

WHAT CONGRESS DID

A Comprehensive Resume of Session and Its Work

MUCH IMPORTANT LEGISLATION.

A Number of Investigations Ordered and What Resulted From Them—The Appropriations.

The work of Congress is now closed, so that it is possible to sum up the record which has been made during the past ten months, which constitutes the first session of the 57th Congress. The session has been marked by exceptional business activity, with many questions of far-reaching general interest. With the exception of the Cuban reciprocity bill, most of the larger subjects of general legislation have been enacted as laws. Notable among these large measures is the isthmian canal bill, which consummates the efforts of a half century to link together the waters of the Atlantic and the Pacific. Aside from its international importance this bill probably involved a large sum of money than that covering any other single undertaking by the Government outside of war expenditures. The Philippine civil government bill is another measure of far-reaching importance, extending to our remote Pacific possessions a system of internal civil government, with coinage, currency, banking, corporation, timber and homestead laws. Among the other important general laws enacted are those repealing the war revenue taxes, extending and making more effective the Chinese exclusion laws, and making a tariff for goods to and from the Philippines; extending the charter of national banks for twenty years, and making a permanent census office, restricting the sale of oleomargarine by placing a high tax on imitation butter; providing a consular and diplomatic service for Cuba, and establishing an extensive system by which the Government will aid in the irrigation of arid sections of the West.

The repeal of the war revenue taxes reduced taxation \$73,250,000, and it said to be the largest single reduction of taxation ever made in this country. By this step the last of the taxes imposed at the beginning of our war with Spain was wiped out. The Philippine Tariff Act imposed 76 per cent of the Dingley tariff rates on articles coming from the Philippines to the United States, and also imposed on the articles entering the Philippines from the United States the rates of duties established by the Philippine commission. The Oleomargarine Act is the result of several years of agitation. It places a tax of ten cents a pound on substances colored to imitate butter. The Irrigation Act is of special importance to the development of the West. It creates an irrigation fund in the treasury department, into which is to be paid the proceeds of the sales of public lands in the arid States. This fund in turn is to be used in storing water and establishing irrigation systems; the irrigated sections to be open to homesteaders, who are to be charged a proportional share of the cost of improvement. The Chinese exclusion law continues exclusion "until otherwise provided by law," and also applies the exclusion "to the island territory within the jurisdiction of the United States."

Aside from these important laws are a number of other measures of general importance, which have passed one or both houses, but have not progressed to the final stage. These include the anti-anarchy legislation, which grew out of the assassination of President McKinley. Bills restricting anarchy and throwing safeguards about the President have passed both branches of Congress, but it was impossible to reach an agreement in conference, so that the subject goes over until next December. A bill giving Statehood to Arizona, New Mexico and Oklahoma—known as the omnibus Statehood bill—passed the House, and the Senate has determined to take up the matter at the next session.

The ship subsidy bill received attention in the Senate, but the end of the session has come without the measure being reported to the House. As it passes the Senate the bill grants graded subsidy to steam and sailing vessels of American build. In the House it has been deemed desirable to let the subject go over until the short session, when it is expected that a bill on the subject will be reported and presented to the President.

The bill creating an Appalachian forest reserve, including a vast tract in the Appalachian Mountain section of the South, has received favorable attention in both houses, but has gone over for final adjustment of differ-

ences until next December. Another bill passed by the Senate and likely to become a law changes the marine health service to a national health bureau, and gives the bureau larger powers and facilities for co-operating with the State health authorities in quarantine and health affairs.

The bill to establish a cable between the United States, Hawaii and the Philippines was retired by defeat in the House of Representatives.

Several other measures have advanced to a certain stage and have there halted without much prospect for further advancement. These include the resolution looking to the election of United States Senators by direct vote of the people. It passed the House by practically a unanimous vote, but in the Senate has received

little attention. The House passed a bill relating to immigration laws, codifying and amending the laws and making some important changes. The bill defining the meaning of conspiracy in injunction cases passed the House of Representatives, but has not made much progress in the Senate. On the other hand the Senate passed an important measure creating a department of commerce to be presided over by a Cabinet officer, but it has made no progress in the House, not having been reported from the committee on commerce. Another bill of interest to the commercial world is the pure food measure, which was drafted by the pure food commission and, after extended hearings, was reported in the House committee on commerce, but not passed.

