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DOINGS OF CONGRESS

Summary of Important Proceedings Enacted From Day to Day.

Senate.

The Ananias Club was discussed in the Senate Thursday by Senator Tillman, who declared that statements made by Attorney General Bonaparte and Postmaster General Meyer in reply to his reply to charges made against him by the President in relation to his contemplated purchase of Oregon timber lands made them eligible to membership in that organization. He again defended his action and said in fighting the "unscrupulous men" who are determined "to destroy" him he was "prepared for anything, even assassination."

The legislative, executive and judicial appropriation bill was reported to the Senate by Senator Cullom from the committee on appropriations. The bill includes provisions for the increasing of the salaries of the President to \$100,000 annually inclusive of traveling expenses; of the Vice President to \$20,000 and of the Speaker of the House to \$20,000. Provision is made also for increases in the salaries of Federal judges as follows: Chief Justice of the Supreme Court, \$18,000; associate justices, \$17,500; circuit judges, \$10,000; district judges \$9,000; chief justice of the Court of Appeals of the District of Columbia, \$10,000; chief justice and associate judge of the Supreme Court of the District of Columbia, \$9,000; chief justice of the Court of Claims, \$7,500; associate judges of the Court of Claims, \$7,000. The provision of the bill increasing the salary of Federal judges also includes a readjustment of the salaries of other court officials.

By a vote of 37 to 27 the Senate fixed the salary of the Speaker of the House of Representatives at \$15,000, instead of \$12,000 as at present and instead of \$20,000 as proposed by the committee on appropriations.

A vigorous speech against any increase was made by Senator Bailey and numerous addresses were made in support of the proposition.

Senator Rayner Monday endeavored to have the Senate adopt a resolution calling on the Attorney General for information as to whether the President had ordered a suit brought against The New York World and Indianapolis News because of alleged libel in publications relating to the purchase of the Panama canal property and under what statute this action had been taken. Mr. Rayner declared that there was no statute authorizing such legal procedure and that the attempt to sue the newspapers in the name of the United States, if entered upon, was an attempt to apply the sedition laws long since repealed. He declared there was no law under which the libel laws could be made to apply to statements respecting the government. Under objection the further consideration was postponed until Tuesday.

House.

For a time in the House of Representatives it looked as though that body would further resent the President's statements affecting members of Congress and the secret service, by ordering the printing of two million copies of the proceedings of last Friday tabling his remarks. A resolution to that end was presented by Mr. Landis, of Indiana, but so strong was the sentiment against it that it was tabled.

The District of Columbia appropriation bill was passed, minus the major part of the appropriation of \$15,000 for play grounds and the House at 3:25 p. m. adjourned.

An amendment in the legislative, executive and judicial appropriation bill increasing the salary of the President to \$100,000, of the Vice President and Speaker of the House to \$20,000, with \$5,000 additional allowance for carriages and coachman for the Vice President and Speaker and increases for the judiciary aggregating \$328,000, precipitated a lively discussion in the Senate Friday.

Senator Borah, of Idaho, made a point of order against these increases on the legislation, which according to the rules of the Senate cannot be placed on an appropriation bill in face of a single objection. The debate centered upon the first of the amendments objected to which was to increase the salary of the Speaker of the House of Representatives and various criticisms were called forth against such extensive advances of salaries, although many Senators without opposing some increase insisted that it should be considered in a separate bill and not on one of the great supply measures of the government.

Without concluding the debate further consideration of the amendments was postponed until next Monday and at 5:35 the Senate adjourned.

Private bills had their innings in the House of Representatives Friday almost the whole session being given up to their consideration. Many were passed.

Under a resolution offered by Mr. Gaines, of Tennessee, the judiciary committee was directed to report within ten days upon the question of the right of George L. Lilly, Governor of Connecticut, to retain his seat as a member of the House. The subject occasioned a good deal of debate, which attimes waxed warm.

At 5:05 p. m. the House adjourned. In discussing the increase of the salaries, Senator Clay said:

The House disposing of the speech

"If the President were called upon to pay all these expenses," said Mr. Clay, "\$200,000 a year would not be too much."

The President, he said, should have enough salary to live in dignity, but he was convinced that sumptuous living would not redound to the benefit of the country.

"The simple life," he said, "plain living and high thinking, brings the best results."

Senator Culberson stated that he proposed at the proper time to offer an amendment making the Speaker's salary \$18,000, which would make it equal to that of the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of the United States, and he added it had never been greater.

Senator Hemenway declared that whether right or wrong a custom had grown up for the Vice President and the Speaker of the House of Representatives to entertain, but no provision is made for paying any of their expenses, as is the case with the President, who is given a house, servants, decorations, etc.

