

A REVIEW OF THE WORK ACCOMPLISHED BY CONGRESS

Passed the Meat Inspection, Railroad Rate and Pure Food Bills at the Close—Many Important Measures Become Laws—Most Notable Session in Last Quarter of a Century.

Washington. — Congress completed Friday the expedition of its most important programs and adjourned Saturday.

On the eve of adjournment the difference between the house and senate on the important bills pending were adjusted. As a result of the action taken the following measures were laid before the president for his approval:

The railroad rate act.
The agriculture appropriation bill, including the meat inspection amendment.
The pure food act.
The president signed the railroad rate bill at 11:45 Friday night. It goes into effect in 60 days.

New Epoch in Legislation.

Had nothing else been done this congress these measures would stand out as monuments to the present national administration. In emphasizing them mark the beginning of a new epoch in federal legislation—governmental regulation on corporations and the innovation of a new method of procedure to speak to the hand of private greed and protect the pocketbook and the health and general welfare of the masses.

In the end the house has had its way mostly regarding the railroad rate bill. Oil pipe lines remain in the measure as common carriers, but the commodity provision of the bill has been fixed so as to make the prohibition of an alliance between transportation and production apply only to "railroad companies." The railroads cannot own coal mines or transport their own products, but Standard Oil and the independent oil companies can pipe their own product. The senate yielded on this point because the house refused to give in by accepting the prohibition and otherwise the whole bill would have died.

Senator Tillman contented himself with a severe "roast" of the Standard Oil influence, and then took the chair in charge of the measure voted to accept the conference report. The senate gained a part of its contention in a readjustment of the pure food feature of the bill which prohibits free transportation to every one save certain excepted classes, including railroad employees and their families, and the officials, attorneys, surgeons, etc., of the companies.

House Victory in Meat Bill.

The meat legislation was a complete victory for the house. The senate agreed to the conference report and the house refused to give in. There were two points in controversy—the payment for inspection service and the question of putting dates on the labels of cans and packages of meat products. The government will pay the cost of inspection, instead of the packers, and labels will not require the date of inspection or canning of the contents.

In announcing the failure of the senate conferees to win on these disputed points, Senator Proctor said the bill accomplished a great deal, inasmuch as it provides for thorough inspection of all meat products under a sanitary regulation of packing plants, and that the conferees felt they could not lose everything by holding out for distinctive features which the public would not accept. He paid compliments to the packers in strong terms and charged them with having engineered the scheme that created sentiment in favor of making government pay the cost of inspection. Other senators entered their protest against the controverted provisions of the measure, but finally the conference report was adopted.

In the house, acceptance of the report was a pure formality. One important new feature of the measure as it passed both houses is an added appropriation of \$300,000 for the \$1,000,000 for inspection provided in the house amendment. This was brought about by combining the amount originally appropriated to the bureau of animal industry for inspection under the old system with the new permanent appropriation.

Pure Food Bill Criticized.

The conference report on the pure food bill was adopted by both houses without any change. In the opinion of Dr. Wiley and other officials of the agricultural department, it is a good measure as far as it goes, but Mr. Mann, of Chicago, who had charge of the conference report, says that it was not as good as the government had hoped for. It is weak in that it does not provide a standard by which drugs, foods and drinks can be measured to determine whether they comply with the law. That important question is referred to the courts, which under the bill as it will become law must add to their already great burden the consideration of cases raising the question whether certain articles of food or drugs contain harmful ingredients, are misbranded or because of their labels violate the pure food law.

Casual Type Fixed.

With the adjournment of congress it is possible to make a survey of the entire field of important legislation enacted during the session. The most prominent measures already have been referred to, and their general provisions are well known to the country. Next in point of interest perhaps comes the act authorizing the lock canal. The house first declared in favor of the lock canal, by providing that no portion of the money appropriated in

plans for such a vessel, to be submitted to congress. The naval act of this year makes small provision otherwise for the increase of the navy.
A bill was passed defining hazing and providing for the punishment of midshipmen guilty of the offense.
No opposition of importance developed when the motion was made to concur in the conference report on the naturalization bill. It provides a board which will have charge of the naturalization of aliens, and makes some changes in the law relating to court proceedings in naturalization cases.

