

WHAT CONGRESS HAS DONE

A RECORD FOR APPROPRIATIONS

An Accurate Amount Not Yet Available But It Will Be the Largest in the Country's History—An Old Record—Number of Vital Measures Certain of Failure at This Session—About 38,000 Bills Presented in the Two Houses and 275 Public Bills Became Laws—Scarcely Any of the General Policies of the Country Touched Upon—What the President Recommended, and How Far His Recommendations Were Accepted.

THE ROOSEVELT ROW.

The discussion in both houses of the secret service and of the Panama canal and in the Senate of the Brownsville affair and of the Tennessee Coal and Iron Company purchase has brought the administration of Theodore Roosevelt prominently in view. The veto of the census bill, because the employes for the taking of the next census were not to be placed under civil service regulations, was another interesting chapter of the session.

PENAL CODE REVISION.

It practically is assumed that the monumental work of revising and codifying the penal code laws of the United States will be completed this session. An agreement has been reached by the conferees of the two bodies. As a result of this legislation, the United States government will, through a "ridger" enter the field of regulating the interstate shipment of intoxicating liquors.

CONGRESSIONAL FORECAST.

Last Days of Present Session Give Promise of Being Busy Ones in Both Houses—Several Important Measures Are on Hand and Night Session May Be Necessary.

FACTS AND FIGURES.

About 27 of the public bills will become laws. There will be about 17 private bills enacted. The latter, however, are estimated to represent about \$300 private bills introduced, as many of the private bills finally passed were omnibus bills.

MRS. BABCOCK BETTER.

Special to The Observer. Mrs. Babcock, mother-in-law of Vice President Sherman, who has been a patient of Central Carolina Hospital here since Monday night, having to be taken off of S. A. L. train No. 84 while en route to Washington to attend the inauguration, is reported much improved and will be able to resume her trip to Washington in time to attend the inauguration ceremonies.

Small Drove at Spencer.

Spencer, Feb. 28.—Fire of unknown origin at 1 o'clock this morning destroyed a frame store building belonging to L. L. Cranford, in Spencer, containing a loss of about \$500, with no insurance. The cause of the fire seems to be a mystery, as no one had been in the building to-day.

TAFT SELECTS HIS BIBLE

THE VOLUME IS A CENTURY OLD.

Book Kept in the Archives of the Supreme Court to Be Used by the New President in Taking the Oath of Office—Precedent Will Be Broken Here in That He Will Not Retain the Volume, and Again Will Be Retiring President Does Not Ride Back to the White House With the New Chief Executive.

Washington, Feb. 28.—William H. Taft will take the oath of office as President of the United States on the century-old Bible, which belongs to the Supreme Court of the United States, and by it kept in sacred custody. There is a touch of sentiment in this decision which Mr. Taft announced to-night with the statement that had he become a member of the Supreme Court his oath would have been taken on the same book.

During the past few days there have been many offers of Bibles to the prospective President. He has not declined to receive the gift, but his answer has been that it will be impossible for him to receive them for the purpose intended. It has been the custom of past Presidents to use a new or an historic Bible in taking their oath of office, and each has retained the book thereafter.

TO BREAK ANOTHER PRECEDENT.

President in another ancient inaugural detail is to be broken next Thursday in the intention of President Roosevelt to go from the inaugural ceremonies at the Capitol direct to his train at Oyster Bay, and not return to the White House in the carriage with Mr. Taft. It is possible that Mrs. Taft may occupy this vacant seat.

TALKS TO KITREDGE.

Senator Kittredge had an interview to-day with Mr. Taft respecting the Mann bill, providing for a government-owned Panama canal zone, which is pending in the Senate. This measure is intended to give legislative authority for practically the present system of government there. The measure makes a few changes in the system, but is approved by Mr. Taft.

ALL READY FOR INAUGURATION.

The Capital City is in Holiday Attire and Already the Visitors Are Pouring In—Roosevelt Attends Church For the Last Time as Chief Executive of the Nation.

