NAVAL OFFICERS IN QUESTIONABLE ROLE.

Subject Brought Violently to the Surface in a Senate Discussion.

Tillman Bitterly Arraigns Government Officers Who Serve Two Masters.

Senator Chandler's Amendment to the Naval Appropriation Bill Is Aimed at These Men.

NAMES ARE CAREFULLY AVOIDED.

Armor Plate Deals, as Originally Told of in The Journal, Come Up in the Upper House Despite Social Influence.

By Julius Chambers.

Washington, April 27.—The naval scandal came to the fore in the United States Senate this afternoon.

"They use their skill in helping the enemies of the Government to rob it," thundered ex-Governor Tillman to-day when talking of the evidence elicited by the resolution passed by the Senate authorizing the Committee on Naval Affairs to investigate the connection of certain naval officers with the Carnegie and Bethlehem Steel Works. "Now if that isn't a position no honorable man would care to occupy, then I know nothing about honesty. The idea of retired naval officers drawing pay from a concern having contracts with this Government is a gigantic scandal."

As exclusively stated in the Journal of December 30, Senator Chandler announced that he believed certain officers of the navy were co-operating with firms that furnished armor plate for the use of the United States. He then introduced the following resolution:

"Resolved, That the Committee on Naval Affairs be authorized and directed to inquire whether the prices paid for vessels of the navy have been fair and reasonable, and the same as charged to foreign manufacturers; whether the prices have been increased on account of patent processes; whether such prices paid on account of the Harvey patent have been fair and reasonable; whether the issuance of any such patents was expedited at the request of the Navy Department; whether such patents were properly issued and were for inventions not previously known or used, and who were and are owners of such patents; whether any officers of the Government were interested therein at the time when contracts were then made or had since been interested in any patents or employed by the owners therefor, and whether any legislation is necessary to further promote the manufacture, and cheapen the price of armor for vessels of the navy."

When the resolution was introduced it created a supreme sensation in army and navy circles, and since that time every possible influence has been brought to bear upon Senators to smother an investigation. That stronges of all pulls at the national Capitol, "social influence," has played a star part during the past few months. This influence alone can account for the conduct of certain Senators who were to-day the earnest advocates of allowing officers of the navy to draw salaries when working for concerns contracting for naval supplies.

THE AMENDMENTS OFFERED.

Senator Hale, of Maine, shortly after the Senate met to-day called up the Naval Appropriation bill. It was read, and amendments were in order. Senator Quay, of Pennsylvania, moved to increase the appropriation for the armament of auxiliary cruisers from $250,000 to $400,000. Mr. Gorman, of Maryland, objected to an increase on account of the impoverished condition of the Treasury.

After considerable argument Quay's amendment was agreed to .Next the establishment of a naval training station at San Francisco occupied the attention of the Senate for an hour or more. Mr. Gorman objected to that and urged Senator Perkins, who had proposed the scheme, to withdraw his amendment. The senior Senator from Maryland referred to his past friendliness to the Pacific Coast, and prevailed upon the Representative from the Golden State to allow his amendment to go over until next session.

Senator Chandler then submitted an amendment making it unlawful for any naval officer to connect himself with a concern having contracts with the Government of the United States. This was aimed at retired officers in particular; but during all the speeches that followed a studied effort was made to avoid the mention of the names of officers involved.

The New Hamphires Senator in a brief speech outlined the cause of his having introduced the resolution calling for an investigation last December. Senator Graw, of Delaware, was one of the most determined opponents to the amendment and stated that often a man was placed on the retired list against his will. He said that a man had to go to work at something to keep his family from starving after he had been ousted by the Government, and if his ability was sufficient to enable him to secure employment with one of the great steel companies he had a perfect right to accept it.

During the preceding remarks, Senator Tillman had fidgeted around in his seat, and finally moved up closer to the Vice President's chair. Every time he thought a man was making a good point he put it down on a pad in front of him. Senator Chandler came over and furnished him with additional data, and Mills, of Texas, next to whom he was sitting, asked him if he was going to make a speech.

"You bet your immortal soul I am," retorted the redoubtable Ben.

