

IN THE NATIONAL HALLS OF CONGRESS

Friday, March 23.
 Washington, March 23. — Spooner today concluded his speech in the senate on the railroad rate bill, and the fortifications appropriation bill was taken up and passed. It carries an appropriation of \$125,000 for the erection of a powder manufactory, and Daniel spoke at length in support of the provision. He declared that the nation was entirely at the mercy of a powder trust, and urged that the amendment should be adopted as a safeguard. As passed, the bill carries an appropriation of \$5,278,993. Tillman also spoke on the railroad rate bill, suggesting that the Interstate Commerce commission should have authority to enjoin the railroads from increasing their rates. He said the suggestion had been made by a "corn field lawyer" in Oklahoma.

The following bills were also passed: Creating a steamboat inspectors' district in Alaska; providing for filling in the naval station at Honolulu; authorizing the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul railroad to construct bridges across the Missouri, Yellowstone, Snake and Columbia rivers.

Washington, March 23. — The consideration of the legislative appropriation bill in the house today was enlivened by a small spat between Prince and Tawney, a proposition to buy a private car for the president, which was ruled out of order, and a jeering speech by Smith, of Arizona, about the suppression of debate by the rules.

An echo of the statehood controversy yesterday resulted in an effort to correct the journal. Williams maintained he was put in the ridiculous position of moving to instruct the conferees after they had been appointed, a motion clearly out of order at that time. The correction was made as suggested.

Thursday, March 22.
 Washington, March 22. — The statehood bill was taken from the speaker's table in the house today, placed in the hands of three selected conferees and a request made of the senate for a conference on the disagreeing votes of the two houses. This action was not accomplished without many words and votes. It was developed, however, that there were votes enough to carry out the program of the leaders. Then followed 40 minutes of fiery speeches, some of which provoked much amusement among the large attendance of members and the crowded galleries. Then came the final vote on the adoption of the rule, which 175 members approved and 156 opposed.

The legislative appropriation bill constituted the subject for the remainder of the day. Criticism was made of the management of the library of congress, and Hardwick, of Georgia, found himself opposed by members of both sides of the chamber in his endeavor to restrict the white house appropriation so as to eliminate a social secretary for the wife of the president.

Washington, March 22. — The railroad rate bill occupied practically all of the time of the senate today. There were two speeches, one by Lodge and the other by Spooner. Lodge spoke in advocacy of his amendment, looking to the enlargement of the Interstate Commerce commission, and in doing so replied sharply to some recent utterances of Commissioner Prouty. Spooner devoted his attention to the constitutional powers of the inferior courts, contending that these courts could not be destroyed nor their jurisdiction taken from them.

Wednesday, March 21.
 Washington, March 21. — The entire day in the senate was devoted to the consideration of the railroad rate bill. Culberson began the proceedings by presenting an amendment prohibiting corporations coming under the operation of the proposed law from making campaign contributions and he was immediately followed by his colleague Bailey, who offered the amendment so long promised by him and followed this action with a speech in which he explained that he would not now present the amendment but for the fact that Dolliver had referred to and criticized it in an interview. He indicated some displeasure over the interview, but exonerated Dolliver from discourtesy in the matter. The Iowa senator disavowed any intention to reveal a secret and the incident was closed pleasantly. Both Bailey and Dolliver made speeches reiterating their views and they were followed by more or less

Revise Second-Class Rate.
 Washington, March 20. — The house committee on postoffices and postroads reported the postoffice appropriation bill to the house today. It provides for an expenditure of \$191,373,848 for the fiscal year 1907, or \$918,221 less than the modified estimates of the Postoffice department. This amount exceeds the appropriation for 1906 by \$10,351,755. Legislation for freeing the mails of heavy matter and for gaining information to reclassify mail is included in the bill. One provision appropriates \$10,000 to pay freight on supplies.

extended remarks by Tillman, Patterson, Heyburn and Knox. Bailey was interrupted in the middle of his speech by the announcement of his father's death, and immediately left the senate chamber.

