

REVIEW OF CONGRESS.

Record of the Session Now Drawing to a Close.

EVENTFUL IN ALL RESPECTS

Financial Law, Army Reorganization and Congressional Reapportionment Among the Questions Disposed Of—Policy Toward Cuba and Philippines Not Yet Framed.

Washington, Feb. 25.—The record of the 56th congress is now practically completed and although a few important measures are still in the balance, it is possible to take a survey of the wide range of legislation considered and enacted. Chief among the questions growing out of the war with Spain has been the attitude of the government toward our new insular possessions. While this question is still open to some extent, yet the present congress has passed upon one of its most important phases by enacting a law for a complete form of government for Porto Rico. The status of the Philippines has been an unending source of debate in both branches of congress. Resolutions of criticism and inquiry have been discussed at much length, but with little tangible result. At the first session Senator Spooner proposed a brief measure confirming the president's authority to shape the affairs of the island until congress had passed finally upon questions relating to their political status. This proposition in an amended form has now been grafted upon the army appropriation bill, although it is yet to be determined whether the provision will be accepted by either or both houses. Cuban legislation has been in abeyance pending the action of the constitutional convention of Cuba in framing the constitution of the island. Another important achievement in insular legislation was that of enacting a law giving Hawaii a complete form of government.

In actual work accomplished the 56th congress has passed a financial law establishing a permanent gold reserve of about \$150,000,000, fixing the ratio between gold and silver, and recognizing the bonding and banking systems of the treasury; reorganizing the United States army on a basis of 100,000 men; reapportioning the representation in congress on the basis of the 12th census; giving "free homes" on the Indian lands; providing for government participation in the Louisiana Purchase exposition in 1903, as well as many other measures of wide general importance. But the congress draws to a close with some of the most important measures before it still in doubt and quite likely to expire without final action, including the Nicaraguan canal bill, the shipping subsidy bill, the Pacific cable bill and the oleomargarine bill. The fate of some of these measures is very much in doubt, but at this late day in the session, the chances are decidedly against them.

Senate Forecast.

Washington, Feb. 25.—The army appropriation bill will receive the attention of the senate during the early part of the present week, and when it is disposed of another appropriation bill will be taken up. It is probable that the army bill will be debated at length, especially upon the Philippine amendment and the amendment relating to Cuba, if the latter is introduced as is proposed. These amendments or either of them quite certainly will be made the basis of a number of speeches, as they will serve to open up the entire question of the relations of the United States to the islands which this country came into control of through the war with Spain. It is hoped that the sundry civil bill will be reported by the time the army bill is disposed of so that it may be taken up next. If it is not in shape to be considered by that time the river and harbor bill probably will receive attention. The general deficiency bill is likely to be the last of the appropriation bills acted upon. Conference reports will be made from time to time during the week, some of these will create considerable discussion. The conferees on the war revenue reduction bill expect to make their report during the week. Of the appropriation bills only two—the pension and the urgent deficiency—have been signed by the president. Both houses have passed the legislative, Indian, District of Columbia, naval, agricultural, fortifications, postoffice and diplomatic bills, and they are in varying stages of conference. The army bill and the river and harbor bill, and the general deficiency bill still remain entirely unacted upon by the senate. It is not believed that much general legislation will be accomplished during the week, but a great many private bills will be passed. The probabilities are all against getting up the Nicaragua canal bill.

The senate will continue to meet at 11 o'clock each day and probably will sit every night of the week.

Last Week in the House.

The last week in the house will be of this congress in the house will be mainly occupied with conference reports on the appropriation bills and the other numerous measures now being fought over by the managers of the two houses.

ble to bring the house to a vote on any proposition under a motion to suspend the rules, which provide for only 20 minutes' debate upon a side. The time has practically gone by for the passage of new bills, although an attempt doubtless will be made to secure action on the bills to promote the efficiency of the revenue cutter service and to create a standardizing bureau. Beyond these and a few small bills of local importance no effort will be made to put through any bills. The leaders know that it would be a waste of time to send any further general legislation to the senate at this stage of the session and their efforts will be directed to clearing up matters in dispute between the two houses. It probably will be necessary to hold night sessions during the latter part of the week, and both houses will not meet Sunday to continue the legislative day of Saturday, which expires at noon March 4.

