

Washington News

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The interstate commerce commission has decided against the railroads in both the "eastern" and "western" cases. The decision was handed down February 23. Proposed advances in class freight cases in official classification territory, aggregating among all the railways in the territory approximately \$27,000,000 a year, were disapproved by the commission.

Tariff revision plans of the ways and means committee of the next congress have been announced by Representative Underwood of Alabama, who will head that committee in the house. Mr. Underwood said that, "assuming that there was to be an extra session of congress," the committee on the democratic side of the house was charged with the responsibility of preparing tariff legislation, and all that there was asked between now and December was for a clerk, statistician and a stenographic clerk for the committee.

Filibustering in the lower branch of congress in this session became a thing of the past when the house voted, by a large majority, for a rule, which, when invoked by a two-thirds vote on any pending measure forthwith reduces the time of debate to forty minutes, and cuts off all amendments.

President Taft has awarded a life-saving medal to Miss Nellie Caskey of Fairmount, Ind., on recommendation of the interstate commerce commission. Accompanying the medal the president sent a personal letter of commendation for bravery. Miss Caskey, who is sixteen years old, rescued her three and one-half year old niece from certain death by removing her from a railroad track in front of a rapidly moving Pennsylvania railroad train just in the nick of time.

Assurance has been given that Mexico will not take snap judgment on alleged American rebel spies.

The text of a new treaty with Japan, designed to replace that of 1894, and drawn with the special design of eliminating the restrictions on immigration contained in that treaty, has been laid before the senate by President Taft. The essential difference between the proposed treaty and the existing one is said to be that it omits all reference to such restrictions, and leaves to the national honor of Japan the enforcement at her own ports the limi-

tations upon emigration from Japan now expressly placed upon immigration to the United States. The document is said to provide that either country may denounce the treaty at the end of six months if it fails to operate as expected. "Because it embodies this radical departure from the existing treaty and touches the question of the deepest importance and interest to the Pacific slope," says an Associated Press dispatch, "the injection of this convention into the closing hours of the sixty-first congress created a sensation. That the new treaty will encounter opposition seems certain."

The new Japanese treaty of trade and navigation was ratified in the senate, February 24, after a two hours' executive session, at the conclusion of a day crowded with other important matters.

Two new battleships and some smaller craft are provided for in the naval appropriation bill.

The ocean mail subsidy bill, which already passed the senate, has been favorably reported by a house committee.

Representative Hill of Connecticut, in a speech, declared that it is not the farmers but Wall street interests that are fighting reciprocity with Canada.

If the figures made public by the census bureau can be taken as a basis, the people of the United States are becoming a nation of pork eaters. The figures show that during the

year 1909, 4,483,000 more hogs were killed in this country for food purposes than all other animals combined, including beeves, calves, sheep and lambs, goats, kids, etc.

Secretary to the President Norton says there is a lot of extravagance and needless waste at Washington.

The interstate commerce commission has ordered a reduction in refrigerating charges on citrus fruits from the west.

The supreme court of the United States has ruled that advertising can not be taken for transportation.

The convicted officers of the Naval Stores company have been granted a rehearing by the United States supreme court.

Attorney General Wickersham declared that final reports of the nationwide campaign against bucket-shops show more than four thousand offices of that character were put out of business.

Senator Beveridge of Indiana addressed the senate in opposition to Lorimer, declaring the Illinois member was not entitled to a seat. He spoke for four hours, being interrupted by Senator Bailey and others.

Senator Lorimer of Illinois made a long speech in the senate in defense of the legality of his election by the Illinois legislature. His speech occupied four hours' time, and his appeal was made with dramatic effect.

No vote has been taken on the Lorimer case in the senate, nor can the date for such a vote be fixed. The day following Lorimer's appeal (Continued on Page 14.)

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