

## A RADICAL MEASURE

Morgan's Plan for Reorganizing the State Department.

Proposed Caucus of Democrats on the State Bank Question—Notes from the National Capital.

WASHINGTON, April 6.—Senator Morgan's bill for the reorganization of the State Department has received considerable committee action. The purpose of the bill is to take the foreign service and the department out of politics, to provide an educational qualification for appointment, to make the service continuous and to provide for promotions. Admission to the service is only to be obtained through an examination by a board to be appointed for that purpose, to consist of the Commissioner of Education, two professors of public law from leading universities and two officers of the department, which examination is to cover general history, history of the United States, constitutional and international law, political economy, geography, arithmetic, English language and either German, French, Spanish, Italian or Russian. Persons to pass the examination are to be eligible to appointment to the lowest grade in the service. Persons now in the service are to undergo this examination as well as any other examination required. No grade is to be overstepped in making promotions. Positions in the department in the foreign service are to be filled by examination of the same grade. Removals are to be made on proof of misconduct or inefficiency. No one under twenty years of age is to have privilege of appointment. One of the Secretary of State, the First Assistant Secretary, solicitor of the department, ambassadors, envoys, ministers and chargé d'affaires, plenipotentiary and consular agents, are to be exempt from the examination requirements, except private secretaries, messengers.

The bill provides for positions for which the examination prescribed will be necessary, and the salaries of such positions. There is to be one assistant Secretary at \$3,500, one third assistant Secretary at \$3,500, one chief clerk at \$2,500, one translator at \$1,500, one stenographer at \$1,500, eight clerks at \$1,800 each, ten clerks at \$1,600 each, twelve clerks at \$1,400, twelve clerks at \$1,200 each, twelve clerks at \$1,000 each, in the consular service. Fifteen consul-generals at \$5,000 each, twenty two consul-generals at \$4,000 each, fifty consuls at \$3,000 each, one hundred and twenty-one and one hundred consuls at \$2,000 each, twenty-eight vice consuls at \$1,200 each, thirty vice consuls at \$1,200 each. The diplomatic service has two ministers, one assistant, each, five ministers residing at \$6,000 each, eight secretaries of legation at \$3,000 each, twelve secretaries of legation at \$2,000 each. Consuls are to receive no pay beyond the salary fixed. The salaries would be paid by their agents in the service required. Two hundred consular agents are provided for who shall receive not to exceed \$500 each year in fees.

## PROPOSED CAUCUS.

Democrats Anxious to Dispose of the State Bank Question.

WASHINGTON, April 6.—A House caucus petition has been circulated by Representative Swanson, of Virginia, who has also made a poll of the Democrats on the State bank question. Mr. Swanson's poll shows not more than 123 Democrats favorable to unconditional repeal. Thus far the committee has been in a deadlock over a number of repeal bills, and the question has been indefinitely tabled. The enlarged committee would have a repeat majority sufficient to report a compromise bill. A third proposition is for the committee to report to the House the change in the bill and arrange for a plan for getting the question before the House. One of these three plans will be adopted, and the committee will then sign those signed to the request for the caucus. The other names included the leaders on the Democratic side, among them, Representatives Cobell, of Illinois, Gwinnett, of South Carolina, Cox of Tennessee, Springer, Dockery and Patterson. It is regarded as significant that the New York delegation, including Coombs, Dunphy, Clancy, Warner, Frates and Haines—have signed. It has been expressly stipulated that the names of those not bound by the condition of the cause will not be bound by the condition of the cause. In some cases this condition has been attached to the bill by the representative. Representative Swanson, who circulated the petition, says that it is fully understood that the caucus is to be a conference and a secret conference, and not a meeting binding on the Democratic majority.

## Jerry Simpson's Canal Scheme.

WASHINGTON, April 6.—Representative Simpson, of Kansas, is preparing a joint resolution which he will soon submit to Congress proposing an international commission between the United States and Canada with a view to co-operation in a system of canals and waterways closely connecting the great lakes with the Atlantic coast. The scheme, which Simpson has in his early days proposed a cut from the Georgian bay on the east shore of Lake Huron through to Lake Ontario. This cut could be made by dredging the 100 miles of other small lakes, so that the actual cut would not be over one hundred miles. It would save a great deal of time in getting to the St. Lawrence and hence to the ocean. It is also contemplated that joint action would be taken on the proposed St. Lawrence in order to open this lake and ocean route to the largest and most modern boats.

## Opposed to Taxing Greenbacks.

WASHINGTON, April 6.—Representative Henderon, of Illinois, has filed in the House a minority report on the bill reported by the majority of the committee on banking and currency to permit State and local taxation of United States legal-tender notes. The report of the majority of the committee is of the opinion that this power should not be conferred. These legal-tender notes are now exempt from taxation by express provision of law, and even if it has not been provided by law that they should be taxed, the country would undoubtedly hold that such notes, as credit of the government, are exempt from such taxation. The report is signed by the members of the committee, Brossius, Russell of Connecticut, Springer, Haugen and Johnson of Indiana.