Finally Senator Bacon sat down. The people in the galleries, which were not crowded, craned their necks, and with a gesture peculiarly his own Senator Tillman addressed the Chair, and thus made his second effort in the Senate of the United States. He carefully arranged the papers on the desk at which he happened to be standing, looked at Senator Gray and then began:

"I have taken a great deal of interest in this scandalous discussion, have listened to it with pleasure and some amusement. The whole thing to me is simply a question of taste. You all remember that old story that on questions of taste people must be allowed to disagree. This investigation was undertaken to stop a great scandal, and to prevent naval officers from being coused of dishonorable actions. I have concluded that after the investigation of the cost of the armor plate and arms, the steel companies and the Government are enemies. The Government wants the best at the lowest prices; the manufacturers want to give the cheapest for the most money. Officers are not retired as beggars. They are handsomely paid."

HELPING THE ENEMY TO ROB.

"Not handsomely paid, only $75 a month," suggested Mr. Gray in a sarcastic tone.

"Oh, well, let it go at $75, but I think it is more," sneered Tillman. "A man cannot live handsomely on $75 a month in this community, as I have discovered. We will say, fo rthe sake of argument, that these officers are in the employ of an enemy of the Government. Let us suppose this enemy to be Great Britain—no let it be pain—there seems to be more of a disposition to go after that country than England. These officers are using their skill in helping the enemy of the Government to rob it."

"If that be the case, the Government ought to have nothing to do with the manufacturers," shouted Senator Gray, springing to his feet.

Tillman looked at him for a few moments without saying a word, and then assumed a tone he uses on the stump in South Carolina. He said:

"That's no argument. We've got to buy armor somewhere. The Government ought to have its own plant. Now these officers who were educated and honored by th Government are using every effort to rob it. If that isn't a position no honorable man would care to be in, I know nothing about honesty."

Mr. Hale followed in an argument for the adoption of the amendment. He thought an officer who would accept service under a private corporation was guilty of impripriety. "Because it creates a scandal; a man cannot serve two masters whose interests are antagonistic."

Senator Allen, the Populist leader, was hotly opposed to naval officers entering the employment of corporations while drawing pay from the Government. No man, in his opinion, could work for two firms whose interests were conflicting and be loyal to either one or the other.

Mr. Chandler, who was deeply interested and thoroughly in earnest, took the floor again to explain that after trying in vain to find out the actual cost of armor plate the committee had decided to send for the two officers on duty at the Carnegie and Bethlehem steel works. Instead of the Government officers presenting themselves, two retired officers appeared before the committee. Aftr some questioning, the members of the committee thought that in view of the position occupied by the officers to the corporations it would be indelicate to question them further concerning the secrets of their respective firms. Senator Chandler naturally thought it a strange situation when two officers of the United States Navy, appearing before a Senate investigating committee, could not answer questions asked them.

IT WAS A REVELATION.

Senator Bacon, of eGorgia, another member of the Committee on Naval Affairs, and a member of the Investigating Committee, supported the amendment offered by Mr. Chandler. During the course of his speech it became apparent that the two officers referred to as being employed by the Carnegie and Bethlehem people were Lieutenants Meigs and Stone. He said it was a revelation to Senator Tillman when the two retired officers appeared before the committee, and he found that they were employes of the Government and of the steel monopolists at Homestead and Bethlehem.

"The friendships extending from school days, and covering a period of years are purchased by firms employing naval officers," declared Mr. Bacon. "The committee tried to find out the cost of armor, and, knowing that United States naval officers were detailed to learn these facts, sent for them. They came, but they were not the men wanted. The regular inspecting officers gave some information, but carefully avoided divulging the cost. The retired men were not pressed to answer the questions of the committee as to the cost of armor. Just think of such an infamous optrage!" shouted Senator Bacon.

The Senator from South Carolina was interrupted by Mr. Hale, who asked him if he had heard of one of these retired officers informing the Government of flaws in armor plate or in any way assisting the Government to detect frauds in armament.

