

# The Semi-Weekly Messenger.

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## WENT TO JUNK HEAP

### "Anti-Craft" Bill Defeated in the House

BY A VOTE OF 107 TO 66

#### Object of the Bill Was to Prevent Leaks.

Cause of Defeat of the Measure Was That Members of Congress Were Made Amenable to its Provisions. McCall, of Massachusetts, Led the Opposition to the Bill—Burlison, of Texas Spoke in Favor of it and Grosvenor Against It.

Washington, May 19.—By a vote of 107 to 66 the house today refused to pass the "anti-graft" bill, so called, dealing with cotton leaks and other matters of a confidential character which, should they become publicly known might have a tendency to affect markets because the conferees had recommended that members of congress be included within the scope of the bill, which makes it a misdemeanor for advance information to be given out by any officer or employee of the government that would tend to exert an influence or affect the market value of any product grown within the United States or affect the value of stocks and bonds.

The conferees of both senate and house recommended that the penalty prescribed for officers of the government who violate the code created by the act should apply to members of congress.

Mr. McCall, of Massachusetts, leading the opposition against making members of congress amenable to the penalties of the measure, said the clause of the bill sought to be incorporated was an advertisement to the world that the members were crooked. He said the members of congress were neither collectors nor guardians of secret governmental statistics. They are representatives and can have no secrets from their constituents.

"If you are to enter upon this field," Mr. McCall said, "why not make a complete code. Why not provide that members shall be taken into police court and be fined when they fail to vote, imprisoned when they do not attend the sessions of the house and the speaker when he plays the czar, shall be flogged at the cart's tail in the public square."

Mr. Burlison, of Texas, the author of the bill, said that the measure was aimed at the corrupt and venal practice of giving out information of a confidential character which might seriously affect markets or stocks. He wanted members of congress to be included in the bill not because he believed they would violate confidences, but might be tempted on some occasions to use the information they are possessed of for political purposes or gain.

"This bill degrades the high office of congress," said Mr. Grosvenor, of Ohio, and for one he was against its provisions. He said his career as a legislator was exceedingly short and he would not place a stigma upon those who come after him by impugning their motives.

Mr. Gardner said that last summer the herring fishermen of Gloucester were having considerable difficulty with the Canadian authorities. Fishing sloops were being seized and it became necessary for him to see the secretary of state. He came to Washington, being in close communication by cable with his constituents fishing off New Foundland. On that visit to the secretary of state he learned much that was not generally known and he caused the information to be made public. As a result the price of herring fluctuated considerably.

"If this bill should pass both the secretary and myself would be candidates for the penitentiary," he said. The conference report was rejected, 26 to 101.

Mr. McCall then moved to lay the bill and amendments on the table and the bill went to the junk heap, yeas 107, nays, 66.

Accountant Broke the Record. New York, May 19.—Before a crowd of 30,000 persons Harry Brown's Accountant, quoted at 7 to 2 in the betting, won the historic Withers stake, one mile at Belmont today. Half a length back came James R. Keene's Bohemian, played from four to eleven to five, while Frank Farrell's Clark Growth, the favorite, at 2 to 1, was third. Today's time, 1:38 4-5, is the fastest ever hung out for this race and Jockey Martin was loudly cheered when he landed Accountant a winner.

## M. E. CONFERENCE

Motion for Final Adjournment Monday Tabled—Resolution Adopted Against Sale of Liquor by Government Employees or in Places Under Government Control.

Birmingham, May 19.—Bishop Duncan presided today at the general conference of the Methodist Episcopal church. A resolution fixing the time of final adjournment for next Monday was tabled. W. E. Williams, of the northwest Texas conference, offered a protest against the action of the conference in voting for a committee to revise the articles of faith. A discussion followed and finally a committee was named to make reply to the protest. A telegram of greeting from the Presbyterian general assembly at Greenville, S. C., was read as follows: "The general assembly of the Presbyterian church of the United States sends fraternal greetings. Read Ephesians, third chapter, seventh to twenty-first verses, inclusive."

