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VOL. XLVI.—NO. 229.

OMAHA, TUESDAY MORNING, MARCH 13, 1917—TWELVE PAGES.

On Trains, at Hotels,
New Stands, Etc., So.

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TRAINMEN STRIKE SATURDAY UNLESS THEIR TERMS MET

Persistent Reports Current in New York Country - Wide Walkout on End of Week if Conference Fails.

ARE READY TO BEGIN WAR

Representative of Brotherhood Says Have Waited Reasonable Time for Court Edict.

COMPLETE TIEUP PLANNED

New York, March 12.—Persistent reports were current in railroad circles here today that a country-wide strike would result if a satisfactory agreement is not reached at the conference on the question of the eight-hour workday to be held here Thursday between the railroad managers and representatives of four brotherhoods of trainmen.

Reports have been sent to the railroad presidents by agents of the managers stating that plans had been laid by the brotherhoods to begin such a strike Saturday night in the event their demands are not met at the conference.

Inquiry at railroad headquarters failed to bring out the source of the reports, although it was learned definitely that such information has been sent them. This information stated that the brotherhoods' leaders consider they have waited a reasonable time for the supreme court decision on the Adamson law and "they are going to begin hostilities in a few days," as one railroad brotherhood representative put it. The plans of the union leaders, the report said, called for a progressive strike beginning Saturday night and looking to a complete tieup by the following Wednesday night.

Hiram Johnson Quits Governorship March Fifteenth

Sacramento, March 12.—Governor Hiram W. Johnson, United States senator-elect, announced his resignation of the governorship today, effective March 15.

No announcement followed an unsubstantiated report that he would resign the senatorship and keep the governorship.

Governor Johnson's second term of four years was slightly more than half completed. He was elected United States senator, running on the republican and progressive tickets, by nearly 300,000 plurality, although the state went democratic for the presidency by a plurality of 3,700. The governor is registered as a progressive.

Chinese House Approves Break With Germany

London, March 12.—A Peking dispatch to Reuters says that the house of representatives today in a secret session approved the government's diplomatic policy, including a rupture with Germany.

The Chinese foreign office announced on February 19 that it would sever diplomatic relations with Germany if the unrestricted submarine warfare decree was put into effect. On March 4 the Chinese cabinet agreed that the relations should be broken, but President Li Yuan Hung refused to accept the decision of the minister and Premier Tzu Chi Jui resigned. Three days later, however, the premier resumed office after President Li Yuan Hung had agreed to give the cabinet full power to frame the country's foreign policy and also on condition that parliament should vote on the question of a breach with Germany.

The Weather

For Nebraska—Snow; not much change in temperature.

Hour	Temp.	Wind
5 a. m.	31	W, 10
6 a. m.	31	W, 10
7 a. m.	31	W, 10
8 a. m.	31	W, 10
9 a. m.	31	W, 10
10 a. m.	31	W, 10
11 a. m.	31	W, 10
12 m.	31	W, 10
1 p. m.	31	W, 10
2 p. m.	31	W, 10
3 p. m.	31	W, 10
4 p. m.	31	W, 10
5 p. m.	31	W, 10
6 p. m.	31	W, 10
7 p. m.	31	W, 10
8 p. m.	31	W, 10
9 p. m.	31	W, 10
10 p. m.	31	W, 10
11 p. m.	31	W, 10

Comparison Local Record.

Year	High	Low
1917	31	27
1916	31	27
1915	31	27
1914	31	27
1913	31	27
1912	31	27
1911	31	27
1910	31	27
1909	31	27
1908	31	27
1907	31	27
1906	31	27
1905	31	27
1904	31	27
1903	31	27
1902	31	27
1901	31	27
1900	31	27

Temperatures and precipitation departures from the normal for the last two years.

Month	Temp.	Precip.
Jan.	+2.4	1.2
Feb.	+1.8	1.1
Mar.	+1.2	1.0
Apr.	+0.6	0.9
May	+0.0	0.8
June	-0.6	0.7
July	-1.2	0.6
Aug.	-1.8	0.5
Sept.	-2.4	0.4
Oct.	-3.0	0.3
Nov.	-3.6	0.2
Dec.	-4.2	0.1

L. A. WELSH, Meteorologist.

TORNADO SWEEPS EASTERN INDIANA

Twenty-One Are Killed at New Castle and Thirteen Others at Smaller Towns Nearby.

