

MR. TOMPKINS OPPOSES ABRIDGMENT OF FREE LABOR

Charlotte Manufacturer Asserts that Eight Hour Law Means Combination of Two Trusts, Capital and Labor--Mr. Page Favors Olney--Mr. Kitchin's Effort for Free Delivery

By THOMAS J. PENCE.

Washington, D. C., March 24.—Special.—Richard Olney, of Massachusetts is the choice of Representative Page for the Democratic presidential nomination, though the congressman from the seventh district is favorably inclined to Judge Parker.

"I personally favor the nomination of Mr. Olney," observed Mr. Page, "for the reason that I believe he is the strongest candidate the Democracy could select. To my mind he has more elements of strength than any other available Democrat. While Olney is my personal choice, I am favorably inclined to Judge Parker of New York, who from present indications, has the lead in the race for the nomination."

Olney's choice for second place is John W. Daniel of Virginia. The time has come for the south to have representation on the presidential ticket. Instead of injuring the prospects of Democracy by victory in November I firmly believe the nomination of a southern man would strengthen the ticket. A strong nomination than that of John W. Daniel for the vice-presidency could not be made.

"How about Hearst?"

"You will be safe in saying that I am not for his nomination under any circumstances."

Representative Webb who was in the group of congressmen when Mr. Page gave expression to his views, declared in favor of Judge Parker of New York. At least Mr. Webb favors his nomination with the present lights before him.

Farmers living in that section were as much entitled to receive their mail as any others.

Tompkins on Eight Hour Labor Bill

Mr. D. A. Tompkins of Charlotte was the leading speaker today before the House committee on labor, which is giving hearings on the eight hour labor bill. Mr. Tompkins in opposing the measure strongly criticized the "labor lobby" which he said was haunting the halls of congress, and contended that legislation of this sort was inimical to the general welfare. The more the rights of a laboring man to work as long as he pleased were abridged, either by law or by the rules and regulations of a labor union, which was in reality a labor trust, the greater would become the power of such a trust. The outcome would be that the two great forces of production—labor and capital—each constituting a trust, would combine with each other against the independent manufacturer and against the independent labor and being strengthened by legislation of this character could prevent competition of these two independent elements to the detriment of the great body of consumers; the public would be at the mercy of these two trusts when they combined.

A. G. Solomon, leather manufacturer and tanner of New York; Charles Baldwin, president of the New York Paper Box Manufacturers Association; A. M. Casler of New York, attorney for the same association; James M. Riley of the Newark board of trade, and M. F. Bowen, secretary of the manufacturers club of Buffalo were also heard in opposition to the bill.

Kitchin's Rural Delivery Plan

Representative W. W. Kitchin sought to promote the efficiency of the rural free delivery system in a practical way this afternoon, but the Republican majority in the House refused to accept the suggestion. Mr. Kitchin offered an amendment to the post office appropriation bill which sought to discontinue the practice by rural delivery inspectors of reporting adversely on proposed routes because of alleged bad conditions of roads. Mr. Kitchin's amendment provided that where carriers offered to carry the mail these routes should be established. Mr. Kitchin spoke in favor of his amendment under the five minutes rule, but it was ruled out on a point of order by Chairman Overstreet. In his remarks before the House, Mr. Kitchin called attention to the fact that the roads in the western part of the state were not always as good as those in the east.

Examination at Asheboro

Representative Page has arranged for a competitive examination to be held in Asheboro April eighth for appointment of midshipman at Annapolis. Prof. Walker, the superintendent of public schools will conduct the examination. There are some twenty applicants for the appointment.

Fred L. Oliver of Charlotte, an ensign in the navy, has been transferred from the Bancroft to the battleship Texas at his own request.

Mr. Small left today for Norfolk. Representative W. W. Kitchin goes home tomorrow and Representative Webb will leave Saturday for Charlotte.

Sir Edwin Arnold Dead

London, March 24.—Sir Edwin Arnold, the well known author and journalist, who has been seriously ill for some days past, died at 10:30 this morning.