"ALLEN G. HALL, Moderator, 'W. A. ALEXANDER, 'Stated Clerk.' A resolution was adopted to the effect that money raised on Children's Day this year be not applied to the chair of pedagogy, which the conference yesterday decided to establish at Vanderbilt University.

A strong resolution was adopted against the sale of intoxicating liquors by employees of the government or in places under government control. Copies were ordered sent to the president of the senate and the speaker of the house. The committee on education nominated the members of the board of education among them being:

Bishop Galloway, Bishop Atkins, J. H. Kirkland, Tennessee, W. W. Smith, Virginia; John C. Kilgo, North Carolina, T. E. Sharp, St. Louis, H. N. Snyder, South Carolina, John Massey, E. P. P. Hamill, Baltimore; D. Alabama, H. P. Hamill, Baltimore; D. P. P. Montana and W. E. Vaughan, of the Pacific conference.

Bishop A. W. Wilson was made president of the board of missions with Bishop Atkins as vice president.

The report of the committee on federation recommending non-currence of memorials asking for the appointment of a committee on proposed organization of the Methodist Episcopal church and the Methodist Episcopal church south was adopted.

The conference adopted a report commending "the growing spirit of so many churches in emphasizing the sacredness of marriage."

Dr. W. S. Mathew, of Berkeley, California, fraternal delegate from the Methodist Episcopal church, bade farewell to the conference today.

## PRESBYTERIAN ASSEMBLY

Complaints Against Synod of Virginia Referred—Night Session Devoted to Interest of Sunday Schools.

Greenville, S. C., May 19.—In the Presbyterian General Assembly today the complaints of Dr. S. S. Law and others against the Synod of Virginia were referred to the judicial committee. The case of Dr. W. E. Caldwell, of Fort Worth, Texas, on the charge of heresy, will probably be taken up the first of next week. A telegram was sent to the Northern Presbyterian Assembly requesting that they arrange their home mission work in Oklahoma territory so that there will be no friction between the home mission work of the Southern Presbyterian and Northern Presbyterian Assemblies.

A very strong overture was received from the Tuscaloosa Presbytery urging that the articles of the Charlotte, N. C., conference be not received and adopted. The articles cover the question of the attitude of the church on divorces.

The following appointments were announced: On committee on articles of agreement: Alabama, Rev. E. R. McDougal; Arkansas, General B. W. Green; Florida, Rev. B. L. Baker; Georgia, Rev. T. H. Rice; Kentucky, Rev. D. M. Sweets; Louisiana, Elder Battalora; Missouri, Rev. H. M. Spencer; North Carolina, Rev. A. J. McKelway; South Carolina, Rev. J. H. Thornwell; Tennessee, Rev. G. W. Bull; Texas, Rev. Josephus Johnston; Virginia, Rev. Eugene Daniel.

Each synod in the church has a representative on this committee.

The session tonight of the Presbyterian General Assembly was devoted to the interests of Sunday schools. Able addresses were made by the Rev. William Meggison on Sunday School Ideals," by the Rev. R. E. L. Porter on "The Co-relation of Sunday Schools," and by Rev. A. O. Brown, "The Sunday School's Value." A number of the new ministers of the assembly will fill pulpits in neighboring towns tomorrow.

Called on the President. Washington, May 19.—Speaker Cannon, Senator Spooner and Representative Hepburn were among the President's callers today. Speaker Cannon when asked about the rate bill passed by the senate said that if all he had read in the press was true, he thought it must be a good bill. Colonel Hepburn was not prepared to say how soon the bill would go to conference.

Postmasters Appointed. Washington, May 19.—The following appointments of fourth class postmasters were announced today.

North Carolina—Dresden, Wiley P. Turner; Kerr; Frederick P. Newton.

Mr. F. P. Covington, of Cerro Gordo, is in the city.

