

DOINGS OF THE SIXTIETH CONGRESS

Tuesday, February 11.
Washington, Feb. 11.—The legality of the creation by the president of the inland waterways commission was questioned by Mr. Tawney, Minnesota, chairman of the committee on appropriations in the house today. The point was raised when Mr. Tawney urged that the house conference disagree to the senate amendment to the urgent deficiency bill, granting \$1,875 to Senator John H. Blackburn for services as a member of the commission. Tawney declared that he did not question the motives of the chief executive, but insisted that his action was without authority of law.
A motion by Underwood that the house recede and concur in the amendment was lost, 56 to 101.
A motion by Needham of California that the house accept the senate amendment imposing upon the United States instead of the District of Columbia the expense of \$50,000 in the land conspiracy trial of Hyde, Dimond, Benson and Schneider, proponent of the discussion. The motion of Needham was lost and the bill thereupon was sent back to conference.
Washington, Feb. 11.—Senator Aldrich called up today his currency bill and formal amendments made by the finance committee which were adopted by the senate.
Senator Duffell offered an amendment providing that bonds of railroads that "have paid regularly and continuously for five years next preceding the deposit of its bonds and interest due on all its bonds" can be used for currency issues. The amendment, he said, would allow the use of bonds of roads that have not paid dividends on stock. This would permit the use of the bonds of a number of southern railroads which are now excluded.
Senator Lodge gave notice of an amendment including among the bonds available for currency issues the bonds of the Philippine Islands government, the city of Manila and the railroads of the Philippine Islands, the interest of which has been guaranteed by the Philippine government.

Monday, February 10.
Washington, Feb. 10.—Senator Aldrich, of Rhode Island, chairman of the committee on finance, opened the debate in the Senate today on his bill to provide an emergency currency. He was listened to with great attention by republicans and democrats alike, while in the galleries there was a large audience. Among others was J. Pierpont Morgan, who remained through the delivery of the speech.
Aldrich said, in closing a long speech:
"The enactment of the pending bill will furnish evidence that congress is not unmindful of its serious responsibilities in this regard. There can be no reasonable doubt of the effectiveness of the measure. The commission on the currency, which through its enactment an atmosphere of confidence and feeling of security will be created which will be invaluable in improving business conditions and in giving a new impetus to the work of national development."
Washington, Feb. 10.—A brief but fiery speech by Leake, of New Jersey, in which he outlined his opposition to William J. Bryan as a candidate for the presidency, relieved somewhat the monotony of debate on the Indian appropriation bill in the house of representatives today. Mr. Leake charged Mr. Bryan with taking the big stick from the president, leaving the latter only a big whip and a new impetus to the democrats in the house with having usurped the right of free action of the delegates at the Denver convention by nominating Mr. Bryan in advance. His remarks were greeted with hisses from the Democratic side of the house.
Considerable progress was made with the Indian appropriation bill, which was amended so that the commissioner of Indian affairs, before he carried out the policy of abandoning nonreservation schools, shall investigate the question fully and report to the House at its next session. Another amendment restored the appropriations for the Indian schools at Fort Lewis, Colorado, and Carson City, Nev.

Friday, February 7.
Washington, Feb. 7.—The session of the house of representatives today devoted almost entirely to consideration of the omnibus war claims bill, which was passed after considerable discussion. It carries a total appropriation of \$315,000. A ripple of excitement was caused by Macon, of Arkansas, who, in the course of the debate, defended the senate against what he said were aspersions cast upon that body by Payne, of New York, when he predicted that the senate would lead the bill down with a number of unmeritorious claims.
What will be known as "the minority currency bill" was introduced today by Representative John Sharp Williams, of Mississippi, the Democratic leader of the house, who drew the measure as a result of a harmonious conference of Democratic members of the house committee on banking. The bill will come before the house in the

