

PROCEEDINGS OF CONGRESS IN BRIEF

Washington, April 29.—John Sharp Williams today gave the republican majority in the house an opportunity either to permit or to refuse to permit a vote on the Stevens bill to place wood pulp on the free list.

In the course of a cleverly humorous and satirical speech he unrolled and held to view the following petition to Speaker Cannon, bearing the signatures of 164 of the 166 Democratic senators: "We, the undersigned, representatives in congress, request, each for himself, and each for each of the others, that you recognize one of us, or if you prefer, some other representative, to move to discharge the committee on ways and means from further consideration and to suspend the rules and pass the Stevens bill, or any other bill having the effect to put wood pulp and print paper on the free list."

Mr. Dailzell, of Pennsylvania, offered an amendment to the sundry civil bill appropriating \$60,000 for the establishment of a national art gallery in the Smithsonian institute. The amendment was rejected on a point of order.

Washington, April 29.—The senate and house conferred on the army bill reached an agreement tonight. The senate conferred on the amendment raising the pay of officers on a percentage basis. Instead, a schedule was adopted increasing the pay of Major-Generals, Brigadier-Generals, Colonels, Lieutenant-Colonels, Majors and First Lieutenants \$500 per annum; Captains, \$600 per annum; Second Lieutenants, \$300 and cadets \$100.

On this schedule, the salary of Major-Generals will be \$9000 per annum; Brigadier-Generals \$6000; Colonels \$4000; Lieutenant-Colonels \$3500; Majors \$3000; Captains \$2400; First Lieutenants, \$2000; Second Lieutenants, \$1700 and cadets \$600.

Washington, April 28.—Ostensibly considering the sundry civil appropriation bill, the house devoted most of its time today to speeches covering a wide range of subjects and concluded the session by giving an attentive hearing to the president's special message. Although nearly every member had read the message in the newspapers, many numbers remained in their seats, carefully following the words of the reading clerk. When the portion of the message referring to the multi-millionaire "whose son is a fool and his daughter a fortune teller" was reached there was a storm of applause, equally loud on both sides of the house.

Mr. Lake, of New Jersey, made some caustic remarks concerning the president, evoking applause on the democratic side.

Other speeches were made by Representatives Hitchcock, of Nebraska, Vreeland of New York and Hamilton of Missouri.

At 5:05 p. m. the house took a recess until 11:30 o'clock tomorrow morning.

Washington, April 28.—The pension and District of Columbia appropriation bills were passed by the senate today. In addition the special message of the president urging a legislative program was read and another chapter of Senator Warner's speech on the Brownsville affair was heard. Several measures of minor importance, the number of which was reduced to one by the resolution of the house to give government aid to cyclone sufferers in the south were passed. The resolution to extend the time when the commodity clause of the railroad rate law shall become operative, the number of which was reduced to one by the senate by Mr. Culberson. The senate at 5:27 p. m. adjourned.

BANKER RO-S CONVICTED.

Guilty of Appropriating State Money to Private Use. Salem, Ore., April 24.—Guilty of converting to his own use \$288,000 of state school funds, was the verdict rendered against J. Thornburn Ross by a Marion county jury yesterday afternoon. The jury was out an hour and ten minutes.

From what can be learned it appears that the jury took four convictions the first showing nine for bribery and three for acquittal.

Sentence will be imposed by Judge Burnett on Monday morning. The penalty provided by law is imprisonment in the penitentiary for from one to fifteen years and by fine of double the amount of the defalcation.

The case will, of course, be appealed to the supreme court, when the case will be tried practically anew, for the defense objected to nearly all the evidence, saved exceptions, and questioned the ruling of the trial court on all points of law that go to the foundation of the case.

Attorney McCannan declined to discuss the verdict, but was very plainly deeply disappointed.

Washington, April 25.—The actual investigation of the wood-pulp and printer paper question, involving in prospect an examination into the affairs of the paper trust to determine whether or not it is as alleged by the American Newspaper Publishers' Association a combination in restraint of trade and maintaining a monopoly of the print-paper supply in the United States, was begun today by the select committee appointed by Speaker Cannon, whose chairman is Representative James R. Mann, of Illinois, and the other members of which are Bannan of Ohio, Stafford of Kentucky, Bannan of Ohio, Stafford of Wisconsin, Simms of Tennessee and Ryan of New York.

Friday, April 24. Washington, April 24.—Arguments in favor of the president's program for four battleships consumed most of the session of the senate today. Mr. Piles, of Washington, opened the debate, declaring that the Asiatic situation affecting the Pacific coast was a menace to that section, as war clouds might quickly rise over some clash between Americans and the Japanese. He wanted the United States to have a fleet of four battleships in the Pacific.

