

ranks. By both Root and Shaw he has been warned that in clinging to drastic rate legislation he is treading on dangerous ground and is apt to do irreparable harm to republica solidarity. Hitherto he is said to have resisted these subtle appeals and to have held out gallantly for his kind of railway legislation. Now, however, the peril of party disruption is presented to his eyes with a convincing vividness that has been lacking up to this time, and he is deeply impressed by the crisis. The railway senators are much more cheerful than at any time since the Hepburn bill passed the house and democratic prophecy has it that the president is wavering and will surrender.

Moody's Provision

The Moody provision for court review is said to be the one which the president and his friends will accept, if any. It reads:

"That any person affected by an order of the commission may apply to the circuit court of the United States in the district where the carrier, a party to the complaint, has its principal operating office by a petition to the court sitting in equity, and the court shall entertain such suit for the purpose of determining whether the commission acted within its authority and whether the order of the commission violates the constitutional rights of the carrier or carriers."

Akk for Coast Defenses

President Roosevelt sent a message to congress accompanying plans for coast defense proposed by a joint board of army and navy officers, in which he emphasized the necessity for further defenses, and reviews the history of the defensive works in this country. The president calls special attention to the recommendation of the board that the entrance to Chesapeake bay be added to the list of places in the United States to be defended. He says the insular possessions cannot be longer neglected if the United States desires to hold them. Defenses are recommended for Manila bay, Pearl harbor, Guantanamo, Guam, San Juan and Honolulu because of their strategic locations. Defenses are recommended for entrances to the Panama canal.

Philippines Bill Dead

Only five votes were cast in the senate Philippines committee in favor of the Philippine tariff bill, four of which were from republican senators, making an even division of the republican membership on an administration measure. The bill will have to remain in committee unless some sort of an agreement can be reached to report it without recommendation or a motion should prevail in the senate to discharge the committee from further consideration of the bill. Opponents of the bill declare its death-knell was sounded in committee.

Statehood Outlook

House and senate leaders conferred with a view of saving Oklahoma and Indian territory from the statehood wreck provided the Foraker referendum proposition is incorporated in the Hamilton bill. It is the almost unanimous opinion that this will be done, and the president was notified. Senator Long, Senator Warren of Wyoming and Senator Burkett of Nebraska were at the White House and Chairman Hamilton of the house committee on Indian territories also held a conference with the president. Three separate propositions have been submitted. They are:

1. That when the Hamilton bill is reported to the house with the senate amendment, Representative Tawney of Minnesota shall move to concur.
2. The house shall divide the bill, concurring in the first eight sections, which admit Oklahoma and Indian territory to statehood, and sending the New Mexico and Arizona sections of the bill to the committee on territories, where they will be smothered.
3. To send the entire bill to the house committee with a view of de-

feating the whole statehood proposition.

Five Civilized Tribes

The senate passed the bill providing for the settlement of the affairs of the five civilized tribes. The subject was raised by Mr. LaFollette's proposed amendment to the Indian bill prohibiting railroad companies and their stockholders from acquiring the coal lands in Indian territory, and when the question was once before the senate it held its place persistently until almost the close of the day's session. Notwithstanding Mr. LaFollette has been in the senate less than three months, he led the debate and occupied more time than any one senator. He contended that the prohibition contained in his amendment is necessary to prevent the railroads from controlling the coal business of Indian Territory. He enlarged his remarks so as to cover other territory and thus gave the debate a somewhat general scope. Several other senators, while expressing themselves in sympathy with the purpose of the amendment, raised constitutional objections to the provisions, and considerable time was spent in discussing that phase of the question. Late in the day the LaFollette amendment, together with all the Indian committee's amendments to the sections, was laid on the table.

Nebraska Land Leasing

The house committee on public lands appointed a sub-committee of five members to consider the various land-grazing bills pending consideration in the house with a view of drafting a measure applicable to the state of Nebraska.

The quartermaster general of the army has made a favorable report to the house on Congressman Kennedy's bill to macadamize the military boulevard from Fort Crook to the southern limits of South Omaha. He regards such improvement as a military necessity.

Congressman Kinkaid received a long petition from citizens of Alliance, Neb., praying for legislation authorizing the treasury department to lend to the reclamation service from time to time such funds as may be necessary to construct all irrigation systems found to be practicable by the reclamation service. The petition was filed with the irrigation committee by Congressman Kennedy, who is a member of that body.

New Irrigation Bill

The house committee on irrigation of arid land decided to make a favorable report on the French bill in an amended form. As agreed upon, the bill provides that the secretary of the interior may establish townsites of 160 acres in connection with irrigation projects and supply water for the sites. It also authorizes the secretary of the interior to deliver water to towns already established which have the same source of water supply that the government irrigation project uses. Where power plants are constructed in connection with the projects the secretary of the interior is empowered to lease a surplus power and to lease the right to develop power for ten years.

It is reported that the president has selected Capt. John J. Pershing of Lincoln, Neb., at present military attache at the United States embassy at Tokio, Japan, for appointment as brigadier general of the line, to fill the vacancy caused by the retirement of Brigadier General Carr.

Congressman McCarthy requested the president to appoint C. A. Sweet for the postmastership at Creighton, Neb.

