

# A REVIEW OF THE WORK ACCOMPLISHED BY CONGRESS

**Passed the Meat Inspection, Railroad Rate and Pure Food Bills at the Close--Many Important Measures Become Laws--Most Notable Session in Last Quarter of a Century.**

Washington. — Congress completed Friday the execution of its legislative programme and adjourned Saturday. On the eve of adjournment the difference between the house and senate on the important bills pending were adjusted. As a result of the action taken the following measures were laid before the president for his approval: The railroad rate act. The agricultural appropriation bill, including the meat inspection amendment. The pure food act. The president signed the railroad rate bill at 11:45 Friday night. It goes into effect in 60 days.

**New Epoch in Legislation.** Had nothing else been done this congress these measures would stand out as monuments to the present national administration. In emphatic manner they mark the beginning of a new epoch in federal legislation—governmental regulation on corporations and the invocation of the police power, so to speak, to stay the hand of private greed and protect the pocketbook and the health and general welfare of the masses.

In the end the house has had its way mostly regarding the railroad rate bill. Oil pipe lines remain in the measure as common carriers, but the commodity provision of the bill has been fixed so as to make the prohibition of an alliance between transportation and production apply only to "railroad companies." The railroads cannot own coal mines or transport their own products, but Standard Oil and the independent oil companies can pipe their own product. The senate yielded on this point because the house refused to give in by an overwhelming vote, and otherwise the whole bill would have died.

Senator Tillman contented himself with a severe "roast" of the Standard Oil influence, and then as the one in charge of the measure voted to accept the conference report. The senate gained a part of its contention in a readjustment of the anti-pass feature of the bill which prohibits free transportation to every one save certain excepted classes, including railroad employes and their families, and the officials, attorneys, surgeons, etc., of the companies.

**House Victory in Meat Bill.** The meat legislation was a complete victory for the house. The senate agreed to the conference report and the house formally ratified it. There were two points in controversy—the payment for inspection service and the question of putting dates on the labels of cans and packages of meat products. The government will pay the cost of inspection, instead of the packers, and labels will not require the date of inspection or canning of the contents.

In announcing the failure of the senate conferees to win on these disputed points, Senator Proctor said the bill accomplished a great deal, inasmuch as it provides for thorough inspection of all meat products and the sanitary regulation of packing plants, and that the conferees felt they could not lose everything by holding out for distinctive features which the public would not accept. He paid his compliments to the packers in strong terms and charged them with having engineered the scheme that created sentiment in favor of making the government pay the cost of inspection. Other senators entered their protest against the controverted provisions of the measure, but finally the conference report was adopted.

In the house, acceptance of the report was a pure formality. One important new feature of the measure as it passed both houses is an added appropriation of \$900,000 to the \$3,000,000 for inspection provided in the house amendment. This was brought about by combining the amount originally appropriated to the bureau of animal industry for inspection under the old system with the new permanent appropriation.

**Pure Food Bill Criticized.** The conference report on the pure food bill was adopted by both houses without any change. In the opinion of Dr. Wiley and other officials of the agricultural department, it is a good measure as far as it goes, but Mr. Mann, of Chicago, who had charge of the conference report, says that it was not as good as had been hoped for. It is weak in that it does not provide a standard by which drugs, foods and drinks can be measured to determine whether they comply with the law. That important question is referred to the courts, which under the bill as it will become law must add to their already great burden the consideration of cases raising the issue as to whether certain articles of food or drugs contain harmful ingredients, are misbranded or because of their labels violate the pure food law.

**Canal Type Is Fixed.** With the adjournment of congress it is possible to make a survey of the entire field of important legislation enacted during the session. The three most prominent measures already have been referred to, and their general provisions are well known to the country. Next in point of interest perhaps comes the Panama canal act. The house first declared in favor of the lock canal, by providing that no portion of the money appropriated in

the sundry civil bill should be expended on a sea level project. A majority of the senate committee reported in favor of a sea level canal, but after a vigorous debate the president's recommendation in favor of a lock type was approved by a vote of 36 to 31.

