SENATORS AND THE TARIFF

Republican Members of the Upper House Are in a Delicate Position.

DUTY NOW POINTS IN TWO DIRECTIONS

Allegiance to Party Opposed to the Welfare of the People in the Matter of the Wilson Bill—Washington Gossip.

WASHINGTON BUREAU OF THE BEE, 513 Fourteenth Street, WASHINGTON, Feb. 10.

"The republicans in the senate are placed in a peculiar position upon the tariff question at this time. They know that it would be the best part of politics for them to follow the lead of the republicans in the house and refuse to assist democrats in doubtful states to perfect the Wilson bill, and to permit it to become a law in its most offensive form. Then there would be a greater incentive for the people to elect a republican president and congress in 1896 for the purpose of repealing the law. And yet those whose interests are to be destroyed by the bill as it stands are appealing to us to save them. It looks as though we might be able to make some amendments which would afford a little protection to important industries, and it is pretty hard, for the sake of party advantage, to turn a deaf ear to these appeals."

This is what Senator Allison of Iowa, one of the most prominent republican members of the finance committee, said in reply to a question by The Bee correspondent as to what policy the republicans would pursue with the tariff bill. It is a remarkable situation in the senate. By an overwhelming majority the people at the polls in 1892 declared that the McKinley tariff law was not acceptable to them; that the policy of the republican administration and the work of a republican congress were against their interests, and they wished affairs to be turned over to a democratic outfit from beginning to end. So they voted, and their wishes were met. The government has been in the hands of a democratic administration less than a year, and a more distressful condition of affairs has not existed during the life of this generation. Suddenly the people have come to a realization that they made a mistake in casting their votes as they did in the last presidential election. The interests of the farm, the factory and the mill are threatened with destruction. In a moment capital and labor realized that the democrats meant what they said when they threatened to destroy the republican principle of protection to home industries, and, after adopting the British system of free trade and direct taxes, go upon the basis of the old and impoverished countries. This the people now see and feel they do not want, and they are appealing to the minority which they tried to destroy, and are begging for safety from those they helped to power.

DEMOCRATS IN A BAD FIX.

It is different with the republicans in the senate from what it was with those in the house during the consideration of the Wilson bill by the latter body. In the house the democrats had a majority of two-thirds, while in the senate they have a majority of but a half dozen. There are eight or ten democratic senators who must have some protection to paramount industries in their states, or they and their local party are destroyed. They are appealing to the republicans to join them in defeating the will of the majority, and the republicans, from the very principle which has controlled their politics, are inclined to help them in the move, even though they know it is destructive politics. In the house it was impossible for the republicans to modify the bill, for there were not enough of them and the protesting democrats to accomplish anything.

If the eight or ten democratic senators who take exceptions to provisions in the Wilson bill and are begging the republicans to help secure amendments were to propose a coalition for the purpose of defeating the Wilson bill on its passage they would be heartily joined by the minority; but this is not their purpose. They simply want the republicans to help them secure amendments which will save them politically in their own states and protect democratic industries and save from destruction democratic neighborhoods, while at the same time they would leave features in the bill which would destroy republican states and retire to private life republican congressmen. They would not give the republicans anything in return for their assistance except the advancement of the republican principle of protection.

If a duty is placed on sugar it is believed the income tax scheme will fail. This fact, more than anything else, makes protection to Nebraska sugar interests doubtful. Bounty seems definitely defeated. The repuolicans in the senate will decline to assist the democrats in protection states to perfect the tariff bill.

While the United States, through the democratic party in congress, is engaged in the work of trying to destroy the new and growing sugar industry of this country by repealing the bounty and permitting all grades of sugar to come in free of duty, Germany and other great sugar-producing countries are at work building up this industry. The beet sugar industry of all European countries, notably France and Germany, was established and developed to its present state of perfection by bounty systems, which are to this day maintained. The only difference between the bounties of those countries at present and the one which the democrats in congress are about to repeal is that, having fully developed the industry, the bounty applies only to exports, while in this country it applies to all sugar produced, whether for domestic consumption or export.

FOREIGN SUGAR BOUNTIES.

When the McKinley tariff law went into effect beet sugar producing countries saw that we intended to develop this industry by the same fostering influence which had developed it in European countries, and they began to give extra inducements to their producers. On May 31, 1891, only a short time after the incubation of the McKinley law, Germany passed a law repealing the tax of about 20 cents upon every 200 pounds of beets for sugar production, and adding an additional tax of $3 on every 100 pounds of sugar for domestic consumption. The tax on beets was refunded on export sugars by means of an extra premium, and the tax on sugar for domestic consumption was also divided up with the producers. The present law in Germany granting a bounty to sugar producers expires on July 31, 1897; but, anticipating the rapid development of the industry in this country, which is Germany's greatest customer for sugar, the producers in that country are casting about to have the bounty law continued, and they have practically been assured by their government that they will continue to receive encouragement from their government after the present bounty law has expired.

