

IN THE NATIONAL HALLS OF CONGRESS

Tuesday, May 8.
Washington, May 8.—Aside from a few minutes devoted to the reception of Allison amendments to the rail rate bill and a half hour given to the business, the Senate devoted its session today to the ineffectual consideration of the Elkins amendment, alteration of the common carriers from engaging in mining coal or in the production of other commodities in competition with shippers, and adjourned at 4 p. m. in a state of great confusion as the exact subject before it. The discussion was due to the fact that a number of substitutes for amendments to the original amendment were introduced. During the day, the Senate decided in the affirmative the disputed bill that under the agreement the rate can be certain a motion to lay on the table. It refused, however, by a vote of 29 to 47 to lay the Elkins proposition on the table. That amendment, the various motions will therefore be in order when the rate bill is taken up tomorrow.

Monday, May 7.
Washington, May 7.—The senate today spent the major portion of its time on an amendment, but instead of acting on it, adopted a substitute. The amendment which was made the basis of discussion was that suggested by the speaker prohibiting the granting of rebates, passengers, drawbacks, or special rates on railroads and also prohibiting discrimination in the way accommodations where equal rates are paid.

The discussion took a broad range, covering first the pass question and in the race question in the Southern States. The race issue was raised in connection with the clause relative to discrimination, which was interpreted as referring to separate cars for the colored, and it called out very warm protests from Bacon, Money, Culberson and other Southern senators.

Friday, May 4.
Washington, May 4.—In accordance with the agreement of last Monday, the senate today entered upon the consideration of amendments to the rail rate bill under the 15-minute rule, but made the progress. The greater part of the day was devoted to Lodge's provision regarding pipe lines within the terms of the bill, and it was ultimately unanimously agreed to, after being so amended as to make it exclude gas and water lines from its operation, thus practically confining it to oil lines. There were two roll-calls, but neither was of importance, as on the one accepting the amendment there was no division whatever, while the action taken on the other, on the question of confining the provision to oil lines, was practically glossed by the subsequent elimination of gas and water from the amendment.

Thursday, May 3.
Washington, May 3.—The house today spent the day in consideration of the naval appropriation bill, the speeches being large measure being in support of the bill and the naval program therein outlined. Burton, of Ohio, delivered a scathing address against what seemed a needless enlargement of the navy, warning that the American navy could well afford to serve notice upon

the other nations that it stood for international arbitration and the peace of the world.

Butler of Pennsylvania, and Calder of New York, supported the bill, both agreeing that the measure had less to criticize in it than any bill reported from the naval affairs committee of the house in years.

Wednesday, May 2.
Washington, May 2.—Daniel continued his speech on the railroad rate bill in the senate today, reporting briefly his objections to Bailey's proviso for the non-suspension by the courts of the orders of the interstate commerce commission. In cases where the courts have suspended the rates of the commission, Mr. Daniel suggested that a substantial bond be required of the railroads.

The rate bill was then temporarily laid aside, and the army appropriation bill taken up. An important amendment authorizes the establishment of a general depot for supplies at Fort Mason, San Francisco, and appropriates \$1,500,000 for the purpose. Of the amount appropriated, \$750,000 is made immediately available.

Another amendment appropriating \$500,000 for a cable from Key West to Panama via Guantanamo, Cuba, was made.

Consideration of the bill was not concluded when, at 5:45 p. m., the senate went into executive session.

Statehood Compromise.
Washington, May 5.—All of the minor amendments to the statehood bill are either disposed of or in shape to be made the foundation of argument at a moment's notice.

At today's session of the conferees on that measure the climax of the situation was reached for the first time. The question of the admission of Arizona and New Mexico as one state was discussed at length.

Were Cruel to Insane.
Washington, May 5.—Inquiry into the conditions at St. Elizabeth's asylum for the insane was begun today by the special committee of the house of representatives appointed by Speaker Cannon. Nearly a dozen witnesses were heard. Evidence was adduced showing that some of the patients who worked in the hospital laundry had been cruelly treated, and some of the witnesses testified that Foreman E. L. Maench, of the laundry, frequently was intoxicated while on duty.

Auto Industry Thriving.
Washington, May 8.—The automobile industry, according to a preliminary bulletin issued by the census bureau today, shows a very large increase for the calendar year 1904, as compared with 1903, the year of taking the twelfth census. In the former year 21,336 passenger and pleasure machines were produced, as against 3,316 in 1903, 1,441 vehicles of other styles in 1904, as against 407 in 1903. In 1904 the amount of capital invested was \$20,555,557, as against \$15,768,557. The value of products increased 401 per cent, the amount being stated at \$26,645,064 in 1904, as against \$4,748,011 in 1903.

