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DOUBTFUL

"Jones is extremely attentive to his wife."
"Still very much in love with her, eh?"
"Either that, or he is afraid of her."—Boston Transcript.

AN IMPROVEMENT

"I got a new attachment to the family piano," said Mr. Growcher; "and it's a wonderful improvement."
"What is it?"
"A lock and key."—Washington Star.

WASHINGTON NEWS

An Associated Press dispatch says: A congressional "recall" of judges of the inferior courts of the United States is proposed in an amendment which Representative Hull of Tennessee offered in the house and which was referred to in the committee. The amendment which will be known as article XVIII, proposes: "That for reasonable cause, judges of the inferior courts of the United States may be removed from office by concurrent resolution of both houses of congress if two-thirds of the members present concur therein. Such judge shall have reasonable notice and shall have an opportunity to be heard in person or by counsel." The change in the constitution proposed by Mr. Hull requires a two-thirds vote of congress and ratification by three-fourths of the states of the union. Mr. Hull says his proposed amendment will confer on congress the power to deal with judges of the inferior courts of the United States, similar to that now given to about half the state legislatures with respect to judges of inferior state courts. Should the amendment become a part of the constitution, congress could remove a judge for mental or physical disability, incompetency, continued neglect of official duty, habitual drunkenness, oppression or other misconducts in office.

The five judges of the United States commerce court would be retained in office as circuit judges, by an agreement reached by the house and senate conferees on the executive, legislative and judicial appropriation bill. The commerce court would be definitely abolished by the agreement and its work turned over to the district courts in which the various cases may have arisen. The senate had proposed that the five commerce judges be immediately chopped from the judicial rolls, while the house proposed to keep them as circuit judges, but not to fill vacancies that might occur. In this manner the number of circuit judges would ultimately drop to twenty-nine, the number now authorized by law. The conference report was submitted to the senate. It provides also for a modification of the civil service term, fixing it at seven years. After each term, civil service employees would be required to again qualify for their places by examination or otherwise. Those now in the service would be credited with admission to a seven year term beginning next September.

The house of representatives, by a vote of 156 to 72, passed the cotton tariff revision bill. It is claimed that this will reduce the duties on cotton 21 per cent. It is the same bill that was vetoed last year by President Taft.

Senator Simmons, representing the democratic-insurgent alliance in the senate, and Representative Underwood, democratic leader of the house reached an agreement to frame a compromise wool bill, similar to that President Taft vetoed last summer. A meeting of the wool tariff conference will be held.

With practically all features on which President Taft based his veto, the army appropriation bill was again reported to the senate by the military affairs committee, carrying approximately \$94,000,000. The section inserted in the bill when it was in conference to legislate Major General Leonard Wood, chief of

staff, out of office on March 4, was not in the reconstructed bill. The bill, as the house repassed it, was changed only in that it did not carry the proposal to remove General Wood.

President Taft was formally notified of his renomination at the White House. Senator Elihu Root delivered the notification address. Following are sample extracts from Senator Root's speech: "Your title to the nomination is as clear and unimpeachable as the title of any candidate since political conventions began.

"You have been nominated because you stand pre-eminently for certain fixed and essential principles which the republican party maintains.

"You believe in preserving the constitutional government of the United States.

"You believe in the rule of law rather than the rule of men. You realize that the only safety for nations, as for individuals, is to establish and abide by declared principles of action."

The majority report of the house committee appointed to investigate the steel trust has been made to the house and it is described in an Associated Press report as follows:

The report was signed by the chairman and Representatives Bartlett of Georgia, McGillicuddy of Maine, Beall of Texas and Littleton of New York, democrats, Representatives Gardner of Massachusetts, Danford of New York, Young of Michigan and Sterling of Illinois, republicans, dissented from the report of the majority. Representative Sterling submitted his individual views in a minority report and Representative Littleton, democrat, dissenting from the recommendations of the majority for amendment of the Sherman anti-trust law, filed his views.

Representatives Gardner and Danford will unite in another minority report which Representative Young will sign and add to it his own findings as to the facts surrounding the organization and operation of the steel corporation.

The report of the majority deals with the steel trust from its inception and describes the various steps by which J. P. Morgan and his associates built up the corporation. In addition to recommendations for legislation suggested as remedial, the democratic members of the committee make general accusations against the men responsible for the organization.

J. P. Morgan and his associates are held up as being the beneficiaries of enormous profits realized from the over-capitalization of the subsidiary companies of the steel corporation and later of the corporation itself.

Judge E. H. Gary and his dinners to steel manufacturers are credited with a scheme by which prices and territory were controlled by the steel trust after pooling agreements were discarded.

Former President Roosevelt is indicted for making the control of the steel trust absolute and is charged with being responsible for the gigantic stature which the trust has attained.

The United States Steel corporation flayed as an enemy of organized labor, accused of lowering the sociological conditions of its employees and of contributing to American industry workmen and work methods

un-American and foreign to the best interests of labor.

Principal stockholders of the steel corporation are accused of exerting powerful and injurious influence on the business of the United States by means of control exercised through interlocking directorates of railway and industrial organizations.

The activity of the corporation in politics is laid bare and its influence described and the "steel trust" as a tariff beneficiary and its part in the making of the Payne-Aldrich tariff act are touched upon by the democrats.

The committee recommends legislation to cure trust evils and to meet existing conditions. It condemns the steel corporation, but does not invade the jurisdiction of the United States court in which there is now pending a government suit for its dissolution.

Early in its report the committee sets forth that it would investigate "as if no proceeding on the part of the United States government were now pending against said corporation, but not for the purpose of determining the questions involved in the action brought by the government."

The government's suit is to discover if the United States Steel corporation is "in violation of the Sherman anti-trust law."

In summing up its conclusions the majority report says:

"The control of corporations by the federal government as recommended by Mr. Carnegie, Judge Gary and others, is not approved. Whatever may be the evil results of the elimination of competition from the steel business, it does not justify such a remedy and could not be cured by it. Such a control, semi-socialistic in its nature, is beyond the power vested by the constitution in the federal congress.

"The abuses mentioned in this report can in a great measure be remedied by giving to the operations of the United States Steel corporation and other like corporations the widest publicity, and by the strict enforcement of laws specifically inhibiting the employment of cunning devices by which unfair advantage over competitors is secured. The bureau of corporations possesses the authority to thoroughly investigate the internal affairs of industrial concerns doing an interstate business.

Had the character of the steel corporation and the nature and extent of its operations been known to the people and to the president of the United States at the time of the absorption of the Tennessee Coal and Iron company, it is highly improbable that the chief executive would in twenty minutes have given his consent to a merger fraught with infinite injury to the steel industry and to the public alike.

The part that United States steel the absorption of the Tennessee Coal and Iron Railroad company, President Roosevelt and Wall street financiers played in the panic of 1907 are covered in the report and the insinuation is made that the panic was an artificial one designed for the benefit of the steel corporation.

In its comment the committee says:

"How a panic which had persistently resisted the combined effort of the federal government and John D. Rockefeller and J. P. Morgan & Co., and remained in unabated fury after Morgan and Rockefeller had turned loose \$60,000,000 and the federal treasury \$25,000,000 more should suddenly be stilled by this manipulation of Grant B. Schley's loans has not been explained either by Mr. Roosevelt or by any other witness. Yet it is urgently maintained that the panic continued prior to this magical scoop of securities