IN THE NATIONAL HALLS OF CONGRESS

Friday, February 23.

Washington, Feb. 23. — Preceded by a debate which indicated no hesitancy, but rather a relish, in taking action against alleged railroad combinations, the house agreed without opposition today to the Tillman-Gillespie resolution, directing the Interstate Commerce commission to make an immediate inquiry and report regarding alleged restraints of trade on the part of certain railroads in the handling of coal and oil. The resolution was not in the form in which it passed the senate, and will go back to that body for its second action.

Proceeding under call of committee, bills were passed to require $75 worth of work annually on mining claims and $5 worth of work on roads and trails for each mining claim in Alaska; allowing foreign ships to clear from American ports without examination certificates when the countries to which they belong recognize American certificates of inspection; to prevent foreign built dredges from operating in the United States, except the dredges now at work in the United States under contract.

Washington, Feb. 23. — By a vote of 5 to 5 the senate committee on interstate commerce today agreed to report the Hepburn railroad rate bill without amendment, but the resolution referred to the members of the committee freedom of action concerning amendments offered in the senate. By a vote of 5 to 3, Republicans prevailing, Tillman, a Democrat, was given the honor of reporting the bill. This establishes a precedent, in that a Republican senate committee has given a Democrat control of an important measure passed by a Republican house and endorsed by a Republican president.

Thursday, February 22.

Washington, Feb. 22.—Knox's much discussed and long expected railroad bill was introduced in the senate today, and because of the exceptional interest in the subject was accorded the unusual privilege of a reading for the information of the senators on the day of introduction.

At the request of Hale, chairman of the committee on naval affairs, the bill providing for the punishment of hazing at the naval academy at Annapolis was taken up and discussed at length. Dick advocated extreme measures, saying that nothing less would accomplish the desired result. He said that he had investigated the hazing practice, and was prepared to pronounce it "an educator in brutality." He considered it a crime out of harmony with the office held by the midshipmen. The bill was passed.

Washington, Feb. 22.—The house today refused to adjourn in celebration of Washington's birthday, and its members participated in a general field day of debate on the army appropriation bill. The speeches took a wide range.

Ship subsidy was discussed for an hour by Gilbert, who took the position that ships could be built as cheaply in this country as abroad. He asserted that the United States possessed the finest merchant marine fleet of any nation.

Tomorrow the joint resolution directing the Interstate Commerce commission to investigate the railroad, soft and anthracite coal and oil trusts will be considered and most likely adopted.

A bill was passed reserving from disposal by the government Battle Mountain, S. D. The mountain is made a part of the Battle Mountain Sanitarium reserve. The mountain takes its name from being the ancient battleground between the Crow and the Sioux Indians.

The conference report upon the urgent deficiency bill was agreed to.

A joint resolution was agreed to allowing Alaska teachers and employes of the bureau of education to assign their salaries.

Wednesday, February 21.

Washington, Feb. 21. — Secretary Shaw submitted a report to the house today concerning permanent appropriations made from the general treasury, in compliance with a resolution of Representative Tawney of Minnesota, chairman of the house committee on appropriations, who has been leading the fight against permanent appropriation and has a bill pending which provides for abolishing such appropriations except for sinking fund, international payments and a few other fixed obligations.

It is the desire of Mr. Tawney that appropriations shall be made available for two years for the payment of expenditures properly incurred within that time, and at the end of that period all unexpended balances shall be transferred to the surplus fund, thus avoiding making the appropriations permanent.

The report of Mr. Shaw shows that there were about 250 permanent appropriations in 1904 and 1905. In 1904 they aggregated $62,000,000 and in 1905 $46,000,000. He states that he favors the Tawney bill in the main, but suggests a few additional amendments.

Washington, Feb. 21. — After 15 years of more or less serious consideration of the subjects, the senate today passed the Heyburn pure food bill by the decisive vote of 63 to 4. The vote was taken after a day devoted almost exclusively to desultory debate on the bill. Several efforts were made to amend the bill, and the committee accepted a number of suggestions, but only those thus accepted were incorporated in the bill as passed.

