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THE CONGRESS.

THE NATIONS' LAW-MAKERS RESUME OPERATIONS.

The Proceedings of Both Houses Briefly Epitomized.

THE SENATE.

In the senate, Wednesday, a resolution was offered by McPherson, democrat, of New Jersey, by request, instructing the committee on education and labor to inquire and report as to the availability and advisability of establishing a national unit of value of labor wherewith to regulate wages automatically. It was referred to the committee on education and labor. The resolution offered at the first day's session, by Mr. Lodge, requesting the president to furnish information as to the delivery to the Chinese authorities at Shanghai of two Japanese citizens who were afterwards tortured and put to death, was laid before the senate, and after discussion, lasting an hour, was referred to the committee on foreign relations. The senate then proceeded to consider Mr. Peffer's resolution regarding the legality of the act of the secretary of the treasury in the recent issuing of bonds. The resolution was agreed to. It simply instructs the judiciary committee to inquire into the matter.

The first action of the senate, after the reading of the journal Thursday, was an order, on motion of Mr. Gorman, that the adjournment for the day should be till Monday next. The resolution offered by Mr. Turpie several days ago, declaring for a change in the system of electing United States senators, was taken up, and Mr. Turpie addressed the senate in support of the resolution.

Senator Harris presided over the senate Monday in the absence of the vice-president. Mr. Call, of Florida, offered a resolution reciting that the independence of Cuba was an object of great importance to the United States, and requesting the president to open negotiations with Spain for the recognition of the independence of the island and for the guarantee by the United States of the payment of such a sum of money as shall be agreed on. On objection it went over. The president pro tem. announced his signature to the bill for the dedication of the Chickamauga and Chattanooga National park. Mr. Morgan called up the Nicaragua canal bill and spoke in its support. In conclusion he declared that the United States must act now or forever abandon the canal, and he did not think the American people were willing to abandon it. Mr. Morgan held the attention of the senate and galleries until 4 o'clock, when he was followed by Mr. Mitchell, republican, of Oregon, who briefly endorsed the remarks of Mr. Morgan and favored the canal as being in the interest of the Pacific states. Mr. Dolph, republican, of Oregon, secured the floor, but yielded to a motion to go into executive session. After a short executive session, the senate, at 4:30 o'clock, adjourned.

THE HOUSE.

In the house, Wednesday, Mr. Blair, of New Hampshire, presented a resolution asking the immediate consideration thereof, calling upon the president, if not incompatible with public interests, to transmit to congress all the correspondence by telegraph or otherwise with the governments of China and Japan, relating to the pending war between those countries. Objection was made to the present consideration and the resolution went to the committee on foreign affairs. The house bill to prevent the free use of timber on public lands and to revoke all permits heretofore issued in certain states, and the senate bill asking land warrants applicable to the payment for all classes of public lands, was passed. The conference report on the bill to regulate the printing and the distribution of public documents was called up at 1:15, and occupied the attention of the house for the rest of the afternoon.

The fortifications and pension appropriation bills for the year ending June 30th, 1996, were reported to the house at Thursday's session. The first will be called up immediately after the railroad pooling bill is disposed of. The house then proceeded in the morning hour to consider the bill to protest the public forest reservations. After a few minutes discussion the bill went over till Friday. At request of Mr. Sayers, (dem. of Texas), the revenue marine bill was laid over till Saturday. Consideration of the bill to amend the interstate commerce laws so as to permit the railroads to pool their business, was resumed. The discussion of this measure occupied the balance of the day.

Among the executive communications laid before the house Friday was one from the secretary of the treasury, submitting an estimate for an additional appropropriation to meet the expenditures of the civil service commission for the year ending June 30, 1895. On motion of Mr. Martin, democrat, of Indiana, the order for a night session for the consideration of the pension bill was vacated. A resolution offered by Mr. Springer, democrat, of Illinois, was agreed to, giving the committee on banking and currency permission to sit during the sessions of the house. On motion of Mr. Wilson, (democrat), of West Virginia, the house went into committee of the whole to distribute the several sections of the president's message among the appropriation committees. Mr. Grow, (rep.), of Pennsylvania, addressed the house, suggesting certain amendments to the national banking act by which a greater elasticity could be given to their circulating notes. At the conclusion of Mr. Grow's remarks, the committee rose and the resolution to distribute the president's message being favorably reported to the house, was agreed to. The bill reported from the committee on public lands and to protect public forest reservations, which came over from Thursday, was called up and the house went into committee of the whole for its consideration.

