

WORK OF CONGRESS

The consideration of the Indian appropriation bill and a speech by Senator Reed Smoot of Utah on the currency bill consumed nearly the entire time in the Senate Friday. The Indian bill was passed. The Senate at 5:12 p. m. adjourned until Monday. The House rejected by 39 to 60 an amendment by Mr. Foster (Illinois) to the army bill appropriating \$1,000,000 for joint maneuvers of the militia organizations and the regular troops. Without a dissenting voice the House by special rule restored the amendment to the pay of non-commissioned officers and men and to prohibit the private employment of army musicians for pay, both of which went out on points of order.

The Senate was not in session Saturday. A rolled charge was made by Mr. Mann of Illinois in the House during the consideration of the army appropriation bill that some government official or employer had yielded to the influence of a land syndicate with the view of selling to the government a tract near the city for a target range. An appropriation of \$250,000 for 6,000 acres was provided for, which Mr. Mann denounced as far beyond its value. He at once proposed the first of Mr. Young of Michigan, who, springing to the defense of the committee on military affairs, indignantly denied that any member of it had been approached by any one but the Secretary of War or his subordinates. The provision was stricken out on a point of order. The army appropriation bill was passed, the total amount carried by it being \$84,757,596.

In the Senate Monday Senator William Alden Smith of Michigan spoke against the railroad bond feature of the Aldrich currency bill. Most of the day was devoted to the passage of bills on the calendar which are not of general importance. A resolution was passed by the House authorizing the immigration committee to investigate charges of poorness in certain States. Mr. Clark of Florida denounced Assistant Attorney General Russell, in connection with certain poorness prosecutions in Florida and referred sarcastically to Attorney General Bonaparte. There followed a lively discussion over a bill to deprive of citizenship of aliens convicted of felony. The measure was defeated. Four hundred pension bills and a few other private bills were passed, and some time was spent in considering the postoffice appropriation bill. Mr. Hepburn of Iowa introduced a bill imposing a tax of 50 cents per hundred shares on sales of stock or agreements to sell.

In the Senate Tuesday speeches on the pending currency bill were made by Senators McCumber of North Dakota and Newlands of Nevada. The Senate passed a resolution offered by Senator Tillman calling on the Attorney General for all information concerning court proceedings in the Indian Territory affecting the Choctaw and Chickasaw tribes. A number of bills of minor importance were passed. The bill authorizing the construction of the country carrying mails had robbed the people of \$70,000,000 was made by Mr. Lloyd of Missouri. He declared that the new system of weighing mails was an admission of the fact that the old system was fraudulent. He called for an investigation of the Postoffice Department, and Mr. Wagner of Pennsylvania, chairman of the committee to control the expenses of the department, promised that an inquiry would be made.

Currency legislation was made the subject of consideration in the Senate Wednesday. Senator Hepburn opposed the Aldrich bill and Senator Hopkins spoke in support of the bill. The Senate announced that it hoped to have a vote on the measure the next Wednesday. The postoffice appropriation bill technically was under consideration in the House, but the discussion, under license of general debate, took a wide range. Speculation in cotton, under the tariff and a number of miscellaneous matters in turn occupied the whole time of the session. Mr. Sims, Tennessee, spoke in favor of the Burleson bill to abolish dealings in cotton futures; Messrs. Channing of Indiana and Linnborg of Minnesota, in support of the financial question. Mr. Hitchcock of Nebraska pleaded for the placing on the free list of wood pulp and print paper.

Immediately after the opening prayer the Senate Thursday morning adjourned out of respect of the memory of the late Senator Proctor of Vermont, who died the previous day. Without transacting any business the House adjourned out of respect to the memory of Senator Proctor.

NATIONAL CAPITOL NOTES.

A bill was introduced by Mr. Calkins, delegate from Alaska, to establish a territorial government in Alaska.

James Speyer, banker, had a long conference with the President on business conditions. He declined to discuss the details of the interview.

N. B. Thistlewood was sworn in as a member of the House of Representatives from the Twenty-fifth District of Illinois in succession to the late George W. Smith.

The naval board, headed by Commander Frank Fletcher, which examined into the recent drownings of Privates Steenerson and McIntosh of the Marine Corps at Newport, R. I., has reported that in its opinion the deaths were purely accidental.

The eight bridges crossing the Allegheny river at Pittsburgh will not have to be raised, according to a decision rendered by Secretary Tamm. He gave notice, however, that future bridges to be constructed over the river must be built 47 feet above the water.

