

POINT IS IN DISPUTE

House Rejects Senate Changes in Army Bill.

HULL AND SLAYDEN CLASH

Hot Words Spoken in Debate on Retirement of Civil War Officers and Deposit of Officers' Pay Bill Sent Back to Conference.

The House yesterday, by a majority of two to one, rejected the conference report on the Army appropriation bill because of its provisions for the retirement of Civil War officers at an advanced age, and permitting officers to deposit money with the Government at 3 per cent interest. The House emphatically voted against both amendments, and sent the bill back to conference.

The proceedings were enlivened by a sharp personal clash between Hull of Iowa and Slayden of Texas. The remainder of the day was devoted to the Naval Bill. Slow progress was made, only 20 pages being covered.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 18.—When the House met today the Speaker announced that the committee on the question raised yesterday by Cooper of Texas concerning a bill passed Monday which he thought technically repealed the river and harbor bill, had considered the question and found it incorrect. Hull (Ia.) then called up the conference report on the Army appropriation bill. Hay (Va.), one of the conferees, strenuously opposed the adoption of the report, but the majority of the House voted for its adoption.

Hay expressed the opinion that the latter provision would establish a dangerous precedent; that it would give the privilege of the same privileges to naval officers and might be extended to civil employees of the Government. He characterized it as "paternalism run mad."

Slayden (Tex.) charged Hull with bad faith in not giving the House a chance for a direct vote on the deposit amendment. He said Hull had promised such a vote. "I desire to say," interposed Hull, "that that statement is not true."

"The gentleman's courtesy," retorted Slayden, "is equal to his veracity. It is a cheap form of debate which permits the gentleman to induce the expression of his views and only the fact that I am at the bar of the House restrains me from replying to his blackguardism as it deserves." (Democratic applause.)

This sharp colloquy aroused the House and Mason (Ill.) undertook to rebuke Slayden. He said he was surprised that Slayden should use an expression "far worse" than that employed by Hull.

"The gentleman's idea of good manners does not especially commend itself to me," replied Slayden, who proceeded to say that only very strong provocation had induced him to say what he had. He then quoted from the record to show that Hull had virtually pledged the House an opportunity to vote on his proposition.

Stevens (Main.) opposed the adoption of the conference report.

Cannon protested against the manner in which appropriation bills were loaded by the Senate with all sorts of legislative provisions that were not in order in the House. The practice, he declared, not only demoralized appropriation bills, but would bring scandal and deserved criticism.

"In the House," said he, "we legislate under rule. In another body (the Senate) they legislate under unanimous consent. Gentlemen know what that means." (Applause.)

Richardson (Tenn.) in opposing the conference report declared that whether he had enough to do so or not, Hull had misled the House.

Hull concluded the debate. He defended his position, calling attention to what he stated at the time the bill went to conference to what occurred in the committee on the conference report, that he had carried out instructions. He said personally he would have preferred to have allowed the House to pass on the antagonized amendments separately. The conference report was voted down, 21 to 25.

The House, by specific vote, insisted upon its disagreement to the retirement and officers' deposit amendments. The bill was sent back to conference, and at 5:50 P. M. the House adjourned.

MANY ARMY APPOINTMENTS.

Breckinridge and Ludington Retired and Wade Made Major-General.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 18.—The following nominations were sent to the Senate today:

Brigadier-General J. C. Breckinridge, Inspector General, to be Major-General April 1, vice Major-General R. P. Hughes.

Brigadier-General R. P. Ludington, Quartermaster-General, to be Major-General, vice Breckinridge, to be retired.

Brigadier-General James F. Wade, to be Major-General, vice Ludington, to be retired.

Cavalry—To be Colonel, Lieutenant-Colonel Winfield S. Edgely, Seventh Cavalry; Lieutenant-Colonel Walter S. Schuyler, Second Cavalry.

Major—Captain Augustine Blockson, Seventh Cavalry.

Captain—First Lieutenant, A. F. Kennington, Tenth Cavalry, Infantry—Second Lieutenant, J. S. Turrell, Vermont.