Buildings for Fort Niobrara

Senator Burkett was called to the White House to confer with the president regarding the situation of the rate bill in the senate. Later he called again and introduced Norris Brown, attorney general for Nebraska, Attorney General Brown and M. F. Stanley of Aurora, Neb., were admitted to practice before the bar of

the United States supreme court on motion of Congressman Hinshaw. The Nebraska attorneys then moved a motion in the court to advance the Burlington railroad tax injunction case. Charles Green of Omaha, Neb., attorney for the Burlington, was present and concurred in the motion.

Senator Burkett introduced in the senate an amendment to the army appropriation bill which has passed the house asking for \$200,000 with which to begin the rebuilding of Fort Niobrara into a regimental post, preferably for field artillery. The buildings are so dilapidated as to be beyond repair, and it is therefore decided by the war department to begin anew. Fort Robinson is already provided for in the bill as it passed the house, the quartermaster general having estimated \$101,500 for new buildings for that post.

Large Reservations Wanted

The war department now has its eyes focussed on reservations having large area, where troops can be given all kinds of exercises that would become imperative in case of war. Fort Niobrara has 60,000 acres, one of the very largest in the country, and Fort Robinson has 23,000 acres, which is large, compared with many others. Further, it is claimed that mounted troops can be maintained at Fort Robinson cheaper than at any other post in the country, with Niobrara a close second.

Congressman Norris introduced a bill in the house granting certain public lands to the state of Nebraska for the support of common schools. The measure is not intended to apply or change existing laws as to forest or other reservations. In case of any relinquishments of land taken under homestead or other laws, or upon the cancellation of any such entry, or entries, the land shall immediately and thereafter be subject to the provisions of this bill.

Northern Securities Case

The adoption of a resolution of inquiry as to whether any criminal prosecutions have been begun against individuals in the Northern Securities company furnished the text for a speech of criticism in the house by Mr. Williams, the democratic leader, directed against the administration. Brief answers were made by Mr. Jenkins (Wis.) and Mr. Grosvenor (O.). Mr. Jenkins said that the statute of limitations had run against any action that might be taken in this case and that any effort at prosecution would be useless.

Bills were passed increasing from \$50,000 to \$200,000 the sum available to supply metal for the coinage of nickels and pennies and providing that these coins may hereafter be made in the mints at Denver, San Francisco and New Orleans, as well as at present in Philadelphia. Also providing for a delegate to congress from Alaska.

White Mice in a Ballroom

Philadelphia—Three hundred white mice were let loose at the Bachelors' ball that exclusive bal masque where a year ago 100 doves were set fluttering among the dancers. The appearance of the scampering mice created a panic among the women. Several fainted and all screamed and all who were near enough jumped upon chairs. It broke up the ball.

Hearst Campaign Begins

Albany, N. Y.—William Randolph Hearst, at a conference with 120 of his followers, most of whom came up from New York, with him, arranged to begin work immediately to perfect county organizations of the Hearst Independence league throughout the state.

Send \$1.00 for a year's subscription to The Independent and receive Mr. Berge's book, "The Free Pass Bribery System," free as a premium. This offer applies to full paid advance subscriptions only.

FINEST NAVAL SCHOOL

GOVERNMENT CONSTRUCTING IT AT LAKE BLUFF.

No Other Nation Will Have Such a Great and Complete Institution of the Kind—Entire Cost Will be \$2,500,000.

A great naval training station is being constructed at Lake Bluff, on the shore of Lake Michigan, a few miles north of Chicago. There will be nothing in all the navies of the world to equal it, and \$2,500,000 will have been spent when it is completed.

Two Thousand Capacity

The school will accommodate 1,000 men, and the finest naval training in the world will be given. Later the plan is to increase the buildings to take care of 2,000 men. Everything that modern science can suggest will be provided to make the place attractive and healthful, and Lake Michigan and the other great lakes will afford all necessary opportunity for cruising. One or more men-of-war will be attached to the station to provide the real thing in learning how to work the guns and sail the ship.

The American navy gives its young men a training in electricity, steam, and navigation which cannot be secured anywhere else and pays them well for their time while learning. When their course is completed in case they decide to return to private life they do so with a prestige, training and experience which no college or school gives, and which enables them to secure the most desirable positions at good salaries.

Uncle Sam as a Recruiter

Many young men seem to think it is necessary to have the assistance of some influential congressman or senator in order to join the navy. Such is not the case at all. Recruiting officers frequently visit all the large cities and will gladly give full information on request.

Growth in Commerce

The bureau of statistics is authority for the statement that the exports of this country for January, 1906, amounted in value to \$170,592,187, which is an increase of \$47,000,000 over the value of exports for January, 1905. An extraordinary number of agricultural implements was included in these exports.

As to imports more than half the total value for January were articles for manufacture, consisting of materials to be used in manufacturing. The imports aggregated in value \$106,521,359, an increase of \$8,000,000 over January, 1905.

For the Two-Cent Fare.

Silver Creek, Neb., March 5.—The Silver Creek Farmers' institute which closed a successful session here today adopted resolutions favoring a two-cent fare for passengers on Nebraska railways and calling for the enactment of a law by congress providing for postal savings banks. The resolutions were introduced by Hon. Charles Wooster, who presided as chairman of the meeting.

Colorado Treasurer Short

Charles H. Brickenstein, who resigned the office of treasurer of Colorado county in the southern part of Colorado, has confessed to a shortage of \$62,000. Of this amount \$10,000 was on deposit in the defunct National bank, but the remainder is unaccounted for. Fred Warshaw, one of the treasurer's bondsmen, has notified the county board that he will pay the shortage in full.