

the vote was taken Senator Fall suggested that an investigation be made of relations borne by any senator to any business of any sort in the United States.

"Or abroad," said Senator Thomas, and the whole senate joined in the laugh.

Another bill, proposing the registration of all persons engaged in attempting to influence or promote legislation was introduced today by Senator Weeks. It would establish dockets in the house and senate in which all persons or firms who hire legislative agents or attorneys would be required to enter the names of the agents, together with the subjects of legislation upon which they were authorized to appear. Lobbyists would be required to specify all of the legislative subjects in which they were interested.

At the end of each session employers of legislative agents would be required to file a statement of the sums they had spent and the purpose of the expenditure.

Austria is preparing entertainment for American members of the agricultural commission now touring Europe.

A press dispatch, dated May 27, says: Washington slums will be cleaned out if the influence and active work of the white house family count for anything. Mrs. Wilson has made several quiet trips of inspection through the capital's unsightly alleys, and joined today other prominent women, including the wives of several senators and representatives in attending a meeting of the women's department of the national civic federation. There a letter was read from the president, approving the movement for wiping out disreputable alleys and providing sanitary homes at low rental for the poor. Later Mrs. Wilson went to the capitol to hear Representative Boreland of Missouri speak in the house in favor of the movement.

A press dispatch says: Superintendent Sylvester and the Washington police are absolved from blame for the disorders which attended the big woman suffragist parade here on March 3 by the report the senate committee which investigated the affair presented to the senate. The immense crowd that flocked to Washington for the inauguration and the fact that street cars were permitted to operate along the line of march up to the last moment were charged with being principally responsible. The police were generally praised for their efforts to give the marchers a clear path. The marchers were virtually swamped by the crowd.

A number who swore they were eye-witnesses of the procession testified they saw no disorder.

The committee held while some of the uniformed and some special policemen acted "with apparent indifference and made little attempt to check the crowds, the whole force should not be discredited," and added "that there was no sufficient proof upon which to single out any particular individual for reproof or condemnation." Chief Sylvester was exonerated of "hostility" to the suffragists and their parade.

An Associated Press dispatch, dated June 1, says: Secretary McAdoo announced tonight the distribution by states of the additional \$10,000,000 of federal funds which the treasury department will deposit in the national banks. Of the 559 active depository banks on May 1, when the secretary issued his interest order, Mr. McAdoo said only seven have declined to pay the interest charge and ceased to be governmental depositories, surrendering the federal funds to the treasury.

The \$10,000,000 and this surrendered amount, aggregating \$11,581,000 has been apportioned in various amounts among 607 national banks in 475 cities and towns in the forty-eight states and the District of Columbia.

The seven banks unwilling to pay interest, the secretary said, were: The National City bank, the National Bank of Commerce and the Chemical National bank, of New York city; the National Bank of Commerce of New London, Conn.; the Merchants' National bank, of Savannah, Ga.; the First National bank, of Buffalo, Wyo., and the Seaboard National bank of San Francisco.

The secretary announced he had reduced the government deposits in a number of banks, which, he said, "at the close of the last administration had amounts which seemed to be excessive or unjustified, the reductions in most cases being made against the protests of the bank who desired to retain the funds notwithstanding the interest charge."

Under the distribution of the new deposits the eight middle states will receive \$2,932,000 placed in the 164 banks in 133 cities; the nine western states \$950,000 in seventy-two banks in sixty cities, and the seven Pacific states \$1,054,500 in forty-two banks in thirty cities.

Apportionments were made on the basis of population, capital and surplus, needs of the respective sections of the country and the circulation status of the banks.

A press dispatch, dated May 31, says: Secretary Bryan and Sir Cecil Spring-Rice, the British ambassador, late today signed a renewal for five years of the general arbitration treaty between the United States and Great Britain, which expires by limitation June 4. The treaty provides for the arbitration by The Hague court of any differences of a legal nature not affecting the vital interests, the independence or the honor of the two contracting states, and which do not concern interests of third parties. A form of special agreement, covering the subject to be arbitrated, subject to the senate's approval, is ascribed.

The British treaty is the fourth of the arbitration conventions to be renewed this year, the others being those with France, Italy and Spain.

Other special treaties all of which the president has expressed willingness to renew, expire in the following order: Norway, June 24; Sweden, August 18; Portugal, November 14, and Switzerland, December 23.

