

DOINGS OF OUR NATIONAL BODY OF LAWMAKERS

Saturday, June 2.

Washington, June 2.—The greater part of the day was spent by the senate in discussing the resolution directing the purchase of Panama canal supplies in America, unless the price was extortionate and unreasonably high. Mallory's motion to strike out the word "extortionate" was lost, 39 to 19. Carmack sought to limit the government's action to a preference for goods of home manufacture, other conditions being equal. It was lost, 39 to 17. Bacon wanted no higher prices paid for American goods than the American manufacturer charged abroad for the same article. This went down, 37 to 15. Culbertson wanted goods purchased in the cheapest markets; lost, 38 to 16. An amendment proposed by Pettus limiting the purchase to the lowest responsible bidder was adopted.

The bill was passed, 39 to 16.

Washington, June 2.—What might have been a serious parliamentary snarl was dextrously avoided by Speaker Cannon late this afternoon in the house of representatives, when Murphy, of Missouri, rose to present what he denominated a privileged resolution. The conference reports on the rate and the statehood bills had been made and ordered printed, when the Missouri congressman presented a resolution rescinding the action of the house sending the statehood bill to conference and providing for a vote on the senate amendments.

Payne, of New York, leader of the majority, instantly made the point that the resolution was not privileged. The speaker, with smiling face, held that the resolution was not privileged, as the papers in the case were with the senate.

Friday, June 1.

Washington, June 1.—The senate today passed the bill regulating the liability of railroad companies for injury to employees, but Daniels gave notice of a motion to reconsider, which, if it prevails, will have the effect of again bringing the question before the senate for consideration.

The remaining time of the opening session was devoted to a speech by Morgan in support of the assertion of American control in the Isle of Pines, and to a discussion of the resolution prescribing a policy for the government in the purchase of supplies for the Panama canal. Stone opposed the amendment as useless, and attacked the president as weak and wavering in policy. After a protracted executive session the senate adjourned until tomorrow.

Washington, June 1.—A blackdraped desk in the hall of the house of representatives covered with June flowers, brought a shock to almost every member when the house convened today. It told, with a pathos all of its own, the story of the passing of Robert Adams, Jr., late a congressman from the Second Pennsylvania district, from the scenes of a busy, active life.

Following the reading of the letter, Morrell presented a resolution directing the sergeant-at-arms to make the necessary arrangements for the funeral, expense to be paid out of the contingent fund of the house, and then, as a further mark of respect, the house adjourned.

Washington, June 1.—The senate committee on privileges and elections today voted that Smoot, of Utah, was not entitled to his seat. The report of the committee will be ready for the senate next Friday.

Thursday, May 31.

Washington, May 31.—The Senate today passed the Knox immunity bill and the omnibus lighthouse bill, and with practically no debate passed the military academy bill, and was only prevented from passing the employers' liability bill by a motion at 2 p. m. to go into executive session.

Most of the afternoon was devoted to consideration in executive session of the nomination of Judge James Wickersham to be judge of the United States circuit court for the district of Alaska, but he was not confirmed.

Washington, May 31.—The Democrats of the house resumed their filibustering tactics today, and demanded roll call on every possible parliamentary point. Notwithstanding these tedious delays, the house passed the diplomatic and consular appropriation bill, carrying an appropriation of \$2,734,869. A number of amendments

Torrent of Anti-Smoot Petitions.
Washington, May 29.—Protests against the retention of Reed Smoot as a senator of the United States flooded the senate today, as follows: Minnesota, by Senator Clapp, 6,802; Indiana, by Senator Hemenway, 8,341; New Hampshire, by Senator Gallinger, 3,265; Kentucky, by Senator Blackburn, about 2,800; Alabama, by Senator Morgan, 801; Kansas, by Senator Long, 14,862; North Carolina, by Senator Simmons, 2,098. It is said that petitions will be received from every state and territory in the United States.

Seattle May Dig Her Canal.

Washington, May 29.—An understanding has been reached by members of the house committee on rivers and harbors which will result in a favorable report on a bill providing that the United States shall maintain the canal at Seattle connecting Lake Union and Shilshole bay with Puget sound. The consideration for maintenance of the waterway by the government is that a lock shall be built by a private corporation at the head of Shilshole bay.

were adopted, chief among which were changing the salary of ambassador to Japan from \$17,500 to \$12,000, and fixing the salaries of the ministers to Belgium (John Barrett), The Netherlands and Luxemburg at \$10,000 per year, instead of \$12,000, as fixed by the bill when originally reported.