No Investigation Will be Permitted

Mr. Williams Again Attempts to Probe Post Office Corruption But is Cut off With a Point of Order

Washington, March 24.—Another attempt was made in the House today while the post office appropriation bill was under consideration to have Congress authorize a general investigation of the department. An amendment to the measure was offered by Representative Williams of Mississippi increasing the amount allowed to inspectors for expenses, and providing for the appointment of a special commission of five members of the House and Senate to make an investigation of the department in all its branches.

A point of order was made against the amendment by Representative Overstreet of Indiana and sustained by the chairman, Mr. Boutell of Illinois. In appealing from the decision Mr. Williams admitted that he was endeavoring to have the rules suspended in order that members might record themselves upon the subject of a post office investigation. The appeal was not sustained.

Mr. Williams appealed to Mr. Overstreet to withdraw his point of order, which Mr. Overstreet refused to do. Then the gentleman has a perfectly strong heart," said Mr. Williams. "He stands in between this investigation of the post office department by Congress with his point of order."

Thereupon Mr. Williams appealed from the decision of the chair, which

brought from Mr. Overstreet an appeal to the House to uphold the chair. To do otherwise, he said, would be a reflection upon the chair and dignity of the House. Mr. Williams inquired: "What does a miserable little rule of the House amount to when you consider it is the only obstruction lying between you and a righteousness far greater than the righteousness of a technical decision?"

He declared that the very essence and soul of good government is honesty in the public service and economy of public administration.

"The only way we can secure honesty in the post office department," he continued, "is by the gentleman withdrawing his point of order or by the House marching over the point boldly." He was loudly applauded by his colleagues on the Democratic side.

A long discussion was had upon the paragraph of the bill making appropriation for the rural delivery carriers, various efforts being made to place such a limitation upon the bill as to require the postmaster general to pay not less than \$720 a year salary to each carrier. These amendments were ruled out of order and the matter was passed over after the announcement by Mr. Overstreet that the committee would tomorrow report a rule whereby the House might consider the matter of making an increase in the salaries of rural carriers. The provision to pay the oceanic steamship company \$45,000 for carrying United States mails from San Francisco to the island of Tahiti was on motion of Mr. Robinson of Indiana stricken from the bill. Eight pages of the bill were disposed of today.

Senate Passed Indian Bill

Washington, March 24.—The Senate spent the day considering the Indian

appropriation bill, which was finally passed, and at 5:25 adjourned until tomorrow.

Governor vs. Lieut-Gov.

Frankfort, Ky., March 24.—Governor Beckham this afternoon, had an opportunity to emphasize his feeling for Lieutenant Governor Thorne and he did so by vetoing the bill creating the county of Thorne. He claims there is no need for the county. Governor Beckham only a few days ago signed the bill creating the county of Beckham, the constitutionality of which is contested because, as it is drawn, it includes part of Ohio crossing the Ohio river.

Cleveland's Duck Hunt

Baltimore, March 24.—Ex-President Cleveland reached Baltimore late this afternoon after a successful duck hunting expedition at Bengies, Md., and after dinner at the Belvedere Hotel, was driven through the fire district.

Twenty ducks fell to the gun of the former president. The ex-president is looking the picture of health, returned to Princeton tonight.

PEOPLES SUICIDES

A Business Man of Siler City Ends His Life

Pittsboro, N. C., March 24.—Special. Mr. J. N. Peoples of Siler City, committed suicide today by shooting himself in the right temple with a revolver. An empty laudanum bottle was found by his side. Mr. Peoples was one of Siler City's most prominent business men, having an interest in a large mercantile business, also was connected with the cotton mill at that place. No reason is assigned for the deed.

STOPPED PROCESSION

How Sheriff Mayo of Wilson Greeted Admiral Schley in Richmond

Richmond, Va., March 24.—Special. Sheriff Mayo, of Wilson county, N. C., this afternoon stopped a carriage in which Admiral W. S. Schley was riding at the head of a procession of Mystic Shriners and held out his hand to the hero of Santiago. The following colloquy is reported by those in the admiral's carriage:

"Howdy Admiral," said the sheriff.

