

and a hundred other duties which I am required to perform. My mental and physical work is ten times greater than the postmaster's at this place, and my responsibility is great while he has practically no responsibility. Yet his salary is \$6,000 per year and mine is \$900. I mention my own case in this connection to show the actual state of facts that you may know the state of affairs in this department all over the United States. It would do no good for me or for the democratic party if I should simply expose this and other frauds and inequalities by having a letter published over my name. But a leader would by giving editorial comment in exposing this bring thousands of men to his support and to the party to which he belongs. I know there are very few business men that understand other issues to say nothing of the thousands of laborers who have but little time to read. But the subject of this letter is one that all can understand. It may seem strange to you but I will say that 95 per cent of the people after all the agitation do not understand what the ratio of 16 to 1 means. I include all classes from the wholesale merchant to the day laborer. An editorial comment exposing the inequalities in the postal service would appeal to every working clerk and employer and each of them have as many friends as any one of the "influential politicians" (?) that hold a "fat job."

C. W. Eede, Ballston Spa, N. Y.—To Lawyers: Gentlemen—Does the anti-trust law, or any other law, give me the right, upon my proving that I am being robbed by a trust, or corporation, to collect damages from either town, county, state or nation, for failing to give me the protection for which I have paid? If not; then I may be robbed of my only means of livelihood; my home may be seized and sold for taxes and I be turned into the street and then be arrested, fined and imprisoned for being a tramp.

YOU

You mean for me what birds at daybreak sing,
When earth awakening calls to them
With little yellow daffodils, 'Tis spring!
You mean the wondrous music of the spheres,
When o'er the distant purple hills
Through soft piled clouds the great white moon
appears.

You mean what the great sea is fain to say,
When murmuring low on silver sands
It sings a lullaby at close of day.
The trees all bow their heads, they listen, too!
The winds are telling them, dear love,
How all the world now means for me—but you!
—Katherine Fay, in Lippincott's.

THE PATH

We know not where our hidden way may lie,
What stress and storm the coming years may
hold;
The midday heats and midnights drear and cold
May meet us on our journey far or nigh—
Yet step by step we go, till bye and bye
The mystic tapestries of Fate unfold;
When weary past believing, gray and old,
We reach the end together—thou and I.

On eyes grown dim the mists of blindness creep,
The pulse moves slower still, and sorrows fade,
But even then we may not understand;
Yet God still giveth His beloved sleep.
Oh, Heart of Mine, why should we be afraid
If only night may find us hand in hand!
—Myrtle Reed.

WHAT CONGRESS HAS ACCOMPLISHED

The Associated Press makes the following statement showing what congress has accomplished:
"More money has been appropriated during the short session of the fifty-ninth congress which passed into history at noon, March 4, than during any previous session. The amount, as near as can be estimated, approximates a billion dollars. Two big battleships were authorized for the navy and the artillery corps of the army was reorganized and enlarged. A general service pension was granted to veterans of the Mexican and civil wars and like provisions were made for army nurses. For river and harbor improvements the appropriation aggregated \$63,000,000. Increased salaries were given to cabinet ministers, the vice president and senators, the speaker of the house of representatives, to ambassadors, ministers and consuls, to postoffice clerks and letter carriers.
"The public made more inquiries for information from the document rooms of congress regarding the ship subsidy bill, the currency measure and the bill regulating the hours of service of railway employes than any other pending legislation. Ship subsidy died hard in the last hours. The im-

migration bill, one of the measures brought over from the long session, was completed under the spur of President Roosevelt that he might give the Californian-Japanese situation relief by giving the administration control of coolie importation through passports. The bill further restricts the admission of aliens to the country.

"A bill was passed for the establishment of an agricultural bank in the Philippines. The free alcohol bill in the last session was amended so that farmers may distill waste products to be denaturized.

"Appeal in criminal cases was granted the government, a measure intended to strengthen the anti-trust legislation by affording a means whereby the supreme court may pass upon the constitutional construction of laws.

"An investigation was authorized regarding the condition of women and child workers. The interstate commerce commission was authorized to ascertain if the express companies of the country are evading the railroad rate law of last session by buying, selling and handling on consignment fruit, vegetables and oysters.

"Reed Smoot was sustained by the senate as a senator from Utah, ending a four-year controversy. The senate ratified the treaty with Santo Domingo and that of Algerias.

"The president was authorized to use his good offices to prevent atrocities in the Congo.

"The senate also launched an exhaustive investigation of the Brownsville affair."

The house passed the Aldrich currency bill, which bill among other things increases from \$3,000,000 to \$9,000,000 the amount of national bank notes which may be retired during any one month. This is regarded as a part of the asset currency plan, the bankers seeking the power to contract the currency, at their pleasure, by the retirement of notes and to expand, at their pleasure, by the issue of asset currency notes.

