

DONORS OF THE SIXTIETH CONGRESS

Thursday, December 18.—The spirit of generosity that for five years has been steadily unclouded and broadened between John Sharp Williams, of Mississippi, leader of the minority, and David A. De Armond, of Missouri, colonized in a fight today on the floor of the house of representatives. The bloom of De Armond's blood to flow down the face of Williams, and only the force of the intervention of friends on the floor kept him from being a martyr. De Armond bore away a second vote.

Speaker Cannon today announced the committee assignments for the Sixtieth congress. Many changes from the last congress are made, but in the main the members who had heretofore held important offices were retained in them.

In the assignments Northwest members have been placed as follows:

Oregon—Zilla, on naval affairs, irrigation and lands; Hawley, on agriculture and claims.

Washington—Jones, on rivers and harbors; Cushman, on interstate commerce and private land claims; Humphrey, on elections, education, merchant marine and fisheries.

Idaho—French, on immigration, public lands and mines.

During the two hours and twenty minutes session the house got down to actual work and transacted considerably business. All that had remained to make this possible was the announcement of the committee appointments which was made today by the speaker.

The several chairmen became active with regard to their rights, and forced the reference to committees of several propositions on which immediate action was desired. This was not accomplished, however, without more or less debate, which at times grew warm.

The first money appropriated by the present congress was awarded today. The amount was \$50,000, and it is to be used in supply of the need deficiency caused by the destruction by fire of the government seed warehouse in this city. The house will meet again on Saturday, on which day adjournment for Christmas holidays will be taken.

Wednesday, December 18.—In the senate today resolutions were introduced by Tillman, asking the Interstate Commerce commission to report whether any corporation engaged in interstate commerce is the owner of the stock of any other corporation carrying passengers and freight, and calling on the Interstate Commerce commission to do the same in respect to control of the higher trade under the interstate commerce law.

Three resolutions provided considerable debate and were finally referred to committees, though one of them was transformed into a bill.

Calhoun spoke on his resolution calling on the committee on finance to investigate and report upon the cause of the present financial stringency and to recommend measures for the prevention of a recurrence. The resolution was referred to the committee on finance.

The senate, on motion of Allison, agreed to adjourn until Saturday and after routine business on Saturday to adjourn until January 6.

Tuesday, December 17.—Aside from the appointment of committees, which took place at the beginning of today's session of the senate, the need of improvement of the inland waterways was the chief subject in that body today.

Kavanaugh, of Nevada, spoke for two hours on his bill providing an inland waterway commission and for the development of inland waterways in the country.

The senate adopted the resolution of Ditch, extending the time allowed the militia of the several states, territories and the District of Columbia to conform to the provisions of the act of June 21, 1918, which was necessary in order that the militia of several states might take advantage of appropriations that have been made.

In the senate committee assignment session gave his old chairmanship of education, is transferred from military affairs to judiciary and goes off the irrigation and public health committees.

Bourne is chairman of the fisheries committee and is a member of the coast defense, postoffice and post roads, public health, railroads and expenditure of the department of justice.

Senator Aldrey is chairman of irrigation and Pile of the coast and inland waterways.

Monday, December 16.—Washington, Dec. 16.—A speech by Senator Tillman, allied with a denunciation of the president, the secretary of the treasury, and the department of justice, was the chief subject of interest in the senate today. His remarks were based on his resolutions directing an investigation by the committee on finance of the recent bond issues by the Treasury department and of the issuance of clearing house certificates throughout the country.

The two senators from Oklahoma were sworn into office today. Senator Koney presented the credentials of Robert L. Owen and Senator Calhoun those of Thomas P. Gore, the blind senator.

The terms of the two senators then were drawn by lot. Senator Owen secured the six-year term and Senator Gore the two-year term.

Senator William F. Frye was today sworn in as president pro tem of the senate.

Senator Calhoun introduced a resolution directing a congressional investigation of the cause of the present financial stringency and calling on the committee on finance to recommend measures for the immediate relief of the country. He desired to have this resolution considered at once, but in the absence of Senator Aldrich, chairman of the committee on finance, it was allowed to go over. A number of other bills were introduced. The senate adjourned at 3:15 p. m.

Washington, Dec. 16.—Representative John Sharp Williams, of Mississippi, today introduced the old Blaine bill to admit into all ports of the United States free of duty all products of the American hemisphere upon which no export duties are imposed whatever and so long as such nation shall submit to the port free of all taxes certain United States products.

The house session was limited to 25 minutes and little business beyond the introduction of bills was transacted.

The speaker announced the appointment of the committee on appropriations on Saturday to adjourn on Thursday.