"How are you, sir," asked the admiral.

"My name is Mayo."

"A good name," said the admiral.

"I am from North Carolina."

"Good state," said the admiral.

"Wilson county," continuing Mayo, "I am the sheriff."

The admiral congratulated him and the hackman drove on.

Sheriff Mayo is on his way to New York for a prisoner, but missing his train here so he saw Admiral Schley.

HEARST PROCESSION

Conventions in South Dakota and Kansas for Him

Sioux City, March 24.—Delegates to the Democratic state convention, chosen at conventions in Liman and Union counties, South Dakota, today, were instructed to vote for Hearst's nomination for president. Every county convention that has been held in South Dakota has been instructed for Hearst.

Topeka, Kas., March 24.—Four Democratic county conventions held today declared for Hearst for president. It seems doubtful if the anti-Hearst Democrats will be able to defeat instructions at the state convention. They are using the name of Ex-Senator Harris as a candidate for the presidency as a lever to defeat Hearst in this state. Senator Harris is now in Chicago and it is not known that he will give the movement to make him a candidate for president encouragement and sanction.

A NEW PLAN TO DEBAR NEGROES

Maryland Democrats Agree on a Constitutional Change

Annapolis, Md., March 24.—An agreement has been reached whereby the constitutional amendment disfranchising the negroes, from which the governor withheld his approval, is to be repealed and another passed. This, it is understood, meets the objections of all Democrats including the executive. It is a compromise affair, there being concessions on both sides.

While the new amendment is now acceptable some of the constitutional lawyers entertain the shadow of a doubt as to its running the gauntlet of the United States supreme court, because it narrows down the classes to so fine a point as to make the intention apparent. The first amendment barred from voting all citizens who are not descendants of voters naturalized prior to 1868. This would have knocked out many whites who were born in this country,

as well as those naturalized since then. This provision is changed so as to permit any citizen naturalized prior to the adoption of this amendment to vote. The next change is to add a property qualification clause. This is the only hope of the negro voter. The educational qualification is entirely eliminated.

Leader Arias Executed

Santo Domingo, March 24.—Gen. Nicola Arias, the insurgent leader who gave the order to shoot Machinist Johnson, of the American gunboat Yankee on February last was captured by government troops yesterday and after a drum-head court martial was sentenced to death and immediately executed.

Asua has been captured by the government forces. Monte Cristi is now the only place in the hands of the revolutionists.

ARKANSAS RACE WAR

Two White Men Struck and Three Negroes Killed

Little Rock, Ark., March 24.—A special to the Gazette from De Witt says: "Three negroes were killed in a race battle today at St. Charles, this county. A posse of deputy sheriffs was engaged in search for two negroes who seriously wounded two white men in a fight at St. Charles. While passing through a section of woodland the deputies were fired upon from a thicket by a party of negroes. The whites returned the fire and instantly killed the three negroes. The tragedy has greatly aroused the community and further trouble is feared. A posse has left here for St. Charles."

PREMATURE HANGING

Murderer of His Sweetheart Suicides in His Cell

Birmingham, Ala., March 24.—Ralph Armstrong, who is under sentence of death for the murder of Miss Alice Armstrong, his cousin, at Notasuiga, three months ago, hanged himself in his cell at Tuskegee today. He was the son of the late Col. Henry Clay Armstrong, United States minister to Brazil under Cleveland and a member of one of the most prominent families in the south. He was in love with his cousin and when she told him that she intended to marry another man he shot her at the home of their aunt. She died four days later. Armstrong left two letters to his mother, in which he said that whiskey had been his destroyer.

OPEN WORLD'S FAIR

President Roosevelt Will Press the Button

Washington, March 24.—President Roosevelt today acceded to the request of the Louisiana Purchase Exposition Company that he press the button that will start the machinery of the World's Fair at St. Louis.

The ceremony will take place in the executive offices of the White House at 1 o'clock p. m., Washington time, April 30th. The members of the cabinet will probably be present and a picture of the group of officials will be made for exhibition at the fair.