Less than twenty-five members were present when the house was called to order at noon Saturday. In the morning hour, Mr. Mallory, democrat, of Florida from the committee on interstate commerce, called up the bill to promote the efficiency of the revenue cutter service. The bill was considered several times at the last session. It provides for the retirement of officers of the service incapacitated by reason the infirmities of age or physical or mental disability. Opposition developed against the measure. The morning hour expired without action, and Mr. Brown, democrat, of Indiana, gave notice that on Thursday he would call up the contested election case of Williams vs. Settle. The house then resumed the consideration of the railroad pooling bill. A report from the United States engineers on the plan of deepening and improving the harbor of Sandusky, O., was presented. It involves a cost of $225,000.

Under the rules, the house devoted itself Monday to the consideration of District of Columbia business. On motion of Mr. Heard, democrat, of Missouri, chairman of the District of Columbia committee, the house went into committee of the whole.

THE LATEST BY WIRE

GIVING THE NEWS UP TO THE HOUR OF GOING TO PRESS.

Brief Mention of Daily Happenings Throughout the World.

Fires have been started in the furnaces of the Watts Steel Plant at Middlesboro, Ky., the largest basic steel plant in the United States. They will work five hundred men when in full operation.

Francis B. Kendrick, defaulting assistant cashier of the Commercial bank, at Syracuse, N. Y., has plead guilty to the theft of $30,000, and has been sentenced to three years in the penitentiary.

A New York dispatch states that George R. Sheldo, Robert Maclay, Charles T. Barney and Simon Wormser, have agreed to act as a committee, under an agreement filed with the Knickerbocker Trust Company, to protect the interests of the Northern Pacific and Montana bondholders.

The total loss resulting from the burning of the Red Bank cotton factory, in Lexington county, S. C., on Saturday night last, is about $50,000 above all insurance. About 500 people for the present are left destitute by the fire. About three hundred of these will have to remain so through the winter, as all other mills are crowded with employes.

The Southern Hotel building at Chattanooga, Tenn., the handsomest business block in the city, was destroyed by fire Monday. The fire was caused by the explosion of a gas meter in the cellar just underneath the office. The entire building of five stories went up in smoke. The following firms on the ground floor saved all their stock: Peeples, Pitner Bros., tobacconists, Palace Drug Store, and Payne & Co., liquors.

Short's steam saw mill at Washington, N. C., was wrecked at an early hour Monday by the explosion of one of the four big boilers that furnished steam to the big saw mill and its six big dry kilns. Parts of the iron work were thrown blocks away, demolishing everything in their path. Mr. Short, the owner; the engineer, two firemen and a drayman were killed, and two other operatives were injured. The bodies of the two dead men were terribly broken up and mutilated.

Monday was an eventful day in the South Carolina legislature. Following New York's lead, the house passed a bill forbidding the selling of pools on horse races in the state and providing a heavy penalty for the violation of the law. A bill was introduced adding seduction to the list of crimes, making it a felony and sending a man to the penitentiary for six months upon conviction. Another bill was introduced, and will become a law, providing for the establishment immediately of a state reformatory, with school attached, for the criminals under twenty-one years of age. It will be known as the state juvenile reformatory.

PLEAD GUILTY

And Turned State's Evidence in Order to Save Themselves.

In the United States court in session at Columbia, S. C., the big Barrett postmaster conspiracy case was called for trial Thursday. There were fourteen defendants, nearly all of them postmasters whom Barrett had gotten the government to appoint at country places alleged to be towns, bearing their respective names. At the outset a sensation was caused by some four or five of them pleading guilty and then turning state's evidence to save themselves.

Huntington Buys a Mountain.

It is given out at Monclova, Mexico, that C. P. Huntington has bought the Great Iron mountain, at the City of Durango, and that he will establish extensive iron and steel works there.

FROM WASHINGTON.

NEWSY ITEMS PICKED UP AT THE NATIONAL CAPITOL.

Sayings and Doings of the Official Heads of the Government.

Secretary Carlisle has appointed John C. Lehman shipping commissioner at Brunswick, Ga.

The Hurst multi-charge gun, as anticipated by naval ordnance officers, has proven a failure, and no further experiments with [illegible] charges in this gun will be made.

The house appropriations committee Thursday agreed on the fortifications bill for the next fiscal year. It carries an appropriation of $1,879,057, being $5,478,646 below the estimates on which it is based, and $547,946 less than the appropriations for the current fiscal year. The bill authorizes no contracts to be made in excess of the sums appropriated.

