

TWO SIDES TO THE PANAMA QUESTION

W. W. Kitchin Opposed to Ratification and in Favor of the Nicaragua Route—Walter Henry a Retired Politician—Colonel Cunningham's Stories Made a Hit

By THOMAS J. PENCE

Washington, Feb. 6.—Special.—There is sharp division of sentiment in North Carolina with reference to the ratification of the Panama canal treaty, as is indicated by letters addressed to both senators and the divided stand taken by members of the congressional delegation. While Senator Simmons has received a number of letters applauding his course in favoring the treaty, Senator Overman has heard from a great number of Tar Heels who commend his letters addressed to the Wilmington Chamber of Commerce and urging him to oppose ratification. The letters addressed to the two senators make it clear that there is much division of sentiment among prominent citizens of the state as to the advisability of ratifying the treaty with Panama.

The indications are that the majority of the congressional delegation favor ratification, but opposite views are entertained by some of the representatives. W. W. Kitchin has pronounced views on this subject. When approached today, he said:

"Without reflecting upon, or criticizing the opinion of other men, my views are against ratification of the treaty. The law provides that if a satisfactory agreement with one of the largest national banks of that city. My family will continue to reside in Charlotte. I will travel throughout the south."

"What of politics?" "I am letting politics alone for the present," was his reply. "I will give my attention to my banking work, and to my book. I have been engaged on this book, during my leisure hours for more than ten years. It will be copyrighted in this spring. I have flattering offers from New York publishers."

"I am out of politics in North Carolina. On principle, there is nothing there in a fight against Democracy, unless one wishes to play political poker. I do not care to sit in the game."

"North Carolina will give the next Democratic candidate for the presidency, who will be promptly beaten, no matter where he comes from, or who he happens to be. 30,000 majority if there is enough interest developed to bring out that vote, and as for the state, the Democrats have that 'grabbed' for the next hundred years."

"My observations, reflections and experience have conducted me to the conclusion, speaking generally, that politics is the dirtiest pool this side of Tartarus. From out of its ooze the flower of happiness seldom springs. Friends (there) is but a name, consistency, a discarded jewel, while the will of the wisp, that dances above its slime, is but the seductive, fleeting office."

"Politics, too often is not so much the science of government as the fabled cloacae, out of which wriggle the political bacilli that rot the body politic."

Cunningham's Funny Stories Representative W. W. Kitchin declared (Continued on page 2.)

Simmons Picked out for Political Duty

His Name Considered for Chairman of Congressional Campaign Committee. Blackburn's Ten-strike the Subject of Comment

By THOMAS J. PENCE

Washington, Feb. 6.—Special.—It became known today that the name of Senator F. M. Simmons is being seriously considered by party leaders in connection with the chairmanship of the Democratic congressional campaign committee. So far as the Tar Heel senator is concerned, he knows nothing of the mention of his name in connection with the position, which is to be made vacant by the decision of Judge James A. Griggs to resign, which was made known for the first time this week. The re-election of Chairman Griggs was considered a foregone conclusion, but the illness of Mrs. Griggs made it necessary for him to give up the management of the congressional campaign. For the past two days there has been much speculation in Democratic circles as to his successor. The names of Senator Martin of Vir-

nally placed him on the pay roll. It is Blackburn's belief that he will be nominated for congress, but in the meantime he would not be averse to drawing a salary as special attorney in post office and other fraud cases. Hence it is that unthinking people may be able to divine the motive of Blackburn's hot air introduction of the Roosevelt obituary.

The president will hear more about these resolutions. The organization does not intend that Blackburn shall get the credit for being the only Roosevelt windmill in North Carolina. There will be explanations to show that the ex-representative from the eighth was a little quicker with his knees and his body than the others, but that the real undying and everlasting admiration for the president centered in the authors of the Dockey resolutions, which were the joint product of Butler, Rollins and Company.

