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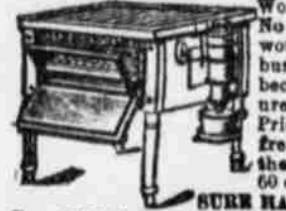
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## Week at Washington

Representative Williamson of Oregon, who was indicted by the federal grand jury of Portland, Ore., on the charge of conspiracy to defraud the United States of public lands, has decided not to attend the sessions of the house of representatives, pending his trial.

President George B. Robbins of the Armour car lines was questioned in the house by the sub-committee of the house committee on the details of the business of his company.

President Roosevelt has signified his approval of the report of Ambassador Porter, concerning the efforts to locate the remains of Admiral John Paul Jones and has urged the erection of monuments for both Paul Jones and John Barry to "emphasize the value set by our people upon the achievements of the naval commanders in our war for independence." The president further asks congress to appropriate the \$35,000 needed to conduct the search for the body of Jones, which is believed to have been buried in the abandoned cemetery of St. Louis in Paris in 1792.

Senator Tillman of South Carolina was compelled to leave Washington a few days ago on account of the condition of his health. He is now in Philadelphia where he is undergoing treatment. His physician pronounces his ailment as the grip, but the senator is afraid that it is something more serious.

The senate committee on the judiciary has authorized a favorable report on a bill fixing the boundary line between South Dakota and Nebraska.

An Associated Press dispatch from Washington, dated February 13, says that in giving its approval January 11 last to the "treaty of arbitration of pecuniary claims," commonly known as the Pan-American arbitration treaty, the United States senate has committed itself to the recognition of its power to delegate to the executive the right to make special arbitration arrangements, and in executive circles it is held this power is sufficient to warrant its action in the case of Santo Domingo.

An Associated Press dispatch, dated Washington, February 13, says: "Senator Spooner has prepared a report containing the views of the members of the senate committee on the judiciary on the resolution introduced by Senator Tillman, asking an opinion on the right of the president to make recess appointments between the adjournment of one session of congress and the convening of another, when the two sessions are merged into each other. The report denies that the president has a right to construe a recess and suggests certain limitations upon the president's power to appoint men to office during a recess of congress, whose nominations have been sent in and considered, but not confirmed at a former session. It was the intention of Senator Spooner to submit the report to the judiciary committee today, but because of the absence of Chairman Platt it was not acted upon. The report will not be made public until introduced in the senate."

On February 13, Senator Bacon introduced a resolution calling for an investigation by the senate committee on foreign relations, of a protocol of an agreement, under which the United States is believed to be now administering the customs affairs of Santo

Domingo, or at least part of them. The resolution sets forth the fact that a protocol of an agreement was entered into at San Domingo City on January 31, 1903, for the arbitration of certain claims against the Dominican government held by the San Domingo Improvement company of New York. A copy of the protocol of the agreement is incorporated in the resolution, and in this the Dominican government obligates itself to pay to the United States \$4,500,000 on behalf of the San Domingo Improvement company and to allow the United States government to administer the customs affairs at certain ports in order to insure the payment. It is under this agreement that the United States is said to be in charge of the customs offices of the Dominican government and under the protocol entered into on January 20 last, which agreement was repudiated by the state department and another drawn. The latter agreement is expected to arrive in Washington on Wednesday.

President Roosevelt has sent to Lady Gregory of Dublin, Ireland, \$25 towards the purchase of Irish pictures for the gallery of modern art which is to be established in Dublin. The following note accompanied the contribution: "I cordially sympathize with you and your efforts to keep such a collection of pictures in Dublin. It would be an important step towards giving Dublin the position it by right should have." The prince of Wales contributed \$5,000 and the princess of Wales also subscribed.

On February 14, the senate passed the agricultural appropriation bill and is now considering the bill making appropriations for the District of Columbia.

The following nominations were confirmed by the senate on February 14: James B. Reynolds, Massachusetts, assistant secretary of the treasury; Eugene A. Tucker, Nebraska, associate justice of the supreme court of Arizona; W. H. H. Llewellyn, attorney for the district of New Mexico.

Senator Bard has introduced the following resolution: "That the secretary of the interior be and he is hereby directed to furnish for the information of the senate a statement showing all contracts made since January 19, providing for the care and education of Indians in sectarian or denominational schools, together with copies of all petitions and applications for said contracts, and of all papers and correspondence relative to Indian education, addressed to or on file in the department; also copies of opinions rendered by the department of justice relative to the authority of the executive department for granting contracts to sectarian schools for the care and education of Indians and for using trust funds belonging to Indian tribes, or other moneys appropriated by congress for fulfilling treaty stipulations with Indian tribes or for other purposes, for the payment of such contracts."

Representative Littlefield of Maine has written a letter to the secretary of war, relative to the anti-canteen act. In his letter Mr. Littlefield states that he is the author of the anti-canteen amendment and adds: "I regret to say that an impression prevails that the officers of the army are not only adverse to this legislation, but are prejudiced against it. If this is true it has created an unfriendly atmosphere that not only will impair the efficiency of the recreation and amusement feature,

but will of itself practically defeat the object of the legislation." Secretary Taft, in reply, said: "I think you are correct in assuming that a great majority of the officers in the army regard the anti-canteen amendment as ill advised and likely to increase drunkenness in the ranks. Indeed I must admit to that as at present advised I share your opinion."

President Roosevelt is preparing to attend the reunion of the Rough Riders at San Antonio, Tex., to be held near the end of March.

The desirability of enlarging the navy was discussed in the house on February 15. Mr. Butler (Pa.) upheld the proposed increase in the number of battleships, saying until all selfishness had disappeared men would strike and

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