General legislation during this session included an act prohibiting interstate commerce in spurious or falsely stamped articles made of gold or silver alloy; an act providing for the marking of the graves of Confederate soldiers and sailors and an act providing for the disposition of the five civilized tribes of Indians.

General Legislation Affecting the Philippines.

The principal legislation affecting the Philippines was an act postponing the operation of the coastwise laws until April 11, 1909; another revising the Philippines tariff, and a third authorizing the purchase of coal claims by the secretary of war.
A bill was passed providing for the election of a delegate in congress from Alaska. Provision was made for the allotment of homesteads to salaried district. The "Alaska fund" was created, through which receipts from liquor and business licenses will be devoted to the schools and road building. A bill was passed prohibiting aliens from fishing in Alaskan waters. An important measure to cattle interests is that changing the 25-cent law so that cattle may be kept in cars 36 hours without unloading.
Immigration Bill Falls.
Among the important measures that have failed the immigration bill demands first consideration. It failed because a conference committee was not appointed to settle the disagreement between the two houses. After a spirited fight in the house, in which Speaker Cannon participated, the immigration bill, originally a senate measure, was passed, with a substitute for the "educational test" which required immigrants to possess the ability to read English or some other language. The house substituted a section providing for a commission to investigate the subject of immigration. The bill will command attention when congress reconvenes in the fall.

The Bill to Prevent Contributions by Corporations.

The bill to prevent contributions by corporations in campaign funds was started in the house. It was brought through the senate by the indefatigable efforts of Senator Tillman. The house leaders refused to let it come up there, although it is understood action will be permitted at the next session. The Democrats charge that the Republicans want to lay it over until after the congressional elections, in order to get one more chance at the corporation barrel.
The Philippine tariff bill is still another notable failure. It was one of the features of the original administration program, was whipped through the house after a celebrated fight with the insurgents, and eventually landed in the seclusion of a senate committee. It has been allowed to be forgotten for the present.
The immunity bill, designed to prevent the recurrence of fiascos such as attended the prosecution of the Chicago beef cases, passed the house and in amended form was reported favorably from the senate committee on judiciary. Ever since then efforts to get it up have failed owing to the objection of the senate other members.
It has been a hard session for treaties. The Santo Domingo convention, much desired by the administration, has been kept down by the hostile minority in the senate. No action has been taken either on the Isle of Pines or Algeciras treaties.

Fate of Labor Bills.

Bills, most of which were demanded by the leaders of organized labor, have met their fate as follows:
1. The anti-injunction bill—dead in the judiciary committee.
2. The bill to regulate the hours of the committee on labor, but not acted upon.
3. The election of senators in congress by direct vote of the people—dead in committee.
4. The publicity of campaign expenses bill, recently reported to the house, but not acted upon.
5. The letter carriers' bill—dead in committee.
6. The bill to regulate the hours of railway trainmen—dead in committee.
7. The bill for the relief of the Sioux survivors—dead in committee.
8. The bill to prevent convict-made goods from competing with the goods manufactured by honest labor—dead in committee.

Outside the line of actual legislation, the present session will be historic through having authorized the investigation that has led to the railroad-coal exposures. Another resolution adopted by the senate will call for an investigation of the alleged grain trust and railroad-elevator combine in the west, that promises to be equally if not more sensational.

What Congress Has Spent.

The following is given as practically an accurate statement of the disbursements authorized from the public treasury:

Sundry civil	\$44,000,000
District of Columbia	3,500,000
Insular	10,000,000
Naval	35,000,000
Post office	10,000,000
Military academy	2,000,000
Penitentiaries	10,000,000
Permanent	14,000,000
Relief	2,000,000
Public buildings	7,000,000
War	10,000,000
Indian	9,000,000
Statehood	1,000,000
Unexpended	1,000,000
General deficiency	11,500,000
Contingent	1,000,000
Total	\$170,000,000

Among the acts affecting the military establishment were those increasing the efficiency of the ordnance department, the army and increasing the appropriation for the militia from \$1,000,000 to \$2,000,000 annually. Congress took a new tack in the naval appropriation bill. Instead of authorizing the construction of the biggest battleship afloat, as first provided by the house the bill as finally passed authorizes the preparation of

TASK OF GOVERNMENT

RIGHTS OF PEOPLE MUST COME THROUGH CONGRESS.