Something for the Farmers

Senator Simmons had a conference with Secretary of Agriculture Wilson this morning, and he was informed that the department of agriculture will urge an appropriation by congress for the purpose of gathering information for weekly and monthly reports on the trucking industry. It is Mr. Wilson's determination to appear next week before the Senate committee on agriculture, of which Mr. Simmons is a member, and present the urgent resolutions for disseminating authentic information as to the condition of the trucking crops. The senior Tar Heel senator will use his influence to secure the information. Mr. Wilson realizes that the trucking interests are more in need of authentic and specific information with reference to the condition of these crops than any other planters, because of the perishable nature of their products.

Another matter Senator Simmons discussed with the secretary of agriculture was the request of the North Carolina department of agriculture for extending the franking privilege to official publications issued by the state. Mr. Wilson thought the idea a good one. He will urge Congress to grant this privilege to all state agricultural departments.

BOOST FOR PARKER

The Manhattan Club Gives His Candidacy a Send-off

New York, Feb. 6.—The Parker boom got a boost tonight at the dinner given by the Manhattan Club for John Hone, its vice president. Chief Judge Parker sat at the left of Justice Traux, who presided, while the guest of honor sat on the right. The speaker was Senator McCarren of Brooklyn. He said:

"It has been said here tonight that the Manhattan Club is the leading Democratic Club in the United States. I believe that is true, and being true, I am glad to see that the leading Democratic club of the United States has nominated for the presidency so sterling and so inspiring a Democrat as Judge Parker. I want to second his nomination."

"He is conservative, dignified, judicial, one of the strong and triumphant young Democracy, allied with no faction and having no enemies to punish. (Great applause.)

"He measures up to the standard which all thinking Democrats require in their candidate for the presidency. His back is toward dead issues and his face toward a living and triumphant future. Such is the man upon whom all Democrats can unite and who will surely lead the party to victory."

Just before Senator McCarren spoke, and after a speech by Ex-Secretary of the Treasury Carlisle, in which he said that the Democracy had every chance of winning the next election, but could not win unless it made up its mind that certain issues had been buried and buried forever, Judge Parker was called on for a speech.

He was greeted with cheers and made a five minute speech, in which he felicitously referred to the great services Mr. Hone had rendered to the club. A letter of regret from Grover Cleveland was read by Justice Traux and was received with almost much cheering as was the nomination of Justice Parker.

Japs Called Home

San Francisco, Feb. 6.—The Japanese government has issued a call ordering the immediate return of all Japanese liable for military service. It came through the local consulate and the two Japanese papers published here issued extracts last night containing the official announcement. It is estimated that there are over 1,000 Japanese in California subject to the call.

Several weeks ago many of these Japanese gave notice to their employers that they were liable to be called upon by their government and they would be obliged to return home on a moment's notice. Failure to obey the conscription would mean a loss of all rights as citizens of Japan.

Lights for Less Money

Charlotte, N. C., Feb. 6.—Special. The light committee of the aldermen today recommended the acceptance by the city of the bid of the Catawba Power Company of Rock Hill for lighting Charlotte. The new concern will put 1,200 candle power lamps at \$54 and \$48. A five year contract will be made. The city is now paying \$90 for its lights.

THE NEGRO VOTER

Maryland Preparing to Reduce His Number Considerably

Annapolis, Md., Feb. 6.—It is almost certain that during the present session of the state legislature Maryland will join the states of the south which have practically disfranchised the negro. The members of the present legislature, three-fifths of whom are Democrats, were elected last fall on a vote pledged to this course, and there is little doubt that it will be accomplished in some form. Special interest attaches to the attempt to disfranchise the negro in Maryland, as this is the only state not one of the original slave-holding states, where it has been thought necessary. Moreover, only about one-fifth the citizens of Maryland are colored. Therefore the movement does not spring from any grave danger to the supremacy of the whites, but rather the abstract question of fitness of the negro for the exercise of suffrage. Still another feature which attaches special interest to the Maryland anti-negro movement is the fact that the law to limit his right of suffrage, as introduced in the Senate this week by Senator Wilson of Prince George county, is by far the most drastic of any plan that has been proposed, and is the most likely to accomplish the disfranchisement of practically all the negroes without affecting any considerable number of the illiterate whites. The bill in some form, however, is almost certain to pass the legislature, and it will then be necessary for it to be submitted to a popular vote throughout the state for adoption before it becomes a law.

