REFORM IS DELAYED

Land Laws Will Not Be Changed At Present Session.

DELAY WAS RATHER EXPECTED

Commission Appointed by Roosevelt to Decide on Needed Changes Has Not Yet Made Final Report.

Washintgon, Dec. 16.—The house committee on public lands today voted to postpone indefinitely the bill to repeal the timber and stone act. This action means there will be no land-law reform this session. This result was expected, especially in view of the fact that the public lands commission has not yet made a final report. The bill passed on was by far the most important of the land reform bills pending, but when it was passed by the senate last session there was a distinct understanding with the members of the house committee that it should not be reported to the house during the present congress.

The house committee turned the bill down by a vote of 10 to 4, those voting for repeal being: Chairman Lacey, of Iowa; Miller of Kansas, Needham of California and Volstead of Minnesota. In turning down this bill the committee stated that the repeal of the timber and sonte act would shut off the source of the greater portion of the reclamation fund, and would seriously handicap irrigation work begun by the government. Furthermore, it was said that the repeal of this law would be of immeasurable benefit to railroad companies and other large holders of forest reserve lands, as it would cause a considerable rise in the value of scrip, which would be the only remaining way of getting large tracts of government timber land. There was, moreover, a general belief that the timber and stone act, if properly administered, is not a bad law.

ROOSEVELT URGES ACTION.

Anxious Interstate Commerce Commission to Have Greater Power.

Washington, Dec. 16. — President Roosevelt considered today with several friends his recommendation that increased powers be conferred by legislation upon the Interstate Commerce commission. Those to whom he talked were not only members of congress, but men in other walks of life. To all he indicated his earnest desire that action of a denfiite nature—action that would bring results to the people—should be taken as soon as practicable.

A day or two ago he considered the question with Judge Grosscup, of Chicago. Today he discussed it with Judge William W. Morrow, of the United States court at San Francisco.

By invitatoin of the president, a special committee of the Commercial Travelers' Protective association called on him today to consider his recommendation that the powers of the Interstate Commerce commission be extended so as to enable the commission to pass upon questions of railroad freight rates, subject only to review by the courts.

MITCHELL MUCH GRATIFIED.

He Wins Important Committeeship in Face of Much Opposition.

Washington, Dec. 16. — Senator Mitchell was highly gratified today to receive the appointment as chairman of the committee on interoceanic canals, which will handle all legislation hereafter enacted affecting the Panama canal and the canal zone. He succeeds the late Senator Hanna.

A very strong fight was made to keep Senator Mithcell out of his position, and it was only when all endeavor to force Senator Platt to accept the place failed that the position was given to the Oregon senator.

Friends of Panama really wanted to make Kittredge, of South Dakota, chairman of this committee, but could not consistently jump him over Mitchell.

Senator Mitchell was fought because he was an earnest advocate of the Nicaragua route.

Dredge for Oregon Harbors.

Washington, Dec. 16.—Representative Hermann appeared before the rivers and harbors committee in support of his bill asking an appropriation of $100,000 for a dredge to be used on Oregon coast bars. Representative Hermann has received assurances from Chairman Burton and other members of the committee which lead him to belivee the committee will incorporate in the river and harbor bill a provision for the dredge. The committee is unwilling to make further appropriations for the coast projects.

Can Hit Fortress Anywhere.

Headquarters Third Japanese Army, via Fusan, Dec. 16.—Every part of the city and harbor of Port Arthur is visible from 203-Meter hill. The streets of the city are deserted, and but few soldiers are doing patrol duty. Many buildings have been burned and others shattered. The shelters of the harbor present a strange appearance with the turrets, masts and funnels of warships showing just above the water. There is not a vessel afloat in the harbor.

Canada Will Not Come to Fair.

Ottawa, Ont., Dec. 16.—The Dominion government decided today not to send an exhibit to the Lewis and Clark exposition.

FATAL FIRE ON SHIP.

Long Island Steamer Burns and Nine Lives are Lost.

New York, Dec. 20.—By the burning of the Starin line steamer, Glen Island, in Long Island sound today, nine lives were lost and property roughly estimated at $250,000 was destroyed. That more lives were not sacrificed was undoubtedly due to the personal courage of the officres of the crew and the excellent discipline maintained when a horrible death for all seemed almost a certainty. When the steamer was abandoned she was flame-swept from stem to stern, and yet the only persons who lost their lives were those whose escape had been entirely cut off by the fire before the alarm reached them.

Of the 31 persons, including 10 passengers, who sailed away on the Glen Island last night, 22, including eight passengers, were brought back today.

The Glen Island left her dock here last night for New Haven. The trip down through the sound was without incident. About midnight, when three miles west of Greenwich, Conn., there came a rush of stifling smoke from the hold and every electric light on board the craft went out.