A joint resolution was passed by congress requiring the purchase of supplies and materials for the canal in the American market unless the president shall determine that the bids of domestic producers are extortionate or unreasonable.

Congress appropriated \$42,500,000 for continuing work on the canal, \$16,500,000 being deficiency appropriations and \$26,000,000 being for work during the fiscal year 1907. In addition to these appropriations steps are being taken to issue the canal bonds authorized by the Spooner act, which may be issued "from time to time" to the extent of \$130,000,000. During the present session congress provided that these bonds should have the rights and privileges of other two per cent. bonds of the United States and the tax of one-fourth of one per cent. imposed upon bonds deposited to secure national bank circulation was imposed upon the canal bonds when used for such security. It was also provided that the deficiency appropriation should be returned to the treasury from the proceeds of the sale of the canal bonds.

**Statehood Issue Settled.** The admission of Oklahoma and Indian territory as a single state was accomplished by the act approved June 16. The act also admits Arizona and New Mexico into the union as a single state, provided that a majority in each of the territories shall vote for joint statehood, "and not otherwise." This bill was the subject of bitter contention, as it had been in former sessions. It passed the house in the form of a bill admitting the four territories as two states. The senate amended the bill by eliminating all provisions relating to Arizona and New Mexico. In conference the conditional admission of these territories as a state was agreed upon, and after vigorous debate in both houses the conference report was agreed to.

After several years of effort on the part of the state department congress at this session passed an act reorganizing the consular service. The consuls general and consuls are grouped by classes, and provision is made for an inspection service consisting of five consuls general at large, with a salary of \$5,000 each. No officer in the consular service receiving more than \$1,000 is permitted to engage in business or practice law. All fees are to be turned into the treasury. Originally the bill provided that the higher offices should be filled by promotion only, but this provision was eliminated and the promotion system has been established by the state department without further enactment.

**Boon in Alcohol Bill.** A most important piece of legislation is the removal of the tax upon denatured alcohol. It was strongly opposed by manufacturers of kerosene and gasoline. In the debate it was alleged that, with the tax removed, alcohol could be manufactured and sold cheaper than either kerosene or gasoline and that it would enter into universal use for illuminating, motive power and otherwise.

A national quarantine law, providing for uniformity of administration and giving the federal government power to establish quarantines in port cities and supersede the local and state authorities, has been passed.

An employer's liability bill, to meet the demands of the trainmen of the United States, has been placed upon the statute books after years of effort. Congress has had difficulty with the executive departments through the expenditure of money and the incurring of obligations in excess of appropriations for many years. Several amendments to appropriation bills were made during this session designed to correct this abuse. Hereafter the heads of executive departments are required to apportion appropriations made for their departments in order to avoid deficiencies, and deficiency appropriations will be made only to cover unforeseen emergencies. Congress also put its foot down upon the disbursement of money collected by any department and not turned into the treasury.

All money received hereafter must be turned into the treasury, and no disbursements may be made except in accordance with appropriations of congress. Detailed estimates of all appropriations are required from all departments. It also is provided that no clerk shall be transferred to another department at a higher salary until he has performed three years' service in his first position.

**Greater Aid for Militia.** Among the acts affecting the military establishment were those increasing the efficiency of the ordnance department of the army and increasing the appropriation for the militia from \$1,000,000 to \$2,000,000 annually. Congress took a new tack in the naval appropriation bill. Instead of authorizing the construction of the biggest battleship afloat, as first provided by the house the bill as finally passed authorizes the preparation of

plans for such a vessel, to be submitted to congress. The naval act of this year makes small provision otherwise for the increase of the navy.

A bill was passed defining hazing and providing for the punishment of midshipmen guilty of the offense.

No opposition of importance developed when the motion was made to concur in the conference report on the naturalization bill. It provides a board which will have charge of the naturalization of aliens, and makes some changes in the law relating to court proceedings in naturalization cases.

