

HE REMAINS FIRM.

Henderson Holds On to His Original Purpose

HOLDS OUT AGAINST ALL ODDS

The Speaker Says That There is Absolutely No Probability of His Reconsidering.

Chicago, Special.—David B. Henderson, Speaker of the national House of Representatives, passed through Chicago on his way to Atlantic City, where he will join Mrs. Henderson. Before leaving for the East, Speaker Henderson reiterated his decision to retire from the congressional race in Iowa, denied any intention of "abdication" his present position until his term of office shall have expired, and declared himself in perfect accord with the tariff views which President Roosevelt announced in his Cincinnati speech. "I have spent twenty years of my life fighting for protection for American industries and labor, and shall not be a party to any juggling at this late day," the Speaker said. "President Roosevelt's tariff views set forth in his Cincinnati speech coincide with my own. There is no difference in our belief. His speech was a strong one and it has my hearty endorsement."

"Then the differences are confined to your own State?" he was asked.

"Yes, largely. Let the new lights shine."

The Speaker smiled broadly as he used this phrase.

"Is there any chance of your friends prevailing upon you to reconsider your action?"

"Absolutely none. I cannot see my way clear to gratify their wishes. It grieves me to remain firm, but it is a matter of principle. The pressure brought to bear on me has been strong. Senator Allison and a host of my old friends came to the station this morning to make a final assault on me. I had to say 'no.'"

"Will you resign from Congress, and give up the speakership before the end of your term?"

"I shall not," was the prompt reply. "My declaration of a renomination is one thing and a resignation from Congress is another thing. I shall serve out my term and I shall continue to fill the office."

The suggestion was advanced that "ideas and foreign policies" in Mr. Henderson's home State might change after a brief period.

"Let the new light shine," again came the answer. When told that Secretary Shaw and Congressman Babcock were understood to be awaiting his arrival at Chicago with a view of adding their efforts to those already made to induce him to recede from his position, Mr. Henderson's reply was: "I am on my way to Atlantic City and shall arrive there tomorrow night."

When it was suggested that certain leaders had intimated that he was not loyal to his party by resigning, a shade of regret passed over the Speaker's face, but he quickly said: "The retirement of one man or ten from an office cannot effect the future of the party. When one steps aside another takes his place and the work goes on."

Cotton Estimates.

Washington, Special.—The bureau of statistics of the Department of Agriculture on complaints of discrepancies between the Department's reports and various commercial estimates, has determined to make an investigation with the view of insuring absolute accuracy in future reports. The subject has been thoroughly considered in the Department and Secretary Wilson has authorized Statistician John Hyde to use every available means to ascertain wherein the differences lie. It has been determined to send at once into the cotton belt ten experts who will visit every cotton shipping point and make the closest investigation, taking into consideration every pound of cotton and its origin whether of this year's crop or of that of another season. The effort of the Department will be directed to insure the greatest possible accuracy in estimates as to cotton on hand, as well as to glean information which will tend to absolute reliability in the Department's estimates of crops.

Death of Dr. Curry.

Branford, Conn., Special.—Dr. Walter Curry, for 20 years a practicing physician in New York, died Sunday of acute pleurisy, while visiting friends here. He was born at Lincoln, Ga., in 1835, and served with distinction in the Confederate army as a surgeon during the civil war. He was a brother of Dr. J. L. M. Curry, former United States

LIVE ITEMS OF NEWS.

Many Matters of General Interest in Short Paragraphs.

The Sunny South.

The burning oil gusher at Reaumont, Texas, ceased flowing of its own accord and the fire in the oil field was extinguished.

Since Texas began the shipment of oil in 1901 up to July 31, 1902, the State exported 7,653,453 barrels of petroleum.

Richmond, Va., Special.—All the seven gamblers who were arrested on warrants in the course of Policeman Wyatt's crusade against the vice in this city, pleaded guilty in the police court and were sent to jail and to pay a fine of \$100.

President Roosevelt was enthusiastically received at Chattanooga and Knoxville, Tennessee.

Robert Burrows, of Johnson City, was nominated by the Democratic congressional convention of the first Tennessee district to make the race against M. P. Brownlow, the present Representative.

