

DOINGS OF OUR NATIONAL BODY OF LAWMAKERS

Saturday, February 3.
 Washington, Feb. 3.—Various phases of the railroad rate question were threshed over in the house today in the course of nine speeches which occupied six and a half hours. This concludes the fifth day of the discussion, but the end is not yet. Many members on both sides of the house desire to record their views and general debate will be allowed to continue.

Representative Randall today offered a bill that he will offer as an amendment. It makes stringent provisions against the giving or accepting of railway passes or franks by senators, congressmen and judges. He proposes a fine of not less than \$1,000, or imprisonment for not less than one year, or both, and disqualification from ever again holding public office. The agent or official of the company giving the pass or frank, upon conviction, is to be fined not less than \$100, nor more than \$1,000, or imprisoned for not less than six months nor more than one year, or both.

Tuesday, January 30.
 Washington, Jan. 30.—Members of the house evinced a more general interest in the discussion of the railroad rate bill throughout today than in any other topic of legislation for some time. The debate throughout was listened to attentively and many questions were asked of the different speakers to bring out either obscure points in the measure, or evils complained of, which no attempt had been made to include in the bill. The debate was opened by Townsend, of Michigan. Adams, of Georgia, representing the minority, followed in commendation of the measure, and in praise of President Roosevelt's stand on the question. Hinshaw, of Nebraska, depicted the benefit the legislation would do to the great trans-Mississippi country, and Richardson, of Alabama, discussed as a Democrat things done and left undone in the measure.

The senate today passed 40 bills, many of them of considerable importance. The list included a number of measures for light houses, fog signals, revenue cutters and public buildings, and also the bill providing for the reorganization of the consular service. The shipping bill was under consideration for a time. It was amended so as to relieve it of constitutional objections and Lodge delivered a speech in support of the bill, in which he gave the details of a combination of the owners of foreign sailing vessels for the purpose of controlling the freight rate in grain shipments from the United States. There was also a discussion of the bills making common carriers liable for injuries to employees, which arose over the question of their reference to committees. Patterson gave notice of a speech tomorrow on the Moroccan and Dominican questions.

Thursday, February 1.
 Washington, Feb. 1.—The discussion of the railroad rate bill was taken up and prosecuted with vigor throughout the day. So many speakers have come to the front on this measure that the house agreed to meet at 11 o'clock hereafter until the debate is ended.

The feature of the debate was the lengthy speech of Sibley, of Pennsylvania, who arraigned the legislation with arguments of varied character, all of which tended to give his reasons for being unalterably opposed to the bill. The resolution of Burton, of Ohio, looking to the preservation of Niagara Falls, was agreed to without discussion. The resolution calls for information from the International commission on that subject.

Washington, Feb. 1.—The senate today passed 30 or 40 miscellaneous bills and gave several hours to the consideration of the shipping bill. Among the bills passed was one providing for a delegate in congress from Alaska and a number providing for light houses, revenue cutters and fish culture stations. The greater part of the time devoted to the shipping bill was consumed by Penrose in a speech in support of the measure.

Wednesday, January 31.
 Washington, Jan. 31.—Discussion of the railroad rate bill continued in the house today. Incident to it two speeches, the efforts of Campbell, of Kansas, and Martin, of South Dakota, took a wide range and swept the horizon of "trust evils" generally. Bartlett, of Georgia, a minority member of the committee reporting the bill, made a two hours' speech, in which he discussed the legal and constitutional questions involved and advocated the passage of the bill as a proper remedy for an intolerable condition. The first speech in opposition to the bill, which concluded the day's discussion, was made by Perkins, of New York. He

Offers to Build Railroads.
 Washington, Jan. 31.—Willard Reed Green, of New York, representing a syndicate of capitalists and contractors, has filed a bid with the War department for the construction of the proposed system of railways in the Philippines. Mr. Green and his associates contend that there has been no competition, and that the matter is still open, although the department has practically accepted a part of one of the bids. The bid presented by Mr. Green proposes the construction of a minimum of 1,000 miles of railroad.

May Compromise on Rates.
 Washington, Jan. 31.—There was some talk about the senate today of a railroad rate measure compromise, the suggestion being that either the Elkins or the Foraker bill should be made a part of the Dolliver bill, so that two courses of procedure could be opened to the commission in regard to the complaint regarding rates, one by the commission itself and the other by recourse to the courts. In this way, it is thought a rate bill could be passed.

based his opposition to government control of rates on an inherent aversion to government control of business enterprises. Red tape and fixed conditions, he said were an inseparable part of government action on any matter.

