

OPPOSES SHIP SUBSIDY BILL

Senator Clay of Georgia States the Case from Minority's Viewpoint.

MONTANA SENATORIAL SCANDAL UP AGAIN

Credentialed W. A. Clark and Martin Magnolia Are Referred to the Committee on Elections on Motion of Mr. Chandler.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 11.—The first speech in opposition to the ship subsidy bill in the senate was delivered today by Mr. Clay of Georgia, one of the minority members of the committee on commerce, which reported it to the senate. He is recognized as one of the most vigorous opponents of the bill in the senate and during nearly two hours was accorded close attention by senators on both sides.

Mr. Hanna, who expects to reply to Mr. Clay's argument, gave him a particularly attentive hearing. In the early part of the session a lively colloquy was precipitated over the reference to the committee of the Grouse oleomargarine bill, just passed by the house. It finally went to the committee on agriculture. This was a victory for the friends of the bill.

There also was a sharp debate over the Montana senatorial case, but no action was taken, the matter by consent going over temporarily. Tomorrow no business session of the senate will be held, as the day will be devoted to the celebration of the centennial of the establishment of the seat of government in Washington.

An order presented by Mr. Cockrell of Missouri was referred to the committee on the vacancies on the committees of the District of Columbia, geological survey, Indian affairs, mines and mining, Pacific islands, territories and railroads, filled by the appointment of Senator Towne of Minnesota.

The resolution offered yesterday by Mr. Hanna for the appointment by the president pro tem of a committee of three senators to make the necessary arrangements for the inauguration of the president of the United States on the 4th of March was adopted without debate.

Debate on Ohio Bill.

The Grouse oleomargarine bill, passed by the house, was laid before the senate and Acting President Frye announced that he felt obliged, owing to the previous action of the senate on a similar measure, to refer the bill to the committee on agriculture. Mr. Aldrich, chairman of the committee on finance, said he would offer no objection, but Mr. Vest of Missouri contended vigorously that the bill, being, to his mind, a revenue measure, ought to be referred to the committee on finance. He contended that if the bill was an honest measure it would be a revenue bill, and if dishonest it would be an effort to use the taxing power of the government as a police regulation.

Mr. Proctor of Vermont moved that the bill be referred to the committee on agriculture. The question was discussed briefly by Mr. Kyle of South Dakota, Mr. Stewart, Mr. Spooner, Mr. Allison and Mr. Money, the last named declaring that the Grouse bill was a measure the primary object of which was to tax one industry at the expense of another.

In again objecting to the proposed reference, Mr. Vest declared that it was proposed in this bill to turn congress into a state legislature and make it exercise purely police power in the various states.

The motion to refer the bill to the committee on agriculture was agreed to.

Montana Senatorial Scandal.

Mr. Carter called up his pending motion to refer the credentials of William A. Clark and Martin Magnolia, appointed senators from Montana, to the committee on privileges and elections, and after some discussion the motion prevailed without division.

Mr. Chandler, chairman of the committee on privileges and elections, asked that the resolution on the calendar declaring that William A. Clark was not duly and legally elected to a seat in the senate of the United States by the legislature of Montana be re-committed to the committee. Mr. Bacon of Georgia inquired what the object of the request was. Mr. Chandler replied that before the senate had the opportunity to act on the resolution the senator from Montana (Mr. Clark) had "gone through the form of resignation." That changes the entire aspect of the situation," said Mr. Chandler, and for a time forestalled and prevented discussion of the question involved.

To be entirely frank with Mr. Bacon, he said, another reason why he desired a re-commitment of the resolution was that the committee might desire to take some evidence on the whole case, and he maintained, had not been disposed of by the resignation and departure of Mr. Clark.

In the course of a long reply Mr. Bacon held that he could conceive of no legitimate purpose in the desire for a re-commitment of a resolution which had already been acted upon by the senate, and with a question which practically was dead. He intimated that the chairman of the committee on privileges and elections might have some ulterior purpose in view which he could not at this time divine.

After Mr. Chandler had retorted facetiously that the Georgia senator was "too suspicious, especially of the chairman of the committee," the matter of re-commitment was sent over to Thursday.

The senate in thirty minutes passed forty-five of the unobjectioned pension bills on the calendar.

Pending the resumption of the discussion of the ship subsidy bill an act providing that entrymen under the homestead laws who served in the United States army, navy or marine corps during the Spanish war or the Philippine insurrection shall have certain service deducted from the time required to perfect title under the homestead laws, was passed.

Clay Opposes Subsidy Bill.

Mr. Clay of Georgia then was recognized to deliver a speech upon the pending subsidy bill.

At the conclusion of Mr. Clay's speech Mr. Hanna, who in common with senators on both sides had given close attention to the address, said he had expected to submit some remarks on the bill today, but owing to the lateness of the hour would postpone the delivery of his address until Thursday.

The senate then, on motion of Mr. Lodge, went into executive session.

There were no set speeches on the Hay-Pauncefote treaty when the senate went into executive session. Such discussion as there was consisted of questions and an-

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The presentation of the resolution and the reading of the report of the secretary of war and Colonel Mills aroused great interest in the house.

Mr. Driggs of New York, the author of the original resolution, protested vigorously against the adoption of the substitute resolution, which did not include provisions for an investigation of the general subject of hazing at West Point with a view to putting a permanent stop to such practices. He declared that the practice of infamously hazing "plebes" at West Point was one of the most disgraceful and he would be in favor of abolishing the academy if these brutal practices could not be stopped. (Applause.)

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