

## 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.

### The Waterways Report.

Washington, D. C.—In a special message President Roosevelt Wednesday transmitted to congress the preliminary report of inland waterways commission which was appointed last March. Following is an abstract of the president's communication:

To the Senate and House of Representatives: "I transmit herewith a preliminary report from the inland waterways commission, which was appointed by me last March in response to a widespread interest and demand from the people. The basis of this demand lay in the general and admitted inability of the railroads to handle promptly the traffic of the country, and especially the crops of the previous fall.

"Our river systems are better adapted to the needs of the people than those of any other country. In extent, distribution, navigability and ease of use, they stand first. Yet the rivers of no other civilized country are so poorly developed, so little used, or play so small part in the industrial life of the nation as those of the United States.

"The improvement of our inland waterways can and should be made to pay for itself so far as practicable from the incidental proceeds from water-power and other uses. Navigation should of course be free. But the greatest return will come from the increased commerce, growth, and prosperity of our people. For this we have already waited too long. Adequate funds should be provided, by bond issue if necessary, and the work should be delayed no longer. The development of our waterways and the conservation of our forests are the two most pressing physical needs of the country. They are interdependent, and they should be met vigorously, together, and at once. The questions of organization, powers, and appropriations are now before the congress. There is urgent need for prompt and decisive action.

"Theodore Roosevelt."

### A Patent Office Scandal.

Washington, D. C.—Three arrests here Thursday brought to light a scandal in the patent office, which has been under investigation since early in February and which revolves around an invention valued at more than five million dollars. The parties arrested are Ned W. Barton, third assistant examiner of the patent office; Henry W. Everding, a patent attorney of Philadelphia, and John A. Heany, an inventor of York, Pa. They had been indicted by the United States grand jury for conspiracy to defraud the government and for destroying public records.

### Code Revision Bill Passed.

Washington, D. C.—There were two speeches in criticism of the Aldrich currency bills in the senate Wednesday. Senator Culberson, of Texas, criticized the measure and spoke in favor of amendments he deemed necessary to make it of service. Senator Nelson (Republican Minnesota) also denounced the measure as of no importance in its present form. The currency bill was on motion of Mr. Aldrich made the unfinished business of the senate. The bill to revise the criminal laws of the United States was passed.

### A Brownsville Vote At Last.

Washington, D. C.—The shooting in the affray at Brownsville, Texas, on the night of August 13-14, 1906, was done by some negro soldiers of the Twenty-fifth United States infantry and that the testimony taken before the senate committee on military affairs fails to identify the guilty parties, is the opinion of eight members of the committee. Four members of the committee voted against this decision and one member did not vote.

### One Thousand Million in Gold.

Washington, D. C.—The strength of the United States treasury at the present time was commented upon in the house Wednesday by Mr. Boutell, of Illinois. He said he had just been informed by the treasurer that for the first time the gold coin and bullion in the United States had reached and passed the sum of \$1,000,000,000, "an event so extraordinary," he said, "that it will be chronicled and commented upon with surprise and amazement in every financial center in the world." Mr. Boutell was greeted with applause.

### Standard Oil Judgment Sustained.

Austin, Texas.—The supreme court of Texas Wednesday sustained the judgment of the lower trial courts wherein they rendered a judgment for \$1,600,000 damages and ouster from the state of Texas against the Water-Pierce Oil company for violating the Texas anti-trust laws. The case will be appealed at once to the United States supreme court.

## EDUCATORS ADJOURN.

They Favor Teaching Agriculture in Rural and Manual Training in City Schools.

Washington, D. C.—The seventh annual convention of the department of superintendence of the National Education association closed Thursday night with a reception to the delegates at the Corcoran art gallery.

Resolutions were adopted placing the department on record in favor of the study of agricultural subjects in the schools of the rural districts; granting federal aid to the state normal schools for the training of teachers in the subjects of agriculture, manual training and home economics; the maintenance in all large cities of schools for the special care of backward children; the opening of large ungraded rooms in large cities for the instruction of the children of immigrants unable to speak the English language; the maintenance of evening schools for the instruction of adult immigrants in the English language and the duties of citizenship; urging an increased appropriation for the national bureau of education and commending the action of the National Civic Federation; adoption of the plan for the sending of American teachers to Great Britain and the European continent for inspection of their schools.

### A ST. LOUIS COURT IS VOID.

More Than 700 Cases Tried—Criminals Sentenced Are Illegally Restrained of Their Liberty.

