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ment bill was again under discussion in the house. Mr. Ball of Texas charged the president and administration with hypocrisy. If the president would dissolve the firm of Havemeyer, Root, Wood, Thurber and Company, and strike a blow at the sugar trust by agreeing to accept the house Cuban reciprocity bill, he said, the bill would pass the senate by the aid of a solid democratic vote in twenty-four hours. The responsibility for us to do our duty by Cuba, he insisted, rested on the president. Turning to the question of trusts he also charged the administration with hypocrisy upon that subject.

Mr. Landis followed Mr. Ball and made an earnest speech in support of the policy of retaining the Philippine islands. Mr. Williams of Mississippi made the closing speech in opposition to the bill. The general debate on the measure was closed at the night session.

On June 25 the bill was thrown open to amendment in the house.

Senator Morgan, one of the senators foremost in favor of the Nicaragua canal route, has declared that the Spooner amendment should be accepted. This amounts to a declaration for the Panama route. On June 25 the house conferees on the inter-oceanic canal bill decided to accept this amendment.

On June 26, at the end of a week's debate, the house passed the Philippine civil bill practically as it came from the committee. It was a party vote, 141 to 97, with the exception of Mr. McCall of Massachusetts, who voted with the democrats. The bill passed was a substitute for the senate bill and differs principally in the following points:

The house substitute provides for a complete system of civil government with a legislature, to consist of two houses, one of which shall be a popular assembly elected by the Filipino people.

The senate bill contained no such provision. The legislature is to be chosen after the "existing insurrection in the Philippines shall have ceased and complete peace shall have been established therein and the fact certified to the president by the Philippine commission."

The house substitute also amplifies the "bill of rights" enumerated in the senate measure and adds to the number of issues which can be appealed to the supreme court of the United States.

The house measure also defines with greater detail than the senate the rights of citizenship of those residing in the islands, and provides that all residents shall receive the same protection from the United States in respect to their relation with foreign governments as is accorded to citizens of the United States.

One of the most important differences between the house and senate bills is that relating to coinage. The senate provides a silver standard somewhat in extension and perfection of that now in existence. The house measure provides a gold standard system, with the gold dollar of the United States as the standard unit of value for the islands. The main coin is to be the peso, made in silver, but of a gold value, and this is to be divided into subsidiary pieces of money bearing devices emblematic of American sovereignty.

Provision is also made for a complete financial system, the details being different from those in the senate measure, although following the same general lines. In dealing with the grant of franchises the house bill places many more restrictions on such grants than the senate bill. In this respect the restrictions provided by

the house follow the lines of those provided for Porto Rico.

Both bills provide for acquiring the friar lands and for the issue of bonds sufficient to pay for the lands, the senate provision making the interest rate 4 1/2 per cent and the house 5 per cent. Both measures contain extended provisions relative to the timber lands, harbor and internal improvements, and for two delegate commissioners chosen by the Filipino people to represent them in Washington and have the privilege of the floor of the house.

Mr. McCall (rep., Mass.) offered the following amendment:

"In this first organic act, creating a civil government for the Philippine islands, it is hereby solemnly declared to be the settled purpose of the congress to extend to the inhabitants of those islands every aid in enabling them to develop the capacity for self-government, and when such capacity shall have been developed we pledge the faith of the republic to confer upon them the right of self-government after the fashion of the really free nations."

Mr. McCall made a vigorous speech in support of his amendment, saying:

"I do not propose, Mr. Chairman, to attempt to discuss here the general question of what shall be our ultimate relation with the Philippine islands, or how soon we shall withdraw, if we ever do withdraw. But this bill opens up almost every stick of timber, every acre of land, every nugget of ore to the people of these islands and to the citizens of the United States. Capitalists will make investments there, and after they have invested, if the proposition is made to take the islands from under the jurisdiction and sovereignty of the United States, they will come to congress and they will say that we have invested our money on the faith of this act, and they will appeal to us to protect them. Gentlemen know as a practical proposition that no matter what may be the desires of the American people we will never get out under those circumstances, and that we will be there forever.

"Now, I desire to have it written in this act that we are not liable to stay there forever. It seems to me here and now is the time and place for us to make some declaration with regard to it."

Mr. Williams of Mississippi appealed to the republicans to adopt Mr. McCall's amendment. He taunted the republicans with being afraid to declare their policy. "Why allow matters to drift?" he asked, "until vested interests are created which we cannot abandon. Let us settle this thing here and now."

Mr. Grosvenor declared the McCall amendment meant first to develop the capacity of the Filipino people for self-government and then to admit them as a state. The first step he was willing to take, "but," he added, "I am unwilling to mortgage the future."

"Now, you are running away," shouted Mr. Sulzer of New York. "Are you willing to accept an amendment," inquired Mr. McDermott of New York, "to develop not the capacity for self-government, but to develop self-government?"

"To develop capacity," replied Mr. Grosvenor, amid laughter, "is as far as I am willing to go."

Mr. Grosvenor's amendment was defeated without division.

The vote was then taken on Mr. McCall's amendment. Two republicans, McCall and Littlefield, stood up with the democrats in support of it. The amendment was lost, 89 to 123.

On June 26 the conference report on the isthmian canal bill was adopted by the house by a vote of 252 to 7. Mr. Morgan presented the report on the canal bill in the senate and it was adopted there. This passed the bill and it was sent to the president.

The senate agreed to amendments to the general deficiency appropriation bill reimbursing the Buffalo Pan-American exposition in the sum of

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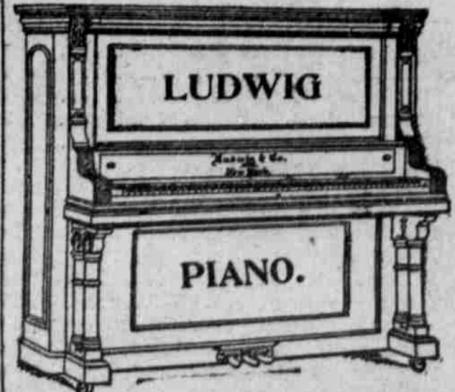
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