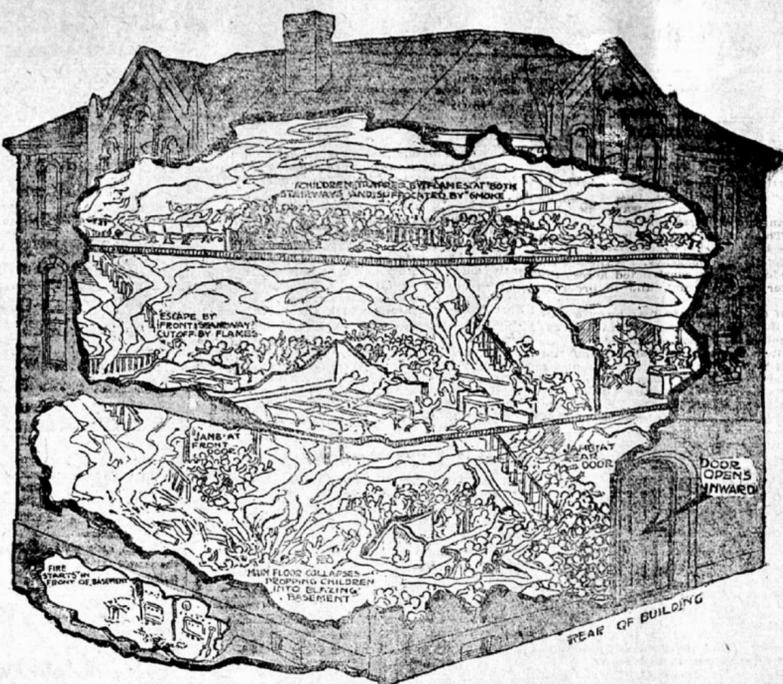
A favorable report on the bill of Representative Humphrey of Washington, providing for a government exhibit at the Alaska-Yukon Pacific exposition to be held at Seattle, Wash., in 1909, was ordered by the House committee on industrial arts and exhibitions. The bill carries \$750,000.

The House committee on interstate and foreign commerce favorably reported the Sherman bill forbidding the carrying of explosives on any passenger vehicle engaged in interstate commerce.

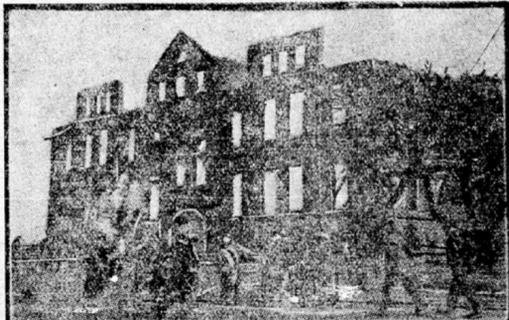
The Senate confirmed the nominations of Louis A. Coolidge of Massachusetts, to be assistant Secretary of the Treasury, and Charles P. Grandfield of Missouri to be first assistant Postmaster General.

The monthly statement of the collections of internal revenue shows that for the month of January, 1908, the total receipts were \$19,742,004, which is a decrease as compared with January, 1907, of \$967,013.

HOW NEARLY 200 SCHOOL CHILDREN LOST THEIR LIVES IN FIRE.



The diagram shows how nearly 200 school children lost their lives in the horror at North Collinwood, Ohio. From the description of eye witnesses the artist has graphically pictured this terrible child tragedy. Marching in line after the sound of the fire drill bell, the children saw a tongue of flame shoot up from the basement. The children occupying the four rooms on the ground floor escaped. The flames cut off exit by the front stairway for those on the second and third floors. Those on the second floor rushed for the rear stairway and attempted to escape through the rear door. The door opened inwardly, and in their wild rush the children piled upon one another in front of the door. Shrieking, they surged down the stairs, whirling, tripping, dropping, then falling headlong to the landing, where the outside door, opening, alas, inward, caught them. In almost the twinkling of an eye a ghastly pile of trampled, mangled innocents grew, piled high between stairs and door. All escape from the third floor was cut off. Then the fire and the



The photograph shows the charred remains of the school house after the fire had fallen in on the heaped-up, mangled bodies of nearly 200 children and several of their teachers, who had heroically thrown themselves into the midst of their panic-stricken little ones in an effort to save them from the awful doom that overtook them.

UNCLE SAM MAY DEPORT MANY.

Starts War on Anarchists by Taking Census of Public Charges.

Aroused by the attempt upon the life of Chief Shippy of Chicago, the United States government has officially swung its forces into action in a nation-wide battle against anarchy. Orders went out from Washington to take the first step in purging the nation of those foes to government and individual life. The instructions from Washington were the result of a prolonged Cabinet meeting, and in addition to the word sent out by Attorney General Bonaparte to his subordinates that they were embodied in a special order issued by Secretary Strauss of the Department of Commerce and Labor, who is especially entrusted by law with the duty of deporting anarchists and see that they do not gain entrance to this country.