FOUR ARE KILLED IN OHIO

ESTIMATED DEAD.

New Castle, Ind.	21
New Lisbon	3
Mount Summit	3
Meredon, O.	3
Brookville, O.	1
Total	35

New Castle, Ind., March 12.—With twenty-one persons dead and 200 injured, New Castle today began clearing away the debris left by the cyclone which swept the southern part of the city yesterday afternoon. Fully 500 homes were destroyed or badly damaged. The estimates of the property loss remained at about \$1,000,000.

The death list began to dwindle early today, when persons who had been reported killed began to appear or were found among the injured. Searching of the ruins continued, but as no more bodies were found the hope was expressed that all had been accounted for.

The city was under police and military control approaching martial law. Several companies of Indiana National Guard were patrolling the damaged districts. All saloons and factories were closed. Workers from the factories were busy clearing the streets.

Two Injured Die.

Two more were added to the list of dead today, bringing the total to twenty-one.

Mrs. Peter Day, 58, died from her injuries at a hospital, being the fourth of a family of six to meet death in the storm. Three daughters were dead when found. A fourth daughter escaped injured by being in another part of the city. Peter Day, head of the family, was injured.

The unidentified body late today was said to be that of Ernest McLean, 11 years old. His brother, Jesse McLean, one of the seriously injured, also died today.

Strikes City from West.

The tornado struck the city from the west after leveling the rolling hills of Blue river valley. It swept through the entire width of the city from Sixth and Twenty-fifth streets. The first homes in the path of the twister were practically leveled to the ground, after which the wind apparently raised slightly, taking the roofs from the houses from Tenth to Twentieth streets, where it again dipped, sweeping practically every house before it to Twenty-fifth street. The greatest damage was done in the south part of the city, where a great many of the factory employes reside, and several thousand were homeless throughout the night. Two hundred special officers were sworn in by Mayor Watkins and a strict patrol of the affected district, was maintained.

Course of Storm Erratic.

The tornado cut a path from 300 to 500 feet in width through the city for a distance of eighteen blocks. It entered the city limits near the southern-west boundary line and worked its way in a zigzag manner north for two blocks and then east. It turned south near the eastern limits and left the city in a southeasterly direction. Because of darkness and a heavy fog last night it was impossible to tell the extent of the damage. A chill wind was blowing and added to the suffering to those not rescued promptly. Three or four ruins caught fire and at least one body was found badly burned after the fire was extinguished. The storm lasted only a few minutes.

The entire city turned its attention to rescue work, with Major P. A. Davis of the Indiana National Guard and Mayor Watkins in charge. Three companies of the Indiana National Guard were here before 1 o'clock. A

(Continued on Page Two, Column Two.)

Storstad is Sunk After It Had Hoisted Belgian Relief Flag

London, March 12.—The sinking of the Norwegian steamer Storstad, in the service of the American Commission for Relief of Belgium, occurred in latitude 52.0, longitude 11.50 (in the Atlantic off the southern end of Ireland). The submarine fired about fifteen shots at a range of three to four miles. The Storstad stopped and hoisted the Belgian relief flag. The submarine submerged, but half an hour later the Storstad, which had not resumed its voyage, was torpedoed as it lay stationary in the water with all the crew on board. It sank at 12:10 p. m. The crew, including one American, has been accounted for in its entirety, but the fourth engineer died of exposure before the men were rescued.

Jury in Thaw Lunacy Case Begins Its Work

Philadelphia, March 12.—The jury of six had its first sitting today in the lunacy proceedings instituted two weeks ago by Mrs. Mary Copley Thaw against her son, Harry K. Thaw. The proceedings are conducted behind closed doors. Thaw was not present, nor was District Attorney Swann of New York represented.

PICKING MEN TO TRY WOMAN FOR MURDER IS SLOW

'We Don't Hang 'Em Down There,' Prospective Juror Who Hails From South Tells Attorney.

SENSATIONAL DENVER CASE

Mrs. Stella Newton Moore Smith in Court Charged With Slaying Husband.

