

WASHINGTON NOTES

Bryan's Visit—Elkins Bill Signed—Threat of Extra Session—"Ironquill" a Failure

Washington, D. C., Feb. 23, 1903.—Special Correspondence.)—Hon. W. J. Bryan has been the guest of the Metropolitan hotel and of friends in this city since Friday and yesterday left for the west to meet lecture engagements. While here he was a visitor at the capitol and received warm greetings from party friends and old congressional associates. The warmth of his reception among men in official life is one of the best evidences of his continued hold upon the people. The colonel looks hale and hearty and in condition to create due consternation among republicans and reorganizers.

The protocol providing for the adjudication of United States claims against Venezuela has been signed by Secretary Hay for this country and by H. W. Bowen, Venezuela's plenipotentiary, for that country.

The protocol provides for the appointment of a mixed commission to fix the amount to be paid by Venezuela to American claimants. If the commission is unable to agree Queen Wilhelmina of Holland is to name the umpire. A provision for a reference of the question of preferential treatment raised by England, Germany and Italy to The Hague tribunal is contained in the protocol.

Practically similar ones have been signed on behalf of other creditor nations, and thus the whole matter goes into the hands of The Hague tribunal for settlement. Bowen has acquitted himself creditably.

The belief is prevalent that Secretary of War Root and Senators Lodge and Turner of Washington will be named as the American members of the joint high commission to be chosen to arbitrate the Alaskan boundary question. Ambassador Choate is to be chief counsel for this country in the contentions.

The Standard Oil monopoly's reputed interference in legislation is still a fruitful topic of discussion in capital circles. Whether it was a hoax gotten upon by republican leaders to force the country to believe the trusts were really frightened that some effective legislation would be enacted is not positively known outside of those particularly interested, but this is believed to be true. The best confirmation of this view may be gained by a closer study of the Elkins rebate bill just passed. Its salient provisions are all in the interstate commerce act, which, for the practical purpose of preventing rebates in railroad rates to the great trusts, is a dead letter. The only change the Elkins bill makes

KNOWS NO DISTINCTION.

Rich and Poor Alike Suffer from Catarrh in This Climate.

All observant physicians have noticed the enormous increase in catarrhal diseases in recent years, and the most liberal and enlightened have cheerfully given their approval to the new internal remedy, Stuart's Catarrh Tablets, as the most successful and by far the safest remedy for catarrh yet produced.

One well-known catarrh specialist, as soon as he had made a thorough test of this preparation, discarded inhalers, washes and sprays and now depends entirely upon Stuart's Catarrh Tablets in treating catarrh, whether in the head, throat or stomach.

Dr. Risdell says, "In patients who had lost the sense of smell entirely and even where the hearing has begun to be affected from catarrh, I have had fine results after only a few weeks' use of Stuart's Catarrh Tablets. I can only explain their action on the theory that the cleansing and antiseptic properties of the tablets destroy the catarrhal germs wherever found because I have found the tablets equally valuable in catarrh of the throat and stomach as in nasal catarrh."

Dr. Estabrook says, "Stuart's Catarrh Tablets are especially useful in nasal catarrh and catarrh of the throat, clearing the membranes of mucus and speedily overcoming the hawking, coughing and expectorating."

Any sufferer from catarrh will find Stuart's Catarrh Tablets will give immediate relief and being in tablet form and pleasant to the taste, are convenient and always ready for use as they can be carried in the pocket and used at any time as they contain no poisonous drugs, but only the cleansing, antiseptic properties of Eucalyptus bark, blood root and Hydrastin.

All druggists sell the tablets at 50 cents for complete treatment.

in the present law against rebates is that it abolishes the penalty of imprisonment and makes a \$1,000 fine the only possible punishment for violating it. Considering the magnitude of the transactions, this fine is so insignificant as to be wholly ineffective. Under the pretense of legislating against trusts, the Elkins bill really makes things easier for them now than it ever was before. The president has signed this bill.

This government has formally accepted the offer of the Panama Canal company to sell to the United States the canal property and all the company's rights therein for \$40,000,000, subject only to the ratification of the pending treaty with the republic of Colombia. The effect of this acceptance will be to extend the life of the option held by the government beyond March 4 next and until the treaty now before the senate has been ratified by both countries in interest.

The treaty has been discussed for several days in executive session in the senate. Senator Morgan is opposing the treaty, and with him Senator Quay has joined forces in the attempt to hasten a vote on the statehood bill. The treaty will be adopted, but the fate of the statehood measure is in doubt. The president is still holding over the senate the threat of an extra session unless the Cuban treaty is ratified.

The president has appointed Judge Day of Ohio to the supreme bench, Judge Shiras having resigned, to take effect tomorrow.