Walter W. Merrill, Ohio; Reginald N. Kelley, California; Edward H. Pearce, California; Claude N. Peasam, Texas; Cyrus R. Street, California; Clarence A. Eastaphave, New York; Joseph M. Cummings, Missouri; Thomas C. Musgrave, Texas; Converse R. Lewis, Louisiana.

Navy—Assistant Paymaster, Hoard D. Lamar, Indiana; Frederick H. Lomley, North Carolina.

Surveyor-General of Nevada, Matthew Kyle, Nevada.

Secretary of Legation and Consul-General at Bangkok, Slam-Paul Nash, New York.

These nominations came as a genuine surprise to Army officers, except those directly concerned. The original programme, announced several weeks ago, contemplated the single promotion of Brigadier-General James F. Wade to the grade of Major-General on the statutory retirement of Major-General Robert P. Hughes, commanding the Department of California, on April 11 next. The promo-

tion of Inspector-General Breckinridge and Quartermaster-General Ludington to the grade of Major-General on the retirement of General Hughes, and their retirement on the same date, in order to make way for General Wade, was an afterthought.

There is an impression in well-informed military circles that the enactment of the general staff law and General Breckinridge's connection with the legislation were potent factors in bringing about the change of plans. General Breckinridge would not have retired under ordinary conditions until January, 1904. General Ludington, however, is three years older than the Inspector-General, and would have retired for age July 4 next. It was generally supposed that both these staff officers would retire in the present grade of Brigadier-General. In recognition of their long and honorable service, however, the Secretary of War, with the approval of the President, concluded to advance the general staff law.

General, on the condition that they retire. It was acceptable to both Generals Breckinridge and Ludington.

In advocating the creation of the general staff, Secretary Root insisted on the abolishment of the Inspector-General's department of the Army as no longer necessary, since its duties would be performed by the general staff. This particular feature of the bill drawn by the War Department was resisted vigorously by General Breckinridge, with the result that the Inspector-General's department was not disturbed by the bill as it becomes a law. It therefore appears that, while General Breckinridge saved his corps, he no longer will have the direction of its affairs.

Other important Army changes in the near future will be the promotion of Major-General S. B. M. Young as Lieutenant-General on the retirement of General Miles in August next; the promotion of Brigadier-General R. S. Sumner to the grade of Major-General on the retirement of Major-General George W. F. Davis in July next; and the promotion of Brigadier-General Leonard Wood to be a Major-General to fill the vacancy caused by the promotion of General Young in August.

AUTOMOBILES TO CARRY MAIL.

Postoffice Bill Increases Salaries and Creates New States.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 18.—Senator Mason from the committee on post offices and post roads, today reported the post-office appropriation bill. In addition to the amendment providing for the admission of Oklahoma, Arizona and New Mexico as states, the bill makes changes relating to the conduct of the Postoffice Department. The statehood amendment is somewhat different from the statehood bill, as Arizona is the first of the territories mentioned in the amendment, whereas it is the last in the statehood bill. The transposition was made in order to give Arizona the benefit of the first vote in case of a division of the question.

Another amendment increased the appropriation for the purchase of automobiles for postmasters to the extent of \$750,000. There is a general increase of the salaries of assistant postmasters. The appropriation for the purchase and rental of cancelling machines is increased from \$100,000 to \$150,000. The appropriation for free delivery service is \$125,000, an increase of \$125,000.

Authority is given to employ automobiles as well as horses in the postal service. The appropriation for the purchase of automobiles is increased from \$100,000 to \$150,000 for this purpose. Ten division superintendents in the rural free delivery service are allowed instead of seven, as in the House bill, and the total appropriation for the purchase of automobiles is increased from \$100,000 to \$150,000.

The salary of the Superintendent of Railway Service is increased from \$3000 to \$4000 and that of his chief assistant from \$2000 to \$3000. The appropriation for this service is increased to a total of \$11,553,301.

