

MODERN WAR IS MERCIFUL

Under Existing Conditions the Wounded Are Given a Fair Chance to Recover Health.

A general impression is that with powerful weapons of great precision greater loss of life and greater pain are caused. The view is almost certainly inaccurate. The modern bullet, says the Scotsman, unless it is of the soft-nosed type, is on the whole merciful, and either kills outright or gives its victim a fair chance of recovery. It does not, as a rule, mutilate.

The ambulance corps was practically unknown 60 years ago, and not only is aid brought more rapidly to the wounded, but it is far more effective than in the pre-Lister days. Rapidity of conveyance has increased beyond all comparison. In the present war it is true that in many cases men have been lying in a British hospital within 24 hours of receiving their wounds. If the risk of being hit is greater, the chances of recovery from injury have been immensely increased.

Dr. Pierce's Pleasant Pellets regulate and invigorate stomach, liver and bowels. Sugar-coated, tiny granules. Easy to take as candy. Adv.

War Snatches.

Simoon Ford, the humorist of New York, said the other day: "We are a nation of humorists. We extract humor even out of war. As I walked down Broadway the other morning I overheard scraps of talk like these:

"The missionaries have been looking for heathens in the wrong countries."

"What's the matter with the late Rudyard Kipling resurrecting himself and giving us a new war song?"

"Carnegie's peace palace? The kaiser has turned it into a fort."

YOUR OWN DRUGGIST WILL TELL YOU why Murine Eye Remedy for Red, Weak, Watery Eyes and Granulated Eyelids; No Stinging, No Eye Comfort. Write for Book of the Eye by mail Free. Murine Eye Remedy Co., Chicago.

Not Due to Ignorance.

Doctor Briggs received a note from a farmer living back quite a ways in the country, requesting him to come as quickly as possible to see his child who was very sick with "a very bad cold."

The doctor examined the child and then turned to the mother.

"Don't you know," he asked, "that your little girl is coming down with the measles?"

"Yes, doctor, was the woman's reply, "I knew she was."

"Then why in the world," asked the doctor, "did you write me that she had a very bad cold?"

The woman hesitated for a moment, then, looking at her husband, said, with sullen frankness:

"Neither him nor me knew how to spell 'measles.'"—National Monthly.

Resonant Tum-Tums.

Little Madge had been listening to her mother reading from the paper. All was silent for some little time, and then Madge burst out laughing very suddenly.

"Why, dearie," said the mother, "what is it?"

"I was thinking of what you just read about the wild people in Africa, mother," replied the child.

"But there was nothing amusing about that, dear."

"Why, yes there was, mother," said Madge, "about their beating on their tum-tums till they could be heard for miles."—Everybody's Magazine.

Lay something by for a rainy day, and just as soon as the clouds begin to gather some fellow will come along and borrow it.—New York Times.

Many a woman's imagination makes her an invalid.

Tone Up!

Not Drugs—Food Does It

—wholesome, appetizing food that puts life and vigor into one, but doesn't clog the system.

Such a food is

Grape-Nuts

The entire nutrition of wheat and barley, including the vital mineral salts—phosphate of potash, etc.—

Long baked, easily digested, ready to eat; an ideal food with cream or milk, and fine in many combinations.

"There's a Reason"

for

Grape-Nuts

—sold by Grocers.

GREAT VOLUME OF LEGISLATION COMPLETE BY LONGEST CONGRESS

Washington (Special)—The first regular session of the Sixty-third congress which began December 1, 1913, is about to be concluded. Begun as an uninterrupted continuation of the special session called by President Wilson a month after his inauguration, it is the longest sitting of congress in the history of the nation.

The work, including that of the special session for tariff reform and income tax provisions, represents the legislative achievement of the first democratic congress since March 4, 1837. The chief enactments include the new currency law, anti-trust legislation, repeal of the toll exemption provision for American coastwise ships in the Panama canal, and the provision to build a government railroad in Alaska.

The congress was remarkable for the fact that in less than two years it had to deal with conditions arising from two foreign wars—the revolution in Mexico and the European conflict—and was on the verge of facing a war between the United States and Mexico. Both of these situations demanded emergency legislation, some of which may have far-reaching effect upon the future course of the nation in its foreign affairs.

As a rule the utmost co-operation between democratic leaders in congress and President Wilson marked the session, although one notable break occurred in the party over repeal of the tolls provision of the Panama canal act. This led to an alignment which placed the president and some of the party leaders on opposite sides. Among those who took issue with the chief executive being Speaker Clark and Majority Leader Underwood. Speaker Clark's defense of his opposition to repeal furnished one of the most spectacular climaxes in the history of the House.

Five Personal Appeals.

The president appeared before joint sessions of the House and Senate on five occasions. He delivered his general legislative message December 2. Subsequent messages were on anti-trust legislation, the Mexican situation, pleading for continuation of "watchful waiting," the tolls repeal bill and the necessity for a war revenue bill.

Most important of the laws enacted by congress since December 1, 1913 was the Federal reserve act creating 12 regional reserve banks, and federal reserve board of control and reforming the currency system.

