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THE PRESIDENT'S POSITION STATED

He Insists Upon the Allison Amendment

HEPBURN BILL RIGHT

Would Like if Long and Overman Amendments Also Were Adopted, But Does Not Regard Them as Vital—Doubt Whether Allison Amendment Is In.

(By the Associated Press.)

Washington, May 5.—In view of the publication today regarding the president's position on the question of railroad rate legislation and the amendments proposed, an authoritative statement was issued at the white house today defining the president's position. The statement follows:

"The so-called Allison amendment, in the president's judgment, simply states affirmatively what the president believed is already contained in the Hepburn bill; but, if there is the slightest doubt as to its being thus already contained in the bill, the president would insist upon its being put in because unless it is thus contained the bill undoubtedly would be void."

"Therefore, in incorporating the Allison amendment under no circumstances would do anything but good, and as there is an honest doubt on the part of some sincere adherents of the bill, the president is clearly of the opinion that the Allison amendment should be put in, and this without regard to whether other amendments are or are not adopted. If the Hepburn bill, therefore, passes in this form which is practically the exact form in which it passed the house, it will be satisfactory to the president, who from the beginning has stated that the Hepburn bill itself would be satisfactory. But the president would like it, in addition to the Allison amendment, the so-called Long and Overman amendments were adopted. While the president regards these amendments with favor and would like to see them adopted, he does not in the least regard them as vital, and feels that the Hepburn bill would still be in excellent shape even without them."

ARMY OFFICER TRIED SUICIDE.

(By the Associated Press.)

San Francisco, Cal., May 5.—Captain F. B. Webster of the twentieth infantry, thirty-nine years old, attempted to end his life by cutting his throat. He entered the appraiser's building, and taking a bayonet from a rifle partly severed his wind pipe. He was taken to the Preadio Hospital. Physicians say the officer may recover.

Captain Webster came from Missouri and has seen twenty years of service.

Physicians say the attempt at suicide was the result of an unbalanced mind. He had been on duty in the burned area since the earthquake.

COMMITTEES OF THE GENERAL CONFERENCE

(By the Associated Press.)

Birmingham, Ala., May 5.—Bishop Charles B. Galloway of Mississippi presided at the third day's session of the general conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South. The morning devotional services were led by Dr. Paul Whitehead of Virginia. The first business of the day was the report on the complete organization of the fourteen standing committees with the following chairmen: Episcopacy, Paul Whitehead, chairman; Itinerary, R. F. Lipscomb; revisions, Gross Alexander; publishing interests, W. B. Palmer; education, R. G. Waterhouse; church extensions, W. F. McMurray; missions, O. E. Brown; boundaries, J. H. McLean; temperance, E. B. Campbell; Sunday schools, John R. Pepper; Epworth League, J. M. Marcus; appeals, Bishop C. B. Galloway; finance, T. S. Garrison; colportage, W. R. Lambeth.

The credentials committee made report on the case of Rev. James Thomas of the Little Rock conference, whose seat was challenged yesterday. The report said the committee, after due consideration, had found no grounds for contesting Rev. Mr. Thomas' seat.

Friday night of next week will be devoted to hearing fraternal delegates and Vice President Charles W. Fairbanks, fraternal delegates from the Methodist Episcopal Church, is expected to address the conference on that occasion.

Caretaker Robbed House.

(By the Associated Press.)

Minneapolis, Minn., May 5.—Thomas J. Wainwright, who was arrested in New York, and who plead guilty here to robbing the residence of Dr. Pinault of which he was caretaker, of a wagon load of valuable household goods, was sentenced yesterday to the penitentiary for seven years.

DEBATE ON NAVAL BILL

Program Denounced by Johnson of South Carolina

"What is the Game We Are Playing?" He Asked.—The Peace of the World an "Iridescent Dream," He Declared—Defer Big Ship Till Hague Conference.

(By the Associated Press.)

Washington, May 5.—The house today went into committee of the whole for further consideration of the naval appropriation bill.

General debate on the bill was begun by W. T. Johnson, (S. C.) who was strong in his denunciation of the naval program as outlined in the bill. "How can you expect peace when you are making preparations for war?" he asked.

"Since the commencement of the building of our new navy in 1883 there has been expended for ships \$262,272,000. The ships already authorized and not completed amount to \$32,429,353, making a grand total of \$34,702,000."

"What is the game we are playing?" Mr. Johnson asked impressively. "The United States builds a ship with armor that no gun can pierce. Then we take the tax money of the people to build a gun that will demolish this armor."

"And these monsters of human destruction," as he denominated the ships of the American navy, "are built, we are told, to insure the peace of the world." This he denominated an "iridescent dream."

Mr. Bartholdt (Mo.) gave notice that at the proper time he would offer an amendment to the naval bill, providing that the secretary of the navy should defer the building of the \$10,000,000 ship provided for in the bill until after the forthcoming meeting of the second international Hague conference, and should the conference adopt a resolution at that session recommending the gradual naval disarmament of the nations then the ship is not to be built.

