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FIFTY-THIRD CONGRESS ADJOURNS.

Review of the Work Done at the Last Session.

The last days of a session of congress are always interesting and great crowds are attracted to both chambers. An unusual incident attended the closing of the recent congress. It was the trans- action of business on Sunday. Monday was the day fixed by law for adjournment, and in order to pass necessary appropriations Saturday's session was continued till Sunday morning. When gray dawn was silently approaching the weary solons took a recess till 2 o'clock. By this method the Sabbath was not desecrated, the minutes' showing that Saturday's session was a very long one and much business was transacted. Among the late bills passed was the sundry civil appropriation bill, and its most important provision is for another international monetary conference. The delegates selected by the senators in executive session are Jones of Arkansas, Teller of Colorado and Daniel of Virginia. All are free silver men. The three delegates from the house were not selected at the same time. Except that a resolution was unanimously adopted asking Speaker Crisp to appoint himself on the commission.

Review of the Work Done.

A review of the work of the last session of the Fifty-third congress must necessarily deal more with what was attempted to be done than that which was accomplished, since most of the important business considered has been confined to the former class. The term has been particularly marked by the inability of the senate and house to agree upon any of the most important problems presented by them.

Congress met on the 4th of December last with one imperative and perennial task, to frame and enact the various appropriation bills. Next in importance was the financial question, for which no definite plan of settlement beyond many free silver bills and various individual schemes were then in view.

Several important bills came over as a heritage from the preceding session. Foremost among them were, in the house, the Nicaragua canal bill, the railroad pooling bill and the bill for the settlement of the indebtedness of the Union Pacific railroad, known as the Reilly bill.

The Nicaragua canal project has not been able to secure a hearing in the house. Largely through the enthusiastic efforts of Senator Morgan of Alabama the senate bill was pushed to a vote in that body after protracted debate and was sent to the house, where the conference committee substituted its own bill, which had been on the calendar throughout the session and which differed in several points from the Morgan bill.

The pooling bill was passed by the house early in the session, but the senate refused to consider it by a negative vote of 42 to 34 on the question of consideration. Strong opposition to the Reilly bill developed in the house, and after a very sharp debate it was recom- mitted to the committee without instructions.

Several important bills were placed on the calendar of the senate at the beginning of the term, handed down from the long session when they had been passed by the house. Prominent among them was the bill to establish a uniform system of bankruptcy, which was debated intermittently, but finally sidetracked. Another unsuccessful measure was the anti-option bill.

There were also on the senate calendar the four bills which the house had sent over to place on the free list sugar, coal, iron and barbed wire, but the attempt to secure consideration of the free sugar bill was negatived by a small majority, and the opposition to the three others was so apparent that they have been allowed to pass into oblivion.

The most interesting chapter of the history of the session is made by the attempt at financial legislation in both houses. These are too well known to require recapitulation. No financial legislation has yet resulted from the host of bills introduced during the session, with more or less weight of authority behind them.

The principal class of legislation accomplished by the short session was that making appropriation for the support of the government. Not a little general legislation was incorporated into the appropriation bills.

The diplomatic and consular bill increased the salaries of several foreign representatives and the senate placed in it an amendment authorizing the president to contract for laying a cable between the Hawaiian Islands and the United States, and to use \$500,000 in the work, an amendment which the house refused to accept.

The agricultural bill empowered the secretary of agriculture to enforce rules for the inspection of live cattle whose meat is intended for shipment abroad in any form, and regulations to prevent the shipment of condemned carcasses abroad or from one state to another, and fixed heavy penalties for violation of such regulations.

Considerable legislation was included in the sundry civil bill and much more was attempted in the senate by proposed amendments. The completion of several public buildings was provided for in the bill as it passed the house, and sums were added in the senate for new buildings. Another senate amend-

ment provided for the purchase for \$150,000 of the site of the Blaine mansion in Washington. Provision was also included for the transfer of the military prison at Fort Leavenworth, Kan., to the department of justice, to be known as the United States penitentiary and maintained for keeping United States prisoners who have heretofore been held in state prisons under contract.

