

NOW CHAMBER AGAINST SENATE.

Bourgeois Cabinet Obtains a Small Majority from the Deputies

In One of the Stormiest Sessions Ever Held in the Historic Hall.

Never Were More Violent and Telling Attacks Made on the Government.

THE CRISIS IS GREATLY AGGRAVATED.

Deputy Chaudet, Progressist, Throws Down the Glove to the Ministry and Demands an Explanation of Ricard's Arbitrary Conduct.

By Julian Ralph. Paris, Feb. 20.—To-day's session of the Deputies was one of the most stormy ones ever witnessed in the French Chamber, which has been the scene of so many dramatic and sensational episodes.

The session began at 2 o'clock in the afternoon and did not conclude until 8 o'clock in the evening.

During the long drawn out six hours Premier Bourgeois and the obstinate Cabinet faced and attempted to bear down most bitterly on the most violent attacks ever known to have been made on the Government since the present Republic was established.

This is a strong characterization of the scene when we consider the recent debates on the Panama scandal and all the crises back to Gambetta's time. Yet I cannot modify it in view of the excessive and venomous personal diatribes of to-day.

Often the speakers seemed to choke in their violence and rage and the listeners blanched.

No one is accustomed to think thus of Congressional proceedings, though it is well known that they can be sometimes violent. Foreigners can hardly conceive the extreme hysterical character of these French political disputations.

The first sensation began with the challenge of Deputy Chaudet, who belongs to the Progressist group. He threw down the dice and insisted on knowing, without reflection of the conduct of the Minister of Justice and insisting on knowing, without reference to general politics, why M. Ricard without a shadow of right or reason withdrew the Southern Railway investigation, from the jurisdiction of M. Rempier and placed the same in the hands of M. Pottevin.

He witheringly recalled Ricard's denial that Rempier protested, and persisted in demanding an answer to his question, why the case was thus withdrawn and placed in the hands of an auxiliary Judge, who was not invested with the right to conduct such an inquiry.

Throughout Chaudet's sensational speech he was violently interrupted by abusive cries from the Socialist wing.

Ricard's Stereotyped Phraseology. Minister Ricard made a ready and plausible response, saying that it is his earnest wish that justice shall be dealt even-handed to everybody, and he never hoped to see it adulterated by politics. He concluded by asserting with impressive dignity his stereotyped phraseology, that he would persist in using his best endeavors to throw light on the pending trial, and would continue doing so if the Chamber would continue to repose confidence in him.

M. Barthou, the late Minister of Public Works, then took up the fight against Ricard's policy, asserting that while in office the Cabinet of which he had been a member, done full duty toward the Southern Railway affair.

M. Ribot created at this juncture an unexpected diversion by interposing that, in his opinion, the question was one of general politics, the effect of which statement was to strengthen from a most unlikely quarter the hand of the Cabinet.

Premier Bourgeois himself then took his place in the tribune, and spoke much in the same vein as when he faced the Senate. He impressed the Deputies and galleries with his consummate coolness at his first appearance, and these on until the peroration he proved himself a calm, logical, confident debater. His long speech was listened to with the closest attention by both sides.

M. Bourgeois announced that the Cabinet was determined to do nothing to aggravate the existing regrettable state of affairs, like the whole audience drew a breath of relief at these words and fancied that they were about to hear of the resignation of the Cabinet, he added:

