

The Czar Comes To Finns' Rescue

Personally Intervenes to Succor Those Suffering From Famine—Extensive Relief Work is Ordered—His Action Attributed to Steps Taken in America to Aid Them—And to Ambassador McCormick's Inquiries.

St. Petersburg, Feb. 27.—The czar has personally intervened in behalf of the famine-stricken Finns and has ordered extensive relief work to be started at once. Besides the immediate construction of the proposed Finnish railway, which will cost \$200,000, he has sanctioned the expenditure of the \$500,000 on the Cienborg-Tornen road, voted by the senate but hitherto unapproved, the raising of a \$2,000,000 fund for other railroad construction, the establishment of a bank with a capital of \$800,000, which sum is to be used in making loans to peasant farmers, and has approved an appropriation of \$1,000,000 for public works, principally the drainage of swamps. The Finns attribute the czar's action to the steps taken in America to relieve the distress existing in Finland and to Ambassador McCormick's inquiries on the subject. It is believed that the proposed relief works will employ the majority of the able-bodied and that consequently the voluntary committee's responsibilities will be lightened and the necessities of the people will be satisfied without outside aid, which the Finns gratefully accepted although they have never solicited it.

SKIRMISHING IN THE HOUSE.

Washington, Feb. 27.—With the re-opening of the house at 11 o'clock today the fight of yesterday was resumed and the indications were for a stormy session. When the speaker, Mr. Underwood, called attention to the fact that unanimous consent was yesterday refused when it was asked for the purpose of non-concurring in the senate amendments and referring the bill to conference, and asked if that action did not send it to the committee. The speaker replied that it did not. Thereupon Mr. Underwood attempted to move the reference, but the speaker declined to recognize him for that purpose.

The speaker then laid before the house the president's veto of the bill to remove the charge of desertion against Mr. Hull moved the reference of the bill to the committee on military affairs and on that motion demanded the previous question. The Democrats forced a rollcall upon the demand.

COLO. RUSH HOME RULE AMENDMENT VALID.

Denver, Colo., Feb. 27.—The supreme court today sustained the rush home rule constitutional amendment, adopted at the November election, and granted a writ of mandamus requiring City Treasurer Smith of Denver to surrender his office to County Treasurer E. L. Justice. Justice and Steele contested the election in this office. Chief Justice Campbell dissented.

The bill creates the city and county of Denver out of the territory of the city of Denver and half a dozen surrounding towns; gives absolute home rule in municipal affairs to Denver, and in all cities of the first and second class as desire the power, gives complete power for acquiring and operating public utilities, provides that no franchise shall be granted except upon vote of the people, provides that the departments of fire and police, public works and public utilities shall be under civil service; consolidates city and county offices, and gives the people the right to make their own charter, and to amend the same whenever they see fit.

One effect of the decision will be to postpone the Denver city election, which would have been held under the old law in April next, until after the adoption of a new charter.

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SAVED BY TWO BOSTON WOMEN

They Lead a Party Over Ice Floes to The Mainland.

HELPED EXHAUSTED MEN.

This They Did Repeatedly—Distance Covered Was Thirteen Miles—All Finally Arrived.

St. Johns, N. B., Feb. 27.—A party of travelers has just reached here after a thrilling experience on the ice. The party was led over 13 miles of ice floes from an imprisoned steamer to Pictou Island and thence to the mainland by two young Boston women. The steamer, the Minto, which runs from Nova Scotia to Prince Edward Island, became ice-bound Monday. Among the 40 passengers on board were two young women named Dent, who had received word that their parents were dying in Boston. When they realized the situation of the Minto they expressed determination to start out for the mainland on foot. Another young woman and four young men also were willing to join in the undertaking.

The party left the steamer shortly before noon Monday. The sun's rays on the ice proved almost blinding and after the party struggled along for some miles, one of the young men sank down from exhaustion. The remainder of the distance, however, was finally covered, although the young women were obliged to constantly assist the exhausted men. They reached Pictou Island about 9 o'clock in the evening. After passing the night on the island the remainder of the journey was made to the mainland Tuesday, where the Boston women caught the train. The members of the party belonging to St. John reached here today, greatly exhausted.

