

THE RALEIGH EVENING TIMES.

VOLUME 27.

RALEIGH, N. C., MONDAY, JUNE 4, 1906.

PRICE 5c.

FILTHY CONDITION OF PACKING HOUSES

Report of Mr. Reynolds and Commissioner Neill Reveals Sickening Uncleanliness

HOW LABELS CONVEY FALSE IMPRESSION

President Roosevelt Transmits Report to Congress and Urges the Immediate Enactment of Provisions Enabling the Department of Agriculture Adequately to Inspect Meat Products Entering into Interstate Commerce.

(By the Associated Press.)
Washington, June 4.—President Roosevelt today transmitted to congress a special message on the conditions in the stock yards at Chicago with the accompanying report of special commissioners sent there to make an investigation. The president's message follows:

The Senate and House of Representatives:

I transmit herewith the report of Mr. James Bronson Reynolds and Commissioner Charles P. Neill, the special committee whom I appointed to investigate into the conditions in the stock yards at Chicago and report thereon to me. This report is of a preliminary nature. I submit it to you now because it shows the urgent need of immediate action by the congress in the direction of providing a drastic and thoroughgoing inspection by the federal government of all stock yards and packing houses and of their products, so far as the latter enter into interstate or foreign commerce. The conditions shown by this report are revolting. It is imperative necessary in the interest of health and of decency that they should be radically changed. Under the existing law it is wholly impossible to secure satisfactory results.

When my attention was first directed to this matter an investigation was made under the Bureau of Animal Industry of the Department of Agriculture. When the preliminary statements of this investigation were brought to my attention they showed such defects in the law and such wholly unexpected conditions that I deemed it best to have a further immediate investigation by men not connected with the bureau, and I accordingly appointed Messrs. Reynolds and Neill. It was impossible under the existing law that satisfactory work should be done by the Bureau of Animal Industry. I am now, however, examining the way in which the work actually was done.

Before I had received the report of Messrs. Reynolds and Neill I had directed that labels placed upon any package of meat food products should state only that the carcass of the animal from which the meat was taken had been inspected at the time of slaughter. If inspection of meat food products at all stages of preparation is not secured by the passage of the legislation recommended I shall feel compelled to order that inspection labels and certificates on canned products shall not be used hereafter.

The report shows that the stock yards and packing houses are not kept even reasonably clean, and that the method of handling and preparing food products is uncleanly and dangerous to health. Under existing law the national government has no power to enforce inspection of the many forms of prepared meat food products that are daily going from the packing houses into interstate commerce. Owing to an inadequate appropriation the Department of Agriculture is not even able to place inspectors in all establishments desiring them. The present law prohibits the shipment of uninspected meat to foreign countries, but there is no provision forbidding the shipment of uninspected meats in interstate commerce, and thus the avenues of interstate commerce are left open to traffic in diseased or spoiled meats. If, as has been alleged on seemingly good authority further evils exist, such as the improper use of chemicals and dyes, the government lacks power to remedy them. A law is needed which will enable the inspectors of the general government to inspect and supervise from the hoof to the can the preparation of the meat food product. The evil seems to be much less in the sale of dressed carcasses than in the sale of canned and other prepared products, and very much less as regards products sent abroad as regards those used at home.

In my judgment the expense of the inspection should be paid by a fee levied on each animal slaughtered. If this is not done, the whole purpose of the law can at any time be defeated through an insufficient appropriation; and whenever there was no particular public interest in the subject it would be not only easy but natural thus to make the appropriation insufficient. If it were not for this consideration I should favor the government paying for the inspection.

The alarm expressed in certain quarters concerning this feature should be allayed by a realization of the fact that in no case, under such a law, will the cost of inspection exceed 8 cents per head.