A bill was passed granting a Federal charter to the Carnegie fund for the advancement of teaching. The fund consists of \$10,000,000, the income of which is to furnish pensions to retired educators.

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Monday, January 29.
 Washington, Jan. 29.—The Chinese boycott and the administration of the forest reserves divided the attention of the senate today. The Chinese question came up in connection with a resolution of Tillman, directing an investigation by the committee on immigration. Tillman modified the resolution by omitting the major portion of the preamble, and, after considerable discussion, it was referred to the committee on contingent expenses.

Heyburn raised the question regarding the reservation of forests. He sharply criticized the methods of the forestry bureau and charged it with maintaining a press bureau for the purpose of attacking him. He declined, however, to hold the president responsible for this course. He said that the course was calculated to retard the development of the West.

Washington, Jan. 29.—What is considered a strike at the railroads was taken by the house today in the adoption of a resolution calling on the president to furnish information as to the existence of an agreement, in violation of the interstate commerce law, among the Pennsylvania, Baltimore & Ohio, Norfolk & Western, Chesapeake & Ohio, Ohio & Northern Central and Philadelphia, Baltimore & Washington railroad companies. Opposition to the resolution did not develop until after it had been declared adopted by the speaker. At this point Dalzell, of Pennsylvania, moved to reconsider. This motion was laid on the table.

Light on Boycott.
 Washington, Jan. 31.—The senate will begin the week with the consideration of the Chinese boycott. The question will come up in connection with a resolution offered last week by Senator Tillman, directing the committee on immigration to investigate the reports concerning Chinese opposition to American manufactures. When the question was presented Mr. Tillman asked for immediate consideration, but Mr. Aldrich objected. It is understood that he and other Republican senators dislike the preamble to the resolution.

Will Test Dry Farming.
 Washington, Jan. 31.—While the department of Agriculture does not deny three is merit in what is known as the Campbell system of dry farming and while it is willing that all credit for that comparatively new system shall go to its instigator, there is a strong belief in the minds of irrigation officials of that department that the system should be carefully studied by the government in order that its limitations as well as its benefits may be discovered.

MINERS WILL STRIKE.

Every Mine in Country To Be Tied Up Till Better Pay is Secured.

Indianapolis, Ind., Feb. 2.—The rejection of the counter proposition offered by the coal operators of the central competitive district by an almost unanimous vote of the National convention of the United Mineworkers, and the adoption of a resolution offered by Secretary Ryan, of Illinois, placing the miners on record as a unit in refusing to sign an agreement for any district until an agreement was signed for all districts under the jurisdiction of the United Mineworkers, has created a situation which, in the opinion of the officials of the miners' organization, will result in the disruption of the joint agreement and probably one of the greatest strikes of organized labor the country has ever known.

Immediately after the rejection of the operators' proposition the convention set about to provide means for accumulating a strike fund of \$6,000,000 in addition to a like amount now on deposit in the international, district and sub-district treasuries of the miners' organizations. To provide for an emergency Secretary Wilson moved that a per capita tax of \$1 a week be voted and that all districts take care of the dependent miners within their jurisdiction for at least six weeks. He said that after that time he believed the international organization would be in a position to take care of the miners. After the motion had been amended to substitute ten weeks for six as the time during which the districts should care for their dependents, the matter was referred to the international executive board with power to act.

RIOTS AT CHURCHES.

Catholics Resist Entrance by Officers of French Republic.

Paris, Feb. 2.—Everywhere in France the actual putting into operation of the clause of church and state separation bill which provides for the making of inventories of the property of the churches has aroused a storm of protest. In several provincial parishes Catholics have gathered in the churches and made such strong resistance that the government commissioners were unable to enter the edifices.

In Paris today violent scenes took place in several churches, notably that of St. Clothilde. An inventory of the property of the church of St. Roche has not yet been made, owing to the opposition of the congregation, but the defenders of the church of St. Clothilde succumbed before the assault of an armed force which acted on the avowed intention of the government to use every means at its disposal to compel obedience to the enactment.

In the chamber of deputies this afternoon Premier Rouvier replied to an interpellation on the subject by a Socialist deputy. The government, however, secured a vote of confidence by 384 against 166, after the premier had assured the chamber that the government was desirous of using tact and moderation in carrying out the law, but that it was fully determined to perform its duty, no matter what the cost.

A dispatch from Dijon says fresh disturbances broke out today in front of the church of St. Michael. The square was closed only after the free use of fire hose and the efforts of mounted gendarmes. Many arrests were made.