After remaining on the ice for 48 hours the Minto managed to win its way free. She then ran over to assist her sister ship, the Stanley, which had been imprisoned in the ice floes for over six weeks, and managed to put 40 tons of coal on board. The Minto has arrived at Georgetown, P. E. I.

HOMOTILITIES IN MACEDONIA.

They Are Not Confirmed With Adequate Authority.

New York, Feb. 27.—Rumors of hostilities in Macedonia, if not premature, are not confirmed with adequate authority, says the Tribune's London correspondent. The efforts of the powers to restrain both Serbia and Bulgaria are increased rather than relaxed. Since the sultan's unconditional acceptance of the proposals for reform, Russian officers are already employed in secret service on the Serbian and Bulgarian frontiers and are watching the situation closely. Many correspondents have been passing through Vienna and Belgrade to Nis and Sofia, and are the chief centers of news. The district between Nis and Salonica is in a state of suppressed excitement, but the correspondents are allowed to ride through it to watch the final preparations for carrying out the proposed reforms. Optimism prevails in official circles in Vienna and St. Petersburg, but the energy with which the Balkan states are kept under rigorous restraint implies apprehension of a coming storm. There are no signs that the reforms have excited enthusiasm either in Macedonia or Bulgaria.

Public opinion in Bulgaria unanimously condemns the proposed reforms for Macedonia as entirely inadequate. The Macedonians themselves will not accept the reforms, which even if much more extensive would require European control to ensure their being carried out. The extremist newspapers denounce the project, as internationalists maintain that a Macedonian uprising is now all the more certain. They declare that the Macedonians should break with Austria and Russia and seek the support of other powers.

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Smoot Denies Leilich's Charge

Senator-Elect Says it is "Absolutely False"—Prominent Congressmen Give No Weight to It—Impression in Washington is That Protestants Are Beaten,

[Special to the "News,"]

Washington, D. C., Feb. 27.—Senator Smoot said today: "The charge of Rev. Leilich that I am a polygamist is absolutely false. It is pitiable to see a man so lost to all honor as he is."

A number of prominent members of the house, in speaking about the charges filed by Leilich in the senate yesterday, say that they will have no weight in the senate and nobody with common sense believes any of the statements that are made in these charges, as filed.

The general impression here is that they find themselves beaten and are now trumping up false charges, but they will find that the senate of the United States will not be caught in that way. It is not expected anything will come of the protests until next December, when the new Congress will begin its sessions. Gen. W. W. Dudley of this city, who appears as attorney in the case of the protest filed yesterday, and presented to the senate by Mr. Burrows of Michigan, on Leilich, says he hardly expected anything would be done in the case immediately, unless an extra session of the senate should be convened.

Resolution Against Seating Mr. Smoot Introduced in Pennsylvania Legislature.

Harrisburg, Pa., Feb. 27.—A resolution protesting against the seating of United States Senator-elect Reed Smoot of Utah was offered in the house today by Representative Flynn, but when Mr. McWhinney moved that it be referred to the federal relations committee the resolution was withdrawn by Mr. Flynn, who said it would be again offered on Monday night, when there was a full attendance. The resolution is as follows:

"Whereas, It has been published in the public press that Reed Smoot, the senator-elect from Utah, is a disciple of the Mormon Church, and is guilty of the practice of polygamy, or plural marriage, and

"Whereas, Mr. Roberts, who was elected from the same state, was denied a seat in the Congress of the United States for this same reason, he it

"Resolved, That we, the representatives of the people of Pennsylvania, do earnestly protest against the seating of the senator-elect from Utah, and be it further

"Resolved, That a copy of these resolutions be sent to the United States senators from Pennsylvania, and that they be urged to use every honorable effort to prevent the seating of the said Reed Smoot in the United States senate."

Leilich Denounced As a Common Falsifier; Story a Regular Ministers' Boomerang.

The action of the Reverend Mr. Leilich has caused a mighty revulsion in the minds of those who were opposed to the senatorial aspirations and rights of Mr. Smoot. Even his strongest enemies feel that a monumental mistake has been made. Not one could be found today who would say that he had the slightest degree of confidence that the charge could be established. In fact the man who has been the forefront of the whole crusade stated to the Deseret News today that he was afraid "Brother Leilich had made a pretty mess of the whole business." For the sake of emphasis it may be interpolated here that this declaration is official and the name of the man who spoke the words is simply withheld at his own request.

