SENATE AND HOUSE.

WORK OF OUR NATIONAL LAWMAKERS.

A Week's Proceedings in the Halls of Congress—Important Measures Discussed and Acted Upon—An Impartial Resume of the Business.

The National Solons.

The Senate passed the Indian appropriation bill Monday. It is substantially the same as it passed the House, and can occasion little division save on the amendment opening the Uncompahgre Indian reservation. Resolutions of inquiry were agreed to asking the Secretary of State as to the operation of the reciprocity treaties made under the McKinley act. Mr. Frost introduced his resolution declaring illegal the recent order of the Secretary of the Treasury relative to imports arriving after April 1. After the executive session the Senate adjourned as a mark of respect to Representative Milliken, deceased.

Senator Morgan's resolution declaring that a state of war exists in Cuba was discussed briefly in the Senate Tuesday and then went over for a week. The agricultural appropriation bill was passed without amendment. A resolution by Mr. Hoar was agreed to asking the Secretary of State for comprehensive information as to the machinery of government of all foreign nations with which we have diplomatic relations, the taxes or excises and methods of collection; imports and exports; method of aiding the merchant marine; discrimination against American merchant vessels; public indebtedness, etc. Another resolution by Mr. Cullom asked the Secretary of the Treasury for information as to the effect of the present internal revenue tax on the honest production of distilled spirits, to what extent illicit distillation had occurred, and all further information that will aid in protecting the Government against frauds. The resolution went over after a brief discussion. The House was not in session.

Senator Mason, of Illinois, made his maiden speech in the Senate Wednesday and signalized it by some breezy criticism on the rules of the Senate. It was such a variation from the prosy debate of recent days that the Senator was accorded close attention and twice received the hearty applause of crowded galleries. Mr. Hoar, of Massachusetts, replied briefly, pointing out that the other branch of Congress was more open to criticism than the Senate. He was in accord with Mr. Mason, however, on the need of new rules. A vote was taken on Mr. Gorman's motion to refer the Mason resolution to the Rules Committee, which prevailed—yeas, 32; nays, 24. Most of the day was given to the bankruptcy bill. The House, after a ten-minute session, adjourned one day out of respect to the late Representative Milliken, of Maine.

The session of the Senate Thursday opened with a proposition for an official expression of sympathy to the Greeks in their struggle with Turkey. This was soon merged into a turbulent debate over the disorganized state of the Senate. Later in the day the Nelson bankruptcy bill was passed by the decisive vote of 49 to 8. The bankruptcy bill as passed is the substitute framed by Mr. Nelson of Minnesota. The "free homestead bill" was then taken up. Mr. Morgan offered an amendment providing that all public lands not taken up by public entry by Jan. 1, 1900, shall be granted to the States and Territories where the lands are located for dedication purposes. The homestead bill was made the unfinished business and then laid aside. At 4 o'clock a message from the House announced the death of Representative Holman. Mr. Turpie of Indiana presented a resolution voicing the regret with which the announcement was received and providing for a committee of five Senators to accompany the remains. The resolution was agreed to. The presiding officer named Senators Turpie, Fairbanks, Spooner, Kyle and Rawlins as the committee. The Senate adjourned to Monday. The House did nothing of importance.

The House Friday completed the consideration of the Senate amendments to the Indian appropriation bill and sent the bill to conference. The main contention centered about the Senate proposition to open the Uncompahgre Indian reservation under the mineral land laws. Finally an amendment was recommended to the effect that no corporation should be allowed to obtain possession of these gilsonite deposits, but that the Government should lease the lands in limited areas and for limited terms of years. The Senate amendment striking from the House bill the provision for the ratification of the oil and gas leases made by the council of the Seneca Indians last December was disagreed to. A resolution was adopted by which a committee of twenty-five was appointed to attend the dedication of the Grant tomb in New York on Tuesday, and the House agreed to a program of three-day adjournments.

J. B. ANGELL GOES TO TURKEY.

President of Michigan University Is Appointed Minister.

