



DOWN TO BUSINESS

The International Monetary Conference Bill

TRUMPHANTLY PASSES THE SENATE

DEBATE LONG AND INTERESTING—BIMETALISTS WIN A VICTORY.

The United States to Deprecate War and Maintain Peace With the World, the Sun, the Moon and the Stars.

Washington, D. C., Jan. 29.—The bill for the representation of the United States at any international monetary conference that may be called, occupied the Senate today almost exclusively and was finally passed by the triumphant majority of 46 to 4. It authorizes the President to appoint five or more commissioners to an international conference, with a view to securing a fixity of relative value between gold and silver money, by means of a common ratio between the metals, with free mintage of such coins, and it also authorizes the President to call, in his discretion, such conference to assemble at such point as may be agreed upon.

The debate on the bill was long and interesting, but by far the most important speech was that made by Mr. Hoar (Rep.). He took the ground that a very large majority of the people of the civilized world was in favor of the double standard of gold and silver. He quoted two distinguished French statesmen—Messrs. Foville and Melise—as strongly in favor of bimetalism, and said that a resolution introduced in the French Assembly by the named gentleman had the support of 400 delegates, or a majority of between five fifths and four fifths. Mr. Hoar also mentioned the likelihood of Germany and Russia joining in the metallic movement, and he declared, in conclusion, that the time had come for making another effort in that direction.

Prior to taking up the monetary conference bill, a Senate bill granting a pension of \$8 a month to Mrs. Martha Frank, of Georgia, a widow of a soldier in the Indian war of 1818, and now one hundred and two and a half years old, was passed. Mr. Bacon (Dem., Ga.) introduced a joint resolution declaring that the United States deprecate war and desire the maintenance of peace and friendship with the world, and inviting all civilized nations to make a corresponding and reciprocal declaration.

He said that he could not submit any remarks on the subject without trenching on the subject of the pending treaty between the United States and Great Britain, which would be manifestly improper. He simply desired to say that it must be apparent to all that such a declaration as was contained in the resolution when made by Congress (the war-making power) must exert a much stronger influence in the prevention of war and the encouragement of peace than could possibly be exerted by any treaty between the two nations. He asked that the joint resolution be referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations, and it was so referred. The text follows:

Resolved, That the United States of America deprecate war and desire the maintenance of peace and friendship with all the nations of the earth, whether the same be great or small, strong or weak.

Resolved further, That to the end that these resolutions of peace and amity now happily existing between them and all nations may be perpetually preserved, and that wars may be discouraged and as far as practicable made impossible, the United States favor the principle and practice of international arbitration for the settlement of all questions in difference between them and any other nation, which they may fail to adjust by treaty or diplomatic negotiation.

Resolved further, That the United States hereby avow as their future policy and intention, whenever there shall arise any question of difference between them and any other nation, which they may fail to adjust by treaty or diplomatic negotiation, that they shall and will, so far as they can consistently with the national honor and established national policies, agree with such other nation to submit such question in difference to the arbitration and final decision of an international court of arbitration. Such court of arbitration shall, in the future, as in the past, be constituted by agreement between the parties consenting thereto, with special reference and adaptation to the particular question in difference and to the conditions then existing.

Resolved further, That the United States hereby invite all civilized nations

to make a corresponding and reciprocal declaration, to the end that wars between nations may cease, and that an universal reign of peace may be inaugurated and perpetually maintained.

The following is the text of the monetary conference bill as amended and finally passed:

"A bill to provide for the representation of the United States by commissioners at any international monetary conference hereafter to be called.

That whenever, after March 4, 1897, the President of the United States shall determine that the United States should be represented at any international conference called by the United States or any other country with a view to securing by international agreement a fixity of relative value between gold and silver as money by means of a common ratio between these metals, with free mintage of such ratio, he is hereby authorized to appoint five or more commissioners to such international conference; and for compensation of said commissioners, and for all reasonable expenses connected therewith, to be approved by the Secretary of State, including the proportion to be paid by the United States of the joint expense of any such conference, the sum of one hundred thousand dollars, or so much thereof as may be necessary, is hereby appropriated.

"Section 2. That the President of the United States is hereby authorized, in the name of the Government of the United States, to call, in his discretion, such international conference, to assemble at such point as may be agreed upon."

The second section of the bill was an amendment presented by Mr. Bacon, of Georgia, adopted and added to the bill as another section. An amendment presented by Mr. Cannon of Utah mandatory upon the President to call the conference which is the object of the bill, to meet in Washington on or before October next, was tabled—41 to 89. The four negative votes upon the final passage of the bill were cast by Messrs. Allen, Pettigrew, Roach and Vilas.