Tuesday, February 20.

Washington, Feb. 20. — The senate listened three or four hours today to a discussion of the details of the pure food bill. A number of minor amendments were suggested, but under the agreement to vote on all amendments tomorrow none of them could be acted on today. Raynor presented by request a reply from the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad company to the charge of discrimination against it by the Red Rock Fuel company, of West Virginia, denying unfair treatment. The senate adjourned a few minutes after 4 o'clock out of respect to the memory of the late Representative Castor, of Pennsylvania.

Gallinger presented four petitions from residents of Oklahoma praying for prohibition in the proposed state of Oklahoma. The most voluminous contained the names of 8,000 voters, and Gallinger said that it was 264 feet long. One of the others contained the names of 6,000 women, and another those of 6,000 children. The fourth was signed by Indians only.

The pure food bill was then taken up. A long discussion of amendments offered by various senators ensued and was participated in by Lodge, Piles, Hemenway, Gallinger, Spooner, Heyburn, McCumber and others, Hemenway and Piles appearing for the first time in debate in the senate.

Washington, Feb. 20.—The house of representatives today took an immediate adjournment out of respect to the memory of Representative George A. Castor, of Pennsylvania, after the passage of appropriate resolutions and the appointment of a funeral committee. Representative Castor died yesterday in Philadelphia.

Monday, February 19.

Washington, Feb. 19. — Three bills were passed under suspension of the rules—requiring a two-thirds vote— in the house today.

The first makes gambling unlawful in the territories of the United States, including Arizona, New Mexico, Oklahoma, Indian Territory and Alaska. The bill is directed particularly against Arizona and New Mexico, where it was stated gambling was licensed.

The second provides additional work for the Census bureau by requiring statistics to be taken on insurance, fisheries, electrical industries, savings banks and crimes.

The third appropriates $50,000 for the purchase of 300 acres of coal land on the island of Batan, one of the Philippine archipelago. On the last named bill a debate of two hours was had. The others were debated 40 minutes each.

Washington, Feb. 19.—Discussion of the pure food bill occupied practically all of the day in the senate. The speakers were Heyburn, who has charge of the bill; Foraker, who presented a number of amendments desired by liquor interests; Money, in favor of his sustitute; and McCumber. An order was made to devote time tomorrow to considering amendments under the ten-minute rule, and begin voting at 5 o'clock Wednesday.

The president transmitted to congress a special message agreeing with the minority report of the consulting engineers on the Panama canal in favor of a lock canal.

Will Report Bill.

Washington, Feb. 20.—The Philippine tariff bill, which has been held up in the senate committee ever since it passed the house, is soon to be reported. The Democrats of the committee, who were supposed to be solidly arrayed against the bill, held a conference today and two out of the five declared their intention to vote to report the bill—Carmack of Tennessee and McCreary of Kentucky. Three Republicans, however—Hale of Minnesota, Burrows of Michigan and Brandegee of Connecticut—are opposed to the bill.

May Try Behring Sea Claims.

Washington, Feb. 20. — The house committee on judiciary today returned a favorable report on a bill to confer jurisdiction upon the Circuit court of the United States for the Ninth circuit (Pacific coast states) to determine in equity the rights of American citizens under the award of the Behring sea arbitration of Paris and to render judgment. The house committee also ordered favorable report for United States courts at Victoria, Tex., and Miami, Fla.

No Religious Test.

Washington, Feb. 20.—In presenting petitions against Senator Reed Smoot, signed by thousands of women of California and Colorado, Perkins and Patterson took occasion today to define their position on the protests against the Utah senator. The former said that religious views should not be considered in passing upon the qualifications of a senator, and that his honesty and attributes that command confidence and respect should be above all else. Patterson thought there were great constitutional questions to be considered.

To Hear Wickersham's Side.

Washington, Feb. 20. — The senate committee on judiciary will tomorrow grant a hearing to Judge James Wickersham, of Alaska, whose nomination is held up on account of various charges. The committee, while willing to give Judge Wickersham an opportunity to refute the charges, will not confront him with his accusers, or even furnish him with their names. Judge Wickersham will leave for Alaska soon after the hearing is concluded.