It has been a great burden upon the minds of free trade democrats in this country to see the federal government paying out the annual bounty of $8,000,000 or $10,000,000 during the past two years for the encouragement of sugar industries, and about the first thing when they came into power that attracted their attention was this incident. The beet sugar industry in Germany has been well developed for nearly a quarter of a century, and yet the bounty to producers continues. A bounty has been paid in this country only about two years, and has averaged less than $8,000,000 per annum. Germany paid in premiums and draw-backs to producers in 1886-87, 108,821,000 marks, or over $25,000,000. Last year she paid about the same amount that was given to our producers, and although there is a heavy duty on imported sugars in that country, she derived from sugar duty only 695,000 marks, or about $170,000. Had raw sugar imported into this country paid as much duty upon the pound, this government would have last year received from that direction about $100,000,000. This all goes to show that both France and Germany have developed and maintained their beet sugar industries by giving bounties, and that they are now supplying the world, and that if the bounty in this country is completely destroyed our producers must discontinue the industry.

UNDER WHICH MASTER?

An interesting point has been raised here in connection with the recent decision and order of Judge Dundy at Omaha, affecting railroad employes. The act of August 1, 1892, restricts to eight hours the working days of all laborers and mechanics employed by the government of the United States, and subjects every officer, agent or contractor who shall violate its provisions to a fine of $1,000 or six months imprisonment. Judge Dundy assumes that the employes are now in the hands of his court and that it is within his judicial authority to enjoin them from striking against the recent cut in wages. The men in congress who made the laws say that if this be good law, the receivers, unquestionably being officials of the general government by executive appointment, it must follow that the working force of the road is also under government control and subject to the arbitrary orders of federal authority, and they inquire whether, this being the case, the employes of the Union Pacific, being no longer in the service of that company, must be in the service of the United States? If not, in whose service are they? It is certainly a novel point and will prove as interesting as it is novel. If the employes are laborers and mechanics of the government, the railroad company having nothing to say as to what their hours of labor shall be, congressmen say that they have at least a plausible claim to the benefit of the government eight-hour law. There is almost certain to be some legislation on this new point.

PURIFYING THE PENSION ROLLS.

Representative Meiklejohn intends to lay before the house on Monday next a resolution requesting the commissioner of pensions to furnish the house with copies of all reports received by him under the recent order of the commander-in-chief of the Grand Army of the Republic, giving the names of persons now receiving pensions who are not entitled to the same under the law. He will present with this resolution the full text of the preamble and resolution issued by Commander-in-Chief Adams, which, paraphrasing the recent utterance of President Cleveland, states that "thousands of neighborhoods have their fraudulent pensioners," and as the mission of the Grand Army of the Republic is to encourage honor and purity in public affairs, comrades and posts are requested to report to the commissioner of pensions any person known to be in receipt of a pension not justly entitled to the same under the law and to forward a duplicate of the report to the Grand Army of the Republic headquarters; also that cases of pension frauds should be proven and not implied; and that the information that comes to the headquarters daily of comrades totally disabled whose pensions have been suspended and widows whose husbands were killed in battle being suspended until they can prove that their husbands were naturalized citizens of the United States, leads the commander-in-chief to believe that the statement is broader than can be substantiated by facts. If these wrongs actually exist the commander-in-chief pledges the support of the Grand Army of the Republic to those who attempt in the line of duty to rectify these wrongs, assuring them that the Union veterans are as anxious to guard the treasury of the nation in time of peace as they were to defend its flag in time of war. There is no doubt that the proposition of Mr. Meiklejohn will be accepted by the democrats in the house as a piece of sarcasm intended to show that the anti-pension policy of this administration is based upon hypocrisy and fraud, and that there is more harm than good being done in pension suspensions, for it is known that the Grand Army of the Republic, instead of unearthing pension frauds, has in this investigation shown the commissioner of pensions that a great many more honest than dishonest pensioners are dropped from the rolls.

IN A GENERAL WAY.

At the banquet to be given by the Republican club of New York on Monday night, February 12, a menu will be placed at each plate containing among other things three facsimile letters written by Abraham Lincoln and not hitherto published. One letter is of particular interest to the people of Nebraska, by reason of its having been addressed to T. J. Pickett, now deceased, who for several years resided in Nebraska, and was editor of newspapers at Nebraska City, Bloomington and other Nebraska towns, and who was the father of S. J. Pickett, the editor of a newspaper at Ashland. In the letter to Mr. Pickett, Mr. Lincoln, replying to a suggestion that he allow his name to be used as a candidate for the presidency, said that he did not feel that he was competent to fill the office of president of the United States, and he discouraged Mr. Pickett and other friends in making an organized effort to elect him to such a position.

Ex-Senator Paddock of Beatrice was on the floor of the house for some time today.

Henry T. Oxnard of Grand Island and Senator and Mrs Manderson are expected to return from New Orleans tomorrow.