But there are many others who were more outspoken in their doubts and denunciations than this gentleman. They did not hesitate to charge Mr. Leilich with being a sensation monger and a common liar. Among those who take this view are members of the same church as Mr. Leilich. Those who belong to no church shake their heads and say he is only a "ministerial prevaricator."

Suffice it to say that he has raised a storm about his own head that will not subside as soon as he might hope for. A few say that he must have had some proof. But those who know the facts know that he has not and that the truth will be forthcoming in due season to show that he is a slanderer even though the wearer of priestly garb. It is believed that it was the last desperate trick of a game already lost.

President of Ministerial Association Talks; Does Not Believe Smoot is a Polygamist.

Rev. Richard Wake, president of the Salt Lake Ministerial association, said this morning to a "News" reporter: "Dr. Leilich went east on his own, and not on our account. We did not send him; he does not represent the association, and anything he may do is and will be on his own responsibility. Neither the association nor the special committee of the association which has been handling the Smoot matter more particularly, had anything to do with yesterday's action. I do not and have not believed myself that Smoot was a polygamist, and what proof Dr. Leilich may have to substantiate his affirmation I do not know."

Mr. Wake seemed to regret the doctor's action in that it would be likely to stir up the country to such an extent that the public might lose sight of the points made in the citizen's protest in this new sensation that had been sprung.

Dr. Leilich is not popular in Utah among his own Methodist people, for enough of them have said so in a semi-public way to make the fact pretty well understood. It is stated in Methodist circles that he is suffering from troubles which have made his disposition anything but angelic, and as he is very set in his views and opinions, one to get along with him must cater entirely to him, else there is war. Dr. Leilich is regarded here by not a few members of the Methodist denomination as aspiring to be a sort of pope, to be absolute master and dictator of the church administration in Utah. There are not a few laymen and some of the clergy who decline to subscribe to any such program, who in fact have openly rebelled against the doctor's dictatorship, and a prominent member of the First Methodist church stated not 60 days ago in the presence of a reporter, that unless this sort of regime was called off, there was likelihood of a serious split in the church in this state.

It is an open secret that one of the most beloved Methodist pastors in this city, Rev. E. G. Hunt, of Liberty Park Methodist church, was forced out of his pastorate last summer at the annual conference, and sent back to Iowa by Dr. Leilich for the simple reason that Mr. Hunt proposed to retain the self respect that springs from an independent yet respectful and law abiding position in matters pertaining to the administration of affairs of his own parish. Dr. Leilich demanded that certain things be done, which did not commend themselves as wise to Mr. Hunt's judgment; and because he respectfully, but firmly declined to carry out the suggestions (in effect commands) of the superintendent, he was forced to step down and out, to the great regret of many warm and appreciative friends who had noted his success as a local pastor.

The Methodist pastor in one of the cities south of Salt Lake was also directed to do certain things which failed to commend themselves to his judgment, and on his declaration to obey orders, he quit the ministry. General regret has been expressed that the board of home missions, or whatever body has the appointment of superintendents of missionary districts, should have sent out here such a man as Dr. Leilich; and hope has been expressed that a way may be found to secure a much needed change, as a man more easy to get along with is an absolute necessity in the Utah mission, if any real work is to be done.

Leilich's Plural Wife Story Entirely Discredited in Provo, Smoot's Home Town.

Special Correspondence. Provo, Utah, Feb. 27.—The statement filed by Rev. J. L. Leilich, charging that Senator-elect Smoot is a polygamist, as reported in last evening's

"News," is considered too ridiculous here, to merit much consideration, although considerable indignation is expressed by all classes of people at the charge, which not a person in Provo,

so far as is known, believes to be true. Mr. Smoot, who has lived here since boyhood and his prominence in business and religious circles has been such that he is as well known as any man in the city, and it has never been intimated in any quarter that he had a plural wife till a short time after the election. Then, when it was published in a Salt Lake weekly paper that the Ministers' association made such a claim, it was considered a hoax and no attention was paid to it. Now that the charge has been made before the senate and under oath, the acquaintances of Mr. Smoot do not change in their opinion that it is utterly false, but are trying to guess the ulterior motive back of the pious joke—for that is about the mildest term used in describing the allegation—perpetrated on the basis of a rumor that may cause vexatious delay in seating Mr. Smoot is admitted and that is all the result that anyone here can see, except of course, exciting the zeal and the good faith of those of Mr. Smoot's opponents who have caused the protest to be filed.

