

WASHINGTON NEWS

The government's fight to split the merger of the Union Pacific and Southern Pacific railroads was begun in the supreme court.

Majority Leader Underwood has prepared a "breakfast table" free list bill as the last of the house tariff measures this session.

Brig. Gen. Edwards, chief of the insular bureau, assumed responsibility for the delay in transmitting to congress papers in the case of Maj. B. B. Ray.

President Taft will confer with the Texas congressional delegation on the Mexican situation and will impress upon them that neutrality must be enforced strictly.

Bills to curb the monopolizing power of patentees over unpatented articles used in operating patented machines, drawn to conform to the "patent" decision of the supreme court were introduced in congress.

Secretary Stimson urged the house military committee to recommend legislation to increase the efficiency of the national guard.

Representative Francis, of Ohio, will ask an investigation of the American Woolen company.

Temporary authority was granted the L. & N. railroad by the interstate commerce commission to establish rates on coal shipped from Kentucky and Tennessee mines to Georgia.

The report of Director M. A. Seovell, of the agricultural experiment station, shows that in 1910 and 1911 over 11,100 samples of foods and drugs were examined and analyzed.

Oscar Underwood's friends claim that he will have a solid delegation from New York to the national convention.

Senator Works of California, advocated an amendment to secure a single presidential term of six years, in a speech before the senate.

The house adopted the Mann amendment to the agricultural appropriation bill increasing the amount for forest fire protection to \$500,000.

Guy M. Freer, a traffic expert before the Stanley committee investigating the Steel trust, stated that the Duluth, Missaba & Northern, an ore-carrying road, said to be a subsidiary of the United States Steel corporation, in 1910 earned more than 240 per cent.

In a speech asserting that Taft's administration has fulfilled all of the republican platform pledges of 1908, Secretary of Commerce and Labor Nagel at Indianapolis made a vigorous attack upon the initiative, referendum and recall.

The spectacle of a United States senator being cross-examined by a house committee drew a large audience to hear the evidence of Senator Fletcher in the Everglades inquiry.

Governor Albert W. Gilchrist, of Florida, entered a protest to the investigation in the Everglades case, claiming it was limited in such way as to injure his state.

As the result of a lengthy filibuster on the private pension bill in the house, the sergeant-at-arms and as-

sistants raided hotels and theaters, and haled eighty absentee members before the house, when the bill passed.

President Taft spoke at Toledo, O., against the recall of Judges and judicial decisions. He expressed his disappointment at the senate's amendment to the arbitration treaties.

Favorable action is expected by the house ways and means committee on the bill to provide allowance for loss of distilled spirits in bonded warehouses, where that loss is through no fault of the distiller. Under the bill a maximum loss of fifteen and one-half gallons is allowed for the eight-year bonded period.

The house committee on buildings and public grounds adopted a resolution calling on each member to tell his first choice for a new public building in his district.

After the senate had confirmed the nomination of Mahlon Pitney as associate justice of the supreme court, the action was set aside, opposition developing because of decisions in labor cases made by him.

Representative Ben Johnson will be the umpire in a fight between the forces of Taft and Roosevelt over presidential preference primaries in the District of Columbia.

Manufacturers, disagreeing with the treasury department's interpretation of a tariff act, can import a test shipment and appeal to the customs court to get more protection through higher duties, according to a decision of the United States court of customs appeals.

Dr. Harvey W. Wiley has resigned as chief chemist. He will become manager of a pure food magazine.

Referring to the fight on M. W. Pitney's nomination to the supreme bench, the Associated Press reports said: Senator Culberson, of Texas, led in the attack, and in his speech and those of other senators the New Jersey judge was assailed in bitter language which extended even to an attack upon his general fitness for the bench. The fight was based mainly on Chancellor Pitney's decision in the glass blowers' case. That decision restrained journeymen green bottle blowers, their officers and the members who struck against a glass works in New Jersey some years ago from using coercion or persuasion to make local employes leave their work in breach of contract of the master and servant doctrine. The decision prohibited the strikers from personally molesting the strike breakers in any way, and interdicted picketing and boycotting.

Senator Cummins, of Iowa, pictured the decision as oppressive to American labor.

Senator O'Gorman and Senator Reed characterized it as showing a dangerous trend of thought. Senators Williams and Shively joined the attack, but Senators Bailey, Clarke, of Arkansas; Root, and William Alden Smith, of Michigan, spoke in his favor.

Much stress was laid by the opposition to the dissenting opinion in the glass workers' case, which held the lower courts in error because they enjoined strikers from the peaceable persuasion of employes who were not under any contract to serve the company. All the senators had copies of the decision and

quoted freely from it. Senator Reed sent out of the senate chamber for legal volumes to fortify his arguments.

An Associated Press dispatch, under date of March 15th, follows: The democratic free sugar bill passed the house today, 198 to 103. Its passage was helped by twenty-four republican votes, although this was offset by the defection of seven democratic votes against the bill by members from Louisiana and Colorado. At the last moment representative Martin, one of the Colorado members, blocked an attempt to fix plans for a consideration of the excise tax bill, which, through taxation of incomes, is expected to make up the revenue lost by the free sugar measure.

Representative Mondell of Wyoming, republican, sought to amend the measure by making it become effective only after receipt by the tariff board. Representative Broussard of Louisiana submitted an amendment leaving the duty as it is fixed at present, but abrogating the Cuban preferentials. Representative Good and Prouty of Iowa, Lenroot of Wisconsin and Norris of Nebraska strove to have incorporated a clause providing for a bounty on sugar, especially that produced from beets. All amendments failed.

Republicans who supported the bill were: Representatives Anderson, Davis, Lindberg, Miller, Nye, Steenerson and Volstead of Minnesota; Good, Kendell and Woods of Iowa; Murdock and Young of Kansas; Hanna and Helgeson of North Dakota; LaFollette and Warburton of Washington; McKenzie and Prince of Illinois; Cary of Wisconsin; Dyer of Missouri; Holland of Ohio; Kent of California; Lafferty of Oregon; Norris of Nebraska and Sells of Tennessee.

THE CHASER

The Inquisitive Old Woman—"Guard, why did the train stop before we came to the station?"
The Guard—"Ran over a pig, mum."
The Inquisitive Old Woman—"What, was it on the line?"
The Guard—"No—oh, no; we chased it up the embankment!"
London Sketch.

A HINT

Lady—"I guess you're gettin' a good thing out o' tending the rich Smith boy, ain't ye, doctor?"
Doctor—"Well, yes; I got a pretty good fee. Why?"
Lady—"Well, I hope you won't forget that my Willie threw the brick that hit 'im!"—Scribner's.

MANY LIKE HIM.

"A man has to be up-to-date to do anything nowadays."
"Yes," replied Mr. Dustin Stax. "When I talk to an investigating committee, I find it desirable not to dwell needlessly on the past."
Washington Star.

ON THE Q. T.

"See here, you old rascal, why didn't you tell me this horse was lame before I bought him?"
"Wal, the feller that sold him to me didn't say nothin' about it, so I thought it was a secret."—Life.

FORTUNATE

"Tommy," said his brother, "you're a regular little glutton. How can you eat so much?"
"Don't know; it's just good luck," replied the youngster.—Christian Intelligencer.

ALAS

Wigg—"Young Sillicus says his heart is lacerated."
Wagg—"Who's the lass?"—Philadelphia Record.

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