

THE POSTOFFICE BILL

CONSUMES ALMOST ENTIRE SESSION OF THE SENATE

THE PNEUMATIC TUBE SERVICE

This Committee Amendment Discussed at Length and Passed Over. All Other Committee Amendments Agreed to Secretary of War Asked for Information as to Number of Filipinos Killed, Wounded and Captured.

SENATE

Washington, May 17.—During practically the entire session of the senate today the postoffice appropriation bill was under consideration. The measure was read and all of the committee amendments were agreed to.

A conference was agreed to on the naval appropriation bill. Senator Jones of Kansas, offered an add adopted a resolution calling upon the secretary of war to inform the senate how many Filipinos have been killed and wounded since the beginning of hostilities; and also how many have been captured and are now in our possession.

Senator Wolcott, of Colorado, called up the postoffice appropriation bill and its reading for amendment was begun. When the committee amendment appropriating \$700,000 for transportation by pneumatic tubes was reached Senator Wolcott asked that it be passed over as it had been discussed so much on the committee on the proposition. He also said he had the authority to fast mail subsidy and the subsidy for the carrying of mail between Kansas City and Newton, Kansas. His postmaster general, he said, had ever recommended the subsidies.

The committee amendment struck out a part of the paragraph relating to the railway mail service and provided for 1,322 clerks at \$1,000 each and 1,387 clerks at \$900 each.

The final section of the bill was a senate committee amendment providing for the continuance of the commission to investigate the question whether or not it is desirable to pay to the railroad companies for the transportation of mails and as a compensation for the use of their cars, and all sources of revenue and all expenditures of the postal service.

Senator Butler offered an amendment reducing the amount appropriated by the bill for railway transportation of the mails to \$3,700,000 to \$3,043,000, and directing the postmaster general to readjust the compensation to be paid for the use of the cars for the transportation of mails at least 10 per cent. per annum from the present rate.

Discussing his amendment, Mr. Butler said he proposed to submit facts which he had presented to the committee several times before as to the excessive cost of transporting the mails. He believed the postoffice commission which had been organized to investigate the question of the reduction of the cost of transporting mail.

Senator Pettigrew spoke in support of the Butler amendment. Senator Wolcott characterized some of the statements of Senators Butler and Pettigrew as "wild vagaries" which would be regarded as "preposterous if they had not fallen from the lips of so conservative a statesman as the senator from North Carolina."

Senator Clay, of Georgia, resented the attack made by Senators Butler and Pettigrew upon the postal commission. The amendment extending the life of the postal commission was agreed to without dissent.

The committee amendment appropriating \$500,000 for the transmission of mail by pneumatic tubes was considered by Senator Butler made a point of order against the amendment that it was new legislation and in violation of the existing law.

Senator Wolcott addressed the senate in opposition to the amendment. He said the entire scheme of sending mail by pneumatic tubes was being patented except the hole in the ground and that had to be obtained from the municipal authorities.

When Mr. Burton, chairman of the river and harbor committee, asked for unanimous consent that he would announce a real river and harbor bill would be brought in early in the next session.

Mr. Southard, of Ohio, objected, and thereupon on Mr. Burton's motion, the house went into committee of the whole to consider the bill. An important debate, the committee rose and the bill was passed.

The Alaskan code bill was then taken up. In the course of the general debate with leave to print Mr. W. E. Williams, of Illinois, discussed the Philippine question. He stated that Ohio, made a general resume of industrial conditions to show that the present administration had lifted the country out of the slough of despondency and had brought it to the high water mark of prosperity.

After some further remarks by Mr. Kitchen, of North Carolina, and others, the house at 4:56 o'clock adjourned.

THE DRY GOODS MARKET

New York, May 17.—Business on home account shows no material change in any division of the market. Buyers still going slowly. In heavy brown cottons further sales were reported for export. This week's export business will probably reach 1,000 bales of sheetings and drills. Demand for coarse colored cottons is limited. Bleached cottons are somewhat irregular in some makes. Prints are in rather better demand for staple goods. Cotton linings are dull and generally in favor of buyers.

ROBERT B. BELLAMY, the Druggist

NEW YORK STOCK MARKET

(Special to the Messenger.) New York, May 17.—Railroad stocks were strong, industrials weak. Money again declined abroad. Sterling exchange was decidedly lower. Total sales of stocks were 456,000 shares, of bonds \$1,673,000.

The strength of London, pretty good buying by London and the belief that the gold will go to that market this week has a bearing effect here. Moreover, the Bank of England statement today was a very strong one and foreign exchange was somewhat better than expected. Large earnings strengthened that stock. For the second week of the session the market has been in good demand for foreign and local account and there was good buying.

ANACONDA.—The settlement of the Quincy copper mine strike. CRUDE TURPENTINE.—Steady at \$1.85 and \$2.00. Prices same day last year—Spirits turpentine 30c and 37c; rosin 50c and \$1.00; crude turpentine \$1.35 and \$2.40.

RECEIPTS TODAY—50 casks spirits turpentine, 41 barrels rosin, 41 barrels turpentine, 368 barrels rosin, 75 barrels turpentine. RECEIPTS SAME DAY LAST YEAR—32 casks spirits turpentine, 368 barrels rosin, 75 barrels turpentine.

COUNTRY PRODUCE. PEANUTS.—North Carolina, fancy, 70 to 75c; prime 60 to 65c; Virginia 65 to 70c; Spanish 90c. CORN MEAL.—49c. COUNTRY BUTTER.—Mama, 9 to 10c; No. 1, 7 to 8c; No. 2, 6 to 7c; No. 3, 5 to 6c; No. 4, 4 to 5c; No. 5, 3 to 4c; No. 6, 2 to 3c; No. 7, 1 to 2c; No. 8, 10c; No. 9, 11c; No. 10, 12c; No. 11, 13c; No. 12, 14c; No. 13, 15c; No. 14, 16c; No. 15, 17c; No. 16, 18c; No. 17, 19c; No. 18, 20c; No. 19, 21c; No. 20, 22c; No. 21, 23c; No. 22, 24c; No. 23, 25c; No. 24, 26c; No. 25, 27c; No. 26, 28c; No. 27, 29c; No. 28, 30c; No. 29, 31c; No. 30, 32c; No. 31, 33c; No. 32, 34c; No. 33, 35c; No. 34, 36c; No. 35, 37c; No. 36, 38c; No. 37, 39c; No. 38, 40c; No. 39, 41c; No. 40, 42c; No. 41, 43c; No. 42, 44c; No. 43, 45c; No. 44, 46c; No. 45, 47c; No. 46, 48c; No. 47, 49c; No. 48, 50c; No. 49, 51c; No. 50, 52c; No. 51, 53c; No. 52, 54c; No. 53, 55c; No. 54, 56c; No. 55, 57c; No. 56, 58c; No. 57, 59c; No. 58, 60c; No. 59, 61c; No. 60, 62c; No. 61, 63c; No. 62, 64c; No. 63, 65c; No. 64, 66c; No. 65, 67c; No. 66, 68c; No. 67, 69c; No. 68, 70c; No. 69, 71c; No. 70, 72c; No. 71, 73c; No. 72, 74c; No. 73, 75c; 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