PERRY S. HEATH.

OUT OF RESPECT TO HOUCK.

House Adjourns Instead of Eulogizing O'Neill and Stanford.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 10.—Today was set aside by special order for eulogies upon the life and character of the late Representative O'Neill of Pennsylvania and Senator Stanford of California, but on account of the death of Mr. Houck of Ohio that order was vacated and the house adjourned out of respect to the memory of the dead Ohio representative. In his prayer at the opening of the session, Chaplain Bagby referred feelingly to the death of Mr. Houck.

"We come into Thy presence," he said, "deeply sensible of the shortness and uncertainty of life. Since we last met one of our number has been suddenly and without warning called from the scene of his earthly labors. Thou who art the resurrection and life, be graciously merciful to the stricken household, bind their broken hearts and soothe their affliction."

Upon motion of Mr. Loud the time for paying tribute to the memory of the late Senator Stanford and Representative O'Neill was postponed until Monday at 3 o'clock.

The Ohio delegation in congress held a meeting in the speaker's room this morning to take action on the death of the late Representative Houck. Senator Sherman presided. Senator Sherman and Representatives Pearson and Layton were designated a committee to present appropriate resolutions. Seven members with one or more senators accompany the remains to Ohio, and for the benefit of members and their families and the congressional delegation a special car was attached to the Pennsylvania train which left Washington at 3 o'clock this afternoon.

Resolutions were prepared and will be read in the house.

The speaker appointed the following members to accompany the remains to Dayton, O., where the funeral will take place Monday afternoon: Messrs. Hare, Springer, Bryan, Hulick, McKaig, Ellis and Ritchie. Then, as a further mark of respect to the memory of the deceased, the house adjourned.

The vice president appointed as a committee on the part of the senate to accompany the remains of Mr. Houck to Dayton, Messrs. Sherman, Dubois, Allen and Martin.

They Eat Horses, Dogs and Cats.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 10.—James H. Smith, commercial agent at Mayence, has sent to the State department the following interesting statement of the meat diet of the lower classes in Saxony:

"With regard to the diet of the poorer classes of Saxony it is noteworthy that according to official publications now at hand 4,277 horses were slaughtered in Saxony last year, that is 352 more than in 1891. Of dogs, according to official statement, there were 422 butchered. Thereby, however, is apparently meant only the number of those killed in slaughter houses, for the number of dogs actually slaughtered must be considerably larger, when there is such a comparatively large consumption of dog flesh by the poorer classes of the people. Even cat flesh is not disdained by many persons, and badgers, foxes, sparrows and crows are eaten.

Cutting Down Expenses.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 10. — Chairman Blanchard says that the rivers and harbors bill will probably not be ready to report to the house for at least three weeks. He says that it will be a very small bill, probably carrying about $10,000,000. There have been but few improvements projected or now under way that have not been advocated by the members in whose districts they are situated. All this argument will not have much effect upon the committee, as the determination has been reached not to have any more new improvements provided for in this bill and to cut the appropriations for projects now under way to the lowest possible figures.

ALMOST READY TO REPORT

CHANGES MADE IN THE WILSON BILL

Tariff Tinkering by the Senate Subcommittee Now Nearly Completed.

How the Measure Will Probably Look When it is Reported from the Full Committee—Whisky Men on the Anxious Seat.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 10.—The senate subcommittee engaged upon the tariff bill closed a very busy week late this evening, and when the work of the day was concluded found it had made sufficient progress to "begin to see daylight in the distance," as one of them expressed it. They declined, however, to state when the bill would be in shape for presentation to the full committee. The indications are that they are making every effort to complete it so as to present it some time next week. The developments of the day indicate that the income tax feature is not to be undisturbed and that the time for whisky in bond will be extended for two years beyond the time allowed at present, and that the free list will be very much curtailed and many of the articles now on the list will be placed on the dutiable list under the ad valorem system. This latter change is to be made in connection with the plan of making the bill strictly a revenue measure and to avoid the appearance of favoritism. The committee finds in pursuing this investigation and in view of the impossibility of the continuance of the present depression, that it would be consistent with the purpose of the bill to retain the income tax and to place a duty on sugar; hence there is little doubt that they have concluded, as far as they have decided upon any course, to allow the income tax to remain substantially as passed by the house.

CAN BE AMENDED IN CONFERENCE.

If it should be made to appear after the bill should have passed the senate that it will provide more revenue than will be necessary and that the house of representatives will be dissatisfied with it and unwilling to accept it, it can, of course, be amended in conference. Indeed the senate committee is taking into consideration the probability of having to make some changes at this stage, and it is shaping the bill accordingly. While it is understood the bill, as it will be reported by the subcommittee, will report a duty of 50 cents per ton on coal, it is believed this will be cut to 30 or 40 cents in conference.

