

FAIR ELECTIONS

THERE ARE NO MORE FRAUDS IN THE SOUTH THAN ANYWHERE ELSE.

CONGRESSMAN ALEXANDER'S VIEW

He Believes that the New Law which the Legislature Will Pass Will be an Improvement on the Present One—The Fusion Idea is an Unnatural one and Must, He Thinks, Soon Fall to Pieces—Democrats Desiring Fair Elections as a Means of Electing a Republican or Populist—The Belle of Athens—Senator Ransom's Honor.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Jan. 7.—The election methods of the South are exciting a good deal of comment here just now. The charge has been made by the Republicans and Populists that the danger to keep control of affairs the Democrats have been compelled to resort to questionable methods. This, of course, as a general proposition is not true. While there has been no irregularities in the election methods in the South are no worse than they are anywhere else. But the charge has been so often and so persistently made that the Washington correspondent of the Baltimore Sun has interviewed a number of the prominent Southern representatives on the subject.

Representative Alexander.

Representative Alexander, of North Carolina was among the number. He said: "The new Legislature of North Carolina will pass an election law which, I believe, will be an improvement upon the existing one. Although the Populists and Republicans have control, I have no fear that they will make any radical changes, but will look rather to the improvement of the present system. Although all new men, the members of the Legislature are good citizens of North Carolina and will do nothing against the interests of the State. The complaint against the election methods in the South is a fair election, and if the new Legislature makes the necessary provision for this result we will be satisfied."

Populist-Republican Fusion.

Speaking of the fusion of the Populists and Republicans, Mr. Alexander said: "I do not see how it can exist for any length of time. The Populists are out-and-out free-traders and free silver men, while the Republicans are protectionists and stand with the National party upon all the questions of finance. The fusion, therefore, is an unnatural one and will, I think, be broken before this Legislature expires. They will, doubtless, elect Mr. Butler to the Senate for the long term and Mr. Ransom to the House for the short term. This is not a fair election, but it is a fair election, and if the new Legislature makes the necessary provision for this result we will be satisfied."

Miss Flossie Settle, a Pretty Belle of Greensboro, Drinks Iodine.

Special to the News and Observer
GREENSBORO, N. C., Jan. 7.—This city was startled this morning by the report that Miss Flossie Settle had attempted suicide.

Another Version of the Affair.

GREENSBORO, N. C., Jan. 7.—Dr. Baal was seen to-night about the so-called "suicide." He says Miss Flossie was engaged in a playful scuffle with her younger sister, and with a sudden impulse she snatched a bottle of iodine from the mantel and laughingly threatened to drink it, and supposing the threat to be harmless, she did take a few drops, but not enough to hurt her seriously, and she was on the streets in a short while afterwards.

Schooner Sunk on Hatteras.

Special to the News and Observer
BEAUFORT, N. C., Jan. 7.—The schooner Hester A. Seward, with a cargo of shingles from Georgetown to Baltimore, was sunk on Hatteras inlet bar. The vessel is a total loss.

Asheville's Street Railway Sold.

ASHEVILLE, N. C., Jan. 7.—A sensation was created here to-day by the selling of the Asheville Street railway to satisfy an old judgment of nine hundred dollars.

Senator Harris Renominated.

NASHVILLE, Tenn., Jan. 7.—A joint caucus of the Democrats of the Senate and House met this morning and nominated Isham G. Harris for United States Senator. E. S. Craig for State Treasurer, and James Harris for State Comptroller.

Senator Pettigrew Has a Walk Over.

PIERRE, S. D., Jan. 7.—The joint Republican caucus of both branches of the South Dakota Legislature convened at noon to-day and unanimously nominated Hon. J. F. Pettigrew as his own successor to the United States Senate. Gen. Selby, the only other candidate, withdrew before the caucus. The nomination will be formally ratified by the Legislature on the 30th instant.

RANSOM HONORED

HE IS ELECTED PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE OF THE UNITED STATES SENATE.

HIS GRACEFUL ACKNOWLEDGMENT

Senator Lodge Tried to Bring up His Resolution in Reference to the Removal of Vessels of War From the Hawaiian Islands—Peffer Reads an Elaborate Argument in Advocacy of His Bill for "Service Pensions"—Mr. Peffer in His Peace Negotiations with China and Japan Sustains no Official Relation to the United States.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Jan. 7.—In the absence of Vice-President Stevenson and Senator Harris, President pro tempore of the Senate, Secretary Cox called the Senate to order and asked what his further pleasure was.