Jefferson City, Mo.—An opinion, written by Judge Ganit, was handed down by the supreme court Thursday holding that the law creating the court of general sessions in the city of St. Louis is unconstitutional and the court is invalid and void. The proceeding was based on the suit of the school board of St. Louis against the city of St. Louis in which it was sought to divert moneys collected by the court of general sessions to the school fund, instead of allowing them to go to the state, as provided by the law creating the court.

The bill creating the court of general sessions was passed in April, 1907. Gov. Folk appointed Judge H. P. Rodgers to preside and the first session of court was held May 27, 1907. Over 700 cases have been tried in the court since then.

According to the supreme court's decision criminals who are confined on pleas of guilty and on sentences imposed by Judge Rodgers are illegally restrained of their liberty and are entitled to freedom.

### Drill Brought Up Gold.

New Cumberland, W. Va.—The eastern section of Hancock county near Arroya, adjoining the Pennsylvania state line, is in a state of excitement over an alleged rich gold find. The Sawmill Run Oil company is drilling an oil well on the Miss Virginia Brown farm at Arroya and when from a depth of 200 feet the bailer was brought up it was found to contain a solid substance, in which the glint of gold was seen. The substance proved to be gold ore, and the small quantity brought up by the bailer was declared to be worth \$7.50, or at the rate of \$7,000 per ton.

### Found a Lumber Combine.

Jackson, Miss.—Chancellor G. Garland late Friday rendered a decree declaring that the Missouri and Louisiana Retail Lumber Dealers' association is a trust and a combine and ordered that the organization be ousted from business in Mississippi. The association has been operating under what is known as the "Mississippi plan," which provides for the boycotting of wholesalers or manufacturers who sell direct to consumers.

### Agree to Reduction of Wages.

Louisville, Ky.—After an all-day conference between the officials of the Louisville & Nashville railroad and a general committee of adjustment headed by J. D. Keene, general chairman of the Order of Railway Conductors, it was announced Thursday night that the Louisville & Nashville conductors have agreed to a reduction in wages. The reduction consists of a return to the wages in effect prior to March 1, 1908, and will take effect March 1, 1908.

### Largest Restaurant in the World.

New York.—Plans have been drawn for what will be the largest restaurant in the world and on which work will begin in the spring. The building which is to be 12 stories high, will be located on Seventh avenue at Times Square, running through from Forty-first to Forty-second streets. Three floors of the building will be used for the restaurant, the upper floors being designed for offices.

### Assaulted President Alcorta.

Buenos Ayres.—Dr. J. Figueroa, president of the republic, early Friday evening was the object of an abortive attempt at assassination at the hands of a native of Argentina. He hurled a crude bomb at the president, as the latter alighted from his carriage in front of his residence. The missile did not explode.

## OUR COUNTRY BOYS

CHANCES THAT THEY SOME-TIMES OVERLOOK.

### BRAINS FOR THE BIG CITIES

Opportunities for the Rural-Born Youth to Gain Success by Making His Start in His Home Town.

There is no use in complaining because you perhaps were born on a farm and fortune destined that you must get your initial business experience in the four-corners' grocery store, or some other business establishment in the home town. The average country boy has a kind of hankering for city life, and for a chance to climb to the front. Some, however, never stop to think that if they are built of the proper material they will drift there without realizing the change. Yes, the country town is the kindergarten of success, and if you don't make a winning there you might as well make up your mind to go back to the plow.

Business men, much like poets, are born, not made, and if one has not the talents requisite for success in mercantile life, he will have a hard road to success. Business principles are the same the world over, and the little country store affords the gaining of knowledge that is necessary to the winner. The most successful merchants in the world gained their start in the country store. The greatest statesmen found their ambitions while following the plow. Then the country boy should not be sorry that he is not in the big city. The one with brains and ability in these days will win out. The country is the fertile field for the growing of brains for city use. Therein is held in reserve the energy that goes to move the world of business. Study into the lives of the great men of to-day, and you will find three-fourths of the most successful ones the product of the farm and the country town. Then, if you are a country-store clerk, be thankful, and if you use honest endeavor in time you will find that instead of you seeking the city, the city will be seeking you. Merit always finds its reward.

What you learn, learn well. Be thorough in everything you do. Better be a good grocery clerk than a poor lawyer. Better be a good plow boy than a poor clerk. Brains backed up by industry and honesty of purpose are essential to success. Hours spent in study of whatever business you may enter are hours well spent. You can never learn too much, if you only learn rightly. Ambition is one of the things that assists in working wonders. Have an aim in life, and let that aim be your loftiest ideal. Once you decide upon a worthy accomplishment never rest until you succeed. The small country store or business place gives splendid opportunity to study. It has advantages that the city store never affords. There are spare moments that can be profitably utilized. Make the best of them, and remember that a well-stored mind is great capital in business, and the talent that enables you to make the best of what you know is an important factor. Study, improve every minute; don't grumble; keep at work, and your chance will come.