SUPPLY BILLS PASSED.

Senate Disposes of Postoffice and Diplomatic and Consular Appropriation Measures.

Washington, Feb. 23.—Two of the great supply bills of the government, the postoffice and the diplomatic and consular appropriation bills were passed by the senate yesterday. During the greater part of the session Senator Spooner proposed a brief measure confirming the president's authority to shape the affairs of the island until congress had passed finally upon questions relating to their political status. This proposition in an amended form has now been grafted upon the army appropriation bill, although it is yet to be determined whether the provision will be accepted by either or both houses. Cuban legislation has been in abeyance pending the action of the constitutional convention of Cuba in framing the constitution of the island. Another important achievement in insular legislation was that of enacting a law giving Hawaii a complete form of government.

Early in the day Washington's farewell address in accordance with a custom of the senate on Washington's birthday was read, the reader being Senator Bacon of Georgia.

Pension for Mrs. Lawton.

Washington, Feb. 23.—The house devoted yesterday to odds and ends of legislation. Nine bills were passed by unanimous consent and 29 claims bills and 130 pension bills were passed. Among the latter was the senate bill to pension the widow of the late General Henry W. Lawton, who was killed in the Philippines. As the bill passed the senate it carried \$100 a month. The house cut the amount down to \$50 upon the representation that Mrs. Lawton enjoyed a comfortable income.

MRS. FAIRBANKS HONORED.

Elected President General of Society of D. A. R.

Washington, Feb. 23.—Mrs. Fairbanks was elected president general of the Society of the Daughters of the American Revolution. The vote was as follows: Mrs. Charles W. Fairbanks, Indiana, 333; Mrs. Donald McLean, New York, 208; Mrs. Washington Roebling, New Jersey, 42.

Bishop Satterlee of the Episcopal see of Washington opened the meeting with prayer. In honor of Washington's birthday the bishop read the Declaration of Independence and Miss Caldwell of New York sang "The Sword of Bunker Hill."

Although the question as to who will succeed Mrs. Manning as president general of the society has been the absorbing topic of discussion at this congress, a comparatively small number of delegates was present when the session was called to order. The result of the election for president general was announced as above indicated. A total of 584 votes was cast, one ballot being rejected.

Stanley Signs Hurrell Bill.

Topeka, Kas., Feb. 23.—Governor Stanley yesterday signed the Hurrell temperance bill, which makes places where liquor is sold common nuisances and allows the county officers to confiscate the illegal stock. Another temperance bill by Hurrell is in the hands of the judiciary committee. It provides that the county attorney have the power to compel witnesses to testify in cases involving violation of the prohibitory law.

Americans Cheer Cervera.

Gibraltar, Feb. 23.—On the arrival here yesterday of the Fuerst Bismarck, now cruising in the Mediterranean with a large party of Americans, Admiral Cervera, who is staying in Gibraltar, went on board to see a friend, Walter C. Humphreys. He was vociferously cheered by the Americans, all of whom shook him by the hand.

Trouble in Balkans Averted.

London, Feb. 23.—"The danger of trouble in the Balkans seems to have passed," says the Vienna correspondent of the Times, "but it has required the plainest possible speaking on the part of Russia, supported by Austria and Great Britain, to prevent an outbreak in Macedonia. There is reason to believe also that Prince Ferdinand has been admonished from an exalted quarter."

Cedar Falls Mill Changes Hands.

Cedar Falls, Ia., Feb. 23.—The Cedar Falls Mill company has sold the Forest Oatmeal mill to the newly formed Great Western Cereal company, which will control twelve oatmeal mills located in the oat belt of the United States.

CUBA AND PHILIPPINES.

Amendments to the Army Bill Defining Attitude Passed.

DEMOCRATS IN ANGRY MOOD

Speakers Denounce the Legislation as Vicious—Bacon Charges the President With Coercing Congress—Flood of Passionate Oratory.