The legislative, executive and judicial appropriation bill and the post-office appropriation bill were sent to conference.

Tuesday, May 29.
Washington, May 29.—Senator Perkins made an effort in the senate today to secure a subsidy of \$217,000 a year in addition to the amount now paid to the Oceanic Steamship company, plying between San Francisco and Australia. The sum is the same as carried for that company by the shipping bill, which passed the senate early in the session, and when Patterson asked Perkins why he did not wait for the passage of the shipping bill, the latter replied that "hope deferred maketh the heart sick." The amendment was declared out of order on a point raised by Clay.

Washington, May 29.—During the consideration of the diplomatic and consular bill today in the house, an interesting debate was had on the amendment proposed by Longworth, of Ohio, to appropriate \$1,000,000 for the acquisition in foreign capitals of proper sites and buildings for the embassies and legations of the United States for the residence of ambassadors and ministers to foreign countries.

Longworth, in urging his amendment, which went out on a point of order, insisted that, by providing residences for our ambassadors the question of rent would be eliminated. He said that was now the largest necessary expense. With a residence provided by the government, a man of moderate means could live in a dignified way on his salary.

Monday, May 28.

Washington, May 28.—The senate today sent the railroad rate bill to conference, listened to a long defense by Kittredge of a sea level canal and three Democratic speeches on the resolution in relation to the purchase of canal supplies in foreign markets, and devoted the remainder of its time to the postoffice appropriation bill.

No objection was made to the appointment of ranking members of the interstate commerce committee as conferees on the rate bill, and they were not instructed in any manner. They are Elkins, Cullom and Tillman.

Washington, May 28.—Early in the session of the house today Williams, Miss., the floor leader of the minority, made the point that there was no quorum present, and it took a call of the house to start the wheels of legislation. After the appearance of a quorum, the house concurred in amendments made by the senate to a number of house bills. The house resolved itself into a "city council" for the consideration of bills relating to the District of Columbia.

The compulsory education bill for the district occupied most of the day, being finally placed on its passage. On a division, the absence of a quorum was disclosed. Williams made the point of no quorum, and a call of the house ensued, the yeas and nays being called on the passage of the bill.

Will Need More Money.

Washington, May 30.—What members of the house committee on appropriations regard as an absolute disregard of the law authorizing the construction of the new building for the department of agriculture is revealed in the hearings before that committee on the sundry civil appropriation bill. In 1903 congress appropriated \$1,500,000 for this building. It was the general understanding that this was for the erection of a complete building for the accommodation of the entire department.

It was with some astonishment that the members learned last week that "somebody" had ordered the construction of two wings of what may be some day a completed building and that the two wings have practically exhausted the \$1,500,000 appropriated for a complete structure. The wings, when completed, will, according to testimony given before the committee, be inadequate to house the department force, and congress will be called upon to appropriate another couple of millions to fill the space between the two wings.

May Not Confirm.

Washington, May 29.—In the light of the attitude assumed by the senate subcommittee on judiciary, it is quite probable that William C. Bristol will not be confirmed at this session. The subcommittee is not favorable to Bristol's confirmation, yet does not go to the extent of recommending the rejection of his nomination. It will probably make no report to the full committee, which means that the committee will not report to the senate and no action will be taken before the adjournment.

Proposes Postal Telegraph.

Washington, May 28.—The idea of a postal telegraph has a warm advocate in Samuel W. Smith, member of congress from Michigan, who in a carefully prepared speech today in the house insisted that if the government would undertake such a system, the deficit in the postal department would be almost wiped out. "We should," he said, "have a first-class postal telegraph in the United States in connection with our splendid postal facilities."

LOSS WILL BE HEAVY.

Heavy Rainfall in Eastern Oregon and Washington Destroyed Crops.

Pendleton, Or., June 1.—Umatilla county has lost by a conservative estimate at least \$1,500,000 by reason of the flood. It is impossible to give detailed figures, for the waters in McKay creek and Birch creek, in the Milton country, at Weston and the Umatilla river are raging, and the fields are still flooded and out of sight. On every hand, however, as the water recedes, are left fields of alfalfa coated thick and weighted down with slime and silt. It is a worthless waste, and must not only be cut down but taken from the fields before other crops can be grown.