I call special attention to the fact that this report is preliminary, and that the investigation is still unfinished. It is not yet possible to report on the alleged abuses in the use of deleterious chemical compounds in connection with canning and preserving meat products, nor on the alleged doctoring in this fashion of tainted meat and of products returned to the packers as having grown unsalable or unusable from age or from other reasons. Grave allegations are made in reference to abuses of this nature.

Let me repeat that under the present law there is practically no method of stopping these abuses if they should be discovered to exist. Legislation is needed in order to prevent the possibility of all abuses in the future. If no legislation is passed then the excellent results accomplished by the work of this special committee will endure only so long as the memory of the committee's work is fresh, and a recollection of the abuses is absolutely certain.

I urge the immediate enactment into law of provisions which will enable the Department of Agriculture adequately to inspect the meat and meat food products entering into interstate commerce and to supervise the methods of preparing the same, and to prescribe the sanitary conditions under which the work shall be performed. I therefore commend to your favorable consideration and urge the enactment of substantially the provisions known as senate amendment No. 29 to the act making appropriations for the Department of Agriculture for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1907, as passed by the senate, this amendment being commonly known as the Beveridge amendment.

THEODORE ROOSEVELT.

White House, June 4, 1906.

The following are some of the extracts from the report:

Uncleanliness in Handling Products.

An absence of cleanliness was also found everywhere in the handling of meat being prepared for the various state food products. After killing carcasses are well washed, and up to the time they reach the cooling room are handled in a fairly sanitary and clean manner. The parts that leave the cooling room for treatment in bulk are also handled with regard to cleanliness, but the parts that are sent from the cooling room to the departments of the packing houses in which various forms of meat products are prepared are handled with no regard whatever for cleanliness. In some of the largest establishments sides that are sent to what is known as the boning room are thrown in a heap upon the floor. The workers climb over these heaps of meat, select the pieces they wish and frequently throw the down upon the dirty floor beside their working benches. Even in cutting the meat upon the bench the work is usually held pressed against their aprons, and these aprons were, as a rule, indescribably filthy. They were made in most cases of leather or of rough sack and bore long-accumulated grease and dirt. In only a few places were suitable oil-cloth aprons worn. Moreover, men were seen to climb from the floor and stand, with shoes dirty with the refuse of the floors, on the tables upon which the meat was handled. They were seen at the lunch hour sitting on the tables on the spot on which the meat product was handled, and all this under the very eye of the superintendent of the room, showing that this was the common practice.

Meat scraps were also found being shoveled into receptacles from dirty floors where they were left to rot until again shoveled into barrels or into machines for chopping. These floors, it must be noted, were in most cases damp and soggy. In dark, ill-ventilated rooms, and the employees in utter ignorance of cleanliness or danger to health expectorated at will upon the floor. In a word, we saw meat shoveled from filthy wooden floors, piled on tables rarely washed, pushed from room to room in rotten box carts, in all of which processes it was in the way of gathering dirt, splinters, floor-filth and the expectation of tubercular and other diseased workers. Where comment was made to floor superintendents about these matters it was always the reply that this meat would afterwards be cooked, and that this sterilization would prevent any danger from its use. Even this, it may be pointed out in passing, is not wholly true. A very considerable portion of the meat so handled is sent out as smoked products and in the form of sausages, which are prepared to be eaten without being cooked.

A particularly glaring instance of uncleanliness was found in a room where the best grade of sausage was being prepared for export. It was made from carefully selected meats, and was being prepared to be eaten uncooked. In this case the employee carried the chopped-up meat across a room in a barrow, the handles of which were filthy with grease. The meat was then thrown out upon tables, and the employee climbed upon the table, handled the meat with his unwashed hands, knelt with his dirty apron and trousers in contact with the meat he was spreading out, and, after he had finished his operation again took hold of the dirty handles of the wheelbarrow, went back for another load, and repeated this process indefinitely. Inquiry developed the fact that there was no water in this room at all, and the only method the man adopted for cleaning his hands was to rub them against his dirty apron or on his still filthier trousers.