General Howard Promoted.
Washington, Feb. 11.—Announcement in the house that the Senate had passed the bill promoting to the grade of Lieutenant-General, retired, of Major-General O. Howard, U. S. A., retired, was received with enthusiasm. General Howard is the only living federal officer who commanded an army during the civil war.
Another Assistant Appointed.
Washington, Feb. 11.—Albert M. Richards, of Kansas, was appointed a special assistant to the attorney-general in the Department of Justice to have charge of public land cases.
Confere on Financial Question.
Washington, Feb. 6.—The Democratic senators held a two-hours' conference on the financial question today, but came to no conclusion as to the exact nature of the substitute bill. Senator Bailey outlined his bill providing for an emergency issue of currency through the deposit in designated depositories. He said he would not be adverse to having certain amendments made to it. Democratic senators will support the Bailey substitute.

shape of a minority report from that committee.
A number of private claim bills also were passed and the house then adjourned until Monday.
Thursday, February 6.
Washington, Feb. 6.—In a speech in the senate today, Senator Culberson declared that the secretary of the treasury by his report to the senate has raised an issue of fact as to whether national banks in New York used the \$5,000,000 of public money deposited with them for speculative purposes or whether this money was used to meet the demands of outside banks for reserve purposes.
The Seattle exposition bill was passed by practically a unanimous vote.
Senator Beveridge introduced a resolution declaring that the tariff should provide for maximum and minimum rates of duty.
Senator Heyburn today re-introduced his resolution calling upon the president to investigate and report to the senate all matters connected with the reorganization of the Northern Pacific.
The senate today passed the bill placing Major General Howard on the retired list as a lieutenant general.

Washington, Feb. 6.—Political speech-making came to an end in the house today, and actual consideration of the Indian appropriation bill was resumed. A bitter fight was waged on the proposition to abolish non-reservation schools, and the subject was discussed throughout the afternoon. The question was raised by the offering of an amendment by Delegate Smith, of Arizona, to limit the appropriation for collecting and transporting Indian children at school to the state in which they live. The amendment was lost.
Representative Hayes introduced a bill authorizing participation by the United States in the International Exposition at Tokyo, Japan, in 1912, the sum expended not to exceed \$350,000.

Wednesday, February 5.
Washington, Feb. 5.—Senator Beveridge, of Indiana, today delivered an appeal to the senate to adopt his bill providing for a non-partisan tariff commission, a plan which he declared conformed to modern business ideas on this subject. He spoke for an hour and a half, receiving the careful attention of senators and a large audience in the galleries. There were present many delegates of commercial bodies now in session in this city.
Following Beveridge, several Democratic senators spoke briefly on the general subject of the tariff.
Senator Stone, of Missouri, introduced a joint resolution authorizing the president to relinquish control of the Philippine Islands in 1913 upon first securing a pledge from the nations to preserve the neutrality of the islands.

Washington, Feb. 5.—Tariff revision and the president's recent special message to congress again were the main topics of discussion in the house of representatives today. As has been the case for nearly a week, the Indian appropriation bill ostensibly was before the house, but in no quarter was any word spoken in regard to it. The house apparently had made up its mind to discuss the issues of the day at this time, and no effort was made to check the flow of general debate, which will be continued tomorrow.
A long speech by Payne, of New York, the majority leader, was considered important because of his assurance that a tariff revision plank would be incorporated in the Republican national convention's platform of this year. He devoted some attention to Mr. Bryan, whom he credited with going about the country accusing President Roosevelt of grand or petty larceny in procuring his ideas.
Representation in the house was increased today when the two Philippine delegates took their seats.