The declaration that the alleged plural wife is a daughter of former Mayor S. S. Jones is so far fetched and foolish that it has not a shadow of probable truth for a basis. The matter was referred to Mrs. S. S. Jones, Mr. Jones was not at home and her two unmarried daughters, by "News" representative, last evening, and caused considerable amusement in the family, as for that matter it has all over town. It is almost ridiculous to say that it was denied. Everybody here knows there is not a word of truth in the statement, and if the Ministers' association intend to make such a claim they may as well drop the matter so far as their success in presenting any proof or even a suspicion is concerned. Mayor Jones has three daughters married, Mrs. A. A. Jones, Mr. J. J. Jones, House ward, Salt Lake, Mrs. Annie J. Atkin, of this city, and Mrs. Thomas, wife of a railroad man in Salt Lake City. He has three unmarried daughters, living here, two young ladies and one a child of 12 years.

MANY LIVES IN GREAT PERIL

Lowell, Mass., Feb. 27.—One person and possibly others lost their lives in a fire which broke out in the Burbank block here early today. The building was used for business, lodging houses and social purposes, the street floor containing stores, the second, third and fourth floors lodging rooms and the top floor a dance hall. There were 70 lodgers in the house when the fire broke out. Reports that lives had been lost were circulated and contradicted, but when a search of the ruins was made the body of Mrs. Sarah F. Kittredge, correspondent of the Ladies' Home Journal and the Saturday Evening Post of Philadelphia, and other periodicals, was found. Later it was reported that four other persons were missing and search was continued.

The total financial damage is estimated at \$125,000, partly covered by insurance.

The fire threatened the Belvidere hospital, which adjoins the Burbank block, but heavy fire wall proved an effective barrier.

The scenes which attended the fire were of a most exciting character. The flames were discovered about 1 o'clock, and it was known that the building was occupied by lodgers in the block and were asleep in their rooms on the second, the building was the Hotel Belvidere.

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Strong Plea for The Kindergarten

Salt Lake Women Cannot Agree With Senator Love, Who Is Endeavoring to Leave the Passage of the Kindergarten Measure to Another Legislature—Ladies Make It Decidedly Interesting for Him.

A dozen or so determined women descended upon the senate committee on education this morning the committee having given them another hearing on the kindergarten bill. Had the members of the committee not been married men they would have received a vast amount of instruction on the caliber of the feminine mind when it is fully determined, and they no doubt received a few pointers as it was.

Chairman Love, of the committee, had to bear the brunt of the siege, for the ladies were quick to discover that the most serious objections emanated from him, and they therefore concentrated their artillery upon him. But he kept up a gallant fight if he did come out with his collar melted down. The measure provides for the establishment of compulsory kindergartens in connection with the public schools, in school districts of more than 1,000 inhabitants. The law is not to take effect until four years have elapsed, and that is the point over which the controversy arose. The position of Senator Love was that it would be establishing a dangerous precedent for the present Legislature to make a law that would not be put into operation for four years; that while the reason for passing the kindergarten bill was good and proper, the action might be used by some future Legislature, as a precedent for passing some vicious law. Along this line he argued with the ladies and pleaded with them, asking them to go ahead and prepare young ladies for kindergarten work and rely upon the Legislature to pass the bill when the teachers had been prepared and the state could afford the expense.

LADIES COULDN'T SEE IT. But the ladies could not see the point. They hurled a perfect fusillade of questions at Senator Love. "Would a future Legislature abuse the precedent, if this bill were passed?" "Were not the Utah legislators too good and honest for that?" "Doesn't a petition representing 80,000 women of

this state mean anything to this committee?" "The mothers are the foundation of this state, and how are their children going to be reared properly?" "There is no kindergarten for them?" "It requires four years to train a young lady for kindergarten work, and how are we going to get young ladies to take it up, if they have no assurance as soon as they are ready?" "It has got to be done some day, and why not this Legislature do it?" These are only a few of the projectiles aimed at Senator Love, and before all the ladies got through he looked quite helpless.