"No, I never did," answered the dispensary law statesman. "The Government never received any aid and never will. Those naval employes are working for Government money on both sides. They propose to rob this country by selling Uncle Sam armor plate for $600 a ton, and they turn around and sell the same thing to Russia for $300. It's a gigantic scandal, in my opinion, but I may differ with the Senator from Delaware as to what constitutes honesty."

"I heartily agree with the Senator from South Carolina," said Mr. Hale.

Tillman looked immensely pleased that for once he had the approval of the Senator from Maine. Senator Lodge also agreed with what had been said in support of the amendment.

OPPOSED BY GORMAN.

Mr. Gorman, the Democratic leader, then opposed the amendment to the surprise of everybody. He wanted to know if the main purpose of the investigation had not been diverted. It was more important to know what the actual and honest cost of armor plate was than the mere fact that certain naval officers had been connected with private corporations.

Senator Chandler interrupted him and said that as other provisions of the present bill were reached additional facts would be brought to light. He said that in an inquiry of this kind two years ago it was found that armor plate had been sold to this Government for about $600 and to Russia for $300. "That was enterprise on the part of the American firm," said Senator Gorman.

"How did you find out what the cost was?" asked Tillman.

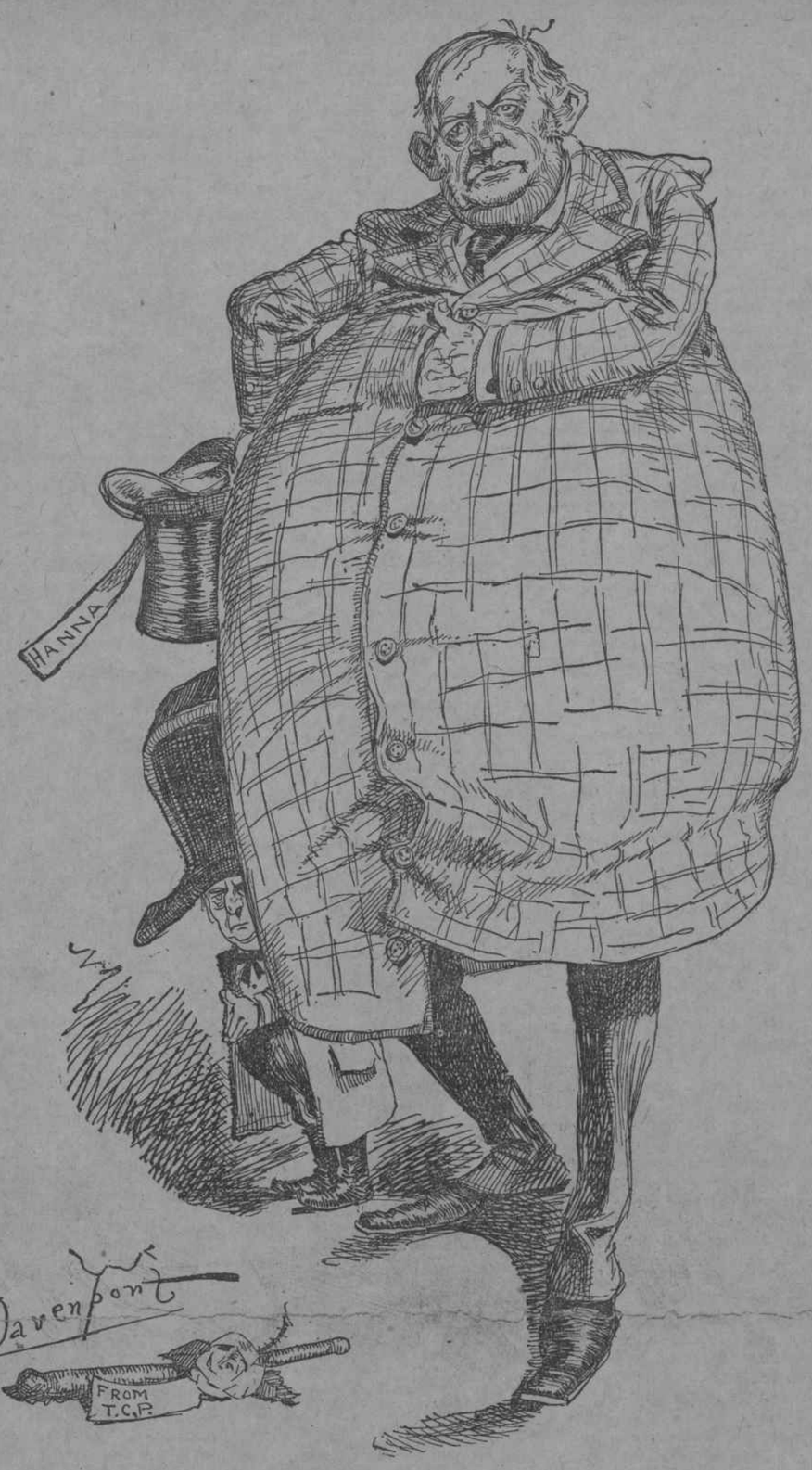
"We called in experts and manufacturers," replied Senator Gorman.