ALLOWANCE INCREASED.

Carnegie Foundation Will Allow \$4,000 to Its Beneficiaries—Widows of Professors to Be Granted Pensions Also—Assets Now Over Ten Millions.

Cardinal Gibbons Says He Was Misquoted.

New Orleans, Feb. 28.—In reply to a telegram from the New Orleans Progressive Union asking if he had been correctly quoted in a newspaper interview as saying that the business men of New Orleans were not enthusiastic over the building of the Panama canal and saved the money could be expended for the purpose of better purposes, Cardinal Gibbons says: "Not correctly quoted."

Eight Trust Senator Will Not Return To-Day.

Hopkinsville, Ky., Feb. 28.—Eight Democratic Senators who on Friday broke the quorum in the Tennessee Legislature and came to Kentucky, have abandoned any intention of returning to Nashville on Monday. They said to-day that they would remain in Hopkinsville until the General Assembly adjourns. Assistant Sergeant-at-Arms Yeaman is keeping them under surveillance.

Miss Ethel's Engagement Denied.

Washington, Feb. 28.—An emphatic denial of the reports that the President's younger daughter, Miss Ethel, is engaged to marry Third Assistant Secretary of State William Phillips, was given out from the White House to-night.

STATUS OF COOPER TRIAL

MAY CONTINUE FOR WEEKS YET.

Probable That Taking of Testimony Will Continue Two Weeks Further and the Arguments Are Likely to Occupy an Entire Week—A Great Array of Lawyers and Each One Expects to Make a Speech—Holding of the Court on Two Points Will Have Much to Do With It—Progress of the State and Defense Thus Far Outlined—The Jury Chafes Under Restraint and the Court Orders That It Be Exercised Twice Daily.

Nashville, Tenn., Feb. 28.—Sunday was a busy day for counsel on both sides in the Cooper-Sharp trial for the slaying of former United States Senator Edward W. Carmack. The trial was continued until Monday, when it will resume. It included the sixth week of the trial and the tenth day of actual testimony. The State has offered testimony to show that Senator Carmack received threats that unless he withdrew his name from the columns of the Tennessee Standard Oil Company he would be killed.

PROGRESS OF DEFENSE.

On the other hand the defense thus far has offered testimony that Colonel Cooper saw Carmack by accident while his son Robin tried to lead him away; that he turned and said he would talk with Carmack; that Robin Cooper followed his father, who had been shot, and that he saw the bullet enter the forehead of the father and the bullet enter the forehead of the son.

CLOSING OF CONGRESS.

In the closing days of Congress nothing perhaps will be of greater interest than the action on Monday of the Senate committee on judiciary, which has reported to the Senate the report of the sub-committee which investigated the merger of the Tennessee Coal and Iron Company with the United States Steel Corporation.

STANDARD OIL HEARING.

The re-trial of the Standard Oil Company of Indiana, for the alleged acceptance of rebates probably will reach the testimony-taking stage early in the week. There will be a scattering of baseball games this week and enough general practice to suggest that the season of outdoor sports is fast approaching.

MEMORIAL TO "UNCLE REMUS."

Old Home of the Distinguished Writer to Be Purchased and Preserved in Honor of His Memory—Children Asked to Contribute.

UNIFORM CHILD LABOR LAWS DESIRED FOR SOUTH.

Baton Rouge, La., Feb. 28.—The call of Governor Sanders, of Louisiana, for a Southern States child labor conference to be held in New Orleans March 29th, 30th and 31st has brought favorable responses from the Governors of Kentucky, Tennessee, Mississippi and North Carolina, who have forwarded a list of delegates appointed by them to attend.

Former President of Seminoles Company Arrested at Chattanooga.

Chattanooga, Tenn., Feb. 28.—John Y. Washington, former president of the Seminoles Securities Company, of Columbia, S. C., was arrested in his office in this city this morning on instructions from Columbia. The charges against him is obtaining money under false pretenses. He was released on bond immediately following his arrest.

