

introduced a bill in the senate April 22, to "increase the efficiency of the army." This bill favors General Miles and would make him practically the commander-in-chief of the army.

The senate committee on Cuba decided to institute an investigation into the charge that the greater part of the present crop of Cuban sugar is held by the sugar trust of this country, as stated in Senator Teller's resolution of the 19th inst.

Representative Sims of Tennessee on April 25 introduced a bill abolishing duties on imports of beef, mutton, pork and veal. A preamble to the measure recites that the present high prices of these products are due to trusts and monopolies.

The senate has appointed a committee to confer with the house on the Chinese exclusion bill. Messrs. Platt, Dillingham, and Clay were selected. According to a report of April 22, the joint conference has agreed on all points save that of the extension of the treaty after May 5 next.

A favorable report has been made by the committee in the house on the bill refunding taxes on legacies for religious, literary, charitable, or educational purposes, or for the encouragement of art or for societies for the prevention of cruelty to children. The amount involved is estimated at \$648,000.

On April 21, the house began consideration of the military academy appropriation bill. This bill, among other things, provides for the improvement of West Point military school for which \$3,000,000 is appropriated. During the debate a discussion on the race question was precipitated.

Representative Mercer of Nebraska will introduce a committee bill appropriating money for public buildings in all parts of the United States. The only states that are not included are Idaho and New Hampshire, and the territories of Arizona and New Mexico. The bill carries an appropriation of about \$15,500,000.

On April 25 Senator Dietrich of Nebraska introduced an amendment to the bill recently introduced by himself providing for reciprocal trade relations with Cuba. The amendment submitted gives the alternative of using 25 per cent of the import collections in the purchase of land in Cuba for coaling stations.

On April 24 the house committee on Indian affairs reported a bill opening for settlement 400,000 acres of the Kiowa, Comanche and Apache lands in Oklahoma. This opening will occur within three months after the law goes into effect, and the lands are to be taken under the general provisions of the homestead laws.

Colonel Crowder, who was sent to investigate the alleged British camp at Port Chalmette, La., arrived in Washington April 20, and communicated his report to the war department. It is said that the administration can see nothing in this report that can be construed as a violation of the neutrality laws.

On April 19 the Cuban reciprocity bill, with its amendment removing the differential on sugar, was sent to the senate. Chairman Payne of the ways and means committee which framed the bill, declares that this amendment will have an unexpected effect, and that 58 cents per hundred pounds is the total of the tariff reductions.

Attorney General Knox made his report regarding the so-called beef trust on April 24. In this report he shows that there is sufficient evidence on hand for an injunction to be framed to restrain the combination from further proceedings under their arrangements, which clearly appear to be in restraint of trade. The attorney general has accordingly directed the dis-

trict attorney at Chicago to prepare a bill for an injunction against this combination operating in the north district of Illinois.

On April 25 the house passed 145 private pension bills. The remainder of the day was devoted to general debate on the agricultural appropriation bill.

The final session of the American Social Science association was held in Washington April 25. The discussion related to art and education, Gen. T. M. Jourdan, formerly a commissioner of Indian affairs, pleading for a better system of education among the Indians.

On April 21 Senator Foster of Louisiana introduced an amendment to the Cuban reciprocity bill, providing that as soon as the immigration, exclusion, and contract labor laws shall have been proclaimed, 80 per cent of the rates now fixed and levied under the act shall be levied, collected and paid.

The government has ordered a court of inquiry in Manila to inquire into General Smith's conduct of affairs in the island of Samar. General Smith declares that, in his opinion, the American soldiers acted with the greatest forbearance in their treatment of the natives.

**TELLER'S RESOLUTION.**

On April 21 Senator Teller introduced a resolution declaring it to be the sense of the senate that the sedition laws in force in the Philippines should be repealed. The resolution is preceded by a preamble reciting the arrests of the editors of the newspapers Freedom and Volcano, published in the archipelago and asserting that they are to be tried under these laws by judges who owe their appointments and tenure of office to the government commission for the criticism of which the men are to be tried.