Mr. Tillman interrupted him to say that Captain Jenks, of the navy, had planned and practically built the Bethlehem Steel Works, and after they were finished the Government had presented them to the company. To-day that company was a combination to get everything possible out of this Government. He thought the Government ought to have kept the foundry when it had it.

Senator Gorman said that the price of armor was about the same everywhere. He did not believe any combination was made to charge the Government more than was proper.

Senator Hale suggested that, as it was after 5 o'clock, the Senate had better adjourn. Mr. Gorman signified his willingness to proceed to-morrow, and at 5:15 the body adjourned.

If Mr. Chandler keeps his word about bringing to light some new facts as the naval bill progresses, some startling revelations may be looked for, particularly in relation to naval officers owning patents in use by the Government.



WHO IS THE REAL CANDIDATE?

A MYSTERY OF IXELLES.

The Baroness Herry Found Murdered in Her Home in a Fashionable Suburb of Brussels.

Brussels, April 27.—A terrible drama has taken place in the fashionable suburb of Ixelles, near here. The Baroness Herry, aged eighty, was discovered assassinated early yesterday morning at No. 56 Rue de l'Arbre Benit. The victim lived with her son. Two servants slept in an adjoining building, and one only in the attic at the top of the house.

The Baroness's son returned home about midnight and retired to rest.

In the morning the servants became uneasy at not seeing their mistress, who, despite her age, usually rose early. One of them went to the old lady's sleeping apartment, and there lay the Baroness dead on her bed, the face showing that a fearful blow had been dealt her near the right eye during sleep, killing her on the spot.

Robbery was clearly the motive of the crime, since a cupboard in the room was broken open.

The thieves had entered by the street door.

The police have absolutely no trace of the assassins.

GIRLS WEDDED AT EIGHT.

Armenians Have to Marry Off Their Children to Save Them from the Turks.

Boston, April 27.—News from Erzeroum, Eastern Turkey, is to the effect that the villagers from the neighborhood of Terjan have brought in horrible accounts of the sufferings Christians are undergoing at the hands of the Turks and Kurds.

From these villages ten girls have been kidnapped. The Turks and Kurds are after unmarried girls. Brides are somewhat more exempt from violence, so the villagers have married their daughters over eight years of age as a means of protection. In the thirty-two vilages comprising the Terjan group, there is not an unmarried girl over eight years old.

FOREIGN NOTES OF INTEREST.

A bomb was exploded last night in front of the French Consulate at Palermo, doing no damage beyond breaking a few windows.

Prince Christian, of Schleswig-Holstein, son-in-law of Queen Victoria, was knocked down by a cab while crossing a London street yesterday and badly shaken up, but not seriously hurt.

Sir Michael Hicks-Beach, Chancellor of the Exchequer, in reply to a question in the House of Commons yesterday said the Government declined to alter the law so that a remission of the income tax would be granted on the life premiums of American insurance companies doing business in the United Kingdom.

OOM PAUL KRUEGER IS VERY CRAFTY.

Gives Reasons for Not Being Able to Accept the Invitation to England.

He Feels Confident That the British Government W ill Recognize the Difficulty of His Position.

CAN'T HOODWINK MR. CHAMBERLAIN.

