legislative enactment. This is the bill asked for by the North Carolina Municipal league as allowing adoption of commission or other form of government. Out of precaution it is being passed the reading a day only by roll call.

A joint resolution was passed asking congressmen to support a parcels post bill.

The Sykes-Boyden highway commission bill is adopted for favorable report by the joint committee on roads and turnpikes as a substitute for the Sykes bill to encourage road building in North Carolina and the Boyden bill for highway commission, and it is to have combined strength of both bills in preventing passage through both houses. The substitute bill adopted this evening provides for a state highway commission to have supervision of road building in state, issues of state bonds of \$200,000 every six months at 4 per cent. to be loaned to counties at 5 per cent. running 41 years with automatic sinking fund to retire bonds without cost to state.

There is machinery to enable incorporated road districts and townships to avail themselves of this state aid separate and apart from county units by elections.

The committee decided to have the Spahnour bill for working state convicts on roads through district changes revised by a subcommittee and report it favorably later with changes that would leave present county changing system intact.

The senate and house finance committees are devoting much time to hearings to various corporate interests on questions of taxation. They heard a committee from the State Bankers' association Friday afternoon, representatives of the Southern Express company last night and will hear the representatives from the telegraph and telephone companies of the state Monday night. The bankers contended that the banks are already taxed too much and far out of proportion to the general taxation scale the state over. Express and telephone companies are opposing especially additional burdens of franchise tax, state or municipal.

The Dilard bill to create a state game commission to succeed the State Audubon society is having a hard road to travel. The house committee on game, after a hearing lasting several hours today, decided to report it favorably with eight members of the committee exempting their constituents. Secretary T. Gilbert Pearson, of the Audubon society, advocated the bill before the committee. It provides three game and fresh water fish commissioners and retains the \$10 non-resident license.

IDENTIFIED AS LEWIS WEST

Sheriff and Deputy of Cumberland Make It Sure

FOUND IN A RESTAURANT

Officers Cover Him With Revolvers and Make Him Hold Up His Hands—Had Nine Pistols on His Person—Was Carried to Raleigh This Morning for Safe Keeping.

Maxton, Feb. 11.—2:23 p. m.—About 9 o'clock last night Lewis West entered the restaurant of Henry McKinnon, a well-known Maxton resident, who was at the time in the restaurant. West was a white man, about 35 years of age, and was dressed in a dark suit. He was carrying a pistol in his right hand and a knife in his left. He was also carrying a small bag in his right hand. He was seen by the proprietor of the restaurant, who called the sheriff and deputy sheriff. They arrived at the restaurant and found West. They covered him with revolvers and made him hold up his hands. They found nine pistols on his person. He was carried to Raleigh this morning for safe keeping.

West confessed shooting the Wilson officers and said he was at Selma when Stetson was arrested and had come down about Pembroke and up to Maxton last night. He was taken to Raleigh for safe keeping by officers, leaving Maxton at 8 o'clock this morning.

The World's Biggest Dog Show This Week

New York, Feb. 13.—This is the week when society goes to the dogs. More than two thousand of them, 2,100 to be exact, are to be seen in Madison Square Garden, where the thirty-fifth annual bench show of the Westminster Kennel club opened today. The display embraces big dogs and little dogs, handsome dogs and homely dogs, and dogs of every color and every variety of breed. The only thing they have in common is that all are of most aristocratic pedigree.

In the number of its entries the show this year breaks all records, the exhibits exceeding by more than 100 the number at the great Crystal Palace show in London last year. The Boston Terriers lead the list, with collies, fox terriers, French bulldogs, cocker spaniels and beagles following in the order named. There is also an unusually large representation of the small and rare varieties of the canine kingdom.

Wadesboro Minister Tenders Resignation

Wadesboro, Feb. 13.—Yesterday morning at the conclusion of the preaching service at the First Baptist church, Rev. T. W. Chambliss offered his resignation as pastor and asked that it take effect May 1. No action was taken on the resignation by the church, but it was referred to the board of deacons. Mr. Chambliss came here in 1907, and during his pastorate the church has received 192 members and has raised for all purposes over \$17,000. The church building has been remodeled and considerable improvement made in the property. Mr. Chambliss has not announced his plans for the future. The resignation was the cause of much regret, and many of the members and citizens of the community have expressed sorrow at the determination of Mr. Chambliss to change his location.

Major Guthrie on A Trip to Richmond

Major W. A. Guthrie left this afternoon for Richmond, where he is to appear for the Norfolk and Western Railway company in the case brought against the company by the United States government for violation of the safety appliance law. The company was indicted on account of a deficiency in the air-brake on a car of tobacco that was brought here. The company was convicted in the circuit court and took the case to the circuit court of appeals, which is now in session at Richmond.