Dr. James B. Angell, president of the University of Michigan, who has been appointed American minister to Turkey, was born in Scituate, R. I., and comes of old colonial stock. Thomas Angell, his ancestor, went from Massachusetts to Rhode Island with Roger Williams, and was one of the founders of a colony which became historical. Dr. Angell entered Brown University in 1845 and graduated five years later. He was called to the chair of modern languages in 1851, and held the position for seven years. Later he resigned to assume control of the Providence Journal, and retained it until 1866, when he accepted the position of president of the University of Vermont. In 1871 he was placed at the head of the University of Michigan. In 1879 he was appointed minister plenipotentiary to China to secure revision of the Burlingame treaty.

Telegraphic Brevities.

The water in Lake Huron is a foot higher than at this time last year.

Rev. Dr. James Hall McIlvaine, the noted Presbyterian divine, has resigned from that ministry and is about to take Episcopalian orders.

It is said that the New York legislative and anti-trust bills are now of no value, having been so amended that they will utterly fail of their purpose.

Rev. W. D. Williams, one of the most influential Congregational ministers on the Pacific coast, has joined the Episcopalians and quitted his ministerial charge.

TURKS ARE DISMAYED

CONTINUED SUCCESS OF THE GREEK TROOPS REPORTED.

Turkish Battery at Ligeria Destroyed and Turks Driven from Nezeros and Rapsari—Greek Fleet Destroys Vast Quantities of Ottoman Stores.

Edhem Pasha Recalled.

Crown Prince Constantine has stirred Athens to a high pitch of enthusiasm over his reports to King George of Greek successes everywhere in Thessaly. The Hellenic troops, under the crown prince, have destroyed the Turkish battery at Ligeria. The Moslems have retired from Nezeros and Rapsari and are appalled by the destruction of all their stores at Katerina and Lithochorion. From Salonica comes the news that after a fierce battle the Greeks occupied Karya, a small fortified town near Milouna Pass. Osman Pasha has succeeded Edhem Pasha as commander-in-chief of the Turkish armies. Edhem Pasha has been recalled by the sultan and the hero of Plevna will try to rally the Moslem troops, who, it is conceded, even at Constantinople, have been outfought at all points by the Hellenes.

At Constantinople the situation is regarded as serious, and the recall of Edhem Pasha is taken to be a rebuke to that general for the manner in which Crown Prince Constantine has apparently outgeneraled him in all moves made on the Thessalian border since the first skirmish at Milouna Pass. Ahmed Hifzi Pasha also has been recalled from Zamia, and Saas Edin Pasha has left Constantinople to relieve him in command of the Turkish troops at that point.

More Troops Forwarded.

Seventy-two new battalions of Turkish soldiers—50,400 men—have been mustered in from the army reserves and prepared for instant service. Greece, too, has summoned all her landwehr, or militia, and will send them to Thessaly at once. Heavy fighting continues all along the border from Arta to Platamona. Everywhere the Greeks appear to have been victorious or else to have held their ground against the Turkish attacks.

Santi Quaranta has been reduced by the Greek squadron, which abandoned the bombardment of Prevesa and went to the former place, opening fire at once on the Turkish blockhouse there. Later the squadron returned to Corfu, having on board eighty Christian refugees taken from Santi Quaranta, which was destroyed and the Turkish stores there burned.

The citadel of Prevesa is reported to have withstood the furious bombardment of the Greek ships, but it is said the town is almost wholly destroyed. The Eastern Greek fleet, after bombarding Katrina on the Gulf of Salonica and reducing the town, landed a detachment and captured an immense quantity of stores, including provisions and ammunition destined for the use of Edhem Pasha's armies.

Greek troops have forced the inhabitants to abandon Kafia and Kosnitzadeson, two fortified Turkish towns. The people fled in terror when the cannonading began, and were forced to leave all their possessions for the victorious Greeks. Terrific fighting is reported from Arta, where the Turks suffered repulses constantly while attempting to cross the bridge into the town. The Moslems were met at each onslaught by rifle volleys and were forced back in disorder. Again and again, under cover of heavy cannon fire, they tried to cross the bridge, but could proceed no farther than the center.