The whisky men are working hard for an extension of the bonded period, and they are likely to succeed. They have succeeded in getting the facts, as Captain Sherley and others who are engaged in the business understood them, before the committee. They show by figures obtained from the commissioner of internal revenue that if the present laws should continue in force, fixing the bonded period at three years, which is not changed by the Wilson bill as it passed the house, the revenue derived by the government from whisky would be, at 90 cents per gallon as fixed by the present law, about $150,000,000. If the bonded period should be extended without an increase of the tax it would be about $140,000,000, but if the bonded period should be lengthened and the tax increased to $1 per gallon the tax would still amount in the aggregate to $150,000,000, while even if the tax should be increased to $1.10 per gallon, even with the bonded period extended, the government's income from this source would be about $150,000,000. The distillers are devoting themselves more particularly to securing an extension of the bond period than to preventing action on the part of the senate looking to an increase of the tax. There is still a possibility of a materially increased rate of taxation, but no figures are given beyond $1.20 per gallon, with the chances largely in favor of the figure remaining as fixed by the present bill, or, at most, that it will not be put above $1.10, and that whether there is any increase over the Wilson bill or not the bonded period will be extended to five years.

The advocates of a duty on iron ore are bringing a strong pressure to bear to secure a duty on that article, but have not met as much encouragement as have the coal men.

SOUTHERN COTTON CROP.

Average of the Various States Cultivating the Plant—Amount Marketed.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 10.—Returns to the Department of Agriculture for the month of February which relate to cotton give the estimate of the product, as compared with last year, the proportion sent to market, damage by insects, average date on which picking was closed, etc.

The following are the state averages of comparative crop: Virginia, 94 per cent; North Carolina, 94 per cent; South Carolina, 82 per cent; Georgia, 83 per cent; Florida, 106 per cent; Alabama, 106 per cent; Mississippi, 104 per cent; Louisiana, 90 per cent; Texas, 85 per cent; Arkansas, 84 per cent; Tennessee, 84 per cent; Missouri, 81 per cent. The general average for the country is 92.1 per cent. The proportion of the crop which has been sent from the plantations and is therefore in the hands of others than the producers, as shown by correspondents, is 92.2 per cent, leaving 7.8 per cent of the crop still unmarketed.

Correspondents of the department assign as a cause for the unusually large proportion marketed that the producers owing to the stringency of the times have been compelled to part with their holdings to pay debts and meet necessary expenses. The percentage by states is as follows: Virginia, 86 per cent; North Carolina, 88; South Carolina, 90; Georgia, 92.5; Florida, 91; Alabama, 93; Mississippi, 92.4; Louisiana, 94; Texas, 92; Arkansas, 94; Tennessee, 92; Missouri, 92.

Losses from insects have been small. Texas, Louisiana, Arkansas, Mississippi and Louisiana being the only states reporting damage from that source. The proportion of lint to seed ranges from 31.7 to 33 per cent, average, 32.2. The price of seed varies from 15.6 to 19.7 cents per bushel.

MUST BE PAID IN GOLD.

Chili Issues a New Order in Regard to the Payment of Import Duties.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 10.—The Bureau of the American Republics is informed that the following decree has been issued by the ministry of Chili:

SANTIAGO, Chili, Dec. 2, 1893.—Considering that the act of November 26, 1892, provides that 25 per cent of import duties shall be paid during the current year in gold at the rate of $6.31 per pound sterling; that in order to facilitate the fulfillment of this obligation it was provided that the portion of the duties payable in gold might be paid in gold bills on London; that the superintendent of the mint has been authorized to purchase all the gold that may be offered him, paying for it in pounds sterling; that this kind of money has at present no other use than the payment of import duties and that for this cause it suffers a depreciation in the market with respect to bills drawn on Europe; that it suits the state to receive the import duties in metallic currency, because with it it economizes in the expense of bringing gold to Chili, I hereby decree that the director of the treasury shall exchange at par the gold that may be offered it for bills on London at ninety days' sight, proceeding from the 25 per cent of the import duties that may be paid in this form.

MONT. ALEJANDROVIAL.

Republicans Reinstated.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 10.—The alleged atempts at partisan discrimination in the San Francisco customs house have received an official setback. Complaints were recently filed with the civil service commission charging Collector of the Port Wise with removing four republican employes at the end of the probationary terms and subsequently filling the vacancies by democratic appointments. An investigation was made by the commission and it was decided that the changes were made for partisan reasons. The Treasury department was requested to reverse the collector's action. After a second investigation the department has decided to sustain the commission's decision and has ordered the reinstallment of the four republicans.

Cleveland Will Settle It.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 10.—The documents in the boundary dispute between Brazil and Argentine, which have been referred to President Cleveland for arbitration, were presented to him this morning. There was no ceremony observed, but the occasion was rather impressive. The documents and papers on both sides are elegantly bound and put together with all the magnificence that the bookmaker's art can command. The case in dispute grows out of the disappearance of a river which at one time marked a part of the boundary line between Brazil and Argentine. The problem to solve is to decide on the location of the river and so fix the boundary line. The appearance of the papers indicates that the settlement of the question will require many months.