## SUICIDE OF A BANK PRESIDENT

Irvin Tucker of Newport News Shoots Himself.

### DEFAULTER IN A LARGE AMOUNT

Was on the Eve of Being Arrested When He Committed the Deed. Wrote a Note Admitting That He Was a Defaulter and That He Would Kill Himself if an Attempt to Arrest Him Was Made.

Norfolk, Va., May 19.—Irvin Tucker, president of the Savings Bank of Newport News, Va., committed suicide in his room over the bank in Newport News today just as Chief of Police Reynolds of that city opened his door to arrest him upon a warrant charging him with defaulting in the sum of \$10,000. Tucker heard Chief Reynolds ask a negro porter on the outside as to the location of his room and standing in front of a mirror put a bullet through his right temple, as the door was thrown open.

The doors of the savings bank have been closed pending an investigation which is now being made by the board of directors. One is to the effect that the shortage may amount to \$20,000 but the directors state that the exact amount of the default has not yet been determined.

The first suspicion that Tucker was defaulter was received this morning in a note written by the suicide himself. This note was found shortly after the doors of the bank were opened today, it having been placed on the desk of Cashier R. Carter Perkins. Tucker admitted that he was short in his accounts and said if any attempt was made to arrest him he would commit suicide. Immediately the directors of the bank were called together and a hurried examination resulted in the issuance of the warrant. It was suspected that Tucker had left Newport News and the police of New York and other neighboring cities were asked to look out for him.

Chief Reynolds then went to make an investigation of Tucker's bachelor apartments over the savings bank where the tragedy occurred. An examination of a safety deposit box in the savings bank revealed the fact that Tucker's life was insured for \$30,000 which will cover all of his alleged default.

The Savings Bank of Newport News was largely patronized by laboring classes of Newport News.

President Tucker was about 40 years of age.

He was the son of former John S. Tucker, of Norfolk, now a retired lawyer of Washington, D. C.

Mr. Tucker was formerly city editor of the old Norfolk Virginian, and was postmaster of Newport News under the Cleveland administration.

## MAY CAUSE TROUBLE

Florida Fishermen Fitting Out More Fishing Vessels for the Mexican Government to Seize—Government Investigating Recent Seizures.

Washington, May 19.—Advices received here to the effect that the three fishing companies operating from headquarters at Pensacola, Mobile and Galveston are fitting out other schooners to fish in the gulf waters have caused some disquiet in view of the announced intention of the Mexican government to seize every foreign vessel taking fish in Mexican waters. It appears that the Mexican government asserts that for many years American preachers have been operating within the three mile limit, and after repeated warnings it has now determined to stop the practice. As the United States has no treaty with Mexico granting our citizens the right to fish in the territorial waters of Mexico, there is no ground for protest on the part of the state department in case of seizures, once the fact is established that the vessels were actually within the marine league of shore. The department is making an inquiry now to determine this fact in the case of the three vessels recently seized off the coast of Yucatan, and meanwhile it is hoped that no fresh issues will be made.

## GOES TO WEST POINT

Diploma From High School Sufficient for Mr. Louis Orrell to Gain Admission to the School Where Uncle Sam's Soldiers Get Their Training.

Among the graduates at the High School on Friday night was one who is soon to enter West Point, Mr. Louis Orrell. He recently stood his physical examination and passed. As a usual thing they are required to pass a strict examination on certain subjects to be studied at the High School before a graduate of the High School is not required to stand such an examination. This was indeed a compliment to the Wilmington High school. Mr. Orrell will probably leave for West Point next month.

Two other members of the class, Messrs. Tom Wood and Earle Crosswell will enter the university of North Carolina. All of these are bright young men and will be a credit to the Wilmington High school.

## THE MONEY WAS WELL SPENT

A Remarkable Statement Made By Max Cohen.

### IN THE DEFENCE OF McCALL

The Million Dollars Spent Under Auspices of Andrew Hamilton Were Justified, Says Mr. Cohen, and Saved Millions of Dollars to the Policy Holders—Declared it Was the Policy of State Legislators to "Hold Up" Insurance Companies.

