

THE SEMI-WEEKLY TRIBUNE

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NEWS NOTES CONDENSED

A Boiling Down of the More Important Events Here and There

Congress.

The president has submitted to Congress a message transmitting two preliminary reports of the commission appointed to consider the needs of the country.

The senate has voted to retain in the agricultural bill an appropriation of \$25,000 for digesting, compiling and publishing the material gathered by the commission on country life.

A protest against the establishment of postal savings banks was registered with the house committee on post offices by Chicago and New York bankers.

The bill which provides for the re-establishment of the Brownsville negro miners and soldiers will be favorably reported by the house committee on military affairs.

The house rejected the senate amendments to the executive, legislative and judicial bill increasing salaries of president, vice president, speaker and judges.

Mr. McCumber made an extended speech in the senate on the right of Congress to fix standards for grading grain entering interstate commerce.

With its war pause on, the house of representatives on the 24th, by a vote of 100 to 1, passed the bill providing for salary increases for the president, the vice president, the speaker, the judiciary and for the creation of the offices of under-secretary and fourth assistant secretary of state.

The senate passed the compromise bill providing for the reinstatement of colored soldiers.

Before the close of the sixtieth congress a ship subsidy, or ocean mail subsidy, law will be enacted by Congress, if new plans of house leaders are successful.

The coming hunting trip of President Roosevelt to Africa was brought up during the consideration of the sundry civil bill in the house. Mr. Barrett (Tenn.) wanted to know how much of the expense of the expedition was to be paid by the government. Mr. Mann (Ill.) volunteered the answer that no public moneys were to be used. He said there was nothing in connection with the proposed trip that could be criticised.

Secretary J. F. Hanson, of Fremont Commercial club, has appealed to Senator Brown to secure the assistance of the national government in the drainage operations planned for the bottoms east and northeast of Fremont and south of the Elkhorn at the Platte river.

An amendment was incorporated in the diplomatic and consular appropriation bill which was reported to the senate providing that hereafter no new ambassadors shall be created unless the same shall be provided for by an act of congress. This would take from the president the discretion of raising an American legation to an embassy.

Senate committee added a provision to the agricultural bill for a denatured alcohol still in Nebraska, presumably at the state university.

The subcommittee of the senate committee on judiciary, has agreed to report that the president's action in permitting the merger of the steel companies is unauthorized.

By a vote of 62 to 2 the senate decided to retain the eighteen pension agencies, including Des Moines. The house had voted to consolidate all the agencies in Washington.

The sundry civil bill which has been reported to the house carries liberal appropriations for Iowa. They relate chiefly to continuing work on public buildings under authorizations made in previous sessions, rentals for temporary buildings while postoffices are being constructed and the like.

The agricultural appropriation bill, carrying \$13,773,276 an increase of \$889,450 over the bill as passed by the house, was reported to the senate. The forest service secured an increase of \$500,000 for fire protection.

General.

George Bonham of the Irish-American athletic club, broke the world's record for the five mile run at the state armory athletic meet at Troy, N.Y.

H. Harriman celebrated his sixty-first birthday in a quiet manner at San Antonio, Texas. He spent the morning in pistol and rifle practice.

E. R. Woodward, superintendent of the Multnomah amateur athletic club, Portland, Ore., shot and fatally wounded himself.

More than 10,000 rubber mill operatives in New England, who have been idle for a month have been opened up again.

Prominent cigarette dealers throughout the country have decided to abolish cut prices on standard brands of cigarettes.

At the recent election in New York some counties largely voted "dry."

A rug said to be worth more than \$50,000, and to be the finest in the world, was presented to the White House as a gift to the nation by a rich Armenian.

Greeks at South Omaha were mobbed and driven from their homes, many of them being severely beaten. The situation between Austria-Hungary and Servia is again giving rise to uneasiness.

An attack by Burton on Rainey of Illinois was the feature of the session of the house recently.

