

...duras; Arthur S. Hardy, New Hampshire, to Greece, Roumania and Serbia; William H. Sorsby, Mississippi, to Bolivia; David E. Thompson, Nebraska, to Brazil.

Consuls of the United States—William F. Doty, New Jersey, at Tahiti, Society islands; Albert A. Morwitz, Arizona, at Nogales, Mexico; John B. Richardson, Kansas, at Utila, Honduras.

Director of the Census—William R. Merriam of Minnesota.

On the opening day of the session Gen. Russell A. Alger of Michigan, former secretary of war under President McKinley, was sworn in to fill the vacancy in the senate caused by the death of Senator McMillan from Michigan.

On December 2 it was reported from Washington that Attorney General Knox, in his annual report, renews his recommendation for an increase of the salaries of judicial officers throughout the country.

The report shows that the number of cases remaining undisposed of in the United States supreme court at the close of October, 1902, term was 344 on the appellate and eleven on the original docket. At the close of the previous term there were 336 cases undisposed of. The number of cases docketed at the term was 383, number disposed of 375.

The statement of criminal prosecutions in the United States supreme court shows that 16,350 prosecutions terminated during the last year. Of the 9,602 criminal prosecutions pending July 1, 1902, 262 were for violation of customs laws, 3,504 for violation of internal revenue laws, 722 for violation of postoffice laws, ten under the election laws, 100 under the naturalization laws, 180 under pension laws, seventy-four for embezzlement and 3,836 miscellaneous prosecutions.

On July 1, 1902, there were 1,350 United States convicts in the various prisons and reformatories of the country.

Senator Cullom introduced a bill on December 2 to amend the Sherman anti-trust law. This bill prohibits interstate commerce in articles produced by trusts, the penalty for violations being a fine of from \$500 to \$5,000.

The bill authorizes the attorney general or any district attorney to make application to the federal judges for the summoning of persons before them to answer questions as to the material violation of anti-trust provisions and requires the judges to issue orders for the appearance of such persons upon this application.

In such cases, witnesses are to be protected against prosecution on account of their revelations, but they are to be deprived of the right to refuse to answer because of self-crimination.

Annual reports are required to be made by all persons, firms and incorporations engaged in interstate commerce. They are to be filed with the interstate commerce commission and they are to be subject to the scrutiny of the attorney general, but not of the general public. The attorney general is authorized to appoint fifty special agents to seek out violations of the law.

On the same day it was reported from the house that the judicial committee of that body held its first meeting and took prompt action in the direction of getting an anti-trust measure before congress at the earliest possible moment. Mr. Jenkins of Wisconsin, who has become acting chairman, owing to the retirement of Judge Ray, referred all measures dealing with trusts to the sub-committee, of

which Mr. Littlefield of Maine is chairman, and that sub-committee will go to work at once.

Among the senate proceedings the same day was a bill introduced by Senator Lodge amending the Philippine civil government bill so as to admit Philippine goods into the United States at one-fourth the tariff rate imposed by the Dingley law, and Senator Gallinger a joint resolution for the adoption of a resolution so as to effect the District of Columbia to the extent of allowing it representation in congress and the electoral commission.

On December 3 it was reported by the Associated press from Washington that "the secretary of state has sent to the governor of the Philippines and the governor of Porto Rico blank passports, forms of application and full instructions for the issuance of passports by those officials. After the war with Spain the state department directed diplomatic and consular officers to afford loyal Filipinos and Porto Ricans, who were in foreign countries, the same protection as citizens of the United States, but it could not give passports, because the law forbade their issuance to others than American citizens. This difficulty was remedied by a law passed by congress at its last session, and, in consequence, rules for issuing passports in the insular possessions have been prescribed by President Roosevelt.

On December 3 in the senate Mr. Nelson, from the committee on territories, reported a substitute for the omnibus statehood bill, with the recommendation that Oklahoma and Indian Territory be admitted into the union as one state, under the name of Oklahoma.

When the immigration bill was brought up Mr. Quay precipitated a discussion over the status of the statehood bill, which was terminated by a ruling from the chair that, beginning December 10, it would be the unfinished business, and at the closing hour each day it would be laid before the senate unless displaced by a vote of that body.

Commissioner General Sargent has filed with the secretary of the treasury his report as to the character of the Universal Brotherhood school at Point Loma, Cal., the destination of the eleven Cuban children recently arrived at New York and who have been held there pending an investigation of the school in question. According to Mr. Sargent's report, the school is of high character as well as of good financial standing and it is regarded as certain that the children will be admitted shortly.

The house committee on appropriations has agreed to the terms of the pension appropriation bill, which calls for \$137,847,600 which is a slight increase over the appropriation for the current year.

On December 4 the senate committee on foreign relations authorized favorable reports on all the nominations to diplomatic positions before it as follows:

Robert McCormick, ambassador to Russia; Charlemagne Tower, ambassador to Germany; Bellamy Storer, ambassador to Austria; David E. Thompson, minister to Brazil; William B. Sorsby, minister to Bolivia; J. B. Jackson, minister to Greece; Arthur S. Hardy, minister to Spain; Leslie M. Comos, minister to Guatemala; Percival Dodge, secretary of the embassy at Berlin; R. S. Hitt, second secretary at Berlin; Peter A. Jay, third secretary at Paris.

Another list of nominations was sent by President Roosevelt to the senate on December 4 as follows: Robert M. M. Wade, Pennsylvania,

(now consul) to be consul general at Canton, China.

Martin A. Kaapp, New York, interstate commerce commission (a reap-pointment).

George W. Ellis, Kansas, secretary of the legation at Monrovia, Liberia.

Also a large number of army promotions and appointments.

It has been reported that President Roosevelt is assured that if the negotiations with Cuba for a reciprocity treaty are concluded satisfactorily by the state department the treaty will be ratified by the senate during the present session.

On December 3 the house passed the bill to appropriate \$50,000 to pay the expenses of the anthracite coal strike commission. During the debate on this measure Mr. Griffith (Ind.) offered an amendment to provide for the payment of the expenses of John Mitchell, president of the united mine workers. He extolled the service of Mr. Mitchell in bringing the strike to an end.

Mr. Cannon paid a high tribute to Mr. Mitchell, who, he said, was a fellow-citizen of Illinois, but said he did not believe Mr. Mitchell would indorse such a "Cheap John" proposition. The amendment was voted down.

An Associated press dispatch of December 2 says: The official call for the national convention of the united mine workers of America was issued yesterday from national headquarters. The convention will be held in Tomlinson hall, Indianapolis, Ind., commencing at 10 a. m. Monday, January 19, 1903.

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