SUBURBAN CHICAGO SWEEP BY CYCLONE

Three Persons Killed--Worst Storm in 25 Years.

Chicago, March 24.—A cyclone in which three persons were killed and roughly speaking thousands of dollars of property was destroyed, swept over the northern portion of Illinois and Indiana with the violent wind and rain storm that inundated Chicago tonight. The storm was more violent than any that Illinois has experienced for 25 years. Houses were unroofed, trees uprooted, buildings were blown down and telegraph and railway communication was seriously interfered with in all directions. "Electric wires in many of the cities were blown down and darkness and flood increased the terrors of the residents."

Hommond, East Chicago and Indiana Harbor, bore the brunt of the storm. Three persons are reported dead at Indiana Harbor.

ROWAN PRIMARIES

Price's County Splits Almost Evenly With Blackburn

Salisbury, N. C., March 24.—Special. Reports received tonight from the Republican congressional primaries held throughout Rowan county today indicate a close vote between W. A. H. Price, assistant United States district attorney of this city, and ex-Congressman Spencer Blackburn. It is stated that the latter has carried about half the voting precincts while Capt. Price's friends are resolute and will make a desperate effort to carry the county convention solid for him Saturday. Ex-Congressman R. Z. Linney is not in the fight

RUSSIANS DESIRE AN ADVANCE OF JAPAN'S ARMY

Czar's Force Divided into Three Armies---Russia Awaits a Battle-field of Her Own Choosing --Situation at Port Arthur Grows Serious--Admiral Togo's Report

St. Petersburg, March 24.—When Gen. Kuropatkin reaches Mukden it is understood that the emperor's forces at the theatre of war will be divided into three armies—one on the peninsula, including the Port Arthur garrison under General Stoessel, military commander at Port Arthur; a central army under General Linévitch, and a northern army under General Baron Stackelburg. Any idea that Gen. Kuropatkin's arrival will be signalized by aggressive tactics is discouraged in the highest military circles, where attention is called to the general's repeated injunctions—patience, patience, patience.

"We can afford to wait whether or not the Japanese can" is the sentiment among the believers in General Kuropatkin. He expects to force the Japanese to fight him on grounds of his own choosing. There will be no forward movements into Corea. On the contrary, the Russians at the Yalu river are now screening their concentration to the westward and they probably will retire as the Japanese advance in force, harassing and retarding them as much as possible until the proper time to uncover the main Russian army.

The continued landing of Japanese troops in Corea is exactly to the liking of the Russian strategists. The bigger the army disembarked there the better they will be suited, convinced that once Corea is filled with the Mikado's soldiers, by pressure of numbers and clamor of public opinion, Japan will be driven forward into the arms of the Russians.

Nothing but a complete change of plan in the Japanese campaign, as developed up to date, will compel the Russians to depart from their determination to play a consistent waiting game, being persuaded that all the advantages of such a policy lie on their side.

the Korean government to open it to foreign trade and Minister Allen's dispatch shows that their efforts have been successful. At one time the United States government was in favor of having Yangampho opened, but subsequently decided that Wiju, further up the Yalu on the Korean side, was a better place and succeeded in securing a promise from the government that it would be declared free. The Russians occupy Wiju.

Serious Plight of Port Arthur

London, March 25.—The *Chiefos* correspondent of the *Daily Mail* sends the narrative of the captain of a Chinese junk that was chartered by Japanese newspaper men to visit Port Arthur. He says he landed at Fungiason, near Port Arthur, on March 10, and walked to Port Arthur, where he arrived the next day. He found the prices of provisions excessive and is convinced that there will be starvation in the event of a siege. The troops are in good condition, but they are poor marksmen, being inferior even to the Chinese. Emboldened by what they have seen, the natives are growing restive and eager for independence. Eight battleships and cruisers and ten destroyers have not been injured. They often issue from the harbor, but never far from the forts. Inside the entrance there are a number of damaged ships. There is a boom across the entrance which is alive with mines. The troops are being withdrawn between Port Arthur and Dalny. Their present strength is 2,000. Numbers of Chinese have, with permission from the Russians, departed for New Chwang, but when they reached Kinchau they were forcibly taken from the trans and compelled to work in the construction of a new fort. In order to prevent the Chinese from escaping from Port Arthur their junks have been destroyed. Three junks, with a hundred Chinese aboard, left a village near Liaotshan March 14. They were sighted by soldiers guarding the light house and a destroyer was sent after them. She fired on the junks, killing four Chinese. The remainder were captured and imprisoned at Port Arthur. A new fort is being built east of the Liaotshan light house because the Japanese at present cannot be reached by the Russian fire when their ships are behind Liaotshan.

