

WASHINGTON NEWS

The Washington correspondent for the Louisville Courier-Journal says: Congress will be asked to abolish the new commerce court when the regular session opens in December. Congressman T. W. Sims, of Tennessee, a democrat, who fought the commerce court provision in the house two years ago, stated that he will introduce a bill as soon as congress convenes for the repeal of this new portion of the federal railroad laws. "My bill," said Mr. Sims, "will propose such changes as will throw the cases now coming into the commerce court back into the federal circuit courts, where they were originally heard. The commerce court provision, won out by a tie vote in the house when it passed and was bitterly opposed in the senate." The commerce court was created at President Taft's earnest request to handle all cases arising under the interstate commerce laws.

A dispatch to the Louisville (Ky.) Courier-Journal says: "It was reported in government circles in Washington that the big industrial combinations in Wall street would attempt to prevent dissolution under the recent supreme court decision against trusts by threatening President Taft and Attorney General Wickersham with a financial panic.

Here is a story of Aldrichism as told by the Washington correspondent to the New York World: Although the statutes provide that no public officer shall hold two positions under the government the salaries of which amount to more than \$2,500 per annum, A. Piatt Andrew receives \$5,000 per annum as assistant secretary of the treasury and \$3,000 from the decrepit monetary commission as right hand man to former Senator Nelson Aldrich, it has been discovered.

Assistant Secretary Andrew is now in Europe in the interests of the commission. He is expected to return within a fortnight.

When the Aldrich monetary commission was created in 1908 Andrew was connected with the school of economics at Harvard. Senator Aldrich offered him a position on the commission, but, owing to the uncertainty of the length of its life, he was not willing to give up his position at Harvard.

Aldrich compromised and gave him \$3,000 a year for part of his time. He retained his position at Harvard until shortly after President Taft was inaugurated, then the director of mints was removed and Andrew was installed as head of Uncle Sam's money-making plants at \$4,500 per annum in addition to the \$3,000 he received from the monetary commission.

He is thirty-nine years old, and was born in Indiana, but has lived in Massachusetts most of his life. Aldrich picked him up as a bright young man, and after six months' close relationship decided that he needed all his time, so induced President Taft to demote the director of mints and put Andrew in his place. Aldrich was then leader of the senate.

Andrew has travelled all over the United States and Europe with Aldrich and members of the commission while he was "managing" the bureau of mints, and drawing a salary of \$4,500 for it.

He is a handsome bachelor, and as such is in great demand socially.

Attorney General Wickersham an-

nounced that the steel trust would be asked to dissolve, but that it would be permitted to do its own dissolving. Steel trust magnates have issued replies saying they will fight the government on this proposition. J. Pierpont Morgan says he is with the steel trust in this fight. It is believed, however, that the fight will be largely one sided and that the government will not do much of the fighting. The following statement was issued: Pursuant to the unanimous vote of the board of directors of the United States Steel corporation at a meeting held this afternoon at which there were present J. Pierpont Morgan, H. C. Frick, Norman B. Ream, P. A. B. Widener, Robert Winsor, Elbert H. Gary, George W. Perkins, John F. Dryden, Samuel Mather, Daniel G. Reid, Henry Walters, James A. Farrell and James H. Reed, the following statement is published:

"No negotiations whatever have taken place between the steel corporation and the department of justice looking to the dissolution or disintegration of the corporation. The corporation was organized for business reasons and purchased its various plants to promote such business and not to restrain trade or obtain a monopoly. In all its operations the company has scrupulously observed the law and recognized the joint rights of its competitors and the consumers of its products. So far as its directors are aware no complaint has ever been made against it by either of these interests. The directors are advised by its counsel that its existence is not in violation of the Sherman act as interpreted in the recent decision of the supreme court.

"In view of this record and this advice, the directors feel that their stockholders, and their employes and the public requires that they should set at rest all rumors to the effect that they are contemplating any voluntary dissolution by legal action. We believe that the organization is legal and that its management is proper. Its properties are of immense intrinsic value and the corporation is of benefit to the public interest.

"J. PIERPONT MORGAN,
"ELBERT H. GARY,
"Committee of Board of Directors."

Secretary. Wilson of the department of agriculture has replied to the criticism of the Nebraska Methodist Episcopal conference, which directed a communication to President Taft protesting against permitting a member of the cabinet to preside at the international brewers' congress in Chicago. Wilson states that the department is interested in the growing of barley and hops, but that the exhibit and congress are not under the official patronage of the federal government. He further states that his honor as presiding officer is merely an empty one and he has no actual presiding to do. The answer which Mr. Wilson sent is as follows: "James A. Brown, Secretary Methodist Episcopal Church of Nebraska, Lincoln, Neb. Dear Sir: Your communication of recent date received. There is an international feature to this congress to be held in the United States. Agriculture is to be discussed. The United States is interested in the growing of barley and hops for domestic use. They are naturally under the jurisdiction of the department of agriculture. Discussion along other lines would be foreign to us. This congress and this ex-

hibit are not under the official patronage of the government of the United States. The honorary presidency which comes to me is on account of my position as secretary of agriculture. I will have no actual presiding to do in this convention. Very respectfully,

"JAMES WILSON, Secretary."

SENATOR BRISTOW DEFIES THE TAFT ELEMENT

Following is a special dispatch to the Chicago Record-Herald: Hutchinson, Kan., Sept. 26.—Near the close of what had been a non-partisan celebration of the fiftieth anniversary of the birth of Kansas as a state, with President Taft as the principal speaker, a political incident flared up here today and gave a thrill to the thousands of Kansans who packed the grand stand at the state fair grounds.

Walter L. Fisher, secretary of the interior in President Taft's cabinet, just back from Alaska, made a three-minute speech, in which he said some things about the difference between "real progressives of the middle-of-the-road type like Mr. Taft" and "hypocritical, demagogic progressives who opposed every practical progressive policy put forth.

Senator Joseph L. Bristow, ranking second only to Senator La Follette of Wisconsin among the progressives of the nation, followed Secretary Fisher and quickly caught up his challenge.

"We in Kansas," he said, "are always willing to grant the other fellow is honest in his views and we expect him to grant that we are honest in ours. I want to say to President Taft and Secretary Fisher right now that in working out the problems that confront us we of Kansas will have our part and have our say to the end that there shall be equal justice to all and special privilege to none."

Both Secretary Fisher and Senator Bristow were wildly applauded. The throng seemed to appreciate the verbal passage at arms and the practical serving notice by the junior Kansas senator that while he was participating freely and gladly in the welcome to President Taft in this state there was to be no let-up in the factional fight as soon as he had left the borders of the commonwealth.

The president himself had made absolutely no reference to politics. His address was purely historical, and in it he had taken occasion to pay a tribute to the independence in thought and action of the Kansas people, saying that no matter how much one might differ with their views, there could be nothing but admiration for their courage in carrying these views forward to a logical conclusion.

Mr. Taft had been introduced by Governor Stubbs, a progressive among the progressives, as the president "of the greatest nation ever conceived in a human brain." The governor added that Kansas was the greatest state "on the face of the globe;" that the United States was "the greatest nation God ever allowed to be operated," and the president of the United States "had more power and more majesty than any king or potentate of ancient or modern times."

"And now, ladies and gentlemen," the governor concluded, "Bill Taft is going to speak to you. I want you to give him the most royal reception a president ever received on earth.

Governor Stubbs, waving a handkerchief, led in the cheering that followed Mr. Taft's introduction. When the president had concluded Governor Mann of Virginia made a brief address. Then came Secretary Fisher.

An address by the secretary was



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