Washington, March 21. — Representative George R. Patterson, of the Twelfth Pennsylvania district, died suddenly here today. Heart failure is ascribed as the cause of death.

The house adjourned immediately after it was called to order, out of respect for Mr. Patterson. The statehood bill will be taken up tomorrow.

Tuesday, March 20.

Washington, March 20. — In less than 20 minutes the senate voted away \$140,000,000 of the public funds. The sum is carried by the pension appropriation bill, which brief document was made the subject of very little discussion. The railroad rate bill was laid aside for the day and the major portion of the time was devoted to the consideration of the fortification bill. In that connection the question of the necessity for seacoast fortifications in the Philippines was discussed at length, with the result that all provisions for such fortifications in these islands was eliminated. The consideration of the measure was not concluded. There was also a brief discussion of the power of the conference committee to amend the bill providing for punishment for premature divulgence of government secrets so as to make the inhibition extend to senators and members of the house of representatives, but the subject was left undisposed of for the time.

Washington, March 20. — The house of representatives today did business with a microscope in one hand and the bill making appropriations for the salaries of its officers and employees in the other. The result was that, although 5 1/2 hours were spent in reading the legislative appropriation bill for amendment, less than 25 pages were completed. The spirit of economy in little things was all absorbing. Points of order were made and many of them were fatal to proposed increases in the salaries of officers, janitors, doorkeepers, messengers and laborers.

A point of order which made the engine room of the house cost \$270 instead of \$280 a year, as proposed, caused a constitutional debate of more than an hour on the point as to whether the house could do as it saw fit in the matter of fixing the salaries of its employees. The conclusion seemed to be that it could, and that it prescribed its own action by its rules. However, these rules prohibited increasing a salary without provision of law.

Monday, March 19.

Washington, March 19. — There were three speeches on the railroad rate bill in the senate today. McCreary, Bailey and Heyburn were the orators. McCreary announced his determination to vote for the bill whether amended or not, but said that he would not object to a reasonable provision for the review of the Interstate Commerce commission's findings. Bailey replied to criticisms of his suggestion for a prohibition of the suspension of the commission's orders by courts below the Supreme court. He contended, that congress had the absolute power to prescribe limitations for the courts which it creates, and cited a large number of decisions in support of his position. Heyburn advocated a review provision, but expressed the opinion that, even if it were omitted, no person could be deprived of his right of admission to the courts.

Washington, March 19. — The house today reached a compromise on the question of abolishing the grade of lieutenant general in the army, providing that it shall not become effective until October 12 next, in order that Generals Corbin and MacArthur may be promoted before their retirement.

An important bill, declared to be the first step toward a reorganization of the consular service, was passed. The bill already has been acted upon by the senate. It reclassifies the service and increases the salaries to the extent of \$170,000 a year.

Silent About Bristol.

Washington, March 19. — F. J. Heney, when asked tonight about District Attorney Bristol's case, declined to make any statements. He would not say whether he intended to take this matter up with the president, or express an opinion as to what will be done with Mr. Bristol.

Measure Oregon Streams.

Washington, March 20. — The Geological survey has formed a new hydrographic district, comprising the states of Washington and Oregon. The headquarters of J. C. Stevens, hydrographer in charge, will be at 351 Washington street, Portland. Mr. Stevens is trained in engineering, and has had several years of experience investigating the hydrography work in the arid states of the West. He is well qualified for this important work. The Oregon state surveyor at present co-operates with the government geographical survey.

CUT AWAY THE RED TAPE.

Purpose of Bill Regulating National Reclamation Work.

Washington, March 20. — In its general operation, the National reclamation law has proven quite as effective as its framers expected; indeed, the general work of national irrigation is progressing satisfactorily. In the administration of the Reclamation service, however, there has been some slight friction which has resulted in delays that have been bothersome, if nothing more.

No one can realize this more than the chief of the Reclamation service, Mr. Newell, and the director of the Geological survey, Mr. Walcott. To obviate these delays, the reclamation authorities have explained the situation to the president and he has approved their recommendations and at the joint request of these officials a bill has been introduced in congress which will, if enacted, prove of very material benefit to the Reclamation service.