WANTS ALL THE BONDS.

H. C. Riker of Chicago Will Endeavor to Force Their Sale to Him.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 10.—H. C. Riker, the Chicagoan who attracted some attention recently by putting in bids for the $50,000,000 of bonds called for by Secretary Carlisle, this afternoon filed a petition in the supreme court of the District seeking a mandamus to compel Secretary Carlisle to issue $50,000,000 in bonds to him according to the terms of his bids. The secretary upon receiving the proposals, which were extraordinary, investigated his financial status, and as a result ignored his proposals.

Mr. Riker's petition immediately after being filed was presented to Justice Bradley of the supreme court of the District, who withheld it from publication. It is a long document and several weeks were spent in preparing it. The question of issuing the mandamus is under consideration and a decision will be rendered at 10 o'clock Monday morning.

Mr. Riker asserts that in case of an adverse decision he will appeal higher. "I would rather be in my shoes today than in Secretary Carlisle's, despite all that has been said against me," he said tonight. "Do I look like a crank? I came here on no fool's errand. People say I am a greenhorn for gobbling the whole issue, but I've done it. I've got to vindicate myself, and prove the genus crank belongs to somebody else. Finance is the only thing I ever made a study of in politics. I don't want to make any accusations, except under oath in court. I have done business for twenty-five years and never has a suspicion been raised against me, and I am ready to make oath to it and speak on a stack of bibles, that I made $15,000 a week transporting meals to Europe. William G. Ladd of Brooklyn was associated with me. I have been interested in big enterprises, including an unfermented grape juice plant at Ecopus, N. Y., on the Hudson river. My petition has been examined and passed upon by senators who have committed themselves to it. There will be music before we get through."

BIG GUN MAKING.

Interested Spectators Witness a Difficult and Delicate Piece of Work.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 10.—A difficult and delicate piece of work was performed at the gunshop in the navy yard today. It consisted in fitting the tube to one of the new thirteen-inch guns for the navy. The operation was entirely successful.

Shortly after 2 o'clock the jacket, weighing 37,685 pounds, was lifted by the 110-ton crane from the pit in which it has been heating for the past two days and with but little delay was shifted to a position directly over the tube. It was then let down over it very slowly, while workmen stood by and turned the jacket from side to side to prevent it sticking. Everything went off without a hitch. Eleven of the twelve 13-inch guns that are to be made have now been jacketed and are gradually nearing completion. They are for the Indiana, Massachusetts and Oregon.

A large number of officials witnessed today's work, including members of congress, officers of the navy and a detachment of naval cadets from Annapolis, who were ordered here for the purpose. The hydraulic mount for the 13-inch guns was also given a trial at the gunshop today, and apparently worked satisfactorily. An early trial of one of the guns with the hydraulic mount will be had at the Indian head training grounds.

TROUBLE WITH TURKEY.

Minister Terrell Demands the Release from Prison of Two Naturalized Armenians.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 10.—The reported action of Minister Terrell in demanding the release of two Armenians imprisoned by the Turkish government does not surprise the State department. As it is expressed there: The Armenian question we have always with us. They have, however, no information of any threat by Terrell to send for an ironclad. The Armenians in the United States recently have been conducting an organized agitation for the protection of naturalized Armenians from the exactions of the Turks. There are a large number of these cases before the State department, and there is more than a suspicion in some of them that there is an abuse of the privileges of American citizenship. The indications are that some of these men come over here simply to secure citizenship and then go back to live in Turkey with the purpose of securing protection from the United States government. This is accorded them on being demanded. The Turkish government does not recognize the extirpation of its subjects, but keeps those who claim American citizenship in prison until they can be deported.

Said it Was a Lottery and a Fraud.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 10.—A case of considerable importance to the postal service was heard before Justice Bradley of the District supreme court. It was that of the Old Colony Security company of Chicago against Postmaster Sherwood of this city, asking for a mandamus to compel the postmaster to forward mail matter to and from the company. Assistant Attorney General Thomas and District Attorney Bierney, for the postmaster, argued that the company's scheme constituted both a lottery and a fraud, and for these reasons its circulars should be excluded from the mails. J. S. and E. S. McAlmont of this city appeared as counsel for the company. The decision was reserved.

Will Interest Kansas Scholars.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 10.—Captain Harris Cavandaugh, Thirteenth infantry, has been detailed as professor of military science and tactics at the Kansas State Agricultural college, Manhattan, Kan. Captain E. B. Botton, Twenty-third infantry, is at the same time relieved and ordered to rejoin his company.

Movements of War Vessels.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 10.—Cables to the Navy department announce that the Chicago has sailed from Genoa for Naples and that the Lancaster has arrived at Hong Kong.

Gold in the Treasury.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 10.—The net gold in the treasury today was $102,788,580, an increase during the last twenty-four hours of $3,734,841. The currency balance is $34,253,607.