For the second time since the passage of the new immigrant law in 1903, details of immigration inspectors have been started out to take a census of the prisons, insane asylums, reformatories and charitable institutions of the country to collect statistics relating to the number of aliens in these institutions and those who have become public charges. It is said this is the first step in the war which the Department of Commerce and Labor will wage against anarchists and members of pernicious secret societies. Hundreds of deportations may follow.

In official circles it is admitted that future immigration legislation of a radical character may result from the reports brought in by these investigators. The details of men were ordered to work as rapidly as possible and to have their reports ready for presentation to the department at Washington by May 31.

Under the law an alien can be deported if he becomes a public charge within three years after landing. It is believed a large percentage of the aliens now depending on charity have not been in the country three years, and therefore wholesale deportations are likely to result.

To Improve Factory Conditions.

Miss Anne Morgan, daughter of J. Pierpont Morgan, and several other wealthy society women, are leading a movement, intended to be of national scope, to improve the condition of working women and men in large cities. To this end they have voluntarily assumed the duty of factory inspectors in New York City and vicinity, examining closely into the hygienic and social conditions prevailing. The purpose so far developed is not to remedy existing conditions by influencing legislation, but to work by private influence on the individual manufacturing firms in whose workshops are found abuses or unsatisfactory conditions.

Immigrant Outflow Continues.

The record of the transatlantic steamship lines show that for the first forty-five days during the present year the number of incoming foreigners was 22,831, while those returning for the same period reached a total of 87,443. The incoming figure is 240 per cent less than for the corresponding period in 1907, while that for the outgoing travel was 263 per cent.

Seventy-six miners, most of them Japanese, were killed in an explosion at La Rosta mine, near San Juan de Cabins, Mexico, Thursday.

SAID TO SOUND KEYNOTE.

Ohio Republican Platform Considered of National Significance.

The platform adopted by the Ohio Republicans is considered of national significance, as it is the joint work of the ablest advisers of President Roosevelt and of the most astute of the campaign managers of Secretary Taft. As the joint product of these men, few Republicans doubt that the Ohio platform sounds the keynote of the Republican campaign, always in the event of the Roosevelt-Taft control of the National Convention. Following is the platform in brief:

Government regulation of railroads as against government ownership.

Re-enactment of the employers' liability act.

Limitation of the exercise of the power of injunction.

Greater merchant marine and an adequate navy.

Revision of the tariff by a special session of the next Congress.

Protection of the civil and political rights of negroes.

Reduction of representation in Congress and the electoral college in all the States where white and colored citizens are disfranchised.

Approval of the prosecution of illegal trusts and monopolies and of evil-doers both in the public service and in the commercial world.

Indorsement of Roosevelt administration.

The platform which the Nebraska Democratic State convention adopted, and which is the announcement of principles which will go into the national platform at Denver in July, declares in favor of the vigorous enforcement of the criminal law against trusts and trust magnates, urges tariff reform and an income tax and demands "such an enlargement of the powers of the national and State railway commission as to give to persons and places full protection from discrimination and extortion."

Mr. Bryan, in a brief address following the naming and instructing for him of sixteen delegates to the national convention, said: "As the Republicans used to defeat us in 1896, we shall return the compliment this year and use one part of the Republican party to defeat the other."

INTERESTING NEWS ITEMS.

Senator Young has been expelled from the Philippine assembly by a vote of 40 to 35. He was very bitter in his attacks upon party leaders.

Dr. Insole B. Berry of New York recommends that all trains carry besides the ax and crowbar, a kit containing bandages, whisky, splints, plaster and sterilized cotton.

The German steamship Robert Heyne arrived in New York after a furious battle of twenty days with a series of storms, which its captain declared the worst he ever saw.

Seven terrorists involved in the plot against the lives of Grand Duke Nicholas and other Russian dignitaries were sentenced to death at St. Petersburg.

Serious rioting occurred during the course of the celebrations of the Muharram, the first month of the Mohammedan year, at Bombay, India. The police were attacked, and fired into the mob, killing several and wounding many others.

Six bronze tablets from the Rock Island and Arsenal, Illinois, have been placed on the monuments that have been erected at Tien-tsin, China, in memory of the American soldiers and sailors who lost their lives in the Boxer outbreak of 1901.

SCORES OF CHILDREN MEET DEATH IN FIRE.

School Building at Collinwood, O., Burns and One Hundred and Fifty Pupils Cremated.