Washington, May 19.—"I am willing to go on record that even the one million dollars which was spent by President McCall under the auspices of Andrew Hamilton, was justifiable, and I further say it has not only saved millions of dollars to the policy holders of that company but millions of dollars to the policy holders of other companies."

The house committee on the judiciary listened to this statement today. It was made by Max Cohen, publisher of an insurance paper in this city. The committee was considering the Ames insurance bill for the regulation of insurance in the District of Columbia.

Mr. Cohen made the further assertion that the entire amount of the alleged "graft" which the Armstrong committee discovered was not a tithe of the tax levied upon policy holders by the states. He justified the means which had been employed by the officers of companies to prevent state legislation of the "hold up" character. Officers of companies had taxed their policy holders for funds to prevent legislation to an extent not greater than from 25 to 40 cents an individual, he said, while exactions by states had amounted to all the way from \$5 to \$20 per policy holder. Pennsylvania at one time, he said, had a law in force which exacted 10 per cent. of the benefit of a policy. Ohio now has a law which takes 3 per cent. of this benefit. There were a hundred other little items in the way of fees and penalties through which the states obtain the money of the policy holders, he continued.

Then, he said, there was a tendency on the part of the state legislators generally to "hold up" the insurance companies when they endeavored to block such legislation. Mr. Cohen made a vigorous protest against the enactment of insurance legislation on the basis that the managers of the insurance business of the country are dishonest.

## CHARTER GRANTED

Academy of Science Elect Officers. Light Rainfall—Died at His Home in Maxton.

(Special to The Messenger.) Raleigh, N. C., May 19.—The state charters the W. G. Jarret Machine company, Charlotte, capital stock \$25,000.

The North Carolina Academy of Science elected Collier Cobb, of Chapel Hill, president; J. C. Lake, of Wake Forest, vice president; T. L. Stephens, of West Raleigh, secretary-treasurer; Franklin Sherman, W. C. Koker and John F. Lavneau, executive committee.

The total rainfall this month has been only a sixteenth of an inch. There was a light shower this evening. Lonnie Jones, aged 22, for past five years a guard at the penitentiary, died of bronchitis at his home at Maxton. Orphaned when five years old he and his brother were educated at the Oxford orphanage.

Ladies shirt-waists all prices at Polvogt's.

## BASEBALL

SOUTHERN LEAGUE. At Little Rock, 4; Atlanta, 1. At Memphis, 7; Birmingham, 5. At New Orleans, 8; Nashville, 1. Shreveport, rain.

AMERICAN LEAGUE. At Washington, 1; Chicago, 3. At Philadelphia, 2; Detroit, 1. At New York, 8; St. Louis, 3. At Boston, 2; Cleveland, 3.

NATIONAL LEAGUE. At Cincinnati, 15; Boston, 0. At Chicago, 0; Philadelphia, 8. At St. Louis, 7; Brooklyn, 5. At Pittsburg, 1; New York, 5.

SOUTH ATLANTIC LEAGUE. At Savannah, 1; Columbia, 3. At Macon, 6; Charleston, 3.

COLLEGE GAMES. Champaign, Ills., May 19.—University of Illinois, 8; University of Chicago, 7.

At Philadelphia: Cornell, 1; Pennsylvania, 0. At New Haven: Holy Cross, 15; Yale, 4. At Cambridge: Princeton, 8; Harvard, 6.

Atlanta: Techs., 3; University of Georgia, 3. At Richmond, 5; Portsmouth, 0. At Roanoke, 7; Norfolk, 3. At Lynchburg, 7; Danville, 3.

For white goods and laces see Polvogt's stock is complete.

Visit the store that's always busy, "Polvogt's."

## U. D. C. AID SUFFERERS

New York Chapter Sends Funds to the San Francisco Chapter.