Mr. Cannon's amendment to the monetary conference bill was laid on the table by a vote of 41 to 8.

Mr. Bacon's amendment, giving the President specific authority to call a conference, was agreed to without division.

All the other amendments to the bill having been withdrawn, the bill was passed—yeas, 46; nays, 4.

The House bill authorizing the construction of a traffic bridge across the Ouchita river at Monroe, La., was taken from the calendar and passed.

At 5:25 p. m. the Senate adjourned until Monday.

HOUSE.

War between the States of Massachusetts and Vermont ragged for a brief period on the floor of the House today over allegations of railroad wrecking in those commonwealths. The combatants were Messrs. Powers, of Vermont, and Barrett, of Massachusetts, and the occasion of strife was the consideration of the report of the conferees upon the bill providing for the incorporation of the purchasers of the Atlantic and Pacific railroad.

The provisions of the bill were antagonized by Mr. Barrett, who charged that they created a gigantic scheme of stock jobbery.

Mr. Powers denied that there was anything of the sort in the bill, and added that if there had been any wrecking of the road as suggested by the gentleman from Massachusetts, it had been done by people in and around Boston. In this connection he sarcastically referred to Mr. Barrett's Congressional experience, which he compared to that of a rose which withered and wasted its sweetness on a desert air. In reply, Mr. Barrett gave the House the history of the receivership of the Central Vermont Railroad conducted by the Supreme Court of that State, and extending over a period of thirty years, which, he said, was the most fraudulent case of railroad wrecking the country had ever seen. The report of the conferees was rejected (71 to 143) and the conferees were instructed to insist upon the retention in the bill of the House amendments, the principal one of which forbade the issue of stock except for par value received.

The bill making appropriations for the Military Academy was sent to the conference on the Senate amendments thereto, the House conferees being Messrs. Curtis (Rep., N. Y.), Griffin (Rep., Wis.) and Tyler (Dem., Va.).

The House refused to take up bills on the privilege calendar, but for nearly an hour continued in committee of the whole, considering the agricultural bill, without completing it. In the course of its discussion, Mr. Hardin (Rep. Ind.) began a speech in favor of the acquisition of Cuba, and being refused permission to conclude, the five minute rule being in operation, gave notice that no bill should pass the House by unanimous consent for the remainder of the session.

At 5 o'clock the House took a recess until 8 p. m., the evening session to be for the consideration of private pension bills.

The House Committee on Elections, No. 3, today decided the contested case of Benoit against Bates from the Fifth Louisiana District, in favor of Mr. Boatner (D. m.), the sitting member.

Naval Personnel Bill.
Washington, D. C., Jan. 29.—The naval personnel bill, as agreed to by the House sub-committee and reported to the full committee, contains what are regarded as the most desirable features of the several bills considered. The amended bill was made the special order for a meeting to be held on Wednesday next.

Nevada the Bruiser State.
Carson, Nev., Jan. 29.—Gov. Sailer signed the bill licensing glove contests, at 2 o'clock this afternoon.

DUBOISE'S DEFEAT BRADSTREETS AND DUN

As Viewed by Senator Teller and Other Silver Men.

HANNA & BUTLER—PERISH THE THOUGHT

SILVER CONGRESSMEN INDIGNANTLY CONDEMN BUTLER

For Defeating Duboise—Senator Pritchard Still Confined to His Room—Col. Boyd in Connection With a Cabinet Position.

Special to THE TRIBUNE.

Washington, D. C., Jan. 29.—Duboise's defeat in Idaho is a bitter disappointment to the silver men in Congress. Senator Teller and Representatives Hartman, of Montana, and Towne, of Minnesota, condemn Senator Butler's interferences in the election, and do not hesitate to characterize it as treacherous to the silver cause. Duboise's election was made a national matter, and his defeat under the circumstances is regarded as a most serious blow to the silver movement. Speaking of the matter today Senator Teller said that Senator Butler must make some explanation of his extraordinary and inconsistent course in his opposition to Duboise. Attention is called to the significant coincidence that Hanna and Butler had the same common object in Duboise's defeat.

A member of the National Democratic Committee said today that Butler's course did not surprise him for the reason that in his opinion, Butler's silver professions are only empty declarations and that, he uses the silver question to advance his personal aspirations. Whether his opposition contributed to Duboise's defeat or not, silver Congressmen indignantly condemn him. His defeat is accepted here by Republicans as a party victory. They are jubilant and seem disposed to tender Senator Butler their profound acknowledgement. They do not intimate that Butler was the "tool of Hanna" in the deal that defeated Duboise. Perish the thought; they simply appreciate his timely and effective alliance.