Washington, Feb. 23.—The senate passed the army appropriation bill at midnight containing the provisions of the Republican majority for the temporary government of the Philippines and the future relations between the United States and Cuba. Many amendments were offered to both propositions, but were voted down. The original Spooner amendment was amended regarding franchises, as proposed by Hoar.

The Spooner amendment was adopted by a vote of 45 to 25. It was a party vote with the exception of Senator Hoar (Rep.), who voted with the Democrats, and McLaurin (Dem.), who voted with the Republicans.

The vote on the Cuban amendment was 43 to 20. Not since the enactment of the resolutions declaring a state of war to exist between the United States and Spain has there been such an avalanche of passionate oratory as the senate listened to yesterday. Throughout the session the army appropriation bill was under discussion, the controverted questions being the Spooner Philippine amendment, and the Platt Cuban amendment. Curiously enough, the debate was confined entirely to the Democratic side of the chamber with one exception. Both amendments were denounced as vicious and pernicious legislation, subversive of the principles of this government, and unparalleled in the history of legislative enactments.

The most notable speech was delivered by Bacon (Ga.). He had been thoroughly aroused by reports that the Democratic members had been induced by questionable means to withdraw their opposition to the proposed legislation, and he passionately branded as a libel upon honorable men and senators any and all such statements. His arraignment of the administration for "coercing congress" into enacting such provisions in the closing hours of the session was especially fierce, and he declared that the only possible object of such action was that "the plunderers and vultures" might have an opportunity to prey on the prostrate land of the Philippines.

Senators Turner, Tillman, Pettigrew, Hoar, Teller, Allen and others addressed the senate, all of them denouncing the proposed legislation.

Text of Spooner Amendment.

"All military, civil and judicial powers necessary to govern the Philippine Islands acquired from Spain by the treaties concluded at Paris on the 10th day of December, 1898, and at Washington on the 7th day of November, 1900, shall until otherwise provided by congress, be vested in such manner as the president of the United States shall direct for the establishment of civil government and for the purpose of maintaining and protecting the inhabitants of said islands in the free enjoyment of their liberty, property and religion.

"Provided, that all franchises granted under the authority hereof shall retain a reservation of the right to alter or repeal the same.

"Until a permanent government shall have been established in said archipelago such reports shall be made to congress on or before the first day of the regular session of all legislative acts and proceedings of the temporary government instituted under the provisions hereof, and full reports of the acts, doings of said government and as to the condition of the archipelago and its people shall be made to the president, including all information which may be useful to the congress in providing a more permanent government.

"Provided, that no sale or lease or other disposition of the public lands or the timber thereon or the mining rights therein shall be made; and providing further, that no franchise shall be granted which is not approved by the president of the United States, and is not, in his judgment, clearly necessary for the government of the islands and indispensable for the interest of the people thereof, and cannot without great public mischief be postponed until the establishment of permanent civil government and all such franchises shall terminate one year after the establishment of such permanent civil government."

The Cuban amendment provides for supervision by the United States of all foreign treaties, control to a limited extent of Cuba's finances and credit, right of intervention, dictation in matters pertaining to sanitation, ratification of all acts of the United States during its military occupation of the island, omission of the Isle of Pines from the delimitation of Cuba's boundaries and the sale or leasing of lands to the United States for naval and coaling stations.

MAKES PARTIAL REPORT.

Naval Appropriation Bill is Sent Back to Conference.

Washington, Feb. 23.—The house yesterday jettisoned the authorization for two battleships and two cruisers, which were in the naval appropriation bill as it passed that body. The senate had rejected the propositions and against the appeals of the house conferred the house voted by a big majority to agree to the senate amendment

striking out the authorizations. Chairman Cannon of the appropriation committee contributed largely to this result by a vigorous speech in favor of the senate amendment. A partial conference report on the naval bill was agreed to and the bill went back to conference. The house also agreed to the conference report on the bill to create a commission of five to adjudicate the claims of United States citizens against Spain assumed by the United States under the treaty of Paris. Just before adjournment, Tawney, chairman of the St. Louis appropriation committee, asked unanimous consent to disagree to the senate amendments to the exposition bill, but Shepherd (Tex.) objected.