TURN LIGHT ON HARRIMAN.

Democrats Propose an Inquiry Into Southern Pacific Combination.

Washington, Feb. 2.—The Post will say tomorrow:

The minority members of the house committee on Pacific railroads got together and agreed upon a plan of action through which they hope to throw the searchlight upon an alleged combine of the Southern Pacific and its tributaries, which they assert is on all fours with the Pennsylvania, Baltimore & Ohio, and Southern in the East.

A resolution will be introduced in the house requiring the president to transmit to congress all information that may be in the possession of the Interstate Commerce commission or any other division of any department of the government bearing upon the alleged fact that the Southern Pacific Railway company is the holding company of the Union Pacific, the O. R. & N. Co. and the Oregon Short Line.

Gale Breaks Up King David.

Victoria, Feb. 2.—The steamer Queen City, which reached Clayoquot today, reported that the British ship King David, which was wrecked on Bajo reef December 13, and abandoned by her crew while standing high and dry at low water on the reef, broke up during the gale on Monday, January 23, when the steamer Valencia was wrecked. Captain Davidson and crew, excepting the chief officer and eight men, who were lost when going to Cape Beale, to seek assistance were saved by the Queen City.

Caucasus Again in Revolt.

St. Petersburg, Feb. 2.—It is reported here that the village of Salugordon has been bombarded by the artillery in consequence of the refusal of the inhabitants to give in to the organizers of last month's disorders. The Caucasus is again in a state of rebellion. Mobs are plundering in Kutais Shnua and Elizabepol, and there have been many fierce encounters between the Mussulmans and Armenians. The troops are unable to quell them.

Let People Elect Them.

Columbus, O., Feb. 2.—The house today adopted the senate joint resolution urging congress to submit a constitutional amendment providing for the election of United States senators by direct vote of the people.

ASK ROOSEVELT TO INVESTIGATE

Action of Seattle Chamber of Commerce on Valencia Wreck.

Stories Told by Survivors at Investigation Conflict, but It is Evident There Was a Great Lack of Discipline Among the Crew of the Lost Steamer.

Seattle, Feb. 1.—The positive declaration made by Frank Richley, a fireman aboard the Valencia, that he had refused to risk wearing a tulle life preserver; the statement of T. Brown, a passenger, that the preserver he found ashore immediately sank when thrown into the water, were the sensational features of today's inquiry into the Valencia wreck.

Supplementing these sworn statements, and equally important, is the peremptory demand of the Seattle chamber of commerce that President Roosevelt send from Washington a committee to make a thorough investigation of the wreck.

Fireman Richley's declaration that no officer went off in command of No. 6 lifeboat was the other sensational feature of the day. Richley's statements, though, are not worth much, for he was badly mixed on the stand when examined, and later the sailor Joslyn contradicted him flatly on points where Richley had wavered under cross-examination.

Joslyn testified that after the No. 6 boat had gone he went to No. 5.

Contradicting the testimony of H. A. Hawkins, who yesterday said the forward fall on this boat had broken, Joslyn said it was all right. He stated that the after fall had been cut. When the last boat was lowered from No. 5 falls, he said, it had become necessary to take the falls from No. 6 over and rig them on the No. 5 davits.

William Dougherty, a fireman, stated the lifeboat's tackle was in bad condition. He said that when the order was given to lower the boat it was difficult to do so, because the ropes holding them to the davits were entangled. He heard some one order the boats lowered, but does not know who gave the order. He helped lower one of the boats.

When asked what chance the passengers had of getting into the life raft he gave the significant answer: "They had as much chance as the crew."

CORBIN LEAVES ISLANDS.

Transfers Command to Wood with Public Ceremony.

Manila, Feb. 1.—Major General Corbin today relinquished command of the military division of the Philippines to Major General Wood and sailed for Hongkong, accompanied by his personal staff. The transfer of command was made with impressive ceremony at Fort Santiago. Army and navy officers, clergy and business men and others from civil life were present. For the first time in the change of commanders there was no parade of the troops.

In giving over the command to General Wood, General Corbin said:

"It has been my aim to make the army here an honor to the country and a credit to the military service. Coming here, I placed myself in touch with Governor General Wright, and he met me in the same spirit in which I approached him. As a result there has been a total disappearance of the last vestige of friction and jealousy between the military and civil government."

Major General Wood and Governor Ide made brief speeches expressing the universal regret over General Corbin's departure. All classes of business men declare that General Corbin has done more to aid commerce than any previous commander. There was a popular demonstration when he embarked. General Wood has announced that he will continue General Corbin's policy.