R. Mead Shumway, the Nebraska murderer, was granted a stay of execution until March 5 by the supreme court, the announcement being made while he was preparing for the gallows.

Demand for the immediate creation by congress of a permanent tariff commission was voiced in resolutions adopted by the National Tariff Commission conference convention in Indianapolis.

President Roosevelt will make no more appointments during his term.

With \$800,000 in gold pieces, fresh from the government mint, to pay the officers and men of the Atlantic fleet, the Yankton left Washington to join the fleet.

An assault on a white woman caused a mob to collect in Ottumwa, Ia., and a race riot is feared.

President Roosevelt has written a letter to Chairman Hale saying that Hemmings' report on secret service work contains many false and misleading statements.

Congressman Kinkaid is not hopeful for the passage of his bill reducing amount of improvements required on Kinkaid homesteads.

Congressman Burton made a sensational reply to charges made by Mr. Rainey against the financial deal for the Panama canal.

A bill was favorably reported in the senate for an additional federal judge for Nebraska.

Return of the Atlantic squadron was the occasion of big demonstration at Hampton Roads and President Roosevelt praised the men and ships.

Washington.

A call for a caucus of the democrats of the next house for 10 o'clock Tuesday forenoon, March 15, was issued today by Representative Clayton, chairman of the present democratic organization. This caucus will select a democratic candidate for speaker to be voted for two hours later and also candidates for other offices of the house.

Senator Gamble went before the appropriation committee of the senate in behalf of an appropriation of \$100,000 for a new water system at Fort Meade, S. D.

Senator Burkett had up with the postmaster general petition of citizens of Bethany for the establishment there of a branch office of the Lincoln postoffice. The postmaster general called his attention to the section of the law providing that no substation could be established in any town of less than 1,500 inhabitants and that in this petition the citizens had made a statement that their population was 1,200.

On the recommendation of Senator Dawson, Dr. H. R. Dean has been appointed pension examining surgeon at Muscatine, Ia., vice Dr. C. C. Moyridge, deceased.

The remarkable feature of the "inaugural souvenir" used by the committee in charge of the inaugural ceremonies is a biographical sketch of President-elect Taft by President Roosevelt. It has peculiar significance in view of rumors that have been published to the effect that friction existed between Roosevelt and Taft. The keynote of the president's sketch may be found in these words: "No one of better training, no man of more dauntless courage, or common sense and higher character has ever come to the presidency than William Howard Taft."

That a final determination should and will be obtained from a court of last resort as to the question of labeling whisky under the pure food law, is the opinion expressed by Attorney General Bonaparte in a letter to President Roosevelt.

The Aldrich bill, providing means for the re-enlistment of negro soldiers who were discharged without honor on account of participating in the Brownsville affray, was passed by the senate.

The senate passed the diplomatic and consular appropriation bill, carrying \$3,646,336. The house provision vesting in a vice consul general judicial authority in civil and criminal cases, heretofore vested in the consul general of China, was stricken out, and the Lodge amendment appropriating \$400,000 for grounds and buildings for the American embassy at Paris was laid on the table.

Myron T. Herrick of Ohio is said to be out of the cabinet race.

Personal.

Prominent suffragists of London were sentenced to terms in prison.

The question of woman suffrage will be put to a vote in Washington state.

With the selection of Franklin MacVeagh as secretary of the treasury the Taft cabinet is made up.

President Roosevelt was violently abused in the house by two republican members.

Gov. Shallenberger of Nebraska sets the precedent of retaining the three heads of state institutions who are women.

Unofficial announcement made at Columbus, O., says that J. M. Dickinson of Tennessee is to be secretary of war in Taft's cabinet.

Secretary Wilson argued for a denatured alcohol plant at Lincoln.

SUPPLY BILLS WORK AS TO THE FINANCES

IMPORTANT MEASURES ARE YET BEFORE THE SENATE.

CONGRESS ENDS THURSDAY

Number of Men Long Prominent in Both Houses Will Retire With Close of the Session.