D. M. CARR.

### Stand by Your Home Place.

Stick up for home industry. If there is a good food product, a household necessity, boots or shoes, clothing of any kind, anything along the line of manufacture made in your city or town, sell it, use it; it means keeping money at home, and helping along the employment of home labor. Make a resolution to stand by home trade, home industry and home protection, and thus build up your town and enable its manufacturers to get out a better product.

### Unwise Competition.

There cannot be a doubt but that competition stimulates trade; but trade is the natural outgrowth of civilization and found its origin when intelligent man discovered that he had a few wants, and that they could be supplied by commodities others possessed and which he did not have himself, and that he had a surplus of things that he could trade for articles others had and which he needed. Thus it can be seen that want, demand, supply, all go to make up that which is the life of trade. Competition is merely an indication of a man's ambition to excel his neighbor, to gain more in barter and trade than what would in ordinary channels come to him. It is merely to seek to reach out after things desired. From the fact that 90 per cent. of those who engage in the mercantile business fail, it seems more appropriate to say that competition, unhealthy and not directed by sound judgment, instead of being the life of trade, is one of its fatal diseases.

Never do any worrying to-day that can be put off till to-morrow.

## PLEASURES OF FARM LIFE.

Science and Invention Revolutionize Methods in Agricultural Districts.

Old-fashioned life on the farm is fast disappearing. Things have quickened some and science has wrought changes for the better. Drudgery has been obliterated through improved machinery and there is no reason why the farmer of to-day should not lead a life of comparative gentle ease. Instead of following the plow he rides the plow. The sowing of the crops and all this cultivation is done by machinery. It is no uncommon thing to find the farm house equipped with all modern conveniences known to the city folks, gas or electric lights, hot and cold water and every sanitary innovation. The telephone and the rural delivery bring the farm close to the town, and no longer need the average farmer be behind the times as to passing events. He has sufficient leisure at his home fireside to acquire a greater fund of information from the daily papers and other good literature which he receives than has the busy merchant or professional man who resides in the city.

This closer communion with the world at large has revolutionized farm life and has robbed it of many undesirable phases. No longer does the farmer feel abashed when among townspeople on account of his lack of information; rather he is proud of the fact that he is quite as up-to-date and well informed as any intelligent citizen, it matters not where he may reside. This feeling on the part of the farmer has changed his attitude towards the home town. He has come to a realization that the distance between the farm and the town has been annihilated and that his work on the farm is an important thing in the maintenance of the near-by town. He is interested in good roads, he is interested in all local improvements. These are matters of importance to him just as well as things directly relating to his farm. The farmer is beginning to realize, even more than the merchant, the relationship of the agricultural district to the home town.

It is now up to the residents of the villages and the small cities to study into conditions and to place the proper estimate upon the importance of the farmers' work in town maintenance.

### HOME NEWSPAPERS.

They Bring Many Benefits to the Town and to Their Patrons.

If the average merchant would calmly study over the matter of benefits that can be brought around by the home paper, the editor would receive a more liberal advertising patronage. The country-town paper fills a peculiar field. There is no substitute for it. It is the purveyor of local news, the criterion of the degree of prosperity of the town. Week after week the editor talks to a thousand or more people of the community. He is the molder of public opinion, and his paper is not alone his own mouth-piece, but the megaphone of the whole surrounding country. People read daily papers that are published in the large cities for the large amount of current general news; the local paper is read for the little doings in the local field. Rarely does the subscription list represent dollars enough to pay running expenses. The paper must have advertising to be a success. Let it be announced a single time that there will be an auction sale of John Jones' live stock, agricultural implements and other wares, and see how many will be at the auction. This proves its value as an advertising medium. Note the most successful storekeeper in any town, and you will find he is the most liberal patron of the home paper.

### An Indian Legend.

The Indians say that elephants are the remains of the "Fathers of Oxen," who lived long ago when men were giants and the Great Spirit destroyed them all with his thunder bolts.