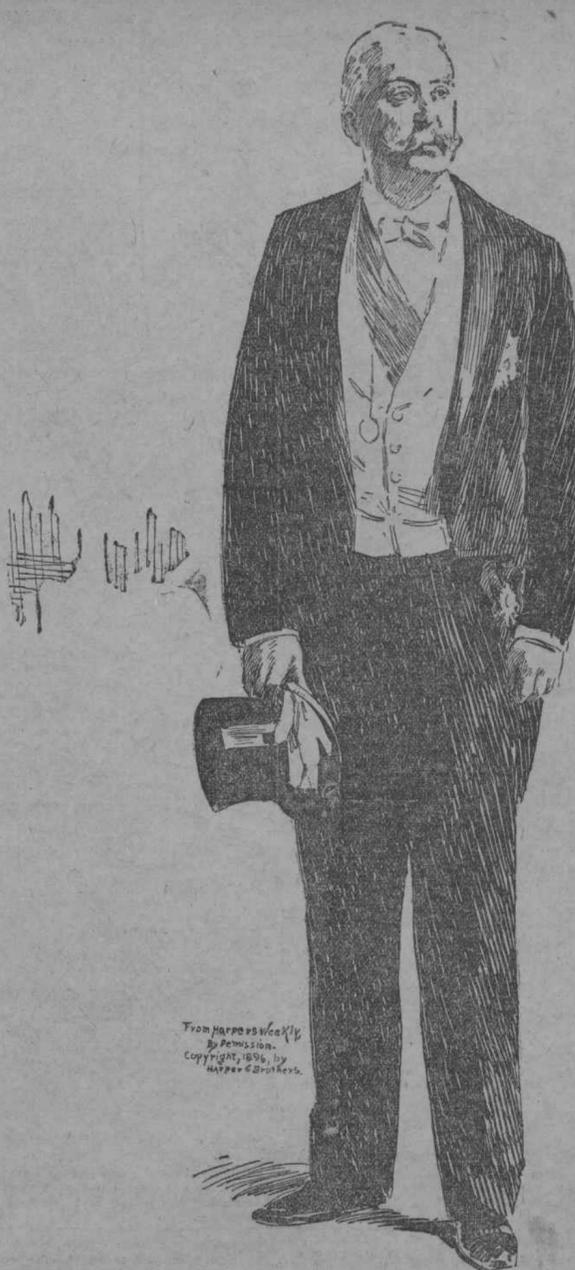
FRONT STAND OF BOURGEOIS. "Nevertheless, we will not bow down before the imperious mandate of the Upper House as long as you will not withdraw from our own confidence."

Deputy Sarrien then introduced a motion expressing the renewal of the confidence of the Chamber in the Cabinet, upon which Mr. Poincarre, the late Minister of Finance, declared that the general politics of the Cabinet, if this vote of confidence were to be passed, must be separated from its attitude toward Ricard's conduct, because if the Cabinet mixed both questions it was an evident proof that they feared the verdict of the Chamber on the conduct of the Minister of Justice.

Aud a scene of wild excitement Sarrien's motion was then adopted by 300 against 105 votes.

The amendment, proposed by M. Laseure, adding the expression of regret at Ricard's interference with justice, was rejected by 279 against 234 votes, giving the Cabinet the small majority of forty-five as contrasted with the majority of 124, by which the original motion was carried.

It is the unanimous opinion of all close observers that to-day's proceedings have greatly aggravated the already serious nature of the crisis.



M. Francois Felix Faure, President of the French Republic.

DIFFICULT TASKS FOR UHL TO FACE.

Our Ambassador to Germany Has Plenty of Work Cut Out for Him.

Will Have to Deal with Discriminations Against American Insurance Companies.

President Cleveland Insists That We Do Not Silently Acquiesce in Vexatious Hindrances.

THE UNITED STATES AND SAMOA.

Our Title to Pago-Pago as a Coaling Station Is Legally Complete, but Is Disputed by the Two Monarchical Parties to the Tripartite Treaty.

By Julius Chambers.

Washington, Feb. 20.—The recently appointed Ambassador of the United States to Germany, Mr. Edwin F. Uhl, will find plenty of work cut out for him upon reaching his exalted diplomatic station.

He has been requested by Secretary Olney to depart for his post of duty at the earliest day convenient, because of the important questions pending between Germany and the United States. Mr. Uhl expects to sail from New York early in the coming month. He has some private business to close up at his home in Michigan that compels him to make a brief visit there.