CROWDED FLOOR COLLAPSES.

Victims Are Trapped and Their Dead Bodies Are Trodden Over in the Mad Rush.

At least 150 school children were killed and scores injured, many probably fatally, in the fire which attacked and burned down the Lakeview Public School at North Collinwood, Ohio, a Cleveland suburb, Wednesday. Nothing but the four charred walls of the building remain standing.

The fire broke out so suddenly that the children were trapped in their rooms. In the terrible panic which followed the little ones were knocked down and many were trampled to death and others injured so that all chances of their escape were taken from them. The fire was started by an overheated furnace. The flames quickly spread. A panic ensued when the building filled with smoke and the 400 children attempted to escape. There were only two exits in the building that were available. One of these exits was used freely by the children, but the other soon became choked with the children, who dashed madly for the open air. Those who fell in the doorway were trampled upon by those behind, and soon the doorway was impassable.

The frightened and panic-stricken children turned to escape by windows and any other means that could be found. Escape was cut off by the flames which, by this time, had spread throughout the rooms. The building was of brick, yet this did not retard the flames.

The Collinwood fire department had no extension ladders and could not reach the entrapped children on the third floor of the building. Some of the children jumped. Their fate was as terrible as the little students who went down enveloped in flames.

Pupils in Panic Forget Fire Drill.

At the first alarm of fire the high school pupils on the lower floor were panic-stricken and fought for a means of egress, many being trampled at the doors. Boys fought with their weaker classmates in an effort to clamber over their shoulders to the light showing through the doors above the struggling mass of arms and legs as the children fought for freedom.

The crush at the exits was appalling. The fire drill instruction which the children had received was forgotten as the flames licked the stairs and the draft from above carried the smoke and flame after the fleeing pupils, driving them in panic to the street. Many escaped the flames only to be injured in a mad rush for safety. When they ran to the head of the stairs they were beaten back by the flames. They were caught like rats in a trap. Many dashed in wild frenzy into the bank of fire, only to stagger back exhausted.

Above, as the flames battled with the fire-fighters without, the children, little, weak, five-year-olds and their larger brothers and sisters and playmates, appalled, terror-stricken, wept and screamed in a frantic appeal for aid.

Frantic Parents Fight for Bodies.

As the news of the fire spread through the town frenzied parents, hatless, their hair waving free as they ran, rushed for the fire scene. Frantically the agonized parents fought with the police and firemen in their effort to make their way into the structure. Immediately the fire had ceased to be a barrier to their entrance. Tear-stained, wild-eyed mothers fought with the police, fathers moaning quietly but sobbing always, their hearts torn by the picture of death before them, struggling to throw themselves into the flames in a mad rush to save their offspring or die with them in the fiery tomb.

Houses in the neighborhood were converted into morgues and the bodies of the children were arranged in rows as fast as they were removed from the wrecked building.

In their frantic state, mothers sorted over bodies, one after another, trying to find their missing children. In most instances identification was impossible, as the bodies were burned and trampled beyond recognition.

The building was of brick, yet this did not retard the progress of the flames. In a few minutes the lower floor fell, precipitating scores of children to the basement, among the burning embers.

The scene about the building was heartrending. Quickly the news of the terrible catastrophe spread throughout the village and hundreds of parents were crowding about the building in search of their girls and boys. Plainly the writhing of stifled forms of dozens of others could be seen in the basement. Near-by factories dismissed their men and instructed them to assist in the rescue. They braved the fire and made heroic efforts to save those who were not dead.

Cuts Sheep Shearing Record.

The world's record for shearing sheep by machinery was broken near Phoenix, Ari. Tuesday by F. Him, who sheared 325 sheep in nine hours. The next highest record was made by J. Bowdell, who sheared 300. The shearing plant employs thirty shearers and the plant also made a world's record, shearing 4,572 sheep in nine hours.

Dr. Wilson L. Gill, president of the American Patriotic League, announces a plan to establish correspondence between children of the public schools of this and other countries. He thinks it will be an aid toward universal peace.



Chicago Record-Herald.

WAR ON ANARCHY.

Determined Effort Being Made to Stamp It Out in Chicago.

Federal, State and municipal governments are to unite in a determined movement to quench the fires of anarchy in Chicago, which were fanned into a flame when Lazarus Averbuch, a youthful tool of local nihilists, was slain in the attempt to assassinate Chief of Police George M. Shippy.

In running down the anarchist groups that are poisoning the minds of thousands of men and women, it was determined, in a conference of public officials, that the police should have the assistance of every available authority and that decisive action must be taken to avert a recurrence of the outburst which came to a bloody climax in Haymarket Square in 1886.

