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IN THE NATIONAL HALLS OF CONGRESS

Friday, April 3.

Washington, April 3.—In making an effort today to get the senate to agree upon a date for taking a vote on the railroad rate bill, Tillman made the important statement that one week more probably would exhaust the general debate. He failed, however, to secure the consent of Aldrich, who said that he would not be willing to agree to vote on the bill until it was more nearly perfected than it now is.

During the day there were three speeches on the rate bill. The first of these was made by Elkins, who, while expressing the opinion that the situation demands legislation, indicated many defects in the pending bill. Gamble followed in support of the bill, and Kean closed in opposition. Elkins was frequently interrupted, and several spirited colloquies marked the progress of his remarks. No senator being prepared to speak tomorrow, the senate adjourned until Monday.

Washington, April 6.—Tariff railway mail subsidies, denaturalized alcohol and enlarged postal facilities for Western cities were the features of the debate in the house today. What were alleged to be the iniquities of the Dingley law, so far as the manufacture of watches is concerned, were discussed by Rainey, of Illinois, whose tariff revision speech was listened to with much interest. The "stand-patters" made copious notes for the discussions on protection which are foreshadowed.

Without touching the merits of the postoffice appropriation bill, which nominally was under discussion, the house at 5:15 adjourned until noon tomorrow.

Thursday, April 5.

Washington, April 5.—The postoffice appropriation bill, following an immemorial custom, was made the vehicle for a number of speeches today having no bearing on the subject under discussion, but of general interest to the country. The rights of labor were discussed by Towne, of New York; goods road, by Lee, of Georgia; railway mail pay by Steenerson, of Minnesota, and protective tariff by Rainey, of Illinois. Incident to his speech on labor, Towne spoke of the increased power given the speaker of the house by the rules now in force. He said that, if the house ever has its ancient dignity and power restored, it will be after it has vindicated the right of discussion of all public questions.

Washington, April 5.—In the senate today there was a re-echo of the White house conference of last Saturday relative to the pending railroad legislation, and, while the discussion ended in good nature, there was a time when the feeling was quite intense. The incident occurred at the close of a speech by Stone, which was devoted largely to a discussion of that conference.

Elkins has given notice of a speech on the rate bill for tomorrow and Bailey for a speech on that subject Tuesday. The Texas senator will reply especially to the criticisms made by Spooner and Knox, of his plan for a limitation of the powers of inferior courts in granting injunctions in rate litigation.

Newlands continued his argument in support of his proposition for the national incorporation of railroad companies.

A supplemental extradition treaty between Japan and the United States has been signed.

Wednesday, April 4.

Washington, April 4.—In the senate today Newlands discussed the railroad rate bill and Daniel the question of the lack of representation by the Southern states in the public service. Newlands advocated amendments to the rate bill providing for the national incorporation of railroads, and announced himself as favorable to the governmental ownership of these utilities. Daniel's speech was based on a provision in the urgent deficiency appropriation bill for the representation of the United States at the next Pan-American congress, to be held in Rio de Janeiro next July. The deficiency bill was amended so as to provide for more delegates, and as amended was passed.

Washington, April 4.—The house during its session today listened to a criticism of the president on the part of Fitzgerald, New York, for the failure of the chief executive properly to advise the house as to the objections he had to the bill opening 505,000 acres of land for grazing purposes in Oklahoma.

Pay for Conference at Rio.

Washington, April 3.—The senate committee on appropriations today reported the urgent deficiency bill with a number of amendments. The proviso is added to the appropriation for delegates to the International Conference of American States at Rio Janeiro, Brazil, that the delegates shall be appointed so that as far as practicable they shall represent the different sections of the country. An appropriation of \$50,000 is made to enable the government to participate in the second international peace conference at The Hague.

homa territory, instead of advising the members of the Indian Affairs committee as to the weakness of the measure, so that it might be amended to meet the wishes of the commissioner of Indian affairs.

The postoffice appropriation bill was taken up, but beyond an explanation by the chairman of the postoffice committee, Overstreet, no headway was made.

Tuesday, April 3.

Washington, April 3.—Senators Long and Allison were under cross examination by their brother senators today on the White house conference on the former's court review amendment to the rate bill. After Long had spoken at length in support of his amendment, both the railroad senators on the Republican side and the Democratic senators wanted to know more about its paternity. They scented in its being discussed with the president and his advisers by a few of the friends of the bill before its introduction in the senate an invasion of the sacred prerogatives of the upper house. Long and Allison successfully fenced with the questions and refused to divulge what transpired at the conference.

Washington, April 3.—By a vote of 202 to 26 the house today passed the national quarantine bill. The bill places the control of all quarantine stations, grounds and anchorages under the secretary of the treasury and directs that as soon as practicable after the approval of the act he shall select and designate such suitable places for them and establish the same at such points on or near the seacoast of the United States or the Mexican border as in his judgment are best suited for the same, in order to prevent the introduction of yellow fever into the United States.

The bill further gives the secretary of the treasury the right to establish a quarantine station at the Dry Tortugas islands and at such other points at or near seacoasts, not to exceed four in the aggregate, as he deems necessary.

The bill carries an appropriation of \$500,000.

Monday, April 2.

Washington, April 2.—The amendment to the house railroad rate bill agreed to at the White house Saturday by friends of the bill, providing for a limited review of orders of the Interstate Commerce commission, was offered in the senate today by Long, of Kansas, but he was not able to get the floor to make his speech. The principal speech was made by Fulton, of Oregon, who spoke for the bill. It was a legal argument bearing upon the constitutional questions involved, and interruptions were so frequent that the speech amounted to a debate on law points, where the speaker divided time with the a majority of the lawyers of the senate. Nelson, of Minnesota, and Heyburn, of Idaho, made brief speeches on the bill.

Washington, April 2.—Chief among the measures passed by the house today was the so-called "personal liability" bill, which has been favored by the army of railway employes throughout the country, and which practically had a unanimous report from the committee. Members of the house showed great interest in the measure, and had a division been called for, the bill would have had an almost unanimous vote. Another measure changing existing law which excited a filibustering opposition, was the bill permitting the fortification of sweet wines and levying a tax of 3 cents a gallon on all wines thus fortified. A number of bills were passed under suspension of the rules.

The personal liability bill makes each party responsible for its own negligence. It also renders void any contract intended to restrict the liability of the employer for the negligence of employes.

Saturday, March 31.

Washington, March 31.—This being war claim day in the house, only those directly interested in the legislation in the private calendar were in attendance. The house during the four hours it was in session considered and passed 179 bills, many, however, sending the particular claim to the court of claims for adjudication.

Previous to taking up the calendar a bill was passed granting to the Capital City Improvement company, of Helena, Montana, the right to construct a dam across the Missouri river in Montana.

Square Deal in Alaska.

Washington, April 2.—The secretary of the interior today sent to congress a draft of a bill which he recommends to be passed providing that, whenever mineral entries are made in Alaska, six months' notice shall be given instead of 60 days, as at present. Under existing laws it has become a common practice, particularly in remote mining districts, for entrymen to hold off until the mails are virtually closed by bad weather and then forward their notices to Juneau. In this manner persons wishing to institute a contest are precluded.

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