The republican congressional committee has sent out a significant letter in regard to the contested seats in the next congress. There are upwards of thirty districts wherein the defeated republicans have indicated their intention of filing contests. The committee has addressed to each of these contestants a statement notifying him that he must not place any reliance on the large republican majority in the next congress, but must rest his prospects for success on the merits of the claims he presents.

Care is being taken to have all sections of the country heard before the house banking and currency committee concerning the proposed currency system. Chairman Springer is not confining has invitations to eastern financiers near at hand. He has sent to Chicago and St. Louis and Cincinnati as representative western cities, and to Nashville, Atlanta and other southern cities. He would go as far as Denver and San Francisco if people from these sections could get to Washington in time for the hearing. Care is also being taken to secure only those recognized as authorities in practical financiering.

Notwithstanding the secrecy with which the interior department guards its action with reference to the Ute Indian troubles in southern Utah, it developed Monday morning that Secretary Smith has ordered Agent Day by telegraph to follow the Utes into southeastern Utah and bring them back to the reservation. The secretary, it is understood, took this step in compliance with urgent requests from Governor West and other citizens of Utah, who state that during the past week the Indians have committed numerous depredations, such as killing the cattle of the settlers, and otherwise terrifying the whites of that part of the country.

For New Federal Prisons.

Representative Livingston is authority for the statement that the general deficiency bill, which is soon to be considered by the appropriations committee, will contain a provision for the building of two new federal prisons at points to be determined by the secretary of the interior and the attorney-general. The cost will be limited to $500,000 each. He anticipates no trouble in the house. The erection of these prisons is very much needed. The attorney-general has several times called for an appropriation for these buildings and the president also urged an appropriation in his last message.

Currency Committee Getting Ready.

The house committee on banking and currency, Friday morning, on motion of Mr. Warner, adopted the following resolutions: "Resolved, That beginning with Monday next at 10 a. m., this committee take up the recommendation of the president and the secretary of the treasury with reference to the currency, and that there be invited to appear before us the secretary of the treasury and the comptroller of the currency. Resolved, That the chairman of this committee be authorized to invite such persons as he may think proper to appear before us in the same matter, and to arrange for hearing them with a view of completing all hearings on or before the 15th instant, at which date all hearings shall be closed. Resolved, That the meetings of this committee for the purpose of these hearings may be called by the chairman at any time during the coming week, and that five members present shall be a quorum for the purpose of such hearings."

Reduction in Pension Money.

The pension appropriation bill reported to the house Thursday by Mr. O'Neill, of Massachusetts, carries an appropriation of $141,581,570, being $209,000 less than the estimates and $10,200,000 below the appropriation for the current fiscal year. A reduction is made in two items—in payment of pensions and in the fees of examining surgeons. For pensions the bill allows $140,000,000, a reduction of $10,000,000 from this year's appropriation, and for surgeon fees $800,000, being a reduction of $200,000 under the amount for the current year. In the report accompanying the bill is a table showing that in 1879 the number of pensioners was 242,755, and the annual value of pensions $25,493,742, and the disbursements on their account reported by the treasury $135,121,482. In 1894 the number of pensioners increased to 969,544, the annual value of pensions to $130,120,863 and the disbursements by the treasury to $141,177,284.

Anarchists Arrested.

The *Eclair* states that fifteen anarchists, belonging to an organized band of thieves, have been arrested in Paris.

SOUTHERN FLASHES.

A SUMMARY OF INTERESTING HAPPENINGS,

And Presenting an Epitome of the South's Progress and Prosperity

Barclay & Williams, furniture dealers, at Newport News, Va., have assigned. Liabilities, $10,000; estimated assets, $12,000.

The Manchester spoke mills, at Richmond, Va., which have been shut down for some months, have resumed operations with a full force of hands.

The state liquor commissioner of South Carolina, Mr. Traxler, who was appointed by Governor Tillman when the dispensary law became operative, has tendered his resignation to Governor Evans. The cause of the resignation is not known.

Notice of contest has been served on Congressman-elect Jos. M. Kendall (democrat) of the tenth Kentucky district, on behalf of N. T. Hopkins (republican) who charges conspiracy with the county clerk to defraud him by issuing spurious tickets, omitting his name from the republican ticket.

Thursday night a terrible collision occurred between a special and an extra freight near Rockingham, N. C. One engineer named Wells was scalded to death. The other had his skull fractured and one leg broken and is not expected to live. Both firemen jumped and did not receive any injuries.

