

THE SIXTIETH CONGRESS

A Condensed Account of Transactions at the National Capital.

The Most Important Items Gathered From Each Day's Session of Senate and House.

Raised an Issue of Fact.

Washington, D. C.—In a speech in the senate Thursday Senator Culberson declared that the secretary of the treasury by his report to the senate has raised an issue of fact as to whether national banks in New York used the \$75,000,000 of public money deposited with them for speculative purposes or whether this money was used to meet the demand of outside banks for reserve purposes. The report shows that the loans and discounts of New York banks increased several millions while they were refusing to cash checks or honor drafts.

Another Day of Oratory.

Washington, D. C.—Tariff revision and the president's recent special message to congress again were the main topics of discussion in the house of representatives Wednesday. As has been the case for nearly a week, the Indian appropriation bill ostensibly was before the house, but in no quarter was any word spoken in regard to it. The house apparently had made up its mind to discuss the issues of the day at this time and no effort was made to check the flow of general debate which will be continued Thursday.

To Save Pension Agencies.

Washington, D. C.—The plan of the interior department to abolish the pension agencies throughout the country and pay the pensioners from Washington will be vigorously opposed on the floor of the house. The most important of these agencies is in Topeka. That agency disbursed \$15,807,638 last year more than \$1,000,000 more than was disbursed by any other agency. The number of pensioners paid there was 111,508.

Beveridge Wants Tariff Commission.

Washington, D. C.—Senator Beveridge of Indiana Wednesday delivered an appeal to the senate to adopt his bill providing for a non-partisan tariff commission, a plan which he declared conformed to modern and business ideas on this subject. He spoke for an hour and a half receiving the careful attention of senators and a large audience in the galleries. There were present many delegates of commercial bodies now in session in this city.

More Power for the Commission.

Washington, D. C.—The senate committee on interstate commerce Friday practically reached an agreement to amend the bill so as to allow the interstate commerce commission the right to initiate proceedings against a railroad when in its judgment a rate is too high or the practices of a road are such as to produce the effect of an unfair rate.

The Minority Bill.

Washington, D. C.—What will be known as "the minority currency bill" was introduced Friday by Representative John Sharp Williams of Mississippi, the democratic leader of the house, who drew the measure as a result of a conference of democrats behind closed doors Friday.

Stone Would Give Up Philippines.

Washington, D. C.—Senator Stone of Missouri has introduced a joint resolution authorizing the president to relinquish control of the Philippine Islands in 1913, upon first securing a pledge from other nations to preserve the neutrality of the islands.

Take Their Seats in Congress.

Washington, D. C.—Representation in the house of representatives was increased by two Wednesday, when Benito Legarda and Pablo Ocampo, resident Philippine commissioners, took their seats.

Speech Making Ends.

Washington, D. C.—Political speech-making came to an end in the house Thursday and actual consideration of the Indian appropriation bill was resumed.

For Maximum and Minimum Tariff.

Washington, D. C.—Senator Beveridge introduced a resolution declaring that the tariff should provide for maximum and minimum rates of duty; the first to apply to all countries that will not grant to this country special advantages in their markets and the second to apply to all countries that will grant to this country special commercial advantages in their markets. Both maximum and minimum rates are required to be arranged according to the principles of protection.

Royce Names Assistants.

Topeka, Kan.—Bank Commissioner J. Q. Royce Wednesday announced the following appointments as a part of the additional force authorized under his jurisdiction by the special legislative session: Capt. W. S. Albright, assistant bank commissioner, and John Ryberg, Salina and M. M. Rowley, Beloit, examiners. Two more examiners are yet to be named.

SPEAKER'S GREAT POWER.

The Business of Country Not Being Despatched Speedily Because of Bad House Rules.

Washington, D. C.—A bitter attack on the rules and power of the speaker was made in the house of representatives Wednesday by Mr. Nelson of Wisconsin, republican, who said the power of the house was merged in the speaker. "He is the house," he exclaimed amid democratic applause. He charged that the business of the country was not being despatched speedily, economically or considerately. He did not, he said, believe in personality or partisanship. "I am speaking," he declared, "of principles and not of men that are passing."

It was intended, he said, that the speaker should be only a mere moderator in according the representatives of the people their just rights and in securing a square deal. But now he said the speaker overrules ruthlessly the rights of his opponents and his own associates, as well. The minority, he declared, were not only speechless but absolutely helpless and as for the majority members they have to obey the will of the speaker.

At times, he added, they would break away but not for long because they were brought back under the power of the speaker's spell. He said that many of the president's policies were important, but they were no more important than parliamentary reforms in the house.