STATE ASKS FOR DEATH

Denver, Colo., March 12.—Little real progress was made today in the selection of a jury to try Mrs. Stella Newton Moore Smith, accused of the murder of her husband, John L. Smith of Denver. Thirty-five talesmen were examined. Two were excused, ten were "passed for cause" by the state and the others were challenged for cause by the state. With another panel to report tomorrow morning, attorneys estimated at least two more days would be required to fill the box with accepted jurors.

The district attorney, William E. Foley, examined the talesmen himself. The usual routine questions were asked and then he shot at each man: "Have you any conscientious scruples against capital punishment?"

Don't Hang Them in South.

Most of the talesmen answered in the affirmative. A few said they had "no objection." If the talesmen got by this question the district attorney would ask: "Would the fact that the defendant is a woman have any influence with you?" This question evoked the only bit of contrast to the dreariness of the afternoon's proceedings. John C. Scranton was the talesman who produced it.

"I would," he answered. "I come from the south and we don't hang 'em down there."

Scranton was excused, challenged for cause.

Betrays No Emotion.

The court room was crowded and a large number of persons were unable to get in. The crowd began to gather three hours before court opened. Mrs. Smith was dressed in a fashionable white gown. She betrayed no emotion.

John Lawrence Smith was shot and killed early on the morning of January 13, 1917, by his wife, Stella Newton Moore Smith, the divorced wife of William A. Moore, a leading Denver attorney. Mrs. Smith, after her arrest, told the police she shot Smith when he attacked her while intoxicated and after he had subjected her to indignities and threatened to attack Mildred Moore, aged 12, her daughter by her first marriage. Mrs. Moore is the daughter of Alfred Britton of Chicago, who acquired a fortune in the Texas oil fields. Smith was formerly a chauffeur in the Moore household.

Woman's Story.

The shooting took place at the Moore home in the fashionable residence district. Mrs. Smith told the police that, after shooting her husband with a small caliber revolver, she obtained a larger weapon belonging to Smith and fired a second shot into his mouth as he lay on the floor of her room. John Bindle, a servant in the household, corroborated the statement concerning the second shot. A coroner's jury returned a verdict in which Mrs. Smith was charged with shooting Smith "with felonious intent."

The Smiths were married in 1913 at Oakland, Cal., and for a time lived at Oakland. They had been separated for some time preceding the shooting. Mrs. Smith was occupying the Moore home with her little daughter under a court agreement with her former husband by which she was permitted to visit the child. Moore was quartered at a town-house hotel.

Police investigation immediately after the shooting developed that Mrs. Smith urged the servant, Bindle, to send for her divorced husband to come and get their daughter. Bindle telephoned to Moore, saying that Mrs. Smith feared her husband would injure the child, and Moore took the little girl away in a taxicab shortly before the shooting. Moore, it was said, did not enter the house.

Later Mrs. Smith telephoned Moore, saying: "I've killed him. B'ing the police."

House for Paying Fare Of Veterans to Vicksburg

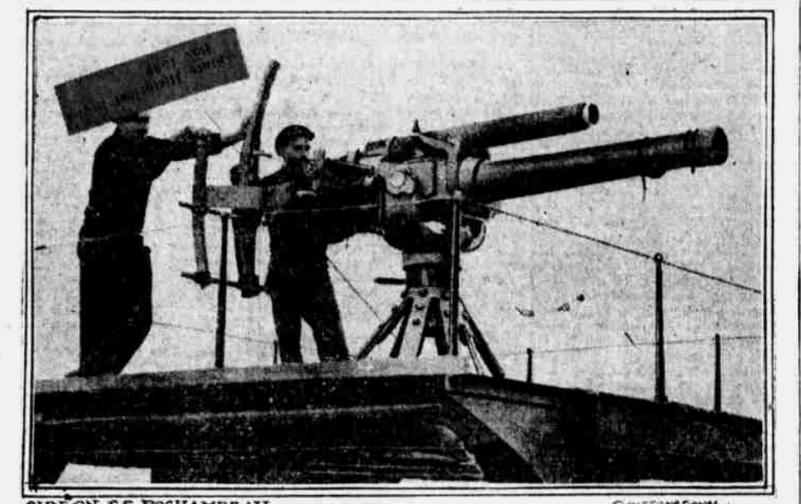
Lincoln, Neb., March 12.—(Special Telegram.)—With only one man protesting, Swason, of Clay, the lower house of the Nebraska legislature in its first night session, passed the appropriation bill giving \$20,000 to assist in paying railroad fare of Grand Army veterans to the Fiftieth anniversary of the battle of Vicksburg.