The hours of employment bill was amended to limit the hours of telegraphers who handle train orders to nine a day, the maximum to be twelve hours where only one is employed. Trainmen must have eight consecutive hours off duty every twenty-four.



AN EXTRAVAGANT CONGRESS

The Associated Press gives the statements of republicans and democrats, showing the late congress to be the most extravagant one in history, as follows:

Statements were made to the senate and house today by Senator Allison and Representative Tawney, chairmen, respectively, of the appropriations committees, and by Representative Livingston, ranking minority member of the house committee regarding the appropriations of the session. The total appropriations aggregate \$919,948,679.63, of which \$756,662,674.27 is for the annual expenditures for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1908. The balance of the grand total is to be used as follows: \$12,439,685.36 for emergencies and deficiencies on account of the fiscal year 1907 and prior years; \$1,000,000 for miscellaneous objects, such as private claims and the like, authorized in special acts, and \$149,996.32 for permanent annual appropriations to meet the interest charge on the public debts, the requirements of the sinking fund, expenses of collecting the revenue from customs, redemption of national bank notes and other purposes.

The revenues of the government for 1908 are estimated at \$850,000,000, which, it was stated, would leave a surplus of \$20,000,000 and not a deficit as had been predicted in some quarters.

During the fifty-ninth congress as a whole it was stated that \$198,000,000 had been appropriated in excess of the total of the fifty-eighth congress.

Analyzing the increased appropriations for the year 1908 over the current fiscal year, the total of which is given as \$40,000,000, the increases are distributed in part as follows: For the army, \$6,700,000; fortifications, \$1,800,000; legislative, executive and judicial, \$2,400,000; postal service, \$20,000,000; pensions, \$5,000,000.

It was stated that while the river and harbor bill carried approximately \$83,000,000, the expenditure under it would be but \$27,000,000 during 1908.

The appropriation for the Panama canal was increased over that during the fifty-eighth congress by \$69,500,000. During the same time the postal expenses increased \$50,000,000.

Representative Livingston presenting the views of the minority on the subject, agrees as to the total, which he says is an "increase of \$40,539,494.47 over the appropriations made for the current fiscal year and \$57,266,492.57 over the appropriations for the fiscal year 1899, made at the first regular session of the fifty-fifth congress, which covered substantially the entire expenses of the military and naval establishments on account of the war with Spain.

"Enormous as are these appropriations for the next fiscal year, there should be added to them the further sum of \$25,000,000 on account of the

contracts authorized in the naval bill for additional warships and for which no sums whatever are yet appropriated, and the sum of \$49,829,349 for contracts authorized in the river and harbor appropriation bill in addition to the appropriations made in that act.

"These sums, added to the session's total apparent appropriations make the tremendous sum of \$994,778,028.63, carried either in direct appropriations or authorizations at this session of congress, establishing a new record for federal appropriations approaching the prodigious sum of a billion dollars for a single session of congress.

"The highest estimates placed on the probable revenues of the government from all sources during the coming fiscal year indicate that they will be at least \$100,000,000 below the appropriations and authorizations for expenditure chargeable to the session of congress just closing. The increase for the army over last year is \$6,718,117.67. Increase for the navy over last year is \$21,867,000 with the authorization for two new ships. Increases for fortifications are \$1,844,000, and increase for pensions \$5,691,000. If this military spirit and extravagance is to continue the ways and means committee had better get busy and provide a large increase in the revenues."

Mr. Livingston concluded with this remark: "I wish to heaven we could give the Philippines away to Japan, and get out of that country, whose cost to us no one can even predict. I received a letter the other day from a debating society in my district asking my opinion whether Cuba should be annexed. To that question I want to reply right here. We have got enough of that kind of rats now."



ABBOT'S REPORTS

Mr. Willis J. Abbot, the head of the Democratic Literary Bureau in the campaign of 1900, and for many years connected with Mr. Hearst's papers, is rendering a valuable service in his reports from Washington. Vigilant, intelligent and trustworthy, he is a sentinel on guard at the national capital, and his editorial comments on legislation and legislators is calculated to have a wide influence upon political thought.



MAYOR DUNNE RENOMINATED

The renomination of Mayor Dunne of Chicago upon a strong municipal ownership platform in spite of the opposition of nearly all of the Chicago dailies is evidence of his personal strength and the strength of the principles for which he is so valiantly contending. He has been an honest, courageous and faithful mayor. He deserves a reelection and ought to receive a splendid endorsement at the hands of the people of Chicago.



SPECIAL OFFER

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