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RE-OPENING OF CONGRESS. WILL SETTLE. A DECREASE. ENCOUNTER ROUGH WEATHER

Second Session of the 57th Congress Convened Yesterday.

INTERESTING SCENES ARE ENACTED.

Small the Opening Day Was the session of an immense number of visitors—both halls were filled with flowers—only necessary routine business was conducted and adjournment was taken out of respect to deceased members. Committees were appointed to wait on the president—the members were very cordial in the exchange of greetings.

Washington, December 1.—The second session of the fifty-seventh congress was convened at noon today. Long before the gavel fell in the two houses, large crowds thronged about the doors of the visitors galleries seeking admission. Early in the forenoon the corridors gave evidence of an approaching session. There were the usual scenes and incidents attending the opening of congress. A bright sunny day brought out a crowd to greet the law-makers, the women being conspicuous among the visitors.

In the lobbies of the house, members were exchanging greetings while on the senate side there were similar exchanges. Large numbers of representatives also journeyed to the senate chamber to shake hands.

To be seen in the corridors and lobbies on both sides were many public officials who left the departments to witness the opening. Notable among those who gathered at the capitol this morning were some of the members-elect, who will take seats next December or earlier, should an extra session be called.

Former Speaker Thomas B. Reed, was among the visitors at the capitol. Prior to the hour for convening he visited among the members of the house where he once served so many years, then among the members of the senate. He was greeted on both sides by friends and former associates.

The joint committee of the two branches of congress appointed to notify the president that congress had assembled and was ready to receive any message he might have to deliver to it, called at the executive offices this afternoon. The committee was congratulated by the president and requested to convey to the two houses his felicitations, with the information that he would communicate with the congress in writing tomorrow.

The Senate.

The senate was in session twelve minutes today, the first day of the session, and an adjournment until tomorrow being taken out of respect to the memory of the late Senator James McMillan, who died during the recess. Rarely has the historic chamber presented such an appearance as it did today. The custom of placing flowers on the desks of the senators on the opening day of a session is one which long has been followed, but the display today was admittedly the most magnificent of any that heretofore have been seen. Many of the senators were early on the floor and were kept busy exchanging greetings with old acquaintances.

The galleries were packed to suffocation and hundreds stood outside the corridors anxious to gain admission.

Among the interested spectators were several members of the diplomatic corps. Senator Quesada, the Cuban minister, occupied a conspicuous place and exhibited much interest in the proceedings. The absence of Rev. Dr. Milburn, the blind chaplain, was particularly noticed. His place today was taken by Rev. J. F. Prettyman, of Washington, D. C. No business was transacted, beyond passing the customary resolutions that the senate was ready to proceed to business and fixing the hour of convening the sessions at 12 o'clock.

President pro tem Frye appointed Mr. Platt, of Connecticut, and Mr. Jones, of Arkansas, as the chairman to wait upon the president and the senate adjourned until tomorrow.

House of Representatives.

The opening of the 57th congress in the house was as usual, a spectacular event. The galleries of the freshly decorated hall were packed to the doors with people prominent in society and politics and the flower show on the floor, although not as elaborate as usual, filled the chamber with perfume and added grace and beauty to the scene. The members were good natured and jovial and there was no outcropping of partisan feeling to mar the reassembling. Speaker Henderson received a cordial reception as he assumed the gavel, but beyond this there were no

demonstrations. The proceedings were purely perfunctory. A prayer, the calling of the roll, the swearing in of members elected to fill vacancies created by death or resignation during the recess the adoption of the customary resolutions to appoint a committee to wait upon the president, to inform the senate that the house was ready to transact business and to fix the daily hour of meeting, summarizes what was done. Then the death of the late Representative Charles A. Russell, of Connecticut, which occurred in the early fall, was announced by his successor, Mr. Bran-dege, the usual resolution of regret was adopted and the house, as a further mark of respect adjourned until tomorrow when the president's message will be received. The session lasted less than an hour.

