

CONGRESSIONAL PROCEEDINGS

A Secret Session of the Senate on Samoan Affairs.

SHERMAN DEFINES HIS POSITION.

And in So Doing Gives a Comprehensive Review of Events Recently Transpiring in the Islands.

Senate.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 29.—In the senate today the committee on military affairs reported back with a substitute the house bill as to furnishing cannon to soldiers homes, and was passed.

Mr. Chandler offered resolutions, which were agreed to, calling on the secretary of the navy for a statement of the expenditures for each six months of the present fiscal year, from the appropriations for the construction and repairs of vessels and for steam machinery; also for a statement as to the nature, extent and cause of the recent accident to the cruiser Baltimore.

The senate resumed consideration of the diplomatic and consular appropriation bill, by which a certain amount was estimated for the title of ministers to France, Germany, Great Britain and Russia "ambassadors."

After a long discussion Mr. Gibson's amendment was passed. Amendments in relation to Samoan having been reached, the senate went into executive session.

When the doors were reopened Mr. Sherman said he would like to state publicly the position which he took in the Samoan question, so that it might appear on the record. He then gave a comprehensive review of the events in the Samoan islands from the time when the attention of the United States was first attracted to the various conferences, treaties, etc. He referred to the treaty of 1886 between Germany and Great Britain, by which a sort of demarcation was established for the jurisdiction of each government in the Polynesian group, with a disclaimer that this partition should apply to the Samoan islands.

That was the legal status of to-day. He spoke of the contentions which had always existed between the various chiefs of the islands, down to the time when, by the aid of the consuls in Samoa, it was settled by agreement that Malietoa should be king.

That Malietoa should be king and Tanamoia be prince. Since that time settlement other difficulties had arisen, and a movement was made to annex Samoa Island to New Zealand.

THE CITY COUNCIL

It Passes Upon a Large Number of Ordinances.

The city council met in regular session last night, all the members being present. The reading of the journal was dispensed with, and under the head of communications, Mayor Brothock gave assent to a large number of paving and grading ordinances. He, however, vetoed one for the grading of Twenty-first, between Castellar and Green, and of Spring street, from Twenty to Twenty-fourth streets.

Mr. Brothock also gave assent to the ordinance authorizing a special tax in district 1st for the purpose of paving Eighteenth street, between Harney and Leavenworth streets, because the ordinance had not been equalized. He also refused assent to the ordinance calling for the grading of Center street from Thirteenth to Sixteenth, Hickory, Thurston to Sixteenth, Dorcas, Thirteenth to Twentieth, Douglas, Twenty-sixth to west line of Hugz and Hill's addition, Twenty-eighth street, between Twenty-eighth and Twenty-ninth streets, Farnam to Dodge; Seventeenth, Williams to Pierce; Twenty-seventh, Jackson to Half Howard; Twenty-ninth, Leavenworth to Half Howard; Howard from Twenty-seventh to Twenty-eighth, and Leavenworth to Twenty-ninth.

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SUBURBAN NEWS.

Irvington. There is considerable illness in this vicinity at present. William A. Green is attending a business college in Omaha. H. S. Johnson has been quite ill with bronchitis the two weeks, and has now recovered. H. L. Anderson shipped a carload of hogs to South Omaha last week.

Mrs. Miller of Kansas, is visiting with her daughter, Mrs. W. S. Barber. Mrs. Barbara Shook is recovering from a severe and prolonged attack of rheumatism. W. S. Whitman has sold his house and land in the village to Mrs. William Daily for \$7500.

Frank M. Beach, of the United States National bank, Omaha, was a Sunday guest at Mr. Twaddell's. The Calton comedy company gave an entertainment at a party given at the residence of Mrs. H. M. Herzig, on the afternoon of the 23d inst, to celebrate the thirtieth anniversary of the marriage of Rev. J. T. Otis and wife.

John H. Chace, from Colorado, was on one of his visits to W. J. Steadman. Attorney Gray, of Fremont, was taking evidence in the case of M. J. Hillister against the Union Pacific railroad company here Friday.

There is no 'chic' to the thief that William Mitchell's best suit, and Cashier of the bank, set from the Reid hotel about a week ago. Rev. T. Hallowell has continued the religious services at the church the past three weeks on Sunday evenings.

The Omaha debating society held a discussion last night in Judge Doane's law office in the Barker block. The subject was 'Resolved, that the right of reversion in favor of the city of Omaha contained in the charter of 1880 is a valid and enforceable right.'

Mr. Tanamaina's brother and wife are here on a visit from Iowa. Mr. Swallow and Mr. Diers are preparing to put up a house at this place.

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