

THE SIXTIETH CONGRESS

THE LABORS OF THE SHORT SESSION HAVE BEGUN.

A Chronicle of the Most Important Happenings in Both Houses During Past Week.

Washington.—A far-reaching bill for the regulation of the future issues of securities by transportation companies and telegraph and telephone companies engaged in interstate commerce was introduced in the senate Wednesday by Mr. Dolliver, one of the authors of the railroad rate laws. It is said that the measure represents the administration view. He explained the provisions of the bill as follows:

"The measure is designed to subject the future issues of stocks and bonds by transportation companies, telephone and telegraph companies, engaged in interstate commerce, to the scrutiny of the government of the United States. It is drawn on the theory that these corporations should be so organized that there should be just and reasonable relation between their assets and their liabilities. It is intended to prevent over-capitalization, stock watering, bond manipulation and all similar abuses. The effect of it will be to give stability to the existing volume of railway securities and at the same time to so guard future issues as to give normal values to stocks and bonds.

A Big Year for Exports.

Washington, D. C.—More manufactures were exported from the United States in 1908 than in any preceding year, aggregating in value three-fourths of a billion dollars, according to the annual report of the chief of the Department of Commerce and Labor. His report shows that the value of exports to Europe is increasing yearly, being 368 million dollars in 1908, as against 355 million dollars in 1907, 318 million dollars in 1906 and 283 million dollars in 1905.

May Prosecute for Libel.

Washington, D. C.—"If they can be reached for criminal libel, I shall try to have them reached," said President Roosevelt in speaking Thursday afternoon about "those Americans who have been guilty of infamous falsehood concerning the acquisition of the property and the construction of the (Panama) canal itself."

Andrew Carnegie Subpoenaed.

Washington.—Andrew Carnegie was subpoenaed Wednesday night to appear before the house ways and means committee to testify in the tariff revision hearings.

An Elevator Fell 200 Feet.

Girard, Kan.—The Girard Light and Power plant took its first victim about eight o'clock Thursday morning when a hoisting cable broke letting fall the cage in which Fred Parker, a fireman, was being brought out of the pump shaft. The cage was near the top when the cable broke, falling nearly 200 feet, breaking Parker's neck and back and mangling the body. He was a single man, 24 years old.

Claimed to be "John the Baptist."

Edgewater, N. J.—Proclaiming himself to be "John the Baptist, come to save the world," an armed fanatic terrorized this town for an hour Friday. He appeared suddenly on the main street, flourished a revolver and exchanged many shots with a hastily formed posse and at last fell wounded. Nobody else was hurt.

It's the Oldest Baseball.

Jackson, Miss.—What is believed to be the oldest baseball in the world will be shipped to Garry Herrmann, chairman of the national commission, by Ed. Laughlin. It was used November 3, 1865, in a game played at Williamsport, Pa., for the state championship, which ended 61 to 35 in favor of Williamsport.

Tried to Bribe Umpires.

New York.—The National League of Baseball Clubs Friday appointed a committee of four of its members to investigate reports by Umpires Klem and Johnstone that an attempt was made to bribe them at the New York-Chicago game played at the New York polo grounds on October 8.

Mrs. Gould Denied Jury Trial.

New York.—Katherine Clemmons Gould was denied in the appellate division of the supreme court Friday a trial by jury in her action for divorce from Howard Gould.

Physicians Can't Be Dentists.

St. Paul.—The Minnesota supreme court Friday affirmed a decision of the district court holding it unlawful for a practicing physician to practice dentistry.

Dr. Mackie of Milwaukee Dead.

Milwaukee.—Dr. William Mackie, one of the best known physicians in the west, suddenly died of apoplexy Wednesday night.

PROSPECTING AS IT WAS AND AS IT IS TODAY.



WATERWAY CONGRESS ENDS

GOES ON RECORD FOR GOVERNMENT BOND ISSUE.

Resolutions Urge Congress to Complete Projects Already Approved And Adopt New Schemes.

Washington.—With great enthusiasm the National Rivers and Harbors congress at its concluding session here Friday placed itself on record in favor of the issuance of government bonds for the improvement of the great waterway projects.