"Shoe Day" on the Bowery.

New York, N. Y.—Thursday was "shoe day" on the Bowery and Friday 5,000 men were tramping the Bowery sidewalks wearing new shoes and new woolen socks. "Shoe day" is an institution and was established by Congressman Timothy D. Sullivan, known to his constituents and New York generally as "Big Tim." Every year Sullivan gives away shoes to every man of his district who needs them and Thursday more than 5,000 were in line long before the doors of the club rooms were opened for the distribution. The annual distribution of shoes is Sullivan's pet charity, for, he says, "a man can march to glory in a pair of new shoes and dry socks."

Would Borrow the School Fund.

Guthrie, Ok.—The lower house Friday passed the Holland bill allowing each county of the new state to borrow \$2 per capita, from the public school fund. The state treasurer now has \$5,000,000 on hand that congress donated the Indian Territory and under the contemplated sale of Oklahoma school lands will have about \$20,000,000 additional. The new counties in the Indian Territory are at present operating without any money as no tax levy has been made.

A Chicago Judge Restrained.

Springfield, Ill.—The Illinois supreme court consented Friday, on motion of State's Attorney Healey of Chicago, to consider an application for an injunction to restrain Judge Willard M. McEwen of Chicago from hearing arguments for the discharge of a prisoner in habeas corpus proceedings. The supreme court in certiorari proceedings directs Judge McEwen to stay his habeas corpus hearing pending further action of the supreme court.

Endorsed Bryan in Iowa.

Des Moines, Ia.—A resolution endorsing William J. Bryan was Friday unanimously adopted by the democratic state central committee and notice of its adoption sent by wire to Mr. Bryan. This action came only after a whole day of maneuvering, in which the radicals showed themselves completely in the majority over the conservative democrats who have in the past opposed Bryan.

Public Printer Suspended.

Washington. — President Roosevelt Wednesday temporarily suspended as public printer Charles A. Stillings and appointed William S. Rossiter temporarily to fill the duties of that office. The action, as explained officially, is to facilitate the investigation now being made of the government printing office by congress. Mr. Rossiter now is chief clerk of the census office.

A Hamilton Memorial.

Washington, D. C.—The Alexander Hamilton National Memorial association was incorporated here Thursday for the purpose of securing funds for the purchase of an appropriate site and monument to perpetuate the memory, and commemorate the public achievements of Alexander Hamilton.

Oklahoma Papers Consolidated.

Wichita, Kansas—Lyman G. White, editor and publisher of the Alva, Ok., Review, Friday purchased the Alva Weekly Courier and will consolidate the two papers. The Courier was owned by A. J. Ross.

St. Louis Pioneer Dead.

St. Louis, Mo.—Pneumonia caused the death Wednesday of Alfred Carr, 70 years old, a pioneer and member of one of the oldest families of St. Louis.

PROTECT THE HOME

NATURAL LAWS EVIDENCED IN COMMUNAL RELATIONSHIP.

PRACTICES THAT DESTROY

Necessity for Harmonious Co-Operation If the Highest Interests of the People of a Community Be Best Subscribed.

Cities and towns are the natural outgrowth of the inborn desire in man to fraternize in a protective as well as in a social way. Primitive man illustrated a high type of individualism. Examples of his methods can be found in the barbarous, wandering tribes in some sections of the world to-day. As far as possible, he existed independent of his fellow creatures. Like the wild animal, he tracked down his prey and subsisted the best he could. A natural law binds together creatures of certain types. As intelligence in man developed, a sense of interdependence directed that tribal methods of living in community be put in force. This was necessary for self-protection and for defense against attacks of common enemies.

As far back as evidence can be found relative to man's existence, there existed resident places corresponding to our present "home towns." With the advancement of civilization, methods of living became revolutionized. One resident of a community found that his interests were best subserved by dependence upon other members and by close co-operation with them. In modern life, there are many complex conditions which make necessary the recognition of obligations of one person to another. The small city or town of to-day affords an illustration of the highest type of communal relationship. Here is found ideals as to co-operation and a full recognition of the necessity of harmonious labor, not for self alone, but for others of the community. It is by this co-operation that the highest type of society is built up. It is by this harmonious action that churches are builded, schools maintained, public libraries for the enlightenment of the people supported, roads kept in condition and all conveniences for mutual interchange in the social and commercial life recognized as necessary.