Yellow Macaroni Is Banned.
Washington, May 8.—The department of agriculture today announced that inspection of recent importations of macaroni, noodles, and similar products, macaroni, chemical preservatives, such as contain chemical preservatives, such as fluorides, which are regarded as injurious to health, and that after June 1 next no importation of macaroni colored with marlin yellow, or other color forbidden by the Italian law, or preserved with fluorides or other preservatives injurious to health, will be permitted.

FIRE PANIC IN BIG HOSPITAL.

Blazing Laundry Causes Patients to Flee Half-Clad.

San Francisco, May 4.—The 700 patients in the general hospital at the Presidio were thrown into a panic at 4:15 o'clock this morning by the cry of "fire."

At that moment flames were discovered in the hospital laundry, which was only a few yards away. The close proximity of the two buildings gave rise to the fear that the hospital would be destroyed.

In anticipation of such a contingency hurried arrangements were made for the removal of the patients to a place of safety.

For a few minutes, until the fire in the laundry was gotten under control and there was no danger of the flames spreading beyond that building, pandemonium reigned among the hundreds of patients.

Those who were not dangerously ill, or could help themselves, jumped from their cots and beds, and, hastily donning what clothes they could find, fled from the hospital out into the cool morning air.

Many of the indisposed men and women did not wait to secure their clothes, but wrapped themselves in bedding and made their exit as quickly as possible.

In more than one instance men and women fled out into the air with nothing but their night clothes. Scores of patients who had the physical strength stopped sufficiently long to assist more weak and unstrung men and women from the hospital.

Within 15 minutes after the alarm was given the majority of the patients had left the hospital building and stood in groups or lay upon the ground upon bed clothes, watching the firemen and soldiers fight the flames in the laundry.

When the flames had been extinguished the nurses, physicians and soldiers turned their attention to the patient-refugees, and assisted in taking them back to their cots and beds in private rooms and wards.

Men and women became hysterical during the progress of the fire, and it was with difficulty that many of them could be induced to return to the hospital. It is feared that the shock to many of the more seriously sick patients will have a serious if not fatal effect.

When the fire was discovered in the hospital a general alarm was sounded. Besides the regular post fire department hundreds of soldiers turned out to fight the flames. It was only by hard work that the flames were confined to the laundry, which, with its contents, was entirely destroyed, and prevented from spreading to the general hospital.

The origin of the fire is unknown.

LIMIT OF INSURANCE PAID.

Companies Will Be Generous, but Not Exceed Legal Liability.

New York, May 4.—The Tribune today says: Representatives of both foreign and American fire insurance companies, who were in the city yesterday, discussed action to effect a compromise in the adjustment of losses by the San Francisco fire.

The great companies express a strong purpose to be not only just, but generous in cases of doubt, but one insurance president said: "The adjusters for this company will not be allowed to waive the conditions of its policies, nor the conditions and restrictions of its charters. We have no more right to pay a loss occasioned by earthquake than we have to pay a loss of life. We are not an earthquake insurance company, nor a life insurance company."

MONOPOLY IS FOUND

President Sends Message to Congress on Standard Oil.

IS PAMPERED PET OF RAILROADS

Garfield Tells Many Devices by Which Monopoly Crushed Competition. Remove Defects in Law.

Washington, May 5.—President Roosevelt today transmitted to congress the report of James R. Garfield, commissioner of corporations, giving the results of his investigation of the subject of transportation and freight rates in connection with the oil industry.

In his message the president expresses the view that the report is of capital importance, because of the effort now being made to secure such enlargement of the powers of the interstate commerce commission as will confer upon the commission power in some measure adequate to meet the clearly demonstrated needs of the situation.

The facts set forth in the report, he declares, are for the most part not disputed.

That the Standard Oil Company has benefited enormously up almost to the present moment by secret rates, many of which were clearly unlawful, the president says the report clearly shows, the benefit thereby secured amounting to at least three-quarters of a million dollars a year.

The statement is added that the department of justice will take up the question of instituting prosecutions in at least certain of the cases, and the hope is expressed that congress will enact into law the bill of Senator Knox to correct the interpretation of the immunity provision rendered in Judge Humphrey's decision.

The president calls attention to that feature of the report regarding the manner in which the law is evaded by treating as state commerce what in reality is merely a part of interstate commerce. He says it is clearly shown: "That this device is employed on the New York Central Railroad, as well as on many other railroads, in such fashion as to amount to thwarting the purpose of the law, although the forms of the law may be complied with."