WOMEN'S RESCUE WORK

President Roosevelt Gives His Approval in a Letter

Indianapolis, Ind., Feb. 6.—Mrs. Kate Waller Barrett addressed the executive committee of the National Council of Women today in the interest of the Florence Crittenden Homes for the Rescue of Young Women, and read the following letter from President Roosevelt:

"My Dear Madam: I wish you all possible success with your work. I had long felt that there was a peculiar claim for philanthropic work on behalf of the very class which you are striving to aid.

"In our social system they pay so heavy a penalty for wrongdoing and the road to reform and rehabilitation is made so difficult that I can conceive of no more worthy work than that of institutions such as the one under your management. With all good wishes, I am

"Sincerely yours,
"THEODORE ROOSEVELT."

BUTLER ACQUITTED

Millionaire Politician Gets off From Bribery Charge

Fulton, Mo., Feb. 6.—Edward Butler of St. Louis, the millionaire politician who has been on trial on a charge of bribing members of the St. Louis House of Delegates to secure the passage of a city lighting bill in 1899, was acquitted today by a jury in Judge Graves' court. When the jury first came in today they reported that they were unable to agree.

"Is there any prospect of your reaching an early decision?" asked the court. "I can not say," replied Foreman Rosser. "We are still considering the case."

Judge Graves thereupon requested the jury to retire again, saying he would recall them in a short time. The jury thereupon retired again, and when the members again appeared the verdict of "not guilty" was announced.

WOMEN FIGHT FIRE

Greensboro, N. C., Feb. 6.—Special. There was a slight fire at Greensboro Female College last night shortly after 10 o'clock, the damage being mainly to the walls and floors, and will perhaps not exceed \$25.

The fire was in the partition between two of the music rooms back of the rostrum in the chapel on the second floor. The fire was put out largely by the efforts of Misses Eunice McDowell, Annie Pogam, Edna Fisher and Sallie Davis, members of the faculty, and "Uncle Mat," the night watchman, who formed a bucket brigade and poured water on the flames holding them in check until the firemen arrived.

Secretary Hay Well Again

Thomasville, Ga., Feb. 6.—Secretary of State Hay left for Washington this morning by the Atlantic Coast Line, via Savannah, and is due to arrive in Washington Sunday night. He was well and in excellent spirits.

Japanese Cruisers Sail

Singapore, Feb. 6.—The Japanese cruisers Nishin and Kasaga, recently completed at Genoa for the Argentine Republic and purchased by the Mikado's government, sailed northward from here today, bound for Japan.

Suit Dismissed

Richmond, Va., Feb. 6.—Special.—The United States circuit court of appeals, on motion of the plaintiff, today dismissed the case of Harvey Terry vs. Lillian F. Naylor from the circuit court at Raleigh.

the high water mark were covered with seaweed and pebbles. The gigantic wave carried a rock weighing 4,000 pounds several yards. Smaller rocks were flung great distances.

Miles in Oil Business

Guthrie, Oklahoma, Feb. 6.—General Nelson A. Miles is the head of a syndicate which has secured large tracts of oil lands in the Osage and Cherokee nations. The syndicate will carbonate crude oil, converting it into a hardened form resembling coke. In the industry he is in partnership with Boston capitalists and experts. One of the experts has successfully developed a plan by which the crude oil may be carbonized. In this form the oil retains all of its heating properties and is condensed for fuel purposes. The plant will be located at Gwendale.

Weakness Everywhere

London, Feb. 6.—The first sittings of parliament revealed a condition of affairs that no party and no branch of any party can regard with moderate satisfaction, much less pride. Weakness is the prominent feature. The all-round impression given is of a weak prime minister, a weak government and a weak dominant party. Yet the increased weakness of the government does not seem to have added appreciably to the strength of the opposition.