As an extreme example of the entire disregard on the part of employees of any notion of cleanliness in handling dressed meat we saw a hog that had just been killed, cleaned, washed and started on its way to the cooling room fall from the sliding rail to a dirty wooden floor and slide part way into a filthy men's urinal. It was picked up by two employees placed upon a truck, carried into the cooling room and hung up with other carcasses, no effort being made to clean it.

Treatment of Meat After Inspection.

The radical defect in the present system of inspection is that it does not go far enough. It is confined at present by law to passing on the healthfulness of animals at the time of killing; but the meat that is used in sausage and in the various forms of canned products and other prepared meat foods goes through many processes, in all of which there is possibility of contamination through insanitary handling and further danger through the use of chemicals. During all these processes of preparation there is no government inspection and no assurance whatever that these meat food products are wholesome and fit for food—despite the fact that all these products, when sent out, bear a label stating they have been passed upon by government inspectors.

As to the investigation of the alleged use of dyes, preservatives or chemicals in the preparation of cured meats, sausages and canned goods we are not yet prepared to report. We did look into the matter of sanitary handling of the meats being prepared for the various food products. The results of our observations have already been partly given. Other instances of such products may be made up and still secure the stamp of government inspection are here given. In one well-known establishment we came upon fresh meat being shoveled into barrows and a regular proportion being added of stale scraps that had lain on a dirty floor in the corner of a room for some days previous. In another establishment, equally well-known, a large table was noted covered with several hundred pounds of cooked scraps of beef and other meats. Some of these meat scraps were dry, leathery and unfit to be eaten; and in the heap were found pieces of plastic and even some bits of rope strands and other rubbish. Inquiry evoked the frank admission from the man in charge that this was to be ground up and used in making "spiced hams."

All of these canned products bear labels of which the following is a sample:

ABSTRACT No.—
The contents of this package have been inspected according to the act of congress of March 3, 1891.

QUALITY GUARANTEED.

The phraseology of these labels is wholly unvarnished. The government inspectors pass only upon the healthfulness of the animal at the time of killing. They know nothing of the processes through which the meat has passed since this inspection. They do not know what else may have been placed in the cans in addition to "inspected meat." As a matter of fact they know nothing about the "contents" of the cans, which the packers place these labels—do not even know that it contains what it purports to contain. The legend "quality guaranteed" immediately following the statement as to government inspection is wholly unjustifiable. It deceives and is plainly designed to deceive the average purchaser, who naturally infers from the label that the government guaranteed the contents of the can to be what it purports to be.

In another establishment piles of sausages and dry moldy canned meats, admittedly several years old, were found, which the superintendent stated to us would be tanned and converted into grease. The disposition to be made of this was wholly optional with the superintendents or representatives of the packers, as the government does not concern itself with the disposition of meats after they have passed inspection on the killing floor. It might all be treated with chemicals, mixed with other meats, turned out in any form of meat product desired, and yet it was to be shipped out to the public would be marked with a label that their contents had been "government inspected." It is not alleged here that such use was to be made of this stuff. The case is pointed out as one showing the glaring opportunity for the misuse of a label bearing the name and the implied guaranty of the United States government.

Another instance of abuse in the use of labels is pointed out in the following:

(Continued on Page Seven.)

THE SENATE'S HONOR TO DEAD

Mr. Bailey Announces Senator Gorman's Death

ADJOURNMENT TAKEN

His Colleague From Maryland Was Absent.—Committee of Seventeen Named To Superintend the Funeral.—Mr. Overman Is One Of The Committee.

(By the Associated Press.)
Washington, June 4.—The senate adjourned today immediately upon receiving the announcement of Senator Gorman's death. No business whatever was transacted, even the reading of the journal being dispensed with. There was an unusual number of senators present, and all were manifestly impressed by the solemnity of the occasion.