The congress declared for an authorized issue by congress at its present session of \$500,000,000 worth of bonds, the proceeds to be used in the payment exclusively for such river and harbor work as may be authorized by congress, provision for the issue to be similar to the Panama canal bonds.

A committee presented to Vice President Fairbanks and Speaker Cannon the bond resolution. Mr. Fairbanks expressed a favorable opinion of the proposition, but Mr. Cannon merely assured the committee that the resolution would be referred for consideration.

The resolutions urge upon the national congress the completion of projects heretofore approved and the adoption of new schemes of a comprehensive character; the appointment of a committee to prepare a bill providing for the proposed bond issue; the creation of a permanent commission to study waterway projects here and abroad with a view to suggest to congress a comprehensive plan and policy for improving our waterways; the enlargement to twice its present size of the army engineer corps; and the utilization of the present United States assistant civil engineers with authority to propose plans and projects for waterways.

Honey on Witness Stand.

San Francisco.—Francis J. Heney appeared as a witness Wednesday at the trial of Attorney Frank J. Murphy, accused of attempting to bribe a venireman in the Ruef bribery case. The assistant prosecuting attorney who had not been seen in public since he was shot down in Judge Lawlor's court room by Morris Haas, appeared to be almost entirely well and walked to the witness stand with a firm step. A slight discoloration of the right cheek marked the spot where the bullet of the would-be assassin had entered. His voice was full and strong, proving the fear of its impairment to have been unwarranted.

House "Insurgents" Organize.

Washington.—The fight for a revision of the rules of the house was inaugurated Friday night at a meeting of the so-called "insurgents" attended by 25 Republican representatives. Representative Hepburn of Iowa presided and was authorized to name a committee of five, with himself chairman, to draft the proposed amendments to the rules and report to the organization Tuesday night.

Buried With Military Honors.

Kansas City.—The body of Private Edward White of company B, Twentieth Kansas volunteer infantry, who died in Kansas City, Kan., last Saturday night, was buried with military honors Wednesday morning in Mount Calvary cemetery.

JAMES SHARP IS CAPTURED.

Leader of Kansas City Rioters Caught in Kansas.

Kansas City.—James Sharp, no longer "Adam God"—shorn of his beard, shorn of his faith, shorn of his courage and bravado, was caught in a strawstack eight miles northwest of Olathe, Kan., at 4:30 o'clock Thursday afternoon and brought to Kansas City and locked up. Weak from loss of blood, hungry and fagged out with his long walk, he welcomed capture and surrendered without a word.

While Sharp was being brought into town A. J. Selsor, one of the victims of the riot, was dying, and at 12:15 o'clock Friday morning he died. His death is the fifth resulting from the shooting at the religionists' meeting Tuesday afternoon. The other dead are Albert O. Dalbow and Michael McHene, patrolmen; Louis Pratt, fanatic, and Lulu Pratt, his daughter.

"When that bullet struck my hand I knew my faith was wrong and I ran," Sharp said after he was caught. He referred to the Tuesday affair.

Sharp was brought into Olathe by John S. Steed, sheriff of Johnson county, and turned over to Capt. Walter Whitsett and Inspector Charles J. Ryan of this city, who brought him to this city Thursday night. The presence of Sharp in the vicinity of the place where he was taken was eleven o'clock Thursday morning by W. C. Brown, a farmer living three miles west of Zara.

TO BE HONEST REVISION.

President-Elect Taft is Satisfied With the Prospect.

Washington.—William H. Taft said Thursday night that it was his belief that the house would make an "honest and thorough revision of the tariff" at the extra session which he will call for that purpose.

This belief he bases on a conference he had Wednesday with Speaker Cannon and in a session Thursday with the Republican members of the ways and means committee.

Mr. Taft said he had not as yet consulted with senators on the subject, indicating the tremendous pressure upon his time as the reason. When the suggestion was made that the senate would undoubtedly have something to do with the tariff bill he replied, with no uncertainty in his demeanor, that there was some one else who also would have something to do with the bill, which, interpreted through the medium of previous utterances, indicates clearly that Mr. Taft is determined, even to the exercise of the veto power, to prosecute the party's pledges.