CUF IN HALF.
House Committee Prunes Down Battleship Appropriation.
Washington, Feb. 11.—By a vote of 13 to 5, one member absent and not voting, the house committee on naval affairs rejected the president's urgent recommendation that congress authorize the construction of four battleships, at a total cost of \$38,000,000, and by a unanimous vote there was included in the naval appropriation bill an authorization for the construction of two, to cost \$9,500,000 each and to be of the Delaware type.
These representatives voted in accordance with the president's recommendation. Lilyey, of Connecticut (Rep.); Thomas, Ohio (Rep.); Myer, Louisiana (Dem.); Talbot, Maryland (Dem.); and Hobson, Alabama (Dem.). Hobson announced after the vote that he intended to make a minority report recommending authorization of four battleships. The preference stood in favor of a four-battleship authorization, but the voting majority was expressed by Chairman Foss.

Ask for Better Defenses.
Washington, Feb. 6.—Representatives Jones and Humphrey today appeared before the naval committee and urged that an appropriation be made for constructing torpedo boats and submarines for defense of Puget sound and Gray's harbor. They also urged an increase in the appropriation for the Puget sound fleet to \$2,000,000, in order to enlarge it to accommodate the largest ships. Later they appeared before the library committee and urged favorable action on the erection of monuments along the old Oregon trail.

Will Not Follow Leader.
Washington, Feb. 11.—In the face of strong opposition by John Sharp Williams, of Mississippi, leader of the "minority" in the house of representatives, James L. Lloyd, representative from the first district of Missouri, was tonight elected chairman of the Democratic congressional campaign committee, defeating his rival and Mr. Williams' candidate, William H. Ryan, of the thirty-fifth district of New York, by a vote of 23 to 14.

POULTRY RAISING IN OREGON.

Extracts from Oregon Experiment Station Bulletin.
The climate of Oregon from a poultryman's standpoint is discussed by James Dryden in Bulletin No. 96 of the Oregon Experiment station which has recently been published. Among other things the writer says:
It is of course worth considering by the man looking for a location whether Western Oregon with its open winters and freedom from snow and zero temperatures does not offer opportunities for the production of eggs and poultry that are not found in Eastern and Middle West states. That poultry thrive in cold sections where snow and zero weather prevail is not to be denied, but the labor and expense of caring for them is undoubtedly greater there. To secure an egg yield in winter where the climate is severe entails more expense for housing and more care in the feeding. It is probably true that the smallest profits are made during the winter months though the prices are very much higher than in spring and summer, because the egg yield is so small from the average flock as to leave little or no margin of profit. It is also true that the egg yield is quickly affected by changes in the weather, especially in the temperature. A sudden change from mild to cold weather means a certain check in the egg production, and although the weather moderates it will often take several weeks before the egg yield gets back to where it was. The only way to prevent this is to provide housing that will protect the fowls from too sudden changes in temperature. This entails more expense in housing and consequently diminished profits, but what is of more importance is the highly artificial conditions that it necessitates.
It would appear therefore that there are certain advantages that this state possesses over sections of the country where zero weather and snow prevail. First, a milder climate and less severe changes in temperature than is characteristic of Eastern states. Second, in sections of the state with no snowfall the poultry can range over the fields and find animal food and green food which are often hard to get where the snow covers the ground.
The heavy rainfall of Western Oregon, and small percentage of sunshine may be set down as a disadvantage, but when the nature of the rainfall is understood it is doubtful whether it is very much of a detriment. Owing to the moderating influence of the Pacific ocean these rains are warm and have not the chilling effect of the rains in Eastern states. And finally, the fowls in Oregon in the winter months is usually higher when it rains than when the sky is cloudless, and the fowls will usually be found out in the rain except when it is very heavy, which is not often the case. One poultryman in Marion county said to the writer in November, before the rainy season set in, that he wished it would rain, because, he said, his hens laid better when it rained. The explanation of this, if it is true, may not be in the rain itself, but in the fact that it brings to the surface many earthworms, which supply the lack of animal food in the ration.
Turkeys are successfully raised in Oregon, and turkeys are known to be easily affected by rain, but the fact that the rains are warm and do not largely account for the success in turkey raising in this state. Douglas county in Oregon produces several times more turkeys than the state of Rhode Island, noted for turkeys.
Another thing in favor of the mild climate and freedom from snow is that the fowls are able to secure practically the year round all the green food necessary in the fields. And finally, the fowls in their search for food in the fields get the exercise which is necessary for it is worthy of mention in this connection that the largest special poultry district in the United States is found in Northern California, that has no snowfall. That district is somewhat similar to that of Western Oregon, with its open winters, mild and humid climate and nearness to the ocean.
My investigations of the poultry industry of Oregon have been confined to the western part of the state, the region west of the Cascade mountains. This section at the present time produces more poultry products than the larger area of the state east of the Cascades. As the agriculture of Central and Eastern Oregon becomes developed we may expect greater development of poultry-keeping, and probably in time that great agricultural area may produce more poultry products than the older section of the state in Western Oregon. The climatic conditions are different east of the mountains, the heavy rainfall is absent and snow covers the ground during part of the winter. The climate there is more characteristic of the Rocky mountain region, though no such severe weather prevails as in the Middle and Northwestern states. It should prove that a dry climate with plenty of sunshine but lacking the severe winter changes of temperature of the East is the ideal one for poultry, we may expect a great growth of the poultry industry east of the Cascades in Oregon. Undoubtedly on the grain ranches of Central and Eastern Oregon where food is cheap there is opportunity for great profit in poultry raising.