George B. Cortelyou, secretary to the president for some years, has been appointed as the first secretary of the department of commerce and sworn in to take up the duties of the place. New offices will be provided for this department.

The understanding now is that Commissioner of Pensions Ware is to be removed to some other place, friction between him and Secretary of the Interior Hitchcock having made this imperative. Ware is understood not to have proven a shining success in his present place. General Powell Clayton, present ambassador to Mexico, will succeed Ware it is said.

The house this week passed the naval appropriation bill with several amendments, the most important of which was one authorizing the secretary of the navy, in his discretion, to expend not more than \$500,000 for the purchase of five submarine torpedo boats. Another amendment provides for the expulsion from the naval academy of any cadet convicted of hazing.

The senate in executive session Monday ratified the treaty of friendship recently negotiated with Greece.

The Littlefield bill is past all recognition, having been amended by the senate judiciary committee until its author would not know it. Not a single section has been left untouched. After amending and eliminating and pruning the bill, three republicans voted with the democrats to report the bill favorably for passage, which was done. It has been placed at the foot of the senate calendar and there is absolutely no prospect that the same will pass. The president has indicated his satisfaction with the ineffective measures already adopted, and no attempt will be made to pass stringent regulations, such as the Littlefield bill contained on the subject of discrimination in railroad freight rates.

The ineffectiveness of the Elkins bill just passed is illustrated just now by the recent action of the executive officers of western railroads, attention to which is likely to be called in congress. Two months ago general freight agents were instructed to revise their tariffs and advance all rates to the highest point the traffic will bear. Reports were called for and these reports will show that "commodity rates," covering the most common articles of freight, have been advanced about 30 per cent on an average, although in some cases an advance of 100 per cent was made. On other kinds of freight the rate was advanced from 10 to 50 per cent, by changing from a low to a higher classification.

Remaining freight was "restored" to the normal basis, fixed in the days when the published tariff was only a basis for the secret cutting of rates by the payment of rebates and otherwise. As a rule the rates actually made by all the railroads were about two-thirds of the published rates.

To simply make those nominal rates of former days the actual rates which shippers must pay will increase the freight earnings of all western lines 33 per cent on an average.

The Indian appropriation and the Philippine currency bills were both passed by the senate early in the week. Last Saturday the house broke all records of the past and passed 325 private pension bills in one day.

Senator Dietrich has taken advantage

of a "leave to print" and "butted into" the Congressional Record with his maiden speech. To describe this adequately would impoverish imagination and exhaust the language. It is made up of reports and is intended doubtless as an exposition of the resources of the Philippines and the splendid opportunities there for exploitation and carpet-bagging. But as an exhibition of statesmanship, it is a sad commentary on the wisdom of the Nebraska legislature of 1901.

An attempt is being made to revive the ship subsidy bill, which passed the senate in the first session of this congress under Senator Hanna's tutelage. Hanna is urging the house to pass it and has secured a meeting of the committee on merchant marine to consider it. It would be in keeping with the general plan of legislation in this congress if this monstrous steal goes through.

Last session the senate passed a resolution providing that Rear Admiral Schley should be given the pay and allowances of an admiral on the active list. The resolution was considered in the house committee on naval affairs Friday and defeated by the republicans on the committee. The democrats were favorable to the resolution. And thus the persecution of Schley by republican leaders continues.

Debate in the senate Wednesday developed the fact that that body is opposed to cloture of debate in any form. While the matter was not brought to a direct vote enough is known that an attempt to adopt such a rule, as contemplated by some members, would meet with defeat. The senate is the only parliamentary body on earth reserving for itself the right of unlimited free speech, and while it reserves this right is in possession of one of the greatest bulwarks of liberty and one of the most effective weapons against tyranny in any form.

Every congressman-elect from Nebraska, with one exception, has been in Washington during the winter "getting onto the ropes" and preparing to try and make himself useful. This includes Hitchcock, Hinshaw, Kinkaid and McCarthy. Judge Norris, of the Fifth district, has not been here. He has not resigned from his judgeship in the fourteenth judicial district, but will continue to hold it until March 1, or until within four days of the time his salary commences as a member of congress. Four days without a salary is no doubt a harrowing prospect, but I cannot see how it can be helped unless suitable legislative relief is made, either state or national.

Unofficial reports from the interior department give the information that the fences in western Nebraska and Colorado and Wyoming must positively be taken down and removed March 15th.

The house has rejected the conference report on the army bill, objection being made to two provisions, one retiring officers at a higher grade than that in which they served, and the other providing that the government shall pay an interest of 3 per cent on money deposited by them.