A town cannot in itself exist. It must draw the subsistence for its people from the surrounding country. The basis of the city or town is agriculture. The growing of food stuffs must be in order that people shall live. An agricultural town of a thousand population cannot exist by itself alone, but must draw its support from the contiguous territory. Those residing upon the farms find the town an essential to their welfare and enjoyment. Thus a community must be considered an entire and indivisible social organization, in which each member participates in whatever prosperity and general advancement exists within it. Thus we find that all comprising the community have equal interest in increasing its prosperity, its wealth and all its moral, social, educational and commercial advantages. This participation is not exclusive to those residing within the limits of the town, but must be enjoyed by the residents and the workers on the adjacent farms, and all who labor within the radius of which the town is the center. Perforce of this, the town becomes the apex of the social activity, as well as that of a business nature. And the social and the commercial are so intertwined that one is necessary for the other.

A spirit of mutual co-operation should permeate all of a community. Each and every one comprising the communal organization of a district has equal interest with the others. There can be no affair important to the townspeople but which is also im-

Too Many Small Towns.

Economic laws regulate town building. In a certain locality there can be too many towns. For a town's existence there must be a certain amount of trade, a volume of business sufficient to give employment in the trades and industries to the residents of the town. Some people deplore the fact that conditions are changing so as to drive some towns out of existence. Many of these places have no natural right to exist. Perhaps their geographical location in the district is not advantageous. Their existence takes from a better located town a certain share of the support it should have. In a farming community where the population is only sufficient to support a town of a thousand inhabitants it is foolish to presume that two towns of a thousand population each can be properly maintained. In his message to congress President Roosevelt expressed his views in these words: "I believe it is good policy for our government to do everything possible to aid the small town and the country district; it is desirable that the country merchant should not be

crushed out." This is not mere sentiment. It is an economic truth. The interests of the farmer and the laborer are closely intertwined with the interests of the merchants of the small town. When one suffers adversity there is a reflex action upon all other residents of the community. When the farmers as a class are prosperous the merchants and others engaged in other than farming industries enjoy this prosperity. The quicker all good citizens of agricultural districts recognize the true relationship of one to the other the better it will be for all and the higher will become our citizenship.

Each citizen of a town should take a lively interest in keeping the place clean. It may mean the saving of both doctor and undertaking bills.

Were there only large cities, how poorly would fare the farmers and the others who toil for a livelihood.

Clean and well-paved streets indicate the good character of citizens living in a place.

portant to the farmers and others of the community; and there can be no affair of interest to the dwellers in the rural district but is of equal import to the residents of the towns.

How desolate, how monotonous and how isolated is the life on the farm without a home town. In human kind social instincts are predominating. Unless social desires are gratified there is despondency. The records of our insane asylums prove that from the isolated farms, where social intercourse through certain conditions is most restricted, comes the majority of inmates of these institutions. Without social intercourse intelligence is numbed and ignorance prevails. Then how important it is to the residents of rural districts that the prosperity of the home towns be encouraged. There is the social feature, the educational, the moral and religious, and as important as any and most essential for the highest perfection, is the business relations. The more prosperous the home town the more prosperous are the farmers residing within its trade radius, because the livelier the town the better the home markets.

There are complications in the business world to-day and the building up of systems of business that interfere with the highest development of the small cities and towns. Railroads, telegraph, telephone, rural delivery—all has tended towards enhancing life in the country. But these means have also encouraged business methods that work against the higher development of community interests. In order that the home town exists, there must be employment for those who reside within it. This employment is solely dependent upon the town's commercial and manufacturing interests. Thus we find that the home town is reliant upon the trade, not alone of those who reside within it, but of those in the surrounding country. Any system that robs the home town of this trade is contrary to highest economic law. Such a system retards progress and works against all within the community. Dependent upon the prosperity of the home town are the degrees of efficiency of the schools, the classes of churches, the libraries, the public halls, improvement of streets and public conveniences of every class and kind. In accordance with the increase of wealth new industries come into existence to give employment to a greater number of people, and thus carrying on an upbuilding process.

In summing up conditions as they relate to the community and the home town, it is patent to the man of intelligence that the patronizing of every home enterprise best subserves his interests, as well as the interests of all of the community. The patriotic man who would be a model citizen will make it his rule to put forth every effort to build up the local community. This effort should be directed to the patronizing of every home industry; to keep within the community as far as possible all the earnings of the people; to invest surplus capital in home enterprises; to improve the schools, the churches, the roads, develop every resource of the place; and with increased prosperity of the town more happiness, more contentment and more wealth results to all the worthy ones comprising the community.

D. M. CARR.

How Monopolies Are Assisted.

During the past few months, mail order houses located in the large cities have been making more than ordinary efforts to gain trade. These efforts have been stimulated by the panicky times. Residents of agricultural communities should understand that concentration of money in large financial centers was the main cause of bringing on the financial depression. They should also understand that the mail order system is one of the most potent factors in this concentration; that this system draws the life-blood, the surplus money, from communities where it is earned, taking it out of local circulation and using it to bulk up monopolies in the large cities.