Danish Macaroni Salad.
Take one-fourth pound of macaroni into 2-inch pieces, cover with a quart of cold water, salted, and boil briskly until tender. Whip a half-pint of whipping cream, mix with one-half as much bottled salad dressing, season and add vinegar or lemon juice to taste. Mix the macaroni with this heap in center of round dish and garnish with a border of hot boiled fish, or of overlapping slices of cold meat.

Apple Pudding.
Scald one cup of milk and pour it over a pint of dry cranberries. Stand until very soft, then beat into them the beaten yolks of four eggs, two cupsful of peeled and chopped apples, a teaspoonful of mixed cinnamon and mace, the grated rind of a half lemon, and all the juice, a quarter pound of seeded and chopped raisins and a cup of sugar. Beat all well together, folding in at last the stiffened whites of the eggs. Bake in a buttered dish, covered for a half hour, then uncover and brown. Eat hot with a hard sauce.

HALL IS CONVICTED IN GRASP OF STORM

Prediction of Prosecution Proves Correct.
Jury Deliberates Three Hours
Speedy Agreement Believed to Indicate Conviction, in View of Judge's Instructions.

Portland, Feb. 8.—At 1:30 o'clock this morning the jury in the Hall conspiracy trial announced that it had reached a verdict. The verdict was sealed in an envelope, under instructions given by Judge Hunt last night, and was returned to the court and opened at 10 o'clock this morning.
On convening court this morning Judge Hunt directed that the envelope be opened and the verdict read. The jury found Hall guilty as charged. Under the Federal statutes, conspiracy such as that charged in the indictment on which Hall was tried, is punishable by a fine not exceeding \$10,000, or by imprisonment not exceeding two years.
Portland, Feb. 8.—At last night's session, which convened at 7:45 o'clock, Judge Hunt delivered exhaustive instructions to the jury, the charge requiring two hours for its delivery. At 10:12 o'clock, after Judge Webster for the defendant had interposed objections to practically every instruction of the court, the jury retired to deliberate on a verdict. The jurors were instructed by Judge Hunt that if a verdict should be reached during the night, they were to seal it in an envelope and repair in the custody of the bailiffs to their rooms, the verdict to be returned at 10 o'clock this morning to which hour the court then adjourned.
Judge Hunt's instructions were far more elaborate than in any of the preceding land fraud or conspiracy cases. They consisted of a learned exposition of the law as applied to conspiracy charges and a lucid interpretation of the statutes pertaining to the fencing and home-stead acts and the statute of limitations.
When the instructions had been given Mr. Heney expressed his satisfaction with them, but Judge Webster, for the defendant, submitted exceptions in a general way to the entire charge.

