

BRIEF REPORT OF THE DAILY WORK OF NATION'S LAWMAKERS

Washington, Feb. 27.—By the passing this afternoon in the senate of resolutions offered by Senator La Follette, the state and navy departments must report to that body whether naval secrets were revealed to the Argentine Republic as an inducement to place with American concerns contracts for the building of two battleships. The resolution affecting the state department was amended, and it will be asked to make a report, "unless incompatible with the public interest." There were no restrictions concerning the navy department, and the resolutions demand specific information whether battleship plans Nos. 34 and 35, secrets of fire control and book specifications, all marked confidential, were revealed to Argentina or the Bethlehem Steel company.

The senate also wants to know whether plans for submerged torpedo boats were given out.

Both Republican and Democratic leaders today told President Taft that an extra session of congress was inevitable if he was determined to get a vote on Canadian reciprocity.

Senator Bailey declared he would prevent a vote on any important matter until the Lorimer case was settled. The progressives plan to force a vote on a permanent tariff board and the regulars have offered to agree if the progressives, on their part, will permit a vote on reciprocity and the Lorimer case. As the Democrats intend to filibuster against the progressives' plan, a tie-up seems certain.

By a vote of 66 to 12 the senate this afternoon decided to continue consideration of the Lorimer case, and Senator Crawford commenced speaking. Senator Stone announced that he would address the senate Wednesday.

The house today accepted the conference report on the legislative, executive and judicial appropriation bill. An amendment to the bill provides a salary of \$7,500 annually for the president's secretary. It is not denied at the white house that Assistant Secretary of the Treasury Hilles has accepted the position.

Washington, Feb. 25.—The house tonight made a record in passing the sundry civil appropriation bill, the greatest supply measure of the session, which had been up only two days. The bill carried more than \$140,000,000. Usually it has taken five to fifteen days.

Only three minor alterations in the bill were made on the floor. Without a dissenting voice \$45,560,000 was appropriated for continuing work on the Panama canal, an unprecedented proceeding.

The bill carried \$350,000 for raising the battleship Maine, \$400,000 for the continuation of the tariff board for two years and \$3,000,000 for fortifying the Panama canal.

For the first time in its history, the house passed a series of appropriations for public buildings without even reading them. The sums totaled \$27,284,725 and were contained in the sundry civil bill.

After one of the most dramatic and spirited debates of the session the house tonight declared in favor of fortifying the Panama canal. Every effort to defeat the \$3,000,000 appropriation in the sundry civil bill for canal fortification was decisively beaten. The final vote on fortifications was 123 to 81. The lead in the fight against the fortifications was taken by Tawney, Republican, of Minnesota, as the closing act of his long service in the house.

President Taft today set aside April 4 as the date of the extra session of congress, in case he is obliged to carry out his threat.

Washington, Feb. 24.—In less than an hour the senate late today voted the Sutherland amendment into the resolution providing for the election of United States senators by direct vote of the people; fixed next Tuesday as the time for voting on the resolution itself; made the case involving Senator Lorimer's seat the unfinished business and received the Canadian reciprocity bill from the committee on finance.

In addition there was much discussion of the order of business. Several speeches were arranged, and Senator Penrose gave notice that on Monday he would ask the senate to consider the postoffice appropriation bill, which includes the provision increasing the postage on the advertising portion of magazines.

After refusing to adopt a rule of cloture and pass the big sundry civil appropriation bill under a suspension of the rules, the house settled down to a speedy consideration of the \$140,000,000 measure today, and had disposed of a considerable part of its provisions when adjournment was taken at 10:30 tonight.

The president's \$400,000 tariff board appropriation was acted on early. Shortly afterward the house struck out the appropriation of \$75,000 asked by the president for the further work of his economy board.

If the senate does not pass the bill ratifying the Canadian reciprocity

agreement before March 4, it will pass it in a special session, which will be called by President Taft about the middle of March.

Washington, Feb. 23.—The way was opened for a schedule by schedule revision of the tariff today when a resolution introduced by Senator Cummins asking the president for information the tariff board had collected on articles and commodities named in the Canadian reciprocity agreement was adopted. The fact that Senator Hale supported the Cummins resolution is believed to indicate organized opposition to the adoption of the reciprocity agreement at this session.

Speaking in support of the resolution to oust William Lorimer, senator from Illinois, on the ground that he was corruptly elected, Senator Beveridge of Indiana, took the floor this afternoon at 1:15 o'clock.

Previous to the opening of the debate Senator Burrows, chairman of the committee that investigated Lorimer, sought unanimous consent for a vote today, tomorrow or on Saturday. He was unsuccessful. Senator Lodge objected to a vote today and Senator Stone opposed the setting of any particular day for a vote.