Sir Hercules Robinson, Governor of Cape Colony, Cables to Secure Instructions from the Colonial Secretary.

London, April 27.—In the House of Commons to-day Right Hon. Joseph Chamberlain, Secretary of State for the Colonies, in reply to questions on the subject, stated that the Government had received by telegraph the substance of President Krueger's reply to the Government's invitation to visit London to discuss Transvaal affairs.

The reply, he said, was long, and could not be fairly appreciated without referring to the dispatch in extenso, and to the preceding correspondence.

"President Krueger, in the course of his reply to the British invitation to come to England," continued Mr. Chamberlain, "said he felt confident that the British Government would recognize the difficulty of his position, and that it appeared to him to be a wise course not to press the question of his proceeding to England any further at present, but to leave the matter open, more especially in view of the approach of the opening of the session of the Volksraad, which it was desirable that he should attend, as measures of great importance were to be considered. It was his confident hope that by the exercise of patience and tact on both sides a peaceful and satisfactory solution of the questions at issue could be obtained."

Under the circumstances, Mr. Chamberlain added, the Government reluctantly withdrew the invitation to President Krueger, and had cabled to Sir Hercules Robinson, Governor of Cape Colony, instructing him that as soon as Sir Graham John Bower, the Imperial Secretary at Cape Town, should arrive there on his return from England, he being now on the way, he (Robinson) should come to England and receive instructions which would guide him in the pursuit of future negotiations.

Mr. Chamberlain announced that the whole correspondence would shortly be published.

AUSTRIA NEAR A CRISIS.

The Badeni Ministry Not Expected to Survive the Triumph of the Anti-Semites.

By Henry W. Fischer.

Berlin, April 27.—Political circles here fear that the Badeni Ministry of Austria cannot survive the triumph of the anti-Semites, especially as Dr. Lueger, the new Vice-Mayor of Vienna, is among the fiercest opponents of Hungary in Parliament.

The Magyars are making capital of the fact that the Ministry is humbling itself in the matter of Dr. Lueger's election to the office of Burgomaster and forcing the Emperor to do likewise. A political and intellectual nonentity named Strobach has been nominated in his stead as acting Burgomaster, but Dr. Lueger will actually administer the Kaiserstadt until his fifth re-election, should that come about, which the government would be bound to acknowledge.

Emperor Francis Joseph gave an audience to-day to Dr. Lueger. Count Badeni, Prime Minister, was present and advised Dr. Lueger to decline the office of Burgomaster of Vienna, to which he had been elected by the Municipal Council. Dr. Lueger has been elected three times. On the first occasion he declined the office because of the smallness of his majority, and the second time the Emperor annulled his election and dissolved the Municipal Council.

Dr. Lueger, in reply to Count Badeni's words of advice, said that he would accede to the desire of the Emperor that he decline the office of Burgomaster, and further said that he would not assent to another re-election.

To this the Emperor responded: "I hope you will do your best to have your party elect another man to the office."

GUILTY OF INFANTICIDE.

Coroner's Jury at Reading, England, Returns a Verdict Against Mrs. Dyer.

By Julian Ralph.

London, April 27.—The Coroner's jury at Reading to-day returned a verdict of wilful murder against Mrs. Dyer.

Overwhelming testimony was offered directly connecting the woman with the numerous cases of infanticide which were recently unearthed by the accidental discovery of infants' bodies in the Thames.

In several instances the bodies were wrapped in cloth which witnesses identified as having belonged to Mrs. Dyer, and in many other ways a clear case was made out against her.

ELUDED AN OFFICER; KILLED BY A TROLLEY.

George Jones Ran from Patrolman Bowles to His Death.

Caught Under a West Farms Car and Dragged Twenty —

He Had Been One of a Crowd Which Was Annoying a Hokey-Pokey Man.

MOTORMAN PLACED UNDER ARREST.

A Brother of the Victim Was Killed by a Train a Block from Last Night's Accident.

Half a dozen boys were teasing a man who has a hokey-pokey stand in Willis avenue and One Hundred and Thirty-sixth street, about half-past 7 last night. Patrolman Frank Bowles, of the Morrisania Station, told them to move on, and as the boys scattered he ran after the biggest, George Jones, seventeen years old.