REFORM POSTAL SERVICE.
Commission Recommends Changes in Interest of Economy.
Washington, Feb. 8.—In a preliminary report of the postal commission authorized during the last congress, the main recommendation will be to the effect that the office of the fourth assistant postmaster general shall be done away with and that an executive officer appointed by the president for a long term be installed as the active head of the department, who shall act under the direction of the postmaster general and hold the same relation that a superintendent of a railroad holds to a railroad president and directorate.
The examiners found that politics too often interfered with the systematic running of the department and that the heads were seldom installed for any length of time before being retired or placed elsewhere.
Under present conditions it is necessary for a mail bag broken open on an Alaskan route to be transported the entire distance to the Mississippi valley before it can be mended. To do away with this and other impracticable methods, the commission proposes the formation of divisions with full power to administer offices within their boundaries. Said boundaries shall not necessarily follow state lines.
Of the 62 railroads run by the government it is thought that fully 30,000 can be operated in such a manner as to become non-accounting offices and do away with the too frequent issuance of stamps and many intermediate reports.

Mexico Grants Coaling Station.
Mexico City, Feb. 8.—The concession by Mexico to the United States granting the privilege for the establishment of a coaling station at Magdalena bay is now in force and it is expected that the two barges provided under the concession will be anchored in the bay before the arrival there of the fleet. Further negotiations are pending for a large target range and permission to land marines for small arms practice. Previous requests of like nature were not favorably received by Mexico, but this one may be granted.

Have Hot Fight With Moors.
Paris, Feb. 8.—A dispatch received here from General d'Amade, the French commander in chief in Morocco, says the column operating on the coast had an engagement yesterday with the Arabs at a point southwest of Kashber Rachid. The French apparently had routed their enemy when the Moors returned with reinforcements and attacked the French camp a second time. The fight was a hot one, but the Moors were eventually forced to retire in the direction of Serrat. Five Frenchmen were wounded.

No British Squadron Coming.
London, Feb. 8.—The Associated Press is officially authorized to declare that there is absolutely no truth in the report telegraphed from Halifax that the British squadron in the Pacific is to be materially increased. No changes whatever are contemplated in the Pacific squadron and the British government has not the slightest intention of replacing the old Pacific fleet, which formerly had its base at Esquimault, B. C.

Smuggles Arms into China.
Hongkong, Feb. 8.—Chinese imperial customs officials this afternoon seized a Japanese steamer near Macao, which was landing arms on Chinese territory. It is alleged that the arms were intended for revolutionists under Dr. Sun Yet Sen, the leader of the revolutionary party in China.

ICE KING REIGNS IN EAST AND MIDDLE WEST.

MANY SUFFER FROM SEVERE COLD
Fatal Snow Slides in Colorado, Blizzards in Michigan, and Sleet Storm in Illinois.

New York, Feb. 6.—Large districts of the East and Middle West are suffering from a cold wave of unusual severity. Reports from many localities are to the effect that the extreme cold is coupled with a fall of snow of sufficient depth to interfere with transportation facilities, while severe fatalities have occurred. A sleet storm in the Middle West has added to the general discomfort.
All of the charitable institutions are over-crowded and many homeless men, to keep from freezing, have been forced to huddle around fires in the open streets. The whole state is in an icy grip, the mercury falling to a record of 45 degrees below in the vicinity of Ballston.
Other fatalities are reported from Colorado, where numerous snow slides have occurred in the mining districts.
Weather conditions throughout New England are the worst of the present winter. The cold snap is general in that section, although no fatalities have as yet been recorded. Northfield, Vt., reports the coldest weather in New England, with the mercury registering 34 degrees below zero.
The lake region is also feeling the cold. Michigan is in the grasp of a severe blizzard, in which zero weather is combined with a blinding storm. Railway traffic is completely paralyzed in many parts of Michigan and the storm shows no sign of abatement.
Chicago last night experienced one of the most sleet storms in years. There was much suffering from the icy blizzards and traffic on the electric lines was almost completely demoralized, although steam trains were operated.