MINE GAS EXPLODES

Life of Fire Boss Lost After Warning Miners

Scranton, Pa., Feb. 6.—By a terrific explosion of gas today at the Storris No. 2 mine of the Lackawanna Company at Priceburg, Evans Gabriel was killed and many others were injured, five seriously. The men who were brought out of the mines relate thrilling stories of their experience. The accumulation of gas was due to a "squeeze" that had taken place recently at the mine. Gabriel owes the loss of his life to the carelessness of others. He had warned a party of twelve not to go to a certain part of the mine. They did not heed him, and their lamps set off the gas. Gabriel was the fire boss, was fifty years old, and the father of a family of six.

LASHED WITH WIRES

Cruel Punishment of a Negro for Talking Imprudently

Roanoke, Va., Feb. 6.—Taylor Fields, a young negro, narrowly escaped meeting death at the rope's end last night in Salem. He had been making remarks similar to those made by Rev. R. R. Jones and a few other relatives to the Shields assault case of last week to the effect that no negro was guilty of the crime, but it was believed that Shields had committed the crime. A crowd of determined persons captured him, a rope was placed around his neck and he was carried to a telegraph pole to which, after being stripped, he was securely tied and then lashed around the body with pieces of wire. The crowd also used some fence palings in expressing their indignation.

When the negro was turned loose he was told that Salem was too small a town to hold him or any one else that expressed such views, and it is said that he started toward Fort Lewis Mountain. A fusillade of shots was fired in the air. The screams of the negro awakened the neighborhood for several blocks. The infuriated citizens stuffed handkerchiefs in the negro's mouth.

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WAR CONSIDERED ALMOST CERTAIN

The Reply of Russia Has Been Delivered to Japan and Its Contents Are Not at All Satisfactory. Fighting Will Probably Begin in a Few Days

Washington, Feb. 6.—In the opinion of well informed official persons here the presentation to Japan of the Russian response to the last Japanese note has again brought uncertainty into a situation that, up to this afternoon, pointed directly to a hostile clash. There is reason to believe, from advices received from the far east, that had the Russian government attempted to delay the transmission of its communication until Monday Japan would have declared war or made an offensive movement in the meantime. But even with the note from the St. Petersburg ministry in the hands of the Tokio government there has been no real change, it is held here, in the crisis. News that hostilities have begun will not surprise the Washington authorities; in fact they are expecting it.

M. Takahira, the Japanese minister, has evidently abandoned hope of a continuance of peace, although he will not say so directly. Such advices as he has from his government indicate that war may be expected at any moment. Mr. Takahira expressed his gloomy views to acting Secretary of State Loomis during a call at the state department this afternoon. Up to that time he had not received word that the Russian response had been transmitted and was inclined to doubt the truth of the report. Minister Grisco had indicated to the department that Japan will not be satisfied with any response that does not grant all that Japan demands. The state department received additional details today from the Postal Telegraph-Cable Company of the declaration of a censorship by Japan in the following communication:

"With further reference to the prohibition of code and cipher in private telegrams to Japan, we are advised that private telegrams originating from all offices in Japan are included. Those from Formosa and Japanese offices in Fusan, Seoul and Chemulpo shall be written in plain language, in Japanese, English or French. Private telegrams in secret language emanating from the central offices of Tokio, Yokohama and Kobi, should the circumstances warrant it, may be accepted on the condition that the code be produced and an explanatory note in Japanese, English or French attached. Messages passing over Japanese lines to Japan and Corea shall only be accepted at the sender's risk."

