

PANAMA AND CUBA DISCUSSED.

Newlands' Motion for Annexation Of the Island Called Forth A Long Debate.

SENATOR MORGAN TOOK PART.

Went Over Whole Canal Question, Criticising the President Very Freely.

Washington, Nov. 23.—Panama and Cuba engaged the attention of the senate today to the exclusion of all other questions. Mr. Hale moved to reconsider the vote by which the Newlands joint resolution for the annexation of Cuba was referred to a committee, and several speeches were made on the motion without disposing of it. Messrs. Hale, Lodge and Platt (Conn.) disavowed any desire on the part of the United States to acquire Cuba, and expressed great regret that the resolution had been introduced. Mr. Newlands defended the measure as presenting a natural solution of the problem of the relationship between the two countries. The Panama question came up in connection with the announcement of the reorganization of senate committees. Mr. Morgan (Dem., Ala.), being relieved from the chairmanship of the committee on interoceanic canals. Before the order went into effect Mr. Morgan took the floor and his speech proved to be a discussion of the entire canal question, with liberal criticism of the president for his course. He had not concluded when the senate adjourned, and will proceed tomorrow. Before adjournment the senate unanimously agreed to vote on the Cuban bill Dec. 16 next.

HOW SESSION BEGAN.

Today's session of the senate began with the presentation of a resolution by Mr. Allison (Ia.), providing for the appointment of F. J. Prettymann of this city as chaplain of the senate for the present session. The resolution was agreed to.

Mr. Cullom (Ill.), presented the report of the committee on foreign relations on the bill to carry into effect the Cuban reciprocity treaty. The bill went to the calendar.

Mr. Hale (Me.), then moved to reconsider the vote by which the Newlands resolution for the annexation of Cuba was referred to the committee on relations with Cuba. He made the motion the basis of a speech in opposition to the policy proposed by the resolution, saying that this country had already declared its policy with reference to Cuba by enacting the Teller resolution into law.

QUESTION OF ANNEXATION.

He would not extend such an invitation to Great Britain for the union of Canada to the United States or for Mexico for such a union. Mr. Hale's language in referring to the possibility of Canadian annexation was as follows: "I have little doubt that men now listening to me will see the time when Canada will become an integral part of the United States. If this plan is carried out by the most adventurous of British politicians for colonial preference a tariff war will be inaugurated between Great Britain and the United States, and this English politician will seek to set Canada up as a great rival to us—an agricultural rival. Out of that will arise conditions, discussions and considerations that will end in the union of the two peoples. But we do not invite Great Britain to send Canada to join us and join the Union. She is too large a power."

MR. NEWLANDS' SPEECH.

Mr. Newlands expressed gratification that his resolution should have such early consideration. He agreed with Mr. Hale in much that he had said concerning the progress of Cuba and the character of its people. Still, it was a fact that Cuba had been compelled to confess her inability to cope with other nations in business affairs. He also referred to the concession of the privilege granted to the United States for erecting fortifications on Cuban soil and to the supervision of the foreign relations of the island, as well as to the conduct



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of its sanitary affairs, and said that as a matter of fact Cuba had already assumed the attitude of a ward of the United States. He also advanced the argument that in asking a reduction of the duty on Cuban products exported to the United States Cuba was making an exceptional request, and he thought we should respond by offering political rather than commercial union.

FOR CUBA'S INTEREST.

For himself, he had had in mind Cuba's interests in presenting the resolution, and he wanted it understood that he represented no Spanish dom or American speculators. He had offered the measure in no spirit of spoliation, but because he had believed that the measure would appeal to the good sense of both the Americans and Cubans. Mr. Newlands said that he had provided for the attachment of Porto Rico to Cuba as a county or province in the conviction that such a union would give the smaller island a stability of government which it could not otherwise secure.

PLATT OF CONNECTICUT.

Mr. Platt (Conn.) said he had regretted his introduction of the Newlands bill because he had feared it would lead to misapprehension in Cuba and Porto Rico. He did not believe that the resolutions represented in any considerable degree the best of any considerable sentiment of the United States, nor did he believe there would ever be any considerable sentiment of the Cuban annexation. Moreover, he hoped that there would be no expansion except where it is necessary in self-defense or self-preservation, and he considered it strange that this suggestion should come from those who so recently had been so loud in their denunciation of the policy of annexation.

Mr. Newlands interrupted to say that the Democratic party had been always favorable to the expansion of the republic and not of the empire.

SEPARATE EXISTENCE BEST.

Mr. Platt said that the best interests both of the United States and Cuba would be subserved by separate existence. Furthermore, he was anxious that the Cuban people should have an opportunity to show their capacity for maintaining a republican form of government, as he believed them to be so possessed from the beginning. The course of President Palma and the leading men of Cuba had been worthy of all commendation. He did not agree with Mr. Newlands that the United States is today exercising a protectorate over Cuba. "We are," he went on, "neighbors and friends of the Cubans, and nothing more. We are friendly to them and our power has been exercised with reference to Cuba for the purposes of friendship and not for aggrandizement."

LODGE OF MASSACHUSETTS.

Mr. Lodge of Massachusetts also expressed regret over the introduction of the resolution. Many people in this country, he said, do not understand the distinction between the introduction and the passage of a bill, and if our people do not appreciate this difference, the Cubans must have a much smaller degree of understanding. He believed the present debate would be of good service in giving assurance that the bill does not represent the wishes of the government or the people of the United States.

Mr. Lodge said that Cuba and the United States each acted toward the other in absolute good faith in all respects. He (Lodge) was opposed to isolation and stated:

Mr. Spooner gave notice that he wished to address the senate in opposition to the resolution, and the motion to reconsider the vote of reference went over.

MORGAN TAKES THE FLOOR.