FORECAST OF WEEK'S NEWS

INAUGURATION CHIEF FEATURE

While the New President is the Centre of Admiration at the Inaugural Day, His Predecessor Will Be Enjoying the Classic Shades of Oyster Bay and the Man Who Wanted to Be President Will Be the Hero of a Dinner at Pittsburgh—Much Interest Centres in the Trial of the Standard Oil Case to Be on in Earnest—The Foreign Field, Except For a Balkan Situation, Will Offer Nothing Sensational.

All other events of the week will be overshadowed by the inauguration at Washington of William Howard Taft, twenty-seventh President of the United States. But while Mr. Taft is the central figure of imposing ceremonies on Thursday, a considerable degree of unofficial interest may follow on that day the movements of two other men who long have challenged public attention and admiration.

NEW BANK FOR ROCK HILL.

Stockholders of the People's Bank and Trust Company Will Organize a National Bank With Capital of \$100,000—Present Organization Will Be Continued as a Trust Company.

DEFENDS THE HOUSE RULES

Attack Upon the Speaker and the Rules of the House of Representatives, Made in a Circular Letter by a Magazine, Riles the Man From Illinois and He Enters Vigorous Defense—Declares the Rules Were Laid Down by the Fathers of the Country Ago by Great Men and Have Stood the Test of Time, Even if They Are Not Ideal—Declares the Magazine's President Knows Nothing of What He Writes and Therefore is Presumptuous.

CONFESSIONS BRUTAL CRIME.

John Junken, Negro Held For Murder of Ottumwa Girl, Turns Out to Be Right Man—Declares He Was Full of Cocaine When He Committed the Crime.

SEEK SCALP OF COLLEGE PROFESSOR WHO VOTED WET TICKET.

Richmond, Ind., Feb. 28.—The resignation of W. W. Turnbull, professor of English at Earlham College, is demanded in resolutions passed by a meeting of the Friends Church at Dublin, because he voted "wet" in the recent local option election, which resulted in the defeat of the anti-saloon faction.

MEMPHIS LODGING HOUSE.

Memphis, Tenn., Feb. 28.—Attracted by the pungent odor of escaping gas, attaches of a rooming house forced the door of one of the apartments to-day and found one of the occupants, Robey Roark, of Creston, N. C., dead and his relative, Gilbert Latham, in a serious condition from the effects of fumes escaping from a partly closed gas jet. The men were en route to a point in Wyoming.

Woman's Ninth Effort at Suicide is Successful.

St. Louis, Feb. 28.—The ninth attempt of Mrs. Elizabeth Lowery to end her life was successful to-day. She drank carbolic acid because of despondency. In the last three years she drank poisons six times, used a razor once, and tried to hang herself twice.

Missing Rome Man Found in River.

Rome, Ga., Feb. 28.—The badly decomposed body of J. C. Cokerell, the Rome insurance man who disappeared on January 25th, was found this morning in the Etowah river. Cokerell was last seen walking across the point where his body was recovered yesterday.

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DEFENDS THE HOUSE RULES

CRITICISM INCENSES CANNON.

Attack Upon the Speaker and the Rules of the House of Representatives, Made in a Circular Letter by a Magazine, Riles the Man From Illinois and He Enters Vigorous Defense—Declares the Rules Were Laid Down by the Fathers of the Country Ago by Great Men and Have Stood the Test of Time, Even if They Are Not Ideal—Declares the Magazine's President Knows Nothing of What He Writes and Therefore is Presumptuous.

Washington, Feb. 28.—Incensed by an attack upon the rules of the House of Representatives by Edward E. Higgins, president of Success Magazine, in a circular letter to the "life subscribers" of that publication, Speaker Cannon to-night made public a letter he had written to one of his constituents in which he vigorously defended the House rules.