The naval bill was notable because of the "new navy" provision for two battle-ships and six torpedo-boats and an increase of the enlisted force by the addition of 1,900 men.

Medford's Annual School Meeting.

Last Monday afternoon occurred the regular annual school meeting of this district. There were just an even thirty-four present who were entitled to vote and some fifteen or twenty others of our citizens who took no part in the proceedings—they not being real property owners. It was about the quietest meeting of like nature that has been held in this city for some several years. There are almost always a few short but quite spirited discussions as to the eligibility of some present to a voice in the meeting, but upon this occasion there was a large quorum in that particular direction. There was nothing but smooth sailing, not even a chance for someone to "object"—and someone else to get out of order, and while all this is true it was quite apparent that there had been no slates manufactured for this occasion.

In the absence of Chairman A. A. Davis, Attorney W. I. Vawter, one of the directors, presided over the meeting. After the call had been read by Clerk Jones, a report from the clerk of the receipts and disbursements of moneys of the district during the past year was asked for by the chair. The clerk had made a recapitulated tablet of the several amounts which had passed through his hands—the same being concise and comprehensive. After the reading of the report, upon motion of H. G. Nicholson it was adopted. Following this came nominations for the election of a director, for a term of three years. A. A. Davis, C. J. Howard, W. H. Parker and B. S. Webb were nominated. Chas. Wolcott and A. S. Billington appointed tellers. First ballot gave Davis 13, Howard 5, Parker 8, Webb 5.

Second ballot, Davis 12, Howard 4, Parker 13, Webb 5.

Third ballot, Davis 10, Parker 19, Webb 5. Parker declared elected. Nominations for clerk were then in order, but as only one was made, that being Carl T. Jones, by motion the rules were suspended and the tellers instructed to cast a ballot for Mr. Jones. The business for which the meeting had been called reached its termination right here and the meeting adjourned.

REPORT OF CLERK.

Received from all sources.....	\$5031 14
DISBURSEMENTS.....	
Paid teachers.....	\$3603 29
Interest on indebtedness.....	814 81
Note paid and interest on same.....	294 47
Wood—two years.....	25 00
Merchandise.....	67 26
Janitor.....	174 12
Labor.....	37 73
Clerk's salary.....	132 57
Balance on hand.....	117 87

Amount of indebtedness, last annual meeting..... 11067 90
Amount of indebtedness at present meeting..... 10833 46
Reduced..... \$ 434 44

In the above report the item "clerk's salary" includes part of the clerk's salary for 1893.

Council Proceedings.

City council met in regular session Tuesday evening of this week. Present, Mayor Haskins, Councilman Wilson, Howard, Starr and Lawton.

In reference to matter of grading north C street, referred to street committee.

In matter pertaining to reconsidering bill of Halley Bros., no action taken. This is in reference to a bill presented at the October session and was for pumping water at city works. The bill was presented for \$80.83, and allowed at \$50 which amount parties would not then accept.

Regarding grading and graveling B street, from second to ninth, grade ordered established and recorder ordered to draft an ordinance authorizing the grading and graveling of same, which ordinance will be passed upon at the next meeting.

In matter of petition of S. E. Delk & Co., for liquor license, petition accepted, bonds approved and recorder ordered to issue license. Bondsmen, G. W. Bashford, B. P. Theiss and C. Handley.

Amendment of ordinance No. 116, prohibiting the use of city water either for irrigating purposes or sprinkling lawns between the hours of 11 a. m. and 2 p. m. of each day, passed. This ordinance was passed to make any needed repairs on machinery and to allow time to catch up on the supply of water for afternoon use.

Street grade on Tenth street, from J to F ordered established.

Relation to extension of sidewalk on west Seventh street, grade ordered established and walk built.

Grade on Seyenth street, between B and county road, ordered established. This grade was established some years ago but no record of it can be found. The new survey will not interfere with the present condition of the street.

leys be cleared of all rubbish, and marshal ordered to see that this work was properly conducted.

Recorder ordered to draft an amendment to original ordinance making lessees of rooms or buildings liable to fine for renting either houses or rooms for purposes of prostitution.