Scares Women and Children.

EVANSTON, Wyo., Feb. 10.—(Special Telegram to The Bee.)—Evanston has a "ghost." It appears in the form of a woman of more than ordinary size, dressed in black, with a heavy veil of the same material. Her chief delight seems to be to stand in some shaded corner or alley, and when women pass rush at them, usually chasing them home. Several women and children have been terribly frightened. Last night a well-known lady returning home late was attacked by the mysterious being. Instead of running she decided to fight. She was overpowered, receiving severe scratches and bruises, after which the "ghost" disappeared. Officers are unable to solve the mystery. Many think it is a man in disguise.

Poultry Fanciers' Annual Meeting.

The adjourned annual meeting of the Omaha Poultry Fanciers association will be held at the Commercial club rooms tomorrow evening. Several proposed amendments to the constitution will be acted on. Two papers will be read. Judge L. P. Harris will be present. Members of the association will be urged to make a good showing at the exhibit of the Western Iowa Poultry association at Council Bluffs next week.

ON SEIGNIORAGE AND BONDS

Testimony Taken During Secret Hearings Given to the Public.

CARLISLE'S FINANCIAL VIEWS SET FORTH

Report of His Talk Before the Judiciary Committee Given Out—Interesting Conversations That Show His Ideas on the Subject.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 10.—Secretary Carlisle's exact views and policy on financial questions, including silver seigniorage, bonds and finance in general, are set forth and amplified in an important document which reached the house committee on judiciary today. It is the stenographic report of Mr. Carlisle's secret hearing before the committee some time since. The testimony of this secret hearing shows that concerning the coinage of silver seigniorage Representative Oates asked: "I want to ask you if there is any objection to the proposition about coining the seigniorage and issuing certificates against that?"

Secretary Carlisle—Well, the effect of that would be that the secretary of the treasury would issue silver certificates calling for dollars. I suppose when there were no dollars behind them, and if they came in for redemption, as they might, the secretary of the treasury would be compelled to use gold or whatever else he had to redeem them.

Mr. Boatner—Could you not coin the silver and use that?

Secretary Carlisle—Yes, in about two years; it would take about that time.

W. A. Stone of Pennsylvania—Have you not got enough silver to redeem it?

Secretary Carlisle—No, sir; certificates are outstanding against what we have, except about $5,000,000 or $6,000,000.

Mr. Stone—What would be the objection to issuing certificates on account of the seigniorage?

Secretary Carlisle—I was going to state that if we should issue certificates with nothing behind them but bullion, I think they would be greatly discredited in the public mind.

Mr. Stone—And in order to keep up the credit you would have to redeem that in gold?

Secretary Carlisle—They would have to be redeemed in something.

Mr. Stone—If you redeemed it in silver it would be discredited and you would have to redeem it in gold.

Secretary Carlisle—They would call for silver dollars, and there are no silver dollars to redeem them.

In answer to a question as to how fast the coinage of the seigniorage could be pushed, Mr. Carlisle said: "If all other coinage was suspended at the mints, I estimate that we could coin about 7,000,000 silver dollars a month, or $84,000,000 a year."

WENT INTO IT DEEPLY.

The bond question was treated very elaborately by Mr. Carlisle. His purpose as to using the proceeds of the sales of bonds is sharply set forth in the following colloquy:

Mr. Stone—I understand your purpose is simply to sell bonds to redeem United States notes and treasury notes, and the surplus to replenish the reserve fund.

Secretary Carlisle—That is my purpose. But I want to say to you, gentlemen, that the secretary of the treasury may be confronted hereafter with a very serious question as to what he will do in the event congress fails or refuses to make provision to supply the deficiency. Suppose, for instance, congress passes a law, which it does every session, making appropriations for some particular purpose—the payment of pensions, for illustration—and makes it the duty of the secretary of the treasury to pay them out of any money in the treasury not otherwise appropriated—which is the language of all your appropriation laws—and the secretary of the interioor makes a requisition upon the the Treasury department for money to pay pensions. The secretary of the treasury finds no money in the treasury not otherwise appropriated except the money that has been realized from the sale of bonds. He will be confronted with the question whether he will stop the payment of pensions, whether he will stop the payments upon public buildings, whether he will stop payment for work upon rivers and harbors, whether he will withhold salaries, or use the money in the treasury that is otherwise appointed.

Mr. Boatner—Would you consider it improper to give your opinion as to the duty of the secretary of the treasury?

Secretary Carlisle—I will give it very plainly. I believe that it is my duty to pay pensions and all other public obligations, and, unless congress stops me, I shall do so. While I stay here I shall endeavor to maintain the credit of the government by paying its obligations.

Mr. Boatner—Out of the proceeds of the bonds which you now propose to sell?

Secretary Carlisle—I would not use the proceeds of bonds if it were possible to avoid it, but I would not let the obligations of the government go to protest and fail to pay the appropriations made by congress for legitimate purposes and for carrying on the expenses of the government as long as there is a dollar in the treasury.