Movement for Pan-American Republics Trade Development

A Conference Began a Five Days' Session in Washington Today. Commercial Organizations of Large Cities Well Represented

Washington, Feb. 13.—Results of an important and far-reaching character in relation to the development of trade among the republics of North and South and Central America are expected to follow the Pan-American commercial conference, which began a five days' session in Washington today. The conference, it is expected, will be particularly productive of good results on account of the opening of the Panama canal within a comparatively short time.

President Taft addressed the opening session of the conference which was held this afternoon in the auditorium of the magnificent new building of the Pan-American union, formerly known as the International Bureau of American republics. The Pan-American union made the arrangements for the conference and its directors, John Barrett occupied the chair at the initial session.

In one respect the attendance at the opening differed noticeably from that at almost any national or international conference that has met in the national capital in years. This was the small representation of so-called public men. Among the 500 or 600 delegates present there were scarcely a dozen men whose faces or even whose names are familiar to the general public. The president, one or two members of his cabinet and several congressmen were on hand to take part in the opening proceedings, but the main body of delegates was composed of business men and men who have made trade and commerce their life study.

Commercial organizations in nearly all the large cities of the United States were represented. Diplomats and consular officials were there to tell the results of their observations on the conditions and possibilities of trade in the southern republics where they have resided and these republic in turn were represented by their diplomatic and consular officers accredited to the United States.

The opening session of the conference was devoted to welcomes and responses and to addresses outlining the purposes of the gathering. Senator Root, of New York, and Representative Champ Clark, of Missouri, were among the speakers, as was also John H. Farrell, the new president of the United States Steel corporation.

Tomorrow morning the real business of the conference will be taken up in earnest. Formalities will be dispensed with and the delegates will indulge in the free interchange of views on a wide range of subjects relating to Pan-American trade and its development. This main subject will be discussed from all viewpoints. Not only will the opportunities of the United States to extend the sale of its products in Latin-America be considered, but the export trade of the Latin-American republics to the United States likewise will receive attention.

Among the matters relating to international commerce that will be brought up for discussion during the next four days are steamship routes, samples, credits, trade marks, banking facilities, packing, advertising, catalogues, tariff regulations and the laws of the various countries governing salesmen and samples.

Charles M. Pepper, who shares with John Barrett the reputation of being probably the best-posted man in the United States on everything relating to Mexico and the republic of South and Central America, will tell the conference of the commercial benefits that the west coast of South America may expect to reap from the opening of the Panama canal. Henry L. James, who, like Mr. Pepper, is one of the commercial experts of the department of state, will also speak on the commercial situation on the west coast, with special reference to the countries of Peru and Chile. Mack H. Davis, another prominent representative of the state department, will speak on the trade relations with Latin-America in general.

Charles Sherrill, United States minister to Argentina, will tell the conference what the United States must do if she hopes to overcome the load of her commercial rivals, Great Britain and Germany, in the great South American republic. Other representatives of the United States diplomatic corps who are scheduled to address the conference include Julius G. Lay, consul general at Rio de Janeiro; Dr. Frederick G. Goding, United States consul at Montevideo, Uruguay, and Isaac Manning, consul at La Guayra, Venezuela. Other speakers will be the ambassadors or ministers from Mexico, Brazil, Argentina, Chile, Costa Rica and other of the Latin-American republics.

BRISTOW TO FORCE HIS FIGHT

Making a Strong Protest Against the Sugar Trust

WANTS LIMIT ON ACREAGE

The Senator Is Organizing to Fight Against the Porto Rico Civil Government Bill—Believes Monopoly Plans to Secure Complete Control of the Island's Output.

Washington, Feb. 13.—With the charge that the sugar trust is plotting to get complete control of the sugar industry in Porto Rico, Senator Bristow is organizing a fight against the Porto Rico civil government bill, which has passed the house and is pending in the senate.

Senator Bristow has been on the trail of the sugar trust for two years. He led the great fight for radical reorganization of the sugar schedule during the tariff session of 1909, and had a narrow escape from winning what would have been the biggest victory for insurgency during the session.

Trust Again at Work.
Now he has discovered what he considers the evidence that the trust is about to work itself into complete control of Porto Rico.

Delegate Larrinaga, of Porto Rico, and other Porto Ricans in Washington, are back of the Bristow fight.

It has long been charged that the sugar trust already controls a very large, if not dominating, proportion of the sugar product of Cuba. Its interest in controlling Porto Rico is even more acute because Porto Rican raw sugar is admitted into this country free, while Cuban raw pays 80 per cent. of the Payne-Aldrich tariff rates, or \$1.348 per hundred pounds. Consequently it is to the interest of the trust to secure the largest possible production from Porto Rico, in order to save this duty.