Mr. Bartholdt argued in favor of a reduction of the navy instead of its increase.

INDIANA'S ATTORNEY GENERAL GETS BUSY

(By the Associated Press.)

Chicago, May 5.—A dispatch to the Tribune from Indianapolis says:

The charge in the report of Commissioner of Corporations Garfield that the Standard Oil Company had a secret rate for shipment of oil from its refinery at Whiting to Evansville, and that it paid about ten thousand dollars a year less to railroads than would have been the case if the open rate had been charged, is to be the subject of an investigation by the attorney general of Indiana under the law inhibiting discriminations against shippers within the state. Companies engaged in producing oil in Indiana, and which supply independent refineries frequently, have charged that the Standard Oil Company was being favored by the railroads at the expense of independents, but no investigation ever was made.

The last legislature created a state railroad commission with authority in such cases.

DEATH OF AN AGED EDITOR

(By the Associated Press.)

Pittsburg, Pa., May 5.—James Mills, for more than thirty years an editorial writer on the Pittsburgh Post, and prominently identified with the press of this city for a half century, died at Washington, Pa., today of paralysis of the brain. Mr. Mills was one of the founders of the Pennsylvania Editorial Society and the first president of the Pittsburgh Press Club.

THE MUTUAL LIFE CLERKS SUBPOENAED

(By the Associated Press.)

New York, May 5.—Subpoenas were today served on all the employees in the clerical force of the Mutual Life Insurance Company's supply department, requiring them to appear before the special grand jury to investigate insurance matters, which will be impanelled next Monday. This is the jury which is asked for by District Attorney Jerome. The subpoenas served today required the clerks to bring with them their books, letter files and other documents.

RACING AT JAMAICA.

Jamaica, L. I., May 5.—First race, racing 3 year olds and up, 6 furlongs—Aeronaut 4 to 1 and even, first; Wesout second, Edith James third. Time 1:12 4-5.

AS TO RUSSIA'S NEW CABINET

Czar's Rescript Is Very Cordial in Tone

WITTE IS DECORATED

He and Durnovo Both Made Members of the Council of the Empire, or Upper House of the New Parliament—Liberal Papers, However, Are Very Suspicious.

(By the Associated Press.)

St. Petersburg, May 5.—The official announcement of Count Witte's retirement from the premiership, the retirement of M. Durnovo from the ministry of the interior and M. Gorenzkin's elevation to the premiership appeared today in the Official Messenger. The names of the other members of the new cabinet were not gazetted. It is asserted that one of two are hesitating, notably M. Izvolsky, curator of St. Petersburg high schools and university, who has been named for foreign minister, and M. Durnovo set in brilliant.

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DEATH OF 30 MIDDIES

Settled by Penalties Under the New Law

Evidence Had Implicated Them in Hazing, and Under Old Law If Convicted Would Have to Have Been Expelled—Now Superintendent Fixes Punishment.

(By the Associated Press.)

Washington, May 5.—After consultation between the officials of the navy department and Admiral Sands, superintendent of the naval academy, the fate of thirty midshipmen has been settled. When the hazing investigation was at its height the special board appointed by Admiral Sands collected much evidence against many of the midshipmen, of which the latter never knew. Had the old law remained unchanged each of the boys would have been hauled before a court martial and if convicted of hazing would have been dismissed from the academy. The board worked in secret and consequently none of the boys knew just how far he had been incriminated by the testimony being taken from their own ranks. Meantime many of the youngsters lost ground in their studies because of the secret apprehension under which they suffered.

Now, however, all doubt has been removed; the new law has been applied and the superintendent of the academy has been allowed to fix the punishment to be meted out to each of the midshipmen found by the board to have been implicated in hazing.

These punishments consist of the imposition of demerits; of reduction in classes; confinement to the limits of the reservation and other penalties of minor degree, all of which have been welcomed by the culprits as infinitely to be preferred to the harsh sentence of expulsion, which has heretofore been the only punishment permitted by law.

TEN ARE DEAD FROM WRECK

Four Died as Result of Injuries Received

WITTE IS DECORATED

He and Durnovo Both Made Members of the Council of the Empire, or Upper House of the New Parliament—Liberal Papers, However, Are Very Suspicious.

(By the Associated Press.)

Altoona, Pa., May 5.—Ten persons are dead as a result of the collision on the Pennsylvania Railroad near Clover Creek Junction last night. Six were killed outright and four died as a result of injuries received.

At 8:24 p.m. on Saturday evening, a passenger train from Philadelphia, bound for Chicago, and a freight train from Pittsburgh, bound for New York, were running toward each other on the Pennsylvania line.

The collision occurred at the junction of the Pennsylvania and the Atlantic & Great Lakes lines, about three miles west of Altoona.

Both trains were moving at a rapid rate of speed when the collision took place.

Twenty-four passengers were on board the passenger train, and twenty-four men, women and children were on board the freight train.

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