Patterson Takes Hand in Smoot Case

Washington, Feb. 1.—Some significance is attached to the change made today in the membership of the senate committee on privileges and elections. Clarke, of Arkansas, has never attended any meetings, nor was it known how he stood in regard to the Smoot case, pending before the committee. It is known, however, that the substitution of Patterson for Clarke is satisfactory to those who have been opposing Smoot. It is also known that Clarke has been dissatisfied with the committee assignments given him.

Flood Swallows Money.

El Paso, Tex., Feb. 1.—Laden with bullion valued at \$100,000, a train of donkeys was on its way to Mazatlan from the Guadalupe de los Reyes mines in Sinaloa, Mexico, when the roadbed, high above the river, caved in as the result of heavy rains. The burros and their precious cargo were swept away in the floodwaters. Several drivers perished with them. Search was immediately begun for the precious metal, which was in bars of gold and silver.

Revolution in Colombia.

Panama, Feb. 1.—Private advices received here from Cartagena are to the effect that General Gonzales Valencia, ex-president of Colombia, and General Nelepina have started a revolution in the province of Antiquia against President Reyes.

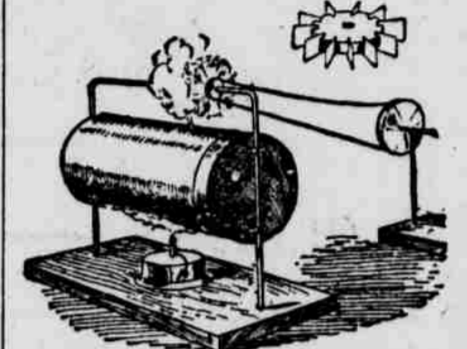


How to Make a Steam Engine.

An easily constructed steam engine may be made by any boy with very simple materials. An old baking-powder box will do for the boiler. Fasten its lid to it with shellac varnish, and punch two holes in the side of the box, one about the size of a pin hole, the other as large as a slate pencil. The larger hole must be fitted with a wooden plug or a cork.

Your boiler is now complete, but it must be fastened at its two ends between two upright posts that are attached to a baseboard, so that the two holes will be a top of the boiler. The side posts should rise at least two inches higher than the top of the boiler, and should be connected at the top by a piece of stout wire, which will serve as an axle to a stiff wheel, like a water-wheel, or the paddle of a steamboat.

This wheel is made by taking a large pill box, making slits in its sides, and slipping in pieces of stiff cardboard, which project at least half an inch on each side of the box. When these



A HOME-MADE ENGINE.

are in place, fill the box with damp sand to steady the slips and keep them from moving, and then put on the lid of the box and fasten it by glue so that it will not open. Arrange this wheel on the wire axle so that one side of it comes directly above the pinhole in the boiler.

Now remove the plug from the larger hole, and fill the boiler with water; then close it, and light an alcohol lamp under the boiler. When the water boils, the steam will issue from the pinhole in the boiler, and striking the paddles of the wheel, will cause it to spin very rapidly.

A grooved wooden wheel may be glued to one side of the paddle wheel, and a string run around the groove may be connected with any of the toys that are to be set in motion by miniature steam engines. You may use for the grooved wheel a small spool such as buttonhole silk is wound on. This engine will serve for your amusement as well as a purchased one, and an ingenious boy can improve on it and elaborate it as much as he likes. —People's Home Journal.

The Moon's Wives.

In Bulawayo, South Africa, the natives have a curious belief concerning the moon. These children of nature say the man in the moon has two wives, one of whom treats him well and the other badly. During the first quarter he goes over the hills to the Zambesi and lives with his first wife, whom they call Keep the Door Open. She feeds him so well that he gets fat and full and round. But on his way back he stays at the hut of the second wife—Shut the Door Tight—who starves and ill-treats him, so it is a very thin and woe-begone moon that finally returns to start his travels afresh.

A Snow Map.

Lowell and Caroline live in one house and Elsie and Lloyd in the next, and the four play together in the big backyard that stretches behind both houses.

One day, when the snow was soft and sticky, Lowell, who is on Europe and Asia in geography, fancied a spot of untrampled snow looked like the continent of Europe, and he began to shape it more perfectly.

He told Caroline if she wished that she might make an Africa to go with the Europe and Asia he was making.

Caroline hurried into the house after her geography, for she did not remember all about Africa.

Elsie chose to make a map of North America, and said she would help Lloyd with South America, for he had just begun geography, and was not yet out of the United States.

