

WATER LINES EXEMPT

Senate Amends Railroad Bill Again.

OTHER CHANGES PLANNED

Conferences Expected to Bring Almost All Republicans to Support of Measure.

Washington, April 14.—Only one amendment to the administration bill to strengthen the interstate commerce act was adopted by the Senate to-day. It was the purpose of the leaders to devote most of the day to the consideration of section 7, relating to the agreements, but as some of the influential members wanted further time to examine Senator Crawford's amendment to this section, the bill was laid aside early in the afternoon.

The rest of the session was at the disposal of Senator Heyburn, who took up the amendment to the Warren bill, relating to the disposal of surplus waters on reclamation projects. Mr. Heyburn talked for about two hours in opposition to the bill, his remarks being followed by frequent colloquies with the majority leader. Finally Mr. Heyburn had to withdraw. He consented to let a vote be taken after a recess. The bill was passed with a vote against it by the yeas 45 and nays 47.

Under an agreement made this afternoon the railroad bill will not be taken up until Monday. To-morrow and Saturday will be devoted to consideration of the river and harbor bill. The Senate leaders think that by Monday they will be ready to submit amendments to the perfecting amendments to the railroad bill. In the next few days there will be a series of conferences between the leaders and certain Republican members who are anxious to support the president's program, and to discuss the amendments to the pending measures. There is no doubt that these conferences will result in the formulation of amendments which will bring to the support of the bill all Republicans with the exception of five or six extremists in the insurgent group. It is the hope of the leaders that by the middle of next week the perfecting bill will be ready for the passage of the Senate.

There are several amendments to the bill which are regarded as important by the administration. Four of these amendments, and it may be more than three weeks before a final vote is taken.

The only amendment adopted to-day was that of Senator Ekins to Section 9, which is designed to amend the Interstate Commerce Commission. It has the right to establish any through route, classification, rate of charge when the transportation is wholly by water.

Senators Clapp and Brewster were the principal opponents of this amendment. Mr. Clapp said he was not prepared to give his support to the amendment, and he was in favor of exempting the water lines from the jurisdiction of the Interstate Commerce Commission, but he was satisfied with the phraseology of the Ekins amendment, and, besides, he thought the provision ought to be inserted in the bill. Senator Ekins defended the amendment and said it was in the interest of independent water lines. Mr. Lodge said that the Chamber of Commerce of Boston had petitioned him to oppose giving the Interstate Commerce Commission control over the coastwise traffic.

MARVELLOUS CANAL WORK

All Contemplated in Original Panama Project Accomplished.

Washington, April 14.—Although it was generally known that splendid progress had been made by the army engineers in digging the Panama Canal, the statement contained in the canal record just at hand, that all of the excavation that was contemplated in the original plan has been completed, comes as a surprise. Under that plan 166,725,000 cubic yards of material were to be removed, and that has been done. But subsequently, in order to accommodate the needs of the dreadnought type and the giant liners now under construction, the President ordered the widening and deepening of the canal. This involved the removal of 59,871,594 additional cubic yards of material, and that is all of the excavation that confronts the engineers.

ROOT URGES RECIPROCITY

Advocates Better Trade Relations With Canada.

Washington, April 14.—Reciprocity with Canada has a warm advocate in Senator Root, of New York. The Senator was asked today about the progress being made toward bringing the two countries closer together.

INCOME TAX INDORSED

One of Bryan's Suggestions Adopted at Jefferson Dinner.

Washington, April 14.—William J. Bryan's suggestion that the income tax be indorsed by the Republican party, was adopted at the Jefferson dinner.

THE DAY IN WASHINGTON

(From The Tribune Bureau.)