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Jesus Heals the Nobleman's Son

Sunday School Lesson for Feb. 16, 1908

Specially Prepared for This Paper

LESSON TEXT.—John 4:43-54. Memory verses 48, 50.

GOLDEN TEXT.—"The man believed the word that Jesus had spoken unto him, and he went his way."—John 4:50.

TIME.—December, A. D. 27, or possibly early in January, A. D. 28. A few days after the last lesson. Beginning of second year of Jesus' ministry, known as the great Galilean ministry. John the Baptist was still preaching in wilderness of Judea.

PLACE.—Cana of Galilee, a few miles from Nazareth; and Capernaum, a city 20 or 25 miles to the northeast, on the shore of the Sea of Galilee.

SCRIPTURAL REFERENCES.—Miracles as an Aid to Faith.—Matt. 9:5; 11:2 (compare with Isa. 35:5, 6; 14:3; 15:31, 27:34; Mark 2:10, 12; 7:37; Luke 5:24; 7:16; 18:43; John 2:11, 18-23; 3:2; 4:43, 54; 5:36; 6:14; 7:31; 9:16, 30-33; 10:21, 25, 37, 38; 12:9-11; 14:10, 11; 20:30, 31; Acts 2:22.

Comment and Suggestive Thought.

V. 45. "The Galileans received him," because they had "seen all the things that he did at Jerusalem at the feast." (John 2:14-17, 23; 3:2.) Because the miracles were signs and proofs that Jesus came from God, and they indorsed his message. The miracles were no breaking or changing of the laws of nature, but were the personal will of God acting directly upon the needs of men.

A miracle is simply God's doing with his infinite power the same quality of action, though vastly greater in degree, that we do every hour when we exert our personal will amid the force of nature. I lift up a book, I turn on the water from the water-works, and make a shower on my parched lawn or garden. I stop a part of the machinery in the factory and rescue a child caught in its wheels.

If Jesus was divine they were as natural to him as any other act of his will. They were object-lessons in the spirit and the work of the Gospel, the principles of which he had been teaching. Every miracle is a visible picture before men of the character of God, of the nature of the Gospel, of the loving-kindness of our Saviour, of his power to help, of the wonders of grace he can work in our hearts, of his power to deliver from the diseases of sin.

V. 47. "When he had heard that Jesus was come . . . into Galilee." He must have heard about him, and especially of the miracle at Cana. It was the knowledge of what Jesus had already done that gave him faith to believe that he might cure his son.

Earnest Seeking.—The faith was so strong that "he went unto him," from Capernaum to Cana, 25 miles away, a long day's journey. Jesus must help, or there was no hope. The fact that he went to Jesus shows that he had some faith, and that his faith, that was theoretical from what he had heard, had now come to be a working, living force. "Besought him" (continued to beseech) that he would come down. Thinking that Jesus must go and see the boy in order to cure him. "At the point of death." Showing the difficulty of the cure, and the urgency of haste. Sickness and trouble are often one means of increasing faith. Like Jacob from his pillow of stones in the night of sorrow, many have seen visions of heaven and of our Father, and have received the messages God's angels have brought. Countless stars, invisible by day, shine upon us in the night.

V. 48. "Then said Jesus unto him." Jesus neither refused nor granted the request at once, but uttered a truth which tended to awake a fuller and more spiritual faith. "Except ye see signs and wonders (miracles in two aspects) ye will not believe." Perhaps Jesus was thinking of the form of the request when he said this—the feeling that Jesus must go to Capernaum if he would cure the boy, that the father must see Jesus present to heal. But chiefly he wished to lift the man beyond the outward form of miracles, out of wondering, out of mere proofs of faith, to insight into the very nature and spirit of Jesus as the Son of God.

A Heart at Rest.—What interesting lesson can we learn incidentally from this part of the story?

The cure took place at one o'clock in the afternoon, the seventh hour. The distance from Nain to Capernaum was 25 miles.

The nobleman in haste could have reached home, riding down hill, sometime that same night, perhaps, as MacLaren says, before dark.

But it was the next day, some distance before he reached Capernaum, that he met his servants coming to report that his son was restored.

The natural inference is that the father did not hasten home, himself and the beast he rode being weary by their swift and urgent journey in the morning. He had come weary and heavy laden and found rest. "He that believeth shall not be in haste." He had a foretaste of the promise Jesus gave to his disciples more than two years later, "Believe that ye have received and ye shall have" (Mark 11:24 R. V.).