

THE WEEK AT WASHINGTON

The corner stone of the army war college was laid at Washington on February 21. Addresses were delivered by President Roosevelt, Secretary of War Root, and Major General S. M. B. Young, president of the war college. The grounds of this new college have also been selected as the site of the statue of Frederick the Great, which Emperor William proposes to present to the people of this country.

On February 21 the house committee on Indian affairs ordered favorable reports on the ratification of agreements with the Indians on the Rosebud reservation in South Dakota and with the Indians on the different reservations in Minnesota.

According to a recent interpretation of the language of the law relating to the contingent fund of the navy department, the secretary of the navy is empowered to defray out of this money the expenses incident to the entertainment of public men abroad.

On February 21 the house committee on appropriations completed the general deficiency appropriation bill and authorized it favorably reported to the house. This bill carries a total of \$13,691,356, and authorizes the president to appoint by and with the advice and consent of the senate an assistant to the attorney general at a salary of \$7,000 a year, and an assistant attorney general at a salary of \$5,000 a year, and the attorney general is authorized to appoint without reference to civil service rules two additional confidential clerks at a salary of \$1,000 a year each. The officials and clerks to be thus appointed are to be paid out of the appropriation of \$500,000 made by the legislative, executive and judicial appropriation act for the enforcement of the anti-trust laws.

On February 23 the credentials of Senator-elect Reed Smoot of Utah were presented to the senate. Mr. Burrows of Michigan protested against Mr. Smoot's admission and the credentials and protest were filed, but no action was taken.

By a vote of 10 to 6 the house com-

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mittee on merchant marines and fisheries on February 23 voted not to report the ship subsidy bill to the house.

On February 24 the senate committee considered the appropriations bill and recommended several increases over the items as passed by the house. One of these items is the payment of \$200,000 to Queen Liliuokalani of Hawaii in full satisfaction and discharge of all claims she has upon this government.

On February 24 President Roosevelt signed the agreement drawn under the terms of the Platt amendment providing for the acquisition by the United States of a naval station at Guantanamo and a coal station at Paha Honda, both in Cuba. This document has already been signed by President Palma of Cuba.

On February 24 the house passed the Philippine currency bill, accepting the senate bill so far as it relates to the islands; the committee amendment, striking out the international monetary conference, was agreed to.

The elections committee of the house on February 24 reported in the Wagoner-Butler election contest from the Twelfth district of Missouri, recommending the adoption of resolutions declaring that Mr. Butler was not elected and that Mr. Wagoner is entitled to the seat in the house.

It was announced on February 24 that Mr. Bowen, the Venezuelan plenipotentiary, has proposed to the allies that the czar of Russia be asked to name the three arbitrators who, as The Hague tribunal, shall decide the question of preferential treatment. The suggestion has been approved by the state department.

On February 27 the senate voted down a motion to take up the Littlefield anti-trust bill by a vote of 28 to 38. With the exception of three republican members, it was a strictly party vote. On the same day the senate passed the military academy appropriation bill and the naval appropriation bill, the latter carrying a total of \$81,507,412.

Considerable discussion was occasioned in the senate on February 26 as to the advisability and legality of the president appointing senators as members of commissions. Senator Hale started the discussion during his speech on the sundry civil bill. This bill, after being amended, was finally passed by the senate.

The democratic members of the house recently held a caucus and adopted resolutions resisting the unseating of Congressman Butler in favor of Mr. Wagoner. It was also decided to make a determined effort to demand a quorum at all times and yea and nay vote on all measures, and although the republicans have forced through two rules to counteract these tactics, much delay is being experienced in legislation.

President Roosevelt sent a message to the senate on February 27 urging that the tariff duties on Philippine goods be reduced owing to the serious business conditions in the archipelago. So many calamities have befallen the Filipinos that there is grave danger of famine, and the president thinks that the repeal of the tariff on Philippine goods will do much to restore good business conditions again.

The Elkins Bill.

The Elkins rebate bill was passed by the house by a vote of 241 to 6. Its salient provisions are all in the interstate commerce act, which for the practical purpose of preventing railroad rebates to the great trusts is a dead letter. The only change it makes in the present law against rebates is that it abolishes the penalty of imprisonment and makes a fine of \$1,000 the only possible punishment for violating it.

Under the pretense of legislating against the trusts the Elkins bill really makes things easier for them.—New York World.

No Promises Were Necessary.

Senator-elect Ankeny says that during his campaign he did not make any promises in regard to office or enter into any political alliances. Why should he? He had the cash.—Seattle Post-Intelligencer.

For the Removal of Tattooing.

Those who have been tattooed and who regret it may succeed in ridding themselves of these marks by the following process: Pour on the tattooed portion a concentrated solution of tannin, then by means of a needle analogous to that of the tattooer, prick the surface and then rub hard with a nitrate of silver pencil. There

is formed a slough which falls at the end of fourteen or eighteen days, and the operation leaves only a slight scar, which at the end of two months is invisible.—Cosmos.

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