Public Printer Removed.
Is Accused of Many Irregularities in Government Office.
Washington, Feb. 6.—Just as the president's action in suspending Public Printer Stillings and appointing William S. Rosier to perform his duties was being announced today, a committee of labor leaders of this city, accompanied by Representative Gary, of Wisconsin, called at the White House and presented to the president a resolution adopted by the Central Labor union here, charging Mr. Stillings with violations of the eight-hour law in the government printing office, and added:
"It is difficult at this time to get witnesses against Mr. Stillings, for the reason that many of them are employed in the government printing office and directly under his charge. We hope, however, to follow up our oral statement with affidavits, if necessary."
The president informed the committee of the action he had already taken in the case.
Resolutions by numerous labor organizations in various cities charging violation in the government printing office of the eight-hour day, discrimination against veteran soldiers and the widows of soldiers and violation of the civil service law have been submitted to congress and the president.
Mr. Stillings is from Boston and was appointed public printer in 1905. He had been general manager of his father's printing firm in New York and at various times manager of the Printers' Board of Trade of that city and of New York. Mr. Rosier also came from Massachusetts and had business connections in New York and Washington before assuming office in the census bureau in 1890.

Will Answer in Writing.
Washington, Feb. 6.—Senator Falton has decided, in compliance with the urgent advice of many friends in Oregon, not to return home immediately to answer F. J. Heney's attacks on him, but to make a written statement, which will be sent to the newspapers of Oregon. He said this morning: "Since announcing my intention of returning to Oregon, I have received a great number of telegrams from business men, urging me to continue at my post of duty, and I have concluded for the present to remain here."

Destructive Prairie Fire.
Fort Worth, Tex., Feb. 6.—More than 1,000,000 acres of prairie have already been swept by a fire which is passing over Lubbock, Crosby and Garza counties in Western Texas. It is estimated that there is already \$500,000 damage done. Ranch houses, corrals, livestock and crops have been destroyed by the fire. A few of the ranchers, whose places were in the path of the blaze have managed to save their property by burning the dry grass in that neighborhood, but most were unable to check the flames.

Stoessel Must Die.
London, Feb. 6.—According to news reports received here General Stoessel has been sentenced to death for the surrender of Port Arthur to the Japs, by the Russian court. General Stoessel made a good fight for his life and it was generally believed that he could not be convicted of cowardice. His defense lay in the assertion that the officers at St. Petersburg failed to furnish him the necessary supplies to make proper defense of the port.

Wisconsin Ready April 1.
Washington, Feb. 6.—On April 1, next, the battleship Wisconsin will be placed in commission at the navy yard at Puget sound. Her commanding officer has not yet been selected.

MOST CRUEL OF CUTS.

"Mr. Heney's" Wife Wanted Her Boys to "See a Real Hamlet."
In one of the restaurants the other night a group of actors were comparing notes as to what, in their experience, had been the cruellest cut ever administered to an actor with regard to one of his own performances, says the New York Evening Sun. Finally, after several stories had been told, an English actor, who had been quietly listening to the other men's stories, said: "I know this story is true, because I happen to have been one of the very few persons who saw the letter. When Edwin Booth played his famous engagement in London I was a member of his company. Mr. Booth and Henry Irving became fast friends. Quite apart from the professional suppers and banquets which were given in Booth's honor, he and Irving used to have long chats in their dressing rooms after the performances. One night Booth, who was playing a shorter bill, dropped in at Irving's theater and sat in the English actor's dressing room while he was dressing for the street. Mrs. Irving and her two sons, then mere youngsters, had been in front at Irving's performance that night, and shortly after Booth arrived Irving's valet came in with a note which he handed to his master, saying: 'Mrs. Irving sent this up, sir.' 'Without glancing at the address Irving tore open the note and read it; then, with one of those grim satiric smiles which often illumined his face when something had occurred which hurt and yet amused him, he turned to Booth and said: 'Hub! Hub! My dear Booth, a thousand pardons. I see that this note from my wife has miscarried. It's intended for you.' He passed the note to Booth without another word, and while he read it Irving, keeping the ball of his eye on the American, stood in front of the mirror arranging his tie.
"The note from Mrs. Irving ran as follows: 'My Dear Mr. Edwin Booth—Might a mere woman ask a very great favor of you? Might I ask you to send me three strolls for next Tuesday night? My two sons, Lawrence and Henry, are at home from school just now, and before you leave England I am most anxious that they should see a real Hamlet.'"