The last paragraph of the preamble and the resolution are as follows:

"Whereas, By the enactment of such laws and the denial of trial by jury to those accused under them, and the administration of such laws by judges appointed by the officials against whom the offenses are alleged to have been committed and who have reserved to themselves the right to remove said judges at pleasure, every vestige of civil liberty is destroyed, personal liberty and property are without the security of law and the Filipino people are being taught to hate the United States even as much as they hated Spain, therefore be it,

"Resolved, That it is the sense of the senate of the United States that the said sedition laws and all of them should be immediately repealed and prosecutions under them immediately ceased, and that no person shall hereafter be punished by death, imprisonment or fine in the provinces of the Philippines in which there exists armed resistance to the United States, unless the accused has been tried by a jury of his peers and lawfully pronounced guilty, and further that thereafter in the courts of said archipelago, when the offense charged consists of words written or spoken against any citizen or official of the department of said government, the truth of said words spoken or written may be given in evidence and shall constitute a full and perfect defense."

On April 22 the press dispatches announced that President Roosevelt had ordered that the war be stopped in Mindanao, and that all peaceful measures to secure the surrender of the Moro murderers must be exhausted before there is a resort to arms. Two battles had already been fought and General Chaffee cabled to the president, stating that to withdraw at this time would be to destroy our prestige with the Moros. Subsequently Mr. Roosevelt sent General Chaffee instructions to proceed according to his own ideas.

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**Democratic Organization Committee.**

The state committee of five leading and active democrats selected by the Ohio state central committee with the advice and co-operation of prominent members of the party from all parts of the state, and who met at Columbus recently, have taken up the work of thorough organization in all the counties.

Harvey C. Garber, Greenville, Darke county, Charles W. Baker, Cincinnati, Hamilton county, William R. Burnett, Springfield, Clark county, William J. Frey, Findlay, Hancock county, and Charles P. Salen, Cleveland, Cuyahoga county, make up this committee.

The purpose of the committee is to bring about what has been heretofore neglected in Ohio, that is an organization in each and every one of the counties in the state. Such an organization has not been had for twelve years or more, and no thorough organization can be made in a republican state like Ohio in a few weeks time previous to elections, which has usually been the length of time in which to accomplish the work. This committee has established headquarters at Columbus under the personal charge of Chairman Garber, with a salaried secretary. The chairman and other members of the committee serve without pay, and they with other leading democrats have contributed sufficient funds to maintain and carry out the work.

The chairman, Harvey Garber, comes from Darke county. This county gave the largest per cent of gain for

Bryan in 1896. Mr. Garber has always been one of the active democrats of the state and, while an official of the Bell Telephone Co., he has nevertheless been fearless in standing up for and aiding the candidates and platforms in all campaigns, including 1896 and 1900. He was vice chairman of the state committee in 1900, and with the coercion in those campaigns, considering his position in a business way, he showed a patriotism and courage that is to be admired.

Charles W. Baker was the democratic nominee for United States senator before the present legislature, and has always been an active campaigner and heavy contributor to the democracy. He made a splendid fight in Hamilton county this fall, and if he had had the assistance which he was entitled to in that locality, the legislature would have been democratic.

Ex-Mayor Burnett has never wavered in his duty toward the party since and before the civil war. He is a soldier of the civil war and has carried the republican city of Springfield a number of times.

William J. Frey, the originator of the present permanent organization movement, is chairman of the state central committee. He was a candidate for congress in 1900 in the Eighth district and made a creditable race in this overwhelmingly republican district.

Charles P. Salen is the present director of public works of the city of Cleveland in Mayor Tom Johnson's cabinet. He was the active head of the Bryan league of Cuyahoga county in 1896 and 1900 and one of the strongest men of the state.—Canal Dover (O) Times.