Mr. Carlisle further stated his reluctance in resorting to bonds.

As to the kind of a bond which Mr. Carlisle thinks congress should authorize there was the following:

Mr. Boatner—The plan that you suggest to remedy this trouble would be for the secretary to issue bonds for a specific purpose; is that the point?

Secretary Carlisle—I think a short time bond should be used bearing a low rate of interest, to be issued in small denominations, which I think would be taken largely by the people who have money in savings banks, and the secretary could sell them or use the proceeds in payment of expenditures and redeem them out of the further revenues. That was my recommendation on the subject, simply because I saw it was impossible for congress to provide by taxation any revenue which could be collected in time for this fiscal year.

Mr. Stone—And you did not see any disposition on the part of congress to do it?

Secretary Carlisle—I concluded to issue bonds under the existing authority—a thing I disliked as much as any gentleman upon this committee, for I do not want to see the public debt increased in any way whatever or for any purpose whatever.

EXPLAINED THE GOLD CLAUSE.

"The gold clause" in Mr. Carlisle's offer of bonds brought out the following explanation from the secretary:

Mr. Bailey—How are you to be paid for the bonds now advertised for sale? Do you demand gold coin?

Secretary Carlisle—Yes, sir; the proposal calls for gold coin.

Mr. Bailey—This is the first time there has been any discrimination?

Secretary Carlisle—No. Secretary Sherman sold bonds for gold coin.

Mr. Bailey—I mean it is the first since the act of 1878 was passed. When Mr. Sherman sold these bonds gold was the only legal tender.

Secretary Carlisle—What the secretary of the treasury understands is substantially this: Congress has invested me with authority to issue bonds and sell them for coin. I will not issue bonds and sell them unless the purchaser will give gold coin for them, because gold coin is what is needed to maintain resumption and the parity of the two metals.

Mr. Oates—Bonds are made payable in gold coin.

Secretary Carlisle—Not gold coin, but in coin. When congress compelled the secretary of the treasury by law to buy $156,000,000 worth of silver, it specified in definite terms the buying of silver, and he did it.

Mr. Carlisle's views were then secured on the plan of another issue of greenbacks. He was asked if it would not be possible and practicable to authorize the secretary of the treasury to issue treasury notes sufficient to relieve the wants and necessities of the treasury.

He said: "Why, of course, congress could do that and the secretary of the treasury would use them. If you ask me, as a financial question, whether I think it wise in congress to authorize the issue of $290,000,000 in greenbacks I should say no, because I believe, in the first place, there is an ample supply of money in the country for the business that is being transacted, and a great deal more than is being used."

In concluding the hearing Mr. Carlisle expressed himself vigorously as to the validity of the present bond issue.

He was asked by Mr. Stone if the bonds would be hurt by legal questions.

Secretary Carlisle—No, because if the secretary should issue those bonds and take the gold and dump it into the middle of the Atlantic ocean it would not vitiate the bonds.

FORT NIOBRARA'S NEW HALL.

Dedicated with Becoming Ceremony—Christened in Honor of Colonel Gordon.

FORT NIOBRARA, Neb., Feb. 10.—(Special to The Bee.)—February 5 will be a day long remembered by all who participated in inaugurating the new administration building. All officers and their ladies from this post, Mrs. and Miss Cushing from Omaha, Miss Waring from Fort Omaha, Captain and Mrs. Gillfoyle from Fort Robinson and the genial Al Thacher from Valentine and a number of others were present. It was a ball and supper given by the bachelor officers and it was beyond doubt the grandest affair of its kind ever given at this place. The elements favored the occasion. It was the first time the new hall was to be used and the bachelor officers had a great surprise for the gallant commander of this post in store. Shortly after all the parties had arrived the gentlemanly and soldierly adjutant of the Sixth cavalry, First Lieutenant Elon F. Wilcox, arose and delivered the following speech:

"Ladies and Gentlemen: We are gathered here tonight in a beautiful building on a spot where a few months ago stood nothing out a ruin. One of the objects of our assembly, though a secondary one, is to celebrate the opening of our new ball room and theater. We can truly congratulate ourselves on the possession of this beautiful room and I hope we shall all pass many happy hours in it. That we do now possess this luxury is largely due to our good colonel, who has been persistent in his efforts to secure money from our not too generous uncle—(Sam, I mean, not the other one)—and besides, he has watched its growth and progress as a father that of a favorite child. Therefore, I propose that we name it Gordon hall, in honor of Colonel Gordon, a brave soldier, an honest and straightforward gentleman and a good commanding officer. May he and all of us live a thousand years and may Gordon hall be a joy to this post always."