The falling health of the late Ambassador Runyon prevented his following the diplomatic issues devolving upon him with the energy and vigor the importance of the subjects demanded. Ambassador Uhl will be confronted with at least three subjects of more than usual importance, and in the adjustment of them will be called upon to match his skill against the trained diplomats of the German Empire.

Two questions of paramount importance with which Ambassador Uhl will have to engage his mind at the very beginning of his career were set forth in the annual message of the President to the present Congress. In that message the President devoted some space to the subject of the tariff as it affected the trade between the United States and Germany. He stated that Germany, in its efforts to preserve its home market to its producers and manufacturers, had "created a situation somewhat injurious to American export interests, not only in Germany, where they are perhaps most noticeable, but in adjacent countries. The exports affected are largely American cattle and other food products, the reason assigned for unfavorable discrimination being that their consumption is deleterious to the public health. This is all the more irritating, in view of the fact that no European State is as jealous of the excellence and wholesomeness of its exported food supplies as the United States, nor so easily able, on account of

inherent soundness, to guarantee these qualities.

"Nor," continued the message, "are these difficulties confined to our food products designed for exportation. Our great insurance companies, for example, having built up a vast business abroad and invested a large share of their gains in foreign countries in compliance with the local laws and regulations then existing, now find themselves within a narrowing circle of onerous and unforeseen conditions, and are confronted by the necessity of retirement from a field thus made unprofitable, if indeed they are not summarily expelled, as some of them have lately been from Prussia."

The President, in the same message, said that in our dealings with other nations we "ought to be open-handed and scrupulously fair," but he added that the desire of this Government to be scrupulously fair "should not, however, constrain us to submit to unfair discrimination not to silently acquiesce in vexatious hindrances to the enjoyment of our share of the legitimate advantages of proper trade relations."

The President expressed himself so distinctly that no one could fail to comprehend his attitude. He wrote that if "an examination of the situation suggested such measures on our part as would involve restrictions similar to those from which we suffer, the way to such a course is easy." He admonished Congress, however, that retaliatory measures should not be lightly entered upon.

Ambassador Runyon died without having accomplished anything in the direction of settling these important questions with the German Empire. Hence, it will devolve upon his successor to take up the intricate problems just where his predecessor left off. The subject of the continued and injurious discriminations of the German Empire against the great American interest of insurance, was apparently deemed of as much importance by the President as the unjust discriminations against the meat products of the United States.

The correspondence recently sent to Congress relating to the interests of American insurance companies in Germany, indicates plainly that the executive powers intend to exert their influence and authority to protect these interests. The letters of the late Ambassador Runyon to the State Department show that the German officials sought to avoid coming to any direct adjustment of this question. He was referred from Imperial officials to authorities of the several German states and thus kept in a state of suspense and uncertainty with regard to the real purpose of that Government.

Ambassador Uhl has already been informally, and will be formally and officially, instructed to bring this question that involves enormous interests to American corporations and citizens, to an early adjustment, upon some definite basis. Should the German officials persist in playing the game of hide and seek, which they employed to keep the late American Ambassador in doubt, Mr. Uhl will not tolerate it—that is, if he follows implicitly the instructions of the State Department.

That part of the President's message already quoted makes it plain that he regards the German opposition to the importation of American products as a mere pretext to the withdrawal of the United States from the Tripartite agreement for the Government of Samoa. In his last two regular mes-

sages to Congress President Cleveland urged the retirement of this Government from the partnership arrangement relating to Samoa. He set forth reasons for the abandonment of the anomalous position now occupied by this Government in terms so distinct and convincing that further argument would seem to be useless.

Under existing conditions the United States, Germany and Great Britain rule over Samoa. This Government, the greatest and proudest republic of the world, is put in the attitude of suitor with two monarchies to govern a people. The United States pays one-third of the expense of maintaining a Government foreign and repugnant to all its principles expressed and implied. The Chief Justice of Samoa is a citizen of the United States, a native of Vermont, Judge Ide. The Consul-General is a Kentuckian, named Mulligan. These men, though they hold office and draw salaries under the triple form of government, do not hesitate to say that the United States ought to retire from its share of the partnership arrangement.