FRAUD IN INDIAN TERRITORY.

Roosevelt Forbids the Quashing of Indictments in Case.

Washington, Feb. 20. — President Roosevelt had taken a personal interest in the charges of fraud and corruption which are said to have occurred in connection with the affairs of the Five Civilized Tribes in the Indian territory. But for his intereference indictments against several persons alleged to have been engaged in illegal practices would have been quashed.

Now, however, under his orders, the Interior department is pushing its investigations with increased vigor, and it is reliably stated that in the near future a number of new indictments will be reported against not only several men already indicted, but they will also include a number of persons whose names have not heretofore been brought into the case, including a high government official in Washington.

When it became known to the president that the district attorney for Indian Territory had been instructed to quash some indictments already found, he immediately sent orders countermanding this proposed action. He was led to do this by information received by him that, after March 4, when the tribal relations of the Five Civilized Tribes ceased, certain facts would be put into his possession which would strengthen the hands of the government in its efforts to bring to trial a number of persons guilty of gross fraud perpetrated against the Indians.

It is known that Secretary Hitchcock has submitted to the president and Attorney General Moody a special report dealing with the whole situation, which gives such details as to make it imperative for the government to act.

GERMANY FEELS INSULTED.

Chinese Minister at Washington Said to Have Talked Too Freely.

Berlin, Feb. 20. — A sensation has resulted in diplomatic circles here from the cabling of what purports to be an interview at Washington with the Chinese minister to the United States, Sir Chentung Liang Cheng, in which the latter is quoted as saying:

"Since the dawn of your civilization the Germans have been disturbers of the peace and repose of other people and nations within what is now the Christian domain. They seem always discontented with what they have. Their energy appears to demand the whole world in which to bustle."

The Chinese minister is then said to have intmiated that the present discontent in China is due to German measures and German plots, and is alleged to have further intimated that the German government or its agents is giving support to the revolutionary movement which has for its object the overthrow of the present reigning dynasty in China.

This is absolutely and emphatically denied here, but none of the members of the Foreign office would discuss the matter until the authenticity of the alleged interview could be substantiated.

It is understood that a long cable dispatch was received from Baron von Sternberg, German ambassador to the United States, Sunday, bearing on the subject. If it should prove that the statement of Sir Liang Cheng can be substantiated, there is a possibility that China will be asked to disavow his remarks.

WOULD CLEAR THE SITUATION.

Revolution in Wenezuela May Occur, Says M. Taigny.

Paris, Feb. 20.—M. Taigny, the ex-French charge d'affaires at Caracas, in an interview with the Matin's correspondent at Liverpool, said that the unanimity of the diplomats in Venezuela against his expulsion was a great surprise to President Castro, who until the last moment had relied on the moral support of a certain power.

M. Taigny, according to the correspondent, is convinced that a revolutionary movement for the overthrow of President Castro is preparing. He had been approached by several of the revolutionary leaders during his sojourn in Venezuela, but owing to his position as representative of France he was obliged to hold aloof from politics.

In M. Taigny's opinion, the correspondent adds, a revolution would clear up the present awkward situation in Venezuela.

Eight-Hour Day the Issue.

New York, Feb. 20.— John Mitchell and his associates on the anthracite miners' subcommittee, today finished their work of preparing proposals for an agreement in the hope that they will meet with the coal operators' subcommittee. It is practically certain that the miners will make a firm demand for the eight-hour day for all men employed about the mines. One of the miners' representatives said today that the eight-hour question was more important to the men than any other demand mentioned.

Fire Sweeps Rutland.

Rutland, Vt., Feb. 20. — Six of the largest and most valuable business blocks in the financial district of Rutland were destroyed by a fire that for several hours threatened to wipe out the city, and but for a fortunate shift shift in the wind which aided the fire fighters and the arrival of engine companies from Whitehall, N. Y., it is likely that the entire business section would have been demolished. As it is, the damage is placed at $700,000.

Russian Town Aflame.