Averbuch, the police are informed, was commissioned to kill Chief Shippy at a meeting of anarchists which he attended the previous Thursday night. It was on that night, upon his return to the home of his sister, Olga Averbuch, 218 Washburne avenue, that the young Russian declared that he might as well kill himself.

This group of anarchists, it also has been reported, plotted to assassinate Mayor Busse and Captain P. D. O'Brien of the detective bureau.

Information has reached the police that Averbuch, instead of going to night school, as his sister said he did, was in frequent communication with a band of violent, lawless men, who had decided upon the death of Chicago's police head. In the meeting where the plans were discussed Averbuch, it is alleged, was chosen to commit the crime. When picked by lot for the execution of such a deed, police officials familiar with the regulations of anarchist societies declare, the assassin is watched continually, without his knowledge, until he carries out the order or is arrested or slain in the attempt. This, the authorities believe, was done in Averbuch's case.

Many anarchists have been arrested in a crusade the most vigorous waged since the time of the Haymarket riot, but a search for leaders revealed that all had fled the city or were hiding. Literature, teeming with blasphemy and exhortations against the law and public officials was confiscated, and several street meetings in the ghetto were dispersed. President Roosevelt in an interview with a correspondent warmly commends Chief Shippy and says he would reward him if he were in a position to do so.

The press of the country has been practically unanimous in praising the action of Chief Shippy in dealing with the assassin, and urging strict measures to stamp out anarchy.

Anti-Rebate Act Upheld.

The United States Supreme Court decided, in the first of a series of cases attacking the anti-rebate law, that it was incorporated in the more recent Hepburn rate law, that the Great Northern railway's conviction and \$15,000 fine for making a concession of 20 cents a hundred on fifteen shipments of oats from Minneapolis to Seattle, was valid notwithstanding that the acts were committed in 1905, before the Hepburn bill had become a law. The indictments, though returned after the passage of the Hepburn bill, were based upon the Elkins law. This decision is expected to have a wide effect on a large number of cases of appeal from lower courts and it destroys one of the principal defenses which the Standard Oil Company was preparing to advance against the payment of the \$23,000,000 fine imposed last year for accepting Alton rebates. The court's decision is unanimous and holds that repeal of any statute should not have the effect of releasing any one from any penalty incurred under it unless the repealing act expressly so provides.

Finds Water on Mars.

Prof. Slipher, at the Lowell Observatory, Flagstaff, Ariz., has photographed comparison spectra of Mars and the moon, which indicate water vapor in the Martian atmosphere.

To Cheer Canal Diggers.

Through contract with the government, though under the immediate auspices of the Y. M. C. A., a quartet of women musicians have sailed for the Isthmus of Panama, where they will give entertainments in the canal zone. They expect to be gone four weeks.

Trade Not Aimed at Trust.

The American Tobacco Company has issued a statement denying that the raids of the Kentucky "night riders" are aimed at the tobacco "trust," and in proof refers to the fact that where disorder has occurred the so-called trust is the smallest factor in the purchase of tobacco. They further state that there is no contest between the trust and the tobacco growers or tobacco dealers in Kentucky, and that the prices now being paid for leaf tobacco in that State and elsewhere are very much higher than they were ten years ago, and have been constantly trending upward since the so-called trust was organized.

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The high Federal Court of Venezuela ruled against the New York and Bermuda Asphalt Company, approving the penalty of \$200,000 assessed against it.

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Baron Kogore Takahira, the new Japanese ambassador to the United States, has reached his post. In a statement given to the reporters he expressed himself as pleased to return to this country, where he formerly represented his government. "It is impossible," said he, "in my opinion, for any man of ordinary sanity to think of war between two powers like ours in spite of the sincere friendship actually existing between them. It is a crime against humanity, against civilization, against the well-being of the whole of mankind."

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Many persons were injured, some of them seriously, in a clash between the populace and the troops growing out of the demonstration commemorating the death of Giordano Bruno at Rome on Feb. 16. The demonstration, which was anti-clerical, was engaged in by republicans, socialists and anarchist organizations. Several of the leaders have been arrested.

Austria's announcement of her intention to build a railroad by permission of the Sultan through a wedge of Turkish territory between Serbia and Montenegro and so provide a short route from Central Europe to Salonica appears to be the disturbing factor in the present Balkan situation. Serbia was the first to protest, saying that the line would place her at the mercy of Austria. Serbia appealed to Russia and the latter was only too glad to have a pretext for interference, charging Austria with taking a mean advantage of her known weakness after the war with Japan to break the Balkan agreement.



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