Fire broke out Thursday morning in Parham's mattress factory in Chattanooga and for a time a conflagration was threatened. The fire department, however, responded promptly and succeeded in getting the flames under control before they could reach adjoining buildings. The mattress factory was gutted. The loss is about $5,000, fully insured.

The Red Bank cotton mills in Lexington county, S. C., about twenty-five miles from Columbia, one of the oldest cotton factories in the state, was entirely consumed by fire on Saturday evening. Most of the output on hand, cotton goods and felting, were saved. The total loss will be something over $75,000. The amount of insurance is unknown.

A sensation has been created in Columbia, S. C., by the publication of a letter written by B. F. Perry, a Carolinian now in Washington, to Josh W. Ashley, a member of the house, charging Ex-Governor Tillman with receiving all kinds of rebates and other dishonest transactions, and urging Ashley to call on the legislature to appoint a committee to investigate the matter.

Bank Examiner Gannon has made affidavit charging William F. Brice, late cashier of the City National bank, of Quanah, Texas, with embezzling $20,000 by a note on the Midland National bank, of Kansas City, dated October 8, 1894, and payable in thirty days. Brice's embezzlement, it is claimed, aggregates $37,000, of which $20,000 is on Kansas City, $10,000 on St. Louis and $7,000 on New York banks.

In the South Carolina legislature Thursday a house bill passed to a third reading which makes intoxication and drunkenness and the use of profane or obsene language a misdemeanor, punishable by fine or imprisonment. The use of an ordinary profane word will cost from $5 to $50 under the law. There was a big fight, many legislators pointing out the laughable nature of such a law, attempting to legislate morality into the people.

The directors of Clifton mills, Spartanburg county, S. C., have determined to build a new cotton mill, which will make the third mill operated by this company on Pacolet river. The new mill will be built at Thompson's shoals, which has a water power capacity of 20,000 spindles and 800 looms, without the aid of steam power. The mill will be finished and in operation by the 1st of next October, and when finished this mill will give five cotton mills within a three-mile radius.

GULF TRANSIT COMPANY.

A New Organization With Headquarters in Florida.

Notice has been given that on or about January 10th, next, application will be made to Governor Mitchell, of Florida, for letters patent, granting a charter to the Gulf Transit Company, with Pensacola as its place of business and a capital stock of $200,000. The organization of this company is part of the plan of the Louisville and Nashville Railroad Company to increase the export and import business of the Pensacola port. M. H. Smith, president of the Louisville and Nashville Railroad Company, will be president of the Gulf Transit Company; H. W. Bruce will be vice president, and W. H. Reynolds will be secretary and treasurer. These gentlemen are all residents of Louisville, Ky. The company will be authorized to buy, sell and export coal, coke, lumber, timber, stores, shingles, iron and other ores and other domestic products and merchandise. They will also import sugar and hardwoods.

Challenge Machine Works Burned.

Fire has destroyed the Challenge Machinery Company's factory at Chicago. Only the four walls of the building were left standing. The loss in machinery and the structure is estimated at $250,000. Most of the stock is said to be covered by insurance. The Challenge Machinery Company manufactured monster paper cutters, hand cylinder presses, hand, army and proof presses, engines, boilers and nails.

BRIEF TELEGRAMS.

A CONDENSATION OF OUR MOST IMPORTANT DISPATCHES.

Short and Crisp Morsels of General Interest to Our Readers.

In a fight among tramps at Tin, O., two men were killed and a third fatally hurt.

The earnings of the Mexican National railroad for the fourth week of November are $110,144.06.

An extensive strike has been inaugurated by the silk weavers of Lyons, France, most of whom have left their work.

Count von Schouvaloff, the Russian ambassador at Berlin, will succeed General Gourko, who has resigned as governor of Warsaw.

Congressman elect Andrew J. Campbell, the republican opponent of General Daniel E. Sickles at the last election in the tenth New York district, died Thursday.

Governor Crouns has appointed as commissioners from Nebraska to the Cotton States and International Exposition, which will be held at Atlanta next year, Colonel George E. Jenkins, of Fairbury, and T. M. Broome, of Alliance.

Private advices received at London from Calcutta state that duties on cotton imported into India are to be reimposed on January 15th next. In an article on the subject The Manchester *Guardian* expresses doubt as to the truth of the report.

One hundred and fifty male garment workers employed by Strawbridge & Clothier, at Philadelphia, and female helpers to the number of two hundred, struck Thursday morning because of a proposed reduction in their wages.

A ranchman named Francisco Morales has reported to the authorities at Ures, Mexico, that a band of Yaqui Indians visited his ranch and killed three sheep herders and drove off a large number of cattle. A detachment of troops will be sent in pursuit.