Maud Muller—Revised.
Maud Muller on a summer's morn
Jerked the suckers from the corn.
And wallowed the striped bugs that flew
From the melon vines in the morning dew.
Her dress, though adjusted with patient care,
Was, maybe, a little worse for wear;
But her face was as fair as the ripe red rose,
Though she had a few freckles upon her nose.
Her father, an honest and kind old jay,
Was out in the meadow making hay.
And trying to lift, with his brawny arm,
The mortgage that covered the dear old farm.
"Twas an uphill job and it made him sweat,
For he had ten children, and dogs to spare,
And the crop was large, but the price was not,
And the annual interest made him hot.
The judge rode by on his sway-back horse,
And saw Maud Muller and changed his course.
He was struck with her beautiful eyes
And hair,
And fell in love with her then and there,
He stopped and conversed with the growing crops
And the wavering price and the bucket
And was quite impressed with her sterling
One and the same for eternity.
The wedding day came, 'twas a grand affair,
For the crowd of the country was gathered there,
And Maud was dressed like a fairy queen,
In the finest togs she had ever seen,
And the judge was happy, and so was she,
And so was the whole community.
Meantime the Muller farm seemed to be
Fresh meat for the ravenous mortgage,
But the judge, in a dignified, legal way,
Sought the creditor out and advanced the
pay.
And gave his wife's father a farm beside,
Without the least show of judicial pride;
And said to himself, as he wrote the deed,
'I'll not see my father-in-law in need,
For he gave me his daughter, and she
alone
is worth many times all the wealth I own.'"
—Nebraska State Journal.

Friendship with Wild Life.
If a fairly bad year occurred to grant me three wishes, "the full confidence of wild animals" would surely have been one of them and probably the first. If we seek opportunities to befriend wild creatures and take advantage of them, we shall often find, as I have done, that there is no lack of response on the part of the animals. I once walked up to a pine siskin, as he was feeding on the ground and picked him up in my hand. He did not seem a bit alarmed, and when a few minutes later I set him down he continued his search for food within a few inches of my feet. On another occasion a yellow throated vireo allowed me to lift her from her nest when I wished to count her eggs and nestled down comfortably on her breast the moment I put her back. With a forefinger I once stroked the back of a red breasted nuthatch as he was busy feeding on a tree—Ernest Harold Baynes in St. Nicholas.

Conspicuous.
The minister had preached to the graduating class of a girls' college. The girls of the class were on the platform all round the pulpit and all dressed in white.
"I felt," confessed the preacher to his wife when he got home, "like a crow on a snowdrift."
The bleached blonde's method of keeping her hair light is a dark secret.

DWINDLING OF ARMY GIVES CUE TO CRITICS

Military Men Say Force is Reduced Beyond Point of Safety for the Nation.

NEED OF REFORM IN SERVICE
Low Pay and Requirement of Hard Practice Marches Are Main Points of Attack.