After the opening prayer Senator Bailey announced the death of Mr. Gorman. He said:

"Mr. President: In the absence of the surviving senator from Maryland, it becomes my painful duty to announce the death of Senator Gorman. The end which awaits us all found him this morning at his home in this city, surrounded by his stricken family. He passed from the strife and bitterness of this world to the peace and rest of a better one."

"I would ask the senate to honor his long and faithful service as a member of this body by holding a public funeral in this chamber, except for the fact that he has himself left instruction that his burial shall be a simple one. In obedience to his wishes I forbear to make that request and ask the adoption of the resolution which I send to the desk."

"At some later day his colleague, who learned of Senator Gorman's death when it was too late for him to reach the chamber for this morning's session, will ask us to set apart a day upon which the senate will pay a fitting tribute to the memory and services of our deceased associate."

The following resolutions were then adopted:

"Resolved, That the senate has heard with profound sorrow of the death of Hon. Arthur Pue Gorman, late a senator from the state of Maryland.

"Resolved, That a committee of seventeen senators be appointed by the vice president to take order for superintending the funeral of Mr. Gorman, which will take place at his late residence at 6 o'clock June 5, instant, and that the senate will attend the same.

"Resolved, That as a further mark of respect his remains be removed from his late home to the place of interment in Oak Hill cemetery for burial, in charge of the sergeant-at-arms, attended by the committee, who shall have full power to carry these resolutions into effect, and that the necessary expenses in connection therewith be paid out of the contingent fund of the senate."

The committee provided for by the resolutions was then announced by the messrs. Rayner, Allison, Morgan, Hale, Aldrich, Teller, Gallinger, Elkins, Martin, Tillman, Clay, Spooner, Keam, Bailey, Blackburn, Clark (Mont.), and Overman.

The senate then at 12.10 p. m., as a further mark of respect, adjourned for the day.

After the senate adjourned the desk and chair formerly occupied by Senator Gorman were draped in deep black in accordance with the custom in such cases.

Washington June 4.—The committee appointed by Speaker Cannon to attend the funeral of Senator Gorman representing the house of representatives is made up as follows: Representatives J. Fred C. Talbot, John Hill Jr., Thos. A. Smith, Edwin E. Boyd, Frank C. Wacker of Maryland; John Sharp Williams, (Miss.); Leonidas F. Livingston, (Ga.); Samuel M. Robertson, (La.); John A. Moon, (Tenn.); John H. Stephens, (Texas); C. L. Bartlett, (Ga.).

The house adjourned when the announcement of the death of Senator Gorman was made.

30,000 MINERS RESUME WORK.

(By the Associated Press.)
Springfield, Ill., June 4.—About thirty thousand coal miners who have been on strike for the past two months, resumed work throughout the state this morning. The remainder of the mines will open during the coming week.

KILLED IN A RUNAWAY SUNDAY

W. H. Mitchell's Death at Franklinton

MRS. MITCHELL INJURED

Horse Ran Away While the Couple Was Returning From Church and Killed Mr. Mitchell in Sight of His Home—Deceased An Old and Honored Citizen of Franklinton.

A telegram was received Sunday night by Mr. Frank Mitchell, assistant city clerk seated on the Southern Railway here, bringing the shocking news that his father, Mr. Wm. H. Mitchell, was killed in a runaway near Franklinton and his mother seriously injured.

Mr. Mitchell was one of the oldest and most honored citizens of Franklinton and the news of his tragic death caused most profound grief here. He was prominent in church and public affairs of his county, a man beloved and respected by all. Mr. Frank Mitchell left immediately for Franklinton. He has the deepest sympathy of this city and the community in his affliction.

A special train from Franklinton to the city today gives the following particulars of the tragedy:

Franklinton, N. C., June 3.—Sunday about 2 o'clock, Mr. W. H. Mitchell and his wife were driving from church in Franklinton to their home, which is four miles from town. When within a few hundred yards of the home, the horse, without any apparent cause, began to run and became uncontrollable, continuing his mad race until it threw both occupants from the buggy, injuring them seriously.