Washington, Feb. 23.—The real struggle on insular legislation at this session began yesterday in the senate. The army appropriation bill was under consideration and the Philippines amendment was reached. In addition, the Cuban amendment was offered and the general debate on these propositions began. Sharp opposition to the Philippine amendment developed on the Democratic side, beginning with a point of order, which the senate overruled, and followed with speeches by Senators Tillman, Rawlins, Caffrey, Bacon and Morgan.

The amendment was defended by its author, Spooner, who pointed out the necessity for the legislation. Senators Vest, Hoar, Bacon and Rawlins offered amendments tending to limit the powers allowed by the Spooner amendment. Senator Morgan made an extended speech, severely criticizing the proposed legislation.

The report on the amendment regarding Cuba was unanimous and no opposition is expected from the Democrats in the senate.

Tortured by a Mob.

New York, Feb. 23.—An excited mob in Matawan, N. J., last night hanged Charles Herbert, a resident of the place, in an effort to make him confess that he had started a fire which destroyed the business portion of the town on Jan. 27. Herbert protested his innocence. He was strung up a second time, and when lowered again asserted that he was not guilty. This time the torture ceased and the man was taken to jail.

Critically Ill From Fright.

Pana, Ills., Feb. 23.—Fred Harmon is critically ill at his home near Montrose. While going to call on a young lady he was obliged to pass the spot where a peddler was murdered several years ago, which spot is reputed to be haunted. A rival took advantage of these circumstances and impersonated a ghost. As a result Harmon is in a critical condition, becoming at times frenzied.

Negotiations Broken Off.

London, Feb. 23.—The Sheffield Daily Telegraph announces that the negotiations between Vickers Sons & Maxim and the Cramp Shipbuilding company have been broken off, because the former were unable to get all the independent reports they considered necessary.

Mrs. Nation is Out of Jail.

Topeka, Kan., Feb. 23.—Mrs. Nation was released from the county jail and left for Peoria to act as editor of the Peoria Journal for one day, for which she is to be paid \$150. J. B. McAffee of this city is Mrs. Nation's bondsman.

VERDICT AGAINST SMASHERS

Initiators of Mrs. Nation Suffer Legal Penalties at South Sioux City, Neb.

Sioux City, Feb. 23.—Sixteen initiators of Mrs. Nation at South Sioux City, Neb., a suburb of Sioux City, have been given to understand that they cannot ruthlessly destroy property in Nebraska without suffering for it. John Peyson, whose alleged joint was raided about three weeks ago, brought suit for \$150 damages and yesterday Justice Gaughran of Jackson, Neb., gave him judgment for that amount and costs. Captain William Luther, the town marshal, and Steve Gasser, a member of the town council, were co-defendants with the women. They protected them during the raid.

Mystery in Her Death.

Omaha, Feb. 23.—Mary Peterson, a domestic in the home of J. S. Collins, 1711 Burt street, was found dead yesterday morning in a room of the house under circumstances which lead the coroner to believe she had possibly met with foul play. When found the woman was lying upon her face in a pool of blood. The blood being washed away, several ugly contusions were revealed upon her face. A postmortem examination disclosed the fact that her heart and other vital organs were normal, which disposes of the theory that she died of heart disease.

Wood Has Cuban Constitution.

Washington, Feb. 23.—Governor General Wood at Havana has telegraphed the war department that he had been furnished with a copy of the Cuban constitution, just finished by the convention. The general is having the document translated into English. It is not improbable that General Wood will await the report of the special committee of the convention on relations with the United States before forwarding the constitution to the war department.

Porto Ricans Beach Washington.

Washington, Feb. 23.—The two commissioners appointed at a mass meeting of Porto Ricans some time ago to come to the United States and protest against the Hollander tax bill, reached Washington yesterday. They are W. Borda and Vincente Babas and are accompanied by Mr. Freeman Halsted in the capacity of secretary. The bill referred to passed the Porto Rican legislature during the closing hours and its provisions are regarded as excessive and unjust.

WARM DAY IN THE HOUSE.

Lentz Opens His Batteries on the Speaker.

PROVOKES A LIVELY ROW.

Alleges That a Speech He Had Turned Over to the Public Printer Under Leave to Print Had Been Withheld From the Record by Order of the Speaker.