The War and Navy Departments are trying to reach an agreement by which the marines are to be withdrawn from the Isthmus of Panama and two regiments of infantry are to be sent to take their places as guards. It is fully expected that before long two regiments or foot will be on their way to the canal zone. This diverting of army regulars to a new field will mean that the forces in the United States are to be depleted beyond that which officers believe to be the danger point.
The infantry problem is one of the most serious factors in the greater problem of the army's weakness. On paper we are supposed to have 30,000 infantrymen, but in truth we have nothing like that number, and unless the increase of pay bill pass Congress, it is perfectly evident that the ranks will be thinned still further. An army officer who knows conditions tells a Washington correspondent that in a case of emergency there would be less than 7,000 infantrymen who could be brought with anything like dispatch to any threatened point within the limits of the United States proper.

There are two chief army measures now before Congress, one dealing with the matter of the increase of pay and the other dealing with the matter of the increase of the infantry. A correspondent says there is precious little hope that both bills can pass. The second bill without passing the first for it would be useless to provide for an increase in the ranks if no inducements were held out by which the increase would be effected.

Objections to Army Life.
Interviews with enlisted men disclose three chief objections to army life, and, in order of numerical precedent, they rank like this:
Monthly practice marches.
Poor pay.
Non-military duty required of the enlisted men.
Some of the ranking officers of the army have inveighed constantly against what they call the folly of the frequent practice marches. The men are kept in fine physical condition and as hard as walnuts through the daily drills, the guard duty, the good food, and the regular living generally. Yet they are compelled at least once a month to hike out on the road under heavy burdens and trying conditions for the purpose of keeping in trim so that they will be ready for the field in case of hostilities. The practice march, fairly long continued and to come at long intervals, has its uses, and the men like it; but they don't like it coming as it does every three or four weeks.

Coal Mine Explosion.
New Theory Advanced as to the Conditions Producing Them.
Experts who have made investigations of the recent mine disasters, notably those of Monongah and Jacob's Creek, have come to the conclusion that the explosions are caused by climatic conditions.
Supporting the position taken, it is a noticeable fact, they say, that the recent catastrophes have occurred at about the same hour in the day, in a zone of certain altitude, in about the same longitude and in places where climatic conditions are similar. The majority of the mines operated today are below the level of the streams in the same sections, and, owing to the moisture, the outside air forced into the mines by the fans has been laden with carbon dioxide moisture and other impurities.
It is suggested that if the air forced into the mines was gathered from a higher stratum and was heated sufficiently and otherwise treated to remove the impurities the accidents would be less numerous during the change of seasons. Proper ventilation with this purified air, it is believed, will remove to a great extent the coal dust and explosive gases which are found to a certain extent in every mine.

The Nation's Inventory.
National assets, \$1,500,000,000,000.
Farm wealth, \$7,412,000,000.
Mineral production, annually, \$3,000,000,000.
Export domestic merchandise, annually, \$1,853,718,000.
Manufacturing products, annually, \$14,802,147,000.
Live stock, total value, \$4,875,000,000.
Seven cereal crops, 1907, \$2,878,000,000.
Wheat crop, 1907, \$500,000,000.
Cotton crop, 1907, \$675,000,000.
Corn, 1907, \$1,320,000,000.
Hay, 1907, \$680,000,000.
Dairy products, 1907, \$173,705,000.
Poultry and eggs, 1907, \$690,000,000.
Money in circulation, \$3,250,000,000.
Money in federal treasury, \$345,246,700.
Lumber production, 1907, \$530,000,000.

Resents "Tainted Money" Hint.
In his recent address at the annual dinner of the New York Alumni Association of Syracuse University, John D. Archbold, the Standard Oil magnate, took occasion to refer to "tainted money" by saying: "If I thought there was any taint on my money I would never offer a dollar of it to Syracuse University—my conscience would not have allowed me. I could not have asked God's blessing on such a gift. I have earned my money by fifty years of good, hard, conscientious toil, and honest intent in the pursuit of business, or I would never have given a dollar to further God's work."