Washington, April 14.—The insistence of a portion of the press and the apparent demand of the public that in every trust case "the man higher up" be indicted and "sent over the road" is frequently a cause of embarrassment to those responsible for the enforcement of the law and an occasion of disappointment to the public. The punishment of those actually responsible for violations of the statutes is the chief aim and effort of all who conscientiously seek to enforce the law, but criticism of the failure to achieve this end often argues a lack of appreciation of the obstacles encountered, according to the law officers of the administration. The case of the so-called Sugar Trust is an instance in point. The prime mover in the formation of that trust, and the man who in his lifetime completely controlled its operations, was that eminent Democrat, Henry O. Havemeyer. The death of Mr. Havemeyer was followed by a wide distribution of stock, so that to-day there are upward of fifteen thousand stockholders, of whom nine thousand are understood to be women. With a personally conducted trust, such as this, was a majority of the directors are usually dummies, not men of influence and standing in the community, but men who would not interfere with the operations of the head of the institution. As has been told in these dispatches, the Attorney General has acquired much valuable information, chiefly in connection with the investigation into the customs frauds, on which to base a prosecution for violation of the Sherman anti-trust law, but despite the popular clamor it will become a matter of conscience with that official when all the facts are before him to determine whether the ends of justice may best be served by a criminal prosecution or by a plea for an injunction to restrain the corporation from continuing to do business in violation of the law. It is too early to forecast with certainty the course of the Department of Justice, which will not be determined until all the facts are in hand, but it is held to be obvious that intelligent administration of the law demands that full consideration be given to the character and responsibility of the present directors of the trust. Whoever is the holder of the prosecution, they will suffer, assuming, of course, that the government is successful, but it remains to be determined whether a criminal prosecution at this time would not defeat its own ends, and the impossibility of establishing criminal intent on the part of those now within reach of the law, and the undue penalty imposed on stockholders.

MACVEAGH'S ECONOMY.—Through the exertions of quiet diplomacy Secretary MacVeagh has effected a saving of \$50,000 in the administration of his department. It is a much larger saving in light of Mr. MacVeagh had hardly assumed the duties of his office when he discovered methods in his department which were repugnant to his sense of order and business, in which he had had long training, and an inquiry was made into the methods used by the administrators of Alexander Hamilton and Albert Gallatin, and many from that of Salmon P. Chase. Further investigation revealed the fact that in the long period when the spoils system controlled all government departments there had been no effort whatever to simplify work or economize labor. On the contrary, the apparent purpose of Congress and the executive heads was to multiply offices to be used as rewards for political supporters. Then Mr. MacVeagh's diplomacy came into play, and he consulted his friend, Arthur Young, the "business expert" of Chicago. Little by little Mr. MacVeagh aroused the interest of Mr. Young, who finally urged the use of the "business expert" to devise more economical methods. Mr. MacVeagh protested that he had no funds with which to meet expenses, but Mr. Young's interest was so keenly aroused that he insisted that he be permitted to do the work at his own expense. Mr. Young has now expended \$10,000 out of his own pocket, a sum which has been reimbursed by the Treasury Department has been reorganized, and the saving to the government amounts to \$50,000.

MR. TAFT AT BALL GAME

Makes the First Pitch—Rejoices at Washington's Victory.

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Accompanied by Mrs. Taft and his military aid, Captain Butt, the President took an active part in the game between Washington and Philadelphia. Just before play began, the umpire, "Billy" Evans, made his way to the President and presented a new ball to the President. Evans told him he was expected to throw it over the plate into his hand while the President was doffing his bright new kid gloves in preparation for his debut as a baseball pitcher.

When the ball was presented to the President, the President shifted uneasily in his seat, the umpire gave the signal, and Mr. Taft raised his arm. Street, the catcher, stood at the home plate ready to receive the ball, but the President knew better, and threw it straight to Walter Johnson, the pitcher. The throw was a little low, but Johnson put out his long arm and grabbed the ball before it hit the ground.

As the game proceeded and Washington maintained the lead it took at the outset, the President became as enthusiastic as the most rapt "fan," and repeatedly applauded the brilliant work of the young Washington pitcher. He insisted on remaining until the last Philadelphia had been retired.

Vice-President Sherman witnessed the contest from another box, and seemed to get as much satisfaction out of the victory as did the President.

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MR. PARSONS DEFENDS HIS FATHER.

Mr. Parsons when he obtained the floor denied that he had pleaded immunity under the statute of limitations. "John E. Parsons," said the New Yorker, "whom I am proud to say, is my father, pleaded 'not guilty.' If he has committed any crime he will take his punishment like a man."

SUGAR TRUST NEVER HELPED HIM.

Later in the afternoon Mr. Parsons rose to a question of personal privilege to reply to Mr. Rainey's insinuation that as president of the county committee he had been assisted by the Sugar Trust. "I have seen the imputation made in the papers," he said, "that the American Sugar Refining Company aided me in my election and in the factional fights in New York County. I have never received aid, directly or indirectly, either in my election or in factional fights, from the Sugar Trust or any of its directors, except my father, which I think is pardonable." This statement was greeted by great applause from both sides, and Mr. Parsons then asked if any member of the House desired to question him.

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