Practically all of the alfalfa crops of McKay creek are ruined. The territory varies from 100 feet to a quarter of a mile in width and is from 15 to 20 miles in length. All of the bridges are out, the water, though falling, is still raging and no definite information can be secured.

At Weston the town was damaged to the extent of \$5,000 and the same amount was lost in the immediate vicinity. In 54 hours 5½ inches of rain fell, while on Weston mountain the fall was from 9 to 10 inches. Four out of seven bridges are washed out and three small store buildings were washed into the river.

The greatest damage, perhaps, is due to stock losses in the mountain ranges. Thousands of sheep had just been sheared and were unprotected. The storm swept into the mountains with an advance guard of cold fog, followed by heavy rain and snow. In the face of this blizzard the herders in many instances deserted their flocks, leaving 2,000 and 3,000 head to their fate.

Reports beginning to come in tell of disaster, though everything is unauthenticated as yet. Hemphill lost his entire band of 3,000 sheep. J. E. Smith lost 1,000 and Gus Lafontaine 1,000. Douglas Bett's herds left 3,000 to take care of themselves.

At Milton the loss will reach into the thousands. The orchards are flooded and the fruit trees covered with mud and slime. The alfalfa fields are masses of sediment, as are the strawberries, but the latter will not all be lost. It is hard to put an estimate on Milton's damage, because many of the fields will be saved. The estimate of damage is made by those who are familiar with the country and who know the area and the value of the crops. No actual figures are as yet forthcoming.

In Pendleton the loss will be great on account of the stocks of merchandise flooded in the cellars, and the broken levee and consequent flooding of homes. A conservative estimate of the damage here is \$50,000.

Walla Walla, Wash., June 1.—After four days and nights of drenching, Walla Walla and the surrounding country are gradually recovering from the unequalled torrents of water poured into the river and streams and submerging the fields. The big plants dependent upon the electric power company are still out of business, but there is hope now that within ten days the power will be supplied.

The damage done by the high water has been immense, but the reports coming in today show that the greater actual loss will fall upon the farmers and the fruitgrowers. A conservative estimate of the damage done to crops places the loss at \$250,000. This is not an exaggeration, as from all parts of the county come reports of bridges swept away, houses inundated and crops destroyed.

Trial is Postponed.

Caldwell, Idaho, June 1.—When the cases of Charles H. Moyer, William D. Haywood and George A. Pettibone, charged with the murder of former Governor Frank Steunberger, came up in the district court yesterday, counsel for the prosecution, acting upon the suggestion made on Tuesday by President Judge Frank Smith, filed a formal motion for a continuance on the ground that the habeas corpus proceedings instituted in the Federal courts in behalf of the defendants are still pending and serve as a bar to further proceedings in the state court until a decision shall have been rendered by the Federal Supreme court. Judge Smith granted the motion, and exceptions were entered by the defense and allowed. It is not likely that the case can be taken up again before December.

Favors American System.

Victoria, B. C., June 1.—The Yoru-dun of Tokio says the imperial family of Japan has decided to dispatch His Highness Prince Kamin as special envoy to America to show imperial concern for the disastrous San Francisco earthquake. Prince Kamin will leave for America on June 25.

A Pekin report says Tuan Fang and Taihung Chi, Chinese traveling commissioners to America and England, have memorialized the Chinese government commending the American economic system.

May Lose Warship.

London, June 1.—It is feared the British navy will lose one of its best vessels, the first-class battleship Montagu, which struck on the rocks at Lundy island Wednesday, and, according to latest reports received at Devonport at midnight, is not likely to be refloated. Naval experts are of the opinion that the attempt to refloat the Montagu under present conditions will mean her disappearance in 30 fathoms of water.

General Buchanan Will Retire.

Washington, June 1.—Brigadier General James A. Buchanan, lately in command of the department of the Visayas, Philippines, will be placed on the retired list of the army tomorrow on his own application.

LOCK CANAL THE THING

Address Delivered in Which Congress Is Scored for Delay.

Wrangle Over Plans Should End at Work Commence—Congress Accused of Throwing Obstacles in the Way of Present Generation Securing Benefits.