The leaders on both sides were surrounded and greeted as they found their way to their desks but there were no demonstrations. Mr. Cannon, of Illinois, whose election as speaker of the next house is already assured, was beset by his colleagues with congratulations and could with difficulty force a way to his desk. Mr. Payne, of New York, the floor leader of the minority, Mr. Dalzell, of Pennsylvania, Mr. Richardson, the minority leader, and other prominent members also held impromptu receptions.

Among the members sworn in was Carter Glass, Sixth Virginia district, vice Peter J. Otey, deceased. Immediately after the swearing in of these members, Mr. Taylor, of Ohio, created a flurry by offering a resolution to investigate the election of Carter Glass, in the Sixth Virginia district.

Mr. Richardson, the minority leader, challenged action upon the resolution, but as Mr. Taylor did not ask action upon it but only that it be referred to committee on elections No. 1, it was so referred without objection.

The speaker appointed Messrs. Bingham, of Pennsylvania, Hitt, of Illinois, and Richardson, of Tennessee, as the committee to wait on the president, and the house adjourned until tomorrow.

WRECKED IN A STORM.

Steamer Hebard Dashed to Pieces on a Rock and Crew Perished.

Sault Ste Marie, Mich., Dec. 1.—In the terrible west gale on Lake Superior Saturday night the steamer Charles Hebard was driven on the rock shore at Point Maimaise and was soon dashed to pieces by the seas. Her crew consisting of thirteen men and a woman cook have not been heard from and it is feared all have perished. The schooner Aloha, one of the consorts which the Hebard had in tow, broke away from the steamer in Lake Superior and has not been heard from since. When last sighted she was laboring heavily in the trough of the sea and little hope is entertained for her safety. The schooners Warmington and Francomb the other vessels of the tow ran before the gale after breaking away from the steamers and finally succeeded in reaching an anchorage at Copper Mine Point.

The four boats had loaded lumber at West Superior and were bound for Lake Erie ports. When in the middle of Lake Superior Saturday night they were struck by the gale and soon after the Aloha, the rear vessel of the tow, parted her tow line and went adrift. When last seen she was rolling in the trough, with none of her canvass set. The remaining two consorts, either broke away or were set adrift soon afterwards. Before daylight Sunday morning the Francomb reached Copper Mine Point at the east end of the lake. When day dawned the wreck of the Hebard was discovered on the shore a short distance, with only the smoke-stack and pilot house sticking out of the water, but by 8:30 o'clock everything had disappeared and the ship and cargo was being strewn along the beach by the breakers.

"Laughter and Lies" Produced.

Atlanta, Ga., December 1.—Howard Kyle produced tonight at the Grand Opera house a new play entitled "Laughter and Lies," by Asa Steele, of Philadelphia. The play added to Mr. Kyle's achievements as a dramatic star. It is a companion piece to "Nathan Hale" in which Mr. Kyle has been heretofore very successful. "Laughter and Lies" is laid in the same revolutionary period in which the famous American spy and martyr figured

Probable That Germany and Great Britain Will Be Satisfied. BY VENEZUELA.

President Castro Handed a Written Acceptance of Some of Germany's Claims to the German Minister—It is Understood That Great Britain's Claims Will Also be Satisfied—It is Possible That no Agreement Will be Reached and That an Ultimatum Will be Presented to Venezuela.

Berlin, December 1.—President Castro, of Venezuela, handed probably on Thursday last to the German minister at Caracas, a written acceptance of part of Germany's claims, sufficiently comparative to delay the presentation of a joint ultimatum by Germany and Great Britain if not rendering it altogether unnecessary. It is also understood that Great Britain's demand will be satisfied.

Foreign Secretary von Richthofen and the British foreign secretary, Lord Lansdowne, are now in correspondence over Venezuela's change of front. This government considers that a peaceful settlement of the questions in dispute is quite probable and attributes President Castro's yielding to the fact that he has become aware that the United States would not interpose any obstacle to the forcible collection of the claims of Germany and Great Britain.

