

FIGHT ON CANAL FUNDS. LIVELY HOUSE DEBATE. Panama Commission's Expense Statements Criticized.

Washington, Dec. 6.—With an opportunity for un- interrupted debate on the subject of the Panama Canal, the House exhausted its oratory on that subject in a session of four and three-quarter hours to-day. The bill appropriating \$16,000,000 for canal work, which was the subject of discussion, will be read for amendment and placed on its final passage to-morrow.

The debate on the subject of the Panama Canal was the criticism indulged in by both Republicans and Democrats regarding the incompleteness of the statement of expenditures and estimates furnished by the Canal Commission. Mr. Hepburn, in charge of the bill, made some efforts to show that while detailed estimates might be more satisfactory, at the present time the bill was the best possible position to pass critical judgment on estimates for such work prepared by expert engineers who held responsible positions and had been selected because of their fitness.

Mr. Cockran, of New-York, took decided exception to this attitude on the part of Mr. Hepburn, and spent an hour in effecting a matter of procedure, and arranged it as decidedly the wrong attitude for legislators. To enforce his argument he read the sentiment of the President in his message for economy and scrutiny of appropriations. The so-called "press agent" of the Canal Commission was criticized by several speakers, and lack of definite information as to the existence of such a place was shown. It was declared to carry a salary of \$10,000 a year, and some curiosity was manifested to know what were its duties.

Unanimous consent was asked by Mr. Hepburn for immediate consideration of the Canal bill. Mr. Williams, the minority leader, characterized the request as unusual, but he said the appropriation was unusual. There was no disposition on the Democratic side to delay the appropriation. He found some fault with the purported statement of work which had been spent, saying it was not an itemized summary.

Because the bill was not referred to the Appropriations Committee, Mr. Fitzgibbon (N. Y.) remarked that he should not object to consideration, but merely wanted to protest against the reference of the measure to the Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce, that the action should not be taken as a precedent.

Because the bill regulated the taxes on the proposed canal bonds, Mr. Payne (N. Y.) said it should have special consideration of the Means Committee, but he would not protest.

At the suggestion of Mr. Mann (Ill.), the committee reference was vacated. The bill was then considered by the House in committee of the whole, with Mr. Vreeland (N. Y.) in the chair.

Mr. Hepburn began the discussion. He said for the benefit of Mr. Fitzgibbon and Mr. Payne that there had been no such attempt to refer the bill to the Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce to take any matters from the committees of which they were members. "I hope the gentlemen will be able to sleep quietly in their beds," he said. The canal was a means of commerce, and as such the rules of the House provided that matters pertaining to it should go to the Interstate and Foreign Commerce Committee.

Mr. Payne opposed the idea of Mr. Hepburn that the Ways and Means Committee did not have jurisdiction. He closed with the remark that Mr. Hepburn had made the request that his committee, which had no rightful jurisdiction of the bill, be discharged and the matter considered in the House. Mr. Hepburn replied that the amendment of the bill, that he had made no such request, that those familiar with the rules would have no doubt of the proper reference of the bill and that all wisdom did not reside in the "white button mandarin," an appellation sometimes applied to members of the Ways and Means Committee.

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THE SENATE AT WORK. Mr. Lodge's Reciprocity Measure—Mr. Foraker's Rate Bill. Washington, Dec. 6.—The Senate began business in earnest to-day. The session was of little more than two hours' duration, but in that time several hundred bills and resolutions were introduced and referred to committees.

TO CONSIDER TREATIES. Senate Likely to Approve President's Dominican Policy. Washington, Dec. 6.—The Committee on Foreign Relations met to-day and considered the Isle of Pines treaty, the ratification of which at an early date is looked for.

MR. ROOT'S ESTIMATES. Increase of Diplomatic Salaries Recommended. Washington, Dec. 6.—An explanation of the estimates of Secretary Root for the expenses of foreign intercourse in the fiscal year ending June 30, 1907, was transmitted to the House to-day by Secretary Shaw.

MR. LODGE'S RECIPROcity BILL. Favors Products of Countries Not Discriminating Against the United States. Washington, Dec. 6.—Senator Lodge to-day introduced an amendment to the Dingley tariff law providing for maximum and minimum rates of duty so as to give preference and advantage to the products of those countries which do not discriminate against products of the United States.

FOOD CAN DO THINGS. Real Miracles Worked In the Body. From Manitoba a lady writes her reasons for the faith that is in her as to miracles wrought in the present day.

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BLACK PANNE CHEVIOTS. GERMANY HUCK TOWELS. FANCY CREPE PAPER. MEN'S ALL LINEN HANDKFS.

WOMEN'S LONG KIMONOS. CAMBRIC CORD'N CUSHIONS. STAMPED SCARFS & SQUARES. MERCERIZED FOULARD.

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