Finally, in one assault, the Turkish commander was killed, and his men fell back in confusion, and made no more attempts to carry the bridge. Then the Turkish cannon were silenced. Athens advices say that the excitement there over the Greek successes everywhere is intense, and reports from Volo say that even women there are arming themselves to do battle with the Turks.

PRINCE CONSTANTINE, COMMANDER OF THE GREEK FORCES.

Prince Constantine, the heir apparent to the Grecian throne, is winning the warmest applause from the Grecian people by his gallant conduct in the present war. He is in command of the main army and is threatening the Turks with all sorts of disaster. Constantine was always popular with the Hellenes. He is 29 years old, Grecian born, and is an ardent follower of the religion of the country. When he became of age in 1889 he married Princess Sophia of Russia, who is very patriotic and greatly beloved by the people. Constantine and his wife are very democratic. Princess Sophia goes about Athens unattended, and is distinguished in no way, outwardly, from any other lady in the town. Prince Constantine conducts himself with much freedom from ostentation, and if the Greeks had their way these two with their ancient names would be king and queen. Constantine went to school in Europe and had the benefit of the best military training that could be had in the big war camps of the continent.

EDHEM PASHA.

FRUIT INJURED BY FROST.

Reports Indicate that the Crop Has Suffered Severely.

Unseasonably cold weather during the last three days has created the gravest fears among the fruit growers in many sections of the country. Through Illinois and Indiana and the southern part of Wisconsin the cold has been especially severe, and the reports are anything but reassuring. The records of the weather department show that Tuesday's temperature was 14 degrees below the average for April, and that last Monday was 18 degrees colder than the normal.

C. E. Linney, superintendent of the weather and crop service report for the Chicago district, sent out a bulletin which takes a cheerful look at the situation. He is inclined to the belief that the fruit buds in Illinois are not far enough advanced to be hurt by the cold weather. The news from the vicinity of Joliet is not encouraging to the fruit interests, the severe cold weather having killed most of the fruit and berry buds in that section, according to the reports.

In some sections of northern Indiana, notably in DeKalb County, the mercury registered 16 degrees above zero Monday night, and great injury resulted to fruit and vegetables. The heaviest damage was inflicted in the southern sections of Indiana, where the fruit was farthest advanced, and in the great fruit belt which includes the counties along the Ohio river and extends north for fifty miles. It is estimated that nearly all the fruit in this section is killed, but time may prove that this estimate is incorrect.

McKinley's Saddle Horse.

The saddle horse selected by the Hon. Charles Fleischmann of Cincinnati for

President McKinley was shipped to Washington Monday. Mr. Delaney has been training the horse to city sights, and now says that President McKinley need have no fear to ride his mount anywhere. The above photograph was taken at the home of Mr. Fleischmann in Avondale.—Cincinnati Commercial Tribune.

Alphonse Bertillon of France, who invented the Bertillon system of measuring convicts, advocates the exemption from direct taxation of every family in which there are three children, and the imposition of an extra tax of 20 per cent upon all those not thus provided, preventing the treasury from losing any part of the present revenue and at the same time establishing a distinction between men to whom the nation's interest are dear and men who consider them not at all.

Earnings of the Chicago, Milwaukee and St. Paul for the second week in April aggregated $462,042, as compared with $548,395 for the corresponding week of last year, a decrease of $86,343.

Twenty-one ministers of the gospel have applications on file for the United States consulship at Jerusalem.

POWER OF TRUSTS

APPARENT IN NEARLY EVERY LINE OF BUSINESS.

Commercial Independence No Longer Exists—How the Rich Escape Taxation—Stocks and Bonds Can Be Hidden, Not Houses, Lands or Live Stock

Competition Is Crushed Out.