Jones ran through One Hundred and Forty-sixth street to Willis avenue, as hard as he could, and as he was crossing the avenue a northbound West Farms trolley car going at the rate of twelve miles an hour, struck him. The boy was thrown lengthwise between the rails and dragged by the trucks, which were about four inches from the pavement, for twenty yards.

He was dead when lifted from the ground though the wheels had not touched the body.

Patrolman Bowles, who believed himself the involuntary cause of the accident, was deeply moved. He helped lift the body into a patrol wagon that carried it to the police station. He did not, however, report at the station that he had been chasing the boy. He merely said that a boy had been run over. The motorman, Peter Romanal, of One Hundred and Seventy-seventh street and Boston avenue, was arrested. He said that he had not seen the boy until he saw a figure followed by a policeman jump in front of the car.

The dead boy was one of seven sons of Walter Jones, of Fire Engine Company No. 35, in East One Hundred and Nineteenth street, and living at No. 542 East One Hundred and Thirty-eighth street. George worked in a piano factory, and was a helpful, industrious boy.

Tom oJnes, eleven years old, another of the seven sons, was killed in One Hundred and Forty-sixth street and Fourth avenue, a block from where George was killed, by a Harlem train three years ago.

NO NEWS OF THE SULTAN.

Plenty of Rumors, but No Authenticated Facts About His Condition Can Be Gathered at Constantinople.

Constantinople, April 27.—Although there are any amount of rumors current about the Sultan's condition of health, it is impossible to get any really authentic news with regard to him.

Abdul Hamid's tenure of the throne is entirely dependent upon the insanity of his elder brother, Murad, and should at any moment official proof be obtained that Murad was no longer mad the present Sultan would cease to be regarded as the Commander of the Faithful by the Turks. All that is needed to deprive him of his throne is the issue of a proclamation from the Skeik-Ul-Islam, who is the principal ecclesiastical authority of the empire, declaring that Murad has recovered his mental faculties.

In the event of the deposition of Abdul Hamid, which appears probable and even imminent, since the administration of the Government at Constantinople is almost at a standstill, owing to the refusal of the ignoble palace favorite, Izzet, to permit any one save his own creatures to have access to the Sultan, there is doubt as to who would succeed to the throne. The old Turk party, who resent and oppose every sepcies of Western reform and concession to civilization, favor the candidature of the Sultan's younger brother, Rashid, concerning whom the most extraordinary rumors are current.

Some say that he, too, is insane. No one is able, however, to speak with any degree of certainty on the subject, since for ten years past Rashid has been closely confined within the walls of the palace of Cheregan, together with his harem and his court officials, in every sense of the word a state prisoner. He is not allowed to receive a single letter, book or newspaper, or even a visitor from the outer world, and unless he possesses some unknown means of obtaining intelligence from the outside, is as ignorant as a new-born babe of the course of events during the last decade. Strangers are not permitted to approach, or, even to loiter in the vicinity of his palace, their carriages, or horses, if they happen to be mounted, being compelled to quicken their pace.

The new Turk party favors the restoration of Murad, who during the six months that he reigned showed himself to be the most advanced Turk who ever occupied the Ottoman throne. He favored female suffrage, ridiculed many of the features of the national creed, spoke as if an atheist and declared himself in favor of a constitutional form of government. Moreover, he had become a Free Mason, owing his initiation to that clever Afghan, Djemil Kahn, who has founded so many masonic lodges throughout the Orient.

It is stated at Constantinople that one of the reasons why the present Sultan keeps so close a watch upon Murad is because he fears that some effort may be made by the Free Masons in other parts of the world to secure his liberation and restoration to the throne.

SCHOOL TRUSTEES TO GO ON JUNE 30.

Compromise Bill, Which Legislates Them Out of Office, Is a Law.

Governor Morton Approves the Plan to Take Politics Out of the Department.

He Will Present the Pen with Which He Signed the Bill to Mrs. L Lorillard Spencer.

NEW SYSTEM'S RADICAL CHANGES.