### Money Ill Spent.

One of the ways that country town business men generally spend a lot of money with inadequate returns, and in many cases with no benefit, is in fake advertising. There are hotel registers, programs, pictures to be placed in public places, etc., and hundreds of other methods designed principally to separate the business men from their cash. These schemes are generally worked by grafters from out of town, and there is not a merchant who has been in business half a dozen years but has been struck by dozens of them, and if he has succeeded in escaping without being a loser he has played lucky. The only good and safe way to advertise is in the home paper, and by means recognized as regular, the use of posters, letters, etc., but of all, the local paper is the best medium.

### Sounded Like It.

Mrs. de Style (listening to daughter practicing on piano)—Shure, Patrick, music is the food of love.

De Style—Food, is it? Thin that must be steak Mary's poundin' on the piano.—Judge.

## Jesus Feeds the Five Thousand

Sunday School Lesson for March 1, 1908  
Specially Prepared for This Paper

LESSON TEXT.—John 6:1-21. Memory verses, II, 12. Parallels—Matthew, Matt. 14:13-21; Mark 6:31-44; Luke 9:10-17.

GOLDEN TEXT.—"He shall feed His flock like a shepherd."—Isaiah 40:11.

TIME.—A year after the last lesson on the healing at Bethesda. Early in the third year of Jesus' ministry, soon after the martyrdom of John the Baptist, the Passover this year, A. D. 29, began April 16. At the time of this lesson the people from Galilee and beyond were on their way to Jerusalem.

PLACE.—An uncultivated grazing region on the outskirts of Bethsaida (Luke 9:10), called the Plain of Butatha. It lay on the northeast shore of the Sea of Galilee, at the foot of the mountains.

Comment and Suggestive Thought.

V. 5. "Jesus then lifted up his eyes, and saw a great company come unto him." "And he had compassion on them because they were as sheep not having a shepherd." (Mark 6:34). Their bodily hunger and disease were but types of the deeper hunger and the deadlier disease of sin.

He showed his compassion in two ways. (1) "He welcomed them and spake to them of the kingdom of God." (2) "Them that had need of healing he healed." (Luke 9:11).

The whole world is a weary and hungry multitude, and Jesus has compassion on them (Isa. 43:1-3; 55:1, 2; Mal. 3:17; Eph. 2:4, 5; John 3:16; Psalm 103, etc.).

The fields are white.

In every land there are many persons unreached by the Gospel so far as bringing their hearts and lives to Christ.

In many lands there are millions who never even heard of the Gospel, and yet who need the blessings which Christianity has brought us.

What are these among so many? And still we ask the same question, as we stand in the presence of the evil to be overcome, the work to be done, the multitudes to be converted to Christ, the power of the enemy. If, indeed, "these" were all, if there were no Holy Spirit, no omnipotent Christ working in and through them, then our efforts would be but "to dam the Nile with bulrushes," or irrigate Sahara with a garden hose.

What a little boy can do. A nameless, poor boy, but his record is immortal. "Thank God there is a lad everywhere! No scene or incident is complete to me without a boy in the foreground. It is the glory and charm of life that he is always in evidence. The real helpfulness of the average boy is one of the subtleties of the universe."

He distributed to the disciples, as a matter of convenience, and as an object lesson both to them and to the people. The divine gifts were conveyed through human instrumentality, as in the case of spiritual food.

The organization was (1) that of the people in companies; (2) the apostles as distributors of the bread, and workers together with God.

There are organized societies in each denomination for the extension of the Gospel to those in need at home and abroad. Every church and each individual in them should sustain these organizations to their utmost ability. The Sunday school should also give to the great denominational societies regularly, and usually in the months in which the collections are taken up in the church. Note also other organized methods of extending the Gospel, as the Young People's Missionary Movement (156 Fifth avenue, New York); the Christian Endeavor movement; both of which are marvelous interdenominational organizations of great power and usefulness.

It is said that the Women's Boards of Missions are the most effectually organized societies in the world for the spread of the Gospel, excepting only the Jesuits.

Laymen's Missionary Movement.—A movement has been started within a year to organize the laymen of each church in each denomination for awakening interest in missions, providing a means of obtaining from each layman an increasing amount given to missions, and thus "secure groups of laymen to promote campaigns of intelligent and generous interest in foreign missions, with special reference to the men of the church, the expense of these movements to be borne whenever possible by such groups of men, so that the funds of the boards shall not be drawn upon."

The Young People's Missionary Movement, organized by the home and foreign missionary boards of the Protestant churches of the United States and Canada, less than five years ago, represents the best development of co-operative educational work on the part of these boards. Last year, there were more than 60,000 young people systematically studying home and foreign missions. It is proposed now to extend the work which has been so successful among the young people's societies of the churches to the Sunday schools.