Under date of May 31, an Associated Press dispatch says: Postmaster General Bureson today made public the report of a special investigation into fiscal affairs of the postal service, charging that during former Postmaster General Hitchcock's administration the service did not become self supporting, as was often asserted, but that in 1911 there actually was a deficiency of more than \$750,000.

The report charges that "an apparent surplus was attained by unjustifiable methods of bookkeeping," and that the efficiency and morals of the postal service were sacrificed to a "ruthlessly enforced policy of economy," that a showing of self maintenance might be made.

An Associated Press dispatch, dated May 30, says: Secretary Bryan signaled the day commemorative of the country's hero dead by announcing that eight nations have responded favorably to his peace plan, asking that suggestions be submitted in regard to the details. The nations in the order in which they have accepted are: Italy, Great Britain, France, Brazil, Sweden, Norway, Peru and Russia. Sec-

retary Bryan said that no nation to whom his peace plan was submitted had replied adversely, although some had asked more time for consideration. To each of the governments expressing a willingness to enter into the peace agreement a tentative statement has been submitted embodying details suggested by the president. The secretary, pointing out that this statement was submitted for consideration with no intention of insisting upon any particular detail, declined to make public its contents.

Japan has since announced the acceptance of the principle of the proposed peace plan.

Speaking of the reception his plan has received, Mr. Bryan observed that within the past two months four arbitration treaties have been renewed for a period of five years. The treaties renewed are with France, Italy, Great Britain and Spain, and President Wilson has expressed his willingness to renew similar conventions with Norway, Sweden and Portugal.

Thad A. Thompson, a wealthy business man of Austin, Tex., has been selected for United States minister to Colombia to succeed James M. Dubois. Mr. Thompson was a delegate to the Baltimore convention and has been an active worker in the democratic ranks.

The senate committee appointed to investigate the lobby, which President Wilson declared is operating to modify the tariff bill, began its sessions Monday, June 2.

BOOKS RECEIVED

Words With Wings. By Charles G. Fall, London. Elliot Stock, 7, Paternoster Row, E. C.

Man a Machine. By Julien Offray De La Mettrie, including Frederick the Great's "eulogy" on La Mettrie and Extracts from La Mettrie's "The Natural History of the Soul." The Open Court Publishing Co., Chicago, Ill.

The Irish Contribution to America's Independence. By Thomas Hobbs Maginnis, jr. The Doire Publishing Co., Philadelphia, Pa.

William Bright, Captain of Commerce. A story of commercial progress. By Max Stein. United States Publishing House, Chicago, Ill.

"The Pearl of Psalms." A sermon by Rev. E. A. Wright, Birmingham, Ala., 1218 No. 32nd St., Price, 15 cents.

Correct Pronunciation. A manual containing two thousand common words that are frequently mispronounced, and eight hundred proper names with practical exercises. By Julian W. Abernethy, Ph. D. Charles E. Merrill Co., Publishers, New York.

The Prodigal Judge. By Vaughan Kester. Grosset & Dunlap, Publishers, New York. Price, 50 cents.

The Story of Polar Conquest. The complete history of Arctic and Antarctic exploration, including the discovery of the South Pole by Amundsen and Scott, the tragic fate of the Scott expedition and the discovery of the North Pole by Admiral Peary. Edited by Logan Marshall.

Natural Money. The Peaceful Solution. By John Raymond Cummings. The Bankers Publishing Co., New York. Price, \$1.50, postpaid.

NATIONAL CONVENTIONS

Speaking recently to the Pennsylvania legislature, Secretary of State Bryan made the prediction that the presidential primary will come into such general use, that there will be no need for national conventions by the time when the next nominations for the presidency are made.

Secretary Bryan is unquestionably

right in his opinion that the day of national conventions is nearly over. It is a belief confirmed by the extensive use of the presidential primary last year, by the growing disposition to adopt the preferential presidential primary in states which do not now have it, and by the advisability as well as feasibility of placing the nomination of presidential candidates in the hands of the people themselves. Secretary Bryan is to be congratulated on the magnificent success he has won by the adoption of the direct election of senators constitutional amendment by the necessary thirty-six states. Popular election of senators is a cause Mr. Bryan has fought for all his life.—Buffalo (New York) Times.

NO ANSWER

Chicago Inter-Ocean: Asks Mr. Bryan in his Commoner, discussing the "get together" movement of the republicans and progressives: "Is Mr. Roosevelt to step aside now and let the party get together on any old platform, simply for the sake of winning?" And Mr. Bryan doesn't even take the trouble to answer the question.

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