Most of the friction and delay complained of is the result of red tape that exists between the Reclamation office and the Interior department proper. Their dealings are not direct, and in the roundabout course they follow many delays are likely to occur. The bill that has been laid before the house by Representative Cooper does away with this red tape by providing a more direct means of communication, at the same time giving the Reclamation service more leeway. The director of the geological survey is made the director of the Reclamation service and he goes ahead with his plans, merely submitting them to the secretary for approval and not for review.

Another important change is made by the bill in the matter of apportioning and expending money for reclamation works. At present this money is entirely under the control of the secretary. At this time there is a very strong sentiment in congress against allowing cabinet officers to handle such funds in a free manner, and the tendency is to restrict lump appropriations and stipulate the various purposes for which the money is to be used. The Cooper bill permits the Reclamation service to send to congress each year a statement of the expenditures which it proposes to make during the following 12 months, so that congress shall specifically authorize the various expenditures. Thus, while the Reclamation service will retain the right to say how the funds shall be apportioned, their findings are always subject to the approval of congress.

Notwithstanding this bill is approved in its entirety by President Roosevelt and by the house leaders. Representative Mondell, of Wyoming, chairman of the irrigation committee, says it is faulty and has asked permission to make certain amendments.

GREAT TRADE WITH EUROPE.

Our Exports Passed the Billion-Dollar Mark in 1905.

Washington, March 20. — Europe takes two-thirds of the exports of the United States and supplies practically one-half of the imports, says a bulletin issued by the Department of Commerce and Labor. Of the \$1,021,000,000 worth of merchandise sent to Europe in 1905, \$239,000,000 was manufactures, the other \$782,000,000 worth being largely foodstuffs and manufacturers' material.

In 1900 the exports to Europe crossed the \$1,000,000,000 line, and since then have averaged about \$1,050,000,000 per annum. In 1900 the exports to all sections of the world other than Europe were \$354,000,000 in value; in 1905 they were \$498,000,000, the growth since 1900 in exports to the non-European countries having been proportionately greater than to Europe.

Prior to 1890, the share of the imports drawn from Europe averaged about 55 per cent; in 1905, it was 48.4 per cent. This reduction, the bulletin says, is apparently accounted for by the growing demand in the United States for tropical and subtropical products, which are supplied almost exclusively by the other grand divisions of the world. The value of these products into the United States in 1905 was \$508,000,000, against \$303,000,000 in 1895.

Crushed With Iron Hand.

Sukhum, Transcaucasia, March 20. — The manner in which General Alikanoff has crushed the revolution in the government of Kutais by raising troops, executing ringleaders of the movement and driving sympathizers with it to the mountains, has produced such resentment that acts of terror and the throwing of bombs at the troops are frequent. General Alikanoff has proclaimed and is enforcing martial law with terrible vigor and revolutionaries and other persons caught with arms are immediately shot.

Pest in Eastern Persia.

Akabad, Russia, March 20. — News received here from Selistan, in Eastern Persia, says that a pest is spreading, that the populace is becoming panic stricken and that many persons are fleeing.

NEWS OF THE WEEK

In a Condensed Form for Our Busy Readers.

HAPPENINGS OF TWO CONTINENTS

A Resume of the Less Important but Not Less Interesting Events of the Past Week.

Governor Pattison, of Ohio, is improving.

An alliance of Britain, France and Russia is proposed.

The famine in Japan grows worse and disease follows hunger.

Anthracite coal operators have split on the wage scale to be paid miners.

Heney says Bristol charges are baseless and Bristol will retain his office.

Twenty-six miners perished in the Century coal mine disaster in West Virginia.

The Interstate Commerce commission is investigating underbilling frauds by shippers.

It is claimed that only the details of the Algeciras conference remain to be settled. Roosevelt is credited with solving the problem.

The government has given Hermann a bill of particulars concerning the letter books destroyed, but his lawyers continue to delay the trial.