Mr. Mitchell died from his injuries at 8 o'clock last night and Mrs. Mitchell is in a very dangerous condition, having a hip broken and a serious eye-sore which is believed to add the shock of her husband's death.

Mr. Mitchell was nearly eighty years old and was a man of spotless character and winning personality. He was a father of the late Rev. John Mitchell, D.D., who died a few months ago. He will be buried tomorrow.

BURTON QUILTS SEAT IN SENATE

(By the Associated Press.)
Topeka, Kan., June 4.—United States Senator Joseph R. Burton of Alabama, after a conference here this morning with several close friends placed his resignation in the hands of Governor Hoch. The resignation was sent to the governor shortly before noon.

Soon after receiving the resignation Governor Hoch sent a telegram to Vice President Fairbanks notifying him of the resignation and of the appointment of Senator Burton's resignation and acceptance.

Governor Hoch declined to make any statement at this time as to the appointment of a successor.

CAMPAIGN AGAINST ANTI-PASS PROVISION

(By the Associated Press.)
Washington, June 4.—A campaign has already begun to defeat the anti-pass amendment to the railroad rate bill, in so far as it applies to railway treatment and their families. Many telegrams have been received today by members of the house signed by officers of organizations of railway employees reading:

"Please use all means within your power to stop passage of bill prohibiting the issue of passes to railway employees and their families."

SENATOR GORMAN DIED THIS MORNING AT HIS WASHINGTON RESIDENCE

GROOM - ELECT FAILED

Suddenly Disappears on Eve of Wedding

Mr. E. C. Hill of New Bern and Miss Margaret Douglass of Wilmington Were To Have Been Married.—Mr. Hill Was Ready, But Mr. Hill Could Not Be Found.

(Special to the Evening Times.)
Wilmington, N. C., June 4.—All the plans had been perfected for an early wedding here, and the groom-to-be had spent the greater part of two days arranging the details for his honeymoon, when a sudden seizure of death took possession of him, and this evening his wife and daughter were informed that he had died.

Mr. E. C. Hill of New Bern and Miss Margaret Douglass of Wilmington had been betrothed for years, and their friends were not surprised when their engagement was announced. The wedding was set for Saturday morning. The relatives and attendants were on hand promptly and the arrangements were completed except the presence of the groom. All efforts to find him resulted in failure and the marriage was postponed indefinitely. Mr. Hill is a recently married man, fifty years old, but a very well known in eastern North Carolina. Miss Douglass is a handsome, refined young woman, many years the junior of Mr. Hill.

THE IMMIGRATION COMMISSION MEETS

(By the Associated Press.)
New York, June 4.—The southern states immigration commission, which includes among its members representatives appointed by the governors of seven southern states, met and organized in this city today. The purpose of the commission is to promote immigration in the south. The states were represented as follows: Georgia, David Robinson; Alabama, P. P. Barber; Louisiana, Charles Schuler; Virginia, C. E. Miller; West Virginia, Max Robinson; North Carolina, Alexander Holsinger; Maryland, J. G. Schombarber.

Others present were United States Immigration Commissioner Watchman J. C. Horton, of the Savannah, Ga., board of trade; George B. Edwards, of the Charleston, S. C., chamber of commerce; Edmund D. Brown, of the Albany, Ga., business league; and representatives of the Seaboard Air Line, Old Dominion Line, Southern Railway, and other transportation companies.

PLANNING A BIG RECEPTION TO BRYAN

(By the Associated Press.)
New York, June 4.—A reception in which democrats from all over the country will be invited to take part will be tendered to William J. Bryan in Madison Square Garden, in this city, on his return from a trip around the world. William H. Hoge, of this city, chairman of the commercial travelers and hotel men's anti-trust league, today received a letter from Mr. Bryan, written at Constantinople, in which he accepted the invitation of the league to be present at the reception, which will be under the auspices of the league. The executive committee of the league will hold a meeting tomorrow to discuss the preliminary plans. It is expected that Mr. Bryan will visit London in time to speak at a fourth of July celebration and will arrive in this city about the first of August.