President Castro tried by every means to keep Great Britain and Germany apart in discussing the settlements, intimating or promising one thing and then another. Germany, having entered into a general agreement with Great Britain to exact a settlement jointly will not make a separate agreement. Consequently the two powers may yet conclude it necessary to disregard President Castro's qualified offers and present an ultimatum to Venezuela.

The German cruisers Amazone, Arfadne and Niobe continue fitting out at Kiel for prolonged absence. The view in naval quarters is that the cruisers will be sent to the West Indies irrespective of the Venezuela affair, hence it is believed they will sail even though President Castro may yield. It is understood that the squadron will touch at the Azores and thence go to St. Thomas, where it will receive Commodore Schmeders instructions. This is the commodore's first command promising action, beyond routine sea duty. He is reputed to be a cool, sensible man who will do nothing hasty.

Caracas, December 1.—President Castro has twice sent for United States Minister Bowen during the last few days and has had prolonged interviews with him, at which the minister of foreign affairs. Both the president and president and Mr. Bowen refuses to be interviewed.

BILLS ABOUT TRUSTS.

Number of Measures Introduced Affecting Commercial Combinations

Washington, December 1.—A number of bills were introduced in the house today affecting commercial combinations. None of the measures are introduced at the request of the administration. Several have been shown to Attorney General Knox, but he has neither approved nor disapproved any of the proposed measures.

A joint resolution offered by Representative H. C. Smith, of Michigan, proposed an amendment to the constitution conferring upon congress a power to define, regulate, prohibit and dissolve trusts, monopolies, etc.

Representative Hepburn, of Iowa, chairman of committee on commerce introduced a bill in the house today appropriating \$500,000 to be expended under the discretion of the attorney general in the employment of special counsel and agents of the department of justice, to conduct proceedings, suits and prosecutions in the enforcement of the Sherman anti-trust law.

The resolutions and all bills on this subject were referred to the committee on judiciary.

Appointments on N. and W.

Roanoke, Va., December 1.—The Norfolk and Western railway today announced the following appointments of division superintendents: A. C. Needles, acting superintendent of Norfolk division with headquarters at Crewe, to be superintendent of Potomac division with headquarters at Bluefield; W. S. Becker, chief clerk of general manager, to be superintendent of Norfolk division.

Estimates of Appropriations Not as Large as Last Year. RECAPITULATION.

Secretary of the Treasury Sends to Congress His Estimates of the Amounts Needed for the Government Service for Year Ending in 1904—The Appropriations Asked for Amounts to \$589,189,112, Which is \$21,638,576 Less Than Asked for Last Year—These Estimates are Based on Reports.

Washington December 1.—The secretary of the treasury today transmitted to congress the estimates of the appropriations required for the government service for the fiscal year ending June 30th, 1904, as furnished by the heads of the several executive departments. The total appropriations asked for are \$589,189,112, which is \$21,638,576 less than the estimates for 1903 and \$33,000,014 less than the appropriations for that year.

Following is a recapitulation of the estimates by departments cents omitted:

Legislative	\$11,508,483.	Executive	\$319,500.
State department	\$2,676,825.	Treasury department	\$172,315,526.
War department	\$130,986,605.	Navy department	\$84,725,798.
Interior department	\$162,418,616.	Postoffice department	\$10,363,496.
Department of agriculture	\$660,450.	Department of labor	\$184,220.
Department of justice	\$7,431,900.	Grand totals	\$589,189,112.

Following are the several items under the several departments which show increases or decreases as compared with the appropriations for the year 1903:

Legislative, salaries and expenses increase \$393, 913.
Public printing, etc., increase \$718, 000.

Executive proper, salaries and expenses increase \$13,000.

Salaries and expenses civil service commission, increase \$75,000.

State department, foreign intercourse increase \$211,000.

Treasury department, public works, increase \$7,000,000; miscellaneous \$3,000, 000.

District of Columbia, increase \$2, 700,000.

Permanent annual appropriations, decrease \$3,600,444.

War department, military establishment, decrease \$14,000,000.

Public works, decrease \$4,683,000.