Swanson was afraid it was setting a bad precedent, but Fred Johnson of Adams informed the house that there was no precedent being set. "This is probably the last time the Nebraska legislature will have the chance to honor the old soldiers," said Mr. Johnson, "as they are rapidly passing away, and I believe we should pay this tribute to their deeds of valor."

Before Mr. Johnson could read the resolution passed at the Saturday night patriotic meeting the members began calling for a rising vote and when put nearly every member sprang to his feet and the bill was ordered to third reading with a whoop.

Five similar appropriation bills were sent the same way and after Mr. Thaw had managed to have his school land leasing law made a special order for Wednesday at 10 o'clock the house adjourned after being in session only about half an hour.

FRENCH 77-MILLIMETRE GUN ON S. S. ROCHAMBEAU—The first allied merchantship to arrive at the port of New York armed fore and aft. The picture shows the Rochambeau's 77-millimetre stern gun, attended by two expert French, the Crusades.



GUN ON S.S. ROCHAMBEAU.

GERMANS ABUSE YANKEE CAPTIVES

American Prisoners Arriving in Switzerland Tell of Their Sufferings.

STRUCK BY THEIR CAPTORS

Zurich, Switzerland, March 11.—(Via Paris, March 12.)—Laden with presents showered upon them by the Swiss, fifty-nine of the Yarrowdale prisoners arrived in Zurich today. Although emaciated from their imprisonment and lack of food since their arrival in Germany, on December 31, they are in fair condition.

The sailors said they were convinced that the raider which sank their vessel was the "Ritz of Bremen." They describe it as a brand new vessel of about 3,000 tons capable of eighteen knots, equipped with one funnel, two masts, one false funnel, four torpedo tubes, seven rapid-firing guns and a wheel house which was hidden by the sides of the ship. The funnels had a device by which the stripes could be changed at will and the ship's doors were constructed as to cut off all light when they were open.

Tell of Severe Treatment.

The men told of the severe treatment to which they had been subjected in the German prison camps at Neustrelitz, Dahlen and Brandenburg, where they had been successively interned after having been brought into Switzerland on the Yarrowdale and where they, as Americans, they said, were apparently singled out from others.

During their stay in Germany they reported they had subsisted on one allowance of soup daily and had made their long journey to the border on one "meal." There was hardly one of them who at one time or another, they declared, had not felt that fist of a German camp guard and the squad of five soldiers, which brought them to the border had exercised the privilege of abusing them up to the last possible moment.

Well Treated by Swiss.

The men tell of the terrible sufferings they underwent during a period of severe cold weather in Germany due partly to lack of fuel, but more to the absence of the stoves, which they had lost. Since their entrance into Switzerland at Rorschach, they say they have been royally treated by the Swiss.

The party includes all of the Americans detained except one seaman named Bulett of a French Canadian family, claiming to have been born in Massachusetts, who at the last moment was held in Brandenburg. They were accompanied by one Brazilian and one Spaniard.

Navy Will Hurry Up Construction Of Subsea Chasers

Washington, March 12.—Preliminary steps were taken by the Navy department today toward contracting for the quick construction of 100 or more high-speed coast patrol boats of a new type for scouting against submarines. At a conference in which a score of builders were represented assurances were given that deliveries could be begun within four months.

There was no announcement, but it is understood that contracts will be awarded shortly. Plans prepared for the patrol boats call for craft 110 feet long propelled by half steam engines. Details of their armament and equipment are now being worked out, but probably will not be made public.

Some of the companies represented in today's conference have turned out large numbers of chasers for the British government. They will have to make changes in their plants in order to build the larger boats wanted by the American government.

Representatives of the major shipbuilders also appeared at the department during the day, bringing data concerning their corporations and plants, for which Secretary Daniels recently asked. The information is for use in determining the allotment of new construction and also is desired for the guidance of the government in the event it becomes necessary to exercise the authority granted by congress for commandeering private establishments.

Secretary Daniels announced that bids for six scout cruisers of the thirty-five knot type, designed last year, would be opened Wednesday.

BEAT PUBLICITY BUREAU EXPENSE

Appropriation for Advertising Not Given in the Lower House.

