

WASHINGTON NOTES

Vest's Free Coal Resolution—Cattle Baron's Land Leasing Bill—Anti-Trust Measures

Washington, D. C., Jan. 12, 1903.—(Special Correspondence.)—The tariff question was this week brought prominently to the forefront of public discussion by the introduction by Senator Vest of a resolution to remove the duty on anthracite coal. Speaking to the question, the Missouri statesman delivered a remarkable philippic against the high tariff policy of the republican party and was accorded unusual attention by a large audience.

For a year or more the large cattle barons of the northwest have periodically sent delegations to this city to petition the government for favors in the way of leasing the public domain. For years they have enjoyed the use of this domain entirely free and unmolested, but with the gradual encroach of the settler they see this bonanza slipping away from them and now ask that the lands be leased to them at a ridiculously low figure.

One of the fusion congressmen from Nebraska has not been content with an indifferent attitude, but proposes to fight the bill. This congressman is Mr. Shallenberger, and in an address to the public lands committee of the house he voiced his opposition. He said he did not believe that a land-leasing bill such as is desired by cattle syndicates could be or ought to be passed.

In the first place, the time for legislation is very short and the bill would not be able to get through in the general press of public business. Furthermore, he says that the general feeling among western congressmen is not in favor of a land-leasing bill at the present time.

He says that a conference with members of other states has satisfied him that they are in favor of waiting until the irrigation bill has had a chance to work out its needs, requirements and possibilities before proceeding along any lines of land-leasing which might have a tendency to conflict in any way with the development of the western country as a home and an asylum for the rapidly-congesting population of the east. He

says that inquiry at the general land office shows that more land is being taken for homestead in the last two years than at any time in a number of years prior thereto.

While some of these entries may be fraudulent in intent and for the purpose of acquiring a better hold upon the cattle ranges still the possibilities of western development in the way of new enterprises and the discovery of new plants and grains adapted to that country are so varied that no one can say that agricultural home-building has reached its limit in Nebraska.

The growth of the dairy interests in western Nebraska, Mr. Shallenberger states, is so great as to surprise those who are not informed upon the subject. This business does not require a large herd of cattle, nor a large range to support a man and his family, but on the contrary, its development means a system of land-leasing such as is contemplated in the so-called Nebraska measure one monopolistic grower of beef cattle or a syndicate of non-resident lease-holders would monopolize an entire township. A bill which would permit the leasing of sufficient government land or the homesteading of the same in sufficient tracts to suitably maintain an American farmer and his family which should be the purpose and unquestionably is the desire of the great majority of the American people, in the disposition of our government lands, will not satisfy the holders of large herds who have grown rich by the free use of the unoccupied government lands, but who are now being pressed for division of their free privileges by the irresistible demand of citizens seeking for homes.

The latest news of interest is that Henry T. Oxnard and the balance of the independent sugar factory men have withdrawn their opposition to the Cuban reciprocity treaty, and as this power alone stood in the way, it will likely be ratified by the senate. This might have been done at the last session, but Oxnard's contributions to campaign funds are not to be dispensed by the administration.

The war department has made public the report of the uniform board, headed by General Young, of which Colonel Patten is the recorder, setting out in detail the changes made in the army uniform, some of which were seen for the first time at the White House reception on Thursday. The first recommendation was that officers on duty in Washington should be required to wear their uniforms during office hours. Other recommendations, all of which have been approved and are consequently now army regulations, provide for the substitution of bronze sleeve ornaments of embroidery for full dress. Chaplains are to wear black overcoats. The embroidered gold oak leaves on officers' visors must come off, except in ranks above that of major. The United States coat of arms in gold is to be added to all shoulder knots of officers above captains.

An important change in the abolition of the chapeau, the service helmet, and service cap for officers, and the service trousers for enlisted men. Provision is made for a combination sash and belt for brigadier generals.

A significant recommendation calls for a more detailed description of the shoes to be worn by officers, for it is rumored that the board's labors were begun as a result of the detection of an officer, otherwise properly uniformed in full dress, wearing a pair of russet shoes. Hereafter chevrons are to be worn midway on the sleeve between the elbow and the shoulder. Other recommendations are that belts and cartridge cases be worn outside the overcoat; that a marching shoe shall be provided for the men, and that the bureau of insular affairs shall have a device.