EXPLOSION AT POWDER PLANT.

(By the Associated Press.)
Hillsville, Pa., June 4.—An explosion at the Burton powder plant, one mile west of here, last night completely wrecked the glazing house and shook buildings for miles around. Fortunately all the employees were at their homes at the time, and no person was injured. The explosion is supposed to have been caused by a spark from the dynamo. The loss was \$5,000.

HEART TROUBLE WAS IMMEDIATE CAUSE

The End Came at 5 Minutes Past 9 O'Clock—Had Served Continuously in Congress for Eighteen Years, and Nearly All of That Time He Was Leader of His Party in the Senate—Managed Campaign That Resulted in Cleveland's Election in 1884—Defeated Federal Election Bill in 1890-91.

(By the Associated Press.)
Washington, June 4.—Arthur Pue Gorman, United States senator from Maryland, died suddenly at his residence in this city at 9:05 o'clock this morning.

While Senator Gorman had been ill for many months, he had shown some improvement lately. Heart trouble was the immediate cause of death.

Up to the moment of death Senator Gorman was conscious. His condition during the past week had improved so much that yesterday the family had hopes of shortly taking him to the country. He partook of some nourishment at 8 o'clock this morning, but at a stroke he was seized with a heart attack and died in five minutes. At the bedside were Mrs. Gorman, Miss Ada Gorman, the senator's eldest daughter, and the nurse. When the attack came physicians were sent for, but the senator was dead before they arrived.

Senator Gorman's illness extended over a period of five months. He had not left his home since January 15. He suffered, in addition to his heart affection, with more or less stomach trouble. A week ago last Saturday he was seized with a heart attack, and it was thought then that he could not survive, but he rallied and seemed to get very much better. Up to late last night he was in the best of spirits and chatted with various members of the family. As soon as he passed away word was sent to the senate.

Senator Gorman leaves a widow and six children, as follows: Miss Ada Gorman, Mrs. William L. Lambert, Mrs. R. A. Johnson, Mrs. R. W. Hills, all of this city; Mrs. Stephen Gambrell of London, England, who arrived here a week ago, and Arthur Pue Gorman, Jr., of Laurel, Maryland, a member of the Maryland legislature.

Senator Gorman long had been a notable figure in the national congress. He first took his seat in 1881, and served continuously for eighteen years, and nearly all of that time he was the leader of his party in the senate. Winning early a reputation for sagacity and the keenest judgment in congressional affairs, he attained prominence, not only as a senator, but as a leader in the country at large, and by many men was considered the most available man in his party for the presidency. He was chairman of the executive committee and managed the campaign that resulted in the election of Cleveland in 1884.

The most notable contest of his congressional career, and one which attracted to him wide attention, then occurring, was when he led the senate minority in 1890-91 and defeated the federal elections bill. To his sagacious leadership and adroit management his party friends attributed the defeat of the measure, which was so obnoxious to the south.

When the democrats had control of the senate Senator Gorman was the recognized leader of that body. It was at that time that the tariff bill of 1891 was passed and although the Maryland senator was not a member of the finance committee he had so much to do with shaping that measure that his name is often given to it, and in fact it is frequently called the Wilson-Gorman tariff.

It was during Cleveland's last administration that a break occurred between the democratic president and the leader of the party in the senate. In a speech which will always be remembered by those who heard it Senator Gorman severely arraigned the president. To this opposition the defeat of Senator Gorman a few years later is attributed, although his party lost Maryland in the silver campaign. As soon as the democrats regained control of the senate he was at once re-elected to the senate.

It was a tribute to his leadership that as soon as he was again in the senate he was made leader of the minority and, although the seniority rule is

(Continued on Page Two.)