"The rules may not be ideal," writes the Speaker, "but they have stood the test of time. They have been perfected from year to year to meet the needs of a growing representation of a growing nation, just as the law of the land is developed."

Speaker Cannon's letter was in response to one from F. O. York, of Neoga, Ill., in which the speaker of the circular, Mr. Cannon states that he had previously received several letters from Mr. Higgins informing him that he was making a poll of his life subscribers as to whether he should be elected Speaker next year and whether the rules of the House should be revised.

GETS INSTRUCTIONS EVERY DAY.

The Speaker says that he receives hundreds of letters from men and women who would instruct him in his duties as a Representative and as a Speaker.

AS TO THE CRITICISM WHICH MR. HIGGINS MAKES OF THE RULES AND THE ADMINISTRATION OF THEM BY THE SPEAKER, LITTLE NEED BE SAID.

He writes that will be evident to any one who reads the rules of the House served carefully and honestly their administration. A man who, without having studied the law of the land or practiced in the courts, should criticize and denounce indiscriminately the rules of the House simply because he had heard the complaints of lawyers who had lost their cases, would receive from the community the attention to which his ignorance and his presumption fairly entitle him. But it seems that any one, after having sat at the feet of persons disgraced because of the failure of proposed legislation, may become a patriot and a moulder of opinion by denouncing the rules which adjust the rights and wrongs of the people, the efficiency of a body of 391 members, representing the complex interests of ninety million people.

MARRIAGE SIMPLY A JOKE.

Story of the Wedding of Midshipman Young, of Concord, and a Pennsylvania Girl Was Concocted by Frivolous Messmates of the Young Naval Aviator, and the Result Was a Disciplinary Charge of Offense.

PORT MONROE, VA., FEB. 28.—

Naval circles here had a flutter of excitement to-day when they learned of a mock marriage in the parlors of the Chamberlin Hotel late last night in which Midshipman Robert S. Young, Jr., of the armored cruiser, North Carolina, and Miss Margaret Connell, daughter of A. J. Connell, of Scranton, Pa., were supposed to be the principals. The entire ceremony was a joke among the young people, a large party of whom had been enjoying the regular Saturday evening dance at the hotel. One of the members of the pseudo "wedding party" called up newspapers in Norfolk and Newport News and told them seriously of the wedding. It is also said he wired the news to a paper in the young lady's home city.

THE YOUNG PEOPLE WERE DEEPLY CHAGRINED THIS MORNING TO FIND A SERIOUS ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE SUPPOSED WEDDING.

A young lieutenant who was in the party, was announced by the midshipman who sent out the story of the wedding, as "Chaplain Allen." There is no such chaplain in the navy.

CAPTAIN MARSHALL OF THE NORTH CAROLINA HAD A HARD TIME OF IT FAIR TO-DAY, SAY THE MIDSHIPMEN INVOLVED AND DIRECTED THE ONE WHO HAD SENT OUT THE STORY TO GO AT ONCE TO THE NEWSPAPER OFFICES TO WHOM HE HAD SENT THE NEWS AND MAKE A PERSONAL RETRACTION.

THE STORY WHICH WAS FURNISHED THE ASSOCIATED PRESS UNDER A NEWSPAPER NEWS DATE THE LAST SATURDAY NIGHT, WAS AS FOLLOWS:

"Midshipman Robert Simonton Young, Jr., attached to the armored cruiser North Carolina, and Miss Margaret Connell, daughter of A. J. Connell, of Scranton, Pa., were married to-night at midnight at the Chamberlin Hotel, Old Point, by Chaplain Allen, of the battleship Connecticut. Quite a number of friends witnessed the ceremony. Midshipman Strauss was best man, and Miss Nation, of El Paso, Tex., was maid of honor. It is stated that Midshipman Young and his bride met for the first time last Monday when the young lady came here to witness the home-coming of the fleet. The young officer is a son of Dr. Robert S. Young, of Concord, N. C."

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