

Washington News

The rivers and harbors appropriation bill, carrying more than \$34,000,000, passed the house January 19 by a vote of 164 to 81. The bill now goes to the senate. The bill authorizes no new projects, the \$34,000,000 being apportioned to continue improvements already under way, with provisions for examinations and surveys in various places, including the Colorado river and the harbors at San Diego and Long Beach. The larger allotments of the money appropriated include \$7,387,000 for the Mississippi river, \$3,184,000 for the Ohio, \$1,350,000 for the Missouri and \$1,385,000, in addition to \$600,000 for the Columbia river and lower Willamette.

The senate on January 18 defeated, 40 to 38, the motion to suspend the rules for consideration of a prohibition rider to the District of Columbia appropriation bill. A two-thirds majority was necessary to suspend the rules prohibiting general legislation in appropriation bills and the motion failed to receive even a majority. The debate lasted five days.

Formal announcement of the inauguration of a great federal employment bureau by the department of labor, with the assistance of the post-office and agricultural departments, was made January 26 by Secretary Wilson. Through a circular letter

sent to all sections of the country the secretary called the attention of the public to the government movement to bring the "manless job and the jobless man" together. Agents of the agricultural department have been provided with blanks so that the employers and employment seekers in almost any part of the United States may make their application without waiting to communicate with Washington.

President Wilson vetoed the immigration bill January 28, because of the literacy test for admission of aliens. An attempt to pass the bill over President Wilson's veto failed in the house February 4, the affirmative vote lacking five of the necessary two-thirds. Of 399 members present 261 voted to over-ride the veto, 136 voted to sustain the president, and two answered "present."

The 261 votes for passing the bill over the veto were cast as follows: Democrats, 166; republicans, 78; progressive republicans, 16; independents, 1. Against the bill the vote was: Democrats, 101; "insurgent" democrat, 1; republicans, 32; progressives and progressive republicans, 2.

An urgent deficiency bill was adopted by the senate January 21, carrying \$2,500,000, to reimburse farmers for cattle slaughtered in the campaign to eradicate the foot and mouth disease.

The Palmer bill to bar products of child labor from interstate commerce was passed by the house February 15 by a vote of 232 to 44, after a lively debate and the issuance of a writ of arrest for absentees to suppress a filibuster. The bill now goes to the senate.

Indorsement of the ship purchase bill and the rural credits legislation was given to President Wilson February 3 by representatives of the national grange, the National Dairy association, the Farmers' alliance and the National Rural Credits league, who called at the White House.

Democrats elected to the house in the Sixty-fourth congress on February 4 unanimously nominated Speaker Clark to succeed himself, and chose Representative Claude Kitchin, of North Carolina, to become

chairman of the ways and means committee and majority floor leader when Representative Underwood goes to the senate.

Formal announcement of the postponement of the opening ceremonies at the Panama canal from March until some time in July was made January 29.

The naval appropriation bill providing for expenditure of \$144,648,902, passed the house on February 5 by 165 to 149. It includes provision for two battleships to cost \$7,800,000 each.

President Wilson on January 26 signed the bill creating the Rocky Mountain National Park in Colorado, comprising about 200,000 acres of public lands.

The nomination of Henry Clay Hall of Colorado to succeed himself as an interstate commerce commissioner was confirmed by the senate on January 26.

The house banking committee February 3 adopted a resolution for the appointment of a committee of four senators and five representatives to investigate rural credits and to report at the next session of congress. The investigation would relate to personal credits and not land credits. The committee voted down a proposition looking to land credits legislation.

INCOME TAX ASSAILED

A special to The Washington Post from Chicago, dated February 9, says: Bankers, lawyers and business men here generally join in condemnation of the income tax law, which some have declared to be a stupid "failure to fill the gap in the treasury caused by equally stupid tariff tinkering."

The cost of articles from which tariff was removed, they say, has not been lowered, the people have less money with which to buy, and are saddled with the income tax. Bankers are bitter over the government forcing them, without remuneration, to shoulder the burden of collecting the tax and prying into the affairs of their patrons.

The burden imposed upon banks, it is said, is the heaviest of any that must be borne by the unwilling and unofficial collection agents.

BURDEN COSTLY TO THE BANKS

The Continental and Commercial National bank has found it expedient to maintain special cages and extra clerks in both the commercial and savings departments to handle business of collecting the tax and accounting for it to its clients and to the government.

Edmund D. Hulbert, vice president of the Merchants Loan and Trust Company bank, authorized a statement that the expense to that institution involved in carrying out the "deduction at the source" provision of the income tax law amounts to \$6,500 a year.

LAWYERS ATTACK THE STATUTE

Charles H. Hamill, of the law firm of Rosenthal & Hamill, declared the income tax law "the worst piece of legislative draftsmanship I have ever seen placed upon a statute book anywhere. It is so complicated that it is utterly impossible to understand its meaning save by consulting a palmist."

Ralph M. Shaw, member of the law firm of Winston, Payne, Strawn & Shaw, said:

"The statute, as a statute, is one of the most poorly drafted pieces of legislation that has ever appeared on the statute books in this country."

BRYAN THE PREACHER

Secretary of State Bryan still maintains his remarkable power of popular appeal. The tides of political favor may ebb and flow but the witchery of the Nebraskan's oratory maintains its level popularity. He is pre-eminently a preacher, a prophet of corporate righteousness, a mighty moral force in a nation in which the ethical appeal has always gone profoundly to the people's hearts.

Even those most antagonistic to his political views find nothing to detract from his moral fervor and winsomeness in stating his conclusions. As an exponent of political and social righteousness Mr. Bryan will be remembered long by the American people. — Rockford (Ill.) Republic.

Fools rush in where angels fear to tread, but in the theatrical business it is sometimes difficult to make the distinction. — Philadelphia Record.

Many a man expects even his own conscience to jolly him along.—Ex.

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Something new and different, something delightful and healthful, something instantly successful. You do not have to wait, and linger and pay out a lot of money. You can stop it over night—and I will gladly tell you how—FREE. I am not a doctor and this is not a so-called doctor's prescription—but I am cured and my friends are cured, and you can be cured. Your suffering will stop at once like magic.

I AM FREE—YOU CAN BE FREE

My catarrh was filthy and loathsome. It made me ill. It dulled my mind. It undermined my health and was weakening my will. The hawking, coughing, spitting made me obnoxious to all, and my foul breath and disgusting habits made even my loved ones avoid me secretly. My delight in life was dulled and my faculties impaired. I knew that in time it would bring me to an untimely grave, because every moment of the day and night it was slowly yet surely sapping my vitality.

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