"The young ladies can go ahead preparing themselves for the work, with the moral certainty that at the end of their four years' course the Legislature will pass the law establishing the kindergartens," suggested Senator Love, with the air of one who feels that he has trampled all enemies under his feet. "No, sir, they can't—they won't."

Others who spoke in behalf of the measure were Prof. Stewart of the state normal school, Mrs. Ida Sargent, Duenberry of the kindergarten department of the B. Y. academy, Mrs. H. S. Young, Mrs. Charles Nelson of Ogden, Mrs. R. L. Claverton, Mrs. F. S. Hochstadt, Mrs. Sol Sichel, Mrs. D. R. Coray, Mrs. W. H. Bagon, Mrs. Simon Bamberger and Mrs. J. M. Dart.

At the conclusion of the interview Senator Love assured the ladies that he was wholly converted to the kindergarten proposition, but he could not see his way clear to recommend the passage of a measure that was properly the work for a future Legislature.

WABASH STRIKE STORY BIG FAKE

Sensational Statement Read Before the Members of the Stock Exchange This Afternoon—Impersonated Superintendent Gillette and Cut Telephone Wires.

During this afternoon's call of the mining exchange, an official statement was read to the members of that body from J. H. Fariss, assistant secretary of the Wabash mining company, giving further information concerning the report of a sensational strike in that Park City mine.

The managers of the morning papers, which published the report, and Manager D. S. Murray of the Rocky Mountain Bell Telephone company are employing every means within their power to ascertain the identity of the party who presented himself at the Park City central office last night and asked to talk with the editorial rooms of the Herald and Tribune of this city. The party told the operator at the Park City telephone office that he was Supt. Gillette of the Wabash mine. Manager Murray of the telephone company has stated to the "News" this afternoon that the party entered the Park City central office in disguise and asked for three calls, one of them being to Secretary Daugherty. The operator girl thought the fellow acted strangely when he entered, but did not pay particular attention to him, and gave him the connections asked for.

OFFICIAL STATEMENT. With regard to the reported strike in the Wabash mine, as referred to in the morning papers, the management of the company wishes to say that these reports are without any real foundation, and that no strike or threatened plan had been carried out by parties unknown at this time, most probably for the purpose of affecting the price of this stock, as it is developed the situation, with the elevation of these false reports, our telephone wires, between Park City and the mine were cut, evidently for the purpose of preventing an official confirmation or denial.

We will state, however, that no official report of any strike was made to the company's office. The company has advised the holders of its stock should be unduly influenced by these false reports and this method of making true facts known as far as it can be done in this manner.

(Signed) J. H. FARISS, Assistant Secretary.

ALFRED KNAPP'S SISTER.

She Asks Him if Story About Her Wearing Hannah's Earrings is True.

He Said No—Tells How His Present Wife Had Been Waked Up by Him Choking Her.

Hamilton, O., Feb. 27.—Mrs. Sadie Wenzel, who came here last night to see her brother, Alfred Knapp, the self-confessed multi-murderer, had a long talk with the prisoner in the presence of Sheriff Bluff. His sister had previously been told that carrying his fourth wife, Anne May Gamble, to Indianapolis, about a month after the disappearance of Hannah Goddard Knapp, his third wife, and in the conversation Mrs. Wenzel said:

"All, it has been said that I have Hannah's earrings and ring, and I want you, in the presence of the sheriff, to examine me on that score."

"How about the ear-rings?"

"If she had ear-rings they will be found in her ears."

"All, have you been well since your arrest?"

"No, I have not been well a moment, and suffer all the time with a pain in my head. It is there now and I hardly know what I am doing."

"Had you not been arrested, would you have killed the wife whom you now have in Indianapolis?" was asked of Alfred Knapp today.

"That is hard to tell," was the reply.

The question did not disconcert Knapp, but seemed to arouse in him a speculative sense that caused him to go into an explanation of his arrest.

"I know that she woke up several times since we were married and found my hands on her neck, when I was asleep too. She would wake me and ask me what I meant by taking hold of her neck that way, and I could not tell her why because I was asleep and did not

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