A Kansan Killed by a Train.

Independence, Kan.—A stockily built man about 50 years old, apparently a farmer, attempted to board a moving freight train here Friday morning. He fell under the wheels and was killed. He had a program of a farmers' institute in his pocket, along with tax receipts from Ulysses, Kan. The name was cut off the receipt. A \$5 bill was the only money in the pockets.

Charles E. Davis Not Guilty.

Omaha, Neb.—After 13 hours' deliberation the jury in the case of Charles E. Davis, charged with the murder the morning of September 2, of Dr. Frederick T. Kustin, agreed upon a verdict of not guilty.

THE WATERWAYS CONGRESS.

Speakers All Favor Government Bond Issue.

Washington.—Sentiment in favor of a government bond issue for a comprehensive improvement of the rivers, harbors and canals of the country to the end that this nation shall have the greatest system of waterways in the world, gained headway at the opening session of the annual meeting of the Rivers and Harbors congress here Wednesday.

The scheme contemplates \$500,000,000 worth of federal bonds for internal water courses, to be distributed over a ten-year period, or \$50,000,000 annually. Following the lead of President Roosevelt and President-elect Taft, both of whom, before the joint conservation meeting advocated the issuance of government bonds for constructing permanent public improvements, enthusiastic indorsement was given the proposition at the congress by Vice President Fairbanks, Andrew Carnegie and Joseph E. Ransdell.

Leading figures in the nation's public industrial and commercial life indicated their interest in waterways improvements by their presence and participation. The speakers included Vice President Fairbanks, Andrew Carnegie, Ambassador Bryce, Seth Low of New York; Representative Joseph E. Ransdell, Representative Champ Clark of Missouri; George E. Chamberlain of Oregon and Samuel G. Piers.

HILL NOW IS PRESIDENT.

The Inaugural Ceremonies at the Missouri University End.

Columbia, Mo.—Dr. Albert Ross Hill was formally inaugurated as president of the University of Missouri here Friday, the exercises missing a celebration which began Thursday. Ex-Gov. Francis officiated at the installation which took place in the university auditorium and followed an academic procession of notable proportions.

Among those who listened to Dr. Hill's inaugural address was Attorney General Hadley, governor-elect of Missouri.

An alumni luncheon was held at noon in Lathrop hall and there was a review parade of the cadet battalion and the student body. Friday night's program included a torchlight procession by the students and a reception by President and Mrs. Hill.

Ruef Guilty of Bribery.

San Francisco, Cal.—Abraham Ruef, former political boss of San Francisco, was convicted Thursday of bribery. The verdict was returned exactly upon the stroke of four o'clock when the deliberations of the jury had been prolonged throughout a period of 24 hours. The warnings of Judge William P. Lawlor and the vigilance of the police checked all attempted demonstration, although the excitement in the court room was so intense that men were thrust down into their seats or held in the grasp of detectives as they rose to obtain a better view of the proceedings.

Last of Pallbearers Stricken.

Washington, D. C.—Gen. Henry G. Worthington, an ex-representative from Nevada, the only living pallbearer at the funeral of Abraham Lincoln, was stricken with apoplexy on the floor of the House Thursday. He was carried to a cloakroom in a critical condition.

Fasted Ten Days.

Salinas, Cal.—An unidentified man who committed suicide near Soledad Thursday night by shooting himself left an unsigned note saying that he had not eaten since November 30, and that he was a brother of Mrs. Sarah Brewington of Frederickston, Mo.

Pythians to Establish Sanitarium.

Chicago, Illinois.—Dr. G. G. McConnell, medical examiner-in-chief of the Knights of Pythias, announced Friday that it has been formally decided that a sanitarium for tuberculosis patients affiliated with the order shall be established in New Mexico.

Iowa Students Win Trophy.

Omaha, Neb.—Iowa student judges carried off the \$1,000 trophy offered by the Western Grain Dealers' association in the National Corn show competition, the award having been made Thursday. The Kansas team was second and Missouri third.

Mother and Child Burned.