Federal trade commission act, creating a commission of five members and absorbing this bureau of corporations to investigate organization, conduct and practices of industrial corporations; inquire into unfair competition and alleged violation of anti-trust acts; to aid the department of justice and the attorney general in the prosecution of business offenders; to make public information deemed to be of public interest relating to industrial conditions and to recommend remedial business legislation.

The Clayton anti-trust act, which provides for guilt of individuals connected with corporations convicted of violating the anti-trust laws, limits interlocking directorates, prohibits holding companies which will lessen competition, prevents exclusive and tying contracts, liberalizes laws relating to injunction and contempt and exempts from prosecution under anti-trust laws agricultural, horticultural, fraternal and labor organizations.

Act repealing provisions of the Panama Canal law exempting from payment of tolls American vessels engaged in coastwise shipping of the United States.

Alaska Railroad Project.

The Alaska railroad law providing for government construction and operation of a 1,000 miles of railroad, with telegraph and telephone lines, from the lower Pacific coast to interior waters and mineral region of Alaska at a cost not to exceed \$35,000,000.

Laws placing on a war footing the volunteer militia and naval militia of the United States, subjecting them in time of war to the call of the signal corps of the army.

Law regulating cotton future sales on stock exchange, providing a tax of 2 cents a pound on sales for future delivery unless actually delivered under conditions and grades established by the department of agriculture.

Overshadowing much other important legislation were emergency measures demanded by the extraordinary conditions precipitated by the war in Europe. Emergency currency act, enacted or about to become law, included the following measures: War revenue law imposing special internal revenue taxes to aggregate approximately annual revenue of \$108,000,000 to offset estimated treasury deficit due to loss of customs receipts during the European war.

Amendment to Panama canal act admitting to American registry foreign built ships of American ownership to engage in overseas and South American trade. Emergency currency act, permitting banks of national currency and associations to issue circulating notes up to 125 per cent of their unimpaired capital and surplus and making available to banks of the country more than \$100,000,000 of emergency currency.

Law treating in the treasury department a bureau of war risk insurance, appropriating \$5,000,000 to insure ships of American registry against hazards of the European war.

Resolutions appropriating \$2,750,000 for protection and transportation of American citizens stranded in European war zones and authorizing the American Red Cross society to charter a ship of foreign register and fly the American flag.

Appropriation of \$1,000,000 for extra expense of diplomatic and consular service in taking over embassies, legations and consular offices of warring nations in Europe.

Mexican Tangle.

Before these unforeseen conditions which demanded decisive action to cope with the European situation congress had on its hands for most of the session the threatening Mexican imbroglio which came to a climax in the act of reprisal by the government in the seizure of Vera Cruz. Many times the situation was critical, and actual warfare with Mexico was prevented only by the course of the administration and the cool heads in congress in preventing untoward oratorical outbreaks and unwise action. Legislation growing out of the Mexican controversy was limited to the following:

Resolution expressing congress' justification of employment by the president of armed forces of the United States to enforce demands for affronts and indignities against this nation and disclaiming any hostility to the Mexican people or any purpose to make war on Mexico.

Appropriation of \$500,000 for transportation and care of interned Mexican soldiers and military refugees and \$500,000 for relief and transportation to the United States of American citizens in Mexico.

Other legislation placed upon the statute books included scores of local improvement laws, many measures relat-

ing to land entries, and the following:

General appropriations for government expenses aggregating approximately \$1,200,000,000.

Appropriation of \$20,000,000 for rivers and harbors improvements at discretion of war department, passed as substitute for \$55,000,000 specific appropriation bill after prompt filibuster.

Law granting public water supply to city of San Francisco from Hetchy valley in Yosemite National park.

Act prohibiting importation of opium except for medicinal purposes under government regulation and imposing prohibition tax of \$300 a pound on opium manufactured in the United States for smoking purposes.

Act authorizing payment of money orders at any money order office in country although drawn on specified office.

Appropriation of \$600,000 for treatment and eradication of hog cholera and dourine.

Law limiting labor of women in the District of Columbia to 8 hours a day.

Agricultural extension act providing for co-operation between department of agriculture and state agricultural colleges in diffusion of information relating to agriculture and home economics and providing for an ultimate annual appropriation of nearly \$5,000,000.

An act raising the American diplomatic agencies in Argentina and Chile from legations to embassies.

A provision for election of United States Senators under laws governing election of members of House of Representatives in states where legislative bodies had not passed special election laws.

Act providing agricultural entry of phosphate, nitrate, potash and other mineral lands.

Act providing income tax of 1 per cent of the gross annual income of railroad corporations in Alaska.

Law establishing United States coast guard and consolidating the revenue cutter and life saving services with increases in salary for employees.

Reorganizing diplomatic and consular service of the country.

Act providing for government leasing of coal lands in Alaska and to prevent monopolization of natural resources of the territory.

Resolution creating commission to consider the problem of national aid for vocational education to report not later than June 1 next.