Washington.—The Sixtieth congress will come to an end Thursday noon with the inauguration of Taft and Sherman. Until that time business in both the senate and the house will be in a hurly-burly condition, with conference reports on appropriation bills the principal order of business.

All of the big supply bills have been passed by the house and all but the sundry civil military academy and general deficiency bills have passed the senate. The supply measures in conference are the legislative, executive and judicial; the pension, army, agriculture fortification and rivers and harbors appropriation bills.

President Roosevelt will make no more appointments during his term. With \$800,000 in gold pieces, fresh from the government mint, to pay the officers and men of the Atlantic fleet, the Yankton left Washington to join the fleet.

An effort will be made in the senate by Senator Heyburn to have the conference report on the penal code bill adopted, but some opposition is anticipated. In the house it is expected the question of changing the rules to establish a calendar day for the consideration of bills will be taken up on Monday and on Tuesday an effort will be made to pass the senate bill providing for the granting of subventions to small-carrying vessels between United States ports and South America, Japan, China and Australasia. The passage of the bill will be stubbornly resisted. The Appalachian and White mountain forest reservation bill will receive first attention from the house Monday. The senate will meet in special session on Thursday to consider nominations.

Twelve senators and seventy-seven representatives, who are members of the present congress, will be absent when the Sixty-first congress assembles in special session in March 15. In the re-election of Mr. Hopkins in Illinois and Mr. Stephenson in Wisconsin takes place, it is possible that the number of senatorial absenteers will be augmented to fourteen.

Of the seventy-seven representatives who retire on March 3, one, Mr. Hepburn of Iowa, who has served twenty-two years in congress, and another, Mr. Sherman of New York, who becomes vice president, has served twenty years in the house. Mr. Cousins of Iowa and Delegate Smith of Arizona have served sixteen years.

THE WEEK'S GREAT EVENT.

It Will Be That of Inducting Taft Into Office.

Washington.—All other events of the week will be overshadowed by the inauguration at Washington of William Howard Taft, twenty-seventh president of the United States. On Thursday while President Taft graces the ball that will bring the inaugural program to a brilliant close, Mr. Roosevelt, relieved of the burdens of state, will be surrounded by his neighbors of Oyster bay and Mr. Bryan will be the guest of honor at a dollar dinner in Pittsburg.

If he is permitted to follow the plans chosen, Mr. Roosevelt will go to New York late Thursday, and thence to Oyster Bay, where a home-coming demonstration has been arranged.

THE INAUGURATION BIBLE.

Oath of Office Will Be Taken Upon It by Taft.

Washington.—William H. Taft will take the oath of office as president of the United States on the century-old Bible which belongs to the supreme court of the United States and by it kept in custody. There is a touch of sentiment in this decision which Mr. Roosevelt, relieved of the burdens of state, will be surrounded by his neighbors of Oyster bay and Mr. Bryan will be the guest of honor at a dollar dinner in Pittsburg.

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FINE FOR TRADING STAMPS.

Senator Diers introduced a bill providing for a fine of from \$20 to \$100 for the use of trading stamps or premiums for the boosting of trade.

BACKING BANK BILL.

According to one of the senators all of the democrats in the senate, with the possible exception of one, are strongly backing the bank bill prepared by the banking committee.

One man thinks that a higher capital stock should be required for the admission of new banks into towns to discourage the formation of too many banks.

CRISIS NEAR IN MANCHURIA.

Peking—Advisees received from Harbin state the situation there arising out of Russia's insistence that it administer the local municipal government in the city of Harbin.

President Roosevelt was violently abused in the house by two republican members.

Gov. Shallenberger of Nebraska sets the precedent of retaining the three heads of state institutions who are women.

ETHEL NOT ENGAGED.

Washington.—An emphatic denial of the report that the president's younger daughter, Miss Ethel, is engaged to marry Third Assistant Secretary of State William Phillips was given out here.