PRESIDENT TELLS OF WORK

Efforts to Restrain Corporate of Individual Greed Must Be Approached in Spirit of Fairness and Justice to All.

Oyster Bay, N. Y.—President Roosevelt was pleased to justify his stewardship in a review of the year for the benefit of his neighbors Wednesday. He spoke in the open air and nearly all of his important utterances were delivered during a heavy down-pour of rain. During the course of his speech he said:

"We have heard a great deal during the past year or two of the frightful inequalities of our politics and our business, and the frightful wronging in our social life. Now there is plenty of inquiry in business, in politics, in our social life. There is every warrant for our acknowledging these great evils. But there is no warrant for growing hysterical about them.

"This year in congress our chief task has been to carry the government forward along the course which I think it must follow consistently for a number of years to come—that is in the direction of seeking through the national government, the corporations, and the people as a whole, to exercise a measure of supervision, control and restraint over the individuals, and especially over the corporations, of great wealth, in so far as the business use of that wealth brings it within the reach of the federal government. We have accomplished a fair amount and the reason that we have done so has been in the first place because we have not tried to do too much, and in the next place because we have approached the task absolutely free from any spirit of rancor or hatred.

"When it becomes necessary to curb a great corporation, curb it. I will do my best to help you do it. But I will do it in no spirit of anger or hatred to the men who own or control that corporation; and if any seek in their turn to do wrong to the men of means, to do so without the sanction of the corporations, I will turn around and fight for them in defense of their rights just as hard as I fight against them when I think they are doing wrong."

CELEBRATE IN GAY PARIS

Ambassador Commends Roosevelt for Fortitude Exhibited in Tackling National Problems.
Paris.—The feature of the Fourth of July observance here was the banquet of the American chamber of commerce at which Ambassador McCormick discussed "Our National Housecleaning."
Ambassador McCormick's address attracted much attention, as it was devoted principally to the national housecleaning which is now being prosecuted under the directing hand of President Roosevelt. The ambassador said: "Our presidents have had periods of absolute restlessness in ridding the country of the curse of slavery at the cost of a fratricidal war. No one can doubt that we in the manner will rid ourselves of the sorrows that now afflict the body politic. The best augury is that we have a man at the head of the nation who is not afraid to grapple with the problems of the day, as Washington and Lincoln grappled with the problems of their time. The majority of the people now as then uphold the hands of their chosen leader."

Banquet Bryan at London.

London.—William J. Bryan was the central figure at the annual Independence day dinner of the American society at the Hotel Cecil Wednesday night. Ambassador Whiteley Reid and Mr. Bryan engaged in some sharp but good humored rally and banter. The night was spent in the convivial enjoyment of the sport with cheers and shouts of laughter.

Douma Disgraces Tolstol.

Yarnaya, Poland.—Count Leo Tolstol, in the course of an interview Wednesday, said the Russian parliament interested him very little. When he took up a paper, he said, he usually skipped the reports of parliamentary proceedings, but when he did glance at them they inspired him with the triple sensation of humor, irritation and disgust.

Attell Defeats Nell.

Los Angeles, Cal.—Abel Attell, champion featherweight in a 20-round battle with the champion of the lightweight champion, before the Pacific Athletic club Wednesday.
New York.—Secretary of State Elihu Root called from New York Wednesday on the United States cruiser Charleston on his three months' South American tour.

Crew Is Saved.

St. Johns, N. F.—The Boston schooner Mary Powers, Capt. O'Neill, founded off the Grand banks last Monday and the members of the crew managed to reach here Wednesday in dories. They had rowed 50 miles.

State Department Indexes.

Washington.—After making a thorough search for the past six months for a capable successor to the late bureau of the state department, Secretary Root has finally appointed John R. Buck, of Maine, to the place.

The Most Dangerous Fox of This Nation

By MOST REV. PATRICK E. RYAN.

WE JUSTLY laud the institutions and spirit of our country. But indiscriminate praise is no evidence of genuine rational patriotism. On the contrary, it often is dangerous and lulls into fatal security. "Oh, my people," cries out Isaiah, the prophet and patriot, "they who praise thee, the same deceive thee and destroy the footsteps of thy ways!"

