

HOUSE WITNESSES DRAMATIC SCENE

Delegate Smith of Arizona Made Insinuations About Agreement on Statehood.

STIRRED SPEAKER CANNON.

He Defended His Course and Was Loudly Cheered When He Sat Down.

Washington, June 14.—Not in years has the house of representatives witnessed a more dramatic scene than it witnessed today, incident to the adoption of the conference report on statehood.

At the close of a wearisome day's debate on the sundry civil bill, the geological survey occupying the major portion of the time, Mr. Hamilton of Michigan, chairman of the committee on territories, called up the conference report on the statehood bill. In anticipation of something unusual most of the members were in their seats while the galleries were comfortably filled.

A round of cheering greeted the chairman when he moved the adoption of the report. Earlier in the day he had endeavored to call up the report, but found that the papers had not reached the house from the senate. At that time he stated that he did not expect any debate, believing that the report would be adopted without discussion. While there was no unexpected episode ensued.

Mr. Moon of Tennessee, the ranking member of the minority on the committee on territories, had made a statement in relation to the position of the Democrats on the compromise agreed upon in conference. He was frequently interrupted with applause and was then followed by Mr. Marcus A. Smith, the delegate from Arizona, who took his seat in a guarded way to insure that there had been no influence used in postponing an agreement.

Smarting under what he believed to be a direct insinuation against him, Speaker Cannon impudently left the chair, calling Mr. Dalloul to the desk and taking a position unconsciously in the aisle opposite the seat which the chosen speaker had assumed. As soon as the chosen speaker, he asked the speaker pro tem, for five minutes to explain his position. Thunder of applause greeted the speaker as he stood with hand uplifted, his head shaking, waiting for quiet in the house. Again and again waves of applause swept over the chamber, Democrats and Republicans participating.

Finally order was restored and then, measuring every word, Speaker Cannon said:

"Mr. Speaker, as a member of the house of representatives, during this session as at all other sessions, I have represented constituents and acted for the whole people according to my best judgment. The coming into the Union of Oklahoma and Indian Territory must be approved. If I had no choice and were supreme, I would infinitely prefer to see Oklahoma and the Indian Territory come in separately with an aggregate population of two and one-half millions, with four senators rather than to see New Mexico and Arizona come together, and God knows rather than to see them come singly with about 360,000 population and four senators."

"My views are not secret; I have sought to the best of my belief to voice them. You have the result before you. Although every man in the Indian Territory should vote against statehood for the new proposed state of Oklahoma, notwithstanding that protest the state would be and will be formed under this existing act."

Mr. Cannon—(I do not yield at this moment. There is no separate vote there. There is a separate vote, however, as to the other two. So much for that. I do not propose to go into the merits of this proposition. I would not have taken the floor had not the honorable gentleman the delegate from Arizona, Mr. Smith, presented me with evidence that there was a high penalty for the governor of that territory to attempt to influence legislation, or for one legislative body or its membership to attempt to traffic in the legislature with the other in order to secure other legislation. If I correctly state, the gentleman that uttered it is without foundation in fact. (Loud applause.)

"If it was necessary to furnish proof of this statement, I look about me here on my own side of the house, on members with whom I disagreed touching the progress of the bill from time to time, and upon the other side of the house, and upon the floor and in the galleries, and upon the platform, and upon the floor of the house, and so far as I know or believe, upon any other member of this house, that the gentleman that uttered it is without foundation in fact. (Loud applause.)

"That remark could have had but one meaning, and that meaning is that some one in the house has sought to affect legislation in the house as a matter of traffic in order to secure action upon this matter in the senate. That imputation, I repeat, so far as it reflects upon the speaker of this house, and so far as I know or believe, upon any other member of this house, that the gentleman that uttered it is without foundation in fact. (Loud applause.)

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"Mr. Speaker, the controversy between the two parties in this house on the admission of the territories of Arizona and New Mexico and Oklahoma and Indian Territory has been very sharp and strong for some years past. The Democratic party has felt that it was to the interest of the United States that the balance of power between the sections might be preserved in the federal government for states being made instead of two of these territories. But in the consideration of the case of Oklahoma and Indian Territory we were confronted with the principle that has always been sacred to the Democratic party, the demand of the people of those two territories for statehood together. Yielding our own views in order that the voice of the people might be heard, the north and south of the committee on territories readily assented to the proposition of the majority for the union of Oklahoma and the Indian Territory. For the very reason that we agreed to the union of these two territories we have opposed the union of Arizona and New Mexico because it was apparent to us that the people of those territories do not desire

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union, and we felt that it was against the principles of government, against the theory of both parties to force an welcome union upon two territories. (Applause.)

We said that this house ought not to interfere in the union of these two territories. We saw this house vote us down as the majority of the committee had done. Again in conference after the bill came from the senate we saw the contention of the house sustained by a majority of the conferees, and then, Mr. Speaker, we witnessed that which seldom has occurred in this or any other body."

Delegate Smith followed Mr. Moon in his speech, to which the speaker took umbrage, he said.

"Mr. Speaker, three times through the house of representatives twice Democratic and once Republican, we have succeeded in passing bills for the creation of separate states of New Mexico and Arizona. The less said about the way this bill has fared the better for the history of this Congress."

"There is law in Arizona that if one legislator trades with another on the legislation of a state, he is guilty of a very high misdemeanor, and if the governor shall attempt, in that benighted territory to influence legislation by promise of a veto or the withholding of a veto, to secure other legislation, he goes to the penitentiary." (Applause on the Democratic side.)

PANAMA CANAL.

Senate Will Vote Next Thursday on Sea Level Bill.

Washington, June 14.—The senate today decided to vote next Thursday on the Panama sea level canal bill; accepted the conference reports on the diplomatic and naval appropriation bills; the former complete and the latter partial; passed a bill limiting the liability that may be assumed by individual to national banks; adopted Senate's Missouri resolution to turn the control of the Panama railroad over to the government; and took up again in a guarded way to insure that there had been no undue influence used in postponing an agreement.

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Attorneys for Dowie will combat the attorney for Atty. Gen. to show that Dowie was on the part of Dowie by proof that the alleged visitations of divine light were used by Dowie to impress his clients.

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