Washington, Feb. 27.—The house was the scene of a sensational incident late yesterday afternoon which threw that body into a violent state of excitement. For an hour the storm raged, ending abruptly when an adjournment was taken upon motion of Payne, the floor leader of the majority.

Lentz (Dem., O.), who has created many sensations during his service in the house, stirred the Democrats to a fever pitch by rising to a question of privilege and alleging that a speech he had turned over to the public printer under general leave to print had been withheld from the Record and had been turned over to General Grosvenor (O.) by the speaker. The nature of the speech was not developed during the events that followed, but it was learned that it was an attack upon Senator Hanna and the methods by which he was elected to the senate. The speaker explained that it had been represented to him that the speech violated the privileges of the house and he had directed that it be withheld until he could look over it.

Richardson, the Democratic leader, offered a resolution that the speaker had no right to withhold speeches. Against this the question of consideration was raised by Lacey and by a strict party vote the house decided not to consider it.

Earlier in the day a partial conference report on the Indian appropriation bill was agreed to and the bill was sent back to conference.

ACCEPT THE AMENDMENT.

Philippine Provision in Army Bill—Allen Arraigns Admiral Sampson.

Washington, Feb. 27.—An important amendment to the Philippines amendment was agreed to in the senate yesterday. It was an amplification of the amendment previously offered by Hoar, laying restrictions upon the sale of public lands and the granting of franchises and concessions in the Philippines. It was accepted by the committee in charge of the measure and is now a part of the committee amendment. Morgan occupied the floor during the greater part of the day. He concluded his address just before the afternoon recess, after having discussed comprehensively both the Philippines and Cuban amendment. He appealed to the committee to withdraw both, maintaining that congress was treading upon dangerous ground and trifling with edged tools in acting upon them without ample information. During the afternoon Allen obtained the floor and severely arraigned Rear Admiral Sampson for some endorsements he is alleged to have made upon an application of Chief Gunner Charles Morgan of the navy for promotion to the grade of commissioned officer. In which the admiral opposed the promotion of warrant officers to the rank of commissioned officers, on the ground that they are not fitted by birth for the social standing such a position would give them.

Allen's denunciation of Admiral Sampson was sensational. During the day the conference report on the District of Columbia appropriation bill was agreed to, as also was a partial report of the conferees on the postoffice appropriation bill.

HATES ALL WOMANKIND.

Denver Police Believe They Have the Man Who Has Committed Many Assaults.

Denver, Feb. 27.—Chief of Detectives Armstrong believes that Al Cowan, who is now under arrest, is the mysterious prowler who struck down three women with an iron bar in this city last Friday night and who has murderously assaulted nearly a score of women on the streets in the last six months. When arrested Cowan had in his possession an iron bar about a foot in length, besides a revolver and a supply of cartridges. He answers the meager descriptions that have been obtained of the man who has been terrorizing the women of this city. He does not talk coherently and appears to be mentally unbalanced. Questioned by Captain Armstrong in jail, Cowan said he "had been persecuted by women."

"Why were you persecuted by women?" was asked.

"I was. I hate them, but I'll not tell you any more; I don't trust any one."

Cowan has been living in Denver about a year. He said he came from Virginia. Of the three women assaulted last Friday night one is dead and another is dying.

Suit Against Homestake Company.

Sioux Falls, S. D., Feb. 23.—Suit was instituted in the federal court yesterday by W. G. Porter, assistant United States attorney for South Dakota, in behalf of the government, for damages in the aggregate amount of \$10,451 against the Homestake Mining company for trees and down timber alleged to have been unlawfully taken by the company from unsurveyed mineral lands of the United States embraced within the Black Hills reserve. The company is charged with having knowingly and wilfully appropriated the timber to its own use without permit or authority from the secretary of the interior.

CONVICTS PLOT TO ESCAPE.

Startling Discovery Made in the Penitentiary at Lincoln.

Lincoln, Feb. 25.—The discovery of a collection of loaded firearms, saws, files and cell keys by a turnkey at the state penitentiary probably prevented the commission of the greatest wholesale delivery of prisoners ever planned at the institution. The implements were found carefully hidden away in a ventilating tube that leads into a cell occupied by A. A. Baird, serving a second term for grand larceny, and C. Williams, a horse thief.