General legislation during this session included an act prohibiting interstate commerce in spurious or falsely stamped articles made of gold or silver alloy, an act providing for the marking of the graves of Confederate soldiers and sailors and an act providing for the disposition of the five civilized tribes of Indians.

The principal legislation affecting the Philippines was an act postponing the operation of the coastwise laws until April 11, 1909; another revising the Philippines tariff, and a third authorizing the purchase of coal claims by the secretary of war.

A bill was passed providing for the election of a delegate in congress from Alaska. Provision was made for the allotment of homesteads to natives of that district. The "Alaska fund" was created, through which receipts from liquor and business licenses will be devoted to the schools and road building. A bill was passed prohibiting aliens from fishing in Alaskan waters.

An important measure to cattle interests is that changing the 28-hour law so that cattle may be kept in cars 36 hours without unloading.

**Immigration Bill Fails.** Among the important measures that have failed the immigration bill demands first consideration. It failed because a conference committee was not appointed to settle the disagreement between the two houses. After a spirited fight in the house, in which Speaker Cannon participated, the immigration bill, originally a senate measure, was passed, with a substitute for the "educational test," which required immigrants to possess the ability to read English or some other language. The house substituted a section providing for a commission to investigate the subject of immigration. The bill will command attention when congress reconvenes in the fall.

The bill to prevent contributions by corporations to campaign funds was started in the house. It was forced through the senate by the indefatigable efforts of Senator Tillman. The house leaders refused to let it come up there, although it is understood action will be permitted at the next session. The Democrats charge that the Republicans want to lay it over until after the congressional elections, in order to get one more chance at the corporation barrel.

The Philippine tariff bill is still another notable failure. It was one of the features of the original administration programme, was whipped through the house after a celebrated fight with the insurgents, and eventually landed in the seclusion of a senate committee-room. It has been allowed to be forgotten for the present.

The immunity bill, designed to prevent the recurrence of fiascos such as attended the prosecution of the Chicago beef cases, passed the house and in amended form was reported favorably from the senate committee on judiciary. Ever since then efforts to get it up have failed owing to the objection of some senator or other.

It has been a hard session for treaties. The Santo Domingo convention, much desired by the administration, has been kept down by the hostile minority in the senate. No action has been taken either on the Isle of Pines or Algieras treaties.

**Fate of Labor Bills.**

Bills, most of which were demanded by the leaders of organized labor, have met their fate as follows:

1. The anti-injunction bill—dead in the judiciary committee.
2. The eight-hour bill, reported from the committee on labor, but not acted upon.
3. The election of senators in congress by direct vote of the people—dead in committee.
4. The publicity of campaign expenses bill, recently reported to the house, but not acted upon.
5. The letter carriers' bill—dead in committee.
6. The bill to regulate the hours of railway trainmen—dead in committee.
7. The bill for the relief of the Sioux survivors—dead in committee.
8. The bill to prevent convict-made goods from competing with the goods manufactured by honest labor—dead in committee.

Outside the line of actual legislation, the present session will be historic through having authorized the investigation that has led to the railroad-coal exposures. Another resolution adopted by the senate will cause an investigation of the alleged grain trust and railroad-elevator combine in the west, that promises to be equally if not more sensational.

**What Congress Has Spent.**

The following is given as practically an accurate statement of the disbursements authorized from the public treasury:

Sundry civil	\$38,000,000
District of Columbia	5,000,000
Army	71,000,000
Navy	102,000,000
Fortifications	5,000,000
Military academy	2,000,000
Pensions	140,000,000
Permanent	140,000,000
Agricultural	7,000,000
Public buildings	25,000,000
Militia	1,000,000
Indian	9,000,000
Statehood	5,000,000
Urgent deficiency	15,000,000
General deficiency	11,000,000
Legislative, executive and judicial	29,000,000
Post office	\$23,000,000
Miscellaneous	10,000,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$1,773,000,000</b>

## IN A MEXICAN GARDEN

By RUTH RAEBURN

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The bright sunshine streaming into her bedroom by the open French window wakened Cecilia, or, as her father loved to call her in the graceful language of his adopted country, "my pretty one."

