

# WEEK IN CONGRESS

## HOUSE CUTS DOWN THE CANAL APPROPRIATION

Railway Regulation Bills Are Introduced in Both Branches—Democratic Leader in Trouble—Speaker Cannon Names Committees

The government's estimate of \$16,000,000 as the amount necessary to carry on the Panama canal work for a year was debated at length in the house and was cut down to \$11,000,000.

### Rate Legislation

The Esch-Townsend railroad bill which passed the house at its last session has been redrawn and was re-introduced in the house by Mr. Townsend. The bill embraces all of the features of the former measure, but is drawn so as to specify the things which may be done by the interstate commerce commission.

In addition, it has a publicity feature and gives the commission jurisdiction over refrigeration and terminal charges.

It also directly prohibits the carrier from granting any shipper the privilege of collecting his product and then getting a special rate under the short term provision for changing rates.

As explained by Mr. Townsend the bill "expresses the ideas of the president in his message and will, if enacted, into law, amend the interstate commerce law so as to make it more effectual in securing exact justice among the carriers, shippers, producers and consumers. It amends the law so as to embrace within the powers of the commission all interstate and foreign commerce whether by railroads or partly by railroads and partly by water, and includes specifically in the term transportation all cars, vehicles, ventilation, refrigeration, elevation, transfer, storage and all other facilities and instrumentalities of shipment, siding and industrial tracks, thus giving the commission authority over the so-called private car and other agencies.

It enlarges the interstate commerce commission to seven members, increases the length of their term of office to seven years and their salaries to \$10,000.

### Tillman's Bill

In the senate Mr. Tillman introduced a bill which would give the interstate commerce commission power to fix "a maximum reasonable rate" when it determines that the existing rate is unjust or unreasonable and the rate so fixed shall be the only legal rate charged.

Mr. Tillman created something of

# Dyspepsia

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a sensation by declaring that the salaries paid to canal officials were too high.

"It is good old Anglo-Saxon stealing and not graft," asserted Mr. Tillman, "to pay such high salaries as are paid to canal officials."

He mentioned particularly the salary of \$100,000 to the auditor.

### Committees Named

Speaker Cannon announced the committees of the fifty-ninth congress. The following are the chairmen of the important committees:

Ways and means, Payne, (N. Y.); appropriations, Tawney, (Minn.); judiciary, Jenkins, (Wis.); interstate and foreign commerce, Espurn, (Ia.); foreign affairs, Hitt, (Ill.); military affairs, Hull, (Ia.); naval affairs, Foss, (Ill.); postoffice and post roads, Overstreet, (Ind.); insular affairs, Cooper, (Wis.); banking and currency, Fowler, (N. J.); coinage, weights and measures, Southard, (O.); rivers and harbors, Burton, (O.); merchant marine and fisheries, Grosvenor, (O.); agriculture, Wadsworth, (N. Y.); public lands, Lacey, (Ia.); Indian affairs, Sherman, (N. Y.); territories, Hamilton, (Mich.); manufactures, Sibley, (Pa.); public buildings and grounds, Bartholdt, (Mo.); labor, Gardner, (N. J.); invalid pensions, Sulloway, (N. H.); pensions, Loudenslager, (N. J.); District of Columbia, Babcock, (Wis.); irrigation of arid lands, Mondell, (Wyo.); immigration and naturalization, Howell, (N. J.); census, Crumpacker, (Ind.); library, McCleary, (Minn.); printing, C. B. Landis, (Ind.); industrial arts and expositions, Gardner, (Mass.); elections No. 1, Mann, (Ill.); elections No. 2, Olmstead, (Pa.); elections No. 3, Driscoll, (N. Y.)

### Interstate Commerce

The committee on interstate and foreign commerce is as follows: William P. Hepburn, Iowa; James S. Sherman, New York; Irving P. Wanger, Pennsylvania; James R. Mann, Illinois; William C. Lovering, Massachusetts; Fred C. Stevens, Minnesota; Charles H. Burke, South Dakota; John J. Esch, Wisconsin; Francis W. Cushman, Washington; Charles E. Townsend, Michigan; Joseph H. Gaines, West Virginia; James Kennedy, Ohio; Robert C. Davey, Louisiana; William C. Adamson, Georgia; William H. Ryan, New York; William Richardson, Alabama; Charles L. Bartlett, Georgia; Gordon Russell, Texas.

Mr. Williams, the minority leader of the house, "stepped on the lid" just in time to prevent revelations in the nature of open criticism of the committee assignments of certain of his colleagues for which he is responsible. Mr. Payne, the republican leader, naively suggested a way by which the revelations might be made, but Mr. Williams assumed all responsibility and "declined to allow the washing of democratic linen for the amusement of the republicans.