Attorney General Hadley, of Missouri, has called a truce on Rockefeller while the latter may visit his new grandson. Hadley says he can get all the evidence he needs without John D. anyway.

The German army is reported ready for war.

Russia is on the eve of another rebel outbreak.

The condition of Governor Pattison, of Ohio, is grave.

A snowslide killed six miners near Granite, Colorado.

Roosevelt has proposed a compromise in the Moroccan question which does not please France.

James A. Fee may be appointed United States district attorney for Oregon if Bristol loses out.

The conference between miners and operators of the anthracite coal district has failed to reach a wage agreement.

It is now generally admitted that between 40 and 50 persons lost their lives in the recent Denver & Rio Grand wreck in Colorado.

The sidewheel steamer Olympian, which was being towed from San Francisco to New York, was wrecked in the Straits of Magellan.

Latest reports say nearly 2,000 were killed and 6,500 injured by the earthquake in Formosa. All survivors are in a state of extreme destitution.

An explosion in a coal mine near Fairmont, W. Va., is known to have killed 15 miners and injured 25 others. From 25 to 75 are missing and their fate is unknown.

Ex-Chief Engineer Wallace favors a seaway canal.

Nineteen lives were lost in a storm on the Gulf of Mexico.

A compromise at the Moroccan conference is now promised.

Daring robbers have taken \$432,500 from a Moscow, Russia, bank.

The price of bottles is to be increased 5 per cent by the manufacturers.

Jerome says giving insurance money to campaign committees is not larceny. Several shipwrecks have resulted from the recent storm on the Atlantic coast.

Attending physicians now believe John D. Spreckles has a chance of recovering.

Total collections in the United States from all sources for the relief of starving Japanese now reaches \$120,000. Objection to the appointment of W. B. Hoggatt as governor of Alaska may result in the selection of some one else.

Bellamy Storer, recently recalled ambassador to Austria, is said to have greatly offended the Jews while in Vienna.

John D. Rockefeller is on the verge of insanity from worry. This is caused by the sickness of his daughter and brother and the continual dodging of process servers.

The forty-fifth annual convention of the National Educational association will be held in San Francisco July 7 to 14. Railroads have granted special round trip rates from all parts of the United States. Those attending from the East have also been given the privilege of going by way of Portland one way with stopover permits.

Witte will soon resign as premier of Russia.

ALLISON CELEBRATES TWO NOTABLE ANNIVERSARIES.



SENATOR WILLIAM B. ALLISON.

Senator William Boyd Allison of Iowa, who the other day celebrated his seventy-seventh birthday, and the day following celebrated the thirty-sixth anniversary of his entrance into the Senate, has served in that body a longer period than any other member now on the rolls. He took his seat March 4, 1873, and since then has been re-elected five times. Before entering the Senate Mr. Allison served four terms in the House. He was born at Perry, Ohio, March 2, 1820, and was educated in the Western Reserve College. Subsequently he studied law, and practiced at the Ohio bar until 1857, when he moved to Iowa. In 1860 he was delegate to the convention at Chicago that nominated Lincoln, and in recent years always has figured as a candidate for the presidency. Mr. Allison has lived in Dubuque nearly fifty years.



A new type of bullet, known as the "D," is being served to the French infantry. This projectile consists of a cigar-shaped cylinder of bronze, instead of lead, and is cased with nickel. On being fired it revolves at the rate of 3,000 turns a second during its flight. As 800 yards it will penetrate the equivalent bulk and resistance of six men, standing one behind the other.

Loss of sleep proves to be the curious effect that may limit man's mountain-climbing. Dr. Bullock Workman mentions that in his camp in the Himalayas at 19,358 feet, members of his party were kept awake by lack of breath, and on dozing off would suddenly awake gasping. He concludes that inability to sleep may itself be sufficient to keep climbers from going beyond twenty-three to twenty-five thousand feet.