Senator Pritchard is still confined to his room, but hopes to be in the Senate by Monday. Soon as possible he will go to Canton and urge a Cabinet appointment for North Carolina. He will present Col. Boyd's name in that connection and, in connection with the Republican members of Congress from North Carolina, make an earnest effort to secure the appointment. Congressman Settle is in New York. It is understood here that he will locate there after March 4th next.

The Elizabeth City public building bill is near the head of the House Calendar, and Col. Skinner is making a vigorous effort to pass it. Opposition from an unexpected source has developed, but he is confident of his ability to overcome it.

J. B. H.

THE SMALL-POX SCARE OVER

IT IS ONLY A COMPLICATED CASE OF CHICKEN-POX.

Dr. Nevitt of Washington Publishes a Bulletin in That Effect—The Benbow Hotel Has Re-Opened.

Special to THE TRIBUNE.

Greensboro, N. C., Jan. 29.—The city now feels easier over the smallpox scare since J. Ramsay Nevitt, M. D., smallpox consultant, of Washington, D. C., has said that the patient only has chicken pox. Dr. Nevitt came in today and at once examined the patient and issued a card to the public this evening stating that it is a complicated case of chicken-pox, and commends the country physician for the course he pursued in the matter. The Benbow Hotel has re-opened and the scare is over.

Wm. G. C.

Free, Yet in Trouble.
Jacksonville, Fla., Jan. 28.—Now that the steamers Three Friends and Dauntless are at liberty, their owners are beginning to experience just as much trouble as formerly in going in and out the river on legitimate towing and wrecking trips.

No Change in Senator George.
Washington, D. C., Jan. 29.—The condition of Senator George this morning is reported unchanged. There are no signs of improvement and the indications are that he is losing strength.

The Snow and Cold Weather Have Caused a Falling Off in Trade.

FAILURES DROPPED FROM 429 TO 326

BUSINESS ADVANCES, RECEDES, STANDS STILL.

Until It Bewilders Holders and Traders Alike, Though the General Outlook is Favorable All Along the Line.

New York, Jan. 29.—Bradstreets tomorrow will say: There has been a falling off in general trade, owing to the heavy fall of snow and cold weather. There is a moderate increase in distribution of heavy winter goods, but commercial travelers very generally report buyers are even more conservative than earlier in the month, and that wholesale trading in January, except in lines specified, is smaller than for years. Mercantile collections are interrupted, and improvement looked for in iron and steel is not in sight.

The most favorable feature of the business week is the sudden and sharp falling off in the total number of business failures in the United States, the aggregate being 326, as compared with 429 last week, a decrease of 103. When compared with the corresponding week of 1896, this week's falling off is 67.

There have been increased sales of hides and leather, in some instances of shoes, of coal, fertilizers and southern pig iron for export. At Boston, Charleston, Galveston and San Francisco there are moderate gains in trade compared with last week. The feature of the Pacific coast business situation continues to be the relatively large proportion of foreign trade. Eastern and middle State iron and steel industries are in an unsatisfactory condition, but southern furnaces announce nearly 120,000 tons of iron sold for export, with Russia in the market as a would be buyer.

The heavy business in raw wool within a fortnight continues, and there is still an active demand. Men's wear woollens, heavy weights for next fall, are attracting attention, and good orders have been booked. Cotton goods continue depressed, notwithstanding efforts to relieve the situation by reducing heavy stocks of prints on hand.

Bank clearings at cities throughout the United States show a sharp falling off from last week, about 8 per cent., but an increase of 7 per cent. compared with the corresponding total one year ago.

The downward movement of prices for some of the more important staples is conspicuous, notably for flour, wheat, oats, lard, coffee, petroleum, turpentine and tin plate. Quotations for Indian corn, pork, sugar, cotton and print cloths are practically unchanged. Concessions have been made in prices for iron and steel, yet quotations are nominally unchanged.

R. J. Dunn & Company will say tomorrow in their weekly review of trade: January has been a month of disappointment, but of real gain. Nearly everybody had promised himself a land of milk and honey after New Year, and the slow progress looks like standing still to men in such a state of mind. Moreover there are multitudes throughout the country who have been taking large ventures in advance apart from their regular business because they expected a rise in prices. But prices fall as yet to bring them profit. Wheat has declined severely, cotton has scarcely risen enough to pay brokerage, wool holds steady in spite of enormous buying, woolen goods hardly change in price, iron and its products decline, leather is sluggish, hides are lower, for some shoe manufacturers accept a shade lower prices; the average of railroad stocks is slightly lower than it was December 31, and the advance in trust stocks has been small.