Atlanta, Ga., May 31.—Theodore P. Shonts, chairman of the Panama canal commission, as the guest today of Atlanta friends. He delivered two addresses. The first was at the dedication of a new building at Agnes Scott Institute, a college for women, in Decatur, a suburb of Atlanta. The second was delivered this evening before the chamber of commerce, in which he spoke of the relations of the south to the Panama canal. He took strong ground in advocacy of the lock canal system.

Mr. Shonts said that between the time of the selling of the supplies which will enter into the construction of the Panama canal and the period when the opening of the canal will result in the development of the country a gulf is fixed. How great and how wide that gulf is will depend on the type of canal selected. Mr. Shonts spoke in favor of a lock canal as recommended by the minority of the consulting board and endorsed by the canal commission. He said, in conclusion:

"The practical question for all sections of the country is, How long shall we wait before we can enter upon the period of development which the opening of the canal will bring to the country? I am not surprised that European countries are indifferent to the early completion of this canal. I am not surprised that they are indifferent as to how much this canal may cost our government. I am not surprised that they can view calmly an indefinite postponement of the operation of this great waterway. They are neither paying the bills nor will their commerce and industries suffer by waiting for the completion of this undertaking.

"But I am surprised that those who are supposed to represent the best interests of the American people should try to throw obstacles in the way of realizing the benefits of this work at the earliest possible date. When we can get a better canal for less money and receive the benefits ourselves, why wait? Why make it a heritage to our children, with the possibility of their being deprived of its benefits through some unforeseen contingency? I have spoken of a gulf. Now how wide that gulf shall be depends on the people. Do you want to reap the benefits of this undertaking yourselves, or do you want to transmit a hope to your children or your children's children?"

INSURANCE MEN ARE SLOW.

Rebuilding Stopped Because They Do Not Pay Losses.

San Francisco, May 31.—Building operations in the ruined portions of this city have received a decided setback owing to the dilatory tactics of the underwriters. Almost before the ruins had cooled the owners of large buildings in the business section which had not been destroyed beyond restoration planned for their speedy and complete rehabilitation. In a few days after the great fire throngs of men were engaged in strengthening the shells and clearing away the debris of the great office buildings and hotels in the downtown district.

Today the men engaged in the Crocker, Shreve, Mutual Savings bank building and the St. Francis hotel in these operations were given notice that all work must cease because of lack of funds. Accordingly the army of laborers and skilled mechanics who were making the ruins of the great buildings hives of industry were laid off, and quietness once more reigns in these sections of the devastated district.

Good Provision for Queen.

London, May 31.—Under the marriage treaty signed here May 7 and issued in the form of a parliamentary paper today, King Alfonso engages to secure to Princess Victoria, as Princess Ena is now known in Spain, an annual public grant of \$90,000 while both are alive, and in the event of her widowhood \$150,000 annually while she remains a widow. A private settlement is also made. The treaty recognizes that the princess forfeits all hereditary rights of succession to the crown of Great Britain.

Stampede Empties Town.

Goldfield, Nev., May 31.—Remarkable strikes have been reported from near Alkali Springs, 17 miles northwest of Goldfield, and today Goldfield is nearly depopulated of mining men and prospectors. For two days the stream of goldseekers has been pouring into the district from Goldfield and nearby camps. The ore taken out much resembles the Tonopah, bearing gold and silver in nearly equal quantities. The field is large.

Serious Revolt in China.

Shanghai, May 31.—A serious rising, assisted by secret societies, is in progress at Yingshan, in the province of Kiangsi. The people are seeking refuge in the cities. The British gunboat Snipe, from Sangchang, will proceed to the scene of the disorder. The governor of the province is sending troops. No missionaries are involved.

WEIGHING THE WORLD.

Correspondent of The World To-Day Tells How It Will Be Done.