On the motion to adopt the report, Mr. Morgan of Alabama took the floor and addressed himself to the isthmian canal question. He said he did not regret his retirement as chairman of the committee on interoceanic canals. He disclaimed partisanship in the conduct of the affairs of that committee and declared that he had not reversed and would not reverse his position on the canal question at the instance of any party caucus. He discussed at some length the attitude of the president in the matter of the selection of a route for the proposed canal, and in doing so accused him of using his official position to advance his personal views. He referred to the Spooner act and said no one could nullify it. The revolution in Panama, he said, was a Caesarian operation, which took Panama alive from the womb of Colombia. Mr. Morgan charged that the president had made the canal question a party question and added:

PRESIDENT'S WILD MOMENTS.

"I think the president's appeal to party discipline to force his opinions on the country and his measures of aggression on foreign countries, in addition to his power as commander-in-chief of the army and navy, which he

uses with a dreadful latitude of construction, is so strong a proof of heart failure in his present wild moments that I am encouraged to hope that there are still some barriers that we may rely upon to protect the peace and have the commerce of the country. I regret that party discipline is to be used as a domestic police force to protect the trust in Panama and to guard the interests of the new canal company. That we will not a canal if one can be built in Panama I have no doubt, for this president has said so. Yet this result is not nearly so certain or so safe as if he should obey the Spooner law."

SAYS PRESIDENT BROKE FAITH.

Mr. Morgan said that he had only consented to the enactment of the Spooner bill because of his confidence in the good faith of the president in enforcing the law, and now that the president had not seen fit to keep that faith, he remained to be seen whether the senate would support him in that position. The president, he said, had completed his campaign against the Spooner act by having Mr. Morgan sign the treaty with "somebody" who had no authority except that conveyed in a cable message from the junta at Panama. He read the correspondence between the United States, which brought the action prior to the passage of the amnesty act, contended that the money so deposited properly belonged to Cuba, from which government Neely had embezzled it.

In his opinion Judge Lacombe says: "It is difficult to determine by what reasoning a provision as plain as the amnesty act can be construed as to transfer the title to property from the true owners to the thief who stole it."

HOPES HAY WAS ASLEEP.

Mr. Morgan expressed the hope that Mr. Hay had been asleep when some of the messages of his subordinates had been flying over his head. "As for the president," he said, "if he never sleeps on his post of duty or desire, although he sometimes closes his eyes as to what is going on about him."

He contended that Colombia had a perfect right to suppress an uprising on the isthmus, and declared that the United States had failed utterly to observe its treaty obligations in pursuing the course it had taken. Indeed, he said, our course there had been such that it would bring down the curse of future generations upon us, and that the immediate result would be disastrous and cause the loss of both men and treasure. The consequences would be such, said he, that the president would have no time for diplomatic triumphs.

Mr. Hay had not been, in his (Morgan's) opinion, a free agent in negotiating either of the canal treaties. Mr. Morgan charged that the president had resolved when the Hay-Herran treaty was under consideration to push the canal through by any means, and that he had made up his mind to create it.

WILL VOTE DEC. 16.

Mr. Cullom presented an agreement that the Cuban reciprocity bill shall be taken up on the convening of the regular session of Congress Dec. 7, and after the routine morning business until the 16th, on which date a vote shall be taken, the time on the 15th and 16th to be equally divided between the friends and opponents of the bill. The agreement was accepted without dissent, and at 4:35 p. m. the senate went into executive session adjourning at 4:39 p. m. until tomorrow.

Senator Dietrich Wants a Trial.

Omaha, Neb., Nov. 23.—United States Senator Charles H. Dietrich arrived in Omaha and went directly to the office of his attorney today, with whom he had a conference. The Associated Press he said with regard to the indictment recently brought against him: "I am in Omaha to secure an immediate trial. I want all the evidence brought before the court which will show a complete vindication. I consider this not merely a trial before a jury, but a trial before the great tribunal—the people of Nebraska and of the whole country."

"It is a case in which the honor of the United States is involved, and I wish to have the people of the country know all the facts."

LT. Burbank's Divorce Suit.

Leavenworth, Kan., Nov. 23.—The suit of First Lieut. Sidney Burbank of the Sixth infantry against Mrs. Concepcion Vasquez, a Filipino woman, to annul an alleged fraudulent marriage was not taken up today, as was expected. It was said tonight that the cause would not be tried until after the Filipino woman had been given ample notice of the affair and was given time to make a defense. The 20 days' limit allowed by the Kansas law in a divorce suit has expired and it was expected that a decree would be secured by default.

THE NEELEY CASE.

Judge Lacombe Denies Motion to Vacate the Attachment.

New York, Nov. 23.—Judge Lacombe in the United States circuit court today handed down an opinion overruling the motion made by Charles A. W. Neeley, convicted in Cuba of appropriating \$45,372 of its postal funds while acting as chief of the department of posts during the military occupation of the island of Cuba by the United States, to vacate the attachment filed by the United States against \$20,000 cash bond deposited by him with the registrar of the United States circuit court in this district. Neeley's counsel had moved the dismissal of the attachment and civil proceedings on the ground that the act of annexation of Cuba by the United States, passed in May, 1902, whereby all Americans convicted of crime in Cuba during the occupancy of the island be pardoned, removed with it all penalties.

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ties and disabilities, and that the money should therefore be returned to him.

The United States, which brought the action prior to the passage of the amnesty act, contended that the money so deposited properly belonged to Cuba, from which government Neely had embezzled it.

In his opinion Judge Lacombe says: "It is difficult to determine by what reasoning a provision as plain as the amnesty act can be construed as to transfer the title to property from the true owners to the thief who stole it."

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Via Oregon Short Line, Thanksgiving Day. Football game, Specie train 9:45 a. m., leaving Ogden for return, midnight.

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