

Washington News

An Associated Press dispatch says: "The administration program as revised today by leaders of the senate and house and given the stamp of White House approval comprises the following legislation: Statehood for Arizona and New Mexico in the form of the senate bill, which provides for ratification by congress of the constitution of the new states after approval by the president. Postal savings bank with safeguards against funds being transferred from sections where originally deposited to the money centers. Giving the president authority to withdraw from entry public lands desired for conservation purposes or for classification, withdrawals to remain in force until revoked by him or by acts of congress. Federal incorporation open to the voluntary application of concerns engaged in interstate business and willing to subscribe to federal regulation. Creating a court of commerce and amending the interstate commerce act as provided by the Townsend-Elkins bills. Creating a legislative council for Alaska, the members to be appointed by the president. Later in the session it may be decided to make additions to the administration program by adding some measures, which are now deemed of secondary importance. For instance, President Taft has told his advisers that he is inclined to come out strongly for ship subsidy in some form, and it is possible also he may urge the passage of the bill providing for certificates of indebtedness to the amount of \$30,000,000 to provide money to carry on reclamation work.

An Associated Press dispatch says: "Concessions by both the United States and Germany have averted a threatened tariff war. Negotiations have been concluded between the two countries which settle the question of minimum and maximum rates, with the exception of cattle and dressed meat issue, which was eliminated from the present negotiations and which will be pursued hereafter in separate diplomatic representation. The result of the negotiations agreed to today is to exchange American minimum rates for the entire and unqualified minimum list of Germany. The result is considered just and advantageous to both countries."

Judge A. C. Cox has declined the appointment of presiding justice of the customs court.

A Washington dispatch carried by the Associated Press says: "Representative Champ Clark, democratic leader of the house, has been informed that the 'First Champ Clark for President' club has been organized in Enid, Okla. An official notification to that effect has just reached him. A telegram from Tulsa, Okla., has also been received by the minority leader nominating him for speaker of the next congress and then for president. Mr. Clark is not committing himself just now, as to the candidacy for either office, he says."

A lively political debate occurred in the house when Representative Robinson of Arkansas read a letter written by Representative Crow of Missouri in which Mr. Crow told one of his constituents that if he received an appointment as census enumerator he would have to ascertain the relative strength of insurgents and republican republicans. In this letter Mr. Crow said that the census enumerator would have to do certain work "such as an enthusiastic republican would be glad to

do and will not in any way conflict with your duty as enumerator." Representative Bartholdt, republican, of Missouri said that Mr. Crow acted on his own authority and did not speak for any one but himself. Representative Boogher of Missouri said he would offer an amendment to the pending bill imposing a fine of \$1,000 or imprisonment for one year upon any census employe who should ask any person any question relating to his politics. Representative Harlin of Missouri said that President Taft had asked him to suggest some good man for supervisor of the census in place of a supervisor who had died but the president had insisted that he must be a republican and so Mr. Harlin told him that he had no advice to give. Representative Hardy of Texas said that partisanship is the keynote of federal appointments in his state.

Senator Heyburn of Idaho spoke against the postal savings bank bill. He contended that inasmuch as the fund under the bill would reach fully \$700,000,000, it would enable the board of trustees to dictate the rate of interest throughout the country "in other words, the government's purpose to get into the loaning business," he said, "and intends to fix the rate of interest at 2 1/4 per cent." In view of this fact, he asked what the effect would be on incomes deprived from funds invested at 5 and 6 per cent. "Should we," he then asked, "so forget our duty to the widows and orphans whose funds are thus invested as to disturb the earning capacity of their investments?" He declared that the bill should be denominated "an act to constitute the government a collection agency for the banks," and added that under the bill it had the power to convert the government into a general loaning agency.

Representative Payne of New York has introduced a resolution providing for an investigation by the house committee on ways and means into the high cost of living in the United States.

Representative Coudrey, republican, of Missouri, has introduced a resolution to investigate the beef trust.

Senator Jeff Davis of Arkansas attacked the postal savings bank bill, declaring that it is in the interest of money sharks.

Fountain L. Thompson, recently appointed senator from North Dakota, has resigned on account of ill health. Hon. W. E. Purcell of Wapeton, democrat, has been appointed his successor.

In a newspaper interview Commander Peary suggests Theodore Roosevelt as leader of the proposed South Pole expedition.

AUTHORIZED TO PLUNDER?

The diligent American press, turning its attention to the meat boycott and the situation that gives rise to it, has unearthed some interesting facts.

The New York Sun finds that the retail price of American beef is much less in London than in New York. Loins sell in London for 15 to 19 cents, in New York for 23 to 28 cents; round steak in London costs 16 to 20 cents, and in New York 20 to 24 cents; chuck brings 12 to 16 cents in London, and 14 to 18 cents in New York.

The Baltimore Sun is impressed

with the fact that American flour and bacon are sold much cheaper in Canada than in the United States.

The Philadelphia North American adduces figures to show that the beef trust's stock explanation of high prices—a diminishing supply, is not true. It shows that from 1899 to 1909 beef cattle in this country increased, in round numbers, from 28 million to 49 millions, of 79 per cent; sheep increased from 39 million to 56 million, or 43 per cent; swine increased from 38 million to 54 million, or 40 per cent. During the same period population has increased not to exceed 20 per cent. Meat products, therefore, have increased from two to three times as much as population.

Senator Bristow of Kansas aids the press in its researches as to fact by coming forward with the sapient suggestion that the price of meat ought to be less than it was twenty-five years ago if for no other reason than that waste has been eliminated. "When I was a boy," he says, "25 per cent of the carcass went to waste. Now nothing is wasted, not even the blood."

All these facts notwithstanding, the price keeps on rising, and the price of American products is greater to Americans, at home, than it is to Londoners across seas.

Yet it is nothing new or surprising. The facts are stale. They have been pointed out, over and over again, by democratic newspapers and campaigners, in any number of campaigns.

The beef trust is getting enormously rich by robbing the American people. Armour's declare a 35 per cent dividend for the last fiscal year. And in ten years they have created a surplus, out of earnings in addition to dividends, of 70 millions of dollars on a 20 million capitalization. Other great packing concerns are doing about as well. Is it strange if prices are high? Is it stranger they are higher right here in Omaha than in London?

And aren't the steel trust and the oil trust and the sugar trust and the harvester trust and the woolen trust and all the rest of them doing just as the beef trust is doing? Aren't they all gouging the American people, and haven't they been doing it these many years past? And haven't these same American people authorized them to do so, and ratified their doing it, by their votes at the polls every time they had a chance?—Omaha World-Herald.

A GREAT WORLD

This is a great world and this is what Sam Jones thought of it: "There may be larger worlds and grander and better worlds than this; but this is a great world. Its mountains are God's thoughts piled up; its prairies God's thoughts spread out; its rivers God's thoughts in motion; its flowers God's thoughts in bloom; its harvests God's thoughts in bread; its dew drops God's thoughts in pearl, and whenever we look about us, every object smiles back upon us and says 'I am but the gift of the gracious Father to His wayward children.'"—Nebraska City News.

SURE OF HIS WHEREABOUTS

A young man fell into a state of coma, but recovered before his friends had buried him. One of them asked what it felt like to be dead.

"Dead!" he exclaimed. "I wasn't dead. And I knew I wasn't, because my feet were cold and I was hungry. "But how did that make you sure?"

"Well, I knew that if I were in heaven I shouldn't be hungry, and if I was in the other place my feet would be cold."—Cleveland Leader.

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