Representative Mercer has reported favorably to the house the omnibus public building bill, carrying about \$6,000,000 in the aggregate. Nebraska fares well. She gets \$350,000 for a new building at Lincoln, \$10,000 for a public building site in Grand Island and \$10,000 for the same purpose at York. These appropriations could not have been secured without the active aid of Mercer. The appropriations are due to the support given Representative Burkett for the Lincoln appropriation, Shallenberger for Grand Island and Stark for York, by Mercer as head of this committee. While Mercer has headed this committee, Nebraska has received three times as much in public funds as any other state in comparison with wealth and population. And he is entitled to much credit for his aiding the first district congressman to get money for Lincoln, the fifth district congressman for Grand Island and the fourth district congressman for York. Neither Dietrich nor Millard had ought to do in the case, nor did Burkett have any influence except for his own town of Lincoln.

Messrs. Shallenberger, Neville and Stark breakfasted Saturday morning with Mr. Bryan at the Metropolitan hotel, and informally discussed political affairs.

Saturday the house devoted the day to consideration of the famed Fowler bill, discussion of which I shall reserve for next week.

H. W. RISLEY.



HALE AND HEARTY

A VERMONT FARMER WHO FEELS YOUNG AT EIGHTY.

Rheumatism Once Troubled Him But Dr. Williams' Pink Pills for Pale People Permanently Cured It

A fine specimen of the hardy Vermont farmer is Joseph Chase, of Readsboro, active and strong in body, and mind at the beginning of his eightieth year. A few years ago an attack of rheumatism caused the old gentleman much suffering, but Dr. Williams' Pink Pills cured that and he is now enjoying unusual health for one of four-score years. When recently interviewed, he said:

"I was not confined to my bed, but I suffered a great deal of pain. My back and shoulders were lame and my arms were so sore that I could not get my coat on without assistance. When I sat down it was hard to get on my feet again, and every time I raised my arm sharp pains shot through my shoulders. Heavy farm work and exposure in all kinds of weather probably brought on the rheumatism and it was so stubborn that I couldn't seem to get rid of it.

"One day I saw Dr. Williams' Pink Pills for Pale People mentioned in a newspaper and I got some. I felt better after taking one box and took four or five boxes altogether. They cured me and the cure was permanent. I recommend Dr. Williams' Pink Pills to everyone who is not well, and I know of other cases where they have given good results."

Rheumatism is a disease of the blood and it must be treated through the blood. External applications can give no benefit that will last. Dr. Williams' Pink Pills for Pale People are unlike other medicines because they act directly on the blood and nerves. This makes them invaluable in such diseases as locomotor ataxia, partial paralysis, St. Vitus' dance, sciatica, neuralgia, nervous headache, the after-effects of the grip, palpitation of the heart, pale and sallow complexions and all forms of weakness either in male or female. Dr. Williams' Pink Pills for Pale People are sold by all dealers, or will be sent on receipts of price, fifty cents a box or six boxes for two dollars and fifty cents, by addressing Dr. Williams Medicine Company, Schenectady, N. Y. Be sure you get the genuine; substitutes never cured anybody.

Senator Smoot.

Editor Independent: (The sultan of the Sulus has a salary from the United States to support his large number of wives, as he did have, when McKinley was flourishing as the president of the United States.)

It appears that the W. C. T. U. women who are engaged in a crusade against Mr. Smoot, have never read the constitution of the United States or they would know that a Mormon who is not a polygamist cannot be barred from his senatorial seat.

Religious rights are guaranteed by that grand old document, and those women are committing "treason" by their attempt to bar Mr. Smoot, as effectively as though they made an effort to deprive a Methodist or a Baptist from taking his seat, because some of their church members were immoral. In article VI, it reads, "No religious test shall ever be required as a qualification to any office or public trust under the United States." And to make the matter clear, article I of an amendment to said United States constitution in 1846 reads, "Congress shall make no laws respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof."

It is to be deplored that "blind leaders of the blind" should make an attempt to trample on the constitution of the United States, instead of working in legitimate fields of usefulness. The work commenced by myself in New Hampshire to stop judicial murder for crime is an important field, and must eventually succeed in these named states and in all others not now converted from barbarous methods. MARY E. WALKER, M. D. Oswego, N. Y.

R. P. Luchan, Rindal, Minn.: Of the seven papers I keep I like The Independent best, and I believe you are fighting for right principles. This (Norman) county was formerly a populist stronghold, but we have now only one populist paper against five republicans—so that the people get plenty of republican reading and seem to be led to think that they are voting for their interests when they vote the g. o. p. ticket. I have had information from The Independent worth several times its cost, and will do all I can to extend its circulation.