The New Orleans maritime exchange has established a department for the inspection of cotton seed products. It is expected to be of considerable advantage to planters, merchants and the trade generally.

The jury in the case of Chas. Lowenback, charged with implication in the lynching of the negro Chas. Craven, near Leesburg, Va., July 31st, returned a verdict of acquittal after an absence of nine minutes from the court room.

At The National Capital.

The Navy Bureau of Intelligence is about to issue an interesting publication on the naval progress of the world's powers.

At The North.

At the beginning of the nineteenth week of the coal strike, neither operators nor strikers show any signs of weakening. Paul Haulick, a non-union miner, was accidentally killed by a deputy.

More than 50 persons were burned to death and a large amount of property destroyed by forest fires in Washington State.

Two dinners were given at Newport, at which Grand Duke Boris was expected, but he did not appear at Mrs. Stuyvesant Fish's elaborate entertainment.

Engineer George Lutz was killed and two others injured by being blown out of the cab of a Pennsylvania locomotive, which exploded near Jersey City.

After being blind for seven years the sight of Mrs. Julia Morrow, of Trenton, N. J., was restored by an operation.

Ex-Assemblyman J. K. Murrell in a confession stated that 19 members of the former St. Louis Assembly were in a combine to systematically sell their votes.

The widow of Bradford B. McGregor, of Mamaroneck, N. Y., who married him two days before his death, will receive a fortune of over \$1,000,000.

J. Aspinwall Hodge, Jr., in his answer in the stock convention suit at Newark, N. J., declares that the steel corporation intimidates complainants.

While defending his wife Thomas Burke, of Terre Haute, Ind., was fatally cut by a negro.

From Across The Sea.

Rev. J. H. Smyth-Pigott, who says he is the Messiah, was mobbed in London.

Reinforcements of Colombian troops are being hurried to the isthmus to defend Panama and Colon.

F. W. Reitz, formerly State Secretary of the Transvaal, will sail for the United States September 25 on a lecturing tour.

There are the gravest fears for Marie Henriette, Queen of the Belgians, who is ill of heart disease and asthma.

Destructive storms have prevailed in Germany.

Rome, By Cable.—Pressure for the appointment of another American cardinal continues to reach the Vatican from American Churchmen. The correspondent of the Associated Press, however, is in a position to say that whatever the future may bring forth, there will be no American cardinal nominated at the consistory which will mark the close of the papal jubilee.

MANY WERE KILLED

Frightful Panic at Close of Negro Convention.

78 WERE KILLED; MANY INJURED.

Stampede Begun When a Lawyer Started a Fight With the Leader of the Choir.

Birmingham, Ala., Special.—In an awful crush of humanity caused by a stampede in the Shiloh colored Baptist church Avenue G. and Eighteenth street, sixty-five persons were killed, and as many more seriously injured. The disaster occurred at 9 o'clock just as Booker T. Washington had concluded his address to the National Convention of Baptists and for three hours the scenes around the church were indescribable. Dead bodies were strewn in every direction and the ambulance service was not equal to the task. The injured were first attended to and dozens of dead bodies were arranged in rows outside the house of worship, awaiting removal to the various undertaking establishments, while more than a score were laid out on the benches inside. The church is the large house of worship for negroes in Birmingham, and the pastor says there were at least 2,000 persons in the edifice when the stampede began. Instructions had been issued to allow no one else to enter after the building had been filled, but the negroes forced their way inside the church and were standing in every aisle. The entrance was literally packed.

Just after Booker Washington concluded his address, Judge Dillou, a negro lawyer from Baltimore, engaged in an altercation with the choir leader concerning an unoccupied seat and it is said blows were struck. Some one in the choir cried, "They're fighting." Mistaking the word "fighting" for "fire," the congregation rose en masse and started for the door. One of the ministers mounted the rostrum and admonished the people to keep quiet. He repeated the word "quiet" several times and motioned to his hearers to be seated. Again the excited congregation mistook the word "quiet" for a second alarm of "fire" and rushed for the door. Men and women crawled over benches and fought their way through aisles like cattle. The ministers tried again to stop the stampede, but no power on earth could stay the struggling, fighting mass of humanity.