The triple alliance of this Government for the control and administration of Samoa has produced one substantial benefit, that cannot by any means be interfered with or diminished by the withdrawal from the three-sided administration. By authority of the Navy Department, Rear Admiral Kimbrey some years ago procured the harbor of Pago-Pago as a coaling station for the United States. With that rare sagacity that characterized the Rear-Admiral, he selected the best and most valuable harbor of the islands for his country.

It has been asserted on the part of England and Germany that the United States failed to obtain a complete title to Pago-Pago by neglecting to carry out all the requirements of the transfer. This is an error. The files of the Navy Department contain an absolute transfer and title to the United States of the harbor of Pago-Pago and twenty-five acres of land adjacent thereto. These documents show that the United States paid the purchase price and received a perfect title in return.

It is true that this Government has not yet constructed the wharves and piers necessary to render the station useful, but that neglect does not in any manner impair the title.

About ten years ago a sailing ship discharged a cargo of coal at the landing of Pago-Pago, belonging to the United States, and that coal remains there, the property of the United States.

Germany and Great Britain also acquired titles to coaling stations in the islands, but they were so inferior to the station purchased by the United States, that both those Governments have undertaken, by shrewd diplomatic tricks, to deprive this Government of its vastly superior possession.

All these devices have been met and overcome by showing a transcript of the documents on file in the Navy Department. The opposition to the withdrawal of the United States from its agreement with England and Germany to administer the Samoan Islands, comes almost entirely from the champions of the Nicaragua Canal. Senator Morgan, the most distinguished advocate of that canal, insists that this Government must retain its partial control of Samoa in the interest of the canal.

HOHENLOHE'S EULOGY OF PRINCE BISMARCK.

Memorable Scene on the Twenty-fifth Anniversary of the Bundesrath.

The Chancellor's Popular Tribute to the Founder of the German Empire.

His Words Refute the Reputed Strained Relations Between Himself and His Predecessor.

EDITORS ON THE FRENCH CRISIS.

The Journal Correspondent Obtains Expressions of Opinions from the Chief Scribes of Leading Fatherland Papers—Big Strike Fettered.

By Henry W. Fischer.

Berlin, Feb. 20.—Chancellor von Hohenlohe made a popular hit during a speech at to-night's banquet on the occasion of the twenty-fifth anniversary of the existence of the Bundesrath. In his introductory remarks he said:

"Not I should be selected to inaugurate the programme of toasts on this occasion. I am conscious that a better and much greater man is entitled to address you, and I would rejoice with you if he were here to stir our hearts, as only he can do, with patriotism and love for United Germany. I refer to the greatest diplomatic hero of modern times, to our ex-Chancellor, Prince Otto von Bismarck, who in Germany comes next to the old Emperor, the founder of the German empire, who will live forever in the hearts of the people."

The utterance of the name of the man of blood and iron was the sign for a spontaneous outburst of enthusiasm, such as has rarely been witnessed in Berlin, and at the subsequent eulogistic remarks of the Prince, all arose from their seats and indulged in wild cheers for Bismarck, Hohenlohe and the House of Hohenzollern. It was a memorable scene, and some time elapsed before the Chancellor was enabled to continue his address.

The speech of the Chancellor will prove the sensation of the day, as it contradicts the assertions of his enemies, and especially of the Socialist press, that strained relations existed between him and Germany's idol of the Sachsenwald.

NOT SILENT TO THE JOURNAL.

Without exception, the papers of the Fatherland are editorially silent on the present French ministerial crisis, though all of them vie with each other in printing the latest dispatches from Paris in minutest details.

Your correspondent obtained, nevertheless, the opinions of the editors of some of the leading papers for the benefit of the Journal.

The chief scribe of the Cologne Gazette allows me to cable to you that in his opinion the situation was never more alarming, though at this stage of the crisis he could not venture to express an opinion as to the outcome.