Salina, Kan.—In a fire which destroyed their home at Bavaria, near here, Friday afternoon, Mrs. Frank Himmelwright, wife of a section foreman, and her six months old child were burned to death. Himmelwright was away at work.

A Job for Cortelyou.

New York.—It was stated here Friday night, though not officially confirmed, that the presidency of the Union Trust company had been offered to George B. Cortelyou, secretary of the treasury.

NOTABLE EVENT FOR NAVY.

Secretary Metcalf Tells of the Battleship Cruise.

Secretary Metcalf, of the navy department, in his annual report, discusses, as the most notable event of the past year, the voyage of the battleship fleet, which "has proven an epoch-making cruise."

Late in the spring of 1907 it was decided to send the Atlantic fleet on a practice cruise to the Pacific. When the purpose of giving this assemblage of sixteen battleships such a practice cruise, under severe conditions, was announced, he states, criticism from high technical quarters was heard. The undertaking, it was said, was too monumental; dangers more than multiplied with numbers in such a case; battleships should not be sent around the globe on any ordinary occasion; the skeletons of some of them would doubtless be left in the Straits of Magellan; and, if the ships should round South America, they would, one by one, arrive with machineries loose and unserviceable, and with crews reflecting the condition of the material.

The facts are, Secretary Metcalf says, that the ships maintained schedule time, and have practically taken care of their own repairs on this cruise. The repairs list sent in at the naval station, Cavite, P. I., have just been received, and are significant. They show that after the voyage to the distant borders of the Pacific, the needed repairs are negligible. The performances of the Oregon in 1899 has, it seems, been substantially repeated.

Use of the Telephone.

It was stated Friday at the general offices of the Great Northern railroad that a telephone system for train dispatching purposes was being installed on the Minot division which extends from Devil's Lake to Williston, a distance of 239 miles, and the work of installation was nearly completed. When it is finished the telephone system will be extended from Williston to Cutbank, Mont., over the Montana division, which covers 507 miles. As the Great Northern is now dispatching the trains on its Wilmar division, covering 203 miles, by telephone, this will give a grand total of 1,000 miles of line.

In Aid of Red Cross.

Orders for thirty million Christmas stamps which are being sold by the National Red Cross society of which President-elect Taft is president, has been received by the society and this number have been ordered printed. At the headquarters of the society there is an unwonted amount of activity and orders for the stamps are being filled as rapidly as possible. The officers of the society do not want to disappoint anybody who wishes to help make Christmas merry by contributing in this way to the fight which the society is waging against tuberculosis for which the proceeds will be used.

Will Hold His Job.

Major Brad Slaughter, paymaster of the United States army at Omaha, will not be disqualified and put on the retired list as was rumored recently. When Senators Brown and Burkett called at the war department Friday they were informed that the report on Major Slaughter had been laid away and no action would be taken on it at the present time. Major Slaughter was one of the officers who were ordered to Denver recently to undergo the horseback riding test imposed on all officers of the army.

Close Call for the Mayor.

It was reported Friday that Mayor Busse narrowly escaped being killed by a bomb Monday. It was denied by the mayor. The story was that a bomb was found beneath the mayor's desk set with a lighted time fuse, that a guard discovered the bomb and destroyed it by placing it in water, and that the city officials have kept the matter secret. Mayor Busse said he would endeavor to find out who started the report.

Surplus in Italy's Treasury.

Applause rang throughout the chamber of deputies Friday when Signor Carcano, the minister of the treasury, announced that the close of the year 1907-08 found the treasury with a surplus of \$7,500,000 after all liabilities had been settled and \$21,500,000 had been expended toward the reduction of the country's debt and \$2,000,000 for railroad construction.

Nebraska Won at Debate.

The University of Nebraska won at debate from the University of Illinois at Memorial hall of the Nebraska school Friday night by a vote of the judges 2 to 1 in favor of Nebraska. The question debated was: "Resolved, That American cities should adopt the commission form of government." Nebraska took the affirmative.

Eliot in High Regard.

In accepting, with reluctance, the resignation of President Charles W. Eliot, the overseers of Harvard college have placed on record a resolution of admiration and esteem.