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OPPOSED TO CLOTURE

SENATORS DEBATE RIGHT OF UNLIMITED DEBATE.

Quay's Resolution to Close Debate on Statehood Turns Attention to Right of Majority to Control.

There was a lively debate in the Senate yesterday on Senator Quay's resolution declaring it to be the sense of the Senate that there should be a vote on the statehood bill before the adjournment of Congress.

Senator McComas offered Senator Quay's resolution introduced yesterday. The resolution was made to refer the whole matter to the committee on rules.

This motion was pending when the Senate went into executive session. The discussion of the subject brought out the fact that the Senate was opposed to closure in any form.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 18.—The resolution of Senator Quay declaring it to be the sense of the Senate that there should be a vote on the statehood bill occupied a portion of the morning hour in the Senate today. Spooner opposed it, saying it was in a sense a closure, to which he was opposed, or a censure upon the minority, which he did not think was right.

"The interests of the country are better served than if there was a closure," the resolution, he insisted, calls on the Senate practically to put a vote of censure upon those who happen to be conventionally opposed to the omnibus statehood bill.

Teller (Colo.) and Cockrell (Mo.) agreed with Spooner, saying they believed in maintaining free discussion. Platt (Conn.) said that he did not believe in absolute untrammelled debate when it reached the point of obstruction.

Lodge (Mass.) said a majority in the Senate always gets a vote when it is a real majority, which must be something more than numerical. He said that a majority of the majority party was entitled to control the legislation of a parliamentary body.

McComas (Md.) offered a substitute for the resolution, which was a copy of an amendment to the rules of the Senate offered by Platt (Conn.) some time ago, and provided for limited closure.

Dubois (Idaho), answering particularly Lodge, declared that if a minority in the Senate think it for the best interests of the country to pass a bill they ought to be allowed to vote, and not be compelled to belong to the majority party.

"Otherwise," said he, "the minority might just as well go home."

Mason (Ill.) said the minority is the great part of the Senate, which is the body where the minority stops legislation.

Carmack (Tenn.) said that where debates are carried on purely for the purpose of obstruction they are likely to be of no benefit to the country.

No action was taken on the resolution or the substitute, although a motion had been made to refer the matter to the committee on rules.

Stewart (Nev.), Platt (Conn.) and Jones (Ark.) were appointed conferees on the Indian appropriation bill. Mason (Ill.) reported the postoffice appropriation bill. At 1:45 the Senate went into executive session and at 5:30 P. M. adjourned.

DEBATE ON CANAL TREATY.

Morgan's Resolution Voted Down.

Cullom Calls for Night Session.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 18.—The Senate spent three and a half hours in executive session today listening nearly all the time to a constant stream of objections to Morgan's speech on the Panama Canal treaty.

In the close of the day's session a vote was taken, at Senator Morgan's request, on his resolution, requesting an inquiry into the credentials of the Colombian government in negotiating the treaty, and also suggesting the irregularities of the Colombian government. The resolution was defeated, 13 to 25.

There were two calls for a quorum during the session, but Senators responded readily, showing that, while they were present, they were not in the chamber, many of them were in the near-by committee rooms.

Senator Morgan spoke principally on his resolution, and had the clerk read a long report on it, which he prepared and had printed as a minority of the committee on inter-oceanic canals.

After the vote was taken on the resolution, Senator Cullom moved that the Senate adjourn to meet at 11 o'clock tomorrow, saying that he would ask that the session be continued into the night and until a vote was taken on the treaty.

Colombia Will Approve Treaty.

PANAMA, Feb. 18.—Reliable information received here from Bogota indicates that the opposition to the Panama Canal treaty considerably diminished on the publication of its full text in the official circles here. It is believed that the treaty will be approved by the Colombian Congress.

SHIRAS HAS RESIGNED.

Leaves Vacancy on Supreme Bench for Judge Day.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 18.—Justice Shiras, of the United States Supreme Court, today presented to the President his resignation as a member of that tribunal, to take effect February 24. Ex-Secretary of State William R. Day, of Ohio, has been selected as the successor of Mr. Shiras.