Hereafter the Board of Education Will Have Sole Control of the Schools and Teachers—End of a Long Struggle.

Albany, April 27.—"The terms of office of the present trustees of common schools in and for the several wards of the city of New York shall end, and their official functions cease and said office be abolished on the 30th day of June, 1896."

This is the vital part of the new law for the government of the great school system of New York, which Governor Morton signed to-day. It is one of the most radical changes made in existing laws and systems by the present Legislature. It affects the welfare of hundreds of thousands of school children and hundreds of teachers. It was urged by the reform element as necessary to the well being of the schools and the argument seems to have been most convincing.

Early in the session Senator Pavey introduced a bill which simply abolished the trustees and vested their powers in the Board of Education. This was the result of a determination on the part of the reform element to wrest the school system from political control. The bill was immediately attacked on all sides, but chiefly as being crude and incomplete.

OPPOSITION TO EACH BILL.

School Commissioner Charles T. Strauss, who was its most vigorous opponent, speedily had another drawn and introduced by Senator Page. This bill divided the city into school districts, retained the trustee feature of the old system, and had some excellent features.

The principals, a majority of the trustees and of the Board of Education all argued for the superior merits of the Page bill. Opposed to them were the reform element, a few of the trustees and Commissioners and a determined band of women headed by Mrs. L. Lorillard Spencer, and Mrs. Schuyler Van Rensselaer, Mrs. Governor Morton and Mrs. Edward Lauterbach, were finally drawn into the contest, and took opposite sides.

Finally the committee reported what was known as the Pavey-Page or compromise bill. This met with quite as much opposition as either of the originals, and the arguments before the committee were even more heated than before. But the compromise bill was retained and passed in spite of all opposition. Mayor Strong approved the bill, and both sides besieged Governor Morton up to the last moment. The Governor listened to every suggestion carefully, and is also said to have done some little investigating himself. As a result he has approved the bill. It is understood that he will present the pen with which he made the bill a law to Mrs. L. Lorillard Spencer.

The news of the signing of the Compromise School bill by Governor Morton yesterday was received with disapproval by the members of the Board of Education and the 120 Trustees whom it legislates out of office.

In each of the twenty-four wards of the city there have been five Trustees whose duty it was to look after their respective districts, report on all matters connected with the schools, and, at stated intervals, make an inspection of the buildings. These Trustees served without salaries. The new law abolishes them and confers upon the Board of Education the power to appoint a Superintendent of School Buildings for six years at a salary of $6,000 per annum, with as many assistant Superintendents as are deemed necessary at whatever salaries the board may deem just. At present there are ten Assistant Superintendents, each receiving $4,000 per year, but as the duties of the old Trustees will fall upon the Assistant Superintendents it is said the number will have to be increased. The salary of the Superintendent of Public Schools, which is now $7,500, is also left to the discretion of the Board, and it is said it will be increased. His term of office is also increased from two to six years. A Deputy Superintendent of Public Schools, a Deputy Superintendent of School Buildings, and "such Supervisors and other officers as may be deemed necessary by the Board" are created by the new law, at whatever salaries the Board may determine.

"The bill was not a compromise bill at all," said Commissioner W. H. Hurlbut. "The original bill which was approved by the Board of Education, called for the reappointment of the Trustees. With the Trustees out, aditional Asistant Superintendents of School Buildings, as well as other officials will have to be elected, and these wil cost considerable money."

"Our appropriation last year was $5,670,302.59," said Commissioner McSweeney. "There will have to be a material increase to cover the salaries of the new officials."

Commissioner Charles Wehrum was of opinion that the number of Assistant Superintendents of School Buildings would have to be doubled.

Bank of Commerce Moves.

The National Bank of Commerce yesterday took temporary possession of offices in the Syndicate building at Nassau and Liberty streets, pending the erection of their new building at Nassau and Cedar streets.

DR. PIERCE'S PELLETS FOR THE LIVER

COWPERTHWAIT'S RELIABLE CARPETS. Impossible to find such rare color blendings at such low prices anywhere else.
LONG CREDIT.
104 West 14th Street.