## Postmasters for Bixby and Lynch.

WASHINGTON, April 6.—The President to-day sent the following nominations to the Senate:

Postmaster—Xelpho Biedler, at Mount Pulaski, Ill.; John M. Higgs, at Connersville, Ind.; John Lynch, at Liberia, Ind.; August R. W. Miller, at Calcutta, to be a commissioner in and for the district of Alaska, to reside at Anchorage.

## The Berlin Sea Bill Signed.

WASHINGTON, April 6.—The President received the bill to carry into effect the report of the Berlin sea arbitration commission this evening and immediately affixed his signature to it. The bill will now go to the Department, and a proclamation setting forth its provisions will probably be issued.

## General Notes.

WASHINGTON, April 6.—Among the arrivals here to-day were Mrs. Conn, wife of Representative Conn, of Elkhart; P. Y. McCoy and wife, of Evansville; A. F. Andrews, of LaPorte, and Evans Woollen, of Indianapolis.

The Senate committee on foreign relations held two meetings to-day and considered the Nicaraguan canal bill. It has been

decided to report the bill introduced by Senator Morgan favorably as soon as he can prepare a report upon the measure, upon which he is now engaged. The Attorney-general's Office has sustained the recommendation of Assistant Attorney-general Thomas, of the Postoffice Department, holding that the Tonkin says Company, of Manila, is a lottery company. The first opinion was rendered several months ago, and application for the opinion of the Attorney-general was at once filed by the company.

William H. Wilson, son of Chairman Wilson, of the way and means committee, was authorized by the House committee on public lands to file a bill to the effect that his father has progressed so well that he is now in better health than he was when he left the service.

Representative Layton, of Ohio, was authorized by the House committee on public lands to file a bill to the effect that Mr. Caldwell's bill, now in the House, in the description of the United States flag.

The Senate to-day, under motion of Mr. Gray, of New Jersey, called upon the President to give any information in his possession as to the condition of affairs in Samoa, and considered a bill upon this subject with Great Britain and Germany.

Postmaster-general Bissell to-day appointed Frank H. Thomas, of Michigan, as clerk of the Postoffice Department, at \$2,500, to succeed George A. Howard, of Tennessee, recently appointed Sixth Auditor of the Treasury.

W. H. Miller, of Tennessee, formerly chief clerk of the Register's office, Treasury Department, has been appointed a clerk in the Auditor's office, at \$1,800, vice R. W. Haynes, of Illinois, resigned.

A TRIPLE EXECUTION

Three of the Oliphant Train Robbers Hanged at Newport, Ark.

All Confessed, but Claimed to Have Been Convicted on Evidence of the Man Who Planned the Crime.

NEWPORT, Ark., April 6.—The three train robbers—L. Wyrick, Thomas and Albert Mansker—who killed conductor W. J. Shaver, and kidnapped Ark., last November, were hanged here this morning.

The drop fell at 7:35 and the men were pronounced dead at 8:05. All three necks were broken. The men spent the night in prayer and in preparing for death. When they found all hope was gone they confessed that the evidence adduced at their trial was correct, and that the story of the train robbery and murder as told by George Padgett, who turned State's evidence was true. All three united, however, in asserting that Padgett planned the crime, drew the others into it and then deserted them when his own neck was in danger.

The crime for which the men suffered death was committed on the night of Nov. 30, 1893. About 10 o'clock that night passenger train No. 51 on the St. Louis Iron Mountain & Southern railroad was held up at Oliphant, a lonely flag station in Independence county, by seven masked men, who looted the express and passenger coaches. The robbers kept up a fusillade of bullets all the time the robbery was being committed, and conductor W. J. Shaver, who had attempted to defend his train, was killed by a rifle bullet.

About two weeks previous to the hanging, half a dozen young and well-educated men disappeared from their homes near Bentonville. They rode ponies and were seen in the neighborhood, and it was said they were going to Indian Territory to buy cattle. The names of these farmers were Albert Mansker, James L. Wyrick, George Padgett, L. W. Thomas, W. J. Shaver, weight Powell and the latter's younger brother Samuel. Under the leadership of Thomas, a white man, and of Simon, an Indian, these desperadoes left their farms, families and friends to become train robbers. Bradley, Mansker, Padgett and weight were not found after the hold-up. Padgett turned State's evidence, and was pardoned. Thomas was not found, and it is believed that he is still at large. He is now in prison, and is serving a life sentence.

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Laverne, after shooting the woman through the heart, killed her instantly, and then, turning his revolver on himself, inflicted a wound that would prove fatal.

IT WORKED PERFECTLY.

The Netheroy's Chief Engineer Talks About Her Dynamite Gun.