Kief, Russia, Feb. 20.—An anti-Jewish riot broke out today at Vietka, a town of 6,000 inhabitants near Gomel. A large part of the town is in flames, and troops have been sent there from Gomel.

EVIDENCE COMPLETE

Colorado Miners Are Involved in Murder of Steunenberg.

DENVER TO BOISE BY SPECIAL

Believed Also to Have Taken Active Part in Cripple Creek Outrages Recently.

Boise, Idaho, Feb. 20.—On a special train that made no stops at the principal cities and towns on the way from Denver, and changed engines and took water at obscure points, Charles E. Moyer, president of the Western Federation of Miners; William D. Haywood, secretary of the same organization, and G. A. Pettibone, a former member of the executive board of the federation, who were arrested in Denver Saturday night charged with the murder of Frank Steunenberg, ex-governor of Idaho, arrived at Boise yesterday morning in custody of a strong guard of Idaho and Colorado officers.

The prisoners seemed ill at ease and had little to say. They entertained themselves part of the time playing cards, and kept their own counsel. At no time did they discuss the charge upon which they were arrested.

The party was taken to the penitentiary in two vehicles. Arriving there, they were searched, their belongings being taken in charge by Warden Whitney. They were assigned to separate cells.

Denver, Colo, Feb. 20.—"Heywood, Moyer and Pettibone will never see Colorado again," says James McParland, head of the detective agency employed by the state of Idaho to run down the murderers of ex-Governor Steunenberg. "Their days are numbered. We have absolute evidence that will convict them of complicity in the foul assassination of ex-Governor Steunenberg and evidence that will convict a great many others, too, of the same offense.

"They cannot escape in any possible way, and the legal knowledge of all their attorneys cannot keep them from the gallows. You can say for me that the day of dynamite outrages in the West is at an end. Heywood, Moyer and others know that they are guilty, and they know that their time has come. The Steunenberg assassination was the final straw that broke the camel's back and was their undoing."

MORE RESERVES.

President Finds He Has Backing of Many Congressmen.

Washington, Feb. 20.—President Roosevelt, after conferring with Western men in congress, finds his forest reserve policy is very generally endorsed, and learns that there is no prospect of the passage of Senator Heyburn's bills intended to check the withdrawal of land and the creation of reserves. He has, therefore, decided to abandon his recent order suspending forest reserve extension and within a short time new proclamation will be forthcoming creating reserves in several Western states, Oregon and Idaho among them.

At the time he determined to hold up proclamations, the president had been led to believe that his right to create reserves had been generally questioned and he thought it best to wait until his rights were specifically defined by congress. Now, however, it has become apparent that the vast majority of men in congress approve the manner in which the president has been carrying out his forestry policy and with this unqualified indorsement the president has decided that he can, with good grace, proceed as if there had been no interruption.

It is intimated that the Hayden reserve in extreme Northern Idaho will be the first one created. Just how soon, if at all, a reserve is created in Southwestern Oregon cannot be learned, as Forester Pinchot has promised to receive and consider the protests of the people of that section and, until these protests are filed, no determination of this matter is expected.

Raisin Combine Broken Up.

Fresno, Cal., Feb. 20.—At a meeting of the growers of the Central California Raisin Growers' company today, the dealers voted to disband the company and return to the growers the half a cent a pound held out for the purchase of packing houses. This action breaks the association of growers formed for the purpose of co-operation. This year the price of raisins was fixed at too high a rate, and the dried fruit failed to sell. The Mercantile company, of San Francisco, finally took over the whole crop at 3 cents a pound.