This, he declared, was a measure of peace, and not of war. He came, he said, from the section of the country that must be the storm center of any conflict in the Pacific ocean. The protection of the Pacific were in favor of four battleships. He sent to the vice president's desk a statement of a vote of 162 editors attending a meeting in New York, which he said showed 126 in favor of the four battleships and the president's policy for naval expansion.

While he had never been one of those who feared war, it should not be denied, he said, that there was on the Pacific coast a peculiar condition, and the time was coming when the people of this country would have to face that condition. The Pacific coast, he added, had by its opportunities attracted many Asiatics, who had been reared in a different way from the people of the United States. There was a possibility of a clash between these people and those of the Pacific coast.

San Francisco, April 24.—The prosecution will certainly make a most thorough investigation of the dastardly attempt to kill one of the most important witnesses for the state in the bribery graft cases, said Assistant District Attorney Francis J. Heney this morning to the Associated Press representative.

PRESIDENT WINS DAY

Senate's Action on Naval Bill is Practically a Victory. GETS TWO BATTLESHIPS A YEAR MANY TOWNS ENTIRELY RUINED

Washington, April 28.—Two battleships a year is what President Roosevelt says he has accomplished through his fight for his naval program. Had he been victorious in having four ships authorized at this session, the United States could have dictated terms of disarmament to the nations of the world.

This statement, made tonight, following the passage by the senate today of the naval bill, calling for two new battleships, is understood to reveal the president's source of strength in the naval fight which was waged so strenuously.

Furthermore, two ships this year with the promise of two ships each year to follow, which the president has accepted as a bona fide stipulation on the part of the senate, means simply a program which will place the United States in the front rank of naval progression, but which fails to place it in the position of dictating a cessation of naval aggression.

That the president, on the whole, is pleased with the result of his efforts with congress on this subject, was made manifest tonight, that he firmly believes in the ability of the United States to dictate the naval policy of the world in the future, though overwhelmingly outstripping us in naval construction.

PRESIDENT TALKS STRAIGHT. Warns Congress Against Abuses of Judicial System. Washington, April 28.—President Roosevelt this afternoon sent to congress a special message setting forth in the strongest of terms the necessity of immediate legislation strengthening the anti-trust law. He reiterates his well-known views as to the grave danger to free institutions from the corrupting influence of great wealth suddenly concentrated in the hands of the few, and urges the immediate passage of measures to exempt labor organizations from the law, whether or not their operations are in restraint of trade.

Such legislation, he says, will be in the interest of both the decent corporations and the law-abiding labor unions. In this connection, he sends a warning to the labor leaders who have objected to the inclusion of labor organizations in the anti-trust law amendment, and says plainly that the exception of the unions from the operation of the law would render the measure invalid.

Mr. Heney refused to state whether or not he had any evidence pointing to the perpetrators.

"I am satisfied that it was not the work of a fanatic or crank," declared the Assistant District Attorney. "Neither did the attempt upon Gallagher's life surprise me. I warned him more than three months ago that if he was not careful 'they would get him,' and at the time urged him to move from Oakland, telling him his home might be blown up. Aside from this I have nothing to say at present."

Tornado in Nebraska. Paris, Neb., April 24.—About 6 o'clock this afternoon a tornado destroyed the eastern portion of De Soto, a town 50 miles southeast of Paris, killing W. R. Isbell, a druggist, and wounding several others. The Isbell family was at supper when the storm came.

TORNADO IN SOUTH

Dead in Three States Number At Least 225. MANY TOWNS ENTIRELY RUINED

Atlanta, Ga., April 25.—Reports up to 2 a. m. indicate that 225 persons were killed and at least 1000 were injured in storms of great violence which passed over sections of Louisiana, Mississippi and Alabama yesterday. Several towns were almost totally swept away and the property damage will run into large figures.

Nearly 20 towns were struck by the "waters," of which there seem to have been at least five. Most of those killed were negroes, whose cabins were swept away like so much paper.

Natchez, Miss., reports that 64 persons killed in that section only two were whites.

Latest reports from Amite, a small town in Southeastern Louisiana, say the town was almost entirely destroyed and the estimates place the number killed at between 25 and 50, while at least 75 were injured.

At Vidalia, La., eight are reported to have been killed; at Vidalia, La., one white woman and six negroes are dead; at Quilman Landing, eleven negroes were killed. The latest report at hand comes from Purvis Landing, Miss., where 25 whites and 50 negroes were victims of the storm, and reports of one to five deaths came from many towns scattered over the storm-swept area. Details at present are meager.

New Orleans and Mobile were cut off from wire communication with the outside world for several hours today and telegraph companies report wires down in all directions.

Tonight the storm is sweeping through Georgia, but beyond torrential rains, accompanied by high winds and brilliant electrical displays no serious damage or loss of life has been reported in the state.

Reports also say that the storm struck Albertville, La., late this afternoon, doing much destruction to life and property. An unconfirmed report from this section gives the death list as from 30 to 35, with scores of persons injured. A train was sent from Birmingham tonight carrying physicians and a squad of state militiamen to the district.