It is unfortunately not true, he says, that the Standard Oil Company is the only corporation which has benefited and is benefiting in wholly improper fashion by an elaborate series of rate discriminations.

The sugar trust, he adds, according to the results of the investigation now in progress, rarely, if ever, pays the lawful rate for transportation.

He declares that in the effort to prevent the railroads from uniting for improper purposes, "we have very unwisely prohibited them from uniting for proper purposes; that is, for purposes of protecting themselves and the general public as against the power of the great corporations."

He favors as an element of competition the passage of some such law as that which has already passed the house, putting alcohol used in the arts and manufactures on the free list and keeping the fee to oil and coal lands of the Indian tribes or on the public domain in the government, the lands to be leased only on such terms and for such periods as will enable the government to entirely control them.

CARRIED 300,000 REFUGEES.

Southern Pacific Says Few People Left City Permanently.

Chicago, May 5.—According to official figures, the Southern Pacific Company, during the exodus from San Francisco following the earthquake and the great fire, carried 300,000 free passengers. This total is up to and including April 26. Of these passengers, 67,000 were carried to interior California points, 7,684 to other states and 225,000 to suburban points around San Francisco bay. The value of these free transportations is estimated at \$456,000. This comprises only the movement from San Francisco; figures as yet not having been compiled on the free transportation from Santa Rosa, Vallejo, Sacramento and Stockton.

In the opinion of Traffic Manager Fee, the most encouraging feature of the situation is the fact that not only are most of the refugees staying in California, but that three-fourths of them have found temporary homes within easy reach of the city.

Rates Raised Wantonly.

Chicago, May 5.—Declaring that the railroads were oppressing and discriminating against its members, and had been so doing for the past six years, the American Shippers' Association met today at the Auditorium Annex and decided to enlarge its scope and influence. The association at present includes a majority of the large shippers of the country, and it is probable in the near future the interstate commerce commission will be petitioned to make a thorough inquiry into the railroads' actions in arbitrarily increasing the freight rates on a number of classifications in the last six years.

More Time for Smoot Case.

Washington, May 5.—The senate committee on privileges and elections today considered the Smoot case, but in view of statements of several senators that they desired to review certain features of the testimony, a vote was postponed until May 18. It was agreed, however, that a vote shall be had on that day. During the discussion Dubois offered the following resolution: "Resolved, that Reed Smoot is not entitled to his seat as a senator of the United States from the State of Utah."

Mint Paid Out Over \$7,000,000.

San Francisco, May 5.—The United States mint, which is being used as the general clearing house for the banks, has paid out between \$7,000,000 and \$8,000,000 to depositors since it opened Tuesday last.

MAP OF ARCTIC REGIONS SHOWING LOCATION OF THE POLE.



Raold Amundsen, the Norwegian explorer who accomplished the North-Pole Passage last year, is credited with the further achievement of having located the north magnetic pole. (See black star on left of the map.) He has definitely fixed the position of this pole in King William Land, not far from the position ascribed to it by Sir John Ross in 1831. In commenting on Amundsen's achievement the National Geographic Magazine said: "The new knowledge which his observations will give us of the character and influence of the magnetic pole will prove of immense value in the study of magnetic variations. Magnetic deviation of the needle is one of the principal uncertainties with which mariners have to contend. Terrestrial magnetism is a mysterious force. Nearly every year we have a magnetic storm, which interrupts our telegraph wires several hours. Whence it comes or what it is we know not. The eruption of Mont Pelee was accompanied by magnetic waves, which were simultaneously recorded in Hawaii, Alaska, the United States and Europe. All this makes the magnetic work of Amundsen particularly valuable, and we must remember that was the main object of his expedition."

Popular Science.

The banana and potato are almost identical in chemical composition.

There are no undertakers in Japan. When a person dies his nearest relatives put him into a coffin and bury him. The mourning does not begin until after burial.

India rubber trees which are tapped every other day continue to yield sap for more than twenty years; and it is a curious fact that the oldest and most frequently tapped trees produce the richest sap.

The most costly leather in the world is known to the trade as the plano leather. The secret of preparing this is only known to one family of tanners in Germany, though the skins from which it is tanned come almost entirely from America.

Poisoning from gas inhalation is now added to the recognized dangers of ballooning. The hydrogen—itsself non-poisonous—is often contaminated with arsenic, selenium, and antimony, and fourteen cases of ill effects have been reported to the French Academy of Medicine. In one of the two forms of poisoning death results in two or three days.

New wonders may be expected in a little known field of exploration since the invention of a young naval engineer by the name of De Plury, of a kind of metal armor with a special chemical combination for providing respiration automatically. By means of this dress he has succeeded in sinking 336 feet, a much greater depth than has ever before been reached by any diver.