Ex-President Harrison recently delivered a lecture before the Michigan University on the subject, "Corporation Law and Tax Law Reform," and the New Orleans Times-Democrat comments on it as follows:

The points he chiefly dwelt on and elaborated were, first, the admitted need of reform of corporation law and tax law, and, second, the reasons why the reform is not carried out, and he wound up with suggestions looking in the direction of bringing about the desired reform.

Every intelligent person is aware that corporations control not only our railroads and banks, but almost every form of manufacturing and mercantile adventure. They organize themselves in trusts, which, under the pretense of reducing the cost of production of articles, crush out competition and impose what prices it pleases them to impose on articles of general consumption. Everybody knows what the methods of operation of these corporations are, as everybody has to a greater or less extent suffered from them. Not only are they crushing out competition, they are crushing out the independent spirit of Americans.

Supposing, for example, that a grocer in the city of New Orleans were to insist on selling sugar at a figure below that quoted and dictated to him by the sugar refinery combine (the sugar trust), what do we suppose would be the result to him? He would be incontinently ruined by the trust, which would undersell him on every hand until it had forced him out of business and driven him to the wall. And there can be no commercial independence, of course, where this state of things prevails.

Readers are equally well aware that the poor or humbler section of the community is taxed for more heavily than the rich. The law takes only realty, which cannot be concealed, but it touches not personality, which belongs almost exclusively to the wealthy. The wealthy thus escape taxation on one-half of their accumulated property, while the poor are taxed on all of theirs. Comptroller Roberts, of New York, put himself on record the other day to the effect that in 1895 the taxable value of realty in the Empire State was close upon $4,000,000,000, and that the taxable value of personalty was less than $500,000,000 in the same year, but he declared that the value of the personalty in the State was at any rate quite equal to the value of the realty.

Now, as ex-President Harrison said, "five-sixths of the voters of the country favor a revision of corporation laws, limiting the purposes for which corporations may be organized, supervising the issuing of stocks and bonds and putting other restraints upon them. An even larger proportion of our people would give their emphatic support to the proposition that tax burdens should fall equally on all property. They do not now, as every one knows. Lands, houses, live stock and implements of trade cannot be hidden. Stocks and bonds can be, and the assessor has no way of checking the list."

But while the injustice of corporation legislation and tax legislation is to be fought and fought strenuously, it must be fought discreetly and intelligently, not as a red rag is rushed at by a bull. The ex-President suggests seven cardinal points to be borne carefully in mind when such legislation is to be attacked:

First—The people have not only authorized, but invited, the organization of and the investment in these corporations.

Second—That the bankruptcy of any legitimate business is a public injury.

Third—That we must take these things as our unwisdom, or that of our fathers, has made them. As to the past, we can do little more than mend.

Fourth—That the work of reforming our corporation laws is not for apprentices.

Fifth—That corporation law should be general. It is neither wise nor safe to assume that a particular case is a representative one, and to administer the remedy promiscuously.

Sixth—That in public affairs the best attainable good is the thing to be sought.

Seventh—That the legislation must be just.

The reason that corporation law and tax law reform has not appreciably progressed, although legislation has been enacted both by the Congress of the United States and by a number of State Legislatures, is that the legislative bodies are not of much account, according to the ex-President, and that, being untrained in great measure, they bungle their legislative work and leave it in a condition easy to be picked to pieces by corporation counsel, who, Mr. Harrison says, are about the brightest intellects in the United States.

Sherman's anti-trust law of 1890 has been all but a complete failure. There never has been a conviction, as far as we have heard, obtained under it, although trusts have doubled in number since its enactment, until this last week, when the Western Joint Traffic Association—the most innocent of all combinations—was pronounced by the Supreme Court of the United States to be illegal. The State of New York has various laws on its statute book making the formation and operation of such illegal combinations of capital penal offenses, but the combinations flourish and flaunt their operations in the face of the public as if the laws against them did not have existence.

These views of ex-President Harrison are sound, sensible and practical, and whether they are thoroughly approved or not they will have the result of making people think on the subject—which is the initial step toward the remedying of evils.