On the apex of the Prince of Wales' crown, which he wears on special occasions, is a curious feather, or, rather, a tuft of periwak feathers, the top of which is adorned with a gold thread. This feather is said to be worth \$10,000, and has the distinction of being the only one of its kind in the world. It took twenty years to procure it, and it caused the death of more than a dozen hunters. The reason the pursuit of the periwak is so dangerous is because it inhabits the jungles and other haunts of tigers.

Drafts over deep wells are usually due to changes of temperature or barometric pressure, air being forced in as the pressure rises and drawn out when the barometer is falling. But two wells in the Vicksburg Jackson limestone of southern Georgia have shown the strange phenomenon of a continuous inflow. This has been investigated by S. W. McCallie, who has found a rapid subterranean stream at a depth of about 120 feet, and it is supposed that the air is sucked in by friction and carried along until the water rises as a large spring.

East of the Missouri River in South Dakota more than 1,000 artesian wells now exist, drawing their water from the supply carried by the underlying sandstone formation, and supposed to come from the Black Hills and the Rocky Mountains. These wells, used mainly for irrigating purposes, are come from the Back Hills and the pressure of water in the eastern part of the State is sufficient to give a surface flow, except on the highest lands. One well at Springfield yields 3,292 gallons per minute, and furnishes power for a flour mill by day and for an electric light plant by night. The development of this source of water supply is still going forward.

The French chemist, Moissan, reports that in the electric furnace gold boils freely at a temperature of 2,400 degrees centigrade. In two or three minutes from 100 to 150 grams of gold pass into the state of vapor. In condensing upon a cold body, this golden vapor forms filament masses and cubic crystals. At its temperature of ebullition gold dissolves a little carbon,

which, at the moment of resolidification, is deposited in the form of graphite. In an alloy of gold and copper, copper distils first. In an alloy of gold and tin, the tin distils more abundantly than the gold, and when a large quantity of these mixed vapors is taken, the tin burns on contact with the oxygen of the air, forming oxid of tin, colored purple by a fine dust of condensed gold. This is an unexpected method of preparing the color known as "purple of Cassius."

CITY MAN IN THE COUNTRY.

Shows Ignorance When He Calls Young Cattle "Bull Heifers."

Lennie Merrill, a popular guide at Belgrade lakes, is responsible for the following one on us "city folks": "Of course, we know that you city folks have lots of chances to laugh at us hayseiders, but once in a while the laugh is on our side. I never was so tickled in my life as I was last summer when I was guiding Mr. L., from New York. He is as much as 50 years old and a mighty smart man, too, every other way, but he was just 'scart' to death of cattle.

"Well, one day when we were fly-fishing for bass he wanted to go ashore, so I rowed him up and he went off into the woods. Pretty soon he came tearing down to the boat, a-hollering for help at the top of his voice, so you would have thought there was a big she bear after him, and I jumped up and asked him what was the trouble. He said:

"There's a lot of cattle coming this way."

"I knew it was a parcel of young stock, so I says to him:

"You needn't be scared of them; they're nothing but a lot of heifers."

"And what do you suppose he up and said? I thought I should die. He says to me, and this is the Lord's truth:

"How do you know they ain't bull heifers?"—Boston Herald.

Looked After His Palate.

A gambler borrowed a sum of money from a money lender, and the note falling due, he called upon the broker and told him he could not pay at that time. The money lender became greatly excited. "I want the money. It is due. You must pay it." The gambler pulled his pistol out, pointed it at the head of the money lender and said: "Eat that note or I will blow the top of your head off."

The money lender looked at the pistol, then at the note and decided that it would be wise to eat the note, which he did. A few days after the gambler called and paid the value of the note, much to the delight of the money lender, who said: "My friend, you are a good man and when you need any more money come in and I will let you have it."

Some time later the gambler applied for another loan, which the money lender was very willing to advance. The gambler sat down to write out a note, when the money lender called out: "Wait a minute, my friend. Would you mind writing out that note on a soda cracker?"—Argonaut.

Perhaps the longevity of most actors may be due to enforced walking as a means of exercise.