To traders in such properties the month has been disappointing. Yet during the week the record shows that ten iron works have started and only two have stopped, thirteen woolen works have started and nine more are about ready to start, while three have stopped. Similar things are seen in other industries, and the additional establishments are not starting without some increase in orders received. It would do more harm than good to exaggerate the improvement. But a study of things governing business indicates that the wheels are on the right track and moving in the right direction. Men talked of a possible drain of gold a month ago, but January has passed and the liquidation of foreign indebtedness to this country seems farther off than ever. Merchandise exports from New York in January have been about 4 per cent. larger than last year, and imports 15 per cent. smaller than last year, when the excess of exports was over \$18,000,000, while cotton exports from other ports have also been larger.

The month has not diminished, but has increased the current balance due this country. Money markets become more easy and favorable to expansion of industries and legitimate business.

The decline in wheat was over 6 cents in spite of an official report of yield far below estimates generally accepted, reflects perception of the error of the report, and also of the influence of enormous exports of corn instead of wheat—

80,000,000 bushels in seven months. When two bushels of corn can be had for less than one bushel of wheat, it is largely preferred in European markets, and January 7, 8, 9, 127 bushels of corn have gone abroad from Atlantic ports, against 5,306,349 last year, while Atlantic exports of wheat and flour have been 6,35,154 bushels, against 8,403,165 last year.

As the great crop of corn prevents much advance in its price, its outgo affects the demand for wheat and a heavy liquidation of speculation has occurred with the price of corn scarcely changing. The largest article of export at this season goes out freely, but cotton looks less attractive to traders, because American millers are laboring over plans to reduce a surplus of goods and prices of many have declined. Takings of northern spinners have been in five months 44,000 bales less than last year and 43,000 bales less than in 1894-95.

Sales of wool in January have never been surpassed in that month nor in any other month, except last November and July of 1895 and 1897. The price has remained about steady.

The iron and steel manufacturers show little gains, production having increased so heavily before, and the gradual enlargement of demand for finished products has not overtaken that increase. Lower prices result for Bessemer pig, grey forge and for Southern iron at Chicago, for cut nail, and the average of all quotations is the lowest since early last year. For sheets there is active demand and also better for bars on account of much car building. Tin and copper are a shade stronger, but competition causes sales of tin plates 10 to 15 cents below the agreed price.

Failures for the week have been 331 in the United States against 404 last year, and 57 in Canada against 70 last year.

HOW RECEIVED AT CHARLOTTE

A CORRESPONDENT TELLS OF THE RECEPTION OF A TRIBUNE MAN.

The Charlotte National Bank to Open Its Doors Monday—Spring Building Outlook Good—Other Interesting Matters.

Special to THE TRIBUNE.

Charlotte, N. C., January 29.—Your traveling representative left Charlotte yesterday with kind words for her good people. Really, as it were, expressions of thanks for the bounteous list of subscribers, among whom are some of her leading business men.

Said one to your correspondent: "While differing from the party views of THE TRIBUNE, I am in accord with the spirit of its enterprise. The paper is metropolitan in style. Its editorials presenting its party's side on national issues are devoid of the buncombe usually resorted to by new political organs. If it will keep in this course, and I believe it will, the protection element now growing in the South will have an able exponent of that doctrine."

Some interested business men here are agitating the framing of a bill, for the action of the General Assembly, to change the present method in vogue by insurance companies in adjusting losses by fire.

When the time comes for filing applications for Federal positions Charlotte will not be below zero. The big plum is the postoffice, and for it are Messrs. J. Fisher Correll, W. D. Cowles, J. W. Mullen, J. W. Gordon and Edward McDonald. Gordon is a powerful colored politician and at present in the United States service. All have strong backing and to name the winning one now would prove the man an Elijah.

"The Mint" (assay office) is sought by Dr. E. O. Houston, E. L. Probst, W. S. Clanton and E. G. Bachanan. Dr. Houston is of the staff of the Medical College at Davidson and strongly backed by leading citizens of the county irrespective of party. The other gentlemen also have their friends.

The Charlotte National Bank opens its doors on Monday, February 1st, with \$125,000 capital, and a good line of depositors so commence with, as it really succeeds the old house of Heath Brothers, bankers. Mr. W. H. Twitty, the cashier, is one of Charlotte's most popular young men, and a banker of distinct ion.