Evidently her thoughts were pleasant, for she got up with a smile on her lips and stood for a few moments looking out on the view before beginning to dress. It was just six o'clock and the mist still hung in the valley, and already the garden was a blaze of light. The scent of the roses, the orange and lemon blossom, the moist earth and the myriad growing things, filled the air with a delicious fragrance. One breathed life and happiness on such a morning, and love for all that lives in this glorious, beautiful world. Besides, was not her old friend and playfellow, Philip King, coming home after being away for seven years in the States, learning to be a doctor?

Cecilia was an only child. Her mother died when the poor little mite was only three days old, and her father never married again, but gave his small daughter into the keeping of a kind-hearted Mexican woman, who had from that moment spoiled her charge with the utmost fidelity, and now, at the age of 19 years, the tall, handsome girl was still old Concha's favorite.

The two families were near neighbors, and had been fast friends from the beginning, so it was no wonder that she and Philip should be constantly together, running about and playing at hide and seek in the woods round the ranch, and when they were older cantering over the pasture lands on their sure-footed Mexican ponies—and no wonder either, as time went on, that the folks should nod their heads and smile knowingly, as they watched the pair, a pretty little girl of 12 and a handsome lad of 15. In their imagination these good people already heard the bells ring for the betrothal.

Not much time was wasted over the toilet this morning. There was a great deal to be done before eight o'clock breakfast. First, the asparagus had to be cut, while the sun was still low in the sky, for later on when he had attained his full strength it was insufferably hot in the garden, and only the dark-skinned natives might work there with impunity. Then she would pick some ripe, juicy peaches for dessert. Her father loved asparagus and peaches, and so did Philip, if her memory did not deceive her—but seven years is a long time and tastes may change.

"Who knows if he is still fond of peaches?"—and she looked in the glass and smiled at her own reflection—"I think I can answer for peaches." Her thoughts ran on questioning and replying to themselves, "but as to asparagus and, and—other things—who knows?"

On a chair by her bedside Guadalupe, her maid, had placed a clean muslin frock, starched and white as snow. She fingered it lovingly, for she was going to put it on after her work was done. In the meantime a blue cotton, more than ready for the washtub, would do very well, and, having reached this stage in her proceedings, she did not stop to twist up her hair, but merely braiding it in two thick plaits, Mexican fashion, seized her sombrero and ran downstairs. At the kitchen door Concha was waiting with a basket and long knife with teeth like a saw at one end; this was used to cut the asparagus.

The dew drops on the feathery branches of the asparagus vines sparkled like diamonds in the sunshine and fell on her in showers as she brushed them aside to look for the white heads appearing above ground at their roots. By the time she had cut sufficient for a generous dish an hour had already gone by and she was very warm and decidedly muddy—but what did that matter? There was soap and water in the house, and a pretty clean white dress in her room waiting to be put on. The peaches could be picked in a few minutes, and then her morning's work would be done.

How beautiful it was that morning! From her perch among the peaches she gazed fascinated on the scene before her. Orizaba, glory of mountains, with its snow-capped peak, seemed but a step from the garden, but in reality one would have to travel more than 40 miles to reach the foot of it. On all sides were the hills as far as the eye could see, and right in front, only about a mile away, nestled the little town with its whitewashed houses and brown tiled roofs, half buried in trees.

Absorbed in the view she did not see a horseman who was maneuvering his way in and out the winding pathway which led to her father's ranch, and so it happened that Philip King was almost upon her before she was aware of it. When she did at last catch sight of him it was too late to fly to the house. The color leaped to her face in a crimson flood, and her knees trembled beneath her, with agitation, disappointment at the sudden collapse of all her plans and humiliation at the miserable figure she cut. She clutched her hair, which had long since freed itself from the plaits, and nervously, with shaking fingers, tried to twist it up and hide it inside her sombrero, but she had no hairpins, so it only fell down again in even greater disorder than before.