A Crowded Death Trap. The screams of the women and children added to the terror of the scene and many persons fainted and went to the floor to be crushed. Brick walls extend on both sides of the outside steps and this proved a veritable death trap. Negroes who had reached the top of the steps were pushed violently forward and many fell. Before they could move others fell upon them and in a few moments persons were piled upon each other to a height of ten feet. This wall of struggling humanity blocked the entrance and the weight of 1,500 persons was pushing against it. More than 20 persons fell on the steps and were killed. White men, who were in the rear of the church, escaped.

Moving the Dead Bodies. The fire department answered a call quickly and the patrol scattered the crowds which had gathered around the church. The dead bodies were quickly moved and the crowd outside, finding an outlet, came pouring out. Scores of them lost their footing and rolled down the long steps to the pavement, sustaining broken limbs and internal injuries. In just an hour the church has been practically cleared and the sight which greeted those who had access to the building was most horrible. Men and women were strewn around and the cries of the wounded were heartrending. In a few minutes the work of removing bodies was begun and the walls of the relatives of the dead who had waited on the outside could be heard for several blocks.

The Church Turned Into a Morgue. The Shiloh church was turned into a morgue and all the physicians in the city went to the assistance of the injured. At least 15 of those brought out injured died before they could be moved from the ground. None of those in the choir or in the pulpit were injured in the least. For a few minutes they attempted to restore order, but finding their efforts were futile, they waited until the struggling crowd had advanced far enough for them to pick their way out. A remarkable feature of the calamity is that no blood was seen. The victims were crushed, or died from suffocation.

is a modern brick structure and has been completed at a cost of \$75,000. There are four entrances to the building and the main one is 16 feet wide. The deaths were caused by everybody trying to rush out of the main entrance at the same time. Inside the church not a bench was overturned and all of those who were killed died in or about the entrance. The people up near the front of the church were not injured." Mayor Drennen said: "Most of those who were killed were strangers but their bodies will be cared for until identified and claimed by relatives."

Booker Washington's Account Of It. Booker T. Washington, when seen after the accident at the residence of U. G. Mason, said: "I had just finished delivering my lecture on 'Industry,' and the singing had commenced when some woman back of me was heard to scream. A member of the choir yelled 'quiet!' which the gallery understood to be 'Fire!' This was repeated and started the stampede. I found on investigation that a Birmingham man had stepped on the toes of a delegate from Baltimore named Ballou. Ballou resented it and made a motion as if to draw a gun. This caused the woman to scream. There was little excitement in the centre and front of the church. The rear of the church was congested and some men tried to walk out on the heads of the crowd. At the time there was probably 3,000 people in the church and fully that number without. The crowd on the sidewalk surged in and that, in a measure, accounted for the large loss of life. The majority of those killed were smothered to death, very few having bones broken. When I saw that a stampede was imminent I started the choir singing and part of the audience joined them. I remained until the excitement had subsided for fully 30 minutes. One good sister, whose name I could not learn, caught me firmly by the waist and held me throughout the excitement saying, 'Keep still! I am unable to say positively, but there is a probability that the convention will adjourn out of respect to the dead.'"

Attorney General Returns.

Washington, Special.—Attorney General Knox returned to Washington Sunday after his trip to Paris, where he conferred with officials regarding the sale of the French canal property to the United States. Mr. Knox devoted his time to questions affecting the total of the company and its right to dispose of the same and has considerable data on the subject. From this he will prepare an opinion for the President and pending that declines to make any statement on the matter for the press.

Telegraphic Briefs.

Some 20,000 persons assembled in Phoenix Park, Dublin, Sunday, to protest against the action of the government in "proclaiming" the Irish capital. The lord mayor of Dublin presided at the meeting and John Dillon and William O'Brien, Nationalist members of the House of Commons, were the chief speakers.

Extraordinary scenes, urging upon riot, occurred Sunday at Clapton, England, where nearly 5,000 persons attempted to mob a former Episcopalian clergyman named Smythe Piggot, who is now the leader of an eccentric sect called the "Agramonites." In the face of howling disorder Piggot affirmed that he was the ex-Christ."