Rumors of Scandal.
During the tariff session provision was secured for admitting free of duty, 400,000 tons per annum of Philippine sugar. It has been charged ever since that this likewise was engineered by the trust, and there has been persistent charge of scandals in connection with the trust's acquisition of sugar lands in the archipelago.

Senator Bristow's fight of the present session is concerned with a provision limiting the amount of land a single corporation may hold in Porto Rico. Secretary of War Dickinson recommended that this be fixed at 5,000 acres. As the bill passed the house this was cut to 3,000 acres, and the section was carefully written, with drastic penal provisions, which seemed certain to be effective.

Representative Madison, of Kansas, drafted the house section, and got it adopted. All the sugar trust agents were vigorously opposed to it.

Bill Was Withdrawn.
Passed by the house, the bill went to the senate, and to the committee on Pacific Islands and Porto Rico, of which Senator Dewey is chairman. It was reported by Senator Dewey without change, on December 13.

Later lawyers interested in it became active, and on December 16 Senator Dewey withdrew the bill and report for further consideration. The result was that on December 20 the measure was again reported, this time with the section relating to limitation of land holdings greatly changed.

As it now stands the provision is that no corporation engaged in any agricultural operation except sugar raising shall in one year own over 3,000 acres actually planted, and if the corporation be engaged in sugar raising it shall not, in one year, own or control for the crop over 5,000 acres, except land leased for a period of 20 years.

A corporation which owns or controls crops in excess of these limitations shall be subject to a graduated increase of its land taxation.

On the first 1,000 acres of excess the increase shall be 50 per cent. and from this it goes up as the excess advances.

Big Surplus in Treasury.
At first glance this would appear an effective penalty to prevent too large holdings. But in fact land taxes are very small, because Porto Rico gets all customs duties collected in the United States on articles imported from Porto Rico. These are so heavy that the Porto Rican central government needs very little additional revenue, and now has a big surplus in the treasury.

The average tax on sugar lands is stated to be from \$1.25 to \$1.50 an acre.

Delegate Larrinaga stated that profits on an acre of sugar cane were from \$80 to \$100, so that the proposed increase in the tax for excessive holdings is insignificant compared to the profits of the business.

A REIDSVILLE ROMANCE WAY FOR OLD WAR CLAIMS

BRIDE TELLS HOW IT ALL HAPPENED IN DECEMBER. "ABANDONED PROPERTY" AMENDMENT PUT THROUGH.

Richmond, Va., Feb. 13.—When pretty Miss Lottie May Benson and Aubrey Bedell Carter left here December 29 last on a train for Washington, D. C., they expected to get married in the national capital, but they had laid no plans for the events. On the train they met Detective A. J. Wall, of the Atlantic Coast Line railway service, and he spotted them at once as a couple smitten by Dan Cupid. So Detective Wall piloted them to his home in Washington on arrival at 2:45 p. m., and one hour later the knot had been tied by the Rev. James M. Little, of that city.

Mrs. Carter, who came here last year from Reidsville, N. C., where her father, J. H. Benson, is a prominent merchant, holds a position in the sub-postal station here, and on that account delayed announcing the news of her marriage until today. She has sent announcement notices to friends in Reidsville and also in Greensboro.

Carter, who is just 20 years old, is stenographer to General Freight Agent Drage, of the Southern railway.

Alabama House Passes Local Option

Montgomery, Ala., Feb. 13.—By a vote of 58 to 44 the house of representatives at 5 o'clock Thursday afternoon passed the Parks local option bill. As the senate is known to be overwhelmingly in favor of a local option bill, it is believed that the Parks bill will be rushed through that body and become a law before the end of next week. The Parks bill was so amended yesterday as to make it inoperative until regulation measures to accompany it are enacted.

The bill provides that 45 per cent of the number that vote for governor can petition for an election on the question of wet or dry. It also provides for distilleries and breweries.

George Colman's New Theater.

New York, Feb. 13.—The new George M. Colman theater, the latest addition to the long list of first-class playhouses in the metropolis, was formally opened this afternoon with a special Lincoln's Birthday matinee performance. The new theater is located in Broadway, just north of 42d street.

Religious Education Convention.

Providence, R. I., Feb. 13.—Church leaders representing many denominations are gathering in Providence for the eighth general convention of the Religious Education association, which will begin tomorrow. Bishop Lawrence, of Massachusetts, Dr. Charles W. Eliot, of Harvard, Dr. Lyman Abbott, of New York, Miss Jane Adams, of Chicago, and many other men and women of national prominence will address the gathering.