To tell the points of the compass by a watch, point the hour hand at the sun; then south is halfway between the hour hand and the figure 12 of the dial. To measure an angle by a watch lay two straight-edged pieces of paper on the angle, crossing at the apex. Holding them where they overlap, lay them on the face of the watch, with the apex at the center. Read the angle by the minutes of the dial, each minute being 6 degrees of arc. It is easy to measure within 2 or 3 degrees in this way.

An indication of the rapidly growing interest in underground water supplies, even in States where the rainfall is abundant and the soil naturally fertile, is given by the program just prepared for the work of the coming season by the Geological Survey of Illinois. A special department of the work will be devoted to the study of the underground water of that State. In order to determine the limits of what are called the "Artesian basins," and the various depths to which it may be necessary to penetrate in different localities to obtain good water for municipal and agricultural purposes. All the waters will be carefully analyzed and subjected to laboratory tests, and thus it is hoped that the work of developing new water supplies will be put upon a thoroughly scientific footing.

A recent English traveler in China describes some remarkable examples of sounding stones, or "stone gongs," which he saw at Chufu, the birthplace and burial place of Confucius. One of the stones, which are composed of a grayish calcite limestone, has been shaped into a cover for an incense dish placed in front of the tomb of the grandson of Confucius. When struck with a stick, or with the knuckles, it rings like bronze, and the sound is so distinct that it is difficult to believe, without inspection, that the object is not really composed of metal. Sounding stones are known in other countries. A correspondent of Nature describes a bridge at Corick, in County Mayo, Ireland, which is locally known as the "musical bridge," because the stones forming the coping give out a musical note when struck.

Did Not Need to Propose.

"He's so bashful that he never can propose to a woman."
"Oh, I guess not. He's married, you know."
"Yes, but he married a widow, did he?"—Cleveland Leader.

"Everything," says every woman complainingly when getting a man ready for company, "has to be done at the last moment."

MILEAGE OF THE HUMAN BLOOD.

One Little Red Corpuscle May Travel 108 Miles in a Single Day.

The speed at which the blood circulates in the veins and arteries of a healthy man is something surprising. All day long, year in and year out, the red blood corpuscles travel like boats in a stream, going to this or that station for such service as they have to perform; and the white corpuscles, the phagocytes, dart hither and thither like patrol boats, ready to arrest any contraband cargo of disease germs.

The mileage of the blood circulation reveals some astounding facts in our personal history. Thus it has been calculated that, assuming the heart to beat sixty-nine times a minute at ordinary heart pressure, the blood goes at the rate of two hundred and seven yards in the minute, or seven miles per hour, one hundred and sixty-eight miles per day and six thousand three hundred and twenty miles per year. If a man of 84 years of age could have one single blood corpuscle floating in his blood all his life it would have traveled in that same time five million one hundred and fifty thousand eight hundred and eight miles.

Funny He Didn't Remember.

One day last week Mayor Fitzgerald, as busy as the three bees that he is trying to make Boston, came tripping into the city hall from the School street entrance. In the corridor he was met by a seedy-looking individual who held up his honor, put out a grimy paw with the salutation: "How are you today, Mr. Mayor?" "Very well, sir," was the response, as he grasped the hand of the unknown.

"You don't seem to know me, do you, Mr. Mayor?"

"Well, to be candid with you, I cannot say that I do, but I am glad to meet you."

"Don't you remember the day you were elected?"

"Well, I ought to," said the mayor. "Just think a bit what you did that night. Don't you remember that you went down to the Quincy House to meet your friends?"

"I certainly do," said the mayor. "I will always remain with me one of the pleasantest memories of my life."

"Don't you remember coming out on the balcony and addressing a crowd of 5,000 or more persons in front of the hotel?"

"Yes, sir, I do, very distinctly," said his honor.

"Well, I was the fellow that wore the brown hat," concluded the unknown.—Boston Post.

Sketches Nova Zembla.

Alexander Alexewitch Borisoff has started from St. Petersburg on a tour abroad with twenty-six oil paintings and sketches which represent the outcome of a voyage to Nova Zembla undertaken toward the end of the nineties at the expense of the Czar. In 1896 he made a trip to Nova Zembla bringing back with him a series of remarkable sketches. In 1899 he built the yacht Meetta (The Dream), Archangel and sailed in her to Nova Zembla, where he erected a shanty with wood he had brought, and finished many sketches of Matsch Sebar (the straits dividing Nova Zembla) at also of the Carle Sea. During the winter pastel drawings or charco sketches only were possible; in spring brush and palette could again be used.—London Sphere.

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