The Flower bill was probably the most important financial measure which has been brought before Congress. After considerable public discussion by the members of the House it has gone over for consideration next December and the financial measure known as the Hill bill, providing for the coinage of subsidiary silver and for the retirement of the present standard silver dollar, has passed the House, but has not been acted on in the Senate. Among the other important measures of general legislation not heretofore named, which have been finally enacted as laws, are the following:

To prevent the sale of firearms, opium and intoxicating liquors to the natives of certain of the Pacific islands.

To promote the efficiency of the revenue cutter service, and to provide for the retirement of its officers.

To refund the duties paid in Porto Rico on articles imported from the United States during the military occupation.

Appropriating \$200,000 for the relief of the volcano sufferers of Martinique.

Authorizing the erection of Y. M. C. A. buildings on United States military reservations.

Regulating the introduction of eggs of game birds, for the purpose of propagation.

Providing for the protection of game in Alaska, particularly the large game, such as moose, caribou, etc.

Extending an invitation to the French Government to join in the unveiling in Washington of the statue of Marshal De Rochambeau.

Refunding the amount of legacy tax paid by charitable, benevolent and eleemosynary institutions.

When Mr. Cannon submitted a general estimate of appropriations a few nings the work to carry the total up to that time \$691,445,000. Since the canal bill has passed, carrying a present appropriation of \$40,000,000 for the franchise, and enough more for the rights of Colombia and for beginning the work to carry the total up to \$50,000,000. The entire cost of the undertaking is approximately \$184,000,000. Mr. Cannon's estimate also omitted contracts for future expenditure included in the omnibus public building, the omnibus claims and various other bills, aggregating a large amount. This will carry the total for the session, figuring in these future amounts, almost, if not quite, up to the billion-dollar mark.

The appropriations bills have contained little general legislation, being confined chiefly to the regular needs of the various branches of the Government.

The naval bill provides for an addition of two armored cruisers, two battleships and two gunboats to the navy, and a provision is still in controversy as to whether one of each class of these ships shall be built in Government yards.

There have been several investigations during the session which have attracted much attention. An investigation of conditions in the Philippines, conducted by the Philippine committee of the Senate, has led to the examination of many witnesses high in the conduct of civil and military affairs in the islands. Another Senate inquiry has related to the condition of affairs in Cuba, especially as to sugar. In the House sensational

charges made in connection with the purchase of the Danish West Indian Islands led to an investigation which disclosed the groundless nature of the charges.

Thirteen Now Dead.

Gloversville, N. Y., Special.—Motorman William Dodge, of the runaway car on the Mountain Lake Railroad, died at Littauer Hospital Sunday night, making the thirteenth victim of the wreck of Friday night. It is probable that George Fisher, whose skull was fractured, will die, and Edward Schell is in a very serious state. Coroner Palmer has commenced an investigation. It has developed that the frame of the truck of the runaway car was broken and may have caused the accident, but the death of the motorman will make it difficult to determine the exact cause.

Buys Two Railroads.

Roanoke, Va., Special.—The Norfolk & Western Railway Company has bought and took charge of two railroads, adding 25 miles to that system. The first is the Lager & Southern Railway, which runs from Lager to Ritter, W. Va. It is completed for the length of five miles and reaches into a valuable timber belt. The other road is the Hillsboro Railroad, which connects the Norfolk & Western with the Baltimore & Ohio Southwestern at Sardinia, O., and is twenty miles long.

White Man Nearly Lynched.

Macon, Ga., Special.—An Albany special to The Telegraph says that Edward Rich, a young white man, charged with holding the body of Sidney Wallis, a boy drowned in a near by creek, for a reward, was nearly lynched. He had been ordered to leave town. He did so, but a mob formed and he was caught. A trace chain had been bound about his neck when officers arrived. A scuffle ensued, but the advice of cooler heads prevailed and he was placed in jail, charged with trafficking in human bodies. Danger of a lynching is not yet over.

Killed By a Ball.