Navy department, naval establishment increase \$6,000,000.

Interior department, public works, decrease \$273,000.

Miscellaneous, increase \$1,650,000.

Permanent annual appropriations, increase \$470,000.

Postoffice department, salaries and expenses, increase \$115,000.

Department of agriculture, salaries and expenses, increase \$462,000.

Department of justice, miscellaneous, increase \$472,000.

STREET CAR STRIKE.

Motormen and Conductors in Houston Walk Out and Demand Better Terms.

Houston, Texas, December 1.—The street car conductors and motormen of Houston walked out this morning and not a car has moved all day. Efforts made at a settlement during the day have been without avail. The question of rules submitted by the men is the keystone of the trouble. The men claim they have been working twelve and thirteen hours a day for less money than \$2 and they demand \$2 for nine hours work; they also demand recognition of the union and the adoption of certain rules. The company has offered a slight increase, but it is in the shape of a bonus and not a straight offer. Manager Payne announces that he will make an effort to run cars within a few days, whether he comes to an agreement with the union or not. The 135 men out are very orderly and are being carefully coached to stay off the streets. Webster and Field of Boston control the Houston company.

Nothing Heard of the Fanny L. Child

Fall River, Mass., December 1.—Fears are entertained for the safety of the schooner Fanny L. Child, bound from Jacksonville for this port with a cargo of hardpine. The vessel left Jacksonville on October 28th and has not since been heard from.

The St. Louis Arrives in New York A Day Late After A Stormy Voyage.

LATER FIRE DISCOVERED ON BOARD

ADMITS CHARGE WAS FALSE.

Trial of Paper Editors for Libelling General Bell.

Manila, December 1.—The trial of the editors of the paper Libertas, a Friar organ and strong anti-American in its policy for libelling General Bell, who was accused by the paper of stealing the profits from the sale of rice and foodstuffs in Bantangan and Mindoro during the reconcentration period, concluded today and resulted in the conviction of the director of the paper, Manuel Ravago, and the acquittal of Friar Tamayo, the paper's religious censor. The prosecution experienced some difficulty in showing the identity of the publishers of the Libertas although Ravago finally testified that he alone was responsible.

At the opening of the hearing, the defendant admitted that the libellous article was false, thus excluding the testimony of General Bell and General Davis, the civil commissioners who had arranged the transfer of the poor fund in question to the Philippine government. The trial failed to disclose the actual author of the article, and it is possible that another dominican priest may be arrested. Sentence on Ravago was deferred.

OMNIBUS STATEHOOD BILL.

Content Over This Bill Began on Re-opening of Congress.

Washington, December 1.—The content over the Omnibus Statehood bill began immediately upon the meeting of congress. As soon as the senate adjourned there was a conference in Senator Hale's committee room, attended by Senators Allison, Aldrich, Hale, Platt, of Connecticut; Cul'n, Lodge, Hanna and Beveridge; the latter the chairman of committee on territories. These gentlemen represented the republicans who are opposed to the Omnibus bill admitting Oklahoma, New Mexico and Arizona, and it is understood favor Oklahoma only. The senators who were in the conference expressed the opinion that if the conditions were as shown by the testimony taken, some features of which were given by Senators Beveridge then it would be unwise to admit either New Mexico or Arizona.

Later in the afternoon there was a conference in Senator Beveridge's committee room attended by the republican members of the committee who are supposed to be opposed to the Omnibus bill. Owing to the fact that the committee is working in order to make a report on Wednesday, the republicans are trying hard to get the report ready.

The republicans who are making the fight for the Omnibus bill are under the leadership of Senators Quay and Elkins and it is claimed that fifteen republicans are pledged to that bill, which with democrats would give the Omnibus bill a clear majority. The other republicans think that certain favorable remarks have been taken for pledges and that when the vote is taken a majority cannot be mustered to admit three new states at this session.

Big Railroad Company Chartered.

Guthrie, O. T., Dec. 1.—A charter was granted here today to the Enid, San Diego and Pacific railroad company to build a line one thousand miles long from Enid, Oklahoma, to San Diego, California.