The young man had by this time

reached the garden, and there was only the rose bush between them—then for the first time he saw her, and had he been a wise young man he would have become suddenly blind, discovered something of great interest in another direction and quickly walked away.

As it was he was not wise and had little experience in the ways of women, and besides was very glad indeed to see his little playmate again, so he started forward with both hands outstretched to greet her.

"Cecilia," he cried, expecting she would run to him as in days gone by, but she drew back and gave him her hand very formally with stiff words of welcome which sounded unreal on her lips.

After they had both made a few commonplace remarks, a long and uncomfortable silence followed. The key to the situation appeared to be missing, and Philip at any rate was at a loss to understand what was the matter. This was indeed Cecilia, looking too much the same as on the day he left, only a great deal taller, and yet there was a difference, and a very great one. He couldn't disguise from himself that he was bitterly disappointed.



SHE GOT UP WITH A SMILE.

pointed, it was so unlike what he had expected and pictured to himself. Yet he hardly knew after all what he had expected. He had no claim on her, was not even any relation, and seven years is a long time—a girl makes other friends. She would not meet his look as in the old days, but kept her eyes bent on the ground. He couldn't remember just what color they were, and wondered how it was that such an important point had never interested him before. He could see, indeed, that the eyes were fringed with long, dark lashes, and the outline of the face, which was so carefully turned from him, was perfect; her figure was tall and straight, her head erect and shapely crowned with masses of dark, curling hair, which fell below her waist. She was decidedly the most beautiful girl he had ever seen—and the moment he realized this fact, a perfect fury of jealousy took possession of him. He understood everything now—it was clear as daylight—Cecilia had a lover and did not want his friendship any more!

At last the girl broke the silence. "My father will be so pleased to see you," she said, "but if you will excuse me now I will just finish cutting some roses and be with you presently."

She began to cut roses feverishly, not seeing or caring where she stepped, till the thorny branches laid hold of her long loose hair and held her fast, almost as though they knew what they were about, and determined to make her prisoner.

In her struggles she stepped at last on a loose mound of earth which gave way suddenly beneath her, and in a moment myriads of tiny brown insects, each carrying a precious egg almost as large as itself, were swarming about her feet and ankles.

She had stumbled into an ant's nest! The young man was just disappearing into the house, but at the first cry he turned and with two or three bounds, which would have done credit to an active kangaroo, was by her side and had taken in the situation. It is to his everlasting credit that he did not laugh, but treated the affair with the seriousness it deserved. Fortunately he carried his "machete" with him, that useful if rather dangerous knife without which a Mexican seldom rides abroad—and with a few strokes of the sharp blade he freed the girl from the prickly branches, when she fled hastily into the middle of the path and commenced to stamp and shake her skirts vigorously long after every insect had taken himself off in a greater fright than her own.

Then the branches which still clung to her hair had to be disentangled, oh, so gently! Such glorious hair, too, the touch of it thrilled him. Then she looked up and their eyes met, and suddenly the disappointment and misery which had seemed so real a few minutes ago all melted away and they knew.

"Oh, Phil, I am so thankful you came," was all she said, but she gave a happy little laugh and tried to hide from his gaze by shaking her mane about her blushing face, but he took her hand and drew her to him.

"Do you know I have had such a terrible fright," he said. "I thought, oh, you can't think how wretched it made me—that some one had stolen you from me; but it isn't true, Cecilia, tell me it isn't true."

"And I thought," she answered, evading his question, "that the girls in New York—"

"There are no girls in New York," the young man gravely interrupted her. "There is only one girl in the whole world, and she is right here—in my arms!"

A neat appearance counts for a great deal. Don't let a dirty collar lose you a good stroke of business.

## THE SELF-RELIANT MAN.

Is the One Most in Demand in This Busy Day and Generation.