Midlothian, Tex., Special.—Pitcher Charles Harrington, who until recently was a member of the Dallas team of the Texas league, was killed by a batted ball here. Harrington had pitched a ball which was hit back to the pitcher, striking him in the stomach. Harrington fielded the ball, made the assist in putting the runner out and then dropped dead.

A Great Rain Storm.

Buffalo, N. J., Special.—A terrific rain and wind storm swept over western New York at an early hour Sunday. Rivers and creeks rose rapidly, overflowing their banks and sweeping away houses and barns and live stock. The loss will reach into hundreds of thousands of dollars. The telegraph and telephone wires are down and communication with small towns in Wyoming, Niagara and Cattaraugus counties is difficult to establish.

The "Old Bay Line."

On account of the Baptist Young People's Union Convention, to be held at Providence, R. I., has authorized the sale of specially low excursion tickets to Providence from Norfolk, Portsmouth and Old Point Comfort, as follows:

All rail from Baltimore (not including transfer through New York): \$13.60.

Via New York and Providence or Stonington Line \$12.30.

Via New York and Fall River Line \$12.60.

The "Bay Line" will place these tickets on sale on July 7th, 8th and 10th of July, good, returning from Providence up to and including July 20th, 1902.

This route to Providence from the South commends itself to the delegates; as it affords a pleasant "break" in the railroad travel, after a good night's sleep in the commodious staterooms of the "Alabama" or "Georgia," up the Chesapeake Bay, and which steamers arrive in Baltimore in time to make connection with the early trains out of the "Monumental City" for Providence, R. I. Full particulars can be had of all agents along the route of the S. A. L. or J. W. Brown, Jr., So. Pass. Agt. and Key Compton, Gl. Agent, Bay Line, Norfolk, Va.

A DESTRUCTIVE FIRE

Swift and Company's Packing Plant Burned

WAS A MILLION DOLLAR LOSS

Burned District Adjoined Largest Office Building in the United States—Loss Covered By Insurance.

Chicago, Special.—By a fire which broke out in their plant at the stock yards Saturday night, Swift & Co., suffered a loss which is estimated by the officials at \$1,000,000. The fire was confined to one building standing at the intersection of Packers avenue and Broadway. This structure was four stories high, built of brick, and was 300 feet square.

The first floor was occupied by the wholesale meat market of the company, the second by the shipping department and the third and fourth by the general offices of the company. The latter are said to have been the largest single offices in the United States, more than 800 employes working on one of the floors in a single room.

The cause of the fire is not known, but it was discovered near the engine room. It spread so rapidly through the building that it was found impossible to save anything in the structure.

The burned building adjoins portions of the plants of Armour & Co., and Libby, McNeil & Libby, and for a time the fire department had a desperate fight to keep these buildings from the flames. W. J. McGonigle, the superintendent of the plant, said tonight that the loss will aggregate fully one million.

The loss is fully covered by insurance.

After the Trusts.

Oyster Bay, L. I., Special.—It has been ascertained that the President's speech at Pittsburg Friday in reference to the trust question was a fore-runner of determined efforts by him to have Congress take up that subject and enact definite legislation at its next session for the control or supervision of the trusts. Recently the President and Attorney General Knox held a conference with Representative Littlefield, of Maine, whose knowledge of constitutional law is admitted, at which Mr. Littlefield was invited to prepare a bill for the regulation and control of the trusts that will go before Congress with the endorsement and influence of the President back of it. The bill will be submitted at the beginning of the next session, but before this is done, the President, Attorney General Knox and Mr. Littlefield will have frequent conferences as to the details. In addition to this proposed action the President is going to talk upon the trust question a great deal on the several trips to be made by him in the fall. He has announced to friends that the question is a vital one, and that he proposes to push it vigorously until there is some action by Congress.

Duty on Cuban Vessels.

Washington, Special.—The President has issued a proclamation of date July 3rd removing discriminating duties upon Cuban vessels entering United States ports. Under Spanish rule and also under the military occupation such duties were not imposed upon Cuban vessels, for it has been formally declared to the authorities that Spain imposed no such duties upon United States vessels. But when Cuba became an independent nation the law was self-acting and the duties began to run, until such time as the president should receive satisfactory assurance that there was no discrimination against United States vessels in Cuban ports. Now such assurance has been received through Mr. Squiers and the proclamation has been issued.