Mr. McLaurin, of Mississippi, said these salaries are paid for public service and not for private entertainment.

The following bill was introduced in the House by Representative Godwin on Saturday:

"Be it enacted, That the Secretary of War is hereby directed to be constructed, according to such plans as may be recommended by the engineer in charge and approved by the said Secretary, in the Cape Fear river, North Carolina, between Wilmington and Fayetteville, three locks and dams of suitable and sufficient size and strength to permanently maintain at mean low water a channel in said river eight feet deep, to afford permanent and continuous navigation from Wilmington to Fayetteville.

"That sum of \$1,350,000, or so much thereof as may be necessary, be, and the sum is hereby, appropriated to pay the cost of such construction and other necessary expenses."

A committee of six, three representing the blue and three the gray, appeared before the House committee on military affairs to urge the bill of Representative Godwin providing \$40,000 to purchase Fort Fisher and make it a park.

A sensational and bitter attack on President Roosevelt was made in the House Monday by Mr. Willett, of New York. His remarks, which were delivered under the license of general debate on the pension appropriation bill, were cut short by a vote of the House that it would hear no more of them. So vehement was the denunciation of the Chief Executive that it seemed as if the New York member raked the dictionary for words which would properly express his feelings. The President was characterized as "gargoyle, tyrant, pigmy descendant of Dutch trades-people, hay-tedder, fountain of billingsgate, a 'jocular' imitation of a king, and bogus hero."

As it was, Mr. Willett had completed the reading of about three-fourths of his speech when, after repeated appeals to the chair by numerous Republicans that he be called to order, he was compelled to take his seat. The House voted him off the floor, 75 to 126. Mr. Willett freely remarked on the floor that the execution of the body "put an end to free speech."

After the furore which the speech created had subsided, a number of members spoke on various subjects. Mr. Smith, of Missouri, pleaded for pensions for certain militia men of Missouri; Mr. Langley, of Kentucky, did likewise for some of his constituents; Mr. Norris, of Nebraska, attacked the House rules; Mr. Larrinaga, of Porto Rico, presented arguments to show that Porto Rico had not progressed politically; and Messrs. Goulden, of New York; Bowers, of Mississippi, and Keifer, of Ohio, discussed the merits of the pension bill.

To Shelter Homeless. Washington, Special.—An innovation in international relief measures so far as Europe is concerned is to be undertaken by the American government in expending the \$500,000 in money appropriated by Congress for the Italian earthquake sufferers. President Roosevelt has decided to send to Italy material for the construction of 2,500 or 3,000 substantial but necessarily very modest frame houses, supplementing this by supplying civilian carpenters to supervise construction if this can be arranged.

In the Senate the salary of the President of the United States was fixed at \$100,000 per annum so far as the Senate could fix it, and salaries of the Vice President and the Speaker of the House of Representatives \$15,000 each.

The salary of the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of the United States was increased from \$13,000 to \$15,000 per annum, and those of Associate Justices from \$12,500 to \$14,500. These changes were made as amendments to the legislative, executive and judiciary appropriation bill, and after an extended debate.

Senator Rayner's resolution calling on the Attorney General for information concerning certain newspapers on the charge of libel in connection with statements made in relation to the purchase by the United States of the Panama canal property was referred to the committee on judiciary after a strong fight to have it adopted without such reference. Various pension bills passed.

of Representative Willett, or new York, Monday, attacking the President, proceeded to take up the various appropriation bills that have been reported within the past few days. The pensions and urgent deficiency bills were passed without delay.

The provisions of the pensions appropriation bill abolishes all but one of the eighteen pension agencies throughout the country. The bill which carries a total appropriation of \$160,869,000 was passed practically as reported by the committee on pensions. A plan to pay pensioners quarterly was defeated.

The urgent deficiency bill which carries appropriations amounting to \$1,026,402, was passed after an amendment providing for an appropriation of \$30,000 for further distribution of seeds by the Department of Agriculture.

Representative Foss, of Illinois, chairman of the House committee on naval affairs, brought up the naval appropriation bill which probably will occupy the attention of the House for a day or two. The bill carries an appropriation of \$135,662,883. A message from the President recommending an appropriation of \$20,000 for a commission to investigate the conditions in the republic of Liberia, Africa, was read.

G. F. King Sentenced. Boston, Special.—Cardenio Flavus King, former financial agent and broker, who maintained palatial offices in Boston and New York, and who for a short time was publisher of a daily paper here, was sentenced by Judge Schofield in the Superior Criminal Court to serve a term of not less than 10 and not more than 14 years at hard labor in the State prison at Charlestown. On December 29, King was convicted on 27 counts of an indictment charging him with larceny and embezzlement.

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