The eastern hemisphere is the hardest to do, because it is so irregular; but Lowell and Caroline modeled it in the damp snow, and Lowell helped Elsie and Lloyd.

The next day they added Greenland and Iceland and Australia and Japan, and other islands. Another day they made mountains and mountain ranges, and since Lloyd had learned about volcanoes, he was allowed to make those and to sprinkle ashes on the tops. They began to find geography more interesting than all their other studies.

of different kinds, and small cities with shoe buttons.

They learned the school geography lessons on this snow map in half the usual time and with much more pleasure. Whenever one heard a new place mentioned he put it into the country where it belonged, and one morning Lowell hurried out before breakfast to make the Philippine Islands, which had been forgotten.

They sent chip steamers across the ocean, worked on the Panama Canal, explored the frozen north, and wherever, all over the world, a war was going on, they planted a small red flag on that spot on the snow map.—Youth's Companion.

House Made of Paper.

We have all heard of the ice palaces of Canada, but here is an account of a paper house, built in the town of Savinoraska, in Russia. The structure is made throughout of blocks of papier-mache, even the foundation and roof being of that material. So, too, are the chimneys, although the paper used in their construction was first mingled with a fireproof material. The house, which is of considerable extent, and will, in the opinion of its architect, outlast such as are built of stone and brick, was erected at a cost of more than forty thousand dollars.

As to "Gallery Gods."

Back in old London the Drury Lane Theater, a venerable playhouse, gave an origin to the phrase. The ceiling or dome was painted in representation of the sky. The artist placed in this celestial setting numerous cupids and clouds. The gallery of the theater was built just below this ceiling, and to persons seated below the occupants of the upper tier looked to be part of the heavenly ornamentation. In time these spectators were referred to as "sitting among the gods," and finally were dubbed "gods."

ELECTRIC PLANT FOR PEAT.

Product of Bogs Disintegrated, but Retains Heating Power.

An electric process for the treatment of peat has lately been adopted in England at the Johnston & Phillips works. The peat is transformed into a hard combustible, which is well adapted for use under boilers. The operation is said to last two and a half hours, and the material costs less than ordinary coal. The combustible which is thus produced has a high calorific value and gives scarcely any smoke.

A plant on a large scale is to be installed in Ireland and if successful it will be an important move in the direction of utilizing peat as fuel under the best conditions. In the present process the peat as it comes from the bogs is placed in cylinders, which revolve at a high speed, while a set of air fans is used to drive off the water, which forms about 80 per cent of the total.

A set of electrodes is placed in the cylinders and connected with a dynamo. The circuit is completed through the mass of the peat between the electrodes. The resistance which the peat offers to the current causes a considerable heat and the latter breaks up the peat and pulverizes it, but without causing it to lose any of its properties.

In order to increase the conductivity of some kinds of peat they add certain chemical products. After this process the peat is treated by a set of kneading rollers, which give it a plastic consistency so as to enable it to take any desired form. From here it passes to an automatic press which forms it into briquettes. It is then ready for use and is taken to the storeroom.

It is to be remarked that although the passage of the current through the peat gives rise to a heating effect the results obtained in this way are quite different from those which another method of heating would produce. By fire heat the particles of the peat lose their different constituent matters, while the electric heating causes them to disintegrate, thus freeing their cellular material and distributing it throughout the entire mass of the peat. Thus all the particles become adapted for combustion.

To obtain a harder material the disintegrated peat is given a larger treatment with the current. The air is kept out by a tight cover, and the mass is then treated with an adhesive solution so as to unite the particles. The experiments have been made with the process on a large scale and at a great expense, and it is said to have been greatly improved in the details and can now be applied commercially.

Fair Warning.

Henry had been so continuously and persistently naughty that says the New York World, his aunt, who had charge of him in his mother's absence, did not know what to do with him. In despair she said, weakly:

"If you will not behave, I shall put you in one of grandpa's hen-coops."

"Well," said Henry, sturdily, "before you put me in, I want to tell you that I will not lay any eggs."

Saw Her and "Ducked."

Tess—Yes, I saw May Gaddie at the reception last night.

Jess—Why, that's strange! She told me to-day that she didn't see you there, although she was looking for you.

Tess—Of course, stupid! Didn't I just tell you I saw her?—Philadelphia Press.

A girl will believe anything a man tells her during courtship, but after marriage—well, that's another story.

If a sick man can't keep anything else on his stomach he should try a porous plaster.

There is often a superior air about an inferior person.