The Shenango glass works at Newcastle, Pa., were entirely destroyed by fire Sunday morning. The loss is $100,000; insurance $30,000. The origin of the fire is a mystery. Three hundred men are thrown out of employment. The works will be immediately rebuilt.

The *Freeman's Journal*, a Dublin newspaper, says: "Forged American bonds to the value of several thousand pounds are in the hands of Belfast investors. The bonds were bought in the usual way. It is reported that a broker has been sent to the United States to inquire into the matter.

The Fidelity Building and Loan Association, of Washington City, which has become so involved in lawsuits at Pittsburg and other points, stole a march upon its creditors by securing the appointment of a receiver to take charge of the business of the concern in Washington and elsewhere.

The socialists made an exceptionally aggressive demonstration during the debate on the royal civil list in the Brussels chamber Thursday. Their attacks were so bitter that eventually the conservative deputies arose in a body and, led by the premier, drowned the socialist speeches with cheers for the king.

The Mexican government is receiving many offers of assistance in putting extra troops into the field in case of war with Guatemala. In extraordinary session the legislature of the state of Queretaro has voted that its members would draw no salary during the war, should hostilities ensue, and that the amount thus saved be applied to purposes of war as the general government may see fit.

Diptheria is raging throughout the city of St. Louis, Mo. In some quarters the disease is assuming such proportions as to be considered an epidemic. The board of health is indignant at the action of certain physicians in giving the disease a wrong name when filling out death certificates. Nearly all of the cases are reported as croup or laryngitis, when in reality they are diptheria or scarlet fever.

The row between the Pacific Mail Steamship Company and the Panama Railroad Company was stopped by the supreme court of New York Thursday. Justice Truax, in special term, handed down a decision ordering a permanent and perpetual injunction to restrain the Panama Railroad Company from terminating its present agreement with the Pacific Mail Steamship Company. This injunction restrains the railroad from changing the methods now in vogue between the two companies regarding the issuing of bills of lading and the transportation of passengers, mail or merchandise.

For Benefit of Creditors.

C. N. Curtis, dealer in house furniture at Waco, Texas, assigned to secure creditors in the sum of $33,000;

THESE ROBBERS GOT GOLD.

They Hold Up a Train in Texas to the Tune of $140,000.

One of the most daring train robberies ever committed in Texas took place eight miles west of Forth Worth Thursday evening about 6 o'clock. As an eastbound Texas and Pacific passenger train was nearing Mary's creek it was brought to a sudden stop by a danger signal displayed on the trestle. The engineer was covered by three unmasked men, who boarded the cab and ordered that the train be backed up about a half mile, when the fireman was covered and ordered to break in the express door. He refused, but the robbers pulled the triggers of their guns, and a number of shots in the air brought the fireman to terms. He burst in the express car door with a pickax. One of the robbers then kept the fireman and engineer while the others went into the express car.

Fort Worth is the end of the express run and the safe doors were open. One of the robbers rifled the safes while the other kept guard over the messenger. At 6 o'clock the train was stopped and thirty minutes later it was in Fort Worth. The exact amount the robbers secured is not known, but it is said to have been near $140,000 in money, gold bullion en route from San Francisco to Washington, and Texas Pacific checks.

After the hold-up the robbers mounted their horses, told the engineer to go ahead and then made leisurely off in a northwesterly direction. The express officials say they do not know the amount taken, but that it is the only through train from the west and carries every evening a large amount of money. On the arrival of the train at Fort Worth posses were immediately organized to close in every direction, thereby making escape impossible.

DE LESSEPS DEAD.

A Man Who Contributed Much to the Glory of France.

A Paris special says: The death of Count Ferdinand de Lesseps, which occurred at Lachesnaye, near Vatin, was not unexpected. Since the Panama revelation the great engineer has been in a comatose condition. His death was painless.

The French newspapers dwell upon the contrast between his brilliant career and his melancholy end, saying that he contributed to extend abroad the greatness and influence of France. They add that the work in which he failed will be forgotten, and that the people will only see that which he accomplished.

THE NEW REICHSTAG OPENED.

Imposing Ceremonies and a Speech From the Emperor.

The new reichstag building at Berlin, Germany, was opened Wednesday with imposing ceremonies. Religious services were held according to the rites of the Catholic church, in Hedwig cathedral, and under Protestant forms in the castle chapel. Chancellor von Hohenlohe handed to the kaiser a speech from the throne, opening the