SOUTHAMPTON, April 6.—The steamship Miles, from Rio de Janeiro and other Brazilian ports, arrived here to-day, and brought, among her passengers, Chief Engineer G. Van Idersine, formerly of the dynamite cruiser Netheroy. Accompanying the chief engineer were his son, and two assistants, John Allard and John Smith, and fifty former members of the crew of the Netheroy. Chief Engineer Van Idersine and his two assistants will sail for New York to-morrow. In an interview Mr. Van Idersine said the machine guns of the Netheroy were thrown an immense distance with great precision. He remarked that from the number of lesions on the York men were maintained, and there was a heavy pressure of 160 pounds of steam.

When the Netheroy was stationary on the coast of Armaco, all his best officers and about three hundred killed and wounded by simply knocking out a pin she could be got almost immediately under way. In fact, finally the ship was in such a condition of repair that she required a week to get her ready for motion. The insurgents' cause, according to Mr. Van Idersine, was that they were not to be given a free pass into the harbor of Rio de Janeiro.

The chief engineer speaks highly of the treatment received by the Americans from the British government, and says that it is the only dispute that remains in regard to a trial. The chief engineer spoke highly of the treatment received by the Americans from the British government, and says that it is the only dispute that remains in regard to a trial.

Altogether, Van Idersine remarked in conclusion, they had a very pleasant trip since leaving the United States, and he would be glad to get back home.

King Humbert at Venice.

VENICE, April 6.—King Humbert arrived here at 2 o'clock this afternoon and was welcomed by enthusiastic crowds of people who surrounded the railroad station and cheered the King in a manner which evidently gratified him. After the King came at the railroad station from the civil and military authorities, the King entered a gondola of state and proceeded through the Grand canal to the palace. The King's escort was a guard of honor, and the King was surrounded by a number of citizens of Venice or visitors who flocked into the city in order to be present at the festivities. Every building along the route of the King was handsomely decorated, and all the windows were packed with spectators who cheered and waved handkerchiefs and flags as the King passed by.

PONDONLAND ANNEXED BY BRITAIN.

CAPETOWN, April 6.—The annexation of Pondonland has been effected without firing a shot.

The chief and people of the newly annexed country are quietly submitting to a mother-trap for the execution of imperial policy of the Home Office, the Premier of Cape Colony, and is a most important addition to the British domain in South Africa. For eight years past Pondonland has been a British protectorate which was the cause of considerable friction. The country just annexed is densely populated, and the most delightful regions in the world, the most delightful and scenes of considerable lawlessness and many fierce tribal rights. Pondonland had an area of 1,000,000 square miles, and a native population of about 200,000. The white population is very small.

No Change in Currency Policy.

BERLIN, April 6.—Count Von Posenow, skid-Wehrer, Secretary of the Imperial Treasury, in the Reichstag to-day, referring to a question upon the part of a Deputy who is an advocate of bimetallism, said, in regard to the intended coining of 200,000 marks that this did not imply a change in the currency policy. It was his opinion that the State would supply the practical needs of the country. Germany could not, unaided, make experiments in regard to currency matters. The Count also said that the use of silver by bank reserves was one means of raising the value of that metal.

Bennett Buys the Vigilant.

NEW YORK, April 6.—The yacht Vigilant, which was to have been sold to the Vigilant Club, has been sold to Mr. Bennett.

It is Mr. Bennett's intention, it is believed, to race the Vigilant against Lord Dunraven's Valkyrie, and the Prince of Wales's Sunbeam. The races will take place in the Bay of Biscay.

The Vigilant will be put into the water at the end of April, and will be ready to race in the Bay of Biscay.

PROVIDENCE, April 6.—The result of the official count of the Democratic representation is reduced to five in a total of 108 members of the Legislature.

The Marion Club will give its second musical entertainment to-night. Mr. Bert Short will give a piano recital, assisted by the Marion Club orchestra.

LAWYER'S NOTES.

Extensive preparations are being made at Vienna to celebrate the meeting in that

## MID TOWERING BERGS

Experience of a British Ship Among Mountains of Ice.

Lord Rosebery's Cabinet in Danger—Defeat—The Cruiser Netheroy and Her Dynamite Gun.

LONDON, April 6.—The British ship Fulwood, Captain Lewis, which sailed from San Francisco, Nov. 5, for Queenstown, arrived at the latter port to-day. Captain Lewis reports that on Jan. 15, in latitude 54° south, the Fulwood entered a vast field of icebergs that had drifted from the Arctic ocean. Some of the bergs were of gigantic size, being at least five miles long, and towering to heights of six hundred feet. At one time there were counted from the maintop of the ship 45 of these icebergs. Sometimes some of them would drift together, crashing against each other with tremendous violence, when thousands of tons of ice would be detached and drop into the sea with thundering crashes. Had the vessel been caught between two of these clogging bergs she would have been ground to atoms. Fortunately, however, the wind held from the same direction for the four days that the Fulwood was among the bergs, and to this alone was due its escape. Quite a heavy sea was running, and several times when the Fulwood had been caught between two bergs she would have been broken in two.

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