Death of Representative Post.

Mr. Henderson, (Rep.) of Illinois, announced the death of Representative Post, and offered the following resolutions:

"Resolved, That the House has heard with profound sorrow of the death of Hon. Phil Sidney Post, late a Representative from the State of Illinois."

"Resolved, That a committee of nine members of the House be appointed by the Speaker to act with such Senators as may be selected to attend the funeral of the deceased, and that as a further mark of respect the House do now adjourn."

The resolutions were agreed to and the Speaker appointed the following as a committee on the part of the House: Messrs. Henderson, Lane, Marsh, Childs and Wheeler, of Illinois; Byrnes, of Alabama; Boutelle, of Maine; Lucas, of South Dakota, and Stallings, of Alabama.

The House at 2:15 adjourned till tomorrow.

DEBS TO GO TO JAIL.

Decision in Proceedings to Quash Indictments to be Announced To-day.

CHICAGO, Ill., Jan. 7.—Judge Grosscup, this morning announced that he would render his decision in the proceedings to quash the indictments for conspiracy against Eugene V. Debs and others to-morrow afternoon, at 2 o'clock.

Mr. Ransom left the chair in a few minutes, and called Mr. Manderson to it.

Peffer and Lodge.

Mr. Peffer, having been recognized in virtue of the notice given by him last week of his intention to address the Senate on his bill for "service pensions," was asked by Mr. Lodge to yield for a motion to take up the resolution in reference to the removal of vessels of war from the Hawaiian Islands.

"I have no objection to yield if there be any objection to it," said Mr. Peffer.

Having been assured on that point by Mr. Lodge, he yielded, and the motion to take up the resolution from the calendar was made by Mr. Lodge.

Mr. George asked unanimous consent to say a word or two on that proposition. He promised not to occupy longer than five minutes; and Mr. Peffer said that he had no objection to yielding that time.

Mr. Gray: "I desire to say a word or two."

The presiding officer (Mr. Manderson): "Is there objection?"

Mr. Peffer: "I think I had better go on with my remarks. I only yielded the floor with the understanding that there should be no debate."

Mr. Gray: "There will be some debate."

Mr. Butler: "I cannot permit the resolution to be taken up and acted upon without making one or two observations in relation to it."

The presiding officer put the question on Mr. Lodge's motion, and the motion was agreed to—yeas 33, nays 13.

Mr. Peffer then read the resolution in the affirmative and the following Democratic and Populist votes: Allen, Butler, Cockrell, George, Gorman, Gray, Hill, Jones of Arkansas, Kyle, Lindsay, Martin, Morgan, Pasco, Peffer, Ransom and Voorhes.

Mr. Peffer at Last Has His Say.

Mr. Palmer rose to address the Senate, but offered to yield the floor to Mr. Peffer.

The presiding officer: "The Senate, by its action, has taken up the resolution, and it is now before the Senate. On that resolution the Senator from Illinois has the floor. Does he yield to the Senator from Kansas?"

Mr. Palmer: "I do."

The presiding officer: "The Senator from Kansas is recognized on the resolution of the Senator from Massachusetts, now before the Senate, Lodge's Hawaiian resolution." (Laughter.)

Mr. Peffer thereupon proceeded to read to the Senate an elaborate argument in advocacy of his bill for "Service Pensions."

NOT A LIFE OF ROSES.

Harry Hill has had Health in the Penitentiary and he Wants a Pardon.

ATLANTA, Ga., Jan. 7.—The application for the pardon of Harry Hill was argued before Governor Atkinson to-day.

Bad health was the reason urged for executive clemency. J. H. Porter, whose wife's signature Hill forged to notes, wrote a long letter to the Governor, opposing the pardon. Mr. Porter says that if he is not misinformed, Hill's life in the penitentiary is not one of roses.

The governor has not announced his decision.

ATLANTA, Ga., January 7.—Gov. President Hoffman announced to-night that he will not pardon Hill. Hill's lawyers did not make out their case. The doctors conflicted in their statement about the prisoner's health.

The Seaboard Air Line Deal.