Foreign Relations.

Foreign relations of the United States absorbed much attention of the congress in view of the wars in Mexico and Europe and formed the basis for discussion by the president in his annual message and in frequent conferences with members of the foreign relations committee. This committee lost its chairman early in the session through the sudden death of Senator Augustus Bacon, of Georgia. Senator William J. Stone, of Missouri, was chosen to succeed him as head of this important committee, which was busy throughout the session with the consideration of treaties and international affairs. General arbitration treaties with 14 foreign nations, upon recommendation of this committee, were ratified by the Senate, as follows:

Great Britain, Japan, Italy, Spain, Norway, Sweden, Portugal, Switzerland, Persia, Costa Rica, Venezuela, Netherlands and Salvador.

Later in the session, and in the midst of the European conflict, the Senate, upon recommendation of the foreign relations committee, ratified treaties providing for peace commission of arbitration between the United States and 23 foreign nations as follows:

Norway, the Netherlands, Portugal, Switzerland, Denmark, Italy, Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua, Bolivia, Persia, Costa Rica, Venezuela, Honduras, Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Peru, Paraguay, Great Britain, France and Spain. Similar treaties negotiated and urged for ratification, but held up in the Senate for further consideration are with China, Panama and San Domingo. A similar treaty has been negotiated with Russia to be sent to the Senate later.

Much time was given by the committee for hearings and consideration of a treaty with Nicaragua, to acquire the Nicaraguan canal route and naval station rights in the Bay of Fonseca, for \$3,000,000; and the treaty with Columbia, to pay that country \$25,000,000 compensation for the Panama canal strip. Action on both treaties was deferred until next session.

Investigations by congress were less than has been undertaken in recent sessions. The special lobby investigating committee of the Senate, however, continued its existence and probed into alleged lobbying in connection with the passage of the Panama canal act, and the subsequent repeal of the tolls exemption provision. The committee has not yet made a final report. The House lobby committee reported a resolution of censure for Representative McDermott, of Illinois, who resigned his office. Investigation by the Interstate Commerce commission into the financial operation of the New York, New Haven & Hartford Railroad company and the Chicago, Rock Island & Pacific railway was instituted by resolutions of congress. Investigations also were conducted by Senate and House committees into the West Virginia coal strike, the Michigan copper strike, and the Colorado coal strike. Inquiries, leading to impeachment proceedings which eventually were dropped, were conducted by the House judiciary committee into the affairs of Judge Daniel Thew Wright, of the supreme court of the District of Columbia, and Emory F. Spear, United States circuit judge for the southern district of Georgia.

Notwithstanding its achievements the congress left much important work unfinished. Much of this legislation will be taken up for consideration in the winter session, though it will be impossible, in the opinion of administration leaders, to consider all of it before adjournment, March 4, next. Some of the subjects uncompleted are the following:

Government purchase of merchant vessels, advanced as part of the war emergency program, but postponed by agreement with the president, until next session.

Revision of immigration laws, including an illiteracy test, passed by the House and approved by the Senate committee, but never pressed in Senate.

Regulation of development of water power in navigable streams.

Bill providing for leasing of mines and other natural resources on public lands.

Bill providing eventual independence for the Philippines, which passed the House, but was deferred until next session by the Senate.

Bill to provide rural credits legislation, including the payment of a system of farm mortgage banks.

Equal Suffrage.

Resolution providing for submission

of constitutional amendment granting suffrage to women, passed in House, defeated in Senate, and reintroduced. Bill to provide for submission of constitutional amendment for national prohibition.

National direct primaries for nomination of presidential candidate.

Regulation of railroad stocks and bonds by the Interstate Commerce commission undertaken as part of anti-trust program but deferred.

Measure for regulation of stock exchange and boards of trade undertaken and reported by the Senate committee on banking and currency.

Bill for greater safety at sea and amelioration of condition of sailors, passed by both houses, considered in conference and recommended to Senate conference on commerce.

Measure for limitation of campaign contributions.

Constitutional amendment limiting service of a president of United States to a single term.

National aid to building of good roads, bills for which were reported this session.

Reorganization of the civil service.

Measure providing for government licensing of cotton ware houses, which passed the Senate but was held up by the House, and other measures contemplated for relief of cotton situation in the south.

Interesting features of the session were controversies in the Senate over several of the president's appointments. The nomination of H. M. Pindell, of Georgia, to be ambassador to Russia led to a protracted inquiry by the Senate committee on foreign relations. The nomination was once withdrawn. Mr. Pindell was later renamed and was ordered confirmed by the Senate, following which Mr. Pindell asked the New York Times to withdraw its report of the nomination of Thomas D. Jones, of Chicago, director of the International Harvester company as a member of the federal reserve board, precipitated a struggle in the Senate committee on the subject of currency. In the midst of the fight Mr. Jones requested the president to withdraw his name. The nomination of Paul M. Warburg of New York, as member of the federal reserve board, also stirred up a controversy. Mr. Warburg once refusing to appear before the currency committee, the nomination of Thomas D. 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