The sundry civil appropriation bill, carrying \$140,540,000, was reported to the house today. This is \$25,431,000 in excess of the bill last year, but is \$14,486,000 under the estimates.

The largest single item is \$45,560,000 for the Panama canal, an increase of \$7,500,000 over the estimates. For public buildings \$21,311,245 is appropriated, an increase of \$16,000,000. Canal fortifications receive an appropriation of \$3,000,000.

The measure will probably be passed by the house under suspension of the rules.

Despairing of forcing the senate to pass his tariff commission bill, President Taft is centering his efforts to secure \$400,000 to continue the present board by an appropriation in the sundry bill. If the provision passes the next house will have no opportunity to interfere with the tariff board.

Washington, Feb. 22.—As a result of disclosures by the United Press that the state department had given Argentina the plans of the navy department to be used in constructing its dreadnaughts, in exchange for the contracts for those vessels given two American builders, Senator La Follette today introduced in the senate a resolution demanding full information about the deal.

The resolution directs the secretary of the navy to report to the senate what plans concerning battleships or armament have been loaned or transmitted to Argentina or any of the shipbuilders' representatives, whether the navy officials have aided the American builders to get Argentina contracts and by whose authority such work was undertaken.

Another resolution directs the secretary of state to transmit to the senate any communications, written or verbal, with Argentina pertaining to the construction of the battleships for which contracts were given to the Fore River Shipbuilding company and the Bethlehem Steel company.

Carrying a provision which prevents the purchase of armor or armament of any sort from the steel trust, the naval appropriation bill today passed the house.

The anti-trust amendment was adopted by a blanket vote. Brought in by Representative Stanley of Kentucky, it provides that no armor plate, structural steel or machinery may be bought from any corporations entering any agreement, conspiracy or understanding to deprive the government of fair competition by bids. Another provision prevents the government paying for armor more than double the cost of its manufacture.

Washington, Feb. 21.—Fearful of business disturbance if an extra session of congress is called, agents of the money kings are bringing the greatest possible pressure to bear on President Taft to induce him to forego his declared purpose, no matter what the action of congress on reciprocity and his other pet projects.

"Let us have a rest," is the plaint to the president. "We don't want an extra session. It will keep business in a turmoil, because the Democrats are apt to start anything when they take hold of the reins of government. We want a tariff rest until December, anyway."

No indication as yet has been given as to how President Taft regards the plea of "big business," but it is known that every resource of the interests is being brought into play to induce him to allow the legislators to go quietly home, even if his reciprocity program is not endorsed.

Following a conference this afternoon with President Taft, Senator Carter, of Montana, announced that the Canadian reciprocity agreement would be ratified before the senate adjourned. As Idaho is lined up solidly against the measure, Senator Heyburn is expected to lead the opposition when the bill is brought up in the senate for final action.

TAFT HAS NEW JAP TREATY.

Removes All Restrictions on Immigration—Opposition Certain.

Washington, Feb. 22.—The text of a new treaty with Japan, designed to replace that of 1894, and drawn with the special design of eliminating the restrictions upon immigration contained in that treaty, was laid before the senate by President Taft.

The essential difference between the proposed treaty and the existing convention is said to be that it omits all reference to all such restrictions and leaves to the national honor of Japan the enforcement at her own ports of the limitations upon immigration from Japan now expressly placed upon immigration into the United States.

The document is said to provide that either country may denounce the treaty at the end of six months if it fails to operate as expected.

Because it embodies this radical departure from the existing treaty and touches the question of the deepest importance and interest to the Pacific Coast, the injection of this convention into the closing hours of the 61st congress caused a sensation today.

That the new treaty will encounter opposition seems certain, for, even if it should be speedily reported to the senate from committee without serious controversy within the committee room, the Western senators are expected to insist upon opportunity for debate, which will develop the full extent of their opposition to the treaty.

Unlike matters of ordinary legislation, failure of the senate to act upon the treaty during the remainder of this session of congress would not of itself extinguish its vitality.

PORK IS FAVORITE MEAT.

More Hogs Used Than All Other Animals Combined.

Washington — "Pork eaters" is a term which may rightfully be applied to the people of the United States, if the figures just made public by the census bureau for the year 1909 may be taken as a basis.

The figures show that during that year, 4,483,000 more hogs were killed in this country for food purposes than all other animals combined, including beefs, calves, sheep and lambs, goats, kids, etc. During the year 1909, 36,443,000 hogs were killed for food purposes; 31,960,000 of all other animals.