BALTIMORE, Md., Jan. 7.—Mr. Alexander Brown, of the banking house of Alexander Brown & Sons, chairman of the Macon and Northern railroad bondholders committee, to-day said: "It is true that the Seaboard Air Line has made an offer for the Macon and Northern road, but that is as far as the matter has gone. The Central Railroad and Banking Company, of Georgia, has also made an offer for the property. The Macon and Northern would be a good feeder for either the Georgia Central or Seaboard Air Line. The bond holders are in possession of the Macon and Northern and have full power to sell. For the full surplus of statements that poured into the city yesterday seemed to know little or nothing of what

HIS SCHEME FAILS

PEARSON COULDN'T RUSH THROUGH A BUTLER-Pritchard ENDSORSEMENT IN REPUBLICAN CONFERENCE.

PRITCHARD GIVEN A BLACK EYE.

The Cherokee Mossy Back Republican Utters His War-Whoop-A Fire Brand in the Camp—"Go Slow," Says Moody—Pearson's Krupp Gun Turns Out to be a Fire Cracker—Opinions on Joint and Separate Caucuses—Will Waiser Withdraw From a Sensational Rumor that Butler Had "Abandoned His Campaign" Denied by the Wizard—Change of Programme—Separate Caucuses at Three This Afternoon.

A called meeting by Richmond Pearson—now engaged in saving the country—met in Room 30, in the Pullen Building yesterday afternoon. It was a caucus, all to itself, of the friends of Jeter C. Pritchard.

James A. Cheek, of Orange, was called to the chair. Some eight or ten Populists were present. Lusk, Ewart, Aiken, Turner and Candler, and other Ninth District Representatives were conspicuous by their absence.

Senator J. B. Hamrick, Populist, of the Thirty Second District, informed the meeting that Butler and Pritchard were the choice of the Populists and that the agreement made between them should be carried out.

Senator Herbert who beat Kope Elias followed on the same line, introducing a resolution that each member present should be resolved into a committee of one to work for the candidacy of Butler and Pritchard.

Senator J. B. Hamrick, Populist, said three fourths of the Pops favored Pritchard.

Speeches were also made by the managers of the meeting favoring a joint caucus for Senators.

Representative Campbell, of Cherokee, a straight-out Republican of the deepest dye, made a strong speech against taking action looking to a premature endorsement of either Butler or Pritchard.

Holton, Dockery, Mott and Ewart to forestall the action of the Republican caucus in any such high-handed manner; he intimated plainly that if such a policy was to be adopted that they might count him out of the game. He said it would be a fire brand in the camp if it was attempted to hold a joint caucus.

Senator Moody, a stalwart Republican, also protested against such course insisting that the Republican caucus was the proper place for the Senatorial question and not a meeting in a back-room office. "The best thing," he said, "was to go to the polls."

The Populists present insisted upon taking the matter to the caucus and were again on his feet, and informed the meeting that if a vote was insisted upon, he would leave the room. This showed the floor-managers that things were not all their way.

The opposition was so strong and so apparent that the resolution to take a vote on the unqualified endorsement of Butler and Pritchard combination was withdrawn.

The great and glorious Pritchard blow-out, of which the Duke of Richmond was floor manager and father, turned out a fiasco. The Krupp gun was a fire cracker, though the Duke made an earnest speech in behalf of Pritchard, in which he said Pritchard could have been elected to Congress if he had not withdrawn for the good of the cause in general.

Walton, an outsider from Burke, made a speech, detailing the terms of the bargain, and declaring that good faith demanded Pritchard's election.

Another speaker said that Polk, Cartwright, Johnson and Jackson, and others from this State had been honored by Tennessee, and that North Carolina could well afford to honor one of Tennessee's sons.

There were present forty people, eighteen of whom were members of the General Assembly.

To-day the meeting is the laughing-stock of Holton's, Ewart's, Mott's and Dockery's retainers.

But, Mr. Butler, will you insist on a joint caucus for Speakership and not for Senator?

"Because I include the Speaker who is to preside over the body that is to legislate as within the purview of matters of legislation, and I see no more reason in holding a separate caucus for county government legislation than for Speakership."

"But, Mr. Butler, have you not heard that Mr. Waiser will withdraw if there is a joint caucus?"

"You must be mistaken about that," he replied with a show of surprise, either feigned or otherwise.

A Head End Collision.

MASSILLON, Ohio, Jan. 7.—A freight wreck occurred this morning between Massillon and Orrville, on the Wheeling and Lake Erie Railroad. Brakeman Wells and fireman Ryan were badly injured, and a tramp was fatally hurt. Others sustained injuries. It was a head end collision and dozens of cars are piled up. All the officials from Massillon, the wrecking trains and every obtainable railroad man has been hurried to the scene.

