

IN THE NATIONAL HALLS OF CONGRESS

Saturday, December 18.
The senate today passed the Panama emergency appropriation bill. The only change in the measure as it passed the house is a provision which requires that congress shall be supplied with regular estimates of all salaries except those paid to laborers.
Senator Dubois, of Idaho, will retain all his present committee places and secure membership on the irrigation committee.

Friday, December 15.
The Panama canal was again under consideration by the senate today and Tillman occupied the entire time given to that subject. He did not indicate any intention of opposition to the passage of the appropriation bill, but he criticized the methods of the canal commission in many of its transactions. When the senate adjourned the bill was still pending, but there was an agreement for a vote tomorrow.
In the reorganization of the senate committees, now about completed, Fulton secures the chairmanship of the committee on claims, retains his place on public lands and on irrigation, and is assigned membership on one or two smaller committees. Ankeny becomes chairman of the irrigation committee and secures a place on commerce. Piles is made chairman of coast and insular survey and given a place on public lands and territories, in which latter place he will be able to work for Alaska. Heyburn did not get a single committee asked for. The only new place given him was public buildings. The fate of Dubois is not as yet settled. The Democrats not having completed their slate.

The house today devoted 4 1/2 hours to lively debate on the possibilities of controlling insurance.
Jones, of Washington, introduced bills appropriating \$25,000 for a fish hatchery in Yakima county, and granting Washington 50,000 acres of land for the benefit of the Soldiers' home.

Thursday, December 14.
The senate spent four hours today in discussing the Panama canal emergency appropriation bill and, when it adjourned, the bill was still under consideration. A separate bill regulating the issuance of bonds for the canal and placing them on the same basis as other bonds of the government was passed without debate.
Senator Fulton introduced a bill appropriating \$100,000 to erect a public building at Baker City, another carrying \$15,000 for improvement of the grounds at Salem, and a third to ratify the treaty with the Klamath Indians and pay them \$500,000.
The pure food bill was reported by Senator Heyburn.

The Republican members of the house caucus today unanimously declared in favor of admitting Oklahoma and Indian Territory as one state, and by a vote of 10 to 65 declared in favor of admitting Arizona and New Mexico as one state. Both statehood questions are to be contained in one bill.
Representative Cushman introduced a bill providing for the election of one delegate from Alaska to congress.
Representative Lacey, of Iowa, introduced a bill granting grazing privileges on public lands to homestead settlers and holders of small farms in semi-arid and arid lands. Prices are to range from 1 to 6 cents an acre annually.
A bill providing for a public whipping post for the District of Columbia was introduced by Adams, of Pennsylvania.
A fourth Federal judge for Alaska is provided for in a bill by Jones, of Washington.

Wednesday, December 13.
The senate was in session for only one hour and a half today, and a portion of that time was spent in the consideration of executive business. A number of private bills were introduced in the open session, and Allison presented the report of the committee on appropriations on the canal bill, giving notice that he would call it up for consideration tomorrow. He said that the committee was of the opinion that \$11,000,000 would be sufficient for present

Rate Bill After Holidays.
Washington, Dec. 13.—Railroad rate legislation will be allowed to rest until after the holidays. Members of the house committee on interstate and foreign commerce have agreed to take up and dispose of less important measures before the recess. In the senate also there is a disposition to let rate legislation slumber. The members of the interstate commerce committee in that body have decided to hold but one meeting a week before Christmas and there is a general understanding that rate legislation will not be pushed.

Cut Out Opposed Section.
Washington, Dec. 14.—The Santo Domingo treaty was referred back to the committee on foreign relations. It is understood that it is the desire of the administration that the treaty be modified by striking out the provision authorizing the president to send an armed force to Santo Domingo, if at any time necessary. It is the belief of friends of the treaty that, if this provision were removed, there would be less opposition to ratification.

purpose and that the amount had been left as fixed by the house.
Senator Gallinger introduced an amendment to the statehood bill to prohibit the sale of liquor in the state proposed to be created by the admission of Oklahoma and Indian Territory for a period of 21 years, and then only after an amendment of the state constitution permitting liquor traffic.
Speaker Cannon announced the transfer of Mondell (Wyoming) from the committee on military affairs to that of public lands, and of Miller (Kansas) from public lands to military affairs. The transfer gives the two members the same committee assignments they had in the last congress.
Committee reference of the annual message of President Roosevelt was made according to the subjects treated. The question of Federal control of insurance was assigned to the committee on ways and means. In explanation of this, Payne said that, in his opinion, the only way the United States can deal with insurance companies is through the taxing power, and over this the ways and means committee has jurisdiction.
Among the bills introduced in the house today were the following:
By Mondell, of Wyoming, providing for the appropriation of not more than \$20,000 annually from the sales of public lands to the endowment of state schools of mines and mining or departments of mines and mining in connection with colleges already established.
By Needham, of California, transferring the Yellowstone, Yosemite, Sequoia, General Grant, Mount Rainier, Crater Lake and Wind Cave national parks from the control of the Department of the Interior to the Department of Agriculture.
By Delegate Andrews, of New Mexico, providing for the admission of the territory of New Mexico as a single state.