The total number of animals slaughtered in the slaughter houses and meat packing establishments during 1909 are given as 68,403,000. These figures, however, do not represent the entire number of animals killed for food purposes during the period which the report covers, and the grand total can be obtained, it is declared, only upon the completion of the statistics of agriculture.

DIRECT PRIMARY VETOED.

Iowa Governor Condemns Oregon System of Electing Senators.

Des Moines, Ia.—Governor Carroll vetoed the Oregon primary plan bill, which had passed both houses of the Iowa legislature. The governor, in his veto message, read to the joint assembly, characterized the measure as an "attempt to indirectly accomplish something that cannot be done directly," and declared that it was a violation of the constitution of the United States.

He said that the measure abrogated that section of the constitution providing that legislatures shall elect United States senators. The governor holds that the message has no bearing on a proposed amendment to permit the election of senators by the direct vote of the people, since one is a contravention of the constitution, while the other is a change in the constitution itself.

Balloonsists Brave Cold.

Ogdenburg, N. Y.—Muffled in furs, Mr. and Mrs. Emille Barlatier braved zero weather and a cutting southwest wind in the first winter balloon flight ever made in this part of the country. The French aeronaut and his wife sailed away from Ogdenburg at 9:15 at night. Thousands saw them swing low over the city and disappear in the direction of Montreal. The balloon was a few hours later forced to descend at Summerstown because of a strong east wind.

Arabian Tribesmen Kill 50.

Jeddah, Arabia—Tribesmen who are allies of Seyd Idrisee, the leader of the outbreak of Yemen against the Turkish authority, recently captured at Zupra a convoy of 80 camels with provisions and ammunition destined for the garrison at Elhujeh. The deputy governor of Lohela attempted to recapture the supplies, but was defeated. The casualties numbered 50 killed.

One Man Captures Five.

Presidio, Tex.—Five armed insurgents were captured on the American side of the Rio Grande by Sergeant Goodrich of Troop F, Third United States cavalry. They had rifles and revolvers. They were members of Antonio Garraca's band and were carrying provisions to their companions.

DAILY DOINGS OF OREGON STATE LAWMAKERS AT SALEM

Salem, Feb. 27.—Baker's demand for greater consideration at the hands of the Oregon & Washington Railroad & Navigation company in the way of distributive and special commodity rates was taken up for investigation officially today by the railroad commission. Baker has made a demand similar to the one made by the city of Medford for distributive rates as favorable as those enjoyed by the larger shipping centers such as Portland, Spokane and Seattle.

Attorney Arthur C. Spencer of Portland, is conducting the case for the railroad company. Attorney F. H. McCune of Portland, is attorney for the Baker Commercial club, the plaintiff bringing the complaint against the railroad company. At 11 o'clock when the case opened before the commission Attorney Spencer put on the stand General Freight Agent F. W. Robinson, of the Oregon & Washington railroad company and he read into the records a stupendous amount of statistics and figures showing the business relation of the business of the road to the different cities and centers of population in Oregon.

E. H. Flagg, chief clerk of the state senate, and John P. Hunt, assistant clerk, were prominent figures in the recent controversy over the revision of the senate journal. Flagg went into the courts to prevent Hunt and Colonel Mercer from revising the journal, as they had been directed by a senate resolution to do, and won his point.

This incident was of more importance than the average reader may suppose. A record of every bill enacted into law must be kept and set forth from the time of its introduction, and unless this record is correct in every detail the law may be assailed in the courts. Legal authorities differ as to whether a law can stand if it is not backed by a completely accurate record.

Salem, Feb. 25.—Of the 725 bills that were introduced in the two houses of the legislature, 275 of them have been allowed to become laws. The legislature itself failed to pass or indefinitely postponed 386 bills, or more than half the number introduced, and the governor by the exercise of his veto power, stopped a total of 64 bills, which is the largest number of bills of any one session that has ever been vetoed by a governor of this state.

By these vetoes and by other arrangements whereby only a portion of the sums appropriated by the legislature are to be used, the governor has turned back into the pockets of the taxpayers approximately \$600,000, or more than half a million dollars which will make the appropriations voted by the legislature aggregate a total of about \$4,300,000, instead of \$4,900,000, as previously estimated.

Among the last bills to receive the governor's disapproval was the Rogue River fish bill, upon which the governor for some time has intimated his action. He says the people have expressed themselves without qualification on the matter and left nothing for the legislature or himself to do other than follow their will. In the message accompanying this veto he says:

"The purpose of this bill is to nullify a law passed by the people of this state at the last general election, whereby the Rogue river was closed to commercial fishing. The commercial fishing on the said river has for years been controlled by one man, who, through riparian ownership has maintained a complete monopoly upon the industry. Through the enjoyment of this monopoly he grew wealthy and was absolute dictator so far as that stream was concerned. Deriving his revenue from Oregon, he spent it in California, where his family resided and his supplies were purchased. The money he spent for the propagation of fish was spent because it would ultimately add to his revenue."