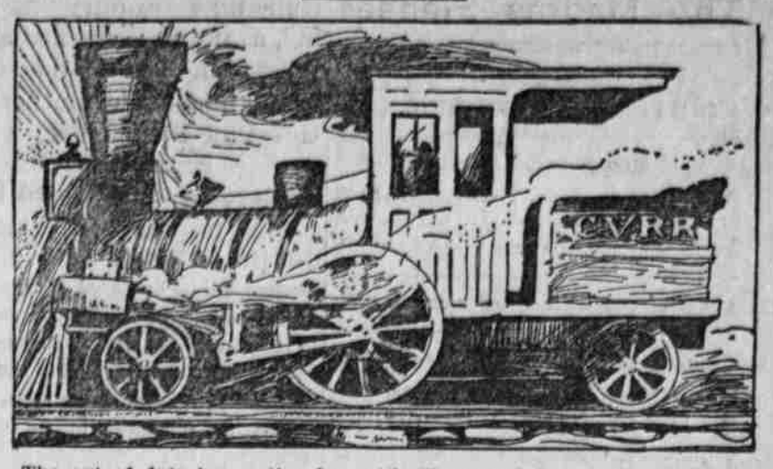
Train Wrecked, Twelve Hurt.

St. Louis, Feb. 20.—The new fast mail train for the Southwest on the St. Louis, Iron Mountain & Southern was wrecked at Carondelet, a suburb of St. Louis, early today. Twelve men are injured, several of them seriously. The engine and first car rolled down a 15 foot embankment. The second car lodged on the edge of the Desperes river. It contained a number of mail clerks and the loss of life must have been general had the car fallen into the river.

Pat Crowe Arraigned Again.

Council Bluffs, Ia., Feb. 20.—Pat Crowe was arraigned on joint indictment against himself and Arthur Levi for holding up two street car crews on July 2, 1905. He pleaded not guilty.

OLDEST LOCOMOTIVE NOW USED.



The out of date locomotive herewith illustrated is a relic of the early days of railroading in America, but modern progress in this direction has not yet succeeded in relegating it to the junkshop. It is still in use on the Cumberland Valley line, and although it is not remarkable as a mountain climber it still does good service as a yard engine.

Popular Science.

The ocean contains about 2,139 grains of salt and other solids per gallon, and the Dead Sea about 19,700 grains per gallon.

Glass bricks, a German product, are translucent, but not transparent, and possess the advantages of being acid proof and of harboring no disease germs.

The celluloid wind screens of automobiles give great risk of fire. Very fine copper gauze is said to have proven a satisfactory substitute, being easily seen through and non-inflammable, while it does not crack like celluloid.

The low efficiency of the steam engine tempts inventors with great possibilities of saving fuel. M. Cantor, a European engineer, has hit upon an altogether new form of heat engine, and proposes to use for power the expansion of the gas produced by the burning of liquid fuel—like petroleum and alcohol—when sprayed upon a white hot oxidizing material, like oxide of copper. The oxygen removed from the copper ovide would be restored by an air jet. Pending practical test, it is claimed that the highest possible rate of expansion would be produced in the working gas, and that a greatly increased thermoydynamic efficiency would be secured.

Professor W. E. Ayrton points out that the common expressions "buying electricity" and "consuming electric current" are misleading. No electricity is used up in lighting buildings, driving machinery, and propelling cars and trains. "Just as much electricity flows away per minute, through the return conductor, from your electrically lighted house as flows to it through the coming conductor. The electric current is like a butcher's cart carrying round meat—you no more consume current than you consume cart. It is not the vehicle but what it leaves behind that the consumers buy, meat in the case of the butcher's cart, and energy in the case of the electric current."

The construction of an ordinary telegraph-line between Lima, on the Pacific side of the Andes in Peru, and Iquitos, near the Amazon, being all but impossible, because of the density of the forests and the animosity of the ignorant natives, the wireless method is to be employed. Already communication by wireless telegraphy exists between Lima and Puerto Bermudez, and this line will be extended to Iquitos, a distance of about 600 miles, with three intermediate stations. If the enterprise succeeds, it is the intention to extend the wireless communication across the whole width of Brazil to Manaos and Para, thus linking the Atlantic and Pacific oceans across the Andes and the great Brazilian plains.