The gallant colonel looked around the hall astonished and surprised, for he was required to make a speech in return, and during his long years of hard and honorable service he has always shown that he never was taken unawares when it came to handling the saber or gun, but speechmaking was something new to him, but he was equal to the occasion. He said:

"Ladies and Gentlemen: If I possessed the eloquence of a Cicero I could but feebly express to the gallant officers of the garrison my unbounded thanks for this great mark of respect in the dedication of this hall tonight. Four months ago the site where this building now stands was an unsightly waste covered with the debris of a once beautiful building, destroyed by fire. Consequently, by the loss of this building, great inconvenience was necessarily felt by all in the post. It was resolved to make an effort to rebuild. Requisition and estimate were forwarded with an earnest appeal for funds to erect the same. This was approved, and I must say with an energy unprecedented this beautiful hall sprung up as if by magic in a very short time. Unique among the enterprises of its kind, I consider it one of the best and most complete halls in the army. And this event will mark an epoch not only in the development of the post, but throughout the posts of the United States army. Therefore ladies and gentlemen, you will permit me, for this very graceful compliment you have conferred in dedicating this hall and naming it after me, which I fully and heartily appreciate, to tender you, one and all, my profound thanks."

Speeches were then made by several other officers and toasts given for half an hour, when the dancing commenced, which was only interrupted by an elegant supper, and kept up till late.

Great credit was also due to the Sixth Cavalry band for its excellent music, which was enjoyed and praised by all.

Department of the Platte.

Major Humphrey, U. S. A., has been directed by General Brooke, commander of the Department of the Platte, to take charge of the Quartermasters department commencing tomorrow. This change is made necessary by the retirement of Lieutenant Colonel Dandy which takes place on the eleventh of this month.

The commanding officer, Fort Omaha, will send under charge of a guard of one noncommissioned officer and three privates to the Fort Leavenworth military prison all military convicts at his post for the execution of whose sentence of confinement said prison has been designated. On completion of this duty, the guard will return to Omaha.

It Benefited Winter Wheat.

HEBRON, Neb., Feb. 10.—(Special to The Bee.)—The heavy rain which commenced falling Thursday night terminated in a severe blizzard and continued all day and night. The rainfall was about one inch and did much good to fall wheat.

J. H. Strickel went to Lincoln on Wednesday and returned this morning.

John D. Plummer has gone east on business.

W. H. Frame is in Kansas City this week.

Mr. and Mrs. C. P. Schwer have returned from Beatrice.

Miss Smith of Fairfield is visiting the family of H. H. Hershey.

Waverly Band Concert.

WAVERLY, Neb., Feb. 10.—(Special Telegram to The Bee.)—The Waverly Cornet band gave a concert and entertainment in the opera house this evening. Every seat in the large hall was filled. A temperance drama entitled "Broken Fetters" was rendered.

TO DEFINE THEIR POWERS

Congress Asked to Interfere in a Matter of Grave Importance.

UNITED STATES COURTS AND RAILROADS

Friendly Receivership System Causing Many Complications Which the House Judiciary Committee is Asked to Investigate—Judges Dundy and Jenkins.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 10.—There is a movement in the house to urge on the judiciary committee an investigation of the management of railroads under receivers appointed by the federal courts. So many complications have arisen lately as the system of receivership control has spread that the matter has been brought before the committee in several of its phases. Recently Governor Tillman of South Carolina memorialized congress on the subject, stating his troubles with the railroads which run through his state, growing out of the refusals of the receivers to pay state taxes, and the absence of legal machinery through which he could force them to, as they were nominally the agents of the federal courts which appointed them.

The memorial was bitter against the judges of the United States court and the supreme court itself, accusing them of partiality toward the railroad corporations and against their creditors. Governor Tillman addressed the committee on this, and two bills are before it.

This week the judiciary committee has up the McGann resolution for an investigation of the action of Judge Jenkins in enjoining the employes of the Northern Pacific from a strike.

This resolution was the result of a shower of protests and petitions sent to the committee on labor by the labor organizations, and there is no doubt that the more recent order of Judge Dundy against the men of the Union Pacific, coupled with his order for salaries of $18,000 to be paid the five receivers, will probably be called to the attention of congress from the same sources. Representative McGann has not decided to introduce a second resolution for an inquiry into the Dundy case, as he thinks the decision on the Jenkins case will establish a precedent and, moreover, he is hopeful that action will be taken for an inquiry covering the whole ground of the management of railroads in the hands of receivers, in which event the minor investigations will not be necessary.

Mr. McGann says that it is evident that grave abuses are incident to the system of "friendly" receivers for railroads, and thinks that congress should make some definite utterance on the system, that the powers of United States courts, as well as the rights of organized workingmen, should be understood. The rights of labor to organize, he says, will be recognized incidentally by the interstate commerce act, and he thinks this right has been infringed upon by Judges Jenkins and Dundy.

An influence which tends to restrain the committee on judiciary from reviewing the actions of the courts unnecessarily is that the judiciary is a co-ordinate branch of the government. Its members hesitate to take any action which might look like interference by one branch of the government with the functions of another.

MAY FOLLOW UP WITH FREE COINAG