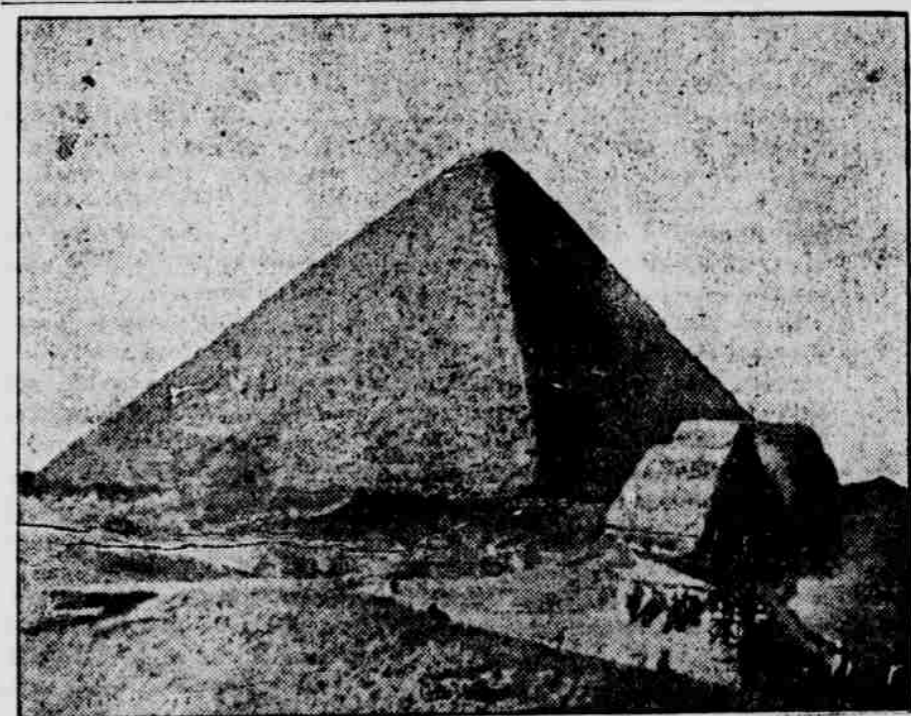
Science is dissatisfied with the accepted figures of the earth's weight. They are considered a trifle antique for a twentieth century standard. Americans are to lead the way in weighing the world once more, writes Percy Trenchard in The World To-Day.

It may sound absurd to some to speak of weighing the great earth and yet it has been done and is to be done again. More than half a century ago pendulums were swung under Airy's direction, at the top and bottom of an English coal pit. The comparison of their times of swing showed how heavy the whole earth was compared with the outermost thin shell, a shell of the thickness of the depth of the coal pit. Since geologists were able to give a fair estimate of the weight of this surface shell, the weight of the entire earth became a mere matter of multiplication.

The same experiment is to be repeated by a scientific expedition from the Survey Department at Washington. Pendulums are to be swung at the apex of the great pyramid and in the chambers at its center and base. From the swing of these pendulums the comparative weights of the earth and of the pyramid can be learned, and the weight of the pyramid having been estimated, the weight of the world will be, as in the case of the Airy experiment, a mere matter of multiplication.

All this may be a little puzzling to the lay mind, but the explanation is not difficult. Asked to describe the method of weighing the world in plain untechnical language an official of the Survey Department said:

"The principle is that the weight of a body is proportionate to the attraction which it exerts. By the pull that the sun exerts over the earth as shown



THE GREAT PYRAMID OF EGYPT.

by the earth's motion, we estimate that its attraction is 332,280 times as great as the earth's and therefore that the sun's mass is that many times greater than the mass of the earth. Knowing the weight of the earth it is easy to estimate the weight of the sun by this method of comparison. In the same way the weight of Jupiter, Saturn, Venus, Neptune or any other planet may be ascertained by comparison with the weight of the sun, basing the calculations on the amount of attraction the sun exercises over these planets. But first the earth's weight must be estimated to form a basis for the other calculations.

"The same principle is applied. The pyramid will be used as a basis for the first estimate. A plumb-bob will be swung from the apex of the pyramid, observation and calculation will determine the force of the attraction of the small body, namely, the pyramid, for the plumb-bob. The weight of the pyramid having been estimated, the weight of the earth will be calculated by multiplying the pyramid's weight by the number of times the attraction of the earth for the plumb-bob is greater than the attraction of the pyramid for the plumb-bob. From the standard thus fixed the weight of all other bodies in the solar system can be estimated.

"Here are some old figures for you: the number of cubic miles in the earth is about 259,800,000,000; each cubic mile contains 147,200,000,000 cubic feet and each cubic foot, upon the average, weighs 5.67 times as much as a cubic foot of water, or 354 pounds, 6 ounces avoirdupois. Figure it out for yourself."