Nothing for the People.

It is strange how dead Mr. Dingley and the other Republican leaders are to the significance of contemporary facts. At the very juncture when the Supreme Court of the United States has struck an astonishing and shattering blow to the organization of business on the plan of conspiracies to prevent competition, we see the newly restored party putting all its powers at the service of the trusts, and devoting its energies openly to the framing of a scheme of taxation which is obviously and notoriously based on the undemocratic and nefarious principle of public taxation for private profit.

The party, apparently without the slightest consciousness of what it is really about, is sentencing the protective system to death and committing suicide. The people are swiftly coming by evolution to the point where they will determine whether they are to rule the trusts or permit the trusts to rule them, and the Republican party in Congress is going ahead in the sight of all men doing its best to strengthen and arm the trusts for the battle with the people.—New York Journal.

Oppressive Taxation.

In an exhaustive discussion of the principles of taxation by Mr. David A. Wells, now running in The Popular Science Monthly, the principle is asserted and supported with a wealth of political authority and legal decisions that the rightful object of taxation is the support of government and its limit the actual needs of government.

It is upon this sound principle that the Democrats of the House founded their protest against the Dingley tariff bill. They show that the Republican tariff bill violates the principle in both ways. It levies taxes for the benefit of private enterprise and levies far more than the support of the Government requires. In effect, it collects a bounty for distribution to favored individuals, and in order that this may be done proposes taxes from $50,000,000 to $75,000,000 in excess of the Government's needs. The Republicans propose a double robbery of the people.—Exchange.

Japan and Silver.

Japan will sell no silver, but will coin all it can get into legal tender money, even after the adoption of the gold standard. As Japan has no silver of her own until she buys it any arrangement that will help to depress the price is a good thing for the Government. It will be noted in this connection that investors are anxious to place their money in Japan regardless of the silver currency.

Solidly Arrayed.

Men who loyally supported the candidates and platform of the Democratic party in 1896 have been chosen as the Executive Committee of the National Association of Democratic Clubs. The party will go into the great campaign of 1900 unhampered by treachery and solidly arrayed against the abuses of the time.

The Worst So Far.

The highest rate of duty that has so far been discovered in the Dingley bill of abominations is that on nickel bar buttons for underwear. The present rate of duty is 35 per cent. The Dingley rate is 607 per cent. Probably this is not the worst that is in the bill, but if there is anything worse it has not yet been discovered.

Not Unselfish Patriotism.

By lopping off the heads of the bolting officeholders President McKinley causes the friends of Mr. Cleveland to accuse him of ingratitude. It would seem from this that there was something more than the "credit of the nation" involved in the job of party betrayal executed last year.

A Republican Defined.

A Connecticut legislator defines the eagle to be "a bird that has its teeth into everything it can lay its hands on." If his definition is correct, it makes the eagle an officeseeker and a member of the Republican party.—Exchange.

Sage Speaks Frankly.

Uncle Russell Sage is merely more frank than his colleagues when he says the railroad attorneys will immediately go to work to discover some way to evade the law as laid down by the Supreme Court.

The Sensible Thing.

It would seem to be the sensible thing to elect men to office who would attend to the people's business themselves instead of serving under orders from a superior power.

A Russian Telephone.

According to L'Electricien, of Paris, a Russian scientist has invented a telephone far superior to anything hitherto used. With it a man may talk to more than one of his friends at a time, provided they are all in the same room, for it is not necessary to stand near the receiver in order to hear the sound.

The voice issues from a metallic funnel, and may be heard at some distance.

The new telephone has other advantages. Sounds transmitted through it lose very little of their intensity by reason of distance. In experiments made between Moscow and Rostof, a distance of 870 miles, speech, songs and music could be clearly heard. A large number of official people were present at the experiments, and the official report was full of praise of the new telephone.

When Henry VIII. was writing love letters to Anne Boleyn he declared, "The longer the days the more distant is the sun, and so it is with me and my sun."