Observers Going to the Seat of War

Believing that war is inevitable, the navy department and the war department are making preparations to be represented by trained observers at the scene so the American army and navy may get the benefit of the conduct of a campaign on land and sea. The war department has selected Brigadier General Henry T. Allen, commandant of the Philippine constabulary, who is a

captain in the regular army, and Major O. E. Woods of the artillery corps to accompany the Russian and the Japanese armies, respectively. Gen. Allen is now in Manchuria. He is an accomplished linguist, and in addition to speaking some of the European languages he can speak Japanese and is reported to have a working knowledge of Russian. Major Wood is the military attaché of the United States legation at Tokio. He will be ordered to Corea as soon as hostilities are begun. The navy department has directed Rear Admiral Evans commanding the Asiatic fleet, to send Lieutenant Irvin V. Gillis to Japan for duty as American attaché with the Japanese naval forces. He will be subject to the direction of Lieutenant Commander Charles Marsh, the United States naval attaché at Tokio. Lieutenant Newton A. McCully, executive officer of the United States dispatch boat Dolphin, now at Washington, has been selected to succeed Lieutenant Commander Marsh as naval attaché of the Tokio legation. Upon his arrival at Tokio Lieutenant Commander Marsh will act as an observer for the navy department of the

Afloat on an Ice Floe

Muskegon, Mich., Feb. 6.—A. E. Allen of this place is afloat on an ice floe, fifteen miles out on Lake Michigan, with every prospect of death before him as the result of a wager that he could walk on the ice to Milwaukee. Although great efforts have been made to reach the man they have been unsuccessful thus far, and were discontinued last night when darkness made further work impossible.

FLOOD THREATENED

Dangerous Situation in the Susquehanna River

Wilkesbarre, Pa., Feb. 6.—The danger of a destructive flood along the Susquehanna increased so today that the state authorities sent warnings to all the towns along the river banks. Tonight the rising river is being watched closely, and if the danger becomes greater many will move to higher grounds. With snow from three to six feet deep upon the mountains and the river choked with ice, the thaw which has now lasted twenty-four hours and the threatened rain may cause the worst flood the river has ever known. The forty-three mile gorge below this city is still intact, and there is no prospect of its breaking for many days, while from this city north the river is covered with ice from one to three feet thick.

Sully Will Stay to Battle With Bears

Cotton Was Further Depressed—Declines in a Week Amount to Nearly Eighteen Dollars a Bale

New York, Feb. 6.—Daniel J. Sully the bull cotton leader, now announces that he is not going south after all. Instead, he said today after business had ceased on the cotton exchange that there were too many shorts in the market and that he had decided at the last minute to postpone his trip in order to stay here and look after them. Wall street is naturally much interested in the effect that Mr. Sully's decision to remain here will have upon speculative sentiment. When he announced last Tuesday that he was going on vacation it was taken for granted that the Sully bull pool had sold out and even gone short on cotton. Mr. Sully has been saying that he still believed in cotton, and Friday he said that he thought it was "a purchase and would go very much higher."

He personally bought very heavily, though, in the flood of liquidation which was carrying down prices Friday. His buying failed to stop the panic. Heavy selling continued on the cotton exchange in the short session today with the prices at no time again getting

up to the closing figures of Friday, and they ended the day at new low records. What appeared to be strenuous efforts by the bull interests to support the market were unavailing. Mr. Sully was on the floor of the exchange near up to the close of business. Afterward he said:

"I had made all my preparations to leave today for Palm Beach, and I did not decide to postpone my vacation until a quarter of an hour before business ceased on the cotton exchange."

"Why did you decide not to go?" "It was because there were too many shorts in the market. There were too many who sold on my prospective going."

Mr. Sully, who has been described as broken down in health because of the nervous strain upon him, looked far from an invalid. In fact, he looked physically fit for anything. He has the build of an athlete and is quick and decisive in his way of talking.

Wall street will look for Monday's opening in the cotton market with great interest to see whether Mr. Sully's opinion regarding the vulnerability of the bears is borne out by the course of the market. Today the bears were certainly in the saddle. The July cotton delivery, which has been the most prominent in the speculation, started at 14.22 cents per pound, got as high at one time as 14.62, and then fell with a rush to 13.85, which was 12 points under the low price of Friday and 85 points under Friday's closing. It was also \$17.35 a (Continued on page 2.)