The King Out of Danger.

London, By Cable.—The following bulletin regarding King Edward's condition was posted at Buckingham Palace at 10 o'clock Sunday morning: "His Majesty had another excellent night. He is cheerful and feels much stronger. We are glad to be able to state that we consider the King now out of danger. The evening bulletins will therefore be discontinued."

A BILLION-DOLLAR CONGRESS

Representative Livingston, of Georgia, Makes Comparisons.

Washington, Special.—Chairman Cannon, of the House appropriations committee, has presented a statement of the appropriations made at the present session of Congress showing a total of \$750,063,837, not including the large amounts that will be required for the isthmian canal, and public building and river and harbor contracts. In his statement Mr. Cannon says in part: "An analysis of this table shows that the total estimated expenditures forecasted by the executive departments aggregated \$776,348,318; that the total appropriations made, exclusive of \$50,130,000 toward an isthmian canal, aggregated \$750,063,837. The appropriations made in the regular annual bills for ordinary expenses of the government payable during the fiscal year 1903, aggregate \$595,502,705, which, together with the sums carried under permanent appropriations and exclusive of the amount required by the sinking fund makes a total of \$655,428,925. In the nature of things, and in the light of past experience this entire sum will never be expended, but will probably be reduced in the neighborhood of 10 per cent. The revenues of the government as now estimated, on the basis of the revenue reduction legislation enacted at this session amount to \$640,520,630. The expenditures to be made under the appropriations of this session will not exceed \$600,000,000 or a sum approximating \$40,000,000 less than the revenues which we expect to derive under the revenue laws as revised by this Congress."

Representative Livingston, of Georgia, the ranking Democrat of the appropriations committee, submitted a statement showing with the inclusion of the isthmian canal, river and harbor, and other prospective expenditures, appropriations of over one billion dollars during the past session. His statement says in part: "The direct appropriations made at this session of Congress including the isthmian canal appropriation reach the aggregate of \$800,900,837. To this sum should be added the amount of \$559,373,215 to include contracts authorized to be entered into in addition to the specific appropriations which are made. These contracts are in the nature of a promissory note from the government, to be met and liquidated in the future, and constitute as much a part of the appropriations chargeable to this session as the specific appropriations made, and which are to be expended, not at once, but throughout the coming fiscal year. The two sums aggregate \$1,059,577,052. The appropriations including authorized contracts of this session exceed those, including contracts of the last session by \$270,798,102.

"The last session of the fifty-third Congress for the fiscal year 1893 was Democratic in both branches and the government was administered by Mr. Cleveland. It therefore affords fair ground for the purpose of a comparison. The difference between the total then and now amounts to the startling sum of \$558,881,768, or more than as much again as it required to conduct the affairs of government under a Democratic Congress and executive.

Report on Textiles.

Washington, Special.—The Census Bureau has issued a report on the combined textile industry of the United States of 1900. The branches included in the industry follow: Cotton manufactures, including cotton goods and cotton small wares; wool manufactures including woolen goods, worsted goods, other than rag felt goods, and woolen hats; silk manufactures, hosiery and knit goods, cordage and twine; linen goods, jute goods and dyeing and finishing textiles. The census shows a capital of \$1,042,997,577 invested in the 4,321 establishments reporting for the industry. The sum represents only the live capital utilized and the value of the lands, buildings, machinery, tools and implements. The value of the products is given at \$931,494,566, the product which involved an outlay of \$23,289,162 for salaries of officials, clerks, etc.; \$209,022,447 for wages; \$63,122,916 for miscellaneous expenses, and \$521,345,200 for materials used, mill supplies, freight and fuel.

Voluntars Increase in Wages.

Pittsburg, Special.—The largest voluntary increase ever known in the wages of 100,000 men has been decided upon by the United States Steel Corporation. They will receive an advance of 10 per cent, which will increase the annual pay roll of the steel corporation by \$4,000,000. The advance applies to union as well as non-union men.