The Finest Ever Built.

SAVANNAH, Ga., Jan. 7.—The celebrated Florida and New York Pullman Vestibule Express was inaugurated to-day on fast time between New York and St. Augustine, via the Pennsylvania Railroad, Atlantic Coast Line, plant system and this city. The equipment of this train is the finest ever built by the Pullman Company.

DEMOCRATS IN CAUCUS.

They Spend Three Hours Trying to Agree on a Currency Bill.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Jan. 7.—Three hours were spent in caucus this afternoon by the Democrats of the House. The purpose of the caucus was to discuss an exchange of views regarding the Carlisle banking bill, which was taken up for debate a week before the holiday recess, and which is still before the House.

Mr. Holman presided, and 132 members answered to roll call.

Refused to be Bound.

Immediately upon the conclusion of the roll call, Mr. Livingston, of Georgia, made a motion that all those present should be bound by the action of the caucus. The chamber meanwhile had been rapidly filling up with members and at the time the Livingston motion was made, fully 175 Democrats were in their seats. There was an instant chorus of "No!" and a vote of 61 yeas to 54 nays was taken against it. The chair sustained the point of order, stating in effect that the uniform practice of 30 years was that caucuses were advisory and not binding in their character.

Mr. Springer moved that all speeches be limited to five minutes.

Speaker Crisp took the floor and said that the Democratic party in Congress had kept its pledges. It has reformed the tariff, the Commerce, Revenue, and laws, and practiced economy in appropriations.

Speaker Crisp's Resolution.

The party has differed in matters affecting currency and finance. The Secretary of the Treasury has introduced a bill. The question is can the party agree upon something at this short session. He believed legislation should be had, and that Congress should respond to the call of the Treasury and the country. He then offered the following resolution:

Resolved, That it is the sense of this caucus that the Carlisle currency bill should be passed by the House of Representatives, substantially as presented in the substitute which had been printed in the record, and which will be offered at the proper time by the chairman of the Committee on Banking and Currency, and that the committee be requested to report an order to-morrow immediately after the reading of the journal, which shall provide for its consideration for one more day for general debate, and thereafter under the five minute rule, and a final vote thereon at the earliest time practicable during this week.

Mr. Sperry, of Connecticut, moved that the pending resolution be amended to read that it is the sense of the caucus that the bill be introduced by him shall be passed by the House.

Mr. Terry, of Arkansas, offered an amendment authorizing each State treasurer to pay over to the national treasury in amount to coin a dollar for every inhabitant of the State. To present to the United States treasurer, the latter to coin it into silver dollars and in turn present it to the State treasurer.

After the reading of Messrs. Hall Bricker, Mr. Coff, of Wyoming, offered a resolution extending the time for general debate by three days.

Speaker Crisp made a point of order against the amendment, which was sustained. Mr. Crisp then demanded the yeas and nays question on the resolution introduced by him and the amendments. The previous question was ordered. The Terry amendment was first considered. It was defeated by a vote of 61 yeas to 54 nays.

The Sperry amendment was then rejected by an overwhelming majority, there being but 13 yeas in its favor. The amendment of Sperry and Bricker, of Connecticut; Messrs. DeForest, of Harter and Pierson of Ohio; Fielder of New Jersey, and Lockwood, Coombs, Hendrix, Tracey and Straus, of New York.

The Crisp Amendment Adopted.

Mr. Crisp's resolution was finally adopted by a vote of 81 yeas to 59 nays. It showed that seventy-five Democratic members of the House were not present at the caucus. This vote and the speeches for and against the bill seemed to indicate that the bill would be passed by a vote of 61 yeas to 54 nays.

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REMARKABLE RECORD

THERE HAVE BEEN ONLY FIVE WHITE BURIALS IN DURHAM IN THREE MONTHS.

YET IT HAS 7,000 INHABITANTS.

Person County's Solon Steps in the Bull City to Spend the Sabbath and Attend Church and Sunday School—He Gives his Idea of What is Necessary in Order to Save the County—He is Accompanied to the State Capital by Durham's Able Statesman—The Globe-Herald Suspends an Account of a Lack of Patronage—Personal and Other Items.

Special to the News and Observer.