Marvelous as has been our progress in a single century, there is the greatest need to preserve what we have gained to correct where we have been deficient. Some have stated, and with some show of reason, that our leading radical fault has been, and is, love of money, amounting to national avarice, and our energies in both the national and religious order should be directed to neutralize, or, at least, to moderate this tendency.

But I cannot believe that love of money is the predominant fault of the American people. They are too noble and generous a people to be a nation of misers. They freely give what they freely get, and are often prodigal in their generosity. No, I believe that ambition, pride, and inordinate independence and self-reliance are our most dangerous foes. Humility is becoming a name for pious weakness, and ambition is no longer a sin, and to desire to be unknown is considered foolishness.

A deep sense of responsibility to God and to the people, a humble estimate of our own powers, and reliance on God's power to help us are to be sought. We have no union of church and state here, but neither have we divorce of religion from the state. Motives inspired by the religious element within us will be the strongest, as religion is the deepest and most sacrificial producing power of our nature. A consciousness of our limitations is the result of religious thought and sentiment, and produces sobriety of judgment and dependence on the Most High.

As vital to our permanence as a nation we need more respect for the distinct doctrinal teachings of Jesus Christ. Mere pious platitudes will not stem the torrent of human passion. Laws without sanction of reward and punishment are not sufficient guarantee for morality and civilization.

Human Vampire's Lust of Money

By MAGISTRATE DANIEL E. FINN.
Of New York City Court.

The human vampire is a terrible thing, and we see him in the police court in all his hideousness. It fattens on the immorality of men and women, puts its claws in the pockets of the push-cart humanity, which, wretched and low as it is, is infinitely superior to the thing that profits by its ignorance.

It will take money dripping with blood and reeking with the worst there is and laugh at you while it is doing it.

The greatness and brutality of man's inhumanity to man and the whole world's wolfishness toward woman, as seen from a police magistrate's bench, sometimes shakes our belief in the things learned at Sunday school.

The love of money has got the world in a frenzy, and nothing counts against it.

It kills the love of home and family; it makes repulsive, ugly, slimy things out of men and women who seem fair enough to look at, until you hear them open their mouths in a yawn that has only money for its theme, and you see that the only motive that is propelling the living thing is the unholy, rapacious, vulture-like desire to gain a dollar or two or to keep from letting one go.

The insolvency of people who feel the power of money they possess, gotten by foul or fair means, is as bad in its way of decency on the part of those poor creatures who are trying to get it by any of the means that have as incidents in the getting of it frequent appearance in the police court.

The insolvency of money goes to turn the socialistic spirit of the ignorant into anarchy.

The man with money and the power that it gives him, who uses it to do good things in modesty, is about one in a hundred of the other kind.

The man with the automobile and the insolence of a new fortune, who shouts "Hi! Hi!" at the pedestrian, tries to break a policeman when he's arrested for speed-law infringement and shows his contempt for people in court, is one of the best cartoons on the insolence and growing aristocracy of money that any man could create.

The world follows the fashion because so few individuals can think for themselves, and it's the fashion to reverence the man who gets the money. Reverence for the man who gets the money leads to the utter obliteration of the human feelings.

Phonograph Sounds Doom of Songster

By JOHN PHILIP SOUSA.
Musical Composer and Band Leader.

Beware of the phonograph! The germ of destruction to the human voice lurks in its cylinders and funnels. It is taking the musical initiative from the people. By and by the human songster will be extinct. The banjo and guitar and mayhap the piano will live only in historic phonographic records. Only the talking machine and the hurdy-gurdy will remain.

I tell you the human voice is not heard as it used to be, and I prophesy that the vocal chords may become useless for singing by this disease. Last summer I was in one of the largest summer harbors, which was filled with yachts. I went among them. Was there the old-time singing? No, it was nothing but the phonograph.

When I was a boy—and I was born right here in Washington—it was the custom of the young people to sit on their porches and steps in the evening and sing the old songs and the songs of the day. But you don't hear these songs any more. What do you hear? Go along the street in the evening—it is nothing but the phonograph.

Another evidence that the machines are taking the musical initiative from our people is that the sale of the banjo, the mandolin and the guitar and decreasing greatly, and the dealers tell me this is on account of the increased use of the talking machines.