The proprietors of the Lutheran College will hold a meeting on February 11th for organization and the giving out of contracts for construction of buildings, etc. The amount needed for the enterprise is \$70,000, of which Charlotte has conditionally subscribed \$13,000.

The outlook for spring business in the building line in this city indicates a very lively season.

The electric street car line is to increase its rolling stock by the addition of several open motor cars. The summer travel to Latta Park has grown to large proportions.

Serious Illness of Walker Fearn.

Washington, D. C., Jan. 29.—The State Department has received cable advice of the critical illness, of double pneumonia, of Hon. Walker Fearn of Alabama, the United States "Judge of First Instance" in the International Tribunal at Cairo, Egypt. At Judge Fearn's advanced age it is feared he cannot rally from the attack. Mr. Fearn was Minister to Greece under Mr. Cleveland's first administration. During the war he was, with the late Justice Lamar, succeeded Mason and Slidell as the representative of the Confederacy in Europe.

Foreclosure of the Kansas Pacific R. R.

Washington, D. C., Jan. 29.—Attorney General Harmon today signed the application for the foreclosure of the Kansas Pacific Railroad mortgage, and the papers were mailed to be filed in Kansas and Missouri.

DETECTIVES IN TOWN

Following the Trail of the Wreckers of the Air Line Freight Train.

WHAT IS KNOWN ABOUT THE CASE

A YOUTH WHO CLAIMS TO HAVE EVIDENCE TO CONVICT.

Officers Have Little to Say, but Deny the Rumors—Motive Assigned for the Commission of the Dastardly Deed.

Ever since the memorable night of December 30th, when a freight train on the Sea Board Air Line was wrecked just outside the limits of this city in an attempt to ditch the fast Atlanta Special, resulting in the death of the fireman and the serious injury of the engineer, the presence of certain strangers, generally supposed to be detectives, has been observed in town.

One man, who is believed to be a Chicago detective, has been seen here all this week. Although professional secrecy seals the lips of these gentlemen, and although police officials are very reticent in regard to what may have come to their knowledge in reference to the perpetrators of the fiendish deed, it is believed that they are industriously following up one or more clues, and some profess to believe that there will shortly be startling developments.

It is known that a youth of this city was arrested a few days ago and carried to the station house; but Chief of Police Hearty says that there was no investigation, and that the young man was released, nothing having resulted from the affair. The Chief positively affirms that there is nothing in the rumor connecting the young man with the crime, and for that reason his name is withheld from publication in this connection.

Another youth, Fred Sutton, about 19 or 20 years old, claims to be in possession of important evidence connecting two or more persons with the wrecking of the train, of which the detectives, of course, are fully informed. Sutton claims to have a paper writing containing the evidence, which according to some who pretend to know is in the nature of a confession by one of the men implicated. However this may be cannot be stated positively, as Sutton refuses point-blank to speak of the contents of the paper in a general way.

A rumor current in the city is that the wrecking of the train was in consequence of a personal grudge upon the part of one of the wreckers against a passenger who was supposed to be on the Atlanta Special.

It may be added that the public is inclined to disbelieve the report that Sutton has any evidence to criminate anybody, and that the rumor in regard to the motive for wrecking the train is discredited.

Dry Goods Market.

New York, Jan. 29.—The weather has been more favorable for spot business, and although at the end of the week store trade showed some improvement over yesterday, mail orders have been moderate only. In cotton goods the general situation is unaltered.

Buyers are ready met in both staple and fancy lines, but there has been no quotable change in prices. Light weight woollens for men's wear are in relatively fair demand, but new heavy weights are still slow.

A Narrow Escape.

Dallas, Texas, Jan. 29.—Shortly before midnight last night fire was discovered in the basement of Patton Seminary, a boarding school for girls, at Oak Cliff, three miles south of this city, and in less than an hour the building was in ruins. About forty young ladies were in the building, but all escaped. The contents of the building, together with the personal effects of the scholars, were consumed. Loss about \$15,000.

Populists and Republicans Fuse.

Olympia, Washington, Jan. 29.—After many days of unsuccessful balloting, George F. Turner, the well known lawyer of Spokane, who received the caucus nomination of the Populists and free silver Republicans last night, was elected United States Senator by the Legislature today on the first ballot, receiving 67 votes.

The Plague.

Lisbon, Jan. 29.—Dispatches received here from Goa, the capital city of the Portuguese territory of that name in India, say that there are three cases of Babonic plague in the hospital.

Opera House Destroyed by Fire.

Madisonville, Ky., Jan. 29.—Fire last night destroyed Ray's Opera House and a number of stores. Loss \$75,000; insurance partial.