DEPARTMENT ESTABLISHED

(From a Staff Correspondent.)
Lincoln, March 12.—(Special.)—Nebraska will have no publicity bureau and will have to get along with such publicity as naturally comes to it from the fact that it is a mighty good state, though badly handicapped by a democratic legislature. The house today decided that in the interest of economy, no money should be given to publicity through the creation of a publicity bureau and the \$25,000 appropriation was killed.

Jacobson called attention to the fact that other nearby states with less actual resources are getting more publicity than Nebraska, the best agricultural state in the union, and Bates brought out some other argument why the appropriation should be made, but to no avail and the appropriation was stricken out of the measure, by a vote of 41 to 27. The bill then went to third reading establishing the bureau, but giving it no funds to spend in publicity work.

Banks Not Executors.

The committee of the whole stuck a knife into the vitals of the Nielson bill, empowering banks to act as administrators, executors and guardians, after Mr. Peterson called attention to the fact that there is nothing in the law which prevents bank presidents or cashiers from acting individually in those capacities.

Following are some of the measures considered and placed on the third reading calendar:

Requiring railroad companies to have telephones in depots, over which employes must give information to the public, but allowing an arrangement with local telephone exchanges whereby it may furnish such information for the railroad corporation.

Railroads to have bulletin boards in all depots, giving accurate information on trains.

Licenses of insurance agents subject to cancellation upon complaint of two persons, after a hearing before the county judge in the county from which the complaint comes.

Governor authorized to appoint United States senator, in case of vacancy, to serve until next election.

School Tax More.

Fred Johnson's bill raising the limit of school tax in all districts from 35 to 45 mills, was recommended to pass, an amendment proposed by the committee on revenues and taxation which lowered the maximum to 40 mills, being defeated.

The Hopkins bill to put police magistrates under the nonpartisan judiciary law, also got through the committee of the whole.

Ruling in Rivers Damage Test Case Is Against U. S.

Washington, March 12.—Paramount federal authority over navigable rivers and government exemption from damage liability in their improvement, the supreme court decided today in Kentucky test cases, does not extend to their nonnavigable tributaries.

Justice Pitney, who gave this opinion, said owners of land on streams are entitled to compensation for land taken when such streams artificially were made navigable.

The ruling against the government, the Department of Justice had told the court, would establish a precedent of "tremendous importance" regarding government liability for damage to private property upon tributaries of navigable waters in improvement of the latter. Many pending suits and claims turned on today's decision.

Half of Washington Street Car Men Strike

Washington, March 12.—Practically one-half of the street railway lines of the capital were being operated today by strikebreakers. The other half, owned by another company, was running as usual with regular men, who had come to terms with their employers. Recognition of the union was the chief question. Service on the lines under strike, while infrequent, was being maintained without disorder and the company expressed its confidence that operations would return to normal in a few days.

CABINET CRISIS IN FRANCE SEEMS NEAR

Persistent Obstructive Tactics of the Opposition Threaten Overthrow of Ministry.

WILL QUESTION BRIAND

Paris, March 12.—The attacks of the opposition in parliament have produced a situation of such a character that both the friends and the adversaries of the government admit today that it cannot continue. The general opinion is that the opposition, which has been resorting to obstruction by refraining from voting must overthrow the cabinet and assume responsibility for solving the problems which form the basis for its assaults on the ministry or else ceases its attacks.

Deputy Petitjean of Paris will interpellate the cabinet tomorrow, the journal says, on its general policy, opening the way for a comprehensive declaration by Premier Briand as to the position of the government. The Petit Journal, however, says it is doubtful whether a conclusive debate will take place tomorrow or whether cabinet changes will intervene, making tomorrow's session purely a formal one, pending a declaration from a transformed ministry.

Arrest Paymaster In Alleged Bomb Plot in New York

New York, March 12.—A German, John Lambert, alias Carl Humbert, was arrested here today, charged with being an accomplice of Fritz Kolb and Harry Schwartz, who are being held in Holokon, N. J., as alleged bomb makers.

Humbert has been indicted by the Hudson county, New Jersey, grand jury and has been sought as the purported "paymaster" in an alleged plot to blow up munitions and munition plants.