The Pomelo, sometimes called the Chinese breadfruit, a citrus-fruit which may be described as a cross between the orange and the grapefruit, combining the good points of both, is the subject of an interesting report by Mr. Anderson, the United States consul at Hangchow. Mr. Anderson regards it as the finest fruit grown in the far East. He believes that it might be introduced with profit into the southern United States. Already, it is understood, a few persons in this country are cultivating the pomelo, but not upon a commercial scale. In China, it is believed, this fruit has been cultivated for at least 2,000 years. The best pomelos in the world are said to come from a little valley near a large Chinese city named Chang Chew, lying inland from Amoy, and not yet opened to foreign trade. The summers in this valley are hot and rather damp, and the winters are without severe frosts.

SIX YEARS AT CANANES.

"Lost Mountains" Mines Now Producing $9,000,000 a Year.

Six years ago at Cananes, Mex., one would have settled an irregular range of low mountains, eighteen miles long —"lost mountains" the geologists call them, because they are connected with no other range, says Leslie's Weekly. They are mere "stubs," the tops worn down by the powerful action of the elements, and the valleys filled by erosion. These "lost" hills were barren and bleak. Sometimes a bunch of stray cattle would range among the mountains, but no white man made his abode there. Even the beasts of prey avoided this solitary range. There was no wilder, loneller spot in the whole world than the "lost mountains" of Cananes.

That was six years ago. Now they are the seat of the third largest copper mine in the world, the site of a city of 20,000 inhabitants. In the mine there are thirty-three miles of underground workings; 5,000 men are taking out of the earth and running through reduction plants and smelters 2,500 tons of rock daily, producing in copper, gold and silver more than $9,000,000 every year. Already the mines have yielded $35,000,000. The "lost mountains" are the scene of tremendous industry. There are great furnaces with smoking stacks, ore bins, foundries, shops, electric light plants, ice and water plants, shaft houses, concentrators, broad and narrow gauge railroads, street cars, a telephone system, banks, stores, schools, a hospital and all the other activities of a modern industrial town.

SHOEING OF AN AFRICAN MULE.

The picture herewith given comes from Greytown, Natal, and shows the method of shoeing a refractory mule which is in vogue in that faraway region. By means of pulleys, ropes and a wide leather band the animal is put into a frame, its head resting on a padded bar, its front legs bent and fastened to side bars, and its hind legs attached to a stout crossbar. To prevent damage from the hoofs two coarse bags are tied about them. Thus protected from all active interference on the part of the animal, the shoer may do his duty with comparative safety.

The Remnant of a Regiment.

On the opening day of the Sha-Ho battle there were many deeds of heroism, writes the author of "An Eye-Witness in Manchuria." One incident, he says, brought out clearly the terrible nature of the encounter.

During the Russian retreat a general commanding a division noticed an officer and some forty men returning through the lines. It appeared as if it were a small party which had been charged with some outpost duty and had shown the white feather.

Incensed at their apparent cowardice, the general rode up to the officer and asked him what he meant by deserting his post. With a somewhat grim smile the officer, saluting, said:

"Sir, this is all that is left of my regiment."

That regiment had gone into action over two thousand strong.

A Family in Distress.

Queen Wilhelmina of Holland, used to be as fond of her dolls as any other little girl, and her dolls went through the same experience that dolls with imaginative motners usually undergo.

One day, at dinner in the palace, her small majesty made her appearance when dessert was served, and placed herself next to a courtly old general. After eating some fruit the little girl turned her gaze up at him and seriously exclaimed, "I wonder you're not afraid to sit next to me!"

Everybody at the table turned toward the childish voice.

"On the contrary," said the general, "I'm but too pleased and honored to sit next to my future queen. Why should I be afraid?"

"'Cause," and the little girl looked quite woebegone, "my dolls have the measles—they're all of them down with it."

The Nerve of Him.

"Adam—Adam," repeated St. Peter, meditatively; "the name seems familiar, but——"

"I," explained the applicant, "come from Eden. I am the progenitor of the whole human race."

"And you," thundered St. Peter, "you have the nerve to apply for admission here! Front! Show the gentleman below."—Puck.

Some men are such home bodies that the look as out of place in a restaurant at noon as a housekeeper does on the street at meal time.

The wise old hen chuckles to herself when she sees a man trying to make a fortune with an incubator.

Size of a woman's hat has nothing to do with the price.