The hills around Port Arthur are a net-work of wire and other obstacles to check an advance from the land side. The railway sidings have been

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Coreans Open a Free Port

Washington, March 24.—A telegram was received at the state department today from Minister Allen at Seoul, Corea, in substance as follows:

Announcement is made in Seoul that Yangampho will be opened. It is said that a thousand Russian troops have advanced to the Anju river, but the floating ice makes crossing difficult. There have been a number of slight skirmishes, but very few casualties so far. Yangampho is a Korean port near the mouth of the Yalu river which divides Corea from Manchuria.

England and Japan have been urging

House Will Act on Swayne Charges

Evidence Sustaining Serious Accusations Disclosed-- Report Presented Today--Senate May Defer the Trial

Washington, March 24.—The report of the House committee on the judiciary in the case of the impeachment proceedings against Judge Charles Swayne of the northern district of Florida, drawn by Representative Palmer of Pennsylvania, will be submitted to the House tomorrow. It will charge in substance: non-residence in the district; the unlawful imposition of a fine and the imprisonment of one E. T. Davis and one S. Beiden in 1901; unlawfully committing to prison in 1902 a man named O'Neal for alleged contempt of court; conduct unbecoming a judge in appointing a man named Thuison as a United States commissioner, knowing him to be a man of bad character, whose oath had been impeached.

The evidence in the case adduced before the special committee of the House, which went to Florida to investigate the charges, and the briefs were made public today. It covers a period of ten years, but is more especially directed to charges first made about two years ago. A mass of the testimony tends to substantiate the charge that Judge Swayne had only a "boarding house residence" in Florida, that he was there only about sixty days of the year, and that his real home was, until the resolution of censure was passed by the legislature of Florida in 1903, at Guyancourt, eight miles north of Wilmington, Del. In his own defense Judge Swayne admits that he was not a registered voter in Florida, that he had not voted in fourteen years, that he owned no property in the state, had

never paid any taxes, not even a poll tax. He declares, however, that no court business has suffered by reason of his absence, as he "could always reach Pensacola in thirty-six hours."

Supporting the charge of corruption there is evidence tending to show that Judge Swayne purchased property in litigation for his wife, and because a man named Zelden, who had been speaker of the House of Representatives of Louisiana and attorney general of the state, brought suit against him (Swayne) in a state court to determine the question of title to the property, and obtain possession Judge Swayne, sentenced Beiden, who was 70 years of age and infirm, to pay a fine of \$100 to ten days imprisonment and disbarment from practice for two years of the ground of contempt. E. T. Davis, also interested in the same suit against Judge Swayne, it appears from the evidence, was also sentenced for contempt in daring to bring a suit against his honor, Judge Swayne, in a state court.

Further evidence tends to show that Judge Swayne refused to hear the testimony of witnesses in an involuntary bankruptcy proceeding against one, Hawkins, on the ground that he would not believe the witnesses if they were sworn.

The leaders have found a way of early adjournment without interference by the impeachment case. In the event of the impeachment resolution being passed, as soon as the House has concluded its legislative business the Senate will concur in a resolution to allow the House to adjourn sine die. It will then fix a date to which it will adjourn and meet again for the purpose of trying the impeachment case. This may either be in June or directly after the elections in November, according to the time required by the respondent in which to prepare his defense. It has been ascertained that precedent does not demand that the House shall be in session when the case is tried, only its managers being required to be in attendance at the hearing before the Senate.