Captain McAllister sent in the alarm for fire drill, and the men came tumbling out of their bunks. In the meantime the steering gear had been blocked, and the pilots, finding themselves unable to direct the course of the steamer, hurried to the assistance of the other members of the crew in saving lives.

How and where the fire originated is a mystery, but it is believed to have started in a dynamo located below and near the center of the vessel. Nearly all the passengers were in their berths when the vessel suddenly became filled with stifling smoke and the lights went out.

GREAT WEAKNESS OF CHINA

Diplomat Shows It Is Her Lack of An Effective Army and Navy.

Philadelphia, Dec. 20.— Sir Chen Tung Liang Cheng, the Chinese minister to the United States, tonight addressed the American Academy of political and social science on the subject, "China's Traditional Policy." Among other things he said:,

"For two thousand years China has not swerved an iota from steadily pursuing a consistent policy of peace. This may be put down to the fact that all the men who have played a prominent part in Chinese affairs have invariably been true followers of Confucis.

"It may be urged that the Chinese people have brought much unnecessary suffering upon themselves by their firm adherence to the principles of peace. It is true that they have left their country practically exposed to foreign invasions. They maintain no effective army; they have no battleships. These weaknesses are patent to all, but China's strength does not lie so near the surface.

"They may be wanting in those showy qualities of mind and body which the people of the West admire and cultivate, but they are endowed to an eminent degree with those hardy virtues which tell most in the struggle for existence, namely, patience, industry and thrift."

CANNOT ADD WING.

Congress Will Have to Authorize Further Change in Postoffice.

Washington, Dec. 20. — Senator Mitchell today telegraphed Theodore B. Wilcox, chairman of the executive committee of the Portland Commercial club, explaining that it will be impossible for the supervising architect to add another wing to the Portland postoffice without the authority of congress. The appropriation made two years ago authorized the wing now under construction, and provided only enough money to complete it.

If it can be shown that the new wing will not provide all the room necessary, congress will have to make another appropriation before a second wing can be built. Senator Mitchell has asked for some showing upon which he can request congress to pass a bill making another appropriation for further additions to the postoffice building. When this is recieved he will join with the delegation in an effort to have provision made in the omnibus bill.

Philippine Tariff Considered.

Washington, Dec. 20.—Secretary Taft today had a long talk at the War department with Chairman Payne, of the house committee on ways and means, and Representative Dalzell, the next ranking member of that committee, relative to tariff legislation for the Philippines, upon which subject the secetary of war made recommendations to congress in his annual report to the president. Colonel Edwards, chief of the Bureau of insular affairs, also was present and took an active part in the discussion.

War Vessels for Brazil.

New York, Dec. 20.—The president has promulgated a law, cables the Rio Janiero, Brazil, correspondent, maintaining martial law for a month, and a law authorizing the government to build 28 war vessels. The newspaper Notizia, commenting on the peace with Paraguay, says the Latin-American republics should now more than ever live in orderly fashion, so as not to give the United States cause for interference.

Russia Places Big Hay Order.

San Francisco, Dec. 20.—A secret order for several thousands tons of hay for export shipment has been placed with one of the leading firms of the city during the past few days, and circumstances point to the Russian government as the purchaser.

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Atlantic Express 8:15 p.m. via Huntington.	Salt Lake, Denver, Ft. Worth, Omaha, Kansas City, St. Louis, Chicago and East.	9:00 a. m.
St. Paul Fast Mail 6:15 p. m. via Spokane	Walla Walla, Lewiston, Spokane, Wallace, Pullman, Minneapolis, St. Paul, Duluth, Milwaukee, Chicago and East.	7:15 a. m.

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No. 2, for Yaquina:—	
Leaves Albany	12:45 P M
Leaves Corvallis	1:48 P M
Arrives Yaquina	6:20 P M
No. 1, returning:—	
Leaves Yaquina	6.45 A M
Leaves Corvallis	11:30 A M
Arrives Albany	12:15 P M
No. 3 for Albany-Detroit	
Leavss Corvallis	6:00 A M
Arrives Albany	6:40 A M
Leaves Albany for Detroit	7:30 A M
Arrives Detroit	12:02 P M
No. 4, from Detroit:—	
Leaves Detroit	12:35 A M
Arrived Albany	5:15 P M
Lv. Albany for Corvallis	7:15 P M
Arrive Corvallis	7:55 P M

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Train No. 3 for Detroit, via Albany, leaves Corvallis at 6:00 a. m. and connects with the S. P Albany-Portland local train leaving Albany at 7 a m. Train No. 4 leaves Albany for Detroit at 7:30 a. m., arriving there at noon giving ample time to reach the Breitenbush hot springs the same day.

Train No. 4 connects at Albany with the Portland Albany local, which arrives there at 7:10 and runs to Corvallis leaving Albany at 7:15 and arriving in Corvallis at 7:55 p. m.

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