The incorporators are Oklahoma capitalists who are at present back of the Frisco extension now building between Enid and Guthrie. The capital stock of the new company is placed at \$30,000,000.

Malarial Fever Drives Marines Home

Washington December 1.—Rear Admiral Higginson has cabled the navy department under the date of San Juan, December 1, as follows:

Peniter ordered to Hampton Roads on account of malarial fever and debilitation of marines. Condition not serious.

Naturally apprehension is felt as to the condition of the marines, who were on the isthmus more than a month, guarding the Panama railroad. At the navy department, it is said, there is no reason for alarm over Admiral Higginson's despatch. On arrival at Hampton Roads, the men will probably be given extended shore leave to recuperate.

The St. Louis Arrived at New York a Day Later—The Steamer Shows the Effects of the Rough Weather. The Experience Was a Novel One and Altogether Unusual—A Big Hall Storm Was Encountered Which Made Navigation Difficult When Off Nantucket a Fire Was Discovered on the Main Deck, But It Was Not Serious and Was Soon Extinguished.

New York, December 1.—The American line steamer St. Louis arrived in port early today from Southampton and Cherbourg one day late, after a very stormy passage. The St. Louis left the channel with moderate breezes which later became a whole gale with violent squalls and a very high dangerous sea. The gales continued in violence until Friday when they fell.

As the St. Louis came into her dock she showed the effect of the rough weather. Her funnels were salt encrusted where the spray had been dashed against them, and one of the forward starboards hung a wreck on the davits; others on the same side were marked by dents where the heavy seas had struck them. During the height of the storm on Wednesday afternoon one seaman, Charles Johnson, a Norwegian, was washed overboard and lost. During almost all of the trip the captain was obliged to remain on the bridge, and most of the time the officers were lashed to supports to keep the seas from carrying them away.

On the 29th the St. Louis ran into a violent hall storm and the hull stones were so large that the officers had hard work navigating the ship. For days they ran the vessel under reduced speed with the passengers behind storm doors and the sea continually breaking over the ship and sweeping the decks.

On Wednesday about 4 o'clock in the afternoon the storm was so fierce and the sea, which was high was breaking over the bow with such force, it was feared that the forward boats on the starboard side would be carried away. Orders were given to have the boats made more secure and a detail of seven men went to fasten them.

The seaman who undertook the work crept along the side of the deck to the forward boat. They had been working but a few minutes to make it secure when a heavy sea came curling over the deck. There was a shout of warning and all of the men held fast except Johnson, who was dashed overboard. The boat was stopped, but so wild was the sea that no aid could be given to the man and the steamer resumed her journey.

Yesterday afternoon when the St. Louis was off the Nantucket lightship a fire was discovered forward on the main deck. It was caused by a defective electric wire and was extinguished with a few bucketfuls of water. The incident which was related by General Viljoen, who was one of the passengers, created no excitement.

Charged With Mutiny and Assault.

Newport News, Va., December 1.—The German steamship Carnia, Hamburg to New Orleans, stopped here for coal early this morning and put ashore for safe keeping H. Skeaner, a seaman, who is charged with mutiny and assault upon the first officers. When the ship sailed this evening Skeaner was put aboard in irons. He will be taken back to Germany for trial.

The Celtic Probably Lost.

Detour, Mich., Decem. 1.—The schooner Celtic, in tow of the steamer Runnells, broke away from the steamer in the gale Saturday night when in the north end of Lake Huron and it is feared has been lost with all on board. The Celtic carried a crew of eight.

Money to Defray Expenses of Strike Commission.

Washington, December 1.—Representative Cannon has introduced a bill appropriating \$50,000 to defray the expenses of the anthracite coal commission appointed by the president. The bill provides that the members may receive such compensation within the limit of the appropriation as the president may deem proper, and provision is made so there will be no conflict with existing laws affecting those members who are now in the employ of the government. The bill was referred to the committee on appropriations, and will be taken up by that committee for consideration tomorrow.