### Lamar Rebels

The incident followed the announcement of committees. Mr. Lamar of Florida submitted and had read a newspaper clipping purporting to quote Mr. Williams to the effect that Mr. Lamar and Mr. Shackelford (Mo.) had been left off the interstate and foreign commerce committee because they had failed to follow the democratic caucus action of last session on the railroad rate bill. Speaker Cannon suggested that the statement read did not constitute a question of personal privilege which entitled Mr. Lamar to the floor.

"The gentleman might proceed by unanimous consent," suggested Mr. Payne. "How much time does he want—an hour?"

"It was here that Mr. Williams strode forward from his seat in the rear. He hailed the speaker with word and gesture, and when he got his eye he reserved his right to object only long enough to make the statement that in the interest of democratic "harmony, effectiveness and of

general good will, which will not be promoted by washing democratic linen for the amusement of the republicans of the house, I object."

### Washington Notes

The pure food bill was introduced by Senator Heyburn.

Senator Lodge introduced a maximum and minimum tariff bill.

Senator Heyburn introduced a resolution providing for the annexation of Santo Domingo and Hayti to the United States.

The merchant marine commission bill was introduced by Senator Gallinger. He also presented the final report of that commission.

Senator Foraker introduced his railroad rate legislation bill, which he had heretofore presented to the senate committee on interstate commerce.

Senator Scott introduced bills providing for service pensions and for the issuance of bonds for the erection of public buildings in town of 5,000 population or more.

Senator Tillman introduced two resolutions which are intended to bring out the fact as to whether any of the national banks of the country have made campaign contributions in recent years.

A bill prohibiting the use of the money of insurance companies in federal elections was introduced by Senator Culberson. The offense is made a felony, and punishment is fixed at from two to twenty years' imprisonment.

The state department had been advised that Clyde Brown, treasurer of the New York & Bermudez Asphalt company, is now in Caracas, bearing overtures from the company to President Castro, which it was hoped might result in an amicable settlement of the differences between the Venezuelan government and the company, growing out of the seizure of its asphalt mines at La Felicidad.

The annual book of estimates of the appropriations required for the government service of the fiscal year ending June 30, 1907, was transmitted to congress by the secretary of the treasury. The total for all departments, including deficiencies, miscellaneous, permanent and annual appropriations is \$622,723,151. The appropriations for the current fiscal year were \$629,738,097 and the estimates for the current fiscal year were \$619,669,852.

An explanation of estimates of Secretary of State Root for the expenses of foreign intercourse in the fiscal year, ending June 30, 1907, was transmitted to the house by Secretary of the Treasury Shaw. The secretary of state asks for the appropriation of \$17,500 to pay an ambassador at Tokio, stating that the president will name an ambassador to take the place of the American minister. Mr. Root also asks \$10,000 to pay a minister to Norway, this increase being necessary because of the separation of Sweden and Norway.

### Would Do Less Damage

Bobby—Say, Maw, what are you goin' to give dad fur Christmas?

His Mother—Why, my dear, I think I shall give him a new pair of slippers.

Bobby—Aw, can't you make it a pair of moccasins?

# Indigestion

Stomach trouble is not really a sickness, but a symptom. It is a symptom that a certain set of nerves is ailing. Not the voluntary nerves that enable you to walk and talk and act—but the AUTOMATIC STOMACH NERVES over which your mind has no control.

I have not room here to explain how these tender, tiny nerves control and operate the stomach. How worry breaks them down and causes indigestion. How neglect may bring on kidney, heart, and other troubles through sympathy. I have not room to explain how these nerves may be reached and strengthened and vitalized and made stronger by a remedy I spent years in perfecting—now known by physicians and Druggists everywhere as Dr. Shoop's Restorative, (Tablets or Liquid.) I have not room to explain how this remedy, by removing the cause, usually puts a certain end to indigestion, belching, heartburn, insomnia, nervousness, dyspepsia. All of these things are fully explained in the book I will send you free when you write. Do not fail to send for the book. It tells how the solar plexus overacts digestion and a hundred other things everyone ought to know—for all of us, at some time or other have indigestion. With the book I will send free my "Health Token"—an intended passport to good health.

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### Only Two Realities

Billy—So yer didn't get nuthin' but a jackknife and a sled fer Christmas?

Tommy—Yes; dat's all I got worth speakin' of. Dere wuz a suit of clothes, and a overcoat, and a hat or two, and some underclothes, and a book of poems, and some stockin's and gloves, and some collars and cuffs, and a few other things like dat, not worth speakin' of.

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