Haven't you depended upon clothes, upon appearances, upon introductions, upon recommendations about long enough? Haven't you leaned about 'long enough on other things? Isn't it about time for you to call a halt, to tear off all masks, to discard everything you have been leaning on outside of yourself, and depend upon your own worth? writes O. S. Marden, in Success Magazine.

Haven't you been in doubt about yourself long enough? Haven't you had enough unfortunate experiences depending upon superficial, artificial, outside things to drive you home to the real power in yourself? Aren't you tired of leaning and borrowing and depending upon this thing and that thing which have failed you?

The man who learns to seek power within himself, who learns to rely upon himself, is never disappointed; but he always will be disappointed when he depends upon any outside help. There is one person in the world that will never fail you if you depend upon him, and are honest with him; and that is yourself.

It is the self-reliant man that is in demand everywhere.

## WAS ALTOGETHER TOO TAME

Sighing, Souful Swain Who Deserved Dose Described in "Note Below."

After he had fallen upon his knees and kissed her hands, relates the Lowell Mail, she said:

"Before I answer yes or no there are some things I'd like to ask you. Do you ever gamble or drink?"

"No," he eagerly replied. "I do not know what the taste of liquor is. I have never uttered a profane word in all my life. I have never played euchre where a prize was at stake."

She looked at him thoughtfully for a moment, drew a long sigh, and then asked: "Have you ever broken a woman's heart?"

"Ah, how can you ask me that?" he almost reproachfully answered. "If I had ever spoken words of love to another I would not deem myself worthy to touch the hem of your garment. I have never cared for anyone but you; I have never kissed any woman except my mother ('see note below). I have never given any girl cause to utter one sorrowful sigh; yours is the first clear, soft hand that I have ever held in my own ('see note below); never before to-night have I looked into any girl's eyes as I am looking into your deep, soulful eyes, never—"

"Oh, dear," she impatiently interrupted, drawing her hand away from him. "It's after eight o'clock, and you shouldn't be so far away from home at this time of night. Let's go home and I'll get my brother Tom to go home with you. Your mamma must be terribly worried." \*Note—At each of these remarks the writer wished he had had a soft, hot squash pie handy, and he would have handed it to him good.

## MEANING OF NOON IN LAW

As to Whether or Not Standard Time Is Signified, Decisions Confict.

The courts of several states have dealt with an odd question, none of them agreeing upon a similar answer. When is it legally noon? Fire insurance policies expire at noon, and the word is admitted to mean exactly 12 o'clock, midday. But standard time has not been adopted in all communities. Many small towns cling to sun time, which may be from a few minutes to nearly an hour earlier than standard.

In one state a fire occurred at two minutes past noon, sun time, and the insurance company held that the policy had expired before the fire. Sun time is used in that town, but the insured sued the company, holding that local customs did not rule the policy, and that he was entitled to his insurance. The state courts sustained him.

In another state a similar contention was taken to the courts and just the opposite decision given. Several conflicting precedents have been established in state courts, and it is said the question can only be decided for good and all when a case has been carried into the United States courts and passed upon by the supreme court.

## Combination Hearses.

Some of the undertakers in England have a combination hearse and coach with a strong but ordinary type of four-wheeled running gear. The front part of the vehicle is a hearse and the rear is a carriage with seats along the side, providing accommodation for about eight persons, a glass partition dividing the hearse in which the coffin is placed from the carriage. This combination hearse and carriage, with one pair of horses and one driver, can be rented at a low figure, and provides an economical funeral.

## Puppies.

"I didn't enjoy myself one bit," pouted the petted hearse, who had just returned from Europe. "I saw a puppy with a grand pedigree over there that I wanted, but pa wouldn't buy him for me."

"Too bad, dear," replied her friend. "Was he a French count or British duke?"—Philadelphia Press.

## His Capacity.

Brown—I should think you'd show a little more strength of mind, Jaggs. Now, I can take two drinks and stop Jaggs—Thash nuthin', Brownay. I (hic) kin take 20 'n stop.—Judge.