Meeting adjourned until Wednesday evening, March 20th.

BILLS ALLOWED.

Wm. Churchman, nightwatch and fees.....	\$25 00
Electric Light Co., lights.....	40 00
H. S. Webb, recorder's fees.....	53 30
E. W. Carder, engineer salary.....	35 00
Total.....	153 30

SNAKE POISON.

Dr. Calmette's Interesting Experiments in Inoculating Rabbits with Pure Venom.

"I have taken a lot of rabbits," said the doctor, "and inoculated them with one milligramme each of pure snake venom, the amount being several times more than a mortal dose. These I have treated with serum of varying strength, the lowest being from a rabbit inoculated with four milligrammes and the highest from a rabbit inoculated with twenty-five milligrammes of pure venom," quotes McClure's Magazine.

"Four milligrammes of venom is a mortal dose for ten pounds of rabbits and twenty-six milligrammes would suffice to cause death among sixty. It gave me, consequently, a very powerful serum. The longer the time after the inoculation the stronger was the grade of serum used upon the poisoned subjects. Thus, after twenty minutes, I successfully arrested the action of the poison with the weakest serum, while the strongest saved the rabbit after the lapse of an hour and a half. Those not treated therapeutically died in two hours.

"I find, generally speaking, about five cubic centimeters of the serum from one milligramme are necessary to make the animal proof against one milligramme of pure venom. I also find that I can use three distinct specifics in vaccinating a rabbit, and, by all analogy, a man, against the bite of the most poisonous snake or as an antidote after they have been bitten. These are, first, the serum from an envenomed animal by itself; secondly, this serum mixed with chloride of gold or the hypochlorite of sodium or of lime, and, thirdly, either of these chemicals, or, preferably, chloride of lime, used by themselves without serum.

"I have not inoculated any man against snake-bites as yet. That is a matter for the future. I must, of course, determine how long the immunity obtained by inoculation endures in the system before venturing to make any predictions in that direction. My sole aim thus far has been to devise some means of saving persons already bitten or in danger of being bitten and I have no reason to doubt the value of my results; and I hope and believe that the terrible death-roll of twenty-two thousand persons per annum in India killed by the cobra may be appreciably diminished when we get to work there."

"What about scorpions, tarantulas and centipedes?"

"I have not undertaken them as yet but I see no reason why their venom, which is less important than that of the snakes, should not yield to the same treatment."

Treasured Presents from the Queen.

Jewelers to Queen Victoria have a soft snap since her craze for theatrical performances at Windsor. It is opined that diamond brooches and bracelets must be bought by the gross, as her majesty always pays the artists in these tokens of her consideration and appreciation of the show. Many are the favored stars who now own a queen's brooch, and who look on the gift as a lucky piece ever after. It speaks well for their loyalty and the beauty of the jewel that the recipient always says it shall never leave the family, but become an heirloom from that time forth. The worth of these souvenirs rarely varies in price, but they vary in design, and the artist who receives a crown in diamonds and rubies with the initials "V. R. I." from the royal hand deems the honor worth living for. Mme. Sigrid Arnoldson received one of these brooches when she sang in "Philemonet Danes" recently, and Mrs. Kendall has one like it which she told some friends was placed in her dress by the queen herself, when the Kendals were commended to play at Windsor seven or eight years ago.

Cataract Victims.

Four of the most eminent men in Europe are at the present time suffering from partial blindness. In all cases the nature of the ailment is the same, namely, cataract, and all the illustrious patients are hopefully seeking relief in the resources of medical science. Mr. Gladstone has had several operations performed upon one of his eyes, the result of which, it is believed, will be almost fully to restore his vision, while the other eye is still sound enough to enable him to read and write. Sir William Harcourt's eyes are both much obscured, and must soon have relief or be altogether darkened. He will presently place himself in a surgeon's hands. M. Jules Simon is in a like plight, but hopes to have the opaque veil entirely removed. And Sig. Crispi, in whose case the ailment has not proceeded quite so far as in the others, has already sought the services of a skilled oculist.

Dr. Price's Cream Baking Powder

Awarded Gold Medal Midwinter Fair, San Francisco.