GENERAL.

George Bonham of the Irish-American athletic club, broke the world's record for the five mile run at the state armory athletic meet at Troy, N.Y.

H. Harriman celebrated his sixty-first birthday in a quiet manner at San Antonio, Texas. He spent the morning in pistol and rifle practice.

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SUPPLY BILLS WORK AS TO THE FINANCES

HOUSE COMMITTEE COMPLETES ITS BUDGET BILLS.

ALLOWANCES OF DEPARTMENTS

Other Matters that Were up for Consideration the Past Week in the Legislature.

Finance Bill.

The house finance committee has completed its budget bills for all but the special appropriations for buildings and kindred subjects, and for those things which are specially appropriated for in the bills which create the need.

By this bill the governor's office is

to have incidental expenses together with the executive mansion of \$7,900 for the biennium, the commissioner of public lands and buildings \$4,500, the attorney general \$10,000 to enforce the rules of the railway commission and the state banking board are to be \$11,000, the state historical society gets the customary \$15,000, the pure food commission \$15,800 exclusive of the commissioner's salary, the national guard \$51,800, Peru normal excluding salaries and new buildings, \$39,000, the state university \$145,000 divided into permanent improvements \$100,000, expenses of farmers' institutes \$20,000 and the North Platte substation \$25,000, the Kearney normal gets \$24,700, the institute for the blind at Omaha \$49,000, the boys' industrial school at Kearney \$85,500, the girls' industrial schools at Geneva \$32,750, the home for the feeble minded at Beatrice, \$90,500, the Lincoln hospital for the insane \$171,300, the penitentiary draws \$130,200, and the soldiers' home at Grand Island \$123,239. All these are exclusive of salaries and buildings that may be ordered by special bills.

How to Get the Franchise.

The house passed Shoemaker's bill which is intended to hold in check the tendency of foreigners in this state to be registered as intending to become citizens and then voting on the strength of this declaration. Shoemaker would make it necessary for any foreigner hereafter coming to the state to become a full-fledged citizen before voting, and those who have already taken out the first papers to complete their transformation within five years or have the franchise taken from them. The chief section of the bill follows: "Every male citizen of the United States, of the age of twenty-one years, who shall have been a resident of this state six months next preceding the election and of the county, precinct or ward, for the term provided by law shall be an elector: Provided, that persons of foreign birth who shall have declared their intention to become citizens conformably to the laws of the United States, and are now voting, may continue the exercise of the right of suffrage until such time as they may have resided in the United States five years, when they shall take out full citizenship papers to be entitled to vote at any succeeding election."

The Oregon Plan.

In the senate house roll No. 1, providing for the Oregon plan for the direct election of United States senators, was recommended for passage by the senate committee of the whole on Thursday, by a straight party vote of 19 to 12, and senate file No. 160, introduced by a republican, Senator Thompson, somewhat similar in nature, was indefinitely postponed by a similar vote.

The house bill provides that a candidate for the legislature can, if he chooses, have one of two statements placed after his name on the ballot; that he will support the people's choice for United States senator, or that he will consider their choice, expressed by a vote, as merely a recommendation.

Senator Thompson's bill adds a third statement, that the candidate may promise to vote for his party's choice for United States senator. The bill went through with little argument. Senator Myers, motion that it be indefinitely postponed being voted down by a vote of 19 to 12. Senator Tibbets moved that the senate bill be amended to read: "The bill is amended in committee of the whole also fixes a charge of 35 cents above the market of the previous day for hay and grain. It also requires an annual report to be made by the stock yards company to the state railway commission.

New Road Laws.

The committee of the whole did not object seriously to any portion of S. F. No. 91, introduced by the committee on highways and bridges, an act requiring one-half of the cost of road making to be paid by the state. It was ordered to third reading.

Squirrel Bill Laid Over.

The biennial controversy over shooting quail and squirrels was given a whirl on the floor of the house in committee of the whole. The bill was laid over.

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