Salem, Feb. 24.—Under a distinct understanding between Governor West and members of the Oregon Naval reserve the governor has sanctioned the bill creating that reserve and has allowed \$10,000 of the \$25,000 appropriated by the legislature.

This move was made by the governor on the strength of a waiver that the reserve will promise not to use more than \$10,000 of the appropriation and a promise that no indebtedness will be incurred against the state by the reserve.

"No attack was contemplated on the Oregon system in my second choice bill, neither do I believe the bill unconstitutional," declared Speaker Rusk tonight, in commenting on the reasons offered by Governor West in vetoing that measure.

Senator Malarkey's public service commission bill, extending the powers of the State Railroad commission to public utilities was the final measure considered by Governor West tonight and the last to be filed by him with the secretary of state.

"Knowing the people will profit no matter which side wins I am filing the Malarkey bill, and will sit back and watch them fight it out," said the governor.

Governor West issued a proclamation today proclaiming Wednesday, March 1, as Colonist Day. In his proclamation he calls upon the people of the state to avail themselves of the privilege of sending a personal letter to some one in an Eastern state, accompanied by literature telling of the advantages this state has to offer to the homesteader.

He declares in his proclamation that Oregon offers unrivaled opportunities to the homeseeker; that by its great diversity of industries this state can furnish homes and occupation for thousands and that by virtue of reduced rates it is possible for the homeseeker to reach here at trifling cost.

Salem, Feb. 23.—Two hundred and thirty-three bills were dumped upon the governor since last Friday. The overwhelming task that has confronted Governor West since Friday has been to read and carefully consider 233 bills, separate the goats from the sheep and be right in his selections or meet the criticism of the public. As a result the governor has been smothered and swamped with work.

He is spending night and day in the seclusion of his office, putting all other matters aside. Even his correspondence has been forced to wait until these bills could have his attention.

He is just beginning to see daylight from beneath the pile and tomorrow is the last day, for all bills must be filed with the secretary of state within five days after they reach the governor, Sundays excluded, or they become laws anyhow.

The governor has called to his assistance various members of the bar of the city of Salem from time to time and also other advisers who have been close friends of his. He has taken in the members of the bar for the purpose of getting their legal advice on some of the bills and his other friends have given him advice on the practical side of the measures has had to consider.

In this respect Governor West has been more generous than was governor Chamberlain, who invariably shut himself away from all advisers for three or four days immediately after a session of the legislature and jumped into the task by himself. Governor West has had more advice of his own choosing than Governor Chamberlain ever would accept but it is also true that Governor West invariably follows his own will after receiving the advice and criticism of his circle of friends.

Salem, Feb. 22.—Considerable scurrying followed the discovery today that Speaker Rusk's house bill providing for second choice at primary elections had not reached the office of the governor. It was supposed that all bills had been enrolled and sent to the executive by this morning, but a thorough search failed to reveal it among the bills in the governor's office.

Chief Clerk Drager, of the house, finally located it, however. The bill had not been enrolled, but will be immediately and sent to Governor West for his consideration.

Governor West today appointed the commission to make arrangements for placing the statue of George H. Williams in Statuary Hall, Washington, D. C. The commission is to be made up of Dr. T. L. Eliot, C. E. S. Wood and George H. Himes, curator of the Oregon Historical society.

The bill for the purpose of creating this commission was introduced by Senator Abraham, of Douglas county.

Governor West will veto the state aid road bill, carrying an appropriation of \$340,000, according to a statement made by him today.

The same question that arose in connection with the bill among good roads men of Portland will direct the governor in his course, as the bill fails to make provision as to who shall have supervision over the expenditure of the money.

"I cannot allow \$340,000 to be thrown about among the counties as though it were thrown among so many birds, with no one having supervision of the method of spending the money," said the governor.

If no "jokers" exist in the flat salary bill passed by the house Saturday, after Governor West had made liberal use of the big "stick," it will be satisfactory to Representative James D. Abbott of Portland, according to the statement made by him. Abbott is a former partner and a staunch friend of State Printer Dunaway and led the fight against the bill.

"Apparently the law does not go into effect until 1914, but there are doubtful clauses in it which draw my suspicion," said Abbott. "I was not and have not been against any bill which does not affect the present conditions. Mr. Dunaway was elected by the people on the fee system, and it is no more than just that he continue on this basis to the end of the term. Mr. Dunaway has been my loyal friend and in taking the stand that I did I was only protecting him and seeing that justice was done."