The house then adjourned until Thursday.

Washington, Dec. 20.—Congressman Humphrey, of Washington, has introduced a bill providing that any passenger vessel engaged in tri-weekly trade between the United States and foreign ports shall be exempt from tonnage and clearance fees and tonnage taxes while such service is maintained. Bills of Oregon, introduced a bill authorizing payment to officers and enlisted men of the Second regiment, Oregon Volunteer Infantry, for special service in the Philippines the difference between pay allowed them on their discharge from service and the rate provided by law at the time of their muster into service.

Letters Will Reach Fleet.—Washington, Dec. 19.—The Navy department today sent a wireless message to Captain J. H. Arbuckle, of the battleship Rhode Island, with the Atlantic fleet on route to Trinidad, informing him that his wife, who has been seriously ill, is better. For the benefit of friends and relatives of the sailors on the battleship, the Navy department wishes it made known that mail matter destined for the 16,000 men aboard in the big ships can be sent at the regular rates for domestic postage.

Meat is the Only Food.—Washington, Dec. 17.—The peasant diet, the man who upholds an ancient as the panacea of all stomachic ills, the expensiveness of herbaceous living of all kinds, receive a body blow in a bulletin just issued by the United States department of agriculture. The bulletin was prepared by Dr. H. B. Grisdley, professor of general chemistry at the university of Illinois, and shows that all kinds of meat are more easily digested and more completely assimilated than any other class of food.

Will Reach Office for Present.—Washington, Dec. 17.—Attorney General Bonaparte has persistently refused to discuss the British case since official notice was given out from the White House that the nomination would be withdrawn. Henry O. Grun, private secretary to Bonaparte and his monthpiece in many public matters, said today that Mr. Bristol would continue as district attorney until his successor should be appointed and qualified.

Meat Packers' Objections.—Washington, Dec. 17.—The proposed new beef inspection regulation of the department of agriculture was the subject of a hearing given by Secretary Wilson today to a committee representing the American Beef Packers' association and other packers throughout the country. The packers were requested to submit their objections in writing, with the assurance that they would be carefully considered.

New Northwest Postmasters.—Washington, Dec. 30.—Postmaster appointments: Oregon—Dale, Barclay V. Blunt, vice Craig Thom, resigned; Washington—Sullivan, Mack Hilday, vice Klam Dawson, resigned.

BARE SUMMER FALLOW.

Agricultural College Makes Interesting Experiment in Fallowing.—By A. L. Kestley, Oregon Agricultural College.

In taking a walk over the farm at the Oregon Agricultural college, looking for interesting and instructive objects for study, there may be seen north of the old barn and just to the south of the path leading to the orchard, an enclosure containing some very interesting experiments. This enclosure occupies an oblong box probably ten feet long, three feet wide and three feet deep. In this box are installed four galvanised iron tanks or pots, each holding approximately 600 pounds of soil. Each pot is provided with a drainage spout so that all water leaching through the soil in these pots may be collected and measured and analyzed.

Many farmers practice bare summer fallow and the question often arises as to the good or bad effects arising from this practice.

Should the practice of bare summer fallow be discouraged? It was for the purpose of answering this question that these experiments in the galvanised iron pots were started.

In 1900 all pots were filled with the same soil thoroughly mixed so that each pot was identical with the others. Since that time part of the pots have been bare summer fallow, while others have been growing crops, usually of grain. The leachings from each pot during the rainy season have been carefully saved and analyzed with the results that invariably the leaching from the bare summer fallow pots carried from two to over six times as much nitrogen as did the leachings from the pots that had not been bare summer fallow.

The first few weeks of leaching in the fall carry most of the soluble nitrate nitrogen. The amount of nitrogen leached out of the soil in one month in the fall was equivalent to approximately 8 pounds per acre in soil not summer fallow and over 40 pounds per acre where the soil had been thoroughly summer fallow.

From the plant food point of view bare summer fallow cannot be recommended.

Summer fallow aerates the soil, conserves moisture and oxidizes the organic matter of the soil, converting much of the organic nitrogen first into ammonia compounds and then into nitrate nitrogen; that is into a form which easily leaches from the soil and is lost to the farmer, while organic nitrogen does not readily leach out of the soil. At times bare summer fallow may be desirable but usually it is to be condemned.



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A Policeman's Testimony.

J. N. Patterson, night policeman, of Nashua, Iowa, writes: "Last winter I had a bad cold on my lungs and tried at least a half-dozen advertised cough medicines and had treatment from two physicians without getting any benefit. A friend recommended **Foley's Honey and Tar** and two-thirds of a bottle cured me. I consider it the greatest cough and lung medicine in the world."

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