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rat Halstead, who was the president of the company which is to publish the magazine, has resigned and President Roosevelt says that certain information about the persons interested in the company has come to him which makes him unwilling to permit the use of his name in connection with the affair.

Senator Gallinger was authorized by the senate committee on commerce to make a favorable report on the merchant marine shipping bill.

Samuel Spencer, president of the Southern railway, who has been authorized to act as spokesman for the New York Central, the Erie, the Milwaukee, the Northern Pacific, the Illinois Central and the Lackawanna and other railroads, made a speech before the house committee on interstate and foreign commerce in which he said: "There is no difference of opinion between the railroads of the country, congress and the president on the subject that rates are wrong. We agree with the language of the president that 'the highways of transportation must be kept open to all upon equal terms.' On that basis the railroad companies are ready and anxious to aid and co-operate. But I do not think any additional legislation is necessary in order to proceed against that particular class of abuses. If such legislation does appear to congress to be necessary, the railways of the country it will certainly stand, and I have no hesitation in saying so, in co-operation and aid to that end. That particular phase of regulation has already been pronounced by the commission as fully covered by existing statutes. It simply becomes a question of enforcement of the law."

The senate has passed the legislative, executive and judicial appropriation bill and also a number of private pension bills.

Secretary Taft has asked for \$908,100 for general improvements. These include an appropriation of \$86,000 for Yellowstone National Park.

Secretary of the Navy Morton had a conference with James J. Hill of the Great Northern and Samuel Spencer of the Southern railroads on the subject of freight rate legislation.

J. L. Bristow, fourth assistant postmaster general of the United States, has tendered to President Roosevelt his resignation. President Roosevelt issued an executive order designating Mr. Bristow as a special commissioner to investigate the present trade conditions and freight rates between the Atlantic and the Pacific coasts and from the east coasts of the United States and of Europe to the west coast of South America. The resignation will take effect January 20.

All arrangements for a rehearing of the case of the Colorado Fuel and Iron company and the Atchison, Topeka and Santa Fe railroad company, charging the latter company with freight rate discrimination in favor of the former, were cancelled by the interstate commerce commission.

Postmaster General Wynne has ordered that the entire corps of postoffice inspectors be transferred from the jurisdiction of the fourth assistant postmaster general directly under the postmaster general. This is one of the most important orders issued by the postoffice department for some time and affects over 200 men scattered over the country. Fourth Assistant Postmaster General Bristow strenuously opposed the transfer.

At Folk's Inauguration

Joseph W. Folk was inaugurated as governor of Missouri at noon, January 9. The Jefferson City correspondent for the St. Louis Post-Dispatch says:

"Every inch of available space within the hall of the house of representatives was filled. The group of republican officials elected on the same ticket with the new democratic governor stood near, as with uplifted hand Mr. Folk swore to support the constitution of the United States and the state of Missouri.

"Ranged about in front of the rostrum were the members of the senate, a democratic majority, while behind them sat the members of the house, a republican majority. Just after the members of the senate filed out of the house of representatives, at 10:30, William J. Bryan appeared. Republicans joined in welcoming him, and, with the democratic portion of the assemblage, cheered heartily as the band played 'Dixie.'

Mr. Bryan said he appreciated the invitation to speak, particularly as it came from republicans as well as democrats. The Nebraskan began by saying that he came here to attend the inauguration of Folk because he is interested in all that goes to make up good government.

"I am interested particularly in the inauguration of Joseph W. Folk for two reasons," he said. "First, because of his interest in the purification of politics; second, because his election illustrates the reward that can come to him who has performed his duty. I want to emphasize the fact that the people of Missouri in so rewarding Mr. Folk will work beneficial effects in many states in addition to Missouri.

"The more we reward those faithful in the discharge of public duty, the more we encourage others to do their duty.

"Missouri has not been wicked above other states. I doubt if in any state there were less men guilty of betrayal of trust than in Missouri. While I was in congress I was told that 10 per cent of the members could be influenced in favor of schemes. I suppose there is no legislature without some per cent of members who can be reached to do things their consciences do not approve by arguments to their pecuniary or political interests.

"Corruption in Missouri was not unusual in amount, or extraordinary. You simply have tried to punish those guilty

of it, while sometimes other states have continued them in high office."

"Mr. Bryan declared the reward given Folk helped the cause of good government in every state, strengthening the pure and incorruptible and filling with fear those who put their own interests over the people.

"The great trouble with legislatures," he said, "is that with great consolidated and organized wealth the members are influenced by the demands

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