Richmond and Lamourie, La., were struck by the storm and nearly a fifth of the population injured. Winchester, Miss., a small town, is reported wiped out, though only two persons are known to have been killed.

HUNTING BEARS IN ALASKA

Some of the Biggest of Bear Family Found in Far North. "There is good bear hunting on the Alaskan peninsula. I got seven grizzlies one afternoon, all of them within a quarter of a mile and not over half an hour's time. The smallest of them was a 3-year-old, and I should say they averaged 2,000 pounds. It took thirteen cartridges to bring the seven down."

Miss Edith Helps Things Along. "My sister'll be down in a minute, and says you're to wait, if you please; and says I might stay till she came, if I promise her never to tease. Nor speak till you spoke to me first, but that's nonsense; for how would you know what she told me to say if I didn't? Don't you really and truly think so?"

"And then you'd feel strange here alone, and you wouldn't know just where to sit; for that chair isn't strong on its legs, and we never use it a bit; we keep it to match with the sofa; but Jack says it would be like you. To top yourself right down upon it, and knock out the very last screw."

"Suppose you try! I won't tell. You're afraid to! Oh, you're afraid they would think it mean! Well, then, there's the album; that's pretty, if you're sure that your fingers are clean. For sister says sometimes I dab it, but she only says that when she's cross. That's her picture. You know it? It's like her, but she ain't so good-looking, of course."

"This is me. It's the best of 'em all. Now, tell me, you'd never have thought that once I was little as that? It's the only one that could be bought; for that was the message to put from the photograph man where I sat. That he wouldn't print off any more till he first got his money for that."

"What? Maybe you're tired of waiting. Why, often she's longer than this. There's all her back hair to do up, and all her front curls to fix. But it's nice to be sitting here talking like grown people, just you and me. Do you think you'll be coming here often? Oh do! But don't come like Tom Lee—"

"Tom Lee, her last beau. Why, my goodness! he used to be here day and night. Till the folks thought he'd be her husband, and Jack says that gave him a fright. You won't run away, then, as he did? for you're not a rich man, they say. I'm sure you're as poor as a church mouse. Now, are you? and how poor are they?"

"Ain't you glad that you met me? Well, I am, for I know now your hair ain't red; but there is left of it's money, and not what that naughty Jack said. But there, I must go; sister's coming! But I wish I could wait, just to see if she ran up to you and kissed you in the way that she used to kiss Lee."

The Doctor's Imagination. "I have a good story on one of Washington's best known oculists," said a prominent clubman, addressing some friends in the billiard room of the Metropolitan club. "My eyes had troubled me for some months, and finally I went to see the doctor about them. 'After a thorough examination he said that the muscles were badly strained, and then he gave me a prescription for drops to be used in my eyes three times a day. When I left he gave me an appointment for that day week, as he said he could not examine my eyes for glasses until they were in their normal condition. 'Well, I mislaid that blessed prescription, and as I was particularly busy that week, I had no time to get another copy. So in some tropic island I kept my second appointment. 'As the doctor examined my eyes I hesitated a moment about telling him I had not used the drops, when he took the words out of my mouth and the breath out of my body by remarking with pleased emphasis: 'Your eyes are very much improved. That medicine which I gave you is certainly wonderful. It always has such prompt and satisfactory results. 'It was all I could do to keep silent,' concluded the speaker, laughing. 'But I wasn't quite sure how he would take the joke. You see, he may not have a sense of humor.'—Washington Star."

Fire Escape on a Steamer. "We're used to odd questions," said the skipper of a river steamer as he stood on the wharf in the center of a crowd of querying passengers. "and when I get this bunch aboard I'll breathe easier and tell you the latest. All aboard? Very good. This is it: The other day as we left the pier and swung into the stream a woman approached with her two children. I saw I was it and waited. 'Where's the fire escape?' she demanded. 'My husband told me never to travel without finding out where the fire escape was.' I knew it would never do to tell her we had no fire escape, but I had to study a bit for an answer. Finally I pointed to the rigging ladder running up our solitary and never used mast. 'There it is,' I told her, 'and if a fire breaks out you just run up that.' She appeared quite satisfied, but I hope she'll never be aboard ship when a fire breaks out. If she is and runs up a mast there'll be trouble sure."—Philadelphia Record.

Interruption Resented. "So you're still hunting work?" "Yes, sir," answered Plodding; Pete. "Don't you know that out West they are willing and anxious to give them employment?" "Sure I do. Dat's de reason I like dis territory. You can go on huntin work without bein' disturbed."—Washington Star.

It is argued that the compulsory adoption of the incandescent system of electric lighting in mines will greatly cut down the death toll.

People never have a very high regard for the industry of a man who has his picture taken "while at work."