The New York Chapter of the United Daughters of the Confederacy, at its meeting on Monday, May 14th Mrs. James Henry Parker presiding voted unanimously to forward a sum of money to the Algert Sydney Johnson Chapter in San Francisco for the benefit of the sufferers there. The chapter also elected the nineteen delegates to which it is entitled to the next annual convention of the order, which is to be held at Gulf Port, Miss. This is near Beauvoir, the historic home of Jefferson Davis, and one of the sessions of the convention will be held amid the magnolias on the famous old estate.

Since its organization at the Windsor Hotel in 1897, the chapter has grown rapidly until, with associates, its numbers 600 members, being the largest society of its kind in the city. Much of this healthy condition is due to the efforts of Mrs. James Henry Parker, who has held the office of president for the past seven years, and to whose good judgment, tact and graciousness in the conduct of the affairs of the society too much praise cannot be awarded.

Very early in its history the chapter realized that to confine its work to the relief of needy southern women would be to restrict its field and curtail its possibilities for good, and it had, therefore upon all occasions of national calamity contributed liberally. So thoroughly is this understood that it is a most common thing for the society to receive checks from northern women.

The chairman of the relief committee is Mrs. Alfred W. Cochran, the daughter of United Senator Pugh, of Alabama, and there are two or more representatives of each state on the committee, among whom the work is divided.

The society realizes that the entire organization, throughout the country, looks to New York and the New York chapter, and at its several meetings during the year there is much discussion of live topics of national importance. There are five meetings of the chapter each year, the annual meeting and the president's reception to the chapter being held in January. There are each year a number of social functions, notably a ball at Sherry's, a birthday party in March, and a luncheon in April, all of which are distinguished by the attendance of the elite of the southern colony in New York.

After the first meeting of the chapter, its birthplace, the Hotel Windsor, was destroyed, and the management of the hotel Empire tendered their accommodations, with out charge, to the then homeless society. The offer was accepted and until last meeting of that house. The outgrowing of possibilities it was compelled to remove to a house with great facilities. There are but two Confederate flags in the city of New York and they belong, one to this society and one to the Confederate Camp both of them presented by Mrs. James Henry Parker.

## MRS. J. F. DIVINE DEAD

Passed Away at Her Home on Grace Street Last Night—Funeral Will Take Place Monday Morning From the Residence.

With her loved ones gathered around her, Mrs. Augusta Elizabeth Divine, wife of Captain John F. Divine, passed away last night at her home, No. 314 Grace street at 10:45 o'clock. She was in her 74th year. The end was not unexpected for Mrs. Divine had been ill for many months and for the past few days her death had been expected at any time. She had been a sufferer from heart disease since last November in a very serious form. One day she would be feeling very well and the next she would be extremely ill.

Mrs. Divine was a woman who did much good but she did it in a quiet way and the world never knew of her acts of kindness. There will be many a heart besides relatives made sad by her passing away. More than half a century ago Captain John F. Divine and Augusta Elizabeth Howie plighted their troth. Sad indeed it must be for the husband who is left behind.

The deceased was a devout member of the First Baptist church, Rev. Fred D. Hale, D. D., will conduct the funeral service.

The deceased is survived by her husband and six children. They are, Mrs. D. P. Foley, of Baltimore; Mrs. J. D. Horne, of Wadesboro; Mr. John S. Divine, of Salisbury; Mr. Charles Divine, Mr. M. W. Divine and Miss Stella Divine, of this city. She is also survived by a number of grand-children.

The funeral will take place tomorrow morning at 11 o'clock from the late residence on Grace street and interment will be in Oakdale cemetery.

"It's sorrowful I am, Moike," replied the stricken woman, wiping the tears from her eyes. "I couldn't spare a rag of it, for there's no too much of it, an' I know, darlin', I'm savin' it for the waker." Under the Spreading Chestnut Tree. Everybody's Magazine for June.

Not a thing harmful in One Minute Cough Cure, but it relieves a cough quickly, cuts the phlegm. Healing and soothing. Sold by R. R. Bellamy.