Labor World

Employment of Convicts.

Arrangements for the employment of a large number of convicts in the Eddyville, Ky., prison are complete, and the projected increase of prisoners as cigarmakers in the prisons of Illinois caused attention to be directed to this subject. Those States employing convict labor in the tobacco industry, mainly cigarmakers, are Illinois, Michigan, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Virginia and Texas. The latter devotes itself exclusively to the production of chewing tobacco for use in the prisons. In all, there are four systems in vogue, distinguished as follows:

1. The contract system, under which a contractor employs convicts at a certain agreed price per day for their labor, the prisoners working under immediate direction of the contractor or his agents. Under this system the institution usually furnished to the contractor the power necessary and even the machinery for carrying on the work.

2. The piece price system, which is simply a modification of the contract system. Under this system the contractor furnishes to the prison the materials, in a proper shape for working, and receives from the prison the manufactured article at an agreed piece price, the supervision of the work being wholly in the hands of the prison officials.

3. The public account system, under which the institution carries on the business of manufacturing, like a private individual or firm, buying raw materials and converting them into manufactured articles, which are sold in the best available market.

4. The lease system, under which the institution leases the convicts to a contractor for a specified sum, and for a fixed price, the lessee usually undertaking to feed, clothe, care for and maintain proper discipline among the prisoners.

Workmen Condemn Intruders.

The Building Trades' Council of Kansas City has issued circulars notifying workmen that conditions in the building line are bad. The council received reports indicating that there would be work for only about one-third of the laboring men now there now without allowing for the influx which is expected because of the reports of activity in building circles which have been carried over the country and which have made Kansas City a Mecca for the unemployed. These "intruders" were severely condemned.

"Those fellows land in Kansas City many times without a cent," said John Hahn, the organizer of the council, "and they offer their services to the contractors for a mere pittance in order to get enough to live on while here. The contractors, of course, are only too glad to give employment to such men, for they can get their work for sometimes less than one-half the regular scale of wages. Each fellow of that kind that secures a job takes the place of some citizen of this city who has a family to support and spends all his money with the business men of this city. Right here is a Chicago paper which has an advertisement in it to the effect that 500 men are wanted immediately in Kansas City to work for the telephone company laying its underground wires. That advertisement is put there for the sole purpose of getting a mob of men in Kansas City, who, in desperation, will work for whatever they can get."

A committee was appointed to prepare a lengthy article for the official union labor paper, setting forth this condition, and warning the unemployed men to keep clear of the city.

Fear the Anti-Trust Bill.

With a governor avowedly friendly to labor, and three or four able representatives of organized labor in the Legislature, the trades unionists of Detroit entertained high hopes of the enactment of some salutary measure in their interest during the present session at Lansing, says the Detroit Free Press. It is now extremely doubtful if a single one of the several measures championed by labor will find its way to the statute books. Not only this, but there is a wholesome fear that in the "anti-trust" bill organized labor has received decidedly the worst blow ever dealt by any Legislature in the history of the State.

Representative Elkhoff, who has been in the city during the week, assures his labor friends that the bill contains nothing detrimental to organized labor, and says a good constitutional lawyer has given an opinion to that effect. The bill prohibits under a heavy penalty "combinations for the purpose of increasing the cost of any commodity to the consumer." A labor organization is a "combination," and it is formed expressly for the purpose of increasing the cost of labor to the consumer.

The convict labor law so long and valiantly championed by Harry Barter is very much disfigured, and the measure to prohibit payment in due bills for goods is clearly moribund. Dickinson's bill, fixing $1.50 a day as the minimum wage in Detroit for municipal employes, is generally regarded as an iridescent dream, and all the others have rigor mortis well advanced.

Labor Notes.

Strikers at Ludington, Mich., have had the active support of the farmers, who supplied them with potatoes and other farm products.

The Italian Government has been actively at work recently destroying socialist and labor organizations. The Avanta, the national organ, is regularly suppressed, but still 60,000 copies are secretly circulated. A new daily paper will be started.