One key found in the collection was made to fit the doors of 20 cells in the upper gallery of the cell house, and still another key was found to fit the lock on the cell house leading into the prison yard.

His discovery was communicated to the warden and the occupants of the cell were immediately committed to the dark dungeon.

BIG DEAL CONSUMMATED

United States Consolidated Steel Company Will Have a Total Capitalization of \$1,100,000,000.

New York, Feb. 25.—The Herald says: J. P. Morgan has just completed the project by which another and the greatest consolidation of capital is added to the notable list of the last ten years. The steel combination plan was consummated at a conference in his office Saturday and the news was the topic of half the conversation in the corridors of some of the uptown hotels. An official announcement may be expected today from the office of J. P. Morgan & Co. to the effect that the Carnegie company, the Federal Steel company, the National Tube company, the American Steel and Wire company, the American Tin Plate company, the National Steel company, the American Steel Hoop company and the American Sheet Steel company are to be combined in one concern, which is to issue its stock in return for theirs, the valuation having been determined upon the assets and the earning power of the respective corporations thus merged. This new combination, it is understood, will be called the United States Consolidated Steel company. It will have a total capitalization of \$1,100,000,000.

The Lake Superior consolidated iron mines, the Rockefeller iron ore properties, including the Mesaba range, which passed a few days ago to the Morgan combination, will not go immediately into the new United States Consolidated Steel company. It is thought quite likely that the Lake Superior concern may be turned over to the great combination at a later date. All of the persons directly interested in the Carnegie-Morgan steel deal seemed greatly pleased over the successful termination of their labors.

POSTPONES EXPEDITION.

Dispatch Received in Berlin Announces Change in Waldersee's Plans.

Berlin, Feb. 23.—It is announced in a dispatch from Peking, dated Feb. 21, that Count von Waldersee has postponed the expedition he planned, as China has conceded the demands of the powers for the punishment of guilty officials.

Peking, Feb. 23.—The foreign ministers yesterday received a message from the Chinese peace commissioners, saying the edicts regarding the punishments, the cessation of examinations and the responsibility of the viceroys and governors have been signed, but that text has not yet arrived. Owing to the Chinese new year celebrations, many of the telegraphic offices are closed until next week.

ENDS IN AN UPROAR.

Stormy Session of the French Chamber of Deputies.

Paris, Feb. 27.—Yesterday's session of the chamber of deputies ended with an uproarious scene such as had not been witnessed for many months. Heretofore the chamber has discussed the law of associations bill with much moderation and with an avoidance of inflammatory language, but a word uttered last evening by Baron Xavier Rellie, deputy for Castres, provoked a storm which raged in the chamber for fully half an hour.

In the course of his speech he quoted from Savary, who stigmatized the condemnation of Louis XVI as "assassination." Immediately the Radicals and Socialists burst into loud protest. The Rightists cheered him and the Leftists hooted. Members shouted one to another across the floor of the chamber. Bernard Cadenant fell into a furious rage at a retort from Jean Planchon and rushed to strike him. The ushers threw themselves between them, and held back Cadenant, who gesticulated wildly and shook his fist. A veritable pandemonium drowned the sound of the president's bell. Finally M. Deschanel succeeded in putting the amendment to a vote, the senate rejecting it by a vote of 365 against 170.

Inquest Over Killing of Mrs. Hudson.

Leavenworth, Feb. 26.—The inquest over the killing of Mrs. Rosa Hudson, in the joint raid at Millwood last Monday, was held yesterday and the coroner's jury returned a verdict to the effect that she came to her death from a gun shot wound at the hands of persons unknown to the jury. No attempt was made to investigate those who comprised the raiding mob or who did any of the shooting in the joint. John Johnson, the husband, Michael Lockner, the brother of the murdered woman, Matthew Goene and Dr. W. F. Adams were the only witnesses put on the stand and they were asked only questions that show that Mrs. Hudson is dead and that she was killed by a gun shot. The preliminary trial will come up Friday when a full examination will be made.