Only Perfeit Smuggled Goods.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 18.—Attorney-General Knox has given an opinion to the Secretary of the Treasury in which he holds the prohibited and smuggled goods are not subject to the payment of duty in addition to forfeiture. The Attorney-General also has held that the Treasury may not sue for the return of the goods in violation of the law on payment of a fine of equal to the duty when, in the opinion of the Secretary, the importation does not involve fraud.

Navy Can Use Its Yachts.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 18.—Pressing need of properly trained men in the service has caused the Bureau of Navigation to recommend the return to the Navy of all the small converted yachts which were bought just prior to the war with Spain and afterward loaned to the Naval Militia of various states. Action on this recommendation is expected shortly.

Lighthouses for Alaska.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 18.—The House committee on interstate commerce today reported favorably the Senate bill appropriating \$250,000 for the establishment of a lighthouse and for signal stations in Alaskan waters and providing for a life-saving station at Cape Platero, on the coast of Washington.

Treaties Favorably Reported.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 18.—The Senate committee on foreign relations today authorized a favorable report on the extradition treaty with Mexico and also an agreement with France extending the provisions of the French reciprocity treaty to Porto Rico.

Two Canadian Commissioners.

—AWA, Ont., Feb. 18.—There will be two Canadian commissioners appointed to sit on the Alaskan boundary case.

CORTELYOU SWORN IN.

Takes Oath as Secretary of Commerce and Labor.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 18.—An additional member of the Cabinet was inducted into office today. George Bruce Cortelyou, until this morning secretary of the President, took the oath of office as Secretary of the new Department of Commerce and Labor. Coincidentally with the induction of Mr. Cortelyou into his office, William Loch, Jr., private secretary to the President, was sworn in as secretary of the President.

The ceremony occurred in the Cabinet room of the executive office. The oath of office was administered by Mr. Fuller, of the United States Supreme Court. In the presence of a large company, including President Roosevelt, Mrs. Cortelyou and her two sisters—Mrs. H. N. Hayden, of Boston, and Mrs. H. N. Hayden of Hempstead, N. Y.; the two sons of Secretary and Mrs. Cortelyou, Bruce and Winthrop; Mrs. William Loch, General Loch, Jr., private secretary to the President, and other members of the executive staff of the White House.

The ceremony was impressive. After he had administered the oath to Mr. Cortelyou, Chief Justice Fuller was first to congratulate him upon his elevation to the Cabinet. He was followed by the President, who wrung Mr. Cortelyou's hand cordially.

Mr. Loch the Chief Justice then administered the oath of office as secretary of the President. General congratulations followed, the entire company individually extending their good wishes to Secretary Cortelyou and Secretary Loch.

In the interim between Mr. Cortelyou's retirement from the one office and his elevation to the other, he was presented by the White House executive staff with a handsome silver case as a token of regard and affection.

Representative Mercer, of Nebraska, chairman of the House committee on public buildings and grounds, called today to day with Mr. Cortelyou concerning a building for the new department. The necessity for such a building is very urgent, as the department will be one of the largest in the Government. Figures have been prepared showing in detail the amount of floor space which will be necessary for the various bureaus. These have indicated that a building of 1,000,000 cubic feet is not available at present in the city.

A proposition has been made relatively to the Government purchase the building of the Southern Railway at the corner of Pennsylvania avenue and Thirteenth street, which is one of the most commodious office buildings in the city. Southern Railway officials have indicated that they are considering an offer to remove the general offices of the system to Atlanta, Ga. It is understood, however, that objection has been made that the building is not quite suitable, either in size or in architecture, for the new department.

Chairman Mercer indicated his preference for a new building, to be erected on the corner of Pennsylvania avenue and Thirteenth street, which is one of the most commodious office buildings in the city. Southern Railway officials have indicated that they are considering an offer to remove the general offices of the system to Atlanta, Ga. It is understood, however, that objection has been made that the building is not quite suitable, either in size or in architecture, for the new department.

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