On Tuesday the house passed the bill for the creation of a general staff for the army, by a vote of about 3 to 1 after the bill had gone over one day for lack of a quorum. By the terms of the bill it becomes the duty of the general staff to prepare

plans for the national defense and for the mobilization of the army in time of war, to investigate the report on all questions affecting the efficiency of the service and to render professional aid to the secretary of war and to general officers and other superior commanders. The general staff corps is to consist of one chief of staff and two general officers, all to be detailed by the president from officers of the army at large not below the grade of brigadier general; four colonels, six lieutenant colonels, twelve majors and twenty captains, to be detailed from officers of the grade of captain or first lieutenant. All officers in the general staff shall be detailed therein for periods of four years. Upon being relieved officers shall return to the branch of the army in which they hold permanent commissions, and no officer except a general officer shall be eligible to a further detail in the general staff corps until he shall have served two years with the branch of the army in which commissioned, except in case of emergency in time of war.


The bill also provides that the chief of staff, under the direction of the president, shall have supervision of all troops of the line and of the adjutant generals, inspector generals, judge advocates, quartermaster, subsistence, medical, pay and ordnance departments, the corps of engineers and the signal corps, and shall perform such other duties as may be assigned to him by the president. Duties now prescribed by statute for the commanding general of the army as a member of the board of ordnance and fortification and of the board of commissioners of the soldiers' home shall be performed by the chief of staff or other officer designated by the president.

The president this week sent to congress a special message embodying the report of the secretary of war and recommending an appropriation of \$3,000,000 to relieve the suffering of the people of the Philippine islands. This will appear passing strange to those who have had it dinned into their ears for five years that, since American occupation, those islands made up a land "flowing with milk and honey." A little more than one year of "benevolent assimilation" and "Christian rule" and the people there are all subjects for the alms-house. No wonder our presence in the field of world powers has prompted many nations to long to come under our standard!

Senator Hoar delivered his long-heralded speech on the trust question Tuesday, in explanation of his anti-trust bill introduced the day before, the main features of which are:

- Corporations must file sworn statements annually, beginning September 15, 1904, showing, among other things:
  - Amount of capital stock.
  - How much of same has been paid in full.
  - Amount paid in dividends.
  - Statement of all stock owned by it of any other corporation, and amount of its stock held by other companies.
  - Officers must pledge themselves to obey laws.
  - Trusts must give to the attorney general at any time any statement he may think fit in regard to the conduct of its business.
  - Penalties of \$5,000 and imprisonment of one year provided for persons guilty of conspiracy to drive competitors out of trade. This includes selling product at less than fair market value.
  - All books of record must be open at all times to federal government.
  - For second violation of act corporation shall forfeit right to engage in commerce with foreign nations or among states.
  - The trust agitation has reached an

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**Fred'k Shepherd—Attorney**

NOTICE OF SALE.

Notice is hereby given that by virtue of an action in partition and by virtue of an order of sale therein made by Lincoln Frost, one of the judges of the District court of Lancaster county, Nebraska, on the 27th day of December, 1902, in an action pending in said court wherein Nora Clark is plaintiff and John W. Hiff et al., are defendants, the undersigned referees will at 2 o'clock on Saturday the 31st day of January, 1903, at the east door of the court house in Lancaster county, Nebraska, offer for sale at public auction to the highest bidder for cash, lot four of block sixty-three of Havelock, Lancaster county, Nebraska, including the buildings thereon, to be sold as one parcel.

**F. I. SUMPTER, G. L. LAWS, NIELS JOHNSON.**

interesting stage, and this prompts Attorney General Knox, surnamed the "Do-Nothing," to prepare a special bill that has been introduced in the house by Mr. Littlefield. Its provisions are:

Injunction and punishment for discriminating practices affecting interstate trade; directed alike against those who gave and received advances therefor; to recover discrimination in prices as against competitors. Punishment for transporting traffic at any rate less than that published; to include all who participate in violation of such law. An additional provision to reach

State of Ohio, City of Toledo, Lucas County.—ss.

Frank J. Cheney makes oath that he is the senior partner of the firm of F. J. Cheney & Co., doing business in the city of Toledo, county and state aforesaid, and that said firm will pay the sum of ONE HUNDRED DOLLARS for each and every case of Catarrh that cannot be cured by the use of Hall's Catarrh Cure.

FRANK J. CHENEY.

Sworn to before me and subscribed in my presence, this 6th day of December, A. D., 1886.

(Seal) A. W. GLEASON, Notary Public.

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