I had an interesting interview this afternoon with the editor of the North German Gazette. He was convinced that another political crash was in store for the French republic.

Neither the continuance of the Bourgeois Ministry nor its fall, nor the extreme probability of the ascent of another dictator, would, in his opinion, affect German interests.

BOURGEOIS CABINET DOOMED.

In the editorial sanetum of the Lokal Anzeiger, I was assured that the Bourgeois Cabinet could not last long under any circumstances. M. Ricard, the bete noir, has been disappointing from the start. The Anzeiger would not predict that Germany would be safe against a French attack in the event of the collapse of the republic, and the reinstatement of a semi-monarchical dictatorship. So long as President Faure would remain at the helm, his personality guarantees the stability of amicable relations between the two countries.

The editor of the Berlin Tageblatt is heartily in sympathy with Premier Bourgeois on account of his pronounced democratic tendencies, and expresses the hope that the Cabinet's bold stand will result in the final abolishment of the Senate. As to German interests, he did not think they would suffer, whether the Ministry stands or falls.

A BISMARCKIAN COMMENT.

In the course of my interview with the editor of the Neueste Nachrichten, a Bismarck organ, the opinion was vouchsafed that if the Bourgeois Ministry would finally succumb, it was but the logical conclusion of a prolonged conflict between the Senate and Chamber of Deputies.

A Paris special is published in the Vossische Zeitung to-night which declares the French public is conspicuously indifferent to the tri-partite duel now being fought between the two houses of the French Legislature and the Ministry. It adds editorially that if Frenchmen take no interest whatever, surely Germany will be much less interested.

In response to a telegraphic inquiry the Hamburger Nachrichten wires me as follows: "French affairs are too unsettled to permit the expression of editorial judgment on the outcome."

In the Vorwarts office I was told that the crisis in the internal affairs of the Fatherland monopolized the thought and

labors of the staff to such an extent that they had but little time to devote to the numerous political spasms of the neighboring republic. Yet the Vorwarts devotes columns daily to the French situation on its telegraph page.

FATHERLAND POTPOURRI.

Thirty-four thousand strikers in the men's clothing trade have been successful in effecting a settlement with their employers upon the basis of an advance of 22 1/2 per cent in their wages.

It is expected that the workers in the women's clothing trades, seamstresses, etc., will be able to make a similar settlement.

Popular sympathy has been with the strikers from the first.

The Boersen Courier expresses its astonishment over the sudden great demand of Northern Pacific bonds of all denominations. The paper suspects that New York speculators are responsible for this sudden boom. It is a most surprising phenomenon that no sellers can be had at 108 1/2.

The programme for the Bayreuth festival of 1896 has been definitely announced by Mme. Cosima Wagner and published in the German papers to-day. The performances begin in the Bayreuth Wagner Theatre on July 19, and will last a month. The repertory includes the Ring der Niebelungen Rheingold, Walkure, Siegfried and Goetterdaemmerung.

Her Majesty the Empress repeatedly assured Mrs. Runyon, the widow of the late American Ambassador, during her audience of condolence of her whole-hearted sympathy with the American people.

UNITED STATES TO PROTEST.

Report That Objection Will Be Made to Russian Occupation of Corea.

London, Feb. 20.—A dispatch to the Globe from Shanghai says it is believed there that Russia intends to establish a protectorate over Corea and that England and the United States will strenuously resist such action. In the mean time the Japanese are making active naval preparations.

Russia, according to this dispatch, has chartered six Norwegian and German steamers which are taking on cargoes of coal at Shanghai intended for the use of the Russian squadron. It is stated in Shanghai that China will permit Russian warships to use Chinese ports for the purpose of coaling. Mr. George N. Curzon, Under Secretary for Foreign Affairs, replying to a question by Sir Ellis Ashmead-Bartlett, said that Great Britain regarded Russia's pledge, given in 1888, not to occupy Corea under any circumstances as still binding.



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