New York, March 12.—Heramba L. Gupta, a Hindu student at Columbia university, arrested here yesterday, was arraigned today on a charge of violating the neutrality of the United States by conspiring with Franz von Papen, former German military attaché to this country, to organize a military enterprise here to free India from British rule. He was held in \$5,000 bail for the federal grand jury after waiving examination.

The complaint states that Gupta acted in conjunction with Von Papen and that Von Papen at various times paid to the student large sums of money to send him to Japan in furtherance of the enterprise. The bail of Dr. Chandra Chakrabarty, another Hindu, and Ernest Sekonna, a German chemist, both held on similar charges, was reduced from \$25,000 to \$5,000 today.

Chakrabarty, Sekonna and Gupta obtained bail through a surety company and were released.

Two Hundred More Food Indictments Will Be Returned

Washington, March 12.—More criminal indictments similar to those recently returned in New York against approximately 200 corporations and individuals are expected soon in the government's nationwide investigation of the activity of dealers in coal and food stuffs.

The indictments probably will be returned by one of the federal grand juries sitting in the middle west. Inquiries are being made by grand juries at Detroit, Cleveland and Chicago and the government's plans call for further grand jury investigations at Cincinnati and probably some other points.

Attorney General Gregory conferred today with George W. Anderson, United States attorney at Boston, in charge of the investigation; Frank M. Swacker and Robert M. Childs, who have been conducting the investigation at New York and in the west.

T. V. Truman Elected Head of Albion Schools

Albion, Neb., March 12.—(Special Telegram.)—The Board of Education of this city announced this morning the election of T. V. Truman of Weeping Water as superintendent of schools for next year.

FORMAL NOTICE AMERICAN SHIPS WILL BE ARMED

Foreign Nations Notified Vessels Will Carry Guards to Protect Lives of Those on Board.

GERMAN ORDER QUOTED

Navy Department Will Equip With Guns All Ships Whose Owners Request It.

MAY MOBILIZE THE NAVY

Washington, March 12.—Formal notice that American ships traversing the German submarine zone are to carry "armed guards for the protection of the vessel and the lives of the persons on board" was sent by the State department today to embassies and legations of all foreign governments in Washington.

Following is the text of the communication as made public by the State department:

"In view of the announcement of the imperial German government on January 31, 1917, that all ships, those of neutrals included, must within certain zones of the high seas, would be sunk without any precautions being taken for the safety of the persons on board and without the exercise of visit and search, the government of the United States has determined to place upon all American merchantmen sailing through the barred zones an armed guard for the protection of the vessels and the lives of the persons on board."

The Navy department's position is that it will equip with arms all ships whose owners apply to it.

Would Mobilize Naval Reserves. Mobilization of the complete fighting strength of the navy has been recommended by naval officials. The approval of President Wilson is required before orders can be sent calling out the reserves, assembling the naval militia and releasing all active officers now on shore duty for sea service.

Immediate graduation of the first class at Annapolis would be included in the plan in order to make up as far as possible the threatened shortage of officers.

An active recruiting campaign also would be necessary.

Navy recruiting continues to show a great increase. For the first eight days in March the net gain was 716 men. Many of the recruits are coming from districts where the Navy league is actively co-operating with the department. On March 1 there were 59,037 enlisted men in the navy and on March 8, 59,753.

Rochambeau Given Clearance.

Permission for clearance of the French liner Rochambeau from New York, the first belligerent merchantman to arrive in an American harbor with guns mounted fore, as well as aft, was today granted by the State department, which ruled that the Rochambeau, as a passenger-carrying vessel plying usual routes, was a peaceful merchantman, entitled to take adequate precautions against illegal attack.

Undoubtedly the Rochambeau ruling will lead to a general policy of arming vessels to the fore. It was thought at the time that it had been sent into port largely as a test of the policy of this government, and now that a wide armament is allowed it is assumed that other entente merchantmen will follow suit.

Whitman Issues Call for Congressional Election.

Albany, N. Y., March 12.—A proclamation calling for a special election April 12 in the Fifteenth New York congressional district to fill the vacancy caused by the recent death of Representative Michael F. Conroy, a democrat, was issued by Governor Whitman today. The district has a large democratic majority.

Concord, N. H., March 12.—The successor to Congressman Cyrus A. Sulloway, who died Saturday, will not be chosen in time to take his seat when congress convenes in special session April 16. Examination of the statutes today