SUCCORS WOUNDED ANT.

Lord Aveling Convinced that the Insect Is Possessed of Reason.

Lord Aveling, better known as Sir John Lubbock, the famous scientist, writes: "In one of my nests was an ant which had come into the world without antennae. Never having previously met with such a case, I watched her with great interest, but she never appeared to leave the nest. At length one day I found her wandering about in an aimless sort of manner, apparently not knowing her way at all. After awhile she fell in with some ants of another species, who directly attacked her.

"I at once set myself to separate them, but, whether owing to the wounds she had received from her enemies or to my rough though well-meant handling or to both, she was evidently much wounded, and lay helpless on the ground. After some time another ant from the same nest came by. She examined the poor sufferer carefully, then picked her up and carried her

away into the nest. It would have been difficult for anyone who had witnessed the scene to have denied to this ant the possession of humane feelings.

"In face of such facts as these it is impossible to regard ants as mere exquisite automatons. When we see an ant hill, tenanted by thousands of industrious inhabitants, excavating chambers, forming tunnels, making roads, guarding their home, gathering food, feeding the young, tending their domestic animals—each one fulfilling its duties—it is difficult altogether to deny to them the gift of reason, and the preceding observations tend to confirm the opinion that their mental powers differ from those of men not so much in kind as in degree.

FIRST CASE OF LYNCH LAW.

Hanging of a Murderer by His Heels in the West of Ireland.

So many different versions and explanations of the term lynch law have at various times been given and occasionally are even yet added to, that it seems fitting to recount the tragic incident which has since given a name to so many calamitous occurrences not only in our land but on occasion also in that of others.

The very name of "Lynch" gives the direct clew to the land of its origin—Ireland. And when we recall the fact that during the latter part of the seventeenth century there was comparatively a large immigration from the north of Ireland and the south of Scotland, coming as settlers to the Carolinas, from which much of this material spread westward into Kentucky and Tennessee, and, realizing the tenacity with which these peoples husband, nourish and perpetuate their folklore and traditions, it needs only to relate the incident which Thackeray in his "Irish Sketch Book" graphically recounts to show how natural it was

to apply the memories and such a term to the individual exercise of justice and punishment.

Thackeray, in the book referred to and in chapter 1, which treats of Galway, thus speaks of an occurrence within its precincts which in 1842—and probably does to this day—bore the growsome "memento" so grimly described in the words following:

"Then there is Lombard street, otherwise called Deadman's lane, with a row of red and crossbones and a memento mori over the door where the dreadful tragedy of the Lynches was acted in 1408. If Galway is the Rome of Connaught James Lynch Fitzstephen, the mayor, may be considered as the Lucius Junius Brutus thereof. Lynch had a son who went to Spain as master of one of his father's ships, and being of a wild, extravagant turn, there contracted debts, drew bills and alarmed his father's correspondent, who sent a clerk and nephew of his own back in young Lynch's ship to Galway to settle accounts. On the fifteenth day young Lynch threw the Spaniard overboard. Coming back to his own country, he reformed his life a little and was on the point of marrying one of the Blakes, Burkes or Bodkins or others, when a seaman who had sailed with him, being on the point of death, confessed the murder in which he had been a participator.

"Hereon the father, who was chief magistrate of the town, tried his son and sentenced him to death, and when the clan Lynch rose in a body to rescue the young man and divert such a disgrace from the family it is said that Fitzstephen Lynch hanged the culprit with his own hands. A tragedy called 'The Warden of Galway' has been written on the subject and was acted a few nights before my arrival."—New York Times.

Handle Work with Gloves.

"I hope," said the woman who was ordering a pair of slippers made of flowered satin, "that you will tell your workman to wash his hands before he begins to make these up."

"Wash his hands!" repeated the clerk. "Why, madam, he never will touch these with his bare hands."

Then the clerk explained that all workmen employed in making slippers of light colors worked with white gloves on.

"Try to keep them clean!" he continued. "I should say they did. They try so hard that they change their white gloves three times a day." Which is not so fantastic as it may seem, for if a shoemaker soils material of this kind the expense to him of replacing the material, to say nothing of the loss of his time, makes it worth his while to work in gloves and keep them clean at that.—New York Press.