Senator Morgan notes with regret that William Nelson Cromwell has the Panama habit. He's deadlocked.—Philadelphia Ledger.

The primary vote yesterday was very small, not only in Charlotte but throughout the county. In many instances, only the judges and registrars were present and these named the delegates to the different conventions.—Charlotte News.

## FOREST FIRE'S WORK

Several Towns in Northern Michigan Destroyed.

HUNDREDS ARE HOMELESS

Property Loss Will Amount to Millions of Dollars.

Four Persons are Known to Have Lost Their Lives and a Score or More are Missing—One Hundred Square Miles of Territory Swept by the Flames—Refugees Seeking Safety in Flight—The Wind at One Time Reached a Velocity of 40 Miles an Hour.

Milwaukee, Wis., May 19.—A special dispatch to the Milwaukee Sentinel from Ecanaba, Mich., by a staff correspondent says:

Four known dead, a score or more persons missing, hundreds of families homeless, several million dollars worth of property destroyed, four towns wiped out, and a dozen more partly burned, five counties partly devastated and one hundred square miles of territory fire swept. This is the result in the Northern Michigan peninsula of the forest fire that raged yesterday and last night until it spent itself today. For the time being the danger is over unless a new gale arises to fan the embers into flames.

Peter LaFond, a cook, was smothered in a lumber camp, near Katos. Three children are dead at Quinnesec, Michigan. They got separated from their parents while the village was burning and perished.

Scores of homesteaders and woodsmen are missing and some may have perished in the flames.

The towns destroyed are: Talbot, Michigan 300 population; few houses escaped. Quinnesec, Mich., 400 population, only one house left. Saunders, 150 population, wiped out. Niagara, Wisconsin, 200 population, all burned.

Towns damaged: Northland, Coornell, Antoine, Spring Valley, Kingsley, Woodlawn, Foster City, Sands and Metropolitan.

All day long refugees and train men have been coming in telling tales of misery and suffering as well as heroism and brave deeds that were enacted while the fire was at its height.

The burned area extends from a point 10 miles out of Ecanaba to Talbot, on the south, to Channing and Quinnesec on the west, to Sands on the north and back to near Ecanaba.

While this territory has not been swept clear, great tracts have been laid waste, especially toward the north, where the fire started yesterday morning. Toward noon the wind began to blow from the west, 30 miles an hour. By 2 o'clock the velocity was 40 miles and by 4 o'clock the small fires seemed to have united into a large one that extended over a 50-mile stretch and swept along with fury. Hundreds of prosperous farms were burned over, driving the occupants to the nearest towns for shelter. Cattle and stock and houses and barns and their contents were left for the flames. Farmers loaded wagons hurriedly with personal effects and ran before the flames.

There was little that human effort could do to check the flames. The heat was intense and the smoke stifling. The smoke threw women and children into a panic. Gradually the wind died down during last night and this morning the flames began to lose their fury.

MECKLENBURG DECLARATION

Great Event in Charlotte on Monday, May 20th—Hundreds of Visitors Will be in Attendance.

If there is one holiday in North Carolina that should be adequately observed, it is the anniversary of the Declaration of Independence by the people of Mecklenburg County on May 20th, 1775, nearly fourteen months before the national declaration. This was an event which exerted its influence over the whole country; for the example it set was a striking instance of the lead that North Carolina has taken in many things connected with the history of our country. The day peculiarly North Carolina day, and her citizens should glow with pride as it returns from year to year.

Therefore, we should be glad to see a general holiday, at least for the afternoon, among our business houses. It is a duty which the citizens of the State owe to her history.

From time to time doubts have been cast upon the authenticity of the Mecklenburg Declaration, but we publish elsewhere in our columns today an article which brings indisputable proof as to the occurrence of the event.

Dancing at Lumina Monday night—Cars every half hour until 10 p. m.—Last car leaves the Beach at 11:45 p. m.