A bill abolishing the Isthmian Canal commission was introduced by Representative Mann, of Illinois. In it discretion is given the president to put the work of building the canal under any one of the executive departments, and also to operate the Panama railroad through the same means.
CUTS OUT BONDS.
Senate Committee Favors Canal Appropriation of \$11,000,000.
Washington, Dec. 13.—The emergency appropriation bill to provide the Isthmian canal commission with funds to carry on the construction of the Panama canal will contain no general legislation. This was decided by the senate committee on appropriations at a meeting lasting all of yesterday, at which it was agreed to report the measure appropriating \$11,000,000, the amount named by the house bill. The first section, in relation to the issuance of bonds, was stricken out. A bill containing this feature was introduced in the senate by Teller, and it will be dealt with by the finance committee. The bill was amended to further provide that in the future no expenditures shall be made for the canal except by authority of congress, and when appropriations have been made by congress.
Santo Domingo Treaty Up.
Washington, Dec. 13.—In the senate yesterday Talliaferro took the oath of office for his new term as senator. The senate at 12:10 p. m. went into executive session, and at 12:20 adjourned.
In executive session of the senate, Lodge moved to send back to the committee on foreign relations the treaty in relation to Santo Domingo affairs. Opposition developed, and Lodge withdrew his motion. When Lodge was asked why he desired to have the treaty sent back to the foreign relations committee, he said it might be desirable to consider the amendments that had been offered in committee. Several senators said they saw no reason why the amendments could not be considered by the senate.
Rivals For Coveted Place.
Washington, Dec. 14.—As the situation sizes up today, it looks as if Senator Ankeny would secure the vacant position on the commerce committee formerly held by Senator Foster of Washington. Mr. Ankeny and Mr. Fulton have been making a neck and neck race for this place.

New Mexico Willing to Unite.
Washington, Dec. 14.—Joint statehood for New Mexico and Arizona was discussed by the president today with a delegation of New Mexicans, among whom were Solomon Luna, Republican National committeeman; Major W. H. H. Llewellyn, United States District attorney; Judge A. A. Freeman and A. M. Hove. Judge Freeman said he believed the people of the two territories would be glad to accept joint statehood. Major Llewellyn and Mr. Luna took up with the president some appointments in the judiciary of New Mexico.

No Ship Subsidy Possible.
Washington, Dec. 13.—There is to be no ship subsidy legislation at this session of congress. The senate is lukewarm. The house is opposed to such legislation. The new merchant marine committee appointed by Speaker Cannon is said to have ten members against four who are favorable to the proposed measure. The speaker is understood to oppose the project at this time, because of the likelihood of a tariff discussion.

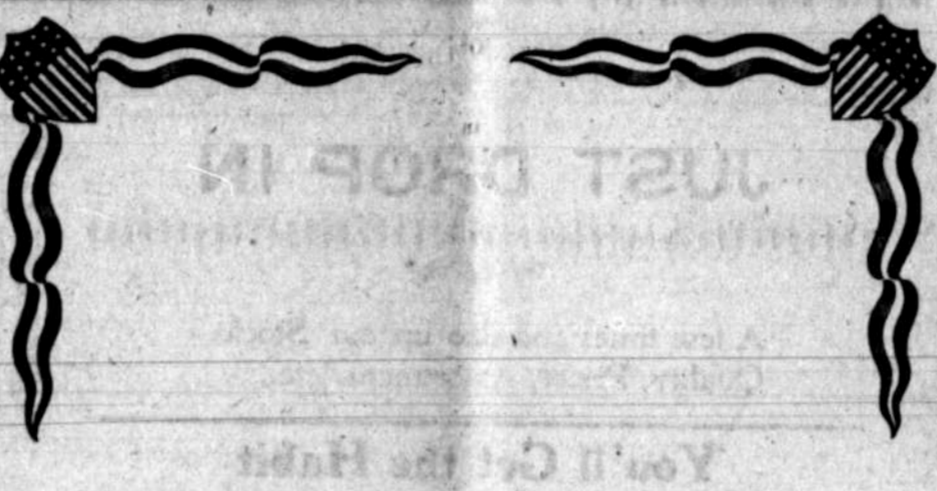


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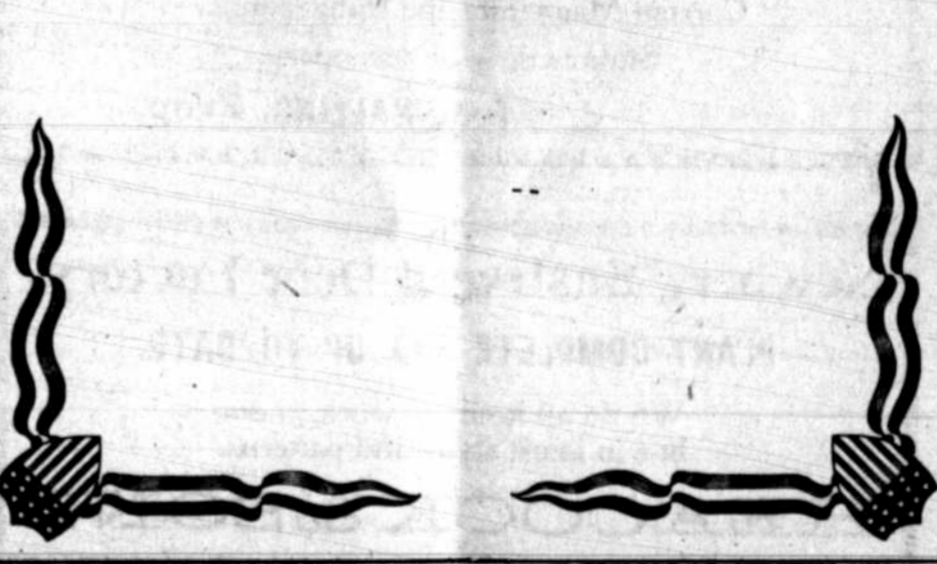
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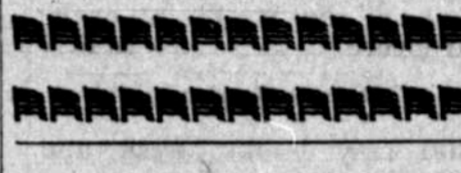
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