Wife of Senator Stewart Killed

San Francisco, Special.—Mrs. Wm. M. Stewart, wife of the senior United States Senator of Nevada, was killed Friday at Alameda, Cal. Mrs. Stewart was riding in an automobile with Henry Foote and a young man named Taylor. Through an accident the machine ran into a telegraph pole. Mrs. Stewart was thrown against the pole with great force and was so seriously injured that death soon followed. Her home was at Washington, D. C.

News Briefs.

Italian authorities have sent a number of army officers to prison for engaging in duels.

Generals Young and Wood rode after the Kaiser in a German cavalry charge at the Frankfort maneuvers.

General Chicoye, the Haitian revolutionary commander, has been sentenced to death.

Important expeditions of English scientists will be sent to Africa to study malaria.

Prince Francis Joseph of Braganca was put on trial in London charged with a crime committed while he was a member of a coronation embassy.

ALABAMA POLITICS.

The Ticket Nominated By the State Republican Convention

SON OF EX-GOV. SMITH HEADS IT

The Platform Adopted Expresses Confidence in President Roosevelt—Some Discord.

Birmingham, Ala., Special.—The Republicans of Alabama Wednesday nominated the following ticket:

Governor, W. J. Smith, of Birmingham; Lieutenant Governor, Chas. P. Lane, of Huntsville; Attorney General, W. H. Armbricht, of Mobile; Secretary of State, J. H. Carter, of Culman; Auditor, McNair, of Marshall county; Treasurer, H. Lee Brown, of Coueuf county; Superintendent of Education, J. C. Fonville, of Crenshaw county; Commissioner of Agriculture, T. B. Morton, of Fayetteville. W. J. Smith, the nominee for Governor, is a son of the late Hon. H. V. Smith, who was Republican Governor of Alabama during the reconstruction period and is a prominent lawyer of this city.

The platform as adopted reaffirms the Philadelphia platform, favors "the organization of labor for its legitimate protection and the enactment of laws for the peaceable and fair settlement by arbitration of disagreements as they may arise between organized capital and labor," favors child labor legislation relating to work in cotton mills; condemns "the spirit which seeks to arouse prejudice of the people against the railroads" and advocates the "enactment of laws so regulating the railroads as to adequately protect the interests of the people," but is opposed to any drastic measures. The platform then "endorsed the wisdom of the Dingley tariff law" and urges a continuance of that policy. Republican legislation to build an inter-oceanic canal is approved. The "bravery and heroism of our soldiers and sailors in the Philippines" are applauded and the alleged attacks of the Democratic party on them is condemned. The platform then expresses confidence in the administration of President Roosevelt and says: "We express our faith in his thoroughly American and patriotic ideas, and we believe that his leadership establishes confidence both in the success of the Republican principles and the continued prosperity and progress of the country and we therefore favor his renomination to the great office which he fills with patriotism and ability."

National Committeeman J. W. Dimmick and State Chairman William Vaughan are endorsed for their administration of party affairs in this State. There was some opposition to the endorsement of President Roosevelt for renomination due, it is understood, to the recent action of the President in removing William Vaughan, retiring Republican State clubman, from the office of district attorney for north Alabama for alleged neglect of duty. A substitute platform omitting the endorsement was voted down, however, 158 to 146, and the original report adopted by a large majority.

In a resolution which was adopted the Republicans of Alabama accept the new State constitution, but disclaim all responsibility for its enactment.

Boxers Active Again.

Pekin, By Cable.—United States Minister Conger has presented to the Chinese Foreign Office a letter from Dr. Canright, the American missionary of Cheng Tu Fu, regarding the massacres of native Christians there in July. Dr. Canright says that eleven converts were killed by Boxers and that the local officials refused to take measures against the Boxers. The letter was written August 2. The missionaries were then guarded by troops and were unable to leave the mission buildings except when escorted by soldiers. Dr. Canright's recent telegram says the situation is worse. The native papers declare the trouble is due to the collection of excessive indemnities for Christian an account of troubles of 1900, and owing to the Christians' arrogant attitude under foreign protection.

Turpentine Operators.

Jacksonville, Fla., Special.—The Turpentine Operators' Association in session here elected the following officers: President, A. D. Covington; secretary, John H. Powell; treasurer, H. A. McEachern. The constitution was revised as to its details for the coming year.