DURHAM, N. C., Jan. 7.—Mr. Stephen Pleasant Grant, who will represent Person County in the session of the Legislature now about to convene, came to Durham Saturday night over the Norfolk and Western Railroad, and stopped over with friends here until noon to-day. Yesterday he attended the Baptist Sunday school and sat in the pulpit of Mr. A. R. Kountz. Do you not know that his teacher deemed to be able to deliver some straight Democratic doctrine, such as he always has on the end of his tongue? Mr. Grant is a serious, benevolent looking farmer, is fifty-seven years old, is an active member of the Baptist church, and will prayerfully and conscientiously endeavor to do what he thinks is right. He favors changing the election laws so as to do away with the "bull pens" he has heard of as a feature of elections in several eastern counties, and a modification of the existing system of county government. He says he will try to legislate for all the people, and can be counted on to do nothing against his own interests as a citizen of Person County. He is for Marion Butler for the long term senatorship, but has so far no choice for the short term. He and Representative G. Vickers, of this county, went together to Raleigh.

Durham can boast now of being the most healthy city in the State. Durham has but one cemetery for whites. In this are buried all white persons who die in Durham or vicinity, unless the parties have private burying grounds in the country. From Mr. K. K. Ferrell, keeper of the cemetery, it is learned that there were only five burials during three months ending with the first of January. There were two deaths in October. One of these was a still-born infant. None in November, and three in December. Five deaths in three months is a population of at least 7,000 whites is a record which we do not believe can be duplicated in the United States. Much of the healthfulness of Durham is to be attributed to its excellent water.

The Commonwealth Cotton Mills are erecting a town at the western end of their factory building on which will be placed a large tank to hold water for protection from fire.

Messrs. F. O. Carver and C. G. Winstead, of Roxboro, Mr. W. B. Guthrie, of Greensboro, Messrs. Howland, of Tarboro, and Bryan Shepherd, of Raleigh; were passengers on the west bound train on the Southern railroad bound for Chapel Hill.

Mr. A. H. Michaels of this place who travels for E. F. Johnson & Co., of Detroit, Michigan, went to Oxford to-day.

Mr. F. O. Landis, of Oxford is registered at the Carolina Hotel.

Rev. J. C. Blanchard, of Cary, who is traveling in the interests of the endorsement of the new college, will be in Durham spending the week in Durham.

Mr. T. H. Martin, one of Durham's most successful dealers in leaf tobacco as well as one of its most enterprising citizens, left here morning via Richmond, Va., for Cobb's Island, where he will spend ten days shooting ducks.

Miss Lizzie Morehead and Lottie Tomlinson left this evening for Baltimore, Md. Miss Morehead goes to re-enter Miss Tomlinson's school, and Miss Tomlinson is a student at the Woman's College.

Col. W. T. Hughes, of Louisville, N. C., will be in Durham a flying visit to-day. He says Louisville is all K.

Mr. W. W. Fuller left to-day by Durham and Northern train for New York on legal business, and will be out of town for about ten days.

Miss Alice Blanche Morgan left on the O. C. train for Norfolk, Va., where she is taking a special course in music and elocution in the Woman's College of that city.

Dr. John L. Watkins is visiting relatives in Henderson, N. C.

Miss Hattie Thomas, who has been spending some time with Mrs. J. M. Whitted, at her home on Morris street, left to-day for Cary, N. C.

Mr. George W. Watts left on the west-bound passenger train this evening for Greensboro.

Mr. J. W. Brooks, of West Durham, spent to-day in Raleigh.

Miss Julia Long, of Elon College, and Miss Grace Pomeroy, of Graham, passed through to Pease Institute to-day. They were joined here by Miss Maude Morgan, of this place.

Little Ethel, daughter of Mr. J. D. Priggen, who has been quite sick at the home of her father on Chapel Hill street, is reported to be much improved to-day.

Mr. A. G. Cox, of Willardsville, N. C., spent the day in Durham. He is the successful manager of the Willard Manufacturing Company.

W. B. Willard, Jr., returned to-day from Hillsboro.

Mayor Link had several cases before him to-day. M. G. Laabley, charged with assault and battery, was fined \$4.30. Two others, who were charged with plain drunks, were discharged with payment of costs, which was \$2.00 in each case. Some parties charged with keeping disorderly houses were acquitted, as the evidence against